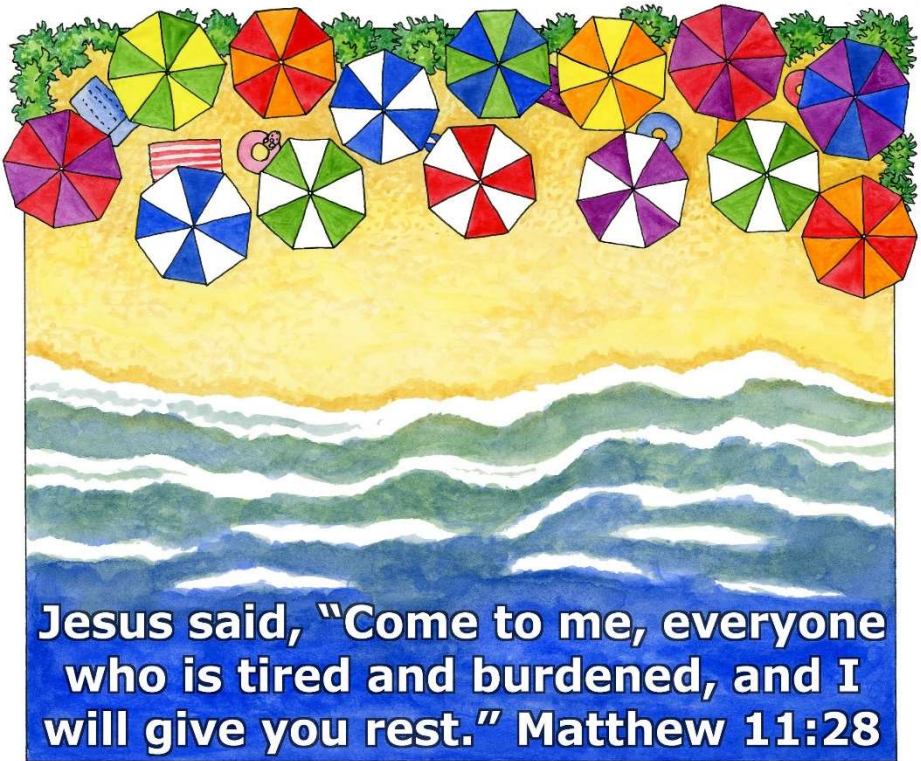


White Waltham Church's

# Parish Magazine

## August - September 2024



See pages 19 & 34 for details of our  
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Woodlands Park School  
on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 10.30am.

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# The Vicar's Letter

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

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

As I write, it is within days of our General Election result. I was struck by the sheer range and weight of communications we received from the various parties: leaflets through the doors, televised debates, manifestos, commentary by journalists and political pundits, social media and sound bites...

At church we were reminded of the importance of taking part and praying for those who stand, as well as those who vote. We were challenged to vote for the lost, the least and the last, over and above our own desires. And, of course, we prayed knowing that it is only our Father God who is actually in charge, and can give us what we really need.

What now? I guess we want to see some proof of it.

**Will promises be kept?**

**What will be the cost?**

**What is our experience of it all?**

I think there are parallels to the good news of Christianity.

We talk of it as 'good news', but we have a right to ask the same questions:

*(continued over)*

## **THIS MAGAZINE**

Published bi-monthly, six times a year.

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

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

**Articles for the next edition should be sent to  
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**by 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Magazines are usually available on the last Sunday of the month**

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 **White Waltham**

**Will promises be kept?** Well, the God of the bible is a God who makes promises, and we see them kept in and through Jesus. He promises to forgive those who turn back to him; to be the loving Father God of all his children; to give purpose, value, peace and joy .

**What will be the cost?** The ‘cost’ of our acceptance to God is paid through the Son of God, Jesus, dying on the cross. It is sometimes referred to as a ‘ransom’, a huge price paid to buy us back and pay for our freedom. There is an infinite cost, and it is paid by God for us.

**What is our experience of it all?** God’s invitation is to come and see. In the bible it says ‘taste and see that the Lord is good’ (Psalm 34v8), and that ‘the decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous. They are more precious than gold... they are sweeter than honey...’ (Psalm 19v9,10).

So come and see and hear and taste!

**Try out the first session of a course** – come and question. On **page 13** you will find details of a new course starting on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> September – come along and try it out with us, or let me know a different day/time that works for you.

**Chat to a Christian and hear their story.** This Jesus-stuff has to make sense lived out.

**Read a gospel;** Mark is nice and short!

**Come along to a service and see what happens.** And if coming to the pointy building in White Waltham is difficult, then good news! We are going on tour with a service accessible to all, to be held at Woodlands Park school on 20<sup>th</sup> October. More details on **pages 19 & 34.**

You owe it to yourself to ask the questions of Father God:

**Will promises be kept?**

**What will be the cost?**

**What is our experience of it all?**

You are very welcome to come to any service on a Sunday at 10.30.

*Dave*

Rev Dave Atallah *Tel: 01628 822000* [waltham.vicar@btinternet.com](mailto:waltham.vicar@btinternet.com)

## **A BIG THANK YOU**

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



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# Woodlands Park Primary and Nursery School

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It has been an extremely busy but a really enjoyable end to the school year. In the final term, we have had a number of events which included a residential trip to Longridge in Marlow, a visit to Kew Gardens and we have entertained families with our key stage 2 production, Rock Bottom. Our younger children have enjoyed workshops, including a kite workshop for our Year 1 children and a visit from Berkshire Reptiles for our Early Years (reception class and nursery). All these opportunities have complemented an engaging curriculum programme.

We have also been active on the sports scene through our Sports Days, Berkshire cricket sessions, multi-sport clubs, tennis festivals and the Berkshire Youth Games. We were really pleased to be one of the schools chosen to represent Maidenhead at the Games! Our swimming pool has been a hive of activity, with all our classes (Reception – Year 6) participating in a programme of swimming.

We are really pleased to report that our school numbers are on the up. In September, we have 27 children starting with us in our Reception class; this is twice as many as last year and a real achievement during a time when pupil numbers are dropping across the Local Authority. It is great that we are becoming more popular, and more families are choosing Woodlands Park Primary School to educate their child. We have two Open Mornings scheduled for Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September and Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October from 9.15-10.15am. If you wish to attend, please contact the School Office to book your place.

Our academic results are also on the up with 75% of our children passing their phonics (early reading) test; this places the school in line with National outcomes. Reading is the most important learning skill and opens up lots of other learning opportunities. To further develop a love of reading, over the summer we are redeveloping some of our site to create an improved library space in the school. Over the next year, we will be

fundraising for new books and computers for the new library space. If you would like to help us, please let us know!

This is a time when we say “goodbye” to our Year 6 children, our oldest year group many of whom are going on to local secondary schools. We wish them all the best and happiness for the future. We are confident that they are well prepared for the next stage of their education and they all have bright futures ahead of them.

Schools are only as good as the adults in them that are supporting the children. We would like to say “thank you” to the volunteers that come in school to hear children read, lead assemblies and support our charity work. We couldn’t offer the programme we do without their help. Many of these people are in our local community and we wish to thank them for their support over the academic year.

We wish everyone a relaxing summer break and we look forward to updating you on school news in the new academic year!

*Jamie Miles*

Headteacher





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# Lost and Found

Now just where did I put that! I know I had it yesterday, but do you think I can find it today? Do you have moments like this, or is it just folks like me of a certain age?

I will tell you about something that happens to me quite frequently. I put something down and when I need it again, I simply cannot remember where I put it. So, what do I do? I pray! Nothing is too small or insignificant to ask God about; after all, He knows everything. And you know what, He is totally reliable and invariably leads me to look in just the right place. Then what do I do? I say, "Thank you Lord".

I had a problem with my computer some months ago and amongst other events, I managed to delete my email address book. That means there are many folk to whom I used to write regularly, who never hear from me nowadays and sadly I have not heard from several whose address I lost. Thus far, I have not prayed about how I might recover these and unsurprisingly I still miss them.

Jesus told a parable (someone has defined a parable as an earthly story with a heavenly meaning) about a shepherd who had a flock of 100 sheep. You can find this in Luke's gospel, chapter 15. He explained that one of the flock got lost. Just one?! He still had 99 which were not lost so He just forgot about.... Oh no, that's not what he did! He went in search of the lost one, hunting everywhere until he found it. And then there was great joy, as his flock was complete once more.

In the same chapter of Luke, Jesus tells another story, this one about a man who had two sons. One day the younger one asked Dad for his share of his eventual inheritance, and he wanted it there and then! Amazingly, Dad did what he asked, and the young man travelled to a far country where he wasted all his money on "riotous living," as Jesus put it.

What was he to do? Also at that time, there was a famine! He got a job.... well sort of; he was taken in by a farmer and made to feed his pigs. He got so hungry that he felt he could eat the swill that the pigs ate.

At long last, he came to his senses and decided to go back home, confess his stupidity and beg his dad to take him on as a hired servant. But his dad has been keeping a lookout for him and he ran to him and welcomed him home, not as a servant but as his son.

I, too, was once away from God but when I realised my deep need I came to Him and so, me too, the lost was found.

The Heavenly Father is always looking out for folk who are lost... in bad company, a life of crime, or simply a life with no thought of God. If that is you, you are lost but it's not too late. Just come to Him in prayer, confess your need and He will accept you, not just for a time, but for eternity.

*Eric Green* [eric.green@xtra.co.nz](mailto:eric.green@xtra.co.nz)



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# CHARIOTS OF FIRE

I remember being on holiday in Ghana some years ago. On Sunday morning the congregation, who usually wore dull-coloured, well-worn clothes, were dressed smartly in bright colours – their ‘Sunday best’.

Sundays have changed dramatically over the last half century or so. Shops can now open, transport runs pretty much as on weekdays, sports events, theatre productions and other arts events take place in cities like London.

The 1981 film “Chariots of Fire” focused on Eric Liddell, a Scotsman who in the early 1920s showed remarkable physical prowess at rugby and athletics. In 1924 he was selected to run for GB in the Paris Olympics alongside Harold Abrahams in the 100 yards sprint. Here were Harold, a Jew, and Eric, a Christian, who had already competed against each other, training hard and expecting to line up together.

However, when the timetable came out, Eric discovered the heats of his race were on a Sunday. As a strong Sunday observance believer, he refused to run that race. The British Olympic Committee was furious at his decision; the press was delighted as it created dramatic reading for the public; Harold Abrahams was pleased to have lost his closest rival, and Eric was reassured that he had put God first in the most influential decision in his life. But more was to come. Recognising that Eric had such an enormous talent, the British Olympic Committee was able to secure him a place in the 400 yards event, for which he had not specifically prepared – he usually ran the ‘100’ and the ‘200’.

One day, Eric was asked how he managed to keep up such a fantastic pace in his races with his curious style, including throwing his head back towards the end of races. His reply was that he ran the first 200 as hard as he could and then for the second 200, with God’s help, he ran harder!

Before the race, on July 11th 1924 at the Colombes Stadium in Paris, Eric, as was his practice, shook hands with all his competitors. He did that, suggested one wag, ‘because he knew that nobody would see his heels for dust’! He was also handed a slip of paper by a friend on which was written, ‘In the old book it says, “he that honours me I will honour.” Wishing you the best.’ As we recall, he won the ‘400’ race, the Olympic title, in a new world record time of 47.6 seconds!

So, it is one hundred years ago that this event took place. About a year later, Eric, for whom neither earthly glory nor physical achievements were significant, felt called to leave England and go to China as a missionary, back to where he had been born in Tientsin.

*I wonder if you or I would show such dedication in rejecting human success for a heavenly calling?*

Bob Crittenden

*With thanks to Eric H. Liddell, Athlete and Missionary by D. P. Thomson, published by The Research Unit, Crieff, Perthshire, Scotland 1971*

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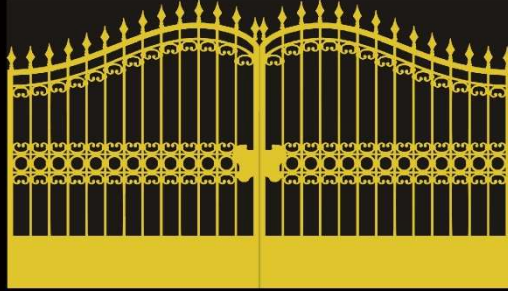
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# White Waltham Cricket Club



Est 1879 and still representing the village today!

We are now nearly halfway through the 2024 cricket season, with each of the senior sides playing 8 games to date!

It's been a great season so far; highlights include our run to the Berkshire Area Final over the National Village Knockout. Unfortunately, we narrowly lost to Peppard Stoke Row, but nonetheless a great achievement, having knocked out Cookham Dean in the previous round (a team 3 divisions higher!).

Another fantastic achievement this year was getting out 3 senior sides on a Saturday for the first time in nearly 15 years – a wonderful day for the club.

The 1XI currently lie 4<sup>th</sup> in Division 4A. Shoutout to Dan Molloy who currently is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading run scorer in the division and Jordan Thomas who has the 2<sup>nd</sup> most wickets too!

pos	Team	p	w24	wc24	w20	wc20	wd...	w8	ds1	t	ld2	ld2*	l24	lc24
1	Royal Ascot CC - Saturday 1st XI	8	3	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	9	11	0	161
2	Emmbrook and Bearwood CC - 1st XI	8	1	5	1	0	1	0	0	0	15	7	0	157
3	Eversley CC - 2nd XI (Saturday)	8	2	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	16	9	0	141
4	White Waltham CC - 1st XI	8	1	4	1	0	2	0	0	0	13	13	0	139
5	Wokingham CC - 3rd XI	8	1	4	1	0	2	0	0	0	14	8	0	135
6	Newbury CC - 1st XI	8	1	3	0	0	4	0	0	0	21	14	0	126
7	Finchampstead CC - 3rd XI	8	1	1	0	0	6	0	0	0	23	26	0	96
8	Fleet CC - 1st XI	8	0	2	1	0	5	0	0	0	31	19	0	94
9	Binfield CC - 2nd XI	8	2	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	23	20	0	93
10	Cove CC - 2nd XI	8	1	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	35	18	0	78

The 2XI currently lie 9<sup>th</sup> in Division 6B. Deserved shoutout to Andy Elliott who is the 5<sup>th</sup> leading run scorer in the division – great effort!

pos	Team	p	w	wcn	t	i	lcn	c	a	BatP	BowP	Pen*	NRR	w
1	Aldershot CC - 2nd XI TVCL	8	7	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	-0	161
2	Purley on Thames CC - Saturday 2nd XI	8	5	0	0	3	0	0	0	9	17	0	-0	136
3	Theale and Tilehurst CC - 2nd XI	8	5	0	0	3	0	0	0	13	12	0	-0	135
4	Yateley CC - 1st XI	8	5	0	0	3	0	0	0	16	6	0	-0	132
5	Falkland CC, Berks - 3rd XI	8	4	0	0	3	1	0	0	11	12	0	-0	118
6	Binfield CC - 3rd XI	8	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	12	16	0	-0	116
7	Royal Ascot CC - Saturday 2nd XI	8	3	0	0	5	0	0	0	23	10	0	-0	99
8	Wokingham CC - 4th XI	8	2	0	0	6	0	0	0	27	24	0	-0	95
9	White Waltham CC - 2nd XI	8	2	0	0	4	2	0	0	17	9	0	-0	84
10	Bagshot CC - 2nd XI	8	1	0	0	7	0	0	0	28	33	0	-0	83

Both teams have much to play for as we near the second half of the season. Meanwhile the junior section has been playing regular games, particularly at U11 and U13 age groups. It's always great to see well attended Junior sessions on Friday evenings and we really hope the weather stays good for the remainder of the season now!

Many thanks,

Jonny Mahoney, WWCC Chair

For information, please visit our website or get in touch:

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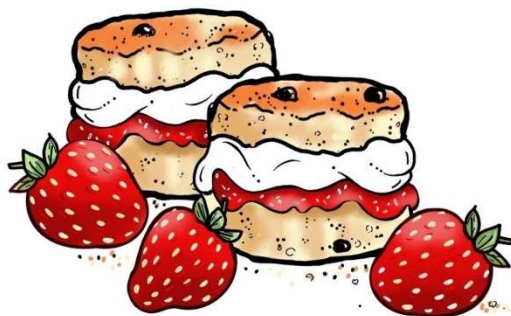
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# Church Tea

**Saturday 14th September**

The Tree House  
White Waltham Church

2.30 - 5.00 pm



Join us for cream teas, cakes  
and refreshments

**Everyone is welcome!**



# Little Roots Baby & Toddler Group

*For babies and toddlers with their parents/carers*

*Restarting after the summer on Monday 9th September*

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

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

*We would love to see you!*

 Little Roots Toddler Group  
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&

**October All Age Service**  
*in Woodlands Park School*  
**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October**  
*at 10.30am*

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***Everyone is welcome to join us***



# Read this short story from the Bible...

## Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Mk 4:35-41, Mt 8:23-27, Lk 8:22-25

Jesus had spent the day teaching big crowds by Lake Galilee, and when evening came he told his disciples..

We'll sail over to the east side of the lake



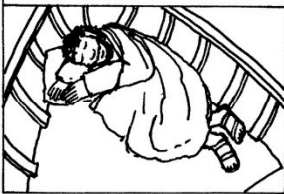
Suddenly a massive storm blew up



Even the experienced sailors panicked



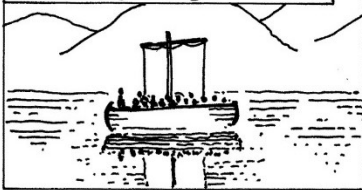
But Jesus was fast asleep at the back of the boat



Be quiet!



Immediately the wind stopped and everything was calm.



Why were you afraid? Don't you trust me?



Now the disciples were even more afraid.

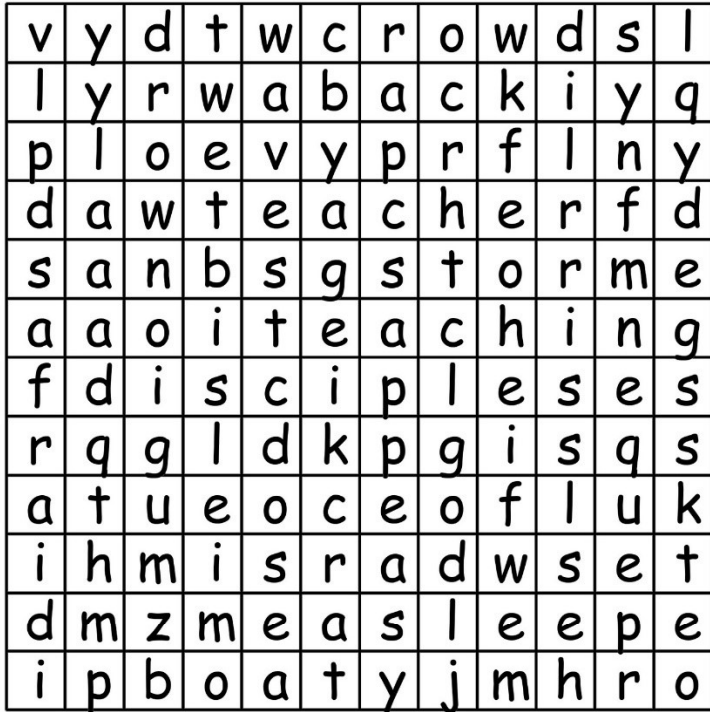


Who is he? Even the wind and sea obey him!

Only God has power like that!



...and complete this Wordsearch about it!



sea

Jesus

asleep

crowds

calm

wind

drown

teaching

boat

immediately

Galilee

storm

care

disciples

obey

Teacher

panicked

power

back

God

waves

afraid

sailors

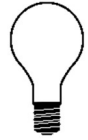
quiet



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# St Mary's Flower Guild, White Waltham

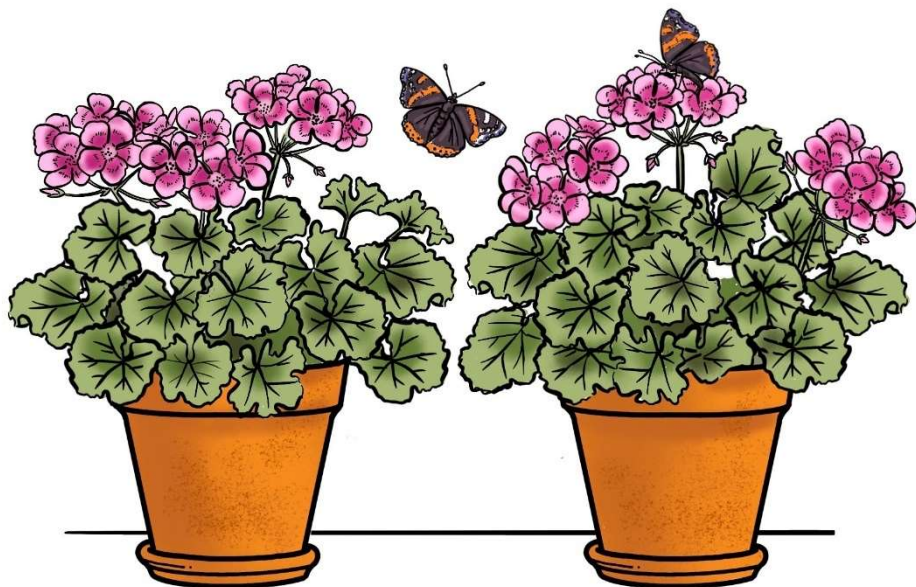
You are always welcome to join our friendly group. You don't have to be an experienced flower arranger to join us.

We usually meet once a month throughout the year to include demonstrations, workshops, fund raisers and coffee mornings. By the time you read this, we will have had several activities over the last few months which included a garden party, a visit from a floral art demonstrator and a visit to an open garden in Maidenhead.

We'll have a month off in August but will be arranging another get-together (to be confirmed) in September and then we'll meet to decorate the church on Saturday 28th September, ready for Harvest Festival on 29<sup>th</sup> September.

For information on any of our activities please contact  
Carolyn Thompson 07834 545967, Liz Atlay 07881 785131  
or Julia Hodgson 07904 999685.

**We look forward to seeing you.**



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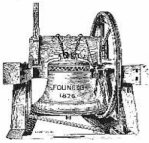


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# Tales from the Bells



 *White Waltham Bell Ringing*

Join the band at St Mary's, White Waltham where we hope to run taster sessions for those interested in learning to ring. You will be taught by an accredited ART teacher (Association of Ringing Teachers). Taster sessions could be arranged at a mutually convenient time and day.

Church bells have been rung for centuries to celebrate weddings, coronations, and jubilees – and to call people to services. They are also rung for church festivals such as Christmas time, historical events and to ring in the start of a New Year at midnight!!

For those who are young and doing their Duke of Edinburgh award, you might like to consider ringing for the skill section. It's the ultimate heavy metal: church bells are the loudest\* and heaviest musical instrument in the world. (\**Ringing rooms are soundproofed for safe noise levels.*)

- Bell ringing is fun
- It is for the young from 10+ years old and adults of all ages – individuals, couples, and families.
- It's for all faiths and none.
- You don't need to be musical, mathematical, or strong.
- It provides a gentle workout and an easy way to make friends and be part of a team and a community.

Practice nights are Fridays at 7.30pm. Learner sessions start at 7pm. Wear sensible shoes and loose clothing for ease of movement.

*To express an interest in learning please contact us on 01628 822000 or email [white.waltham@sdb.odg.org.uk](mailto:white.waltham@sdb.odg.org.uk)*

*Lesley Graves*

*Bell Captain, Tel: 01628 822000, Email: [white.waltham@sdb.odg.org.uk](mailto:white.waltham@sdb.odg.org.uk)*

## **Our gifts this Harvest Festival (Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September) will be given to Maidenhead Foodshare.**

Foodshare would particularly like donations of biscuits, cooking sauces, tinned macaroni cheese or ravioli, fruit juice or squash, children's cereals, and any washing up/cleaning/laundry products.

For the homeless (often without cooking facilities) they would particularly like meat in ring pull tins, snack & chocolate bars, and pot noodles.





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# News from your Borough Councillors



**Maureen Hunt**  
cldr.hunt@rbwm.gov.uk



**George Blundell**  
cldr.blundell@rbwm.gov.uk

Well, we are still waiting for summer and all the weather seems to do is rain – rain during the school fun days – rain during the weekends and village fetes and just keep raining or being cold and damp.

But, with typical English stoicism we are looking forward to our wonderful summer over the next few weeks in July, the whole of August and September. That should help our well-being.

Now all the excitement of the General Election has died down and a new Member of Parliament has been elected, we councillors return to our programmed meetings. However, work did not stop in the council during that period.

## The new Council Plan

The council has agreed a new strategy, setting out a refreshed vision, aims and priorities for us as an organisation and for the borough we serve.

The Council Plan 2024-2028 is the most important strategic document – it defines the vision over the next few years for us and our borough, our priorities, what we'll do to deliver those priorities, and how we'll measure success.

1. Put the council on a strong financial footing to serve the borough effectively
2. A cleaner, greener, safer and more prosperous borough
3. Children and young people have a good start in life and opportunities through to adulthood
4. People live healthy and independent lives in supportive communities
5. A high-performing council that delivers for the borough.

The Council Plan is available on the council's website at <https://www.rbwm.gov.uk/councilplan>

## The cost-of-living crisis

Applications have reopened to a cost-of-living hardship fund, which has already helped hundreds of households in greatest need in our borough.

The council has been working closely with 18 frontline community- partners to offer a range of support to residents who are struggling financially and having to make very difficult choices around household expenditure, such as food, rent, energy or other essentials. Also, we are working with those partners to identify residents in severe financial hardship to receive a cash payment of £145.



Residents should contact one of the community partners to be put forward for support – you cannot apply directly to us. People who received a payment under the previous round of this fund, which closed in March 2024, can now reapply by contacting the community partner. Contact details for the community partners can be found at <https://rbwmtogether.rbwm.gov.uk/household-support-fund>. This latest round of funding remains open until 30 September 2024, or until the money is fully distributed, with payments made to eligible residents on a first-come-first-served basis.

Those facing difficult decisions around household essentials are also encouraged to visit the council's 'Here to Help' webpages to see what wider help might be available: <https://rbwmtogether.rbwm.gov.uk/hub-page/here-to-help>

### **Fish painted on pavements!! Initiative to raise awareness of protecting water quality and wildlife in our watercourses**

Yellow fish have been stencilled onto the pavement next to storm drains in a new initiative, highlighting the importance of protecting water quality and wildlife in the borough's waterways.



'Only Rain Down the Drain' is aimed at raising awareness that nothing else should be poured down them, with the fish stencilled next to drains leading surface water directly to rivers during periods of heavy rain.

Pouring oils, detergents, paint or sweeping litter into drains can be harmful to river health, water quality and wildlife.

### **Could you foster a local child?**

More people from all walks of life are needed to become foster carers and make a difference for local children and young people in the community.

Providing a secure, stable and supportive home for children in care is a valuable and rewarding paid role. In return, we offer our foster carers excellent support, training and benefits via our in-house independent fostering agency, Achieving for Children Fostering (AfC).

We welcome enquiries from anyone aged 21 or over, regardless of income, employment status, gender, sexuality, religion, whether or not you have pets, own your home or rent. It's your personal qualities that matter.

The council's website has lots of information about the process and opportunities, and officers are also available via phone and email. Make contact with us for an informal chat, email us at [fosteringenquiries@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:fosteringenquiries@achievingforchildren.org.uk) or call 020 8547 5355.

We do hope you all have a very enjoyable and lovely summer with plenty of sunshine. If you do have anything you think we may be able to help with, please do contact us. We really are here to help

*Maureen and George*

*Maureen Hunt and George Blundell*



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# Shottesbrooke and White Waltham Charities

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

## Shottesbrooke and White Waltham Welfare Fund

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

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

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

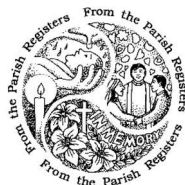
Each application for funding will be considered separately. Applications that are successful on one occasion may not be successful in future.

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

*A letter of support will be required from:*

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

## From the Registers



### Wedding

29<sup>th</sup> May

Bethany Jane Houghton & David Michael Pennie

### Blessing of Marriage

15<sup>th</sup> June

Sarah Francis Palmer & Jason Laurence Coles

### Strewing of Ashes

18<sup>th</sup> June

Keith Raymond Thompson-Whiteside

### Burial of Ashes

10<sup>th</sup> July

Lynn White



# Services at White Waltham Church

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

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

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

## Harvest Festival Service for All Ages

Sunday 29th September *at 10.30am*

## and in Woodlands Park School: Service for All Ages

Sunday 20th October *at 10.30am*

We carefully plan our All Age Services to provide opportunities for active involvement and participation in a variety of ways.



Please do join us for this service.

*If you wish, you may bring a Harvest gift with you for donation to Maidenhead Foodshare.*

Some content is available on our Facebook page

 **White Waltham Church**

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

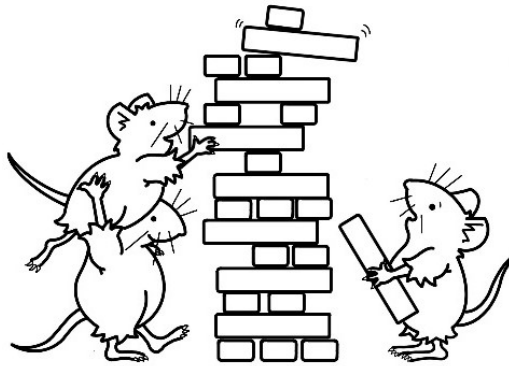




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[www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk](http://www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk)

You can also catch up with this magazine online. Visit our website and you'll find the Parish Magazine under the 'Resources' tab. You can get the current issues as well as being able to download earlier versions from the past year.

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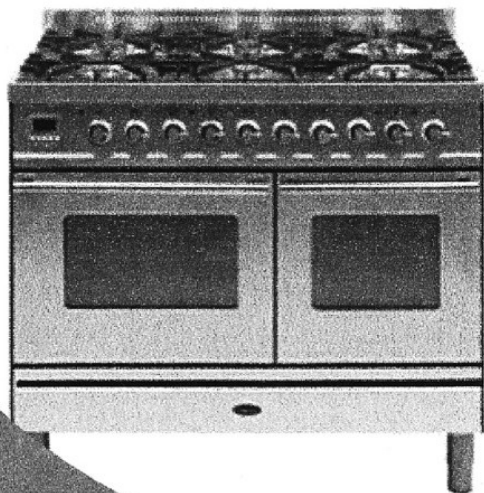
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