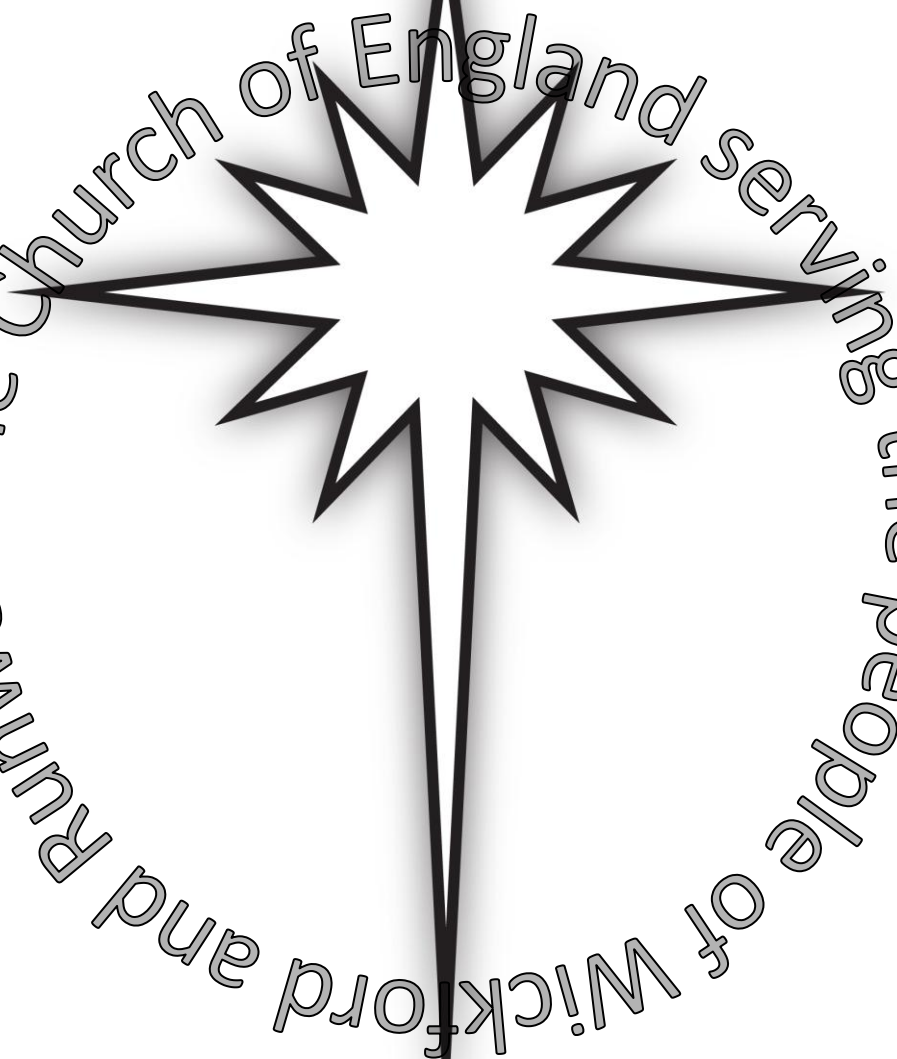


# Parish Magazine

January 2017



The Church of England serving the people of Wickford and Runwell

50p

## **Our regular monthly events include:**

### **Every week:**

Tuesday Meet and Make 2 - 4 pm St Andrew's Centre  
Saturday Coffee Morning at St Andrew's Centre

### **First week of the month**

Thursday Mothers Union - Quiet time (from 11-45 am) followed by lunch and meeting  
Saturday Coffee Morning in St Catherine's Hall

### **Second Week of the month**

Wednesday Coffee Morning in St Mary's Church Hall 10 am - 12 noon

### **Third week of the month**

Wednesday Mothers Union - 7:30 pm Meeting at St Catherine's Hall  
Thursday Prayer and Meditation - 2 pm St Catherine's Church

### **Fourth week of the month**

Wednesday Coffee Morning in St Mary's Church Hall 10 am - 12 noon  
Thursday House Group - 10 am at 2 Adam Way  
Saturday Men's Breakfast - 8:30 am (always last Saturday of the month) (not in March)

## **Supporting Basildon Women's Refuge**

Due to lack of space; Please only take items to St. Andrew's Church on the last FRIDAY (or as near as possible) of each month; then they can be taken to the refuge. If you are unable to take our offering to St. Andrew's then please do pass it to one of your Church Wardens or your Priest.

100 club winners

1<sup>st</sup>. P. Bartlett 2<sup>nd</sup> E Cox 3<sup>rd</sup>. R. Feldwick

# Coprophilia

Last month, in one of his more colourful statements of recent years, Pope Francis warned Christians against “coprophilia”. This was not a word I’d ever come across, but after scratching my head for a bit two helpful memories came to mind. First, I recalled that there is a road in my old hometown of Ipswich called “Coprolite Street”, which (I was thrilled to discover as a child) means “Fossilised Poo Street”. Second, “philia” is one of a number of ancient Greek words for love.

So, the Pope was warning us against a “love of poo”...*really?*! Hang on to your hats, though, because it gets even *more* colourful – Francis went on to warn Christians against behaving like “coprophagics” – “poo eaters”! ...*really?*!

The Pope used this extraordinary language because he was addressing an extraordinary situation, and wanted to make sure his point was made in an extraordinarily memorable way. It was a statement designed to make us stop and think. And it worked!

Francis was in fact tackling the recent fashion for publishing (and reading) fake news: “news” consisting of lies, “news” more concerned with undermining and discrediting those on the “wrong” side of a particular argument than with truth. There was much of this in 2016 – particularly during the Brexit and US Presidential debates. The trend has been so great that the Oxford English Dictionary has chosen “post-truth” as its word of the year! Many newspapers, news programmes, and news feeds were in 2016 often stocked with half-truths, full-on lies, implied mistruths, and elaborate fictions – some taken *directly* from the

mouths of those who have or who are seeking public responsibility.

*This* is the excrement Francis is warning us about. If you'll excuse my own blunt language (if the Pope can do it, why not a curate too?), he was saying this: don't publish crap and don't consume crap – a warning each of us should heed. I realise that clergy mouthing off about which national newspapers or websites contain hateful lies can often cause the rolling of eyes, the shaking of heads and the plugging of ears, but in 2016 we reached a point where to ignore it would mean we were complicit in hate towards individuals and groups. And that, of course, is the very *opposite* of the Gospel.

What should we do then? Is all lost? Personally, I have great hope because there is much we *can* do as individuals and as consumers.

We might start by considering that as Christians *how* we speak in public matters as much as *what* we say. One writer recently described this as “behaving in public” – I think that's helpful. So, in 2017, Christians could take a lead in demonstrating to others how to disagree well and how to express themselves lovingly. We can argue *lovingly* by trying – as best we can – to understand the arguments of those who disagree with us, by presenting our opinions and ideas with respect and sensitivity, and by actively looking for unexpected points on which we might agree.

We need also to support our elected representatives and journalists, praising them when they speak well and do well – and letting them know if they speak and act without concern for the truth. I believe Christians need always to speak with a deep

concern for the truth because we speak as followers of Christ “the Way, the Truth, and the Life.”

We could have a long philosophical discussion about what exactly “the truth” means, of course. For now that’s beside the point, though, as I’m simply suggesting we should express ourselves in ways that honour the notion that there is such a thing as “the truth”, however we understand it. Put simply, we should speak in ways that show we love the truth, and not in ways that show we love crap.

To me, this also means that Christians shouldn’t support newspapers and media organisations that show little regard for truth. That means any papers or websites that clearly spread mistruths, dodgy inferences, or groundless character assassinations. It might also mean thinking carefully about how social media sites distort our view of the world by reflecting our own interests back at us to the exclusion of other viewpoints. We shouldn’t – in other words – consume crap.

The Pope’s “poo eating” language might well amuse some and appal others; either way, it is intended to make us think carefully about how we want our media, our politicians, and ourselves to behave. For those who follow Christ the “Truth”, a “post-truth” world is not one we should look forward to, because – as is becoming increasingly obvious – it would also be a “post-love” world.

**Matt**

# Wickford and Runwell Mother's Union



Mothers' Union meetings in January

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>

12 noon Epiphany Corporate Communion Service in St. Andrews  
followed by a shared lunch

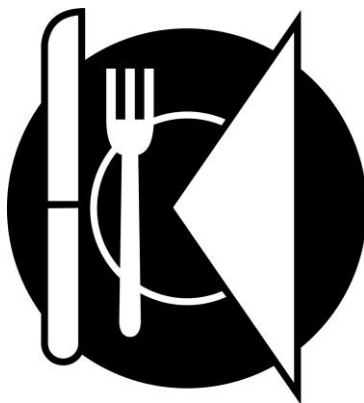
Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>

"50 years of Home and Family" in. St. Catherine's Hall

## St Catherine's "Meal on a Sunday"

January 8<sup>th</sup>

Tickets £4



Please contact Margery 462261 or Jeannette 452309 if you wish to come

Coming up in January and February!

## The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

"Pulpit Swap"

22nd January

We welcome ministers from the other Churches in Wickford and Runwell as they join us to worship and share the word!

## Lent Course

Starting week beginning 6th March  
forms for groups to be in church over the next few weeks  
provided by USPG

**"LIVING AN AUTHENTIC LIFE"**



# LEAD CHAPLAIN - BASILDON HOSPITAL



On 14th December 2016, I had the great privilege attending the licensing of the new Lead Chaplain, Linda Peall. Bishop John came to the prayer room with Jenny Tomlinson (Bishop's Advisor on Healthcare Chaplaincy) to present and license Linda.

Though the room is not that big it was filled with nursing staff, Trust management, clergy and friends - all this a huge testimony to Linda's continued excellent care and work at the Hospital.

The Gospel was the story of the Good Samaritan and Bishop John helped us reflect upon our 'getting involved' but also allowed us to reflect upon Linda's great compassion that she shows so readily.





The calling of her to the role was affirmed in the prayers and responses and we who had gathered there we encouraged to support her with our prayers and action. I know that the three churches in the parish (and especially at St Mary's where Linda and Bob worship) will continue to do that.



The Order of Service had the tree of life on the front cover (which looked rather like the Tolkein illustration!) and a quote from the voice of Merry and Pippin, the hobbits who challenge Treebeard and the ents to be involved (*which allowed me the opportunity to tease poor Jane who had the "joy" of sitting next to me!*). But this introduction and the service itself focussed us on our part in the care of others, especially in a time of need.

The refreshments were fab too! An outward show of just how much Linda is valued by the Hospital as a whole . . . .

Please hold her, her role as chaplain and the Hospital in your prayers.

**Jo**

Ála tira acca haiya! Mal si a vanya as márë órelyar! Namárië, ar nai aistalë Eldar ar Atani ar ilyë Lérialieron hílya le! Eleni sílar antalyannar!

*Elrond's blessing seems quite apposite here!*

A Team Eucharist to celebrate . . .

# The Presentation Of Christ at the Temple

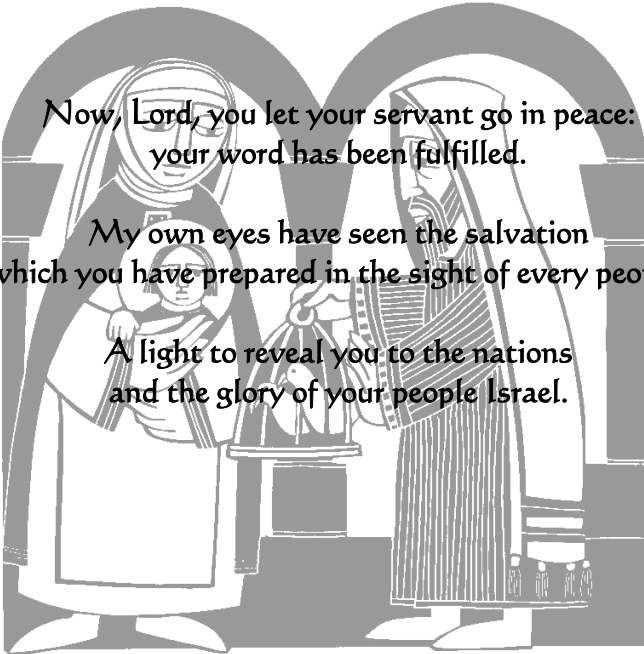
St Mary's Church at 10:30 am

An opportunity for us all to worship together

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:  
your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

A light to reveal you to the nations  
and the glory of your people Israel.



*FOLLOWED BY LUNCH . . . .*

St Mary's Murder Mystery Returns .....



Tickets are available (from the usual suspects)

*Linda Payne and wardens . . .*

once again:

at St Andrew's Church and Centre

February 18th . . . 7 for 7:30 pm

# Wickford and Runwell Youth

Our parish youth group meets every month. We enjoy a variety of activities ranging from visiting Base Jump at Rayleigh, going ten pin bowling, to enjoying a South African style BBQ. Every other month we meet for “Bible & Crisps” an opportunity to reflect on the Bible while we share crisps and snacks.

The group is open to anyone aged from 9.

<b>WARY group activities 2016 / 2017</b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>TIME</b>	<b>EVENT</b>
<b>Sunday 08.01.17</b>	<b>3:30pm – 5:00pm</b>	<b>Activity – TBC</b>
<b>Sunday 12.02.17</b>	<b>3:30pm – 5:00pm</b>	<b>Bible &amp; Crisps</b>
<b>Sunday 12.03.17</b>	<b>3:30pm – 5:00pm</b>	<b>Activity - TBC</b>
<b>Sunday 09.04.17</b>	<b>3:30pm – 5:00pm</b>	<b>Bible &amp; Crisps: Easter reflection</b>
<b>Sunday 14.05.17</b>	<b>3:30pm – 5:00pm</b>	<b>Activity – TBC</b>
<b>Sunday 11.06.17</b>	<b>3:30pm – 5:00pm</b>	<b>Bible &amp; Crisps</b>
<b>Sunday 09.07.17</b>	<b>3:30pm – 5:00pm</b>	<b>Summer BBQ</b>

The meeting point for activities and venue for Bible study sessions will be **27 Blake Hall Drive, Shotgate, SS11 8XA** unless alternate arrangements are made prior to an event.

**Contact:** Marina Bailey: 078007 60975



**Saturday 14th**  
**St Andrew's Church and Centre**  
**2 - 4 pm**

From our registers:

St Catherine's Church

Baptism

November 13<sup>th</sup>

Sidney Childs

Funeral

November 28<sup>th</sup>

Yvonne Picton

St Mary's Church

Baptism

November 27<sup>th</sup>

Casey Bohea

### **THE GATEWAY PROJECT**

The harvest donations this year have been good. However we are still in need of the following items:

*Cereals*

*Custard*

*Milk*

*Sugar*

*Coffee*

*Jam*

*Toiletries*

**Carry bags - URGENT!**

The Gateway Project is Wickford and Runwell's major ecumenical project

# Bishop Stephen's School for Disciples



Some of you will remember arriving at Christ Church in Billericay a few years ago, for a meeting with Bishop Stephen, when he encouraged us to think about the ways in which we look outward to our communities, and how, by doing that, we might make God's story and God's love known to our neighbours. As always, our bishop encouraged and enthused us - and he is planning to do it again.

On **2 February** the venue will be St Gabriel's, Pitsea, and this time we are invited to think about how we are or might be part of a 'school for disciples', how we go on discovering for ourselves and help others to discover what it means to live as Christians.

The plan is for six or more members of each church in the deanery to be there: is this something you would like to part of?

If so, please speak to one of the clergy, or sign up in church.

# SHROVE TUESDAY

28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017



Do you like pancakes but can't be bothered to make them?

If so, come along to St Catherine's Hall on Shrove Tuesday afternoon for a Pancake Party.

# A TRAIN TRIP



On the 15th August 2016 I was delighted and privileged to have a ride in the cab of a District Line train from Upminster to Richmond and back. This was the prize for sticking a pin in Turnham Green Station on an London Underground Map!

Aunt Bessie's Tea Room, that made an appearance the autumn before had the pin-sticking game on a stall manned by Fred, one of the congregation. He is a an LT (London Transport) train driver and the train trip was the first prize.

The trip had been postponed until the August when Fred collected me after lunch and we drove together to Upminster station. After booking s on we went down to the platform to meet our train.

Walking the length of the seven coach train we stepped into the cab for our journey to Richmond. Fred's seat was on the left, mine on the right. The controls were a 'dead-man's handle', two cctv screens, a telephone, intercom, horn, headlights, loads of switches



and a security switch (that would isolate the train if you took the key out) and two cup holders for our tea and coffee later on! I was delighted to learn that this S Stock train was virtually brand new and made in England by Bombardier from Derby. It was hard to imagine just how many relays and resistors must have been used in its construction!



Like all modern trains it deal seem a bit plastic. The corridor connections were full width with no traditional ends to coaches, so it was a clear view from one end of the seven coaches to the other. Everything was well made but for function not luxury!

When it was time to depart, Fred held the dead-man's handle in his left, pushing it forward and the train moved off briskly but without fuss. Richmond is the 41st station from Upminster, so rapid starts are important although the driver could control the line speed if require at junctions and at the approach to stations.

As far as Bromley the line is above ground and fairly straight, like any BR (British Rail) line, but once underground the line abounds with sharp curves, S-bends, uneven junctions and some speed limits. There are STOP markers at every station which, if over-shot by the driver, are noted by the controllers (and the driver is in trouble!).

The District Line from South Kensington has the Piccadilly Line trains running alongside as far as Turnham Green although they do





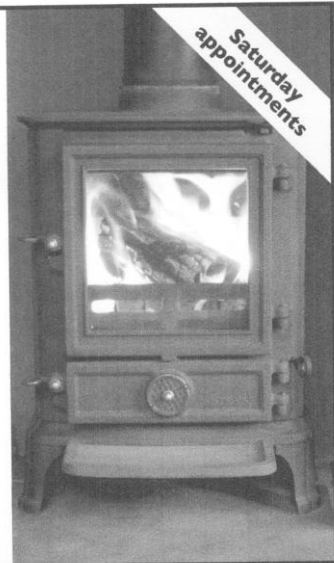
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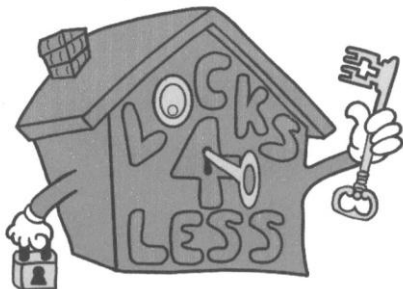
**01268 561234**

**[www.thechichester.co.uk](http://www.thechichester.co.uk)**

Advertising in the Magazine is simple. Just send the advert to [delfgou@live.co.uk](mailto:delfgou@live.co.uk) or contact Fr Jo on the number on the inside cover.

Charges for 2016: £26 small size - £40 large size - £75 half page per year  
The magazine is also found on our Church website increasing the circulation

10% Senior Discount



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Graham & Anita Hellewell

# WICKFORD AND RUNWELL TEAM MINISTRY

<u>CLERGY</u>	Jane Freeman	St. Andrew's Church	734077
	Norbert Mutuku	St. Catherine's Church	733147
	Jo Delfgou	St. Mary's Church	732068
	Matt Simpkins		765524
	Sue Wise (available Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday)		07941 506156
<u>Reader</u>	John Knowles		
<u>P.C.C.</u>	Vice-chairman	Pam Petts	734183
	Secretary	Sian Simpkins	765524
	Treasurer	Yvonne Branson	458778
	Electoral Roll Officer	Pam Petts	734183
<u>St Andrew's</u>	Churchwarden	Val Bryan	561446
	Churchwarden	Marina Bayley	424899
	D.C.C. Secretary	Marina Bayley	424899
	D.C.C. Treasurer	Mike Gibson	734293
	Hall Lettings	Reg Warne	766749
<u>St Catherine's</u>	Churchwarden	Richard Feldwick	733362
	Churchwarden	Andrew Morl	
	D.C.C. Secretary	Sarah Randall	
	D.C.C. Treasurer	Steve Lissenden	763670
	Hall Lettings		
<u>St Mary's</u>	Churchwarden	Val Harris	571933
	Churchwarden	Lyn Bear	421685
	D.C.C. Secretary	Coral Upham	
	D.C.C. Treasurer	John Skinner	456892
	Hall Bookings	Alan Jones	765360
		Linda Payne	732033
<u>Mothers' Union</u>	Enrolling Member	Jeannette Cardnell	452309
<u>Parish Magazine</u>	Editor	Jo Delfgou	

FOR INFORMATION ON **GIFT AID AND PLANNED GIVING** PLEASE CONTACT  
CHRIS BEAUCHAMP ON **762205**.

## SUNDAY SERVICES

<u>St Andrew's</u>	9:30am	Sung Eucharist
	6:30pm	Healing Eucharist ( <i>on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</i> )
<u>St Catherine's</u>	8:00am	Holy Communion
	9:30am	Family Worship
	11:00am	Sung Eucharist
	6:30pm	Evening Prayer ( <i>Sung Evensong 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday</i> )
<u>St Mary's</u>	9:30am	Sung Eucharist
	6:30pm	Taizé ( <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday</i> )

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

Monday	9:00 am	Morning Prayer at St Catherine's
Tuesday	9:00 am	Morning Prayer at St Andrew's
	7:30 pm	Eucharist at St Mary's
Wednesday	9:00 am	Morning Prayer at St Catherine's
	9:30am	Eucharist at St Catherine's
	10:30 am	Eucharist at St Andrew's
Thursday	9:00 am	Morning Prayer at St Mary's
	10:00 am	Eucharist at St Mary's
Friday	8:30 am	Morning Prayer at St Andrew's
Saturday	9:30 am	Morning Prayer at St Catherine's (on the first Saturday of the month)

## OFFICE HOURS

St Andrew	Saturdays	11:00 - 11:30am	in the Church
St Catherine	Mondays	7:00 - 8:00pm	in the Church
St Mary	Mondays	7:00 - 7:30pm	in St Mary's Hall

**Articles for the next Magazine to the Editor by 15<sup>th</sup> of the month**

**Thank you - email: [delfgou@live.co.uk](mailto:delfgou@live.co.uk)**

**And our website: <http://wickfordandrunwellparish.org.uk/index.php>**