

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED BY THE CHURCH IN



# ALDHAM



DECEMBER 2021/JANUARY 2022



## SHOE BOXES

Thank you for the shoeboxes: Many thanks to those who contributed money or items to help make up shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child this Christmas. I made 35 boxes including the money and items donated, plus 5 complete boxes were made up by others making a total of 40!

Thank you to you all for helping brighten a child's Christmas in such a difficult year for everyone. The shoe boxes have been taken to Kingsland Church to be collected and taken to the regional processing centre.

*Lindsay Gough*

## FROM THE RECTOR

*Dear Friends,*

Advent is the season preparing for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. Maybe you are opening the doors on an Advent Calendar, and finding good things inside? It's good to look forward and get ready, especially if it makes the celebration itself more exciting.

Sadly, for some people, Christmas is not a happy time. Maybe there's too much to do; or people you're not looking forward to seeing; or unhappy memories from Christmases past. Whatever the reason, can you be kind to yourself, and take some of the pressure off? Maybe you can tell a friend how it feels, or drop one or two of the 'must do' items this year? We've all had a hard time with Covid and lockdowns, and Christmas really should be a time of cheer and goodwill.

Christmas Services are listed on the back page. We decided to hold the Carol Service in the churchyard when infection rates were high. They still are, so for everyone's safety we'll follow last year's pattern.

Carols will be sung to accordions of the Caledonian Reelers.

Do contact us about any of these events, or if we can help you in any other way. May God bless you, in this month of Advent, Christmas, and New Year!

With best wishes,

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

# We wish all our readers a Joyful Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

## CHURCH ROTAS

### *Cleaning:*

*December* Anne Matthews,  
Jennifer MacCallum

*2022 January* Sally Green,  
Felicity Chapman

### *Flowers:*

Dec 5, 12 ADVENT - no flowers  
Dec 19, Jan 2 CHRISTMAS Wendy  
Byford and team

### *2022 January*

Jan 9, 16, 23 Pippa Holme

## DIARY DATES

Dec 9 Wedding in church  
Dec 19 4.00 pm. Carol Service  
in the churchyard

## GIFT DAY

Our treasurer has given me a total of what is actually in the bank. It does not include money (or associated gift aid) that is anticipated by bank transfer. That will be on our next bank statement that he will receive around the 15 December. We should be able to say what the total was at the Christmas Services and it will be in the February newsletter. In my cloudy crystal ball, it looks as though we should be able to pay the Parish Share in full, if a bit late!

So a huge thank you to everyone who has responded, or still intends to respond to the appeal

*Iain MacCallum*

## BLUE BOXES

Many thanks to everyone for delivering their Children's Society boxes to me. With 2 boxes still to be returned, we've raised a £287.39. Thank you for your continued support.

*Jean Jennings*

*[Considering the shift from cash to card this year, this is an excellent total!. Ed]*

## FROM OPEN DOOR

Dear brothers and sisters of Aldham church, may I express huge gratitude for your generous donation at your harvest celebration. You can be assured it will be well used for Open Door guests and people who are hungry. We thank the Lord for His provision. May God bless people in Aldham church

*Kaoru Magee*

*Manager, Open Door Colchester*

## ALDHAM W.I.

On Thursday, 9 December, we are having a Christmas meal at The Cricketers, 6.30 for 7.00 pm start. This replaces our meeting in the Village Hall.

Our first meeting in the New Year will be on 20 January at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. Sally Lawrence will be giving a talk entitled Continuity Capers, My life as a continuity announcer. Visitors are always welcome, do come and join us.

*Jean Jennings*

## WHO'S WHO

Priest-in-Charge	Revd Ian Scott-Thompson, The Rectory, Church Lane, Marks Tey, Col. CO6 1LW	01206 215772
Churchwardens	Mrs Coral Wingate, 79 Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey, CO6 1LS	01206 210369
	Mr Ken Thompson, 20 Hines Close, Aldham, Colchester, CO6 3RL	01206 803418
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

## CAROL SERVICE IN THE CHURCHYARD

4.00 pm on 19 December

Our Carol Service in the churchyard this year will have a more familiar feel to it as we follow a service similar to the one we used in the pre-pandemic years.

As last year there will be a Christmas Tree outside the porch, kindly donated by Neil and Wendy Byford. Please be masked, except for singing, keep your distance from other households, bring a torch, wrap up warm, and bring a garden chair if desired. Music will be provided by the Caledonian Reelers. There will be an offering for badly needed church funds!

## THANK YOU

The architect's report on the quinquennial survey made in July 2021 said

*The church is well maintained and generally in very good order.*

Thank you, Ken Thompson and everyone else who has helped with this. I once calculated that we had about 50 volunteers maintaining the church. Many of these appear in the newsletter as cleaners (including brasses), flower providers and arrangers, and those who work in the churchyard cutting and strimming the grass. So **thank you** to all of you for keeping the church building and its grounds so clean and attractive. Many of you also attend to various needs for the services: the 'Welcome Team', perhaps better known as sidespersons, readers, pray-ers, PA operators, those who get communion ready, the musicians, the service leaders and lay preachers. Then there's Jane Smith and the nine newsletter distributors who bring this to your door.

But we still need a bit more help for cleaning and flower arranging. If you could make an offer, please contact Jennifer MacCallum on 01206 571 070.

## FROM BEACON HOUSE

On behalf of the staff and guests at Beacon House, I would like to thank you and all at Aldham Church for your very generous gift of food . With over 250 current service users at any one time, we are very grateful to all the people who donate to us, which helps us to support the most vulnerable people in our society.

We recently had a lovely afternoon at our annual AGM attended by some of our donors to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Beacon House supporting our community. Our guests have been working closely with the OT team to develop their ceramic skills, building their self confidence, resilience and problem solving skills. Each Friday they also have the opportunity to visit a local working farm where they are developing life and work based skills as well as the therapeutic nature of working with animals.

With best wishes

*Julie Waite  
Administrative Assistant*

## QUIZ NIGHT ...

... in Aldham Village Hall will be on Saturday, 4 December 2021. Doors open at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm start.

£4.00 per person, tables of 4-6. Christmas Raffle. Bring your own nibbles and tipple. A good fun evening,

Questions will not be too difficult! We'd like to see the hall filled with participants. Can we break the record of 52 this year? We look forward to seeing you.

*Anne Fulcher -Aldham Village Hall  
Management Committee.*

Deadline for February Newsletter

**22 January**

To: Iain MacCallum or  
Jane Smith, 7 Church Grove

## WORSHIP AT ALDHAM

*You are warmly invited to our services.*

*We sit socially distanced, but there is still room for a few more!*

5 Dec	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP
12 Dec	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP
19 Dec	4.00 pm	CAROL SERVICE <i>in the churchyard</i>
24 Dec	11.45 pm	MIDNIGHT COMMUNION (MT)
25 Dec	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP <i>with Communion</i>
26 Dec		No Service
2 Jan	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP
9 Jan	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP
16 Jan	9.15 am	MORNING WORSHIP
23 Jan	9.15 am	HOLY COMMUNION
	30 Jan	time tba MORNING WORSHIP



*Refreshments cannot be served during current restrictions*



## Worship at Marks Tey

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

**Mary, you 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 v 21*

## Please support your local Traders

BOILER SERVICING	J Butcher 24 Gainsborough Rd. Sudbury CO10 2HT	07885 504036
BUTCHER	Willsher, 87 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 210365
CARPETS & FLOORING	Unit 1, Flyover Nurseries, 8 Coggeshall Road, MT	07973 407986
CARPETS & FLOORING	Tey Carpets at Home, 25 Keable Road, Marks Tey	01206 212826
COMPUTER ASSISTANCE	Roger Walker, 16 Hines Close, Aldham	01206 211143
DELOTO DOG GROOMING	Karen, Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey CO6 1LS	07970 990564
DOG BOARDING	Small friendly dogs only. Contact Mark	07790 087460
ELECTRICAL	Aaron Pearson, 1 Rowan Close, Stanway	07825 224420
FLOORING	LT Flooring, Unit 2, 91 London Road, CO6 1LG	01206 575222
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 MAINTENANCE	SJT, 59 Keable Rd. Marks Tey	07985 386758
GARDENING & ODD JOBS	Gary Todd, 3 London Road, Marks Tey	01206 212274
HAIR CARE AT HOME	Charlotte takes Ladies, Gents and Children	07791 426634
HOME CARE	Linmar Care, Godmans Lane, Marks Tey	01206 912311
MOBILE HAIRDRESSER	Sarah, 4 Norbury Close, Marks Tey	07884 005978
OPTICIAN	The Eye Centre 15 Market Hill Coggeshall CO6 1TS	01376 561156
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	Daniel Wicks, 4 Honeywood Close, Marks Tey	01206 212032