A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED BY THE CHURCH IN



ALDHAM



MARCH 2024

IAN SCOTT-THOMPSON WRITES... Dear Friends,

Lent is traditionally a time for giving up and cutting back on some of the 'extras' in our lives, with the aim of getting back in touch with God and the things that really matter.

In our house, we've been having a clear-out of books and files, furniture and tat, all the material things that accumulate and gather over the years. It's not easy, because many items bring back memories of people we loved and good times we had. It's hard not to stop and enjoy these things again!

We've been helped by our children, now in their thirties, who are much more ruthless than us at throwing things out! We always say that it's much easier to do this for someone else, than for yourself. They also suggested some tips for coping, like taking good photos of things, thanking God for the pleasure they've brought you, and telling yourself that they've gone to a good home where they'll be appreciated afresh.

A colleague told me that it may be difficult to say goodbye to much-loved items, but there is a real sense of lightness at the space redeemed. Less to dust, and less to maintain. Let's pray that we can live life more 'cleanly' in Lent, and perhaps focus more on God and the things and people that really matter.

With best wishes,



Mothering Sunday 10 March

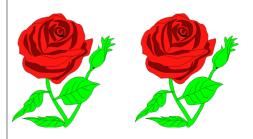
All-Age Worship at 9.15am



You are warmly invited to a

short All-Age Service at 9.15am

Come and find the Secret Baby



We exist to honour God and to enable people in our community discover Jesus

DIARY DATES

Mar 2 10.00 to 12.00 Book Exchange Mar 12 7.30 pm Home Group, at

7 Hines Close

Mar 16 9.30am Spring-cleaning the church and Churchyard Blitz

Mar 21 2.30 to 4.00pm Afternoon Tea Mar 28 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Meal

at Marks Tey

 $\textbf{Mar 31} \quad 2.00 \text{am Clocks go forward}$

EASTER DAY

Apr 6 2.30 to 4.00pm Messy Church Apr 15 APCM 7.30 pm in church

CHURCH ROTAS

Cleaning:

March Spring Clean!

Flowers:

March LENT

Mar 31 EASTER - Wendy Byford

and team

Churchyard: Steve Jennings

AWAY DAY

Andrew Waters invites Aldham Church to join St Andrew's Marks Tey in an Away Day, possibly on 21or 28 September 2024 at Assington Hall Christian Centre on the A134 between Nayland and Sudbury. Andrew is applying for a small grant which should mean it won't cost us anything - or at least not much!

The purpose: to get to know each other better, and think about the future.

It would be helpful if you could indicate to me whether you would wish to go.

Iain MacCallum

OPEN CHURCH ...

... continues on Tuesdays, 10.00 to 11.30 am. Drop in for a coffee and a chat. You will always be very welcome. Barbara Rush

CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

Can you spare a few hours once a year to help mow the grass in the churchyard? Sadly we are very short of volunteers and your help would be much appreciated.

If you feel that you are able to help, please contact Steve Jennings on 01206 211408 for more information

MAUNDY THURSDAY

St Andrews Marks Tey have invited Aldham to share their Maundy Thursday Meal and Communion with them on 28th March at 7.30pm. This will be a lamb meal in the church interspersed with a short service and reflection. Please let Iain MacCallum know if you wish to attend. Offers of supply of food will be much appreciated.

Iain MacCallum & Leon Parker

EAST END GABLE REPAIRS

There are three items of really good news to report:

1. The architect has produced the 21-page specification for the repairs and on this basis has asked three contractors: Lodge & Sons Ltd., Bakers of Danbury Ltd. and Punch Construction Ltd. to tender for the work. When the tenders are in, the architect will select one contractor and send the tender to our Archdeacon. She will contact the

WHO'S WHO

Priest-in-Charge Revd Ian Scott-Thompson, The Rectory, Church Lane, Marks Tey, Col. CO6 1LW 01206 215772
Reader Mr Iain MacCallum, 9 Handford Place, Queens Road, Colchester, CO3 3NY 01206 571070
Churchwardens Mrs Coral Wingate, 79 Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1 LS 01206 210369

Mr Iain MacCallum, 9 Handford Place, Queens Road, Colchester, CO3 3NY

Secretary Mrs Anne Matthews, 18 Scott Drive, Lexden, CO3 4JD
Newsletter Editor Mr Iain MacCallum, 9 Handford Place, Queens Road, Colchester, CO3 3NY

01206 571070 01206 575603 01206 571070 Diocesan Advisory Committee who should give the go-ahead for work to begin.

- 2. The response to the Appeal in last month's newsletter has been amazing! I cannot say THANK YOU enough to the village and the church for the response. From the 220 addresses in Aldham that the newsletter goes to, there were 27 responses. Your generosity has raised nearly £5,000. To that Gift Aid will be added when the Treasurer has calculated it. My guess is that Gift Aid will add a further £1,000 or thereabouts.
- 3. Meanwhile 7 grant applications and an Appeal have been written, emailed or posted. Four of these have already given us money:

Colchester City Council (£500),

Friends of Aldham Church (£5,000),

Fowler, Smith & Jones (£2,000), and

The Appeal to Aldham village and church has given us at least (£4,820).

Colchester Churches Charitable Trust has awarded and promised (£5,000).

We are therefore assured of £17,320 towards the target I guessed at £25,000.

The 3 remaining grant applications are conditional on a contractor's quote being accepted We hope to get £8,000 from these 3 sources. Once we have paid for the work we can reclaim VAT on the invoices.

Because of the materials to be used, the work cannot be done while there is a risk of frost. The architect is looking at April or May.

The fact that Aldham will have produced over £10,000 (FOAC + Appeal) to the cost of he job, means the 3 remaining grant-awarders will look kindly on our applications.

Iain MacCallum

EASTER LILIES ...

... for loved ones to be remembered on Easter Day are at the same price as last year - £2.50. Please give your name(s) and money to me by 24th March.

Jennifer MacCallum

BEACON HOUSE ...

... continues its essental role in providing all kinds of services to the homeless and struggling. In mid-March, we will be taking items collected in church. Could we include some Easter-themed goodies?

 $Jennifer\ MacCallum$

NEW LIFE!

Congratulations to Poppy (neé Holme) and Ed Lea (together they wrote the Church Column in the December Grapevine) who have a new baby girl born a few days ago in Kenya. Sorry, we don't know the name or weight yet!

Also, Poppy's brothers, David and Henry have added a new son to each of their families recently. A busy time is coming up for grandma Pippa!

REVD ROBIN SPITTLE

Robin Spittle has been helping with the preaching at Aldham since November 2023. A retired priest, his last incumbency was at Kesgrave, near Ipswich, where he served from 1999 to 2020. He had expressed a strong interest in CYO which is where Jane Scott-Thompson got to know him and recommended him to us. He tells me he loves preaching and he leaped at the opportunity to preach about once a month in Aldham. Ian met Robin briefly while training at St John's College, Nottingham in the 1980s.

Iain MacCallum

Deadline for April Newsletter

22 March

To: Iain MacCallum or Jane Smith, 7 Church Grove

WORSHIP AT ALDHAM

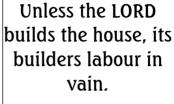
You are warmly invited to all our services.



Worship	at	Marks	Tey
1st Sunday			

Morning Worship 11.00 am 2nd Sunday 11.00 am Morning Worship 3rd Sunday 11.00 am Holy Communion 4th Sunday 11.00 am Morning Worship 5th Sunday Combined Service 10.00 am

3 Mar	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP
10 Mar	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP Mothering Sunday
17 Mar	9.15 am	HOLY COMMUNION
24 Mar	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP Palm Sunday
29 Mar	9.15 am	GOOD FRIDAY Meditation on the Cross
 31 Mar	9 15 am	EASTER SUNDAY



Psalm 127:1



Refreshments are served after services.

FAMILY COMMUNION

Please support your local Traders

BOILER SERVICING	J Butcher, 3 Game Close, Great Cornard, CO10 0ZJ.	$07885\ 504036$		
BUTCHER	Willsher, 87 London Road, Marks Tey	$01206\ 210365$		
CARPETS & FLOORING	Unit 1, Flyover Nurseries, 8 Coggeshall Road, MT	07973 407986		
COMPUTER ASSISTANCE	Roger Walker, 16 Hines Close, Aldham	$01206\ 211143$		
DELOTO DOG GROOMING	Karen, Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey CO6 1LS	07970 990564		
DEEVA NAILS & BEAUTY	Day and evening appointments available	$07516\ 699101$		
DOG BOARDING	OG BOARDING Small friendly dogs only. Contact Mark			
DOG TRAINER	Susie@bestpawforwarddogs.co.uk. Marks Tey	07305 383631		
ELECTRICAL	Aaron Pearson, 1 Rowan Close, Stanway	$07825\ 224420$		
FLOORING	LT Flooring, Unit 2, 91 London Road, CO6 1LG	$01206\ 575222$		
FLORIST	The Blue Geranium, May Cottage, Aldham	$07822\ 003125$		
FUNERAL CELEBRANT	Graham Stein, 32 Hazelton Road, CO4 3DT	$07563\ 210677$		
FUNERALS	A.Birkin & Sons, 6 West St., Coggeshall	$01376\ 561316$		
FUNERALS	Hunnaball Stanway, 8 Chapel Road, CO3 0PU	$01206\ 489212$		
FUNERALS	R. Gwinnell & Sons, 112 Ipswich Rd.	$01206\ 868585$		
GARDEN & HOME MAINT	ENANCE SJT, 59 Keable Rd. Marks Tey	07985 386758		
GARDENING & ODD JOBS	$01206\ 212274$			
HAIR CARE AT HOME	Charlotte takes Ladies, Gents and Children	$07791\ 426634$		
MILITARY COLLECTABLES, BOUGHT & SOLD, VALUATIONS: Dave Brookes 07587 164068				
PLASTERER	M.J.Reeve, 5 Ashbury Drive, MT, CO6 1XW	$01206\ 920462$		
PLUMBER	Mark Nayler, 1c King George Rd, CO2 7PE	$07763\ 468391$		
REMOVALS & STORAGE	K.Dobbs, Unit 1-2, Bellhouse Farm, Stanway	$01206\ 212444$		
ROOFING SERVICES	Falcon Contracting, 4 Honywood Close, Marks Tey	$01206\ 212032$		
VIOLIN TEACHER	Nadiia Riiako, Children and Adults.	$07512\ 814813$		