Dear Friends of the parish of White Waltham with Shottesbrooke,

Autumn and the season of Harvest is here! Not quite such a big thing in this community as it is in the villages of Devon, but nonetheless a valuable time to think about our world and our place in it. Maybe increasingly important in the light of global warming, damaged ecosystems, plastic pollution etc etc etc!

We will have had our harvest service by the time this is in your hands, maybe we met and chatted? But our church is continuing to think about stewardship, and particularly our giving and our responsibility to look after our church building. We need to renew the heating system. This is necessary in order to feel comfortable at the services (imagine a Carol Service where you can’t see your breath?!) but also in order to preserve the church itself, the organ, and various parts. If you love the presence of your church in your community, and the opportunities to use it for whatever special occasions you have, then you might want to consider giving toward the heating project or general building fund and helping fix the holes in the roof now, and preserve this wonderful resource into the future. Please see the bottom of page 2 for more details.

(continued over)
A special service coming up is our ‘Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving’ (see also pages 21 & 34) We will have the opportunity to particularly remember and give thanks for the life of loved ones who have died, and to be encouraged by the certain hope there is for those who trust in Jesus. Feel free to come and use that time for your own benefit.

On Sundays we will be exploring the book of Judges. Do you remember ever hearing stories of Gideon and Samson? How about the king killed with the tent peg through the head, or the guy who was so fat that his flesh closed over the sword buried in his stomach?! If action or adventure stories are something that tickle your fancy, why not come and join us as we see what God might be saying to our society through these extraordinary events, any Sunday, 10:30am St Mary’s Church, White Waltham. The world of the Judges is sometimes dated to mid-14th to mid-11th century BC, more than 3000 years ago. Intriguingly, what we see most of all in the world of Judges, is the lack of God, and so the selfishness of man and the ensuing bad relations and suspicion between tribe and tribe, individual and individual. Living in our time we have received Jesus to show us God and His ways, and yet maybe, in some ways, the world at the time of the Judges is very similar to where we find ourselves today… Polite discussion about Brexit anyone?

Dave

Revd Dave Atallah

Tel: 01628 822000
Email: waltham.vicar@btinternet.com

---

**St Mary’s Church, White Waltham Appeal**

**Please help us make our Warm Welcome Warmer!**

We are fundraising to replace our breaking-down heating system and to repair holes in the church roof. This will make the church a more pleasant place to be in and also, importantly, help to look after the fabric of the beautiful building itself, preserving it for all the community!

**If you would like to give by direct bank transfer:**

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Remembrance Sunday Collections at White Waltham Church

On Remembrance Sunday a collection is taken during the Remembrance Service in White Waltham Church. As usual, the proceeds of this year’s collection will be shared between two charities: the Royal British Legion and Combat Stress.

The Royal British Legion provides lifelong support for the forces community and serves men and women, veterans and their families. Examples of the support they offer includes:

- providing help when applying for compensation and benefits
- support for sick, wounded or injured service and ex-service personnel
- respite and family breaks
- advice in managing money and support in managing debt
- providing education and retraining for those having trouble finding work when they have left the services
- giving practical and emotional support at times of bereavement

The Royal British Legion established and operates The Battle Back centre, to support wounded, injured and sick Service personnel in achieving their best possible recovery. It also runs six care homes and offers other services for the elderly and vulnerable including dementia care and mobility aids.

Combat Stress is the UK's leading veterans' mental health charity. They treat a range of mental health conditions including PTSD, depression and anxiety, providing support online, on the phone, in the community and at specialist centres. The charity is a vital lifeline for veterans and their families.

Combat Stress says ‘Our services help veterans cope with the present, tackle the past and take on the future. Some may find using just one of our services will transform their lives, others may need more to start living again. But our expert team will be there to help every step of the way’.

This year Remembrance Sunday is 10th November

The service at White Waltham Church starts at 10.45am and will be followed by a walk to the War Memorial in White Waltham where there will be a short Act of Remembrance.

White Waltham Parish Council invites members of the White Waltham church congregation and local residents to join them for refreshments at Holly Cottage after the wreath laying ceremony on Remembrance Sunday.
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Open the Book!

Recently my wife and I drove through the lovely countryside of Buckinghamshire to the beautiful country house with pretty gardens called Chenies. We went to hear an author talk about a new book he had written that had just been published.

Now although I enjoy reading, especially the newspaper each day, I don’t get through very many books…. In fact, going on holiday is the time when there seems to be more time, or more for me, with less distractions! I can get absorbed in a novel at the airport, on the plane or sitting on the beach for a short while.

This author, in his interview, explained where he got some of his inspiration: he might use some descriptive local scenery, he would search for details on the internet and he might use personal characteristics of acquaintances or even family problems he has come across.

So then I thought. This fellow is taking situations he knows and is weaving them into an interesting made novel – which he sells to make his living and which people buy, so they then Open the Book.

Now, parents and children in some schools, Open the Book for you is very different!

The stories take place in lots of different locations, have lots of different characters, good and bad, with lots of different problems they face – like we all do.

Sometimes the story from Open the Book may be read, sometimes it is a drama and it is often interactive! It can be history, a letter, poetry, observations in life or even talking about the future! But each of these presentations comes from the Bible. They are true stories about the Jewish people in the Old Testament and about Jesus and his followers in the New Testament. They don’t need to be woven to make up a novel as they are factual, informative and helpful for us, young or older. The Bible shows us how Jesus lived, died and rose again and the impact it had on his Jewish and non-Jewish friends. They were the first Christians. The Christian faith is still going strong after 2000 years.

Why not ‘Open the Book’, the Bible, for yourself and see what it says about Jesus? Mark’s gospel is a good place to start.

Bob

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Burbidge
...but I don’t believe in god...

Some people say to me they don’t believe in god, and many people live like that. This page is for you. Because I want to ask:

‘What god do you not believe in?’

Often when someone describes the picture of god which they don’t believe in, it is often a god that I don’t believe in either!

...a god who is irrelevant

‘Apatheism’ is the attitude of apathy towards the existence or non-existence of god(s).

You might say “I go to church for baptisms, weddings, funerals; I like a good Carol Service sometimes - it really makes Christmas doesn’t it?; but the rest of the time I don’t think God makes much difference does He?”

I want to ask:

- How or from where do you get your important sense and learning of what is right and wrong? How can you expect someone else to have similar values? Is there not a sense of an ultimate moral code?
- Where do those experiences of something ‘other’ or ‘greater’ come from? Whether the turn to prayer in the moment of fear or sadness, or the feeling of transcendent joy at the shared good fortune or the birth of a baby etc?
- From what can you get a sense of purpose and meaning to our lives beyond eat, work, sleep, die. From who can you get a sense of your value?

The Trinity God of the Christian faith is crucially relevant

He wants and deserves to be worshipped as your creator so you may best enjoy His wonderful creation.

He loves you and gave up His Son so that you might know Him and enjoy being in His family.

He has something to say about every aspect of your life, important or not: only in God can be found your great purpose, your infinite value, and your maximum joy.

Dave
Rev Dave Atallah
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St Mary’s Flower Guild

I expect that by the time you read this we will already have decorated the church for Harvest Festival. I hope that many of you will come to the church and take the opportunity to admire the displays. They will be there for a couple of weeks so you will have time to come and see.

OTHER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23 November: A Christmas demonstration and raffle. Come and see how to make your own table arrangement or wreath.

7 December: A Christmas workshop – you will now have the opportunity to make a table arrangement or wreath for yourself.

20 & 21 December: Decorating the church for Christmas from 10am onwards. More details nearer the time.

These dates could be subject to change so ring or email Liz or Julia (see below) for details nearer the date. All workshops and events will take place in The Tree House unless otherwise stated. Everyone is welcome to join us!

Liz Atlay 01628 778462 lizatlay1@gmail.com
Julia Hodgson 01628 821058 juliahodgson29@gmail.com

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Bob Crittenden

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What a fantastic summer term we have had in the academic year just gone by. The whole school production of the Lion King in the summer term was a roaring success! All the classes performed dances and Year 6 children performed in lead character roles. The staff and children really excelled themselves this year with the costumes and staging which would not have looked out of place in a West End production – there were lions, hyenas, a meerkat, a warthog and lots of other animals!

As with every production there are always a few tears from the Year 6 parents watching their children perform for the last time in their primary school. They have made us proud with all their accomplishments, academically with their brilliant SAT results and in other areas including sport where the netball team won the league and drama with their enthralling performances in the school production. We wish them all success in their secondary schools.

The new academic term also brings with it our new Foundation children and children in other year groups starting their school life at White Waltham. We love welcoming our little starters as they arrive with beaming faces, shiny new shoes and spotless uniforms eager to start their learning journey in primary school.

We have so much to look forward to this Autumn Term starting with four exciting residential trips for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 at Warwick Castle. This residential will tie in perfectly with their current curriculum topic of ‘Turrets, Tiaras, Knights, Dragons and Castles’ for the various year groups. Children will experience more than 1,100 years of jaw-dropping history at the castle. There is heaps of history including ancient towers, ramparts, peacocks, dungeons, birds of prey and one of the world’s largest catapults launching a flaming fireball, set in 64 acres of beautiful grounds! We are sure the children will have an awe-inspiring, unforgettable experience through this residential and learn so much about medieval history outside the classroom! As we are very fortunate to have Windsor Castle on our doorstep, children will also be visiting our local castle as part of their learning journey about medieval history.

(continued on page 15)
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The PTA has been busy organising a Macmillan Coffee Morning. This fundraising event helps raise valuable funds towards cancer support. Parents and children love baking and buying delicious cakes for this occasion! This coffee morning will probably have taken place by the time you are reading this, as will the annual Harvest Service at White Waltham Church where children bring in dry and canned food donations which helps support Maidenhead Foodshare.

As a Church of England school, Christian values form the foundation of our teaching. Every term we celebrate a special value like ‘Forgiveness’, ‘Compassion’, ‘Courage’ etc. This term we are celebrating acts of ‘Thankfulness’ in our assemblies and are really looking forward to giving Model British Citizen awards to children whose acts and gestures of thankfulness stand out.

We also look forward to welcoming prospective new parents and visitors to view our school at our Open days on October 10th, November 27th and January 17th at 10 am. This is a great opportunity as the viewing is accompanied by a detailed presentation. The visitors also have a chance to ask lots of questions and see our school in action. Please contact the school office on 01628 822533 if you wish to view the school on any of the above dates or at any other time. All prospective parents are welcome. You can also visit us on www.whitewalthamschool.co.uk to learn more about our academy.

Sunitha Province
School Business Manager
Children’s page

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Judges 6:1-7, 11-16, 25-35

Once the Israelites had moved into their promised land, they obeyed God, but not for long, so God let other countries invade.

The Midianites invaded every year, and stole all the food the Israelites had grown.

The Israelites had to hide in the hills.

After 7 years, the Israelites called out to God for help.

Gideon was secretly threshing wheat when an angel arrived.

The Lord is helping you, mighty warrior.

God said, I will give you the power.

I don't mean to be rude, but it doesn't look like He is

But my clan is the weakest in our tribe and I'm the weakest in my family.

I'll be helping you. Start by pulling down the altar built for Baal and build one for Me.

Gideon did as he was told (but he waited and did it at night).

In the morning, people came to complain to Gideon's father

If Baal is upset, he can take his own revenge, can't he?

Gideon sent out messages to call men to fight the Midianites.

and 32000 came.
Wordsearch
based on this month’s true story from the Bible
(see the page opposite)

weakest
helping
stole
Baal
tribe
Medianites
fight
rude
Israelites
altar
complain
night
food
power
God
clan
hide
grown
angel
upset
secretly
warrior
Gideon
messages

food god dec fish
ty helping gme
cnightirtssg
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St Mary’s Church, White Waltham

Little Roots Baby & Toddler Group

For babies and toddlers with their parents/carers

We meet from 9.00 – 11.15am on Mondays during school term time. Come when you can, go when you must – we have a lot of toys out for free play, as well as a craft activity, and at 10.00 we gather together for singing and a story followed by a snack.

We meet in The Tree House, which is located in the churchyard at White Waltham Church. Some parking is possible at the bottom of Church Hill, and more spaces are available in the yard of Bury Court Antiques (Alistair Price).

We would love to see you!

For more details
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Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving

Sunday 10th November at 6.30pm at White Waltham Church

This quiet, reflective service provides the opportunity for us to remember loved ones, to give thanks for all that they did for us, and to light a candle in their memory while discovering the difference that Jesus makes.

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A Brief Display

I remember the Festival of Britain of 1951. I was taken to the South Bank Exhibition by my father. We spent a whole day there. To a small boy the exhibits and their presentation was awesome. I was particularly impressed as the items represented so much artistic and scientific achievement. I simply could not believe it wouldn’t last for ever.

However, just months later the entire exhibition was dismantled. Nothing was to remain – except the Royal Festival Hall reduced to a decaying remnant. It was as if nothing had taken place. It was gone, never to return. It seemed such a loss, so much had gone into it and now it was no more. What had seemed permanent was swept away.

We need to accept the transitory nature of all things. Everything, whether coming from the hand of man or from a Divine source: the mountains and oceans and all else, will be swept away – nothing remains for ever. The output of our creative lives will be no more. Empires and civilisations will crumble. Life is brief. Everything we’ve done will pass away. All will disappear. We, the originators of artefacts and treasures, the things we cherish and everything needed for our existence will be taken – our brief appearance here will be concluded. We will have seen a glorious display during a momentary sojourn here. The Psalmist tells us ‘A mortal is as grass, he flourishes as a flower of the field. The wind blows over it and it is gone’. He will go and his works with him.

Bob Packer

NEW CHURCHYARD REGULATIONS

The Diocese of Oxford has recently introduced new churchyard regulations which require us to remove items which have not been properly authorised.

In particular, the following items are not allowed: any lighting, whether electric or otherwise; any glass shades; kerbs, fencing, railings or other demarcation; stone or glass chippings; individual gardens, including the planting of shrubs; plastic flowers and wreaths (other than poppies of remembrance); toys or other objects which are not part of a properly authorised memorial.

We have displayed notices asking people to help us to adhere to these new regulations by removing these items. Any items which were not removed from the Cremation Area have been carefully stored and can be collected by arrangement with Tony Hill on Tel. 01628 822654 or via email at hillhomewood@btinternet.com. In due course, any remaining items may be disposed of.

The complete set of regulations is displayed in the church porch.

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Throughout the year we have speakers, walks with pub lunches. Scrabble and arts & crafts groups are held at members’ homes.

Programme for October - December 2019

17th October  The Royal Flying Doctor  
Graham Laurie
21st November  Thames Valley Air Ambulance  
TBA
19th December  Christmas Social

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Where do you live?

As the old English saying goes: “spring is sprung”. Well, it has here in New Zealand just as you get towards autumn, the season of mellow fruitfulness when you can collect ripe fruit and vegetables.

I have just returned from my twice weekly round of delivering junk mail – you know, those useful pamphlets that appear in your letter box that you can use to light your fires with. While I was doing that, I was thinking about this article.

And I thought about how perfectly the seasons come and go and are essential to life on our planet. Then I thought: but just about everything about our planet is amazing and helpful, even essential, to our everyday lives. Of course, I’m not thinking about what we in our technological wisdom have done to our planet, I’m only thinking of the natural world.

We have a moon – without it, our oceans would become foul as the moon controls the tides which keep the oceans clean and suitable for all the fish to live in. Our world spins about its axis – great, because that gives us days and nights. Just imagine life if everything were always daytime… or night time?

Yes, our planet is in the perfect place to sustain life and is almost certainly the only planet where there is life. But what do people do? They send men to the moon! Why? Any benefits to life on earth are very small and I’m sure that the billions spent on these projects could have been spent much more beneficially. And they want to send men to Mars – again, why? Answers please to the email address at the end of this article!!

So where do you live? In a world created uniquely to sustain life and provide for the needs of the creatures also created to live here as well as to the pinnacle of creation – us!

Just to provide some balance to my views on space exploration, let me say that I really do appreciate the wonders revealed through amazing telescopes, like Hubble. These wonders are further amazing revelations of the incredible Universe that our God created. Made by men they reveal more and more of God’s limitless power and creative ability. And just think, He put you and me here on this perfectly located world where we can explore His wonders as far as the eye can probe.

Why did He do it? Because, as the Bible tells us, He wants a people who love Him and who acknowledge all that He has done, is doing (let’s face it, He keeps the whole Universe ticking over and not self-destructing) and will yet do. And I hear you ask, what will He yet do? Easy! He has promised to all who trust Him that He will give a huge extra gift – life which will never end in a world which, unlike this planet, is perfect. Ask any child, “Do you want to go to heaven?” and you know the likely answer. But ask an educated, mature, thoughtful adult and the answer may be different.

Ah well, my answer is “Yes” and I am sure that that is where my destiny lies for eternity. How about you? Where will you live then?

Eric Green

Shottesbrooke with White Waltham Parish Magazine   Page 27
A BIG THANK YOU

to everyone who helps to distribute these magazines to every household, and many of the businesses, in the Parish.

Your help and hard work is very much appreciated!
Promotion!

2019 Season
I am pleased to announce for the 2\textsuperscript{nd} year in a row that WWCC are celebrating promotion in the Thames Valley Leagues. This season it is our 1\textsuperscript{st} XI that achieved promotion from Div 4a, they will now be playing in Division 3 for the 2020 season where they could face local rivals Boyne Hill. Our 2\textsuperscript{nd} XI achieved their season target to consolidate in Division 6 after gaining promotion to this league the year before.

Juniors
We achieved a record number of juniors this season with 70 players aged between 5 and 16 attending training and playing matches throughout the summer at White Waltham. It is an area that the club is looking to build on in coming years as we invest in the future of our village cricket. On Sunday 8\textsuperscript{th} we held our annual juniors awards day at the club with over 120 players, families and friends attending. There were matches between the juniors and their parents, celebrations and a good BBQ to wrap up another fantastic summer of cricket at the club.

Recruitment
We are always seeking new players and social members to join our club. There is lots on offer for players of all ages from our All Stars aged 5 to seniors who can’t remember their age… With junior teams to accommodate all ages, a senior Sunday social side and 2 competitive league teams we have something for everyone. Please contact us through the website or Facebook for more details.

Sponsorship
The club are open to new sponsors for the 2020 season. If you are interested in supporting your local team please contact whitewalthamcc@sky.com
Website: www.whitewaltham.play-cricket.com
Facebook: @WhiteWalthamCC
Twitter: @WWCC_1879
Join Alexander Devine this Christmas for Windsor’s one and only festive dash!
Sunday 24th November 2019

Distance: 5K
Take in the iconic sites of Windsor
Run it, jog it, walk it, dance it!

!!FREE!!
adult Santa suit
& antlers for children

Register online now
www.alexanderdevine.org
Early bird discount
available until the end
of October
Are you interested in maintaining a 400 year old English tradition?
(No, we’re not talking about Morris Dancing!)

Bell Ringing….

- Does not require strength
- Just requires skill, patience, enthusiasm
- And the ability to climb stairs!

You are welcome to join us for a trial session to find out if it is right for you.

Interested?
Call White Waltham Church Office on
Tel: 01628 822000
or email white.waltham@sdb.odg.org.uk
Help with your Education/Training?
Have you left school, or will you soon be leaving school? Are you in, or will you soon be in, training or education? (Apprenticeship/college/university etc)
If you are under 25, and live in Shottesbrooke, or the civil parish of White Waltham (White Waltham, Woodlands Park, Littlefield Green, Littlewick Green, and part of Paley Street) or the South Ward of Hurley...
...then the Duell & Hawes Educational Trust may be able to help you with a grant.

Write for an application form to:-
Chairman of Trustees, Tony Hill,
Innings Lane, White Waltham, SL6 3RU.
E-mail:- Hillhomewood@btinternet.com
or Tel. 01628 822654

Want to advertise in this magazine?
Contact Bob Crittenden
Tel: 01628 822000
Email: waltham.vicar@btinternet.com
Parish Registers

Baptism

At White Waltham Church
8th September Leo Peter Yates, son of Richard & Anna Yates

Funerals

Burial of Ashes at White Waltham Church
23rd August Belita Parker, aged 68 (White Paddock)

Burial at Braywick Cemetery
6th August Albert James ‘Jimmy’ Rose, aged 77 (Northumbria Rd)

Cremation
19th August Pauline Keaney, aged 87 (Coleridge Close, Twyford)

Children, Young People and Families at White Waltham Church

Children and young people are welcome every Sunday

On most Sundays our children’s groups meet in church before moving to their separate activities during the service. There is a crèche for babies and a group for younger children in the Chapel Room in the church building. Older groups take place in our new building, The Tree House.

At festivals such as Christmas Day, Mothering Sunday, Easter Day and Harvest Festival, everyone meets together for an All Age Service.
Church Services for August & September

Services at Shottesbroke Church
are at 9am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month

Services at White Waltham Church
are at 10.30am every Sunday
with activities for children every Sunday

Messy Church is on Sunday 27th October at 10.30am
and on Saturday 16th November, at 4pm
See page 19 for more details

Remembrance Service
at White Waltham Church on Sunday 10 November at 10.45am
followed by an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial.
Refreshments afterwards provided by the Parish Council in Holly Cottage.

Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving
at White Waltham Church on Sunday 10 November at 6.30pm.
Come and remember loved ones, light a candle in their memory
and know the difference Jesus makes.
See page 21 for more details.

Do come and join us – visitors are always welcome
at White Waltham and Shottesbrooke Churches
Finding us online:
www.stmaryswhitewaltham.org.uk
White Waltham Church

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Thank you.

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