

April 2019



Beenham



Midgham



Woolhampton

Aldermaston and Woolhampton Benefice

Dear Friends

As I write this, we are already coming up to the Third Sunday of Lent, soon clocks will go forward, Spring is in the air (despite the cold wind blowing outside), the daffodils are in all their glory and the shops have been full of Easter treats for several weeks.

But what about our personal journeys towards the cross and beyond? Perhaps you have decided to fast in some way, giving up that glass of wine or biscuit; maybe, you have taken something on like 'doing a good deed for someone else' each day – popping in to see an elderly neighbour; giving someone who is feeling a bit down a bunch of flowers; offering to get someone's shopping, etc. Or you are setting time aside to read the Bible – just a chapter a day or just being still in the presence of God, taking in the wonders of his creation around you. All things which help us to grow and mature as followers of Christ.

Before we know it, Palm Sunday will be here and then we begin that final week towards Easter Sunday. However, Easter is a bit like reading an exciting novel – if you just skip to the end of the book and not read the build up to the climax you will not fully appreciate the story. Yes, you will know the ending, but you won't have engaged with the characters, got to know them, journeyed with them through the story. Easter is the same. If we just jump to Easter Sunday, we do not fully appreciate the whole story. We, unlike the disciples, know the climax of the Easter story, we know what happened on that Easter morning. But to really begin to understand what it is all about we need to walk the road to the Cross alongside Christ: to think what the washing of the feet means to us today, the importance of the Last Supper, to stand at the foot of the Cross and then to experience the wonder of the empty Tomb. There will be different opportunities in the different churches during Holy Week for you to immerse yourself in the story including a Seder Meal and Watching with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane as well as a creative morning for families at our Good Friday Messy Church.

The difference for us is that Easter Sunday is not really the end of the story because we are still trying to live out that story day by day in our everyday lives. The Easter story is the ultimate in love stories – the story of love that knows no boundaries and no end, a love that forgives unconditionally, a love that is healing, the love of God who loves us for who we are and who we are created to be. All we need to do is to accept the offer of that love. It is the meaning of the cross, the promise of Easter and all we need to do is to reach out.

I wish you a blessed Lent and then a glorious Easter.

Jane

From the Register:

Baptisms and Services of Thanksgiving

3 rd March	Tilly Rose Madders	Aldermaston
10 th March	Olivia Charlotte Hall	Aldermaston
17 th March	Harry Hawkins	Beenham

Weddings, Renewal of Vows and Blessings of Marriage

8 th March	Dominic Zaman and Lucy Champness	Wasing
9 th March	Nick Tea and Camilla Lahmanes	Wasing
16 th March	Dean Robertson and Katherine Buttle	Wasing

Funerals, Burials and Burial of Ashes

11 th March	William Nixon (Nick) Humble	Woolhampton
12 th March	Andrew Herald	Beenham

All details correct at time of going to print.

Don't forget to visit the Benefice web site:
www.awb.org.uk

Praying through The Lord's Prayer



**Come away for a while to a Benefice Quiet Day
on Saturday 6th April between 10.30 – 3pm
at St Matthew's Midgham**

Come for just an hour or two and be still
For further details
please contact the Rector
Hot drinks provided throughout the day

SERVICES FOR APRIL



7th April

Aldermaston
Aldermaston

Lent 5 Passion Sunday

08:00 Holy Communion BCP
10:00 Benefice Communion

7th April

Aldermaston
Aldermaston

Lent 5 /Passion Sunday

08:00 Holy Communion BCP
10:00 Benefice Communion

11th April

Midgham

Thursday

09:30 Monthly Communion

14th April

Aldermaston
Beenham
Midgham
Woolhampton

Palm Sunday

10:45 Family Communion
09:15 Family Communion
09:15 Family Communion
11:00 Family Communion

18th April

Beenham

Maundy Thursday

19:30 Communion with Washing of the Feet
and The Watch

19th April

Aldermaston

Good Friday

14:00 Hour at the Cross

21st April

Aldermaston
Beenham
Brimpton
Midgham
Wasing
Woolhampton

Easter Day

10:45 Family Communion
09:15 Family Communion
09:15 Family Communion
09:15 Family Communion
07:00 Family Communion
11:00 Family Communion

28th April

Beenham
Midgham
Wasing
Woolhampton

Easter 2

09:15 Family Service
09:15 Family Communion
10:45 Family Communion
11:00 Family Service

5th May

Aldermaston
Aldermaston
Beenham
Brimpton
Midgham
Woolhampton

Easter 3

08:00 Holy Communion BCP
10:45 Family Service
09:15 Holy Communion
09:15 Holy Communion
09:15 Morning Worship
11:00 Morning Worship

WALKING IN LONDON 2019

Come and join us for an interesting walk in Merton, Morden and Wimbledon in London. It is a circular walk of approximately 7.5 miles and takes place on Saturday 27th April 2019, 9am to 5pm. It's an excellent day's outing for all the family, as there is so much to see and learn, including a questionnaire to test the brain and your observational skills!

This is a sponsored walk that is educative, enjoyable and helps to raise funds for a small charity, "Unlock", which spreads the Christian message in deprived inner city areas. As you walk you will learn about Unlock's work to spread the Gospel, not just in inner London, but also in Hull, Liverpool, Glasgow, Sheffield and beyond.

It will visit different denominational churches en route, which provide rest stops and refreshments, as well as an insight to their strengths and their problems.

The walk is the main fundraising event for this charity. Lots of people take part, so you won't be alone! If you can, please join us, we could do with lots of moral support, if you can't then please sponsor us! We plan to travel from stations on the Newbury line using group bookings. For further details contact Margaret Davison, 3, Angel Mead, Station Rd, Woolhampton.

Tel: 0118 9712810. E-mail margaret@cheese.org.



GOOD FRIDAY MESSY CHURCH

FRIDAY 19th April 10 – 11.30am

Crafts and activities to make and do

Make an **Easter hat** to wear to church on **Easter Sunday!**

Help make and plant an Easter garden

Songs and the Easter story

Hot cross buns

This year's **Good Friday Messy Church** will once again be held at
Aldermaston Parish Hall.

Come and join us for crafts and activities to explore the
Easter story.

Suitable for all ages, children please bring an adult.

No need to book, just turn up, or for more details please contact

Cara Smart -csmart.awb@gmail.com or Revd Jane Manley -

jmanley.awb@gmail.com



Children and Families Events, Aldermaston and Woolhampton Benefice - April 2019

Easter is almost here, a very special and important time for Christians as we get to celebrate the joy of the risen Christ. There are lots of wonderful things happening to help us understand and really experience Easter, including a few new things for this year, and of course an Easter egg hunt and Easter bonnet parade on Easter Sunday. Have a wonderful Easter.

Noah's Ark

Noah's Ark is now twice a month, on the first and third Fridays of the month, in Aldermaston Parish Hall, RG7 4LW, 10-11am. There are toys to play with, a craft activity, snack, songs and a bible story. Please come along and join us. The next few dates are:

5th April (19th April is Good Friday Messy Church)

3rd and 17th May



Holy Week and Easter Services

14-21st April

Fair Sunday	9.15am	Family Communion	St Mary's Beenham St Matthew's, Midgham
	10.45am	Family Communion	St Mary's Aldermaston
	11am	Family Communion	St Peter's Woolhampton
Monday	7.30am	Holy Communion	S. Peter's, Brimpton
Tuesday	7.30am	Holy Communion	St Peter's, Woolhampton
Wednesday	8am	All Age Egg Hunt	S. Matthew's, Midgham
Maundy Thursday	7.30am	Holy Communion with Washing of Feet	S. Mary's Beenham
		Followed by	
		Watch of the Passion (10.30am)	
Good Friday	10am	Messy Church	Aldermaston Parish Hall
	2pm	The Hour of the Cross	St Mary's, Aldermaston



Messy Church

Our next Messy Church is for Good Friday, 19th April, Aldermaston Parish Hall, 10-11.30am. There will be a variety of crafts and activities to join in, including making Easter Gardens for the churches, refreshments including hot cross buns, and then hearing the Easter Story together. All welcome.

Easter Sunday, 21st April

There are services in each of the churches, which include an Easter Egg Hunt and a chance to wear your Easter Hat made at Messy Church (spare hats will be provided!)

9.15am at Beenham, Brimpton and Midgham,
10.45am at Aldermaston
11am at Woolhampton

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

If you'd like any extra information, see our website www.awb.org.uk or please contact:

Children's Work Co-Ordinator: Cara Smart – childrenswork.awb@gmail.com 01189811885

Rector: Revd Jane Manley - jmanley.awb@gmail.com

Sing to the Lord a new song!

*A time to have fun singing with others and
learn some new hymns and songs*

Brimpton Church

Saturday 11th May

2-4pm

Contact Rev'd Jane Manley for more details 0118 9712891

ST MATTHEW'S CAFÉ

Do come and join us on the first Thursday of the month for tea and cakes, chat and a story. Date - 4th April

2nd May (at Brimpton)

Place – St Matthew's church, Midgham Time- 3 pm to 4.30pm

For more information or if you need transport : Jane Manley 9712891
jmanley.awb@gmail.com



CHURCH ANNUAL VESTRY AND PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS:

It is that time of the year again and the annual meetings for each of our churches is as follows:

Beenham: Wednesday 3rd April 6:30 for 7:00pm in St. Mary's Church,

Midgham: Thursday 25th April 7-30pm in St. Matthew's Church,

Woolhampton: Sunday 28th April circa 12:30 in church after the Sunday Service:

Do try to get along to yours.

Dear benefice folk,

Anwar and I have at last unpacked most of the boxes, put up some shelves, hung the pictures, and started to weed the garden. I realise that moving house has some similarities with giving birth, they are both something we are programmed to forget, or we would never do it again!

Moving is hard and I miss you all, but I just wanted to write to say a great big THANK YOU, for my leaving service and the generous gifts you gave me. The Camelia is gracing my front entrance, the special picture of St Matthew's is hanging by me here, and I am using the money to start the considerable work needed to make the garden beautiful. Your support made a difficult time easier.

May God keep blessing you all.

Pat



**Seder
Meal**

**An opportunity to
remember our roots
through
the Old Testament,
the significance of
the Passover Meal
for us as Christians today.**

**Come and join us for an all age Seder Meal
On Wednesday 17th April
At 6pm at St Matthew's, Midgham
To help with catering, If you would like to attend,
please contact the Rector.**

BEENHAM

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

On: Wednesday 17 April at:7pm

In: The Community Room, Beenham

The assembly provides the opportunity for the Chairman of the Parish Council to report on the Parish Council activities during the past year and to outline future activities. There will be an open forum for anyone to ask questions.

This is your opportunity to hear what the parish council has done and tell the parish council of any areas that it could consider in the future.

*BEENHAM'S TEA PARTY *

Come along for a chat, cup of tea or coffee and a delicious slice of cake.

ON: Tuesday April 30th and Tuesday May 28th

IN: Beenham Club, Picklepythe Lane, RG7 5NT **FROM:** 2 – 4pm

Everyone from 0 – 100+ welcome

If anyone would be willing to offer to help with the tea party it would be lovely to hear from you. It takes a few hours on the last Tuesday in the month from 1pm – 4pm.

Don't stay at home alone! call Pat on 07947478840 for a lift



Pea sticks and Bean Poles - from Greyfield Wood Beenham

For all gardeners, we are now able to supply pea sticks. These are silver birch and/or hazel and cost £5 per bunch. In addition, we are also taking orders for hazel bean poles. These are 9 feet long, in a bunch of 15 poles, at a price of £10 per bunch.

All items will have to be collected from Greyfield Wood.

Contact Adrian Stacey (0118 9712153) or Ken Ewen (0118 9712856)

SCOTTISH DANCING AT THE VICTORY HALL

Scottish Dancing is on Monday evenings at 7.30pm for beginners and for step practice, with dancing from 7.45pm. We promise you a warm welcome.

For more information contact Katrina on 0118 971 3331 or Sue Burbridge on 01635 581222. To check other clubs in the area see <http://www.rscds-bhs.org.uk>

CHARITY EVENTS IN LONDON – 27TH and 28TH APRIL 2019

On Saturday 27th April, members of St Mary's Beenham will be walking in aid of the church charity "Unlock". This year the walk is around Wimbledon, Merton and Morden (details at: http://www.unlock-urban.org.uk/support_walk.php) Do come and join us. It's an interesting and fulfilling day out in an area of London you may not know. Alternatively, please sponsor us. The form and map will be available in St Mary's Church or from Katrina Alderton, Brambley Hedge, The Green, Beenham.

On Sunday 28th April, Lottie Hings is hoping to run in the London Marathon in aid of "The World Horse Aid" charity. Lottie is raising her entry money by selling home-made items (candles etc) and would be grateful for direct sponsorship money. This can be given using the internet, via ukvirginmoneygiving.com by just clicking on the "Make a donation" button and search for Lottie Hings name.



BEENHAM VILLAGE CELEBRATES SPRING WITH MAYPOLE DANCING

On: Saturday May 4th 2019 From: 2pm – 4pm

On: Beenham Recreation Ground

Spring has arrived so come along, bring a picnic and join in the fun

Pimms and cake will be available

Maypole Dancing will be led by Anne Garrison (Anne is a teacher of traditional and historic dance in schools, museums and at other events) Country dancing by the Brownies. Join the family scavenger hunt. Everyone welcome

Organised by BVE (Beenham Village Events)

BEENHAM VILLAGE SUMMER FAYRE

June 22nd 2019 in Beenham Primary School From 12.00pm to 4.00pm

The planning for Beenham Village Summer Fayre is gathering speed.

There will be loads of activities for adults and children alike - including a bouncy castle with a slide, a mobile zoo, a children's entertainer, Tutts Clump Cider, plant stalls, tombola and local crafts people selling their wares, as well as the very popular Dog show and even more popular raffle.



There will be a tug of war competition this year so we will be looking for willing, (or not so willing!) teams – could you make up a team?

We are also looking to expand the number of classic vehicles, tractors included, displayed, so if you know of anyone who would like to join us please get in touch.

We would love to hear from anyone who'd like to have a stall: in particular we are looking for a stall selling fresh artisan bread, flowers in pots and/or hanging baskets or a game. We are also looking for someone who is able to facepaint or apply glitter tattoos.

Beenham Village Events (B.V.E) is also offering a range of advertising and sponsorship opportunities. If anyone, or you know of anyone, who would like to advertise in our programme or sponsor one of our key attractions, please get in touch for more details.

If you have any time to volunteer to help for a couple of hours on the day, setting up, running a stall, or helping to clear up afterwards that would also be wonderful.

On the other hand if you are willing to be part of the team managing the Fayre we'd welcome you warmly. This might mean attending some meetings, usually at the pub, planning ahead and working with others to help make the Fayre a success.

If there are any young people, who may be used to go to Beenham Primary School, and are willing to help by running stalls at the Fayre we'd love to hear from you too. If you could contact Mrs Clark at the school that would be fantastic.

It's a great chance to meet lots of people in the village and have the pleasure of being part of a successful community venture, with the money raised being used to support our Beenham Village organisations.

Please get in touch if you would like to help or for more information.

Phone Pat Owen on 0118 9615860 or email patowen0@hotmail.com

Art Group

A friendly group of amateurs, every Tuesday 9.45- 12.15 Contact Sunny 9712255

BEENHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Over the past month we've been continuing our journey of discovery using Jules Verne's famous book, "Around the World in Eighty Days", as a basis for exploring culture, art and mythology from around the world.

We made a life-sized model of the book's protagonist, Phileas Fogg, to put in the hallway, where it has startled some parents, much to the delight of many of the children!



In addition to a healthy ration of outdoor learning, Mai Class (Reception and Year 1) have been busy refining their skills in measuring and working with materials to build model cars from cardboard and dowel; their creations were very impressive.

Meanwhile, Torak Class (Years 2 and 3) took charge of class assembly, putting on a wonderful puppet show telling the Indian story of Rama and Sita. The assembled mothers and fathers all enjoyed the production, as did the children.



In Mosi Class (Years 4, 5 and 6), the boys and girls have been having fun reading short fantasy stories from "Tales from Outer Suburbia", which has helped them hone their analytical skills, as well as their grammar and vocabulary.

For World Book Day on 7th March, many of the children dressed up as their favourite book characters, and read their favourite stories in class.

Car Boot Sale

Car boot sale in Beenham Primary School on Saturday 11th May 2019
from 8:30am - 1:30pm

Seller entry is from 7:30am

Cars £7

Van £10

Trailers £3

Hot and cold food & drink available
to purchase throughout the day.

Buyer entry from 8:30am

Entrance fee:

£2 between 08:30 - 9:00am

£1 after 9:00am

50p after 12:30

If you would like a stall please email
Beenham Primary PTFA at
chairbeenham@hotmail.com



ST MARY'S CHURCH, ANNUAL SPRING CLEANING DAYS! ON FRIDAY 12th, and SATURDAY 13th APRIL FROM 10AM – 2PM

Ahead of Easter celebrations, two Spring Cleaning Days are being organised on Friday April 12th and Saturday April 13th from 10.00am. For most of the year we rely on a team of volunteers to keep the church clean and tidy – at ground level, for weddings and funerals as well as church services. Once a year we ask for extra help from younger villagers (including men!) to reach the high places and more difficult jobs we cannot normally do. Your help would be much appreciated. Just turn up when you can. Tea and coffee provided. Contact Katrina Alderton, Church Cleaning Organiser for more information 0118 9713331



BEENHAM PRE-SCHOOL

After the resounding success of our 2018 Nativity Play we have decided to tap into more of the talent and enthusiasm amongst our pre-school children and host our first ever Spring Concert. The older children will be performing a dramatisation of one of our favourite books (“What the Ladybird Heard”) and will then be joined on stage by the younger children for some Singing and Signing of some Easter and Spring tunes. We will be combining this with our traditional Easter Bonnet Parade and Egg Hunt. Should be another great event with happy memories for the families to take away.

One of the songs we will be signing in our show will be “I Can Sing a Rainbow” so this term we will be thinking lots about colours; where we find them in our environment, how we can combine them to make new colours, and how they make us feel. We are expecting some messy aprons and some wonderful artwork. We have also been busy celebrating Pancake Day and World Book Day with costumes and our favourite stories. Comic Relief is fast approaching so we will be polishing our red noses and trying to raise some money for this good cause.

We are now full in most of our sessions having welcomed some more new faces at the start of January. We continue to offer a variety of activities such as WriteDance, PE, Active AM, Music, Baking and more. We benefit hugely from our site shared with Beenham Primary and our children regularly visit the Reception Class of the Primary school getting used to the school environment.

We are already taking bookings for the 2019-20 year so please do look at our Facebook page and Twitter feed (@beenhampre) if you would like to see more of what we have on offer and do get in touch if you would like to come and meet us! To book a visit or to learn more please contact our Manager, Paula Read:
Telephone: 07793 116937 Email: info@beenhampreschool.org



BEENHAM SCARECROW FESTIVAL 2019

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Moon landing, the theme for this year's Scarecrow Festival is “Space travel”. Will you decide on Neil Armstrong, Buzz Lightyear or Dr Who? Superman or a Cyberman? Just let your imagination go!

If you would like to take part in the Scarecrow Festival, all you need to do is to make your scarecrow, on the theme of Space travel, and ensure it is able to survive life outside for at least a week or so. Then display it in your front garden by 1st June in time for the judging which will take place over the following few days. We hope to award a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize this year and the winners will be announced at the village fair on 22nd June.

If you plan to make a scarecrow and would like it to be included in the judging for the John Thurley Cup, please email me your name and address, with “scarecrow” in the subject box, by 2nd June. It would be helpful if you could also email a photo of your scarecrow once it is in position. And please **don't** send your entry via Facebook!! Thank you! Lesley McEwen lesleymcewen@btinternet.com

AUCTION OF PROMISES 2019



Two years ago we had a wonderfully entertaining and successful auction of promises to raise money for the project at St Mary's.

So many of you generously donated items or skills to auction, we are now planning **Auction of Promises 2019**. We would like to ask once again if anyone has skills or items that we might be able to auction please?

A few ideas: lifts to/from the airport, a couple of hours gardening or ironing, baking a cake, flight in an aircraft, use of a holiday home or caravan etc.

Do put the date in your diaries and come and join us for a fun, enjoyable evening.

**AUCTION DATE: SATURDAY 30TH MARCH
AT THE SIX BELLS, BEENHAM 7.00pm for 7.30pm**

Any offers or questions to Janette Hammond: janette@janettehammond.co.uk
07917 818283 or Pat Owen patowen0@hotmail.com 07947478840

Thank you ☺

On 30th you will be greeted with a complimentary drink on arrival and a little bit of food for sustenance, so do come and join us for a fun evening at The Six Bells.

We'd love to see you there!

Greyfield Wood Open Day – Sunday 28th April!

On **Sunday 28th April**, we invite you to a family afternoon out, exploring **Greyfield Wood** in Beenham Village.

We are hosting our annual **Open Day**, between 2.00 pm and 5.00 pm, and you are invited to join us.

With a guided **Wildlife Walk**, **self-guided bluebell walks**, **woodland craft demonstrations**, **a children's craft activity centre** and **refreshments available**, this is an excellent opportunity to walk off your Sunday lunch and to re- discover your local wood.

Please note that limited disabled parking **only** will be available and there is no admission charge for this event.

If you require additional information, please contact Ken Ewen on 0118 971 2856, or via email pilotdad200@gmail.com

Beenham Walkers

We have changed our day to alternate Monday mornings. Our provisional schedule for the Spring is:

April 8th – a walk around Stanford Dingley

April 15th – note this is one week after the previous walk, due to Easter next week – Pangbourne to Goring; either catch train back or walk back to Pangbourne.

April 22nd – Easter – no walk

April 29th – circular walk around Mortimer

If you would like to be added to the mailing list, or would like more information, please contact John Newitt at walking@newitt.plus.com or phone 9713580

BEENHAM VILLAGE MARKET 13TH APRIL 2.00PM - 3.30PM

Another successful Market in March; it was absolutely buzzing! New faces and people new to the village turned up and had a great time and thoroughly enjoyed the community spirit. Please keep it up!

We hope you will come and join us to indulge in our stall holder Karen's pastries both sweet and savoury and cakes. Louisa will be back selling her delicious cupcakes in April. We will also have stalls supporting the Church extension and our hugely popular 'green' stall; Thatcham Refillables. We will have a new stall holder, the Lonely Lentil run by Lydia, selling a wide variety of nutritious staples for your pantry, from rice and pasta to nuts, dried fruits and spices and much more. This is another waste-free enterprise so bring along your empty containers to buy as much or as little as you want, sharing her delicious recipe ideas!

Our regular stall holders including Hazel's household goods and pet food now providing a small selection of preserves, eggs and cakes. Pre-loved jewellery, Alan's DIY, Sylvia's Crafts and Maureen and Dave's stall of handmade cards and knitted toys have joined us, along with the Hall's Bric a Brac stall run by Frances, as regular pitches. Our young helpers also continue to tempt us with their homemade cakes, teas and coffees.



All help is greatly appreciated to keep this village event going, including helping to set up and pack away, contact Nola for set up times. So come along to meet the new faces, and catch up with your friends and neighbours. Browse the new and regular stalls for a bargain or buy some treats for Sunday tea. Don't forget the raffle, a selection of fun prizes usually including a bottle of wine!

New stall holders are always welcome, the only charge is 10% of stall holders' takings to Village Hall funds, no sales no charge. Please contact Nola Rice-Wood on nolesandfrank@hotmail.co.uk or 9714822 for details or to arrange a booking for all kinds of parties, events or meetings. We thank you for supporting your Village Hall and look forward to seeing you at the subsequent market on the 11th May, to which all are welcome.

BEENHAM CLUB

The Club is available to hire for private parties/functions, you get the venue, Bar staff and LED lighting backdrop. We can also assist in planning your event if required. We have our own Karaoke equipment which is available at extra cost.

Just let us know your requirements and we will try to accommodate you. We can be contacted via Email, webpage "contact us form", telephone, visit, or Facebook

Our Live Music & Acoustic Nights continue to go from strength to strength - Do you play an instrument? Sing? Enjoy a relaxed evening listening to others? Then this is the evening for you! We welcome anybody to come along, join in and show us your talent. Usually **3rd Saturday of every month** – check website or Facebook for any changes.

Sat 27th April HIGHMASTERS - A three piece band with influences from the late seventies and early eighties, a lively and energetic band who play with attitude and passion.

Fri 17th May THE CHRIS DUNNE BAND – Amazing Country band. Gerry Hogan has played the Pedal Steel Guitar all over the world, if you have not seen him then this is something you need to experience. Guaranteed to give us a fantastic evening of music – a real club favourite

Holy Week and Easter Services

14-21st April

Palm Sunday 9.15am Family Communion

St Mary's, Beenham

St Matthew's, Midgham

10.45am Family Communion

St Mary's, Aldermaston

11am Family Communion

St Peter's, Woolhampton

Monday 7.30pm Holy Communion

St Peter's, Brimpton

Tuesday 7.30pm Holy Communion

St Peter's, Woolhampton

Wednesday 6pm All Age Seder Meal

St Matthew's, Midgham

Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Holy Communion with
Washing of Feet

St Mary's, Beenham

Followed by: Watch of the Passion until 10pm

Good Friday 10am Messy Church
Aldermaston Parish Hall
2pm The Hour at the Cross
St Mary's, Aldermaston

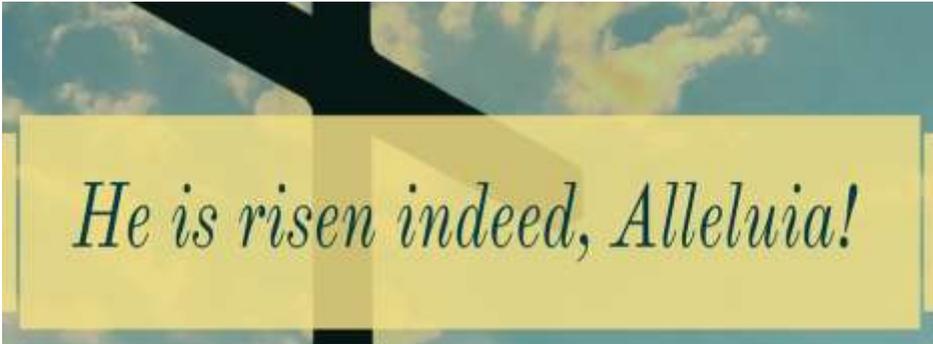
Easter Sunday 7am Dawn Service
St Nicholas, Wasing

9.15am Family Communion
St Mary's, Beenham
St Peter's Brimpton
St Matthew's, Midgham

10.45am Family Communion
St Mary's, Aldermaston

11am Family Communion
St Peter's, Woolhampton

The Easter Sunday services will include an **Easter Egg Hunt** and an **Easter Hat Parade** with hats made at Good Friday Messy Church – so come dressed for the occasion!!



He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

BEENHAM FRIENDSHIP CLUB



- * Are you over 55?
- * Are you looking for a friendly local social club that meets once a month?
- * Are you also looking for the opportunity to go on day trips in the summer?

Then look no further! Come and try us.

We are a friendship group that meets on the third Wednesday of each month.

From April to September our monthly get together is a coach trip, and destinations this year will include Hatfield House, Beaulieu, Abingdon to Oxford Boat Trip, Cotswold Wildlife Park, Bournemouth and Bourton on the Water.

In October we resume our monthly meetings at the Victory Hall in Beenham, for a chat and refreshments, entertainment or guest speakers starting at 2 p.m.

If you are interested in finding out more then do please ring Tina on 01635 826154 or Robin on 0118 9713715 who will be happy to help.

Beenham WI

At our Annual Meeting in March we reported on a successful year, discussed ideas for our centenary celebrations, thanked some outgoing committee members for their hard work and commitment and formed a new committee. Our new programme of speakers and activities starts in April. On Wednesday 10th April at 7.30pm in the Community Room when non members are most welcome to join us for the small cost of £3, there will be a talk by Deborah Binks-Moore entitled, ' Liverpool to Hangzhou is more than 1000 miles'. She started life in Liverpool, completed science postgraduate studies in Scotland and joined the corporate world at Shell in a scientific research role but later switched into the field of corporate communications working for Centrica, Ebay and culminating in her current role as Communications Director at Alibaba, the Chinese equivalent of Amazon. Deborah will be sharing her experiences of working in a wide range of multinationals and about how careers can take very interesting turns.

Have you recently moved to the village? Becoming a member of WI is a great way to meet the locals and make new friends. We enjoy a range of interesting speakers and activities at our meetings on the second Wednesday of the month as well as pub outings and other social events. We organise daytime outings, run a monthly book club and 'knit and natter' sessions. If you'd like to learn more, contact our president Margaret Grannum on 9713944.

Dwelling in the Word

A chance to listen to a passage from the Bible, in quiet and peaceful contemplation

Wednesday, 10th April 2019

at 2:00pm for less than an hour

at Kiln House, 22a The Street, Aldermaston, RG7 4LN

All are welcome, just come no need to book.

WOOLHAMPTON

Woolhampton
Annual Parish Assembly
to be held in the Village Hall
Tuesday 2nd April at 7.00pm

There will be refreshments available

MIDGHAM AND WOOLHAMPTON WI

15 members attended the Annual General Meeting of Woolhampton and Midgham WI which took place on Tuesday 12th March 2019. The President's Cup was presented to Madeline Barrow for all her tireless work during the year. Beryl Smith was re-elected as Chairman for another year and all members of the committee were duly re-elected. After the AGM members went on to enjoy a glass of wine and an excellent choice of cheese and biscuits provided by the committee.

For the April meeting there will be a talk on "Encouraging the Young in School" by Lin Binstone. The May meeting will be The Resolution and in June there will be a garden visit followed by supper provided by the Committee.

Woolhampton and Midgham WI meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Woolhampton Village Hall. Starting at 7.45. We have many good speakers and outings organised during the year. Anyone wishing to join the WI can contact the Chairman Beryl Smith on her email berylsmith6@btinternet.com.

NATURE NOTES

The dancing daffodil has certainly been well shaken by loud and shrill rough winds this year! Let's hope that April will bring something calmer. I know I have said this before, but I find it marvelous that in the space of a few weeks a tiny egg can be transformed into a fully fledged little bird. Even each feather, on different parts of the body, is a little design miracle of its own. And butterflies appear – we have already seen brimstones in February. Scientists tell us that in the chrysalis the body of the caterpillar 'melts' into a soup before reforming into the completely different shape of the butterfly. Utterly miraculous. I would just like to quote the old poem that was often written in autograph albums "With the kiss of the sun for pardon and the song of the birds for mirth, one is nearer God's heart in a garden than anywhere else on earth". Enjoy the spring.



Stella Nesbit

VILLAGE MARKET

The next Market is on Saturday 6th April in the Village Hall from 10am to 12 noon. Looking forward to spring and anticipating another long, hot summer, is now the time to stock up on firewood and winter woollies ready for the ravages of next winter? No, certainly not! But make yourself a new spring resolution to come along to see what's on offer. Or just come and relax, enjoy a nice cup of tea and chat to friends and neighbours. Entry to this community social event is free and for new residents, it's a great way meet people and get involved.

**WOOLHAMPTON ANNUAL SHOW 2019 (AUGUST 10TH)
‘POTATO-GROWING-IN-A-CONTAINER’ COMPETITION**

If you’ve registered but have not yet received your potatoes, please contact Terry on 9713637 or email terry.vallis@outlook.com.

WOOLHAMPTON LITTER-PICKING INITIATIVE

With some Woolhampton residents having already registered an interest, it would be encouraging if more were willing to help in order to cover the whole village. West Berks Council has been approached and will provide us with litter pickers, bags, hi-vis vests, etc., and arrange for collection of filled bags. It is likely to take place during week commencing 7th April, to be finalized when all participants are known. Please contact Terry or Cathy on 9713637 or email terry.vallis@outlook.com if you have an interest in helping.

WOOLHAMPTON ON WEDNESDAYS (COFFEE MORNING)

Want a venue to meet people on a casual basis to share ideas, useful tips, information, experiences, or just put the world to rights?



This could be your answer.

The Village Hall is open on the second Wednesday morning from 10.30 to 12.00, the next being April 10th. You can keep in touch with other villagers, catch up with people you don’t see very often or make new friends, and whether you stay for an hour or just long enough to say hello to an old friend, you will be very welcome.

No formality, no ‘hidden agenda’, no age limit, not a club or a group, just a place to chat over a cup of tea or coffee?

Woolhampton Village Hall – April 2019

Art Group	Monday	1,8,15,29	2.00pm
Bowls	Friday	5,12,26	3.00pm
Coffee morning	Wednesday	10	10.30am
The Fitness League	Thursday	4,11,25	10.00am
HIIT	Monday	1,8,15,29	7.25pm
Lunch Club	Wednesday	3,24	12.30pm
Market	Saturday	6	10.00am
Parish Council	Tuesday	16	7.30pm
Pilates (morning)	Wednesday	24	8.45am
Pilates	Monday	1,8,15,29	6.35pm
Seniors Social Club	Wednesday	24	2.30pm
Stroke Care	Tuesday	2,9,16,23,30	9.45 am
Tea dance	Thursday	11,25	2.00pm
Toddler Group	Monday	1,8,15,29	9.30am
Whist	Thursday	tbc	2.00pm
WI	Tuesday	9	7.45pm
ZumbaFit	Monday	1,8,15,29	5.45pm

For contact details of the above groups or to hire the hall, please contact Emma Smith on 0118 9714062 or loreall975@hotmail.com (Woolhampton residents receive reduced charges for party bookings.)



Woolhampton C of E Primary School

'Enabling all to Flourish'

"Paddington looks for the good in all of us and somehow he finds it"

Michael Bond, CBE



World Book Day was upon us once again in March and as a school we had exciting activities planned for the children and staff to celebrate our love of books and reading. We were lucky enough to have Karen Jankal, daughter of the author Michael Bond visit the school to share her experience about the creation of the much loved Paddington Bear books.



The children learnt how many of the stories in her father's books were based on real-life events that happened when she was growing up. She also challenged the children to discover where her father himself appears in the Paddington movie!

Instead of the traditional dressing themselves up as a book character as many school children do all over the country, this year our children at Woolhampton CE Primary were invited to dress up a potato as their chosen character...



This idea proved very popular and we had several 'Where's Wally', 'The Cat in the Hats', 'The BFG' and 'Captain Underpants' potatoes arriving at school. We were all impressed with the creativity and imagination used in this task...potatoes will never seem the same again!

Nikki Jordan, Chair of Governors

WOOLHAMPTON SENIORS CLUB

The April meeting is on Wednesday 24th and although the programme has not yet been decided, it will always be followed by fresh sandwiches, tea and cake, and a chance to chat and socialize. New members always welcome and meetings start at 2.30 p.m. Any enquiries regarding membership, please contact Joyce on 9713432.

MIDGHAM

Midgham Village Hall



Last Wednesday every month
10am ~ 12 noon

Please drop in for a cuppa and a chat.
See YOU there!

Contact: Claire Norris 07786 195666
email: claire@eventive.org.uk

OPEN GARDEN



**“The Dell” woodland garden will be open on
Monday 27th May 3.00pm - 5.30pm**

in aid of

St Matthew’s Church, Midgham

Lindens, Carbinswood Lane, Upper Woolhampton
for sat-nav use RG7 5UB

Donations of £5 or more. Children free

No dogs please

Tea will be served

For more information contact Tony Billington on 0118 9713158

Brimpton Church of England Primary School

World Book Day We were so impressed with all the fabulous costumes



and book characters that came into school. Everybody had made such an effort and the whole day was enjoyed by everyone. The children paired up with reading buddies and it was wonderful to see them sat on their fluffy cushions reading with their partners. Parents came in and brought their favourite book to read to the children. The Newbury Weekly News came and took a whole school

photograph so please look out for this in next week's paper. All the children looked forward to the 'Book Swap' which was a great end to our Literacy week!

Royal Albert Hall Choir – on 11th March 2019 our school choir along with 6,000 other school children across the country came together to perform at the Royal Albert Hall – the children have been practising for the past few months. The evening was amazing and hopefully an experience all the children will treasure.

We have spaces available in all year groups. If you require any information please phone or email Mrs Sarah Vockins 0118-9712311 / office@brimpton.w-berks.sch.uk

WILDLIFE HEAVEN AT THE BEENHAM ALLOTMENTS: PART 1

It is early morning as I drive down the track to the allotments. I stop at the gate and see four or five hen pheasants take off, screeching as they fly off over the hedge alarmed at my arrival they glide into the neighbouring field. They disturb three or four wood pigeons that are making the most of one of the plot holder's winter cabbage, they all fly off in a panic. As I look around I can see the sun rays are just reaching the top of the trees so I know it will not be long before the white glistening frost that has covered everything, will be burnt off with that steady rising misty haze drifting up from the ground.

I open the gate and park the car. Opening the door I see a robin with its bright red breast, landing on the bramble bush that has lost most of its leaves. It appears to nod its head as it takes off to find another perch. On walking to close the gate I hear the bark of a muntjac that is hidden away in the woods nearby. I look up as a red kite glides overhead. The sunrays just catch the reddish brown colour of its feathers as it gracefully turns away from me to start another ground searching flight along the hedge line, it's a good start to the morning.

As I get to my plot a robin is perched on my fork. Is it the same one as I had seen earlier; I have no idea.

It is waiting for its breakfast and if I start digging, the worms are nice and welcoming this time of the year when food is a little harder to find. The red kite is now in its roost in a tree overlooking the allotments making its usual mew like weeo, weeo, weeo sound which can become quite annoying if it goes on too long but normally they fly off on patrol again.

GENERAL INTEREST

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GARDENING CLUBS & EVENTS April 2019

Bucklebury & Marlston Horticultural Society

This a friendly group who meet in the Memorial Hall, Upper Bucklebury. We meet for talks and outings. Members also receive discounts at several local nurseries.

On **Monday 1st April** there will be a talk entitled "Growing is Showing" with inside information from Richard Killings on how to succeed at the Spring show!

On **Sunday 7th April** from 2.30pm – 4.00pm is the SPRING SHOW. Show entries will be staged from noon with judging from 1pm – 2pm.

On **Monday 29th April** there will be a talk entitled "Protecting Berkshire's Historical Gardens". This will be an introduction to the Berkshire Gardens Trust by Janet Fuller. For more information please contact John Wright 01635 863429 or Vivian Ward 0118 9712581. New members are always welcome.

Bradfield Gardening Club

The new season is upon us with our first meeting on Tuesday 9th April at 7:30pm in Bradfield Village Hall. The speaker is **Derry Watkins** talking on '**New Plants Introduced from Around the World**'. She is an inspiring speaker who many members met when she showed us round her garden and plant nursery on our Club visit in 2016. She will also be bringing plants and sundries for sale.

If you have never been to a Garden Club event do come and join this friendly bunch of gardeners of all abilities. As well as hearing a top notch speaker it is a chance to socialise with a glass of wine or juice to start with and browse the sales table. Entry is £10 or £4 for members and you can join on the night (£9 for an individual, good value if you come more than once!).

Full details of all the membership categories are on the club's NEW WEBSITE at <https://bradfieldgardeningclub.org>

This also lists the other talks we have at the Village Hall, every 2nd Tuesday from April to August. There are also visits to gardens and an end of season social for members. Do come and join us.

On May 14th – Helen Picton is the speaker with her talk "Daisy Days.

Nursery: Old Court Nurseries

New members are always welcome, contact Elspeth Ewen

elspethewen@gmail.com 0118 9712856.

📍📍📍 **DOUAI PAVILION ♦ ♦ ♦ FABULOUS EVENTS NOT TO BE MISSED**

Douai Pavilion, Upper Woolhampton, RG7 5TG

Good Friday-April 19th we will be repeating the Easter fun day/evening for all the family. During the day lots of games/competitions/Easter egg hunt as well as Afternoon tea. Peter Rabbit will also be showing on the screen. Let's hope the sun shines this year, but whatever the weather, we have lots for you to do. Also, in the evening, Bar and scrumptious food.

Saturday 24th August – Open Air Cinema - What an amazing evening enjoyed by everyone last year. We will be repeating this fabulous event again, with a great movie on the big screen, live music, bars, variety of food stalls and lots more.

Sunday 17th November – Return of the Christmas Market. Lots more stalls, inside and out, performances by choirs and musicians throughout the day, Santa's Grotto, Festive food, Mulled Wine and lots more!!

Make sure you put these dates in the diary. Our Friday night bars will start again mid-May. We look forward to seeing you all throughout the year.

If you have any questions relating to these events or any others being held at the Pavilion, or you would like to hire the Pavilion for your own private event, please do not hesitate to contact: -

Sue or Katie Birch Tel: 07501 011442 Email: sue@birchassociates.co.uk

The events are organised by Sue and Katie Birch who are licensees for the Pavilion, on behalf of Douai Park Recreation Association which is a charity organisation run by volunteers.

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henderson.sarah.c@outlook.com

Woolhampton

Kate Alexander 9712067

katepalexander@hotmail.com

Please send Word attachments in Times New Roman size 11 font with no formatting (i.e. tabs bullets etc)

CHAPEL ROW COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUP

Beenham-Midgham-Woolhampton

For details of services provided, requests and offers to help ring:

0118 9713334 (Mrs Cardy)

between 9.30 and 11.30 am,

Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

Woolhampton Surgery Run:

Tuesdays—pick up points:

9.30 am Watermill Court & The Angel

THE BEENHAM SURGERY RUN

Sponsored by the Parish Council takes patients from Beenham to Chapel Row Surgery on Monday and Friday mornings.

Please make requests for this service to the Chapel Row Surgery. The volunteer drivers also collect and deliver prescriptions to Beenham.

We would welcome anyone willing to offer their time as a volunteer driver.

If you are interested in becoming a driver please contact Marion Jameson 9713094 or email-mazjames16@outlook.com

MOBILE LIBRARY

Beenham:

Wednesday

April 10th

Stoneyfields

3.30-4.15

Woolhampton:

Wednesday

April 3rd

Watermill Ct

10.25-11.10

Midgham:

Wednesday

April 3rd

Goddard's Drive

9.45-10.10

MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION

The magazine is distributed without charge to homes and schools in the area. But financial contributions, however small, are gratefully received. If you would like to make a donation towards the magazine please contact Brenda Scott.0118 9713113 awb.benefice@gmail.com

Welcome

If you have recently moved into our community, we hope that you settle into your new home and surroundings quickly. Hopefully this magazine will help you to discover what's going on in the area. You are especially welcome to come to any of the church services as listed in the magazine, and do please contact Rev Jane Manley on 9712891 if you want to find out more.

**All advertising enquiries to
Brenda Scott 0118 9713113
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MAGAZINE DEADLINE

WEDNESDAY 10th APRIL

12 noon at the latest

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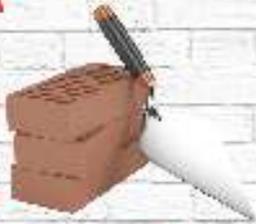
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