

# ALL SAINTS' MALDON



# PARISH NEWS

**April 2018**

Photographic contributions for the front of this magazine sent to the editor will be most welcome.

**£1**



## CHURCH SERVICES

<b>Sunday Services</b>	8:00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) 10:00 am Sung Parish Eucharist (except first Sunday of the month). 6:30 pm Evensong and Sermon second and third Sundays of the month
<b>1st Sunday in the Month</b>	10:00am Short all age service of stories songs and prayers. 11:15am Parish Eucharist (CW) 6:00 pm Evensong at St Mary's
<b>Last Sunday</b>	6:30 pm Prayer and Praise Service

## JUNIOR CHURCH

Each Sunday at 10:00am.in the D'Arcy Room in Church  
4th Sunday Freedom Footsteps in the Vicarage

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

**Morning Prayer** is usually said in church at 8.30am on Monday - Friday.

**Evening Prayer** is usually said in church at 5.30pm on Monday - Thursday

**Thursday** 11:00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) followed by coffee and biscuits

**Cover Photos: Rehearsing for the Mystery Play.**

**Photos by M Ovenden**



# FROM THE VICARAGE

## GRUMPY OLD MEN

I know that I have reached a certain age, as I find myself increasingly irritated by various aspects of the modern world. One pet hate is mobile phones. Why is it that you cannot conduct a conversation with anyone under 30 (or possibly under 40?) and have their undivided attention? Any conversation or eye contact is interrupted by a constant stream of texting. At a recent meal in the Indian restaurant, we noticed a young couple on the next table, who spent the evening, not gazing into each others eyes, (or even into their curries), but looking down at their mobiles.

And why is it, when you have a problem relating to banking, or insurance, or a utility bill, you cannot pick up a phone and speak to a human being? You either get referred to a series of recorded messages, or given a website address, to do it online. And why is every household gadget so complicated, and designed with the express intention of annoying me? Without Sue and Nicholas, I am not sure I would be able to operate half the devices in our home.

To add to my grumpiness is the recent legislation on Data Protection which is coming into force in May. (The "General Data Protection Regulation") This was discussed at a recent meeting of the PCC. Of course, there are good reasons for protecting people whose personal details are stored by charities or businesses. There have been high profile examples of information being misused; and in some cases, people being hounded by unscrupulous charities. From May, charities will only be able to contact people with their written permission. So from May, we will not be able to write to parishioners, or e-mail them about parish events, unless they have given written consent. When we revise the electoral roll next year, we will be including a separate consent form asking for permission to keep in touch with you.



More problematic is keeping in touch with those who come to us for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Of course, for new bookings, we will be able to ask people to sign a consent form to give permission to keep in touch with them. (They of course, have taken the initiative in coming to us for these services) But we have been advised by the diocese that we cannot continue to send cards, on the anniversary of baptism, to children who have been christened over the past few years. We would have to write to them first, to ask permission to write to them! Crazy, or what? Similarly, if I write to families whose funerals I have taken since November (currently 25 funerals since the last memorial service) to invite them to this year's All Souls service, I will be breaking the law. Again, I would need to write to them first, to ask permission to write to them.

I do understand the reasons for the new Data Protection Legislation, and the PCC will be complying. There are draconian fines for charities that do not. But for the parish priest, and the parish church, it is just one more obstacle (and yet more paper) to make it more difficult to exercise a traditional pastoral ministry to those living in the parish, for whom we have the "cure of souls". And its all rather sad.

*Stephen*

PS I have even considered sending a letter to the Daily Telegraph about it. I really must be a Grumpy Old Man!

## Chelmsford Diocesan House of Retreat Pleshey



***OPEN DAY*** *Open to all*

***Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May*** *Supported by the Friends of Pleshey*

Come and visit the Retreat House and gardens, have lunch outside (weather permitting) and enjoy the many craft stalls (some new for this year) that we have invited along for the day.





## EASTER VESTRY AND ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING



The Annual Parochial Church Meeting and Easter Vestry will take place at 7:30 pm on Monday 23rd April in All Saints' Church. This is when the election of churchwardens and the PCC members takes place. You will also have the opportunity to consider the accounts and other parish business

At the Easter Vestry the Churchwardens for the coming year are elected, when anyone living in the parish or on the Electoral Roll can vote. Nominations must be handed to the PCC Secretary, Julie Ovenden. The same applies for membership of the PCC - there are four vacancies. Do not forget, **nominations cannot be made at the meeting**, so please give this serious thought and pick up a nomination paper which will be available at the back of the church for three weeks from Easter Sunday.

After Apologies, Acceptance of the Minutes of the last AGM, Matters Arising, and the Presentation of the Electoral Roll, comes the Election of Two Deputy Wardens, the Election of the Parochial Church Council and the Appointment of Sides Persons. The Treasurer then reports on the accounts for 2015 and other committee reports are received. Following this it is the turn of the Vicar to give his report on the previous year.

Please support this meeting as we look back on the last year.

*Please consider carefully who you would like to see on the PCC; remember they represent you or maybe you would like to serve on the PCC? Have a think about this and put the date in your diary.*

*Julie Ovenden PCC Secretary*

## Cure

A Sunday School teacher asked her pupils 'Does anyone know any of the miracles that Jesus performed?' One youngster put his hand up and said 'Yes, He cured people who had leopards.'



The Church of England  
in Essex and East London  
Diocese of Chelmsford

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

FROM THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD

### **NEW BISHOP OF BRADWELL: 'GOD WANTS ESSEX TO FLOURISH'** **'God is there for every Essex Man and Essex Woman in these challenging times'**

The Venerable Dr John Perumbalath has been nominated by Her Majesty the Queen as the sixth Bishop of Bradwell in Essex. He succeeds the late Bishop John Wraw.

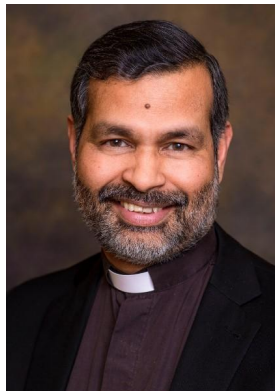
Currently Archdeacon of Barking in East London – and described by Stephen Cottrell the Bishop of Chelmsford as “a wise and gifted theologian and pastor” – the new Bishop began in prayer at St Peter’s Chapel, Bradwell-on-Sea, on Friday 9th March.

It was to Bradwell and Essex that the great missionary disciple St Cedd brought the transformative Good News of Jesus Christ in AD 654. The title Bishop of Bradwell and the Bishop of Bradwell’s Area are named in honour of Cedd’s epic mission to a people who had never heard the Good News before.

Now it is Archdeacon John’s turn as a disciple of Jesus Christ to launch a new mission to Essex and share the Good News afresh in no less challenging times. This is a mission of “serving the churches and communities” and John is “passionate” about Christ’s transformative love. “God is about human flourishing” he says. “God is there for every Essex Man and Woman.”

#### **Archdeacon John Perumbalath said:**

“I am humbled and honoured to have been invited to be the next Bishop of Bradwell. It has been a great joy to share in the life of Barking Episcopal Area in the last five years and I look forward to the new opportunities and challenges that serving the Church in the Bradwell Episcopal Area will bring.



## John Perumbalath

The Venerable Dr John Perumbalath is currently Archdeacon of Barking. Archdeacon John (52) hails from the ancient Syrian Christian community in Kerala, India, and trained for ministry at Union Biblical Seminary, Pune. Before his ordination he worked as a youth worker among university students for two years and as a theological educator for three years. He was a parish priest in the Diocese of Calcutta in the Church of North India (CNI) from 1995 to 2001. He served on the General Synod of CNI and on its Theological Commission. Since his move to the United Kingdom, he served in the Diocese of Rochester as Associate Priest at St George's Beckenham (2002-05), Team Vicar in Northfleet & Rosherville (2005-08), Vicar of All Saints, Perry Street & Diocesan Urban Officer (2008-13) before he was appointed the Archdeacon of Barking in 2013.

John also holds a wider role locally and nationally. He chairs the Committee for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns (CMEAC) and the London Churches Refugee Network. He is a member of the General Synod and sits on the Appointment Committee of the Church of England, Mission & Public Affairs Council, and the Trustee board of Westcott House, Cambridge.

John has contributed reflections for Church House Publishing and has taken up speaking engagements in various provinces of Anglican Communion. He holds postgraduate degrees in Philosophy and Biblical studies and a doctorate in hermeneutics.

John is married to Jessy, a Mathematics teacher, and they have a daughter, Anugraha, a medical student. John enjoys walking in the countryside, reading poetry and simply being with people.

The Bishop of Bradwell has a house and an office base in Horndon-on-the-Hill.  
*The full announcement can be obtained from the Diocese of Chelmsford.*



## RAMBLING GROUP

(Ten to Ten)

**Saturday Walk March 10th**

Nine walkers started from Heybridge Basin and after a short and muddy walk decided to stop for coffee at the caravan park café.

Before getting too comfortable we carried on walking along the sea wall to Goldhanger and the warm interior of the Chequers Inn.

After lunch we left Goldhanger and crossed several fields and in one a small donkey and horse came to meet us then onto Rook Hall farm and then onto Chigborough Lakes where several people were catching fish. Then back along the muddy sea wall to Heybridge Basin.

Next months walk will be led by Carol Gower. If interested phone 01621 927597.

*Brenda Wainwright*

## NEWS FROM SINGAPORE

Our latest news...Joelle graduates in June, that's why we are coming back to Maldon, Durham etc for a week's holiday. We hope she'll get an Upper 2nd but at present she is near meltdown trying to finish her dissertation on Revelation for 31 March. She was going to come here and do her Masters in Theology at the Trinity Theological College here and live with us, but now she is taken by the idea of starting some new children's ministry with her Bethshan Church in Durham for a year, so who knows? The annual Christian conference at Durham was another huge success, and they filmed Joelle and one lad for the Youtube appetite-whetter documentary video.

Emma is halfway through year 2 and in her first Half Year Exams got an Upper 2nd, enough to keep her small scholarship from Hull. She is still loving the biomedical science (an enormous growth industry here, btw)

They both survived the Beast and Jo's car passed its first MOT, such a relief. Emma had her car broken into in Hull when away last summer with us and the passenger window smashed, but Autoglass fixed it for £100 on the insurance. So they are still both independent young ladies. Emma will be here again July to Sept, probably working in a shop.

For neither, no boys or boyfriends on the horizon...good news for us!

They are both rescinding UK citizenship for S'pore status and S'pore does not allow dual citizenship and forces them to choose at 21 (lucky that girls here still do not have to do 2 year's National Service like the boys ha!). But then they can get it back without S'pore knowing, but it will cost us £2500 each to do it (UK Gov fee!). C'est la vie!

Angie is still slogging away in her private school here, enjoying every minute, and is now Head of Grade 7/8 English, same as she was at Plume (but a lot more pay!). I do the odd supply day for £220...! And the odd bit of exam marking still.



We're off to Rajasthan (Thar Desert), Agra, Jaipur and Taj Mahal in 2 weeks for 12 days in our chauffeur-driven private car and 5\* hotels.

We've just had our best neighbours from Nipsells Chase call in for 4 days enroute Sydney and they've had a great time...so look forward to seeing any of you anytime here!

So, keep well, and we'll see you on June 24, God willing.

*Derek Trueman*



## ALL SAINTS' MALDON MOTHER'S UNION Meeting March 6th 2018

‘What a wonderful and inspirational evening’

The speaker this month at the Mothers' Union was James Monk from the Rainbow Rural Centre. As a farmer in Great Dunmow James was faced with the difficulties of running a small farm profitably and decided, with the overriding support of his family, to make some lifestyle changes; they would open their 75 acre working - farm to the public. Their aim was to provide a safe learning environment for disabled and disadvantaged children and young adults.

Based on James' experiences of growing up on a farm, his teaching qualifications and his wife's knowledge of childcare, they felt they had the skills needed to take on such a massive challenge. Together they wanted to allow young people to thrive, learn new skills and grow in confidence whilst working with nature.

James' enthusiasm is all too evident as he relates stories of acquiring a few sheep which on arrival has become a flock of fifty and the adoption of two pigs which in turn destroyed the paddock! (As he readily admits some ideas are more successful than others).

Their vision has, over the years seen the farm take on organic status and become a safe haven where students of all abilities are able to engage in a range of activities and challenges. With regular fortnightly Farm Clubs, Holiday Clubs, woodland - walks, one to one tuition, school links and Open Days, Rainbow Rural continues to grow due to the hard work, passion, and commitment of James, his family and a team of like- minded supporters.

All too soon it was time to say a huge thank you to James and allow time for individual questions over coffee. The meeting closed with a voluntary collection for Rainbow Rural and the offer, by members of the group, to make cakes for their next Open Day.

*Maureen Searle*



## **EASTER SUNDAY - the most joyful day of the year**

Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in His joy! Hallelujah!

The Good News of Jesus Christ is a message so simple that you can explain it to someone in a few minutes. It is so profound that for the rest of their lives they will still be 'growing' in their Christian walk with God.

Why does the date move around so much? Because the date of Passover moves around, and according to the biblical account, Easter is tied to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' exodus from Egypt and it lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of Nisan, which equates to late March or early April.

Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for Good Friday: Friday 7 April 30 AD or Friday 3 April, 33 AD, with Easter Day falling two days later. Modern scholars continue to think these the most likely.

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are complicated and involve something called an 'ecclesiastical full moon', which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22 March, which last fell in 1818. The latest is 25 April, which last happened in 1943.

Why the name, 'Easter'? In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from 'Pesach', the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word 'Easter', however, seems to come from Eostre, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede. He thought that the Saxons worshipped her in 'Eostur month', but may have confused her with the classical dawn goddesses like Eos and Aurora, whose names mean 'shining in the east'. So, Easter might have meant simply 'beginning month' - a good time for starting up again after a long winter.

Finally, why Easter eggs? On one hand, they are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures. On the other hand, hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.

*Taken from the Parish Pump website.*





# PIANO and VIOLIN RECITAL



by  
**RICHARD BARNES**  
And  
**MARK HARTT-PALMER**  
**Friday 13th April**

Following their much-enjoyed recital a year ago, Mark Hartt-Palmer (violin) and Richard Barnes (piano/organ) are returning to give another recital on Friday 13th April.

They have chosen this time three main works not perhaps that well known, but highly enjoyable none the less. These comprise a Suite of Dances by Richard Jones ( friend of Handel and leader of the Drury Lane Theatre orchestra), Mozart's Sonata in A (K 305), a wonderfully fresh piece - perfect for Spring, and a Sonata by Brahms's only pupil Gustav Jenner - a richly romantic work and an outpouring of melody from start to finish. Between these they will play some better-known shorter pieces (which some might call potboilers!).

Admission will be £10.00 and the ticket price will include interval refreshments. All proceeds will go to church funds. Put the date in your diaries now!

## **CHANGE IN PATTERN OF WORSHIP FOR APRIL**

Because Easter falls on the First Sunday of the month, there will be a change from our usual pattern. The 10.00am service on Easter Day, April 1st, will NOT be worship for all, but Easter Eucharist (There will be NO 11.15am service) There WILL be Evensong on Easter Day at 6.30pm. The usual pattern for the first Sunday will be a week later (April 8th) with Worship for All at 10.00am, said Eucharist at 11.15am and 6.00pm Evensong at St Mary's. Please consult the Diary for full details.



# Church Warden's Chat

Easter; the most important festival in the Christian calendar, celebrating the risen Christ, and new life for us all, and, as for us, Easter comes at spring time (someone tell the weather!) we also look forward to the renewal of life in nature. Last week I was able to be in the garden, clearing up and getting ready for spring, and then we were back in winter and the garden was covered in snow again! But I know spring and warmer weather will come again, along with new growth in the garden and fields, as that is how our world works; after a rest the earth replenishes itself.

By the time you read this I hope you will have seen the performance of 'Shoreline 5'. Graham's play, with the theme of earth's destruction by man. It made me think again of what humankind is doing to our planet. On the web I see many articles of pesticides and their effect on insects and the food chain, of species in danger of extinction due to poaching or destruction of their environment and of plastic pollution in the oceans. I was teaching about the consequences of this thirty years ago in secondary school, but the world hasn't changed, except to get worse.

This Lent I have tried, when shopping in supermarkets, not to buy things over-wrapped in plastic, to make a positive effort to make less plastic waste. It is very difficult, all food stuffs seem to come double or triple wrapped! Are we so addicted to this stuff, does everything have to be protected by a plastic cover?

My Lent project has become a new life project, to try to only buy things with less plastic wrappings, to continue to use my own shopping bags and to try to make less use of "disposable" plastics.

Man may not destroy the world with nuclear fallout, as in Shoreline 5, but we may destroy it with our waste! Let us pray that mankind may be grateful for all God's world gives us, and learn to take care of it for future generations.

Wishing you all a happy and blessed Easter.

*Jenny C. Churchwarden*

## Definitions

A recession is a period in which you tighten up your belt.

A depression is a time in which you have no belt to tighten.

When you have no trousers to hold up, it's a panic.



## LETTER FROM YORKSHIRE

Dear Church Family,

As I sit writing this letter to you, I'm listening to the radio, which is telling me that you too are likely to be surrounded by snow, we awoke this morning to find everywhere covered with the stuff, and all day there has been heavy snow showers followed by periods of bright sunshine.

Fred and I are basically confined to home because neither of us are as sure footed as we once were, and paths are icy. The child in me loves the snow and my spirit rises at the sight of the pristine whiteness on places where it is un-trodden with the sun shining on it as it's blown into little drifts by the wind.

So how are you getting on with your Lent journey? I had decided this year that I am not giving up anything, like chocolates, sweets, puddings, as special acknowledgements of the season. Instead I spend time each day, thinking of how many times I have behaved in an unchristian way in my thoughts and actions since last Lent, because let's face it, I am surrounded by temptations, and when it comes down to it, I am weak willed and a bit forceful sometimes when I think I'm right!!! So there is a lot to apologise for in my prayers.

How then do we know that God hears our prayers? I think the answer is in Jesus' resurrection. I see in my mind, the day of His resurrection as a day that shines with the pristine light that resembles what we see when we look at the sun shining on the snow, we are all bathed in this light for it is the Promise of Forgiveness, for all who follow Jesus.

Now I've got that off my chest, I will carry on praying, - the list is endless.!

We wish you all a very Happy Easter.

You may now eat your Chocolate egg Vicar!!!

Until next time,

*Love and Blessings from Avril.*

### **Prayer by Basil Hume.**

Lord, your rising opens the door to eternal life for us. Help us to prepare for our lives with you, to spread the good news of your resurrection throughout the whole world. Amen.



## Handbell Ringers.

On 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018, the handbell ringers presented a cheque of over £1300 to the 'Chelmsford & District Diabetes UK' group.

Over the Christmas period, we always choose a local charity to which all proceeds from the ringing are donated; and this year we chose the diabetes group. It is a busy period for us with invitations accepted from many local care and residential homes. Additionally, we are regularly supported by New Hall Vineyard and we are especially grateful to them for their generous help in supporting our cause over their 2 day Christmas sale. Many might also have seen us, suffering the cold, when collecting outside Tesco's.

Generally, the ringing 'team' is kept busy over the year performing for various local clubs / organisations and last year we supported our local 'Citizens Advice Bureau' - participating in a concert held at the church with the Chelmsford Male Voice and Maldon Court school choirs. This raised over £3700 for CAB funds.

To keep ourselves up to date with all matters of handbell ringing, we attend local and national rallies. We see what other teams are doing, learn various ringing techniques and participate in massed ringing - quite a sight and sound! So if anyone is interested in having a go at ringing the handbells (no previous experience required!) please contact our leader, Susan Duke, on 01621 851623.

And, if you'd like us to perform at a local home, club or event, please have a word with Susan as well.

*Derek Hall*

## Some hymns for people over 50

Give Me the Old Timers' Religion

Precious Lord, Take My Hand, And Help Me Up

Just a Slower Walk with Thee

Go Tell It on the Mountain, But Speak Up

Nobody Knows the Trouble I Have Seeing

Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah, I've Forgotten Where I've Parked the Car

Count Your Many Birthdays, Count Them One By One

Blessed Insurance

It Is Well With My Soul, But My Knees Hurt

Leave us, Heavenly Father, leave us



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**Plantation Hall Heybridge  
CM9 4AL**

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday each month  
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**Danbury Mission, CM3 4QL**

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## SERVICES FOR APRIL

<b>1st April</b>	<b>Easter Day</b> 6:00 am Dawn Service at St Mary's 8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) 10:00 am Easter Eucharist and Blessing of the Easter garden 6:30 pm Evensong and Sermon ( at All Saints')
<b>3rd April</b>	<b>Tuesday</b> 11:00 am Holy Communion at Hailey House
<b>5th April</b>	<b>Thursday</b> 11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
<b>8th April</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Easter Tide</b> 8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) 10:00 am Worship for All 11:15 am The Eucharist with prayers for healing and laying on of hands 6:00 pm Evensong in St Mary's
<b>9th April</b>	<b>Monday Annunciation of Our Lord</b> 6:00 pm Holy Communion in St Mary's
<b>12th April</b>	<b>Thursday</b> 11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
<b>15th April</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Easter Tide</b> 8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) 10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church 6:30 pm Evensong and Sermon
<b>18th April</b>	<b>Wednesday</b> 11:00 am Holy Communion at Longfield
<b>19th April</b>	<b>Thursday:</b> 11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
<b>22nd April</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Easter Tide</b> 8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) 10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church 4:00 pm St George's Day Service 6:30 pm Evensong and Sermon
<b>23rd April</b>	<b>Monday St George Patron of England</b> 6:45 Holy Communion
<b>25th April</b>	<b>Wednesday St Mark the Evangelist</b> 10:00 am Holy Communion at St Andrew's Heybridge
<b>26th April</b>	<b>Thursday</b> 11:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
<b>29th April</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of Easter Tide</b> 8:00 am Holy Communion (BCP 1662) 10:00 am Parish Eucharist and Junior Church 12 noon Holy Baptism 6:30 pm Prayer and Praise



# ALL SAINT'S ARTS FESTIVAL

ALL SAINT'S CHURCH  
HIGH STREET  
MALDON  
ESSEX  
CM9 4QE

Charity No: 1127067

25th ~ 29th May 2018

**[www.allsaintsartsfestival.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsartsfestival.org.uk)**

## EXHIBITING ARTISTS

**ENTRANCE BETWEEN 10.30-4.30 TO THE EXHIBITION IS FREE**

**Café open at all times with lunches between 12.30~2.30**

**(Except Sunday)**

Catherine Allen  
Naomi Brangwyn  
Miranda Chapman  
Alison Dane  
Moira Goodall  
Greta Hansen  
Clare Kiely  
Ophelia Mills  
Sally Pudney  
Nicky Sheales  
Caroline Sullivan  
Anne Townshend  
Jonathan Trim  
Sheila Wright

Glass & Silver Jewellery  
Stained Glass  
Etchings & Other Prints  
Jewellery  
Ceramics  
Wood Cut & Lino Prints  
Alpaca Textiles  
China & Silver Jewellery  
Mixed Media Paintings  
Ceramics  
Viking Jewellery & Knitwear  
Lino Prints  
Mixed Media Paintings  
Hand Crochet Textiles

**Tickets for evening events available on the website**

(from 1st April)

Or All Saint's Church (after services)

or Tourist Information Centre, Wenlock Way,

High Street, Maldon CM9 5AD

MAY

25  
FRIDAY

# JAMES RUSSELL

## Edward Bawden: Artist and Adventurer

James Russell wrote; In a long and illustrious career Edward Bawden (1903-89) achieved renown as a painter, designer, illustrator and teacher, yet he remains an elusive figure. Today he is remembered for his spectacular lino cuts and humorous illustrations, yet he was once feted as



an innovative modern painter. During the 1930s he barely left his home in Gt Bardfield, Essex, but in 1940 embarked on a remarkable career as a war artist, travelling solo around the Middle East. Post-war he made prints on an epic scale while illustrating numerous books with his habitual skill and humour, and today he is seen as a key 20th century figure. As curator of a forthcoming Bawden exhibition (summer 2018), I draw on in-depth research, archive material and more.

£12

Refreshments available

7.30pm

MAY

27  
SUNDAY

# COMMUNITY SONGS OF PRAISE

*Te Deum  
C V Stanford*

*'Rejoice in  
the Lord'  
Purcell*



*'Jupiter'  
Gustav Holst*

*Festival  
Contributors  
Chosen  
Hymns*

Featuring Dr. Stuart Pegler, Director of Music, who has been at All Saints' for 11 years. Over a lifetime in Church music, Stuart has been organist, Cathedral Singer, and/or Director at places as diverse as Rumney and Penarth (Cardiff), Armley (Leeds), St. Thomas' Newcastle-upon-Tyne, St Giles' Packwood and Dorridge (Solihull), and has also accompanied services in many major cathedrals (Durham, Worcester, Peterborough, Southwell, Birmingham). He has made a point of playing some of Europe's most distinguished organs (including Amsterdam, Gouda, and Hamburg.) He has given recitals in South Wales, Newcastle and Birmingham, and also at Frankfurt and Rudesheim in Germany, as well as here at All Saints'. He rates the All Saints' Gray organ as outstandingly beautiful and the best in the area.

**Retiring collection**

**Refreshments**

**6.30pm**

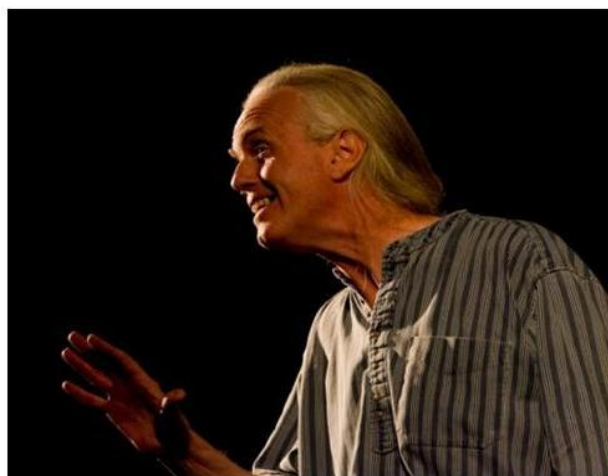
MAY

28

MONDAY

# HUGH LUPTON

## The Mabinogion: Welsh Legends Retold



**An entertaining evening with this  
acclaimed storyteller  
for adults (12+)**

Hugh Lupton is an internationally renowned story teller and novelist, whose Welsh heritage has led him to becoming an authority on these stories. Hugh will be telling the story of Pryderi, the only character to feature in all four branches of the Mabinogi as well as talking about his new book and the history of these ancient tales.

£12

Refreshments available

7.30pm





## DIARY FOR APRIL

Tues 3rd April	10 - 12 noon meeting Point 10-00 am Prayer Group 7:30 pm PCC 8:00 pm Mother's Union
Wed 4th April	12 noon - 1:30 pm All Saints' Lunches 7:00 pm Parish Office
Thu 5th April	2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Sat 7th April	3:00 pm to 5:00 pm Children's Society box Opening
Mon 9th April	9:00 am Men's Breakfast (Rose and Crown)
Tues 10th April	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point
Thu 12th April	2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Fri 13th April	7:30 pm Organ Recital by Richard Barnes
Sat 14th April	2:00 pm messy Church
Mon 16th April	10 am to 12 noon Maldon Pioneers Drop In 10:30 am U3A Visit
Tue 17th April	10 am - 12 noon Meeting Point 7:30 pm CTiM in D'Arcy Room
Wed 18th April	7:30 pm Baptism Preparation in the D'Arcy Room
Thu 19th April	9:15 am Sunshiners 11:30 am Stanway U3A visits All Saints' 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7:00 pm Junior Choir Practice 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Sat 21st April	10 am - 3:00pm Scouts Breakfast and lunch in Church
Mon 23rd April	10 am to 12 noon Maldon Pioneers Drop In 7:30 pm Easter Vestry and Annual Parochial meeting
Tues 24th April	10 - 12 noon Meeting Point
Thu 26th April	9-15 am Sunshiners 2-4 pm Maldon Ladies 7-00 pm Junior Choir Practice 7-30 pm Choir Practice
Mon 30th April	10 am to 12 noon Maldon Pioneers Drop In 7:30 pm "Exploring Christianity" meeting

**N.B.**

**COPY DEADLINE FOR MAY MAGAZINE**

**22nd APRIL**



# Mothering Sunday

On Mothering Sunday Reverend Julie held a service about the role of Mothers. Her theme was the question 'What does a Mother do?' Young children from the congregation were encouraged to come up and take part as Julie developed this theme by asking a mother (Gina) to act as the mother and then showed all the things for which a mother had to be responsible. This was an enormous pile of duties. The children were then given their lines, to say repeatedly to the mother, such as 'Can I have some sweets' or 'Can you play with me?' or 'Can we go to the park?' or 'I need a drink'. These things were constantly said whilst the mother was juggling all her normal daily chores and went to show just how at times things seemed impossible for the mother to cope with. In a nutshell the answer to the question 'What does a mother do?' is 'Almost everything!'



This was brought home to us by the mother having more things to do than was reasonable and also having the children constantly demanding her time and attention. How do Mothers do it? It is not easy to tell, but somehow they do! When we look back on life it was always Mother who sorted out our needs and dealt with our problems and so it is entirely proper that there should be a special day in the year when we celebrate Mothers and recognise all that they do. Yes, I know that we have Father's day too, but If we are honest, all of us men know that Mothering Sunday is just a little more special and deserved, and rightly so. Thank you Julie for helping us all appreciate that. As a lovely finale to the service, a small posy of Spring flowers was presented to all the ladies present in church and also some sent home to those who could not be with us on the day. The posies were made by the ladies flower group from the church. What a great morning!

My own Mother was just such a mother as we heard about in the service, being responsible for three young boys during world war two whilst my father was away in the Merchant Navy on the North Atlantic convoys. Mum shopped, cooked, cleaned the house, clothed and nurtured us and still found time to tell us bedtime stories and comfort us during air raids just like millions of other Mums during those dark days. The Mums of today work just as hard for their families and many also have to take on paid work to help support them financially. Not an easy task. Occasionally I have been asked 'What would you do for a career if you could be start life again? I am not sure, but I do know that I would not want to be a young Mum with a job and a family to look after. It is much too onerous a task! About twenty years ago Joan and I knew a family where the Mother had two errant (in fact very troublesome) teenage daughters and a young son with





learning difficulties. She still managed to work on three days each week as her husband was in a low paid job and we know that she also worked very hard to help each of these children. We see her occasionally now and her children are grown up and the daughters have now straightened their lives out and the son has regular employment. They are all grateful to their Mother who did not give up on them when they were young and difficult. She says 'why would she not love them regardless?' A case of 'Once a Mother, Always a Mother!'

Thank you to Julie for helping us to answer the question 'What does a Mother do?' One answer might be 'A Mother gives infinite love and is always there for her children when needed'

*Ken Downham*

## OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES

In a mother's womb were two babies. One asked the other: "Do you believe in life after delivery?" The other replied, "Why, of course. There has to be something after delivery. Maybe we are here to prepare ourselves for what we will be later."

"Nonsense" said the first. "There is no life after delivery. What kind of life would that be?"

The second said, "I don't know, but there will be more light than here. Maybe we will walk with our legs and eat from our mouths. Maybe we will have other senses that we can't understand now."

The first replied, "That is absurd. Walking is impossible. And eating with our mouths? Ridiculous! The umbilical cord supplies nutrition and everything we need. But the umbilical cord is so short. Life after delivery is to be logically excluded."

The second insisted, "Well I think there is something and maybe it's different than it is here. Maybe we won't need this physical cord anymore."

The first replied, "Nonsense. And moreover if there is life, then why has no one ever come back from there? Delivery is the end of life, and in the after-delivery there is nothing but darkness and silence and oblivion. It takes us nowhere."

"Well, I don't know," said the second, "but certainly we will meet Mother and she will take care of us."

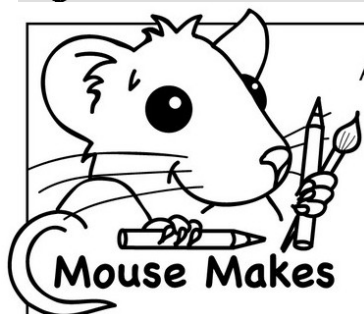
The first replied "Mother? You actually believe in Mother? That's laughable. If Mother exists then where is She now?"

The second said, "She is all around us. We are surrounded by her. We are of Her. It is in Her that we live. Without Her this world would not and could not exist."

Said the first: "Well I don't see Her, so it is only logical that She doesn't exist."

To which the second replied, "Sometimes, when you're in silence and you focus and listen, you can perceive Her presence, and you can hear Her loving voice, calling down from above."

*Submitted by Gina Southey*



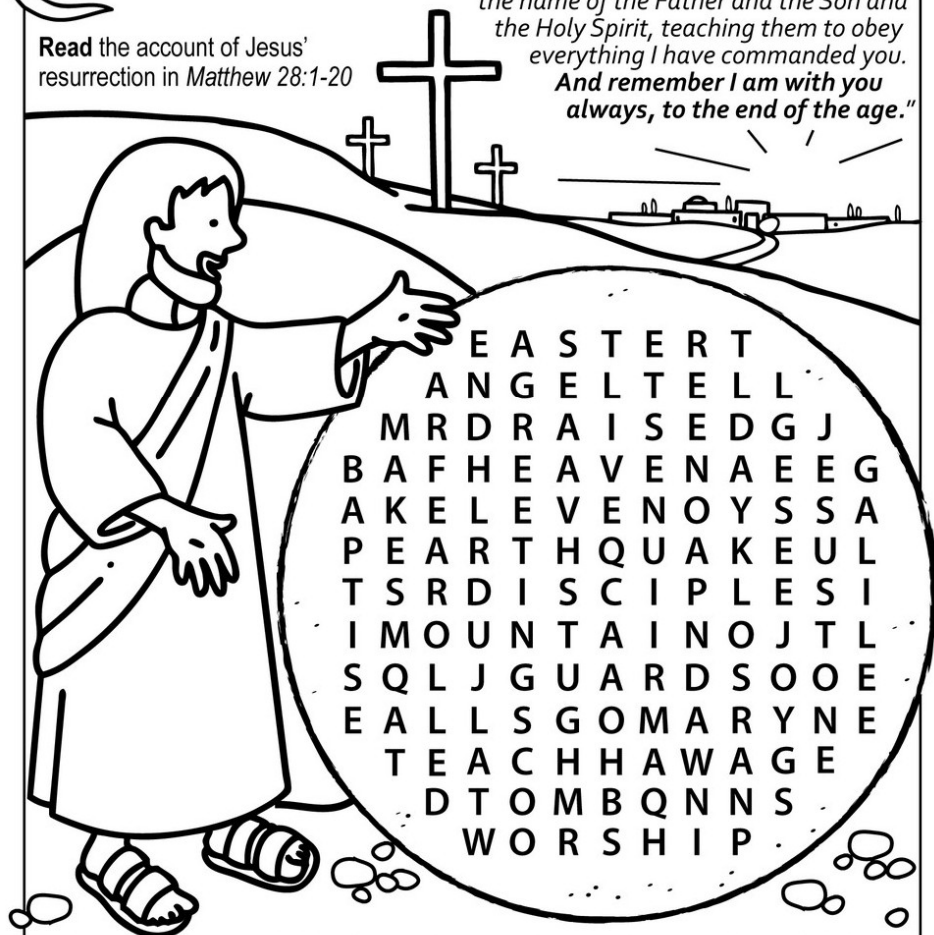
Read the account of Jesus' resurrection in *Matthew 28:1-20*

### JESUS IS ALIVE!

After Jesus had been raised from the dead He met Mary and Mary Magdalene "Greetings," He said, "Do not be afraid. Go tell my brothers to go to Galilee. They will see me there."

When the disciples met Jesus in Galilee He said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

**And remember I am with you always, to the end of the age."**



Can you find these words from the story in the word search above? EASTER • DAWN  
DAY • MARY • TOMB • EARTHQUAKE • ANGEL • HEAVEN • ROLLED • STONE • GUARDS  
JESUS • RAISED • FEAR • JOY • RAN • GREETINGS • TELL • DISCIPLES • SEE • ELEVEN  
GALILEE • MOUNTAIN • WORSHIP • ALL • GO • MAKE • BAPTISE • TEACH • END • AGE

# Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Mt 21:12-16, Mk 11:15-18, Lk 19:45-48

When Jesus reached Jerusalem he went to the Temple, built as a place where everyone could worship God, but with restrictions...

**Plan of the Temple**

200m

**Restrictions**

- only priests
- only Jewish men
- only Jews
- every one

Visitors had to change their money to shekels

They had to buy special animals to sacrifice...

and the stalls filled the only place that non-Jews could come to worship God

stalls

yet more stalls

even more stalls

The chief priests had no problem with this...

but it made Jesus very angry...

so he drove them out

This should be a place of prayer but you have made it into a den of thieves \*

\* Isaiah 56:7, Jeremiah 7:11

Hosanna!

He is upsetting everything.

We must have him killed

But the crowds love him - we must do it secretly.



# The parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus



JESUS OFTEN TOLD  
STORIES WITH  
HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONCE JESUS TOLD A STORY  
ABOUT A RICH MAN...

...WHO LIVED IN GREAT  
LUXURY.



MEANWHILE THERE WAS A  
VERY POOR MAN WHO LIVED  
BY BEGGING AT THE RICH  
MAN'S GATE.

THE RICH MAN THOUGHT ONLY  
OF HIMSELF.



SADLY, BOTH THE RICH MAN, AND  
LAZARUS - THE POOR MAN DIED.



LAZARUS FOUND  
HIMSELF IN HEAVEN,  
BUT THE RICH MAN...



...ENDED UP SOMEWHERE FAR  
LESS PLEASANT!

PLEASE HELP ME. JUST GIVE ME  
SOMETHING TO DRINK - PLEASE! OR AT  
LEAST WARN MY BROTHERS!!!



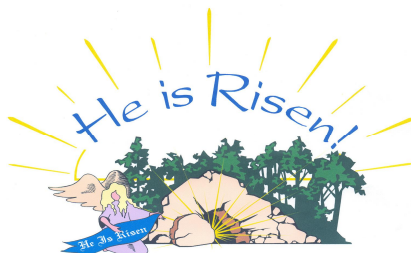
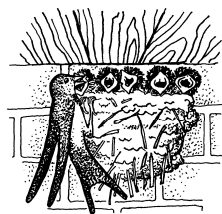
THE RICH MAN HAD LEARNED A TERRIBLE LESSON.  
HE SHOULD HAVE CARED FOR LAZARUS WHEN HE  
HAD THE CHANCE! - IT'S A HARD PARABLE FOR  
EVERYONE WHO IS RICH.



# EASTER



A purple cloth covers the cross  
 The Church is in mourning  
 Our Holy Son is dead.  
 We wait, sad but expectant  
 And pray: there is a flutter  
 Of life in the air around us.  
 Death is close: we feel  
 Its deadly embrace.  
 It is the Death of winter  
 And the stirring of life  
 In the soil: in the summer's warmth,  
 Waking the world  
 From its lengthy slumber.  
 Jesus is dead but he is alive again:  
 Vibrant is the air with birdsong  
 Sentinels of gaudy daffodils  
 And bees buzzing in the cherry trees  
 He is walking abroad. He has risen.  
 We mourn his death.  
 We celebrate his coming back amongst us.  
 And the renewal, every spring  
 Of life after death.



*Rosemary Pugh. (14/04/1992)*



# ESSEX AND HERTS AIR AMBULANCE

On February 17th, Sue, Nick, Hannah and I were invited to the Air Ambulance base at North Weald, to meet some of the people who attended Nick at his accident on April 15th. As we arrived at the base, the Air Ambulance was called out; but we did meet Scott, the paramedic and Dominic, the doctor, who had looked after Nick at the time. It was obviously a moving experience to be able to thank the people who had saved Nick's life. They had notes and photos from the accident, and were able to explain how they responded and to answer Nick's questions.

They explained that a decision is taken centrally, after the initial 999 call, as to when an incident is severe enough to warrant the involvement of the Air Ambulance.



**Nick with  
Scott the  
Paramedic  
and Dominic  
the Doctor**

What is remarkable is that it was just an hour from the accident, to Nick arriving at the Royal London Hospital. (This is the major trauma hospital for our region) With severe head injuries, speed is of the essence. Also they explained that the helicopter has equipment that an ordinary ambulance does not have. Whilst the crew was getting Nick to the hospital, the doctor and paramedic were able to give Nick the necessary medical care. This brought home to us the important work that the Air Ambulance performs and the really amazing people who work for it. As an old friend of mine used to say, "It makes you sort of proud and kind of humble"

St Michael's hosted a fund raising concert for the Air Ambulance in July; and Sue and I are hoping to have a fund raising "Vicarage Tea" for the Air Ambulance later in the summer, in our garden. No doubt we will be appealing for home made cakes nearer the time!

*Stephen*





## *Book Reviews*

### **Baptism - Its purpose, practice and power**

By Michael Green, LionHudson, £6.99

"Therefore, go make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Baptism: as an infant, as a believer and by the Holy Spirit. Michael Green provides a bold, clear examination of the different approaches, examining the biblical evidence and teaching for each one.

Common ground between the churches is emphasised, and the author's conviction of the validity and benefits of infant baptism, in appropriate circumstances, is presented with energy and thoroughness. This popular account has helped many to a deeper understanding of the real significance of baptism.

### **The Freedom of Years - ageing in perspective**

By Harriet and Donald Mowat, BRF, £8.99

Here is a Christian perspective on ageing, developed within the UK's health and social care services over the past 40 years.

Addressing profound and critical questions - What is ageing for? Is old age included in the purposes of God? What does 'successful' ageing look like? - the authors offer wise, informed suggestions. 'In accepting our own ageing,' they say, 'we start the journey towards ageing well, and can thus help others to age well.'

'We would argue that the successful ager, in every age, is he/she who manages to navigate a way through the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, both external and internal, and to find a balance that offers freedom and choice, rather than imprisonment and prescription. This is greatly aided by embarking consciously and purposefully on a journey of the soul or spirit, which at its core addresses meaning and purpose.'

*Taken from the Parish Pump Website*

*(See also the article by Derek Trueman on P40)*



# DARKEST HOUR

As a young Bobby, serving in London's West End, I was to witness many of the nation's great events; and I came to realise that no one does it quite as well as we do. Nothing left me more in awe of great patriotic ceremony than the funeral of Sir Winston Churchill. I was one of many chosen to line the route of the procession. My place was in front of King Charles' statue, facing down towards Whitehall, towards Parliament Square; from whence the cortege was to come some three hours after I had taken up my post.



Winston Churchill

Trafalgar Square gradually filled behind me in the cold light of day. A detachment of Royal Marine were marched into place in my sector and stood "at ease". The marine in front of me, having stood motionless for a long time, was beginning to sway prior to collapse, as several of his colleagues had done already. I managed to grab his belt behind his back and stopped him passing out, before his officer saw sense and stood them "easy". "Thanks mate" he muttered, "you just saved me two days pay".

The square behind me was filling up with Londoners, foreign tourists, and French patriots, with flags depicting the Cross of Lorraine. No doubt these had been resistance fighters, who had been sustained through the Nazi tyranny by Churchill's support and oratory. A few American voices, more animated than the rest, seemed to suggest this was something of an entertaining side show. They were silenced by Cockney voices, as only they know how!

It seemed an age before the processions came into view, marked by the solemn beat of a muffled drum. A gun carriage, pulled by one hundred sailors came into view. When marching, sailors sway from side to side, as if at sea, in a steady slow march of hypnotic intensity. They made their way past us along the Strand towards St Paul's. The Royal Marines had heads bowed and arms reversed; and from the crowd there was a respectful silence, with sobs and crying, and not just from the ladies. We were all saying farewell to the old warrior who had brought us through our Darkest Hour.

You, dear reader, may have detected my admiration for the man whose photograph gazed down from the mantelpiece of my old sixth form class room, over his handwritten message to us all, "Britain's future belongs to you".



followed by his signature.

Thus it was that the Reverend Stephen and I set off to Chelmsford on a wet morning in February. We struck a bargain that he would treat me to the cinema, and I would stand him lunch in a Chinese restaurant. We drove into Chelmsford and parked in the "Meadows" multi-story car park and boldly strode to the doors of the nearby cinema. This was the "wrong cinema" we were politely advised on entry. We should have been in the "Everyman", some three quarters of a mile distant, with just ten minutes to go till the start of the movie. Off we went at break neck walking speed; my artificial knees and new right hip reminding me that I was not in the first flush of youth, as far as jogging is concerned. Eventually we arrived, me somewhat puffed and sore, but Stephen in fine style. We need not have rushed. There were several adverts and trailers to sit through, before Garry Oldfield Esq showed us why he subsequently won an Oscar, for his portrayal of Winston, our hero, in the *Darkest Hour*. We were ensconced in sumptuous armchairs, and waiters were bringing meals in. But such was the intensity of the movie, that we remained alert and entertained throughout.

It showed Winston the man, the husband to the redoubtable Clemmie, and the new Prime Minister, who knew Hitler for the monster he was. Churchill had his doubts and uncertainties, but he took on doubters and appeasers in his own government. He chose the brightest and staunchest colleagues from the opposition to form a wonderful coalition. He was a man whose leadership and oratory galvanised the nation; and inspired allies with his pluck and dogged determination.

My only criticism came when Churchill leapt from his car and took a journey on the Tube, to try and gauge the measure of public support. This is something his bodyguard, Inspector Walter Thompson of Special Branch, would never have allowed. But it gave artistic licence to the script writer to gauge the public mood. It allowed Churchill's character to be seen to cope with the miracle of Dunkirk, his own desperate idea, put into operation by Admiral Ramsey, in his HQ in the Dover Cliffs. A miracle indeed!

A bluff character, Churchill was played to perfection by Gary Oldfield, who brought to us this wonderful leader, with all his wit, humour, tenderness at times; and an inbuilt belief in the British spirit of defiance. He was, I believe, a man of destiny, who counted himself small in the presence of Almighty God.

*David Hylands*

## Don't delay

Never put off until tomorrow what you can do today, because by that time there will be a tax on it.



*Continuing our correspondence between Eustace, rector of St James the Least, and his nephew.... Taken from the Parish Pump website.*



## When guitars meet Matins

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

It was kind of you to send your music group to us last Sunday morning while our choir had a Sunday off for its celebratory lunch. Miss Timmins' ninety-fourth birthday brought the combined choir's age to 1,000; which is quite a distinction for twelve people. Clearly, a Sunday commitment to 'Hymns Ancient & Modern', consumption of industrial quantities of peppermints and pleasant naps during sermons has a positive effect on longevity.

I had rather looked forward to hearing some Bach motets from your group, but now have learned that guitars, drums and choral Matins is not a marriage made in heaven. All your group lacked was a drum majorette leading the procession up the aisle.

It was quite obvious the music was going to be a little different when I arrived to see that the lectern, Lady Tadcaster's flower arrangement and the vergers had all disappeared behind an amplifier. The only person not disconcerted by this was the vergers, who realised it presented an excellent opportunity to do the crossword unobserved during Divine Worship.

Your display of the hymns on a screen was well intended, but did the screen have to be in front of the pulpit? I had to balance on several kneelers to be seen over it, and throughout the sermon could only think of how to look dignified should the whole pile collapse mid-sentence. The lack of hymn books also terrified the congregation - they had nothing to hold, and so resorted to clutching Kleenex or the pew in front of them.

But the worst moment was when the group gave its 'solo number'. (Couldn't it have been called an 'anthem'?) Half way through, dear Mrs Ffitch, who has always been somewhat excitable, felt called to do a spontaneous religious dance down the aisle. The congregation froze in horror. We all avoided catching her eye after the Service, but what do we say when we see her in the village tomorrow morning? Best to simply stay indoors for a few days.

Perhaps your music group could visit us again for our choir's 2000th anniversary - which I suspect it will consist of the same people, as they are all tenacious of note, opinion and age

Your loving uncle,  
*Eustace*

# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH MALDON



## ORGAN AND VIOLIN RECITAL

by

**RICHARD BARNES** Organ & Piano  
and

**MARK HARTT-PALMER** Violin

**7:30 pm on Friday**

**13th April 2018**





# **Maldon Choral**

You are warmly invited to  
**sing with us**

Haydn's

## *The Creation*

**Rehearsals Thursdays 7.30 – 9.30 pm**

**Term begins: April 12<sup>th</sup> 7.30 pm**  
**United Reformed Church, Maldon**

(subsequent rehearsals at All Saints' Primary, Highlands Drive, Maldon)

**Reduced rates for joining for one term only**  
**Music score (in English) provided**

Concert performance with guest soloists and string quartet  
**Saturday July 14<sup>th</sup> 7.30 pm**  
United Reformed Church, Maldon

Further details 01621 851141 or  
[maldonchoralsociety.org.uk](http://maldonchoralsociety.org.uk)

**After eight Social Club**



# **Anniversary Dance**

**Cold Norton Village Hall**

**Saturday 21 April**

**Come along and celebrate the clubs 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

**Dancing to music from 5 Star**

**Doors open 8.00pm**

**Admission: FREE**

**Please bring a plate of food to share**

**NO BAR — BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS!**

The after *eight* social club runs various activities every month of the year.  
These include quiz nights, meals out, coffee evenings, excursions etc.

If you require further information call Mike on 01621 856219

We also have a Facebook page

**[www.aftereightsocialclub.co.uk](http://www.aftereightsocialclub.co.uk)**



## Growing Old in Christ

How should Christians understand and respond to aging? What resources does the Christian faith have to enable Christians to age well?

The Bible has much to say about the elderly. There are passages that make the closest connection between living an upright life and longevity. For example, Proverbs 16:31 clearly depicts longevity as the reward of the righteous when it declares that 'Grey hair is a crown of glory; it is gained in a righteous life'. And Psalm 92:12-14 promises that even in old age the righteous will continue to flourish and bear fruit. But the Bible also captures vividly the anxieties that accompany ageing which even faithful believers experience. Thus, in Psalm 71 the psalmist prays movingly: 'In you, O Lord, I take refuge ... Do not cast me off in the time of old age; do not forsake me when my strength is spent' (vv1, 9). Christian reflection on what it means to grow old must surely also be guided by the realism of the Bible and acknowledge the ambiguities that accompany ageing. It must avoid the two opposing and extreme approaches in modern culture to ageing that have brought about untold confusion and frustration. The first extreme is 'ageism', that mindset and perspective that sees ageing only in a negative light, that is, in terms of what it is not: not young, not productively employed, not energetic, not independent, and not fully engaged with the present. Our therapeutic culture also presents ageing as something that must be strenuously forestalled (if that were possible) or cleverly camouflaged (if postponement fails). This anti-ageing message is spread through various means, not least in commercials that promise to remove the signs of ageing either by cosmetics or laser therapy. Modern culture also glorifies the young, the powerful and the energetic. This subtly but powerfully conditions society to think of older people in generally negative and distorting ways – as useless, unattractive and burdensome.

The other extreme is the virulent reaction against ageism that seeks to demolish the harmful stereotypes it conjures by ignoring the real limitations that come with ageing. We see this in the portrayals of older people performing heroic and incredible feats that would put to shame people half their age, like rock climbing, jet skiing and skydiving. Such an approach is as distorting and harmful as the myth it seeks to debunk. The message that it sends 'shows no more tolerance for the intractable vicissitudes of old age than the older stereotypes; older people are now (or should be) healthy, sexually very active, engaged, productive and self-reliant – in other words, young'. A Christian theology and spirituality of ageing must avoid the Scylla of ageism and the Charybdis of triumphalism: it must neither deny the limitations and suffering that older people experience nor denigrate the elderly and dismiss the contributions they can make in the community.

Following the delicate balance of Scripture, a Christian perspective to ageing must acknowledge and embrace its inherent ambiguities. 'The ambiguity of ageing is the tension between old age as a time of fruition and decay, and fulfilment and loss'.



Christian writers have pointed out that the elderly have specific spiritual concerns and needs. They include questions relating to the meaning of life, anxieties about being self-sufficient, a sense of being vulnerable and issues pertaining to isolation and death. To this list, Stanley Hauerwas adds the threat of ‘dementia, deafness, blindness, arthritis, helplessness, even repulsiveness; and worst of all the loneliness of outliving one’s contemporaries’. The Church must be aware of the needs of her elderly members and offer special ministry and support that will enable them to flourish despite these anxieties. While old age is often accompanied by suffering, it is important to remember that being old has to do with much more than suffering. The elderly in Christ must continue to acknowledge that the life they possess is a gift from God, which by God’s grace still holds many surprises and possibilities. It is a life that can and should be lived for the glory of God.

This brings us to the heart of the matter: ageing and discipleship. As Christians grow old, they remain called to follow Christ and to be his witnesses in the Church and in the world. The elderly ‘remain called equally to the practices of the corporal and spiritual ministry, to sharing the faith with the young, and to the promotion of social justice’. As disciples of Jesus Christ, who have traversed far along the road of obedience, the elderly are able to contribute to the life of the Church in ways that both complement and supplement the contributions of younger Christians. The elderly bring with them their rich historical memories. They bring with them experience and wisdom. And by their exemplary virtue, the godly elderly can be both model and inspiration to many Christians, encouraging them to pursue godliness and spurring them to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24-25). The elderly who live for the glory of Christ will discover that the vicissitudes of old age – ill health and frailty – can never rob them of the peace and joy that comes from God. They will again and again discover the wonderful truth in the words of the 4th century bishop and theologian, Ambrose: ‘Every age is perfect in Christ. Every age is full of God’. A Christian theology and spirituality of ageing must explore the depths of Ambrose’s vision. The church’s theological task is to understand the gift of life in old age in the light of the whole story, remembered and celebrated through all seasons of Christian living. The Church must therefore never see the elderly in a negative light: as passive members, unable to contribute much and mostly in need of the ministrations of others. Instead the Church must be a community that affirms and celebrates the call and vocation of the elderly, welcoming them and giving thanks to God for their presence, their gifts and their participation. The Church must recognise that without its elderly members she is incomplete and thus in many ways profoundly impoverished.

*[edited and submitted by D Trueman from Dr R Chia, Trinity Theological College, Singapore in Ethos magazine]*



# Lunch at All Saints

Soup – hot food- cakes

**12:00 to 1:30 pm**

**Wednesday  
4th April**



## FROM THE REGISTERS



### MARRIAGES

March 3rd JOHN LUKE DODSON with  
LAUREN ELIZABETH BARRY

### FUNERALS

March 2nd HEATHER JOY TAIT (aged 94) of Fambridge Road  
March 2nd MICHAEL JOHN DODD (aged 54) of Beeleigh Road  
March 6th BERYL DIERDRE CROZIER (aged 87) of St Peter's Court  
March 8th CLAUDE VICTOR WILLINGHAM aged 98 of Spital Road  
March 19th KENNETH HARVEY SHACKLOCK (aged 86) of Accacia  
Drive

March 26th FREDA FINLAY (aged 88) of Newnham Green  
March 27th LEONARD CHARLES RAMPLIN (aged 74) of St Giles  
Crescent





# Prayer Diary

## APRIL 2018

1 Easter Day	Christians throughout the world
2	Our Sunday Schools
3	Those addicted to alcohol
4	The unemployed
5	Our Queen
6	The worldwide Church
7	All Churches in our Diocese
8 2nd Sunday of Easter	Christians who are persecuted for their faith
9 The Annunciation of our Lord to the Virgin Mary	Expectant mothers
10	The needy and hungry of the world
11	The sick and those who care for them
12	Our Diocesan Synod
13	Those suffering from Cancer
14	Those who lead and attend 'Messy Church' today
15 3rd Sunday of Easter	All Lay Ministers and Preachers of the Church
16	J's Hospice, its Staff and Patients
17	Our Police Force
18	Local shopkeepers
19	General Practitioners
20	All Churchwardens
21	Our Rural Dean
22 4th Sunday of Easter	Christian Youth Workers
23 St George	Members of The Scout Association
24	Staff and Students at All Saints' CofE School
25 St Mark	Churches dedicated to St Mark
26	Staff and Students at Wentworth School
27	Staff and Students at Plume School
28	Residents of care homes in our Town
29 5th Sunday of Easter	All retired Clergy
30	Hospital and Hospice Chaplaincy Teams

**PARISH DIRECTORY**

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ASST CURATE

Rev Julie Willmot

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## ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITY	CONTACT	TELEPHONE
Choir Practice (Thur 7:30pm)	Dr. Stuart Pegler	01621 850530
Junior Choir (Thur 7:00 pm)	"	"
Junior Church	Elaine Brown	01621853238
Freedom Footsteps	Sue Carter	
Sunshiners (Pre School Group Thursdays 9:15 am)	Gill Nelson	01621 852119
Tower Bell Ringers	Peter Chignell	01376 571170
	Dennis Johnson	01621 842410
Handbell Ringers	Susan Duke	01621 851623
Flower Group	Betty Smith	01621 854143
Bible Society	Joan Downham	01621 854655
Mothers' Union`	Marie Keeble	01621 856354
Childrens Society	Elaine Brown	01621 853238
Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorer Scouts (14-18yrs)	Cliff Hunter	01621 852013
Meeting Point	Barbara Gale	01621 928538
Maldon Pioneers	Mike Frederick	01621 840951
Maldon Ladies Group	Vivien Clark	01621 740374
Ramblers Club		
Prayer Group		

If you require information regarding Rainbows, Brownies, Guides or  
Senior Section please visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested)  
or call 0800 169 5901.

## PARISH OFFICE

Requests for Baptisms and Marriages should be made at the Parish Office situated in the Church - entrance via the main entrance door from the High Street - on 1st and 3rd Wed of the month between 7:00 and 8:00 pm

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