



# ALDHAM

DECEMBER 2017/JANUARY 2018



[www.aldham-church.co.uk](http://www.aldham-church.co.uk)

Dear Friends,

As I write, Zimbabwe is in the news every day. Its people, and the world, wonder what will happen, how it will all turn out in the end. It seems as if nobody wants Mugabe; and yet he hangs on to his position, and nobody quite knows how best to remove him. I find myself grateful that nobody has murdered him and replaced him with another tyrant in an army uniform, as so often happens. For once, the generals have shown restraint.

We complain regularly about our government, Priti Patel, NHS funding, Brexit deals and so on. But others suffer worse, as anyone who has lived in another country will testify. Maybe complaining against authority should be a core British Value! We seem to love to rail against institutions, schools, companies, judges, churches: anything that seems faceless and authoritative.

In Romans 13, St Paul tells his readers to pray for the authorities: surprising, when he lived under an occupying foreign power, disagreed with them so much, and got thrown into prison many times. Although preaching the gospel was his first priority, it was also important that Christians kept a reputation as good citizens. So, pay your taxes, obey the laws, and pray for government! What, even if I disagree with them? Yes, even then. Perhaps especially then. Living in a stable country is worth more than we think.

At Christmas time, we are reminded of an era before St Paul,

We wish all our readers a  
very **Happy Christmas** and  
a peaceful **New Year**

## Christmas Services

**Sunday, 17 December**

6.30 pm Carols by  
Candlelight

**Christmas Eve**

4.00 pm Crib Service

at Marks Tey

11.15 pm Midnight

Communion

at Marks Tey

**Christmas Day**

9.15 am All-Age Service

followed by Communion

**Sunday, 31 December**

9.15 am Morning

Worship

**Sunday, 7 January 2018**

9.15 am Christingle

Service

when evil Herod the Great was in charge, and Jesus' life was threatened several times. God didn't remove him from the danger, but he was able to survive in the midst of

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

danger. What are your challenges, as we approach Christmas? God may not magic them away, but he can give you grace and strength to manage, in the midst of them. Pray.

With best wishes,

## BOOK EXCHANGE

The next two Book Exchanges will be on Saturday 2 December and Saturday 6 January at 10.00 am.

## CHURCH ROTAS

### *Cleaning:*

December Anne Matthews,  
Jennifer MacCallum

January Sally Green,  
Felicity Chapman

### *Flowers:*

Dec 3, ADVENT

Dec 10, 17, 24, 31  
CHRISTMAS Wendy By-  
ford and team

Jan 7, 14 Carole Ashton

Jan 21, 28 Mags Constable

## DIARY DATES

2 Dec 10.00 am Book Exchange  
3 Dec 2.30 pm Early Music concert at  
Marks Tey  
4 Dec 7.30 pm PCC at 12 Oak Tree  
Cottages  
9 Dec 9.30 am Church Decorating  
10 Dec 9.15am Junior Church in the  
Tower Room.  
10 Dec 6.30 Friends of Aldham Church  
Kelvedon Singers  
6 Jan 10.00 am Book Exchange  
9 Jan 11.15 am Communion

## FRIENDS OF ALDHAM CHURCH

We are delighted to be hosting the **Kelvedon Singers Christmas Concert** at Aldham Church on **Sunday, 10 December at 6.30pm** and we hope you will be able to join us for the evening.

The choir will start the concert by performing the exhilarating *Dixit Dominus* by George Frederick Handel. Completed in 1707 it is said to be Handel's earliest surviving autograph.

After an interval of mulled wine and mince pies, the audience will have the chance of joining in some traditional carols and the choir will entertain with some beautiful settings of well-known and less known Christmas music. The whole programme will leave you firmly in the mood for the Festive season!

As tickets are limited to 100 and we will shortly be advertising more widely, if you are able to join us please email Sarah Phillips at [sp@base.nitrex.net](mailto:sp@base.nitrex.net) to reserve your seats. Tickets in advance are £10 whereas on the door they will be £12. Please make any cheques payable to 'The Kelvedon Singers' and post to Sarah Phillips at 13 Queen Street, Coggeshall CO6 1UF.

*Janet French*

### **Saturday 10 February:**

Murder Mystery evening at the Village Hall. More information next month.

### **CHRISTMAS DECORATING ...**

... will be on Saturday, 9 December from 9.30 am. Refreshment will be provided. Many hands will make light work.

*Wendy Byford (01206 240425)*

## WHO'S WHO

Priest-in-Charge	Revd Ian Scott-Thompson, The Rectory, Church Lane, Marks Tey, Col. CO6 1LW	01206 215772
Curate	Revd Wendy Pagden, 5 Rockingham Close, St John's, Colchester, CO4 0NJ	01206 844677
Reader:	Mr Iain MacCallum, 9 Handford Place, Queens Road, Colchester, CO3 3NY	01206 571070
Churchwardens:	Mrs Barbara Rush, 7 Hines Close, Aldham, Colchester, CO6 3RL	01206 212066
	Mrs Coral Wingate, 79 Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1LS	01206 210369
Secretary:	Mrs Anne Matthews, 18 Scott Drive, Lexden, CO3 4JD	01206 575603
Treasurer:	Mr Richard Gough, 12 Oaktree Cottages, Brook Road, Aldham, CO6 3RJ	01206 215688
Newsletter Editor:	Mr Iain MacCallum, 9 Handford Place, Queens Road, Colchester, CO3 3NY	01206 571070

## BLUE BOXES

The total raised for The Children's Society in our blue boxes this year is £229.85. Many thanks to all who supported the scheme. If you would like a box to collect your spare change and support this charity, please contact me on 01206 211408.

*Jean Jennings*

## ST HELENA HOSPICE COAST TO COAST CYCLE CHALLENGE

Looking to challenge yourself in 2018? Why not join St Helena Hospice for their Coast to Coast Cycle Challenge (kindly supported by Fenwick) in September 2018.

In what promises to be a truly memorable ride, you will pedal across Britain from east to west, via the historic cities of Cambridge and Oxford.

The route starts on the coast at Clacton on 6 September, 2018 covering around 250 miles across three days before reaching Portishead in Somerset.

To register your interest contact our fundraising team on 01206 931468 or visit [www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/coasttocoast](http://www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/coasttocoast)

## "THE MOST DANGEROUS MAN IN ALL ENGLAND"

Did I lend anyone a DVD of this documentary about William Tyndale made by Melvyn Bragg? If so I hope you have watched it, but I would like to see it again! *Iain MacCallum*

## COLCHESTER EARLY MUSIC – MEDIEVAL & RENAISSANCE CONCERTS

Sunday afternoons from 2.30pm in St Andrew's church, Marks Tey. 3 December. Passamezo. Tickets on door £8, £6 concessions. Enquiries – [lizzie@elizabethgutteridge.co.uk](mailto:lizzie@elizabethgutteridge.co.uk) tel: 01206 212406.

## JUNIOR CHURCH

There will be Junior Church in the Tower Room on **Sunday 10 December** and Sunday 28 January 2018.

## TUESDAY COMMUNION

Starting on Tuesday 9 January at 11.15 am we are having a Communion after Open Church on the second Tuesday of the month.

*Revd Wendy Pagden*

## W.I.

The next W.I. meeting will be on **Thursday 14 December at 7.45 pm** in the village hall. Our speaker, Geraldine Beaurain, will be telling us about Mary's Meals. We will also be enjoying festive refreshments!

At our meeting on Thursday 18 January (also at 7.45 pm in the village hall), Simon Gallup will be giving a talk entitled The unknown Constable Country.

Visitors and friends are most welcome at any of our meetings. *Jean Jennings*

## SHOE BOXES

This year we sent 18 shoe boxes for the Operation Christmas Child project. Well done, everybody.

*Anne Matthews*



**Deadline for February Newsletter  
22 January  
To: Iain MacCallum or  
Jane Smith, 7 Church Grove**

## WORSHIP AT ALDHAM

You are warmly invited to all our services.



**3 Dec 9.15 am ALL-AGE SERVICE**  
 10 Dec 9.15 am HOLY COMMUNION  
**17 Dec 6.30 pm CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**  
 24 Dec 4.00 pm CRIB SERVICE  
*at Marks Tey*  
 11.15 pm MIDNIGHT COMMUNION  
*at Marks Tey*  
**25 Dec 9.15 am ALL-AGE SERVICE followed by COMMUNION**

31 Dec 9.15 am MORNING WORSHIP  
**7 Jan 9.15 am CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**  
 14 Jan 9.15 am HOLY COMMUNION  
 21 Jan 9.15 am MORNING WORSHIP  
 29 Jan 9.15 am HOLY COMMUNION



**CRECHE** Tower Room is available every Sunday with sound relay of service.  
**FAIRTRADE COFFEE and TEA** are served after all 9.15 am Sunday Services

## Worship at Marks Tey

*1st Sunday*  
 11.00 am Morning Worship  
*2nd Sunday*  
 11.00 am Morning Worship  
*3rd Sunday*  
 11.00 am Holy Communion  
*4th Sunday*  
 11.00 am Morning Worship  
*5th Sunday*  
 11.00 am Morning Worship

The angel said to Joseph,  
 "Mary will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

*Matthew ch. 1 vv.20, 21*

## Please support your local traders

BEAUTY THERAPIST	The Beauty Rooms, 117 London Rd, Marks Tey	01206 211831
BOILER SERVICING	J Butcher 24 Gainsborough Rd. Sudbury CO10 2HT	07885 504036
BUILDER	Ottley Whitehouse, The Pink, Copford Gn.	01206 211212
BUTCHER	Willsher, 87 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 210365
CARPETS & FLOORING	The Blue Goose, 8 Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey	07973 407986
CARPETS & FLOORING	Tey Carpets at Home, 25 Keable Road, Marks Tey	01206 212826
CARPENTRY	Mark Jones, 55 Winstree Rd., Stanway	07974 218925
COMPUTER ASSISTANCE	Roger Walker, 16 Hines Close, Aldham	01206 211143
DELOTO DOG GROOMING	Karen, Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey CO6 1LS	07970 990564
FINANCIAL ADVICE	WRS Farnham, 227 London Road, Stanway.	01206 214980
FIREPLACES & STOVES	D.W.Parsons, Showroom Enquiries	07860 350038
FUNERALS	A.Birkin & Sons, 6 West St., Coggeshall	01376 561316
FUNERALS	Hunnaball, York House, 41 Mersea Rd.	01206 760049
FUNERALS	E.England Co-op Funeral Serv's, 89 Wimpole Rd.	01206 793492
FUNERALS	R.Gwinnell & Sons, 112 Ipswich Rd.	01206 868585
GARDEN & HOME MAINTENANCE	SJT, 59 Keable Rd. Marks Tey	07985 386758
GARDENING & ODD JOBS	Gary Todd, 3 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 212274
GARDENING SERVICES	Stuart Lake, 27 North Lane, Marks Tey	07701 302366
MOBILE DISCO	Jacks Tracks, 25 Norbury Close, Marks Tey	07751 867880
MOBILE HAIRDRESSER	Sarah, 4 Norbury Close, Marks Tey	07884 005978
OPTICIAN	The Eye Centre 15 Market Hill Coggeshall CO6 1TS	01376 561156
PHARMACY	86 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 212878
REMOVALS & STORAGE	K.Dobbs, Unit 1-2, Bellhouse Farm, Stanway	01206 212444
ROOFING SERVICES	Daniel Wicks, 4 Honeywood Close, Marks Tey	01206 212032
VW & AUDI GARAGE	John Austin, London Road, Marks Tey	01206 211483
WINE TASTING EVENTS	Alison Curwood, wineathome.co.uk N'th Ln, M Tey	07450 584348