



ALDHAM



MARCH 2018

www.aldham-church.co.uk

Dear Friends,

I wonder if you speak to Siri? Or ask questions of Alexa, or say "Hey, Google" to your phone? Perhaps you use a SatNav? Or you shout at the telephone when it asks you for your secret numbers? All these are becoming part of our everyday lives, and a new voice seems to appear every day. And, although we may not think of them as machines, they are all Robots with Artificial Intelligence (AI). Some of them can be trained to respond to you, to do tasks and provide information to you.

My daughter is in charge of a production line of 65 workers, soldering joints and assembling electronics. Jobs like this may be easily replaceable by robots, working faster and not needing sleep, lunch or the toilet. They may not even need a manager, unions, holidays or salaries.

A recent programme showed a robot counsellor, talking to people with relationship problems. It had information on their social media posts and internet shopping, and it could see their expressions and judge whether they were embarrassed or angry, overweight, or even telling lies. What was remarkable was how honestly people would respond, even to very blunt questions. They wanted to see the robot as human (much as we give names and personalities to our cars), but didn't take offence as they might at a person asking them 'Do you love him?' It made me think that no job is safe, even the ones we reckon need most human interaction (like mine!)

Is that good? I love driving; but I can see that texting your car to pick you up from Stansted or the pub, or take you round the M25, could be useful. But if there will be fewer

EASTER SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY
25 Mar 9.15 am
MORNING WORSHIP
(+ Junior Church)

MAUNDY THURSDAY
29 Mar 7.30 pm
at Marks Tey
COMMUNION
and Shared Meal

GOOD FRIDAY
30 Mar 9.15 am
MEDITATON ON THE
CROSS

EASTER DAY
1 Apr 9.15 am
FAMILY COMMUNION
(+ Junior Church)

jobs, where will the salary come from? Businesses will still be making money, but with fewer and fewer human workers. The real money

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

will be in the hands of those who own robots and companies. We need to be thinking now whether increasing inequality is acceptable – if no one can buy anything, the economy will grind to a halt.

Also, how will we spend our time? Leisure is nice as a choice, but if you have no work it is hard to be satisfied with life. We need to plan for a different kind of future, where even our intelligence and human relationship skills are replaceable. Many children already spend more time with Siri than with their parents, and our elderly and infirm could be helped greatly by robot companions and nurses. How can we prepare for this?

With best wishes,



DIARY DATES

3 Mar	10.00 am Book Exchange
11 Mar	9.15 am Mothering Sunday service
13 Mar	11.45 am Mid-week communion
14 Mar	7.30 Home Group
24 Mar	9.00 am Church Spring Clean and Churchyard Working Party
28 Mar	7.30 Home Group

CHURCH ROTAS

Cleaning: Wendy Doncaster
Anne Hodgson

Flowers: LENT no flowers

Churchyard: Ken Thompson

BOOK EXCHANGE ...

... is on 3 March as usual, but Judith Vestey and Mike Chapman have volunteered to make **scones** for March's Book Exchange. These will go down well with Pat Welsh's craft and jewellery stall.

FRIENDS OF ALDHAM CHURCH

Although no table at 'Murder at Merrivale Golf Club' named the (obvious) culprit, the evening was a great success with about 100 competitors. The drama team was excellent, and the evening raised £511 for the Friends' Funds.

MID-WEEK MONTHLY COMMUNION

The mid-week monthly communion at Aldham continues on 13 March at **11.45 am** (2nd Tuesday).

FORTY DAYS OF LENT

We are already well into Lent, which is traditionally a time of abstinence or fasting from rich foods, remembering Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness, or the Israelites 40 years in the desert. Sometimes, instead of giving up something, people choose instead to GIVE something each day to bless someone in their community. You might have heard of the '40acts' generosity challenge, <https://40acts.org.uk/>

I challenge you to give it a go!

40 days, 40 reflections, 40 challenges to make a difference.

Revd. Wendy Pagden

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	07729 361136
	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

BEACON HOUSE

Aldham Church collects clothes, toiletries, and donations for around 250 vulnerable and homeless people who go to Beacon House in Colchester for help. **Thanks to Patrick and Valerie Dent for taking our donations in!**

In 2018 the Government is moving all Welfare Benefits into one monthly payment called Universal Credit (UC). However, the change to an electronic system has not taken into account the support needs of this vulnerable group. Managing the online UC contracts takes internet access and skill, as well as mental and emotional capacity. Beacon House also helps clients ensure the correct benefit is paid, and that they are presentable for interviews.

ECCLESIASTICAL INSURANCE OFFER

EIO are offering £130 to any church if you move your house insurance to them!

We're proud that customers across the UK have voted Ecclesiastical as the UK's Most Trusted Home Insurance provider, ahead of all other insurers. To celebrate this achievement, and in recognition of our 130 year anniversary, we'll donate £130 to your church if you take out a new home insurance policy with us before 31 December 2018. To take advantage of this offer visit

www.ecclesiastical.com/Trust130
or call 0800 783 0130 and quote **TRUST130**.

If you make a claim, please note that the church is insured as 'ALDHAM, St MARGARET.'

EASTER LILIES

... at £1.50 a stem, may be had in memory of a loved one who will be remembered in the prayers on Easter Sunday. Orders to Jennifer MacCallum by Thursday, 22 March please. (01206 571070)

MOTHERING SUNDAY

We'd love to share Mothering Sunday with you and your family! On Sunday 11 March at 9.15 am we are having a special All Age Mothering Day service! Do stay for tea, coffee, tasty treats and a primrose!

ALDHAM W.I.

Our next meeting will take place on Thursday 15 March at 7.45 in the village hall. Our speaker, Steve Beechey, will be giving a talk entitled 'Bees, Lives, Works & History.' Do come and join us.

Jean Jennings

ALDHAM VILLAGE HALL

QUIZ NIGHT Saturday 3 March. Doors open 7.30 pm. Quiz starts at 8.00 pm. Tables of up to six persons. £4.00 each. Bring your own nibbles. Social Club Bar open all evening for drinks. Contact Anne on 01206 211624 to book a table, or just come on the night. It's hosted by the Village Hall Management Committee and the Social Club to raise funds for both organisations. The Social Club Bar will be open all evening.

TABLE TOP SALE Saturday 10 March. Sale starts at 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Entry free. Refreshments also available. To book a table (£5.00), contact Anne on 01206 211624. This is the last table top sale until October.

Anne Fulcher

DEANERY NEWS

Church Planting and Young People's work were highlighted at Colchester Deanery's recent synod. As an expression of its support for work among **schools**, the deanery is giving £750 a year to the work of Christian Youth Outreach (CYO), a mission also supported by Aldham Church.

Deadline for the April Newsletter:

22 MARCH

To: Iain MacCallum or
Jane Smith, 7 Church Grove

THIS MONTH'S WORSHIP AT ALDHAM

You are warmly invited to all our services

4 Mar	9.15 am	HOLY COMMUNION
11 Mar	9.15 am	MOTHERING SUNDAY ALL-AGE SERVICE
13 Mar	11.45 am	HOLY COMMUNION
18 Mar	9.15 am	HOLY COMMUNION
25 Mar	9.15 am	PALM SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP (+ Jnr Ch)
29 Mar	7.30 pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY <i>at M.Tey</i> COMMUNION and Shared Meal
30 Mar	9.15 am	GOOD FRIDAY Meditation
1 Apr	9.15 am	EASTER DAY FAMILY COMMUNION (+Jnr Ch)

CRECHE The Tower Room is available every Sunday with sound relay of the service.

FAIRTRADE COFFEE and TEA are served after all 9.15 am services.



Worship at Marks Tey

<i>1st Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship
<i>2nd Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship
<i>3rd Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Holy Communion
<i>4th Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship
<i>5th Sunday</i>	11.00 am	Morning Worship

**Those who hope in the LORD
will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like
eagles;
they will run and not grow
weary,
they will walk and not be faint.**
Isaiah 40:31



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
CARPET & FLOORING	The Blue Goose, 8 Coggeshall Road, Marks Tey	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
ELECTRICAL	Aaron Pearson, 1 Rowan Close, Stanway	07825 224420
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 Services, Peartree Rd.	01206 372190
FUNERALS	E. England Co-op Funeral Services, 213a High St.	01376 573627
FUNERALS	E. England Co-op Funeral Services, 98 The Commons	01206 560988
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