

HOBNOB

On-line



HORNDON ✦ ORSETT ✦ BULPHAN

The parish magazine for
St. Peter and St. Paul. Horndon-on-the-Hill
St. Giles and All Saints. Orsett
St. Mary-the-Virgin. Bulphan

January 2024



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ADVERTISING POLICY

If space is available, new HOBNOB adverts are reserved for local contractors/organisations within a 15m radius of the Parish, excluding the area South of the Thames.....

And it is expected that any advertiser upholds ethical working practices and is in sympathy with the ethos of the church. Ultimately the decision will rest with the PCC.



TO ADVERTISE **HERE** PLEASE CONTACT

RON PORTER AT:

R.Porter@hobnob.org.uk

OR

01375 891 697

SERVICES – January 2024

	HORNDON	ORSETT	BULPHAN
Monday 1 st			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 2 nd	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 4 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 5 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café at the Orsett Churches Centre Edward Bear Toddler Group 9.30-11am	
Saturday 6 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments	4pm Forest Church	
Sunday 7th January <i>Baptism of Christ</i>	4pm Epiphany Carol Service		10am All Together Holy Communion Service
Monday 8 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 9 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments	2pm Holy Communion Service, at The Whitecroft Care home	
		7.30pm Holy Communion Service at the Rectory, School Lane, Orsett	
Thursday 11 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 12 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café at the Orsett Churches Centre Edward Bear Toddler Group 9.30-11am	
Saturday 13 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 14th January <i>2nd Sunday of Epiphany</i>	8.45am BCP Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service		
Monday 15 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 16 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 18 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 19 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café at the Orsett Churches Centre Edward Bear Toddler Group 9.30-11am	
Saturday 20 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 21st January <i>3rd Sunday of Epiphany</i>	4pm Refresh Service	8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Holy Communion Service	
Monday 22 nd			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 23 rd	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
	12noon Holy Communion Service		
Thursday 25 th			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 26 th		9-11.30am Oasis Café at the Orsett Churches Centre Edward Bear Toddler Group 9.30-11am	
Saturday 27 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 28th January <i>Candlemas</i>			8.45am CW Holy Communion Service 10am Family Service
Monday 29 th			Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments
Tuesday 30 th	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Thursday 1 st February			Open Church 10am-noon
Friday 2 nd		9-11.30am Oasis Café at the Orsett Churches Centre Edward Bear Toddler Group 9.30-11am	
Saturday 3 rd	Open Church 10am-noon with refreshments		
Sunday 4th February <i>2nd Sunday before Lent</i>	10am All Together Holy Communion Service		

Open Church means that the Church is open for private prayer, refreshments are available at all sessions except Thursdays at Bulphan.

Rector's Reflections

Happy New Year to you all!

I hope you had a lovely Christmas Day. And thank you to churchwardens, musicians and everyone else who worked so hard to enable Christmas services to happen in the churches, and beyond, in the community. Your help and support was greatly appreciated. We are, of course, still in the Christmas Season and will be holding a carol Service at Horndon Church on Sunday 7th January at 4pm, at Epiphany, when we remember the wise men finding and presenting gifts to the baby Jesus. Please do come along if you are able.

Later on, in January we will be running another Alpha Course in conjunction with the Wellcome Church.

The course will be held on Sunday afternoons at 4pm, at Orsett Churches Centre, each session lasting approximately an hour and a half. Everyone is welcome to come along. It would be helpful to know in advance if you would like to come so that we know how many booklets to order.

'Alpha is a series of weekly sessions where you can explore the Christian faith in an open-minded and welcoming environment. There's no cost and no pressure. Just lots of great conversation and space to think.

Each session includes some light refreshments, a short video and a time of discussion where you can share your thoughts about what you've heard. Whatever questions you have got, you can ask them at Alpha.'

Anyway, as we move into 2024, you may like to use this prayer:

Heavenly Father, as we face the challenges of the coming year,
grant us strength and courage.

Help us to rely on your mighty power and to find our refuge in you.

May we be steadfast in our faith, knowing that you are our rock and our fortress.

Amen

Take care and God bless,

Sue



THE PARISH OF HORNDON, ORSETT AND BULPHAN

www.hobnob.org.uk Facebook: @HOBNOBchurches

RECTOR	Reverend Sue Mann	email: rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk	01375 891 254
PTO*	Reverend Max Blake	email: max@hobnob.org.uk	01375 360 522

*(permission to officiate)

PARISH CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Churchwardens	Alastair Macrae, Beverley Macrae, Christine Mortimer, David Mortimer, Sonia Ward, Frank Woollard.
Treasurer	Lynn Bennett
Secretary	Beverley Macrae
Parish Administrator	Lynda Robertson.
Deanery Synod Representatives	Karen Collier, Alastair Macrae, Janet Wilkins, Frank Woollard
Lay Representatives	Sandra Billinger, Brian Flavell, Felicity Tarbard, Jane Barry, Ron Porter

CHURCH OFFICERS AND CONTACT DETAILS

St Peter & St Paul Horndon-on-the-Hill

Churchwardens	Sonia Ward	01375 674212
	Beverley Macrae	01375 673 327
Deputy Churchwarden	Felicity Tarbard	01375 677581
Sacristans	Jane Barry. Judy Rood. Beverley Macrae	
Verger	Peter Belsham.	

St Giles & All Saints Orsett

Churchwardens	Christine Mortimer	01375 641 485
	David Mortimer	01375 641 485
Vergers	George Wood	01375 891 744
	Jo Metcalf	
	Libby Seggons	
Mothers' Union contact	Di Bubb	07970 728 673
Edward Bear Toddler Group	Karen Collier	01375 370 441
Tower Captain	Judith Church	01375 891 556
Oasis Café	Sandra Billinger	01375 891 040
Churches' Centre Bookings	Gary Jones	bookings@orsettchurches.co.uk

St Mary-the-Virgin Bulpnan

Churchwardens	Frank Woollard	01375 891 034
	Alastair Macrae	01375 673 327
Deputy Churchwarden	Brian Flavell	01708 225 804
Verger	Ron Porter	01375 891 697
Parish Room Bookings	Traudi Porter	01375 891 697

Parish Administrator

Lynda Robertson: l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk	07974 803 471
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Parish Baptism Co-ordinator

Christine Mortimer: c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk	01375 641 485
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Musicians

Jane Barry	07552 199 697
Janet McCheyne	07752 836 902

To arrange Weddings, please contact Rev. Sue Mann on 01375 891 254 or email: rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk



THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms

10th December

Ava Rose Faith Watts

(O)

Funerals

4th December

Frank Radcliffe (91)

(H)

Interment of Ashes

4th December

Maureen Radcliffe (75)

(H)



Wedding Enquiries

If you would like to enquire about booking a wedding at:
Horndon, Orsett or Bulphan churches,
please contact: Revd Sue Mann: 01375 891254
rectorsue@hobnob.org.uk



Baptism Enquiries

If you would like to enquire about booking a baptism at:

Any of our churches in the parish, please contact:
Christine Mortimer: 01375 641485
c.mortimer@hobnob.org.uk



Baptism Preparation

If you would like to have your child baptised
in one of the churches in the parish,
the preparation session in **January**
will be at 12 noon on Saturday 13th
in Horndon Church.

No booking is required.



Horndon on the Hill Library Order and Collect

**Are you unable to get to your
library?**

Sign up to the new
Community Order and Collect library service


If you live in Horndon-on-the-Hill and are having difficulties getting to the library, volunteers will collect your books once a month from Corringham library and return them for you.

Register your interest by 12 January 2024
by contacting access.services@thurrock.gov.uk

Or phone 01375 413976



For more information on the various library services available, please visit thurrock.gov.uk/libraries

 thurrock.gov.uk

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*We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for anyone
who would like a cuppa and a chat. Everyone is welcomed!*

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*All proceeds go to the J's Hospice in Essex,
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**For further details contact
Beverley on 01375 671 474**



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No previous experience
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No need to book.



**Come alone or
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SkyJo, Sequence, Dobble, Trominoes,
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Guest games always welcome!

Please text or call Allison for more information 07773539345

Please note: There is a £10 joining fee payable on your third visit, to cover set up costs, replacement games and low attendance weeks. Thank you.

ORSETT CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT



Our report this month starts with a huge thank you to all who attended or helped out with our Parish Bazaar in Bulphan at the end of November. We raised the magnificent sum of £568 for our parish funds. A great time was had by all and a special mention must go to: Angela for setting up a mobile hairdressers, which was very busy, the Ukulele band for keeping us entertained and 'Bacon Dave' for the regular interruption of the smoke alarm!

As we write this a number of our special Christmas events have been successfully held in Orsett. We were fortunate to be asked to hold a carol service for the ladies of the WI from around the borough. Many thanks go to Janet for organising a thoughtful service and the Bulphan ladies for providing the refreshments.

We descended upon The Foxhound on Saturday 9th for some carol singing around the Christmas tree. It was a very packed public house with regulars partaking of their evening meal but all were happy to join us, along with Janet's fine accompaniment on her accordion.



The Nativity on the Pound came indoors this year, being held in the church. It was lovely to see both young and old taking part, truly a village occasion.

And finally, a wonderful evening was spent at the 'Carols in the Barn' on Sunday 17th. Many thanks go to the Coles for their very kind hospitality.

We would like to wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Christine and David Mortimer

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Monday-Saturday

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The churches in this Parish are committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of everyone within the church community; especially children, young people and vulnerable adults.

The Parish Safeguarding Representative is Janet McCheyne, who can be contacted on:
0775 283 6902

or
janetmcc101@gmail.com

The Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on:
01245 294 444

or
safeguarding@chelmsford.anglican.org

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Bulphan Churchwarden's Report

Happy New Year to everyone.

I pray that 2024 will be a year which brings health and happiness to all.

The Christingle Service at 5.00.p.m. on 19th December and Holy Communion service held at 10.00 p.m. on Christmas Eve gave people a wonderful opportunity to feel the presence of the Lord during the exciting build up to Christmas day.

Refreshments served in the parish room after our Sunday services are now being served by several volunteers. Our thanks to those on the refreshment rota, I'm sure that everyone who comes to the parish room for refreshments appreciates all of your enthusiastic catering skills.

The Christmas Bazaar which was held back on 25th November 2023 at Bulphan village hall raised £560.00 after costs. This money will go to help with the work of the Church. Thanks to all who helped this event to be such a success.

For yet another year, Thurrock Garden Centre has generously donated a truly wonderful Christmas tree; an annual tradition that started in the early 1980s when Hugh Crossley was Rector of Orsett and Priest-in-Charge of Bulphan. Our sincere and grateful thanks.

On 11th December Frank observed a large mobile crane on the Church parking area. The crane drove off after Frank spoke to the driver, however, the weight of the crane had compressed the shingle, damaged some of the tarmac and moved some of the kerb stones. We are in contact with the crane company and have been promised that the area will be repaired. Well done to Frank for being on the spot!

To round off 2023, I would like to offer our thanks to members of Bulphan-in-Bloom for their continued hard work keeping our churchyard always looking its best.

Also our thanks to Dave Topliss, who earlier in the year repaired the monument on a child's grave – "Lennie the Angel" is a small stone sculpture which had mysteriously been parted from his head. Dave inserted a steel dowel and adhesive into each part and now Lennie looks quite a lot happier.

Please see the dates for our services on the inside cover of this magazine.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

God Bless

Alastair



HORNDON ON THE HILL CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT

I am writing this report mid the Christmas season and I must say that, although it's such a busy period it also brings so many friends together, both new and old.

After Forest church on Saturday 2nd December, Revd Max was on hand to lead the switching on of the Christmas tree lights, which this year look especially festive. Many thanks to The Bell, The Swan and The Wellhouse Gallery for sponsoring and Colin Long, Kevin Hibbert, Pete Rogers and Paul Mansford for erecting and light stringing and a special mention to Sam Elliston; it really does look glorious.

We were also lucky to receive a Christmas tree for inside the church which we have placed to the right of the pulpit, thank you so much to the anonymous donor, and to all those who decorated the church.

The making of Christingles took place at the following Saturday's Open church. Felicity and Judy gallantly constructing 50, both agreeing not to use dolly mixtures in future ! Shortly after midday, our new kitchen was installed. As Sonia said it looks 'AMAZING!!' what a transformation. Special thanks to Colin Long (again) and his son in law for installing and removing the old.

The Christingle service took place on Sunday 9th, and it was especially heartening to welcome some new faces, young and old. There were some Christingles left so, lucky for us we will have more of Jane B's Christingle marmalade on sale in 2024.

Tuesday 12th Open Church was a slight twist from the norm. Sausage rolls, minced pies, home-made cakes and mulled wine replaced bacon butties and biscuits. Entertainment was provided by Revd Sue who read several of the anecdotes within Gervase Phinn's 'The Virgin Mary's got Nits' book. This was followed by Janet McCheyne who accompanied carol singing on the accordion and was rounded off by the ukulele 3 leading everyone in a very rousing, never to be forgotten rendition of 'The 12 days of Christmas' with full audience participation. The event raised over £300 for general funds.

We do hope that both the church services and other events that have been organised throughout the Parish have brought home the true meaning of Christmas. As 2023 draws to a close we wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a very peaceful 2024.

Bev Macrae



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Laindon North Trading Estate,
Basildon, S15 6DN
7.30pm-8.10pm
8.20pm-9.00pm

Tuesday:

Impulse Leisure Blackshots
Teaching Pool
Grays RM16 2JU
8.00pm – 9.00pm

Friday:

Corringham Leisure Centre
Swimming Pool
Corringham SS17 7NB
11.15am-12.10pm
12.20pm-13.15pm

Please contact a Committee Member before attending your first session
so you know what to expect.

Sharon: 07792 827638 for Laindon
Kay-Anne: 07899 745020 for Corringham
Dawn: 01375 461885 for Blackshots
Email: ask-waders@hotmail.com

Please help raise funds for

The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan.

Thank you to everyone who has already donated coins or notes.

Since August 2021 we have raised £1,439 for church funds.

**Please ask friends, family and work colleagues if they have
any unwanted coins or notes.**

**Donations can be taken to one of the churches or email Lynda
at l.robertson@hobnob.org.uk and she can arrange collection.**

DONATE
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TO HELP

Money can be given to
Churchwardens or put into
collection tins in our churches
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- ✓ All foreign coins & banknotes
- ✓ Current UK coins and banknotes
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- ✓ Even obsolete currency!

Currency services supplied by cash4coins

The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

Edward Bear Toddler Group

Edward Bear welcomes his little friends and
their accompanying adults in the
Orsett Churches' Centre Chapel

There is no charge for this Toddler Group

Every Friday during term time
9.30 am – 11.00 am

For further details
please contact:
KAREN COLLIER

on:
01375 370441



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Every Friday during term time
9.00 - 11.30 am

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AFTER THE SCHOOL RUN!**

The dates of Edward Bear and Oasis Cafe are on our website www.hobnob.org.uk, on the 'What's on' page

Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus in the Church and community



PRAYER DIARY

Some thoughts to include in your daily prayers

January 1st	For all our hopes for the New Year
January 2nd	For those living on Hornsby Lane, Orsett
January 3rd	For people we have not yet met
January 4th	For the homeless and hungry
January 5th	For those living on Horndon Road, Horndon
January 6th	For those living on Nelson Road, Orsett
January 7th	For family and friends overseas
January 8th	For those who are cold and hungry in Ukraine
January 9th	For the Deanery Synod
January 10th	For those who are suffering in the Middle East conflict
January 11th	For those living on North Hill, Horndon
January 12th	For our patrons, the Dean & Chapter of St Paul's
January 13th	For those living on The Paddocks, Orsett
January 14th	For our twin dioceses in Romania, Sweden, and Kenya
January 15th	For those living on Annabell Avenue, Orsett
January 16th	For those living on Pound Lane, Orsett
January 17th	For those attending our village schools
January 18th	For those living on Fen Close, Bulphan
January 19th	For those living on Ridgwell Avenue, Orsett
January 20th	For those living on South Hill, Horndon
January 21st	For those living on Robinson Road, Horndon
January 22nd	For those experiencing financial hardship
January 23rd	For those living on Sandown Road, Orsett
January 24th	For St Luke's and all hospices throughout the land
January 25th	For the leaders of nations
January 26th	For those living on Randall Drive, Orsett
January 27th	For those living on Saffron Close, Horndon
January 28th	For those who are ill in body, mind or spirit
January 29th	For those living on Southview Cottages, Orsett
January 30th	For those living on Vincent Avenue, Horndon
January 31st	For the church musicians

Living God of all that is new,

we ask that this year you will help us to carry your light into every place we go

and share your good news with those we meet.

May we walk and work in unity to reveal your love and goodness.



Horndon-on-the-Hill BRIDGE CLUB

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Every Friday from 1.30 - 4.30pm

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Very friendly atmosphere

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BULPHAN SHORT MAT BOWLS

Meetings are in Bulphan Village Hall every

Tuesday from 1.45 - 4.15pm and

Fridays from 7.00 - 9.00pm

New members are welcome and no experience is necessary
as friendly advice and tuition can be given

For further information telephone Lesley on 07766 505 755



HORNDON-ON-THE-HILL (with Stanford-le-Hope) METHODIST CHURCH

4, High Road. Horndon-on-the-Hill

Sunday: 10.30 am Worship.

Minister: Reverend Fiona Smith.

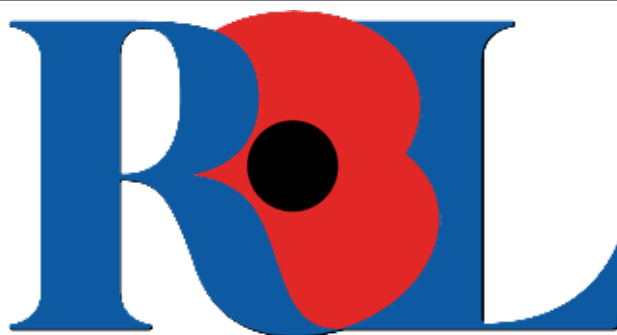
Senior Steward: Mr Graham Hodgson.

Website: <https://www.southessexmethodist.org.uk/>

HORNDON-ON-THE-HILL

We meet at the Welcome Club
1, Victoria Road, Stanford-le-Hope
At 8.00pm on the last Tuesday
each month except in December.

New members welcome
Enquiries to the Secretary
Sec.hothrbl@hotmail.com



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



HORNDON-ON-THE-HILL (with STANFORD-LE-HOPE) METHODIST CHURCH

4, High Road. Horndon-on-the-Hill

Minister: Reverend Fiona Smith

Senior Steward: Mr Graham Hodgson

<https://www.southessexmethodist.org.uk/>

Sunday 10:30am Worship Services January 2024

7 th January	Mr Ian Brown	
14 th January	Rev Fiona Smith	Covenant Service Holy Communion
21 st January	Rev Brenda Gutberlet	
28 th January	Rev Felicity Al -Hassan	

Family Carol service - Christmas Eve at Orsett

Orsett Church was packed for the Family Carol service on Christmas Eve. It was lovely to see the community and families coming together at this time to sing traditional carols, much loved by young and old and hear the bible passages of the Nativity. Some pupils from Orsett School performed one of the songs they sing at school and we had a short Lego film of the Nativity story.





Zion Hall Mission, Bulphan

Interdenominational

Church Road, Bulphan



www.zhm100.wix.com/zionhallmission
zionhallmission@outlook.com

We enjoy meeting every Sunday evening and extend a warm welcome to all.

On 17th December we were pleased to have a good number join us at our service with carols. We wish all readers of HOBNOB a very happy 2024.

The services for January are as follows:

January 7 th	6:30 pm	Rev Pholani Ncube
January 14 th	6:30 pm	Evening Worship
January 21 st	6:30 pm	David Raj
January 28 th	6:30 pm	Rev Max Blake

We have handwashing facilities and sanitising units readily available and ask those attending to be sensitive to others in observing social distancing.

If you live locally and would like to come along to a service but need transport, or for any other information on our Church or our services please contact the Secretary: Ian Blackburn at the e mail above or on 01375 891522

The Parish of Horndon, Orsett and Bulphan

Baptism Preparation Meetings - 2024

To arrange a baptism you will be asked to attend a Baptism preparation meeting and at that evening, we discuss the meaning of baptism and things like the responsibility of parents and Godparents, the Baptism service and give you the opportunity to ask questions.

At the end of the meeting we can check the diary and you will be able to book your Baptism.

- **Sat 13th January** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- **Mon 12th February** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church
- **Sat 9th March** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- **Mon 8th April** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church
- **Sat 11th May** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- **Mon 10th June** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church
- **Sat 13th July** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- **Mon 12th August** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church
- **Sat 14th September** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- **Mon 14th October** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church
- **Sat 9th November** - 12 noon at Horndon Church
- **Mon 9th December** - 7.30pm at Orsett Church



Knowing and sharing the love of Jesus in the Church and community

We have had such a fun-filled term at Bulphan with lots of festival activities. Here's just a few we have enjoyed.

Pantomime Trip

In December we enjoyed our annual trip to Thameside Theatre to watch 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. The children had so much fun and behaved beautifully. For our youngest children, it was their first time on a school trip and I think it's safe to say—they loved it!



Christmas Service

Our first visit to church this month was for our Christmas Service led by Reverend Sue. The children sang, read and behaved impeccably and we were very proud of all of them. Thank you to all those from our community who attended the service with us.

Christmas Dinner

On the last week of term, we enjoyed Christmas dinner together in the hall. We loved the lunch— thank you Paula! What a wonderful end to our festivities this term.



Christingle Service

Back to Church on 19th December for our Christingle Service. Thank you so much to everyone who attended.



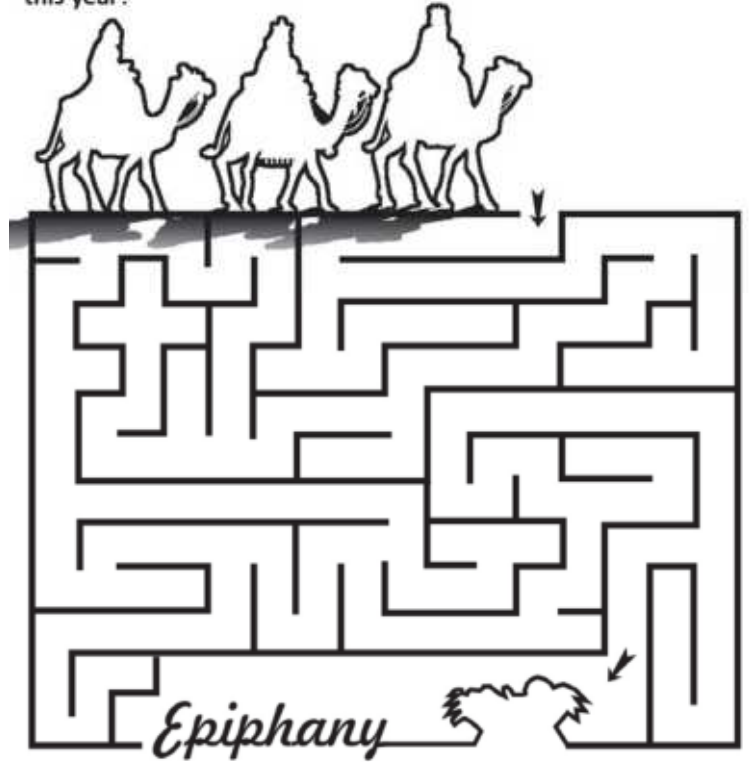
'God's word is a lamp to guide our feet and a light for our path'
Inspired by Psalm 119:105

January

Best
Wishes
for
2024

Epiphany, Mt 2:1-12

Three wise men were searching for Jesus. They traveled from very far away to meet him. They followed a star and finally found him in Bethlehem. They adored him and gave him special gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. What gift would you like to give to Jesus this year?



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January history snippets

1st - 1622 : The Catholic Church adopted 1 Jan as the beginning of the New Year (instead of 25 Mar).

3rd - 1924 : English explorer Howard Carter discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun in the Valley of the Kings, Egypt.

5th - 1818 : The first regular trans-Atlantic shipping service begins between Liverpool and New York.

6th - 1066 : Harold Godwin, Earl of Wessex was elected by the Witan to be the next King of England.

9th - 1806 : Lord Nelson, is buried at St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

11th - 1569 : The first state lottery is held in England, with tickets on sale at the West Door of St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

14th - 1742 : Death of Sir Edmund Halley, British Astronomer Royal who gave his name to a comet.

15th - 1559 : Elizabeth I was crowned Queen of England at the age of 25.

20th - 1265 : England's first Parliament meets at Westminster Hall in London. Representatives from towns and villages across the country meet for the first time in one chamber.

21st - 1846 : The first edition of the Daily News, edited by Charles Dickens is published in London.

23rd - 1713 : The signing of the Treaty of Utrecht redraws the map of Europe. It signalled the end of War of Spanish Succession. As part of the agreement Gibraltar and Minorca become British.

24th - 1965 : Sir Winston Churchill died at the age of 90. His body was Laid in State in Westminster Hall, London.

25th - 1759 : Birth of Robert "Rabbie" Burns, Scottish poet.

27th - 1926 : Inventor John Logie Baird demonstrates his new television machine to members of the Royal Institution in London. Some suggested that this could one day provide every home with a substitute for the cinema.

28th - 1807 : London becomes the first city in the world to be lit by gas lights.

29th - 1596 : The most famous English seaman and adventurer of the Elizabethan era, Sir Frances Drake, was buried at sea.

30th - 1649 : The courts deemed him a "tyrant, traitor, murderer and enemy of the people", for this England's King Charles I was beheaded in Whitehall.

31st - 1943 : German troops surrendered at Stalingrad, marking the first major defeat of Hitler's armies in World War II.

Mothers' UNION

Chelmsford Diocese Mothers' Union (CDMU):



It was great to have so many members at our Annual General Meeting and Thanksgiving service on 13 November. Bishop Lynne Cullens gave a through-provoking talk and President Maxine provided feedback on the Annual Gathering and the new RISE UP against domestic abuse campaign.

Christmas 2023 Appeal and The Big Give – Thank you!



In some of the world's poorest communities, the future's brighter, thanks to you! The positive response to our Big Give Gift of Life appeal was overwhelming and we reached our target. Your support enables more communities, people, and families to invest in their future with resilience, strength, and hope.

New Supporter and Gifts of MU



Are you interested in receiving regular updates on the wonderful work of Mothers' Union? Not sure you are ready to become a member but want to be kept updated? Why not become a Global **Supporter of MU**.

Want to share MU with your family and friends? Give the annual **Gift of MU**, either membership, friendship, or supporter. Ideal for a birthday, wedding, or baptism gift. This is a wonderful way to raise awareness of what we do and for the recipients to support a charity committed to

improving the lives of families and the vulnerable around the globe. For either option, go to <https://www.mothersunion.org/get-involved/join-us-today>

Orsett Traditional Recipe Book – 1984

If anyone missed out on a piece of Christmas Cake, perhaps you could try making some Bible Cake! It might help pass a grey January day

Bible Cake

- ½ lb Judges, Chapter 5, Verse 25
- ½ lb Jeremiah, Chapter 6, Verse 20
- 1 tablespoon 1 Samuel, Chapter 14, Verse 25
- 3 Jeremiah, Chapter 17, Verse 11
- ½ lb 1 Samuel, Chapter 30, Verse 12
- 2oz Nahum, Chapter 3, Verse 12 (chopped)
- 2oz Numbers, Chapter 17, Verse 8 (Blanched then chopped)
- 1lb 1 Kings, Chapter 4, Verse 22
- 1 teaspoon Exodus, Chapter 35, Verse 28
- 3 teaspoons Baking Powder
- Judges, Chapter 4, Verse 19 (To mix)
- Royal icing, if desired

Pre-heat oven to Gas Mark 3. Grease and line a large 9-inch cake tin. Cream Judges and Jeremiah with a little Kings. Mix remainder of Kings with baking powder, Samuel 30, Verse 12, Nahum, Numbers and Exodus. Fold the Kings mixture into the Judges and Jeremiah, enough Judges, Chapter 4, Verse 19 to make a soft dropping consistency. Put the mixture in cake tin, scooping out a hollow in the centre. Bake in the oven for about 1.5 hours, or until well cooked. Cool on a wire tray, and when cold, ice it.

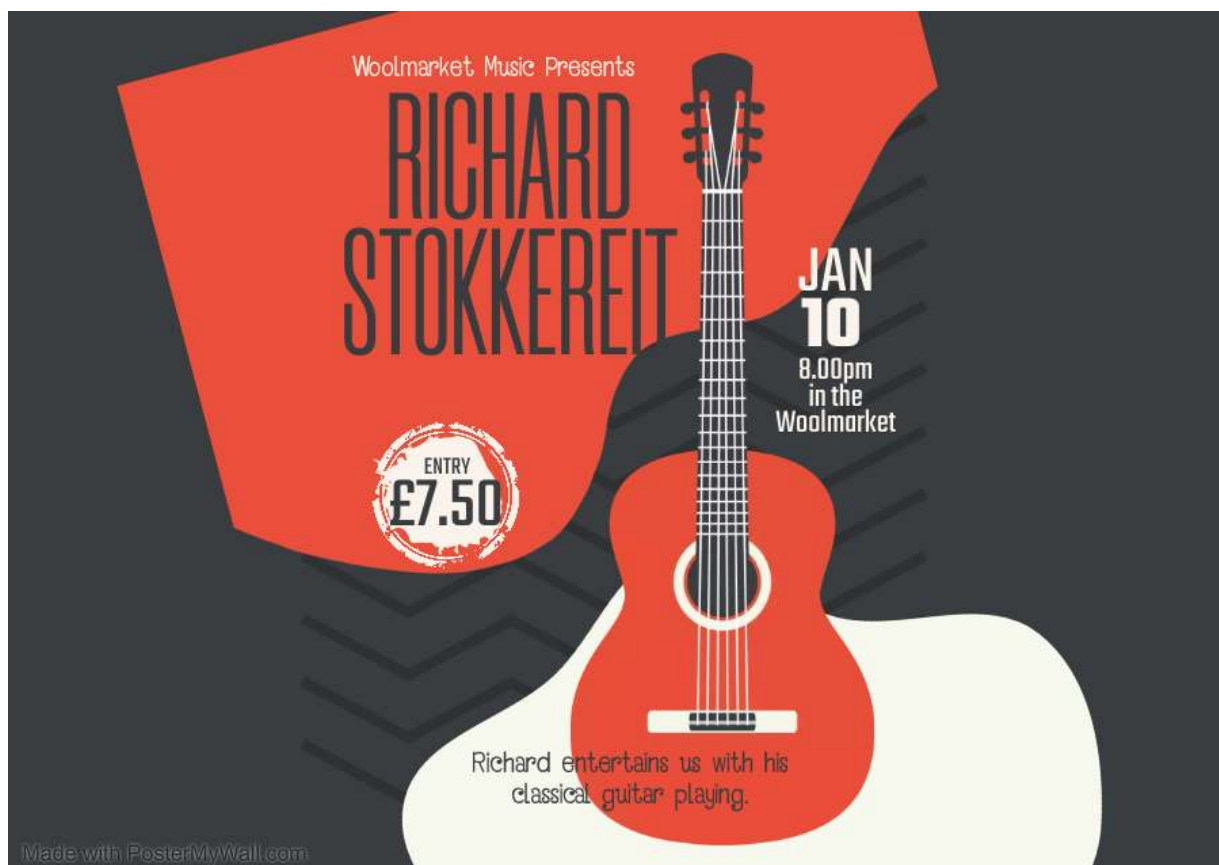
Di Bubb, Mothers' Union contact.

WOOLMARKET MUSIC

On 13th December we held our Christmas get together and along with members of the Horndon Community Forum and Horndon Gardeners' Club, enjoyed our own form of entertainment. We were entertained by the U3A ukelele band and some solos and poems, all Christmas related. All was accompanied by a glass (or two) of wine and some party food. Thanks to everyone for a brilliant seasonal entertainment.

On Wednesday 10th January at 8pm in the Woolmarket, Richard Stokkereit will be playing his guitar for us.

Admission is £7.50 per concert but why not become a member and enjoy all the concerts for just £60 per year? All children under 18 are free.



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FAMOUS PERSON IN JANUARY

PETER MARK ROGET

January 18th 1779 – September 12th 1869

Roget was an English doctor, writer and inventor, but today is best known for his 'thesaurus'.

Peter Mark Roget was born on 18 January 1779 in London, the son of a Swiss clergyman. He studied medicine at Edinburgh University and graduated in 1798. As a young doctor he published works on tuberculosis and on the effects of nitrous oxide, known as 'laughing gas', then used as an anaesthetic.



Roget worked in Bristol and in Manchester and for a time was a private tutor, travelling with his charges to Europe. In 1808, he moved to London and continued to lecture on medical topics. He was made a fellow of the Royal Society and from 1827 to 1848 served as its secretary.

In 1814, he invented a slide rule to calculate the roots and powers of numbers. This formed the basis of slide rules that were common currency in schools and universities until the age of the calculator. He was also interested in optics and a paper on how the kaleidoscope could be improved. Later in his life, he attempted to construct a calculating machine. He also wrote on a wide range of topics, contributing to encyclopaedias of the day.

In 1840, Roget effectively retired from medicine and spent the rest of his life on the project that has made his name, 'Roget's Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases', which was a dictionary of synonyms. As early as 1805 he had compiled, for his own personal use, a small indexed catalogue of words which he used to enhance his prolific writing. His thesaurus was published in 1852 and has never been out of print.

Roget died on 12 September 1869.



Bulphan WI

During December, Bulphan WI organised a carol concert in the Parish Church at Orsett. Members from all of the WIs in Thurrock came along to listen to their fellow members, and to the Orsett Churchwarden Christine, give readings, to sing carols with enthusiasm, and to join in with prayers led by Reverend Sue. After the service, there was much chat and mingling over refreshments of hot drinks and mince pies.

At our December meeting, we collected donations for the Foodbank, our thanks to Lynda for agreeing to deliver to their warehouse. The competition for the best piece of Christmas jewellery was won by Sylvia with her sparkly crown.

The main event, besides the amazing spread of food provided by our members, and the drinks, was the entertainment provided by the 'Ladybirds'. These five singers together sang Christmassy songs that had us all joining in, and some of us, dancing along to.

The programme for the next two meetings includes an auction in January, the auctioneer being Denise, and a chocolate themed meeting in February. Visitors are always welcome, and the first visit is free.

Lesley Crisp



Ecology & Social Justice Action Group

Bird Feeders

We would like to erect some bird feeders in the church yards to encourage wildlife and to boost our Ecochurch credentials as we strive for the Gold Award. If you or someone you know would like to donate or sponsor a feeder or bird feed do let Reverend Sue know.

Water Aid

This is our chosen overseas project to support for 2024. The money raised from the Lent lunches will be donated to support this charity's work with partners and local communities to make clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere. 1 in 10 people don't have clean water, 1 in 5 people don't have their own toilet, diarrhoea caused by dirty water and poor toilets kills a child under 5 every 2 minutes.

Fairtrade Fortnight 2024

... will be moving to September as this movement celebrates its 30th birthday and highlights how 30 years of working together has made the FAIRTRADE Mark a leader of life-changing impact for farmers and workers across the world.

~~Christmas in the Holy Land~~ CANCELLED

By the time you read this Christmas will be over ... but for many in the Holy Land it never happened. All Palestinians are in mourning over what is happening in Gaza, therefore the "little town" of Bethlehem (in the West Bank), as well as the other churches throughout Palestine, announced that it could not celebrate Christmas. Normally Bethlehem would have been flooded with tourists from all over the world, with all hotels full, souvenir shops bustling, and restaurants working to capacity. This year, no tree was put up in Manger Square; no choirs performed on the outdoor stage; no bright lights were strung up over the streets; no gifts exchanged; no joyous festivities held. Hotels were empty, shops and restaurants closed and with a quiet, sad atmosphere in the town. Instead, residents made their way to church services with their prayers for a just and lasting peace for their beloved homeland.

Whilst the horrors in Gaza continue, the oppression of Palestinians is growing in the West Bank: this year (as at 21.12.23) 491 Palestinians have been killed in the West Bank, 291 since 7th October. Demolitions of Palestinian homes here have surged with the annual total now at 1,069 demolitions with 2,119 Palestinians displaced.

Source: ICAHD.org



Do pray for all Israelis and Palestinians affected by this conflict, support Aid agency appeals, and write to your MP to urge the UK government to stop military assistance to Israel and to call for an immediate ceasefire.

Philip Mann

Ecology & Social Justice Action Group



COMMUNITY RECYCLING

This page is for everyone to redistribute unwanted items for no charge. Just email details of any items you wish to give away to the address below, together with your telephone number and these will be published in the next issue of the Hobnob. All items must be fit for purpose.

To advertise here telephone 01375 674212
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Pottery & Paint Exhibition



5th January—27th February

Our latest exhibition kicks starts 2024 with an exhibition celebrating the creativity of potters Susan Warren, Pat Douglas and Susan Keeble. Their ceramic work shall be displayed alongside their paintings. So there is something for everyone.

Preview Morning to be held on 5th January 10am-Noon.

Check out our website: www.wellhousegallery.co.uk Or find us on Facebook and Instagram



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Stephen Metcalfe

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2 Orsett Business Centre, Stanford Road, Orsett, Essex, RM16 3BX

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Orsett Academy C of E Aided Primary – Headteacher: Mrs G Smith
Bulphan C of E Academy – Headteacher: Sally Finch

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Stephen Metcalfe

Member of Parliament for South Basildon & East Thurrock

As your local Member of Parliament, I hold regular advice surgeries offering help and support. To make an appointment, please contact me by one of the methods below. Thank you.

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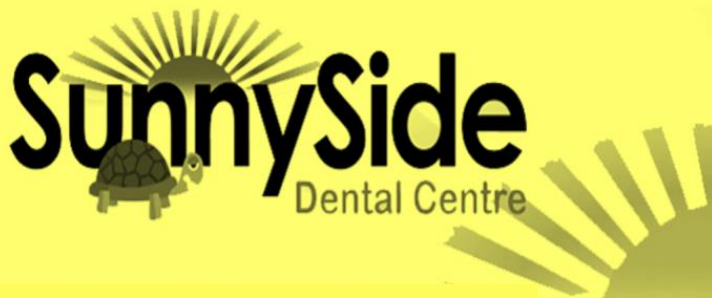
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