

Aldenham



Church - Newsletter



April - July 2024

St. John The Baptist
Always a welcome here!

Aldenharn Church, St John the Baptist

Coffee/Concert mornings

Saturday Mornings normally on the first Saturday of the month at the church.

Coffee 10.30 - Concert 11.30 (for up to 1 hour.)

Coming up!

April 6th - The Cazin String Quartet

Featuring Jerome McGuinness and Arthur Geoghegan, violins;
Samuel Teale Chadwick, viola; and Joseph Dawson, on cello for an exceptional
hour of fine music.

EXTRA CONCERT - April 20th

To celebrate the International Day of the Organ.

A special organ recital on our Harrison and Harrison instrument featuring students and organists from
Merchant Taylors School. Kindly led by Joan Stubbs.

May 4th - Pianist, Wing Tun Fan



Wing is a fourth year undergraduate at the Royal College of Music and at the age of 17
was awarded the Licentiate of the Royal Schools of Music (LRSM) in piano perfor-
mance. She has performed extensively in the UK and abroad as a soloist, with orches-
tra and with chamber groups.

June 1st - Classic Cabaret

Kevin and Cynthia O'Donnell often known as Classic Cabaret (baritone
and piano) started working more regularly together post children " grow-
ing up " mainly giving concerts all around the world afloat for various cruise lines.

Cynthia graduated from the Royal College becoming one of our leading women organ-
ists. In later years she has transferred her key board skills to the piano, becoming a sort
after accompanist. She's even quoted as saying she's happy to accompany her husband.

Kevin also an associate of the Royal College is acclaimed for his versatile baritone voice. He's just at
home performing in Opera or Oratorio as fronting big bands or singing in the more popular genre. For
many years he was to be heard on Radio 2 as the guest soloist on "Friday night is music night "



July 6th TBA

August 10th (NOTE DATE) - English Camerata

Sept - NO Concert but ART FESTIVAL

Oct 5th - Harvest Festival Concert, more later.

Everyone welcome!

Free entry, voluntary retiring collection.

Explore our beautiful historic building by making use of our 'Short Guide to the Church' boards'
or just come along to enjoy the refreshments from 10.30 followed by the concert.

Refreshment, cake and music, a perfect Saturday morning!

The weekly information sheet has more details of the music and all events
and services at the church.

Please sign up on the website if you would like to receive this or email
info@aldenharnchurch.com or scan the QR code.

(Some of the concerts are streamed live on the day and available for a period afterwards,
details are given nearer the time.)



'Times of departure are times of disclosure'

'Times of departure are times of disclosure'

I'm not certain where I heard these words but they seem to ring true. It is time for me to 'depart' from Aldenham. Having been Vicar for 24 years, the time has come to leave the parish for retirement. When I arrived in January 2000 to take on the position, I knew it would be for the 'long haul' but I never envisaged this long! There are certain advantages staying in the same post for a long time, especially the continuity and being able to really get to know one's church congregation and the wider community. I have 'travelled/accompanied' so many and been with them at very significant times in their lives, not least the 'rites of passage' Baptisms, Marriages and end of life through to funerals. These have been some of the most joyful and saddest times in which I have been privileged to share. In these times and moments that there has been 'disclosure' at the deepest level of our human lives; to have been part of them has brought such rich and diverse memories.



One of the most difficult parts of being a Priest and Vicar is that much of the time is spent dealing with the spiritual which cannot be seen. It is impossible to quantify/measure the results of ones work and ministry. It's not about numbers who attend services, nor the finances of the church, though the church cannot exist without them. Church records and numbers are recorded every year and trends can be seen, but in the end the 'kingdom of God' cannot be measured and is infinitely larger than faith communities. What can be seen and observed is how people's lives are changed for the good, especially through their contact and connection with the church. This change is often the result of Christian worship in all its various forms, and it has been an honour to lead the services here at Aldenham for all these years. I will really miss being part of the worship, which has so often 'disclosed' the glory of God in our midst.

Prayer is another area that cannot be measured or quantified and it has always been a vital part of being Priest and Vicar. I hope that over the years I have helped people to pray. I have always tried to make it a priority, especially in encouraging 'contemplative prayer' and 'retreats' as a way of 'drawing close to God as He draws close to us.' God disclosing and revealing Himself. At its heart Christianity is a 'revealed' religion, as God in Christ comes to us.

The best parting words I can leave you with are 'Fare Well in Christ.'

My last service will be Sunday 26th May, 6.30pm Evensong at which the guest preacher will be the Right Revd Jane Mainwaring, Bishop of Hertford.

Robert Fletcher

(What happens now! The Diocese will lead us through the procedure to be followed during the vacancy and we will report on proceedings through the weekly newsheet or the website.)

NEWS AROUND THE TEAM

⇒ FROM ALDENHAM

Sunday school or Children's church, as we are now calling it, has started well. We have a really good group of leaders who are keen to provide children with fun activities based on Christian stories from the Bible. With financial help from the Education fund, new resources and equipment are being purchased which will make it ever attractive to a growing number of children.

Christmas services were well attended. The Christingle service on Christmas Eve as, as always, a full church and it's always so good to see children and parents who have had either Christenings or Weddings or been involved in some way in previous years, come back to this service. It also raises much needed funds for the

Children's Society. The Christmas Eve Communion was held at 9.00pm which is more convenient for some who prefer to come to church earlier than the Midnight service. There was the option of the Midnight service at St Martin's, Shenley.

The Saturday coffee morning concerts are working very well and attracting increasingly more people and raising funds for the church. The musical artists performing are excellent and we have been treated to some exceptionally good and professional concerts. The coffee morning starts at 10.30am and the concert begins about 11.30am, lasting about three quarters of an hour. You can see the forthcoming programmes on another page. Do come and bring your friends.

The live streaming of Sunday and other services, weddings and funerals, is being appreciated by many who cannot attend. We now have six cameras which can view most areas of the building. We are also trying to work up a team of operators to work the system, so it doesn't depend on just one or two.

The heating system has finally been completed, after a very long and complicated process, particularly getting connected to the gas mains. We now have a brand-new boiler which is working well and much more efficiently than the old oil one and the oil tank has been removed as well. There are still some convector heaters linked to the system needing replacing which will add to the already increased heat in the building. The funds for this have been generously given by donors from the congregation, funds raised at events and a legacy.

Robert Fletcher



⇒ FROM SHENLEY

Greetings from up the hill in Shenley!

So, what's been going on here at St Martin's?.....

Well, as usual, quite a lot's been going on! Our little community is growing, encouragingly seeing small increases in numbers of attendance across the board.

We've been working to ensure our weekly services are consistent in style and feel, so that when new people attend they know what to roughly expect on any given week. Our church space is informal, we now have tables set up each week in a 'café style', enabling people to get to know one another and enjoy a cuppa during the service if they desire. For those who might not feel comfortable at tables, there are also two rows of chairs set up at the back where they can also sit too.

We're also making good use of our newly installed TV, with rolling notices on display to the public during the week when the church is open and we've also been using the TV and the informal church set up to host this year's team Lent course on a Wednesday evening.



On 1st March, the St Martin's Youth Group took part in the Watford FC Big Sleepout (see photo). We took our sleeping bags, jumpers and extra socks to join hundreds of other groups in raising money for four local homeless charities. We arrived at 7pm on the Friday evening and left at 7am the following morning – it was quite an experience, and what's even better is that our team raised around £700 for the cause, which contributed to the £50K

raised overall – we are very proud of our young people.

In terms of our church buildings, it's been a challenging start to the year. Our vestry floor is collapsing, and we needed the roof replacing over the parish rooms, which coincided with the heaviest downfall of rain we've seen for some years – so it's been a little soggy! However, what this has led to is the expediting in installing our accessible toilet. We're currently awaiting the faculty sign off from the diocese, however some of the clearing ground work is underway, so watch this space for developments.

With regards to our other groups/events, we continue to see an increase in Soup Lunch attendance, along with the Under 3s group, the Breakfast clubs and our newly introduced Sunday Club for children during our 10am service (however this has had to take a slight break due to the building work).

That's probably enough from me – want to know more? Then please do pop on up to St Martin's and experience for yourselves what we're up to.

With every blessing, Sarah xx

PS – on another note, with Robert retiring, please do reach out to me or anyone at St Martin's if you think we can be of any help, we're not far away and more than happy to support our sisters and brothers in the Aldenham community, we are one team (not just through the Benefice, but through Christ).



⇒ FROM RADLETT

In Radlett we continue to grow in number and depth of faith, following the priorities of our Mission Action Plan: children and families, deepening discipleship, ministry amongst the elderly.

We have begun a new Children's Church session during the service, held every third Sunday. Volunteers teach about the theme / Bible reading of the day, and the children have fun making artwork and crafting. It is wonderful when they report back to the congregation at the end of the service on what they have been up to. The Youth Choir continues to grow with regular new enquiries. Our Confirmation group for this year's

service (with Bishop Jane, Thursday 9 May, 7.30 pm at St. John's Church) has 9 children and 4 adults in preparation classes. These classes after church have been great fun, with a mixture of games and conversation, always with sandwiches and doughnuts of course!

Our four local schools have been in church this term for services and to explore the sacred space, and separately I have been giving talks and assemblies in each of their schools as well. In addition, this term I have been giving talks on the Christian faith to the Sixth Form of Yavneh College in Borehamwood. Our new venture of 'Sunday Fun Day' – a lively service with refreshments and activities before we head into church - has proved very popular and attracted new families to join the church.

In Lent we welcomed the Dean of Westminster, The Very Rev'd. Dr. David Hoyle, to his old parish

to give the annual Lent talk to the Churches Together group. On 24 March we were delighted to welcome John Hayes as our new Authorised Lay Minister. Our monthly Feast & Faith Bible study is still going strong, with usually 11 members attending. Our Saturday morning Bible study group 'ReConnection' also continues, alongside other Bible study groups throughout the week. Every few weeks we have a joint coffee morning with Radlett Reform Synagogue, and this will continue on a monthly basis from April.

We have appointed a group to review our care of older church members. A large project emerging from this will be the formation of a Pastoral Care Team, responsible for ensuring no one is 'left behind' in any sense, that all are offered visits at home including for Communion, provided lifts including to church, and that everyone is fully cared for.

At St. John's we were delighted to welcome the diocesan Racial Justice Action Group, including Bishop

Richard, for their annual meeting and away day on Saturday 2 March. St. John's now has a large number of regular hirers including the



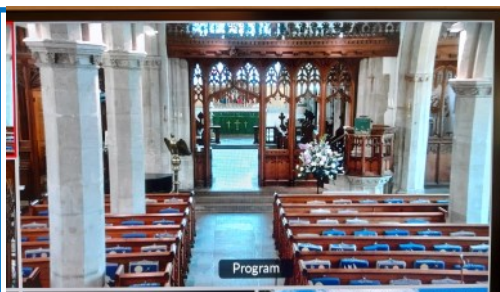
Strictly A Capella choir, the Radlett Musical Theatre Company, Brownies, martial arts, Singing Circle, zumba, and of course our own Tuesday Toddlers each week.

Looking ahead, we have booked a Pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral on 13 July. We are planning a Churches Together summer picnic on Church Field on 21 July, where we intend to renew our Covenant to ecumenical ministry and mutual support between the denominations. Thanks to the hard work of our wardens we now have permission to go ahead with a project to add solar panels to the Vision Hall. This year's summer Holiday Club for children and young families is planned for 6-8 August.

Ollie Blease



Join us 'live' at Aldenham



The Sunday morning service at Aldenham is streamed 'Live'

It starts just before 10.30 on Sunday or can be accessed at any time during the following week. It is a 'YouTube' link and you don't need an account to view it. BUT, you do need to log in to us to receive the weekly link, which you can do on the sidebar of the website, www.aldenhamchurch.com

By doing so you will also receive the weekly information sheet from the church.

We look forward to welcoming you, wherever you are!



Please be a

**Friend of
Aldenham Church**

St. John the Baptist,
Church Lane, Aldenham, Herts
WD23 8BE

Friends Contact
Cath Baker

info@aldenhamchurch.com

Easter through an artist's eyes

Have you seen a Stanley Spencer painting?

He was a twentieth century artist with a very distinctive style. Once seen, never forgotten! Most of his paintings were of people and scenes of Cookham, Buckinghamshire, where he lived all his life. He was trying to convey the spiritual dimension of life in the midst of familiar and everyday activities.

For many years a very large and well-known painting of his, 'The Crucifixion' hung on the front wall of Aldenham School chapel. It had to be sold to raise much needed funds. Many old pupils and staff members will remember the painting. It was a haunting, frightening portrayal of Jesus being crucified between two thieves, in a modern day setting of houses and rooftops. He shocked the Governors and pupils by painting the soldiers wearing Brewers caps and saying it was 'you' who nailed Christ to the Cross.

A truth about us all if we can accept it!

His painting of the Resurrection (see below) was inspired by John Donne's description of a churchyard being the holy suburb of heaven. He painted a country church and porch, surrounded by flowers, similar to our own church here at Aldenham, together with graves and vaults and leaning headstones. The newly resurrected people are emerging from graves to experience the joy of their new Thameside paradise. The Christ figure is sitting in the porch, holding a baby in his arms with a father figure behind him. A baby as sign of new birth and a new order brought about by the resurrection of the dead.

Stanley Spencer, in these paintings, was trying to portray the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ as closely as possible. The Gospel accounts describe the extraordinary astonishment of the first disciples of the mysterious resurrection appearances of Jesus. For some they didn't recognise him but slowly the truth dawned on them in different ways and then they believed! We can trust the Gospel accounts as being true and reflecting the difference it makes to our understanding of God and our lives in today's world.



THE ETERNAL KINGDOM

The kingdoms of the earth
go by

In purple and in gold;

They rise, they triumph,
and they fade

And all their tale is told.

One kingdom only is
divine,

One banner triumphs still;

Its king a servant,
and its sign

A gibbet on a hill.

G.F. Bradby



At Aldenham, St. John the Baptist Church.

Sunday school is running for children from 2-12 years old on the first Sunday in the month.

We welcome them into church for the first hymn during which they go to the church room and re-join us at the Communion when they can receive a Blessing at the altar.

Our team uses resources from 'Roots', relating to the Bible readings. Each week it offers ways for children to get to know about one of the readings and to explore how it relates to their everyday lives. To support this it provides songs, prayers, activities and games for children.

With the forthcoming installation of streaming facilities for these sessions they will be even more relevant to today's world.

ALL WELCOME - of course!

Aldenhamchurch.com info@aldenhamchurch.com



In time of need, we have Pastoral care!

Pastoral care for members of the church and wider parish community is a priority for us.

We have a Church pastoral care group who have been trained to respond to anyone in need - whether it be illness, bereavement, personal difficulty or a practical need.

We are here to help and support in whatever way we can. If you would like to talk to one of our group please contact:

Vicar 01923 854209 or Sue Barnard 01923 852754

I have attended a course in 'spiritual direction' and would be very happy to offer such assistance to anyone who would like to explore or know more about this, please contact me. [Robert Fletcher](#) (Vicar)

BOILER NEWS

AT LAST!

We can report that the new boiler, heat exchanger and associated pipework is finally in and working well after many months of waiting and negotiation.

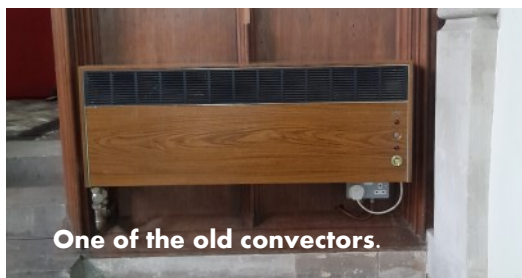
The result is a much more controllable and cost effective heating solution in our church. The biggest factor of this has been the enormous generosity of everyone in helping to achieve the amount of money needed to fulfil this project which amounted to £72,459 plus VAT. Most of the VAT we were able to claim back and along the way there were additional costs for the installation of the gas supply as previously reported which all added to the bill.

It was definitely 'Out with the Old and in with the new' to great effect and congratulations to the Installers who have made the new pipework a work of art and helped us so much along the way and their patience while we sorted out the problems with the gas people!

The old boiler will remain in the crypt for posterity to treasure but the old oil supply has been sealed off and the tank removed from the churchyard, so no more worries about the oil disappearing overnight!

Thank you so much to everyone who contributes to this either directly through a donation or indirectly by supporting our coffee/concerts, Art Festivals or other fund raising we have done over the last three years.

There is just one small matter of the four convector heaters that run off the system in the church which now the new system is running are clearly showing their age and in need of replacement before next winter. Always something!



- **Maintenance**
- **Heating/lighting**
- **Insurance/Diocese**
- **Upkeep of churchyard**
- **Keeping up to current standards**
- **Improvements**



It all needs funding of course!

We are so grateful to people who have helped with funds so far towards the boiler fund and the general maintenance of the building and churchyard.

There are always unexpected costs with this beautiful but old building and the list of needs is never ending.

Always remembering that we receive no income apart from your generosity and any social functions.

Details of ways to help us are on the website:

www.aldenhamchurch.com

- These can be by General or specific donations - Bank details on page 19, if for a specific purpose please put this in the reference.
- Stewardship - regular giving commitment, by far the most effective way to help us.
- Become a 'Friend', By Legacy or Will, see right.
- Or in church using our card machine or cash in the green jars.
- **OR - MONEY FOR NOTHING!**

Sign up to EASYFUNDRAISING naming us as your chosen charity and we will receive a donation from your online shopping with no cost to you - apart from a couple of extra clicks!

www.easyfundraising.org.uk
or scan the code.

(It really does work!)

We always collect Gift Aid where we can!

THANK YOU!



Legacies and Wills

Gifts in Wills

After providing for loved ones, a gift in your will to the Church is a lasting and valuable way to continue to support your church family.

It is also a way of thanking God for all the blessings we have received in this life.

All legacies that have been left to Aldenham church are

greatly appreciated. One specific legacy left to the church many years ago has helped to pay for many projects, repairs and improvements. With the passage of time that legacy is, of course, diminishing.

Every gift left to the Church, however large or small can make a significant difference in helping finance the church for the future, to safeguard and preserve the inheritance of our Christian faith for future generations.

Could you consider a gift to the church in your Will please?

THANK YOU!

WHY NOT READ THE BIBLE?

Jesus seems remote, irrelevant and ineffective in the greatly changed and challenging world of this century. What can St Paul with his complicated and difficult to understand letters possibly say to us meaningfully to-day? Indeed, does religion matter at all?

The bible seems to many people to be a bewildering jumble of history, laws, sermons, family trees, love poems and much else. But it is a vitally important story of a people who survived immense disasters which threatened their extinction and who managed against terrible odds to defy the stupidity, brutality, incompetence and destructiveness of great empires. Their voices still speak to us over time with important things to say. Theirs is the whole range of experiences from great joy to utmost despair.

They alone try to make sense of life. They ask does life itself have a meaning? If so, what is it? What is worth living for? How do we live successfully and meaningfully in life? They get the questions right and in working out the answers discover how to be open to the presence, love, guidance and inspiration of God which makes all the difference.

The story begins around 1250 BC, two groups of Israelite tribes are settled in Palestine, the other in Egypt where the Egyptians are forcing them to build imperial cities. Under their chosen leader, Moses, a few thousand of them escape crossing the desert and eventually meeting up with their kinsmen in Palestine where they settle. Theirs is a loose federation of clans separated by the Canaan cities which included Jerusalem.

Somewhere around 1100BC their world is threatened by the arrival of the Sea People, landing in high prowed boats, highly trained soldiers with chariots and iron weapons. They establish themselves in coastal cities. Trouble comes when they start to expand inland. The Israelites organise themselves and fight under the brave but erratic Saul who dies in battle. His successor David wins a series of brilliant battles and makes a new kingdom absorbing all the inhabitants in Palestine into it. But beneath the surface the bitter jealousies and mistrust between the northern Israelite clans and the southern ones simmer. David endures two rebellions in his kingdom during his reign, on his death his son Solomon succeeds him and finds he can only hold his kingdom together by means of standing army. On his death the northern clans rebel and form a rival kingdom.

The fate of the north and south kingdoms is sealed by the rise of Assyria to immense power. The north was completely wiped out in 722BC and the south in 586BC. But this time by the Babylonians, the successors to Assyria, the leading citizens were taken away into captivity in Babylon and Jerusalem with its temple destroyed. Out of the sense of failure and dereliction comes the assurance that God cares for them and gives them the strength and courage some seventy years later to return and begin the daunting task of rebuilding Jerusalem and the temple.

In the background is the belief that someone will one day come from God and restore Israel to its former glory. When he comes, however, he isn't at all the person they expect.

The New Testament is the story of one man, Jesus, his three public years, His execution outside Jerusalem and his amazing effect on his followers. Through an ever-growing circle of followers there comes into being a fellowship of great joy and certainty that although dead, Jesus is still with them spiritually and is the son of God.

This then is the story of the bible, one of the great books of the world. It is a book available to all. Its news is for everyone and its truths for everyone. A means of living happily and successfully in the uncertain times of to-day.



- **Great art, 500+ pictures**
- **Fill that space on your wall**
- **Two long weekends to browse and have tea with friends**
- **(One of the biggest art exhibitions in Hertfordshire)**

Fri, Sat and Sun, Sept 13th - 15th & 20th - 22nd

Fri & Sat 10 - 5pm, Sun 12 - 4:00pm

Entry by donation, children free, refreshments, toilets, step free access.

At Aldenham Church

**St. John the Baptist, Church Lane, Aldenham,
WD25 8BE (Near Radlett, Bushey and Watford)**

www.aldenhamartfestival.org.uk

Kindly supported by Aldenham Golf & Country Club,



Scan me & share!



Easter Ducks

Hand crafted by Monica and Rosemary, these knitted ducks caused great delight for us and probably many grandchildren with the added bonus of a Crème Egg inside! They produced an awful lot of these in aid of church funds - their needles must have been red hot! Huge thanks!!



NETHERCOTT

**Independent Family Funeral Directors
and Monumental Masons**

Established 1911

- ♦ CARING AND QUALIFIED STAFF
- ♦ 24-HOUR SERVICE
- ♦ DEDICATED CHAPEL OF REST
- ♦ NEW MEMORIALS
- ♦ MEMORIAL RENOVATIONS
- ♦ PRE PAID FUNERAL PLANS

**20 ALDENHAM ROAD
RADLETT
WD7 8AX**

Tel: 01923 852 899



Golden Charter
Funeral Plans



www.nethercott-funerals.co.uk

Come in and see!

Admire the 12th century font, our beautiful mosaic floor and stunning stained glass windows.

Our short guide will lead you round the key features in our historic building when you can spot many other fascinating features.

Everyone is welcome!

Dogs are welcome!

Walking boots are welcome!

We have met people who have lived in and around the village for many years who have admired the outside of the church but never been inside thinking it is somehow, reserved for its congregation.

Not True!

It is true that the building is locked up most of the time for security reasons but when open you are all welcome.

Come and admire our 750+ year old building, it is amazing and has lots of historical interest.

We are open every first Saturday in the month for our coffee/concert mornings from 10.30 or if there is a group that would like to visit then do get in touch to:

info@aldenhamchurch.com

(Also open for services at 10.30 and 6.30 on Sundays of course!)

We hope to see you!



www.aldenhamchurch.com



Follow, like and share us!
@Aldenhamstjohnbaptist

If you have some good pictures for us to share, please send them with any text to
info@aldenhamchurch.com

Space to hire

Our beautiful church and church hall are often used for events other than religious purposes and we welcome all enquiries!

The Church Room

Is ideal for:

- Smaller meetings and Committee groups around for up to around 25 people
- Social groups, art groups or Children's activities etc.
- Music practice or rehearsals

And has:

- Separate entrance
- Toilets (one disabled with baby changing facilities)
- Small grand piano and another keyboard
- WIFI
- Kitchen facilities
- Heating/Air Con

The Church

Suitable for:

- Larger groups, 100+ people.
- Concerts and recitals with superb acoustics!

And has

- Its own kitchen facilities
- WIFI and live streaming capabilities
- PA system with radio mics, Bluetooth and CD player
- Grand piano, keyboard and organ
- Children's area
- Padded seating for over 120 people.
- Toilets
- Step free access

So if you are looking for somewhere to meet then look no further than here.

**Email in-
fo@aldenhamchurch.com**

to get in touch or look on the website for more information.

www.aldenhamchurch.com/hire-us/



Christianity! True or False?



I don't know about you, but from time to time I have to take a hard look at what I really believe. I have a lot of sympathy with doubting Thomas who wouldn't believe Jesus had really risen from the dead until he had actually placed his hands on Jesus's wounds. (A gruesome thought.) A week later he got his chance and that clinched it for him. But the disciples weren't convinced either, when they first saw Jesus, they thought they were seeing a ghost. How did he convince them that it was really him in the flesh? He simply asked them for something to eat and what did they give him? Broiled fish and honey comb, a curious meal, which he calmly ate in front of them, perhaps with an amused smile on his face. As we all know ghosts don't eat. So, these facts tend to reassure me.

Then I think of the most meticulous examination of the documents by generations of experts whose conclusions uphold the substantial accuracy of the Gospels. Then there are those amazing words of Professor C. H. Dodd "The more critical our examination has been, the more sure we become that here is a real Person in history, many sided, often perplexing, certainly too great to be reduced to any common type, and not fully intelligible to us, but for all that unmistakeably individual, strongly defined in lines of character and purpose, and challenging us all by a unique outlook on life. Browning was right,

That one Face, far from vanish, rather grows,

Or decomposes but to recompose.

After the discipline of historical criticism we do know Jesus better and whatever was faulty in the traditional Christianity that has come down to us, or in our apprehension of it, is confronted afresh with the Reality which started it all."

Finally, I think that the writers of the Gospels were very honest men whose every wish was to be accurate in what they wrote. Why wouldn't they?

Bob Clark

Are we in touch?



Our weekly Pew sheet is sent by email and also available in church on Sundays. It tells you what is happening each week; the link to the 'Live Stream' details of the Sunday services, and other news and is the ideal way to keep up to date.

If you are not already receiving your copy why not let us know your email address by sending it to: info@aldenhamchurch.com

OR you can use the 'Sign Up' box on the right hand side of the website pages

Why Three Words can matter.



Now that the days are getting longer, and hopefully warmer, thoughts of visits to the countryside by walks and cycle rides or even car trips become opportunities to get out into the country.

However there are risks to going out if something should go wrong.

My personal experience last November brought home to me how valuable a tool a mobile phone can be.

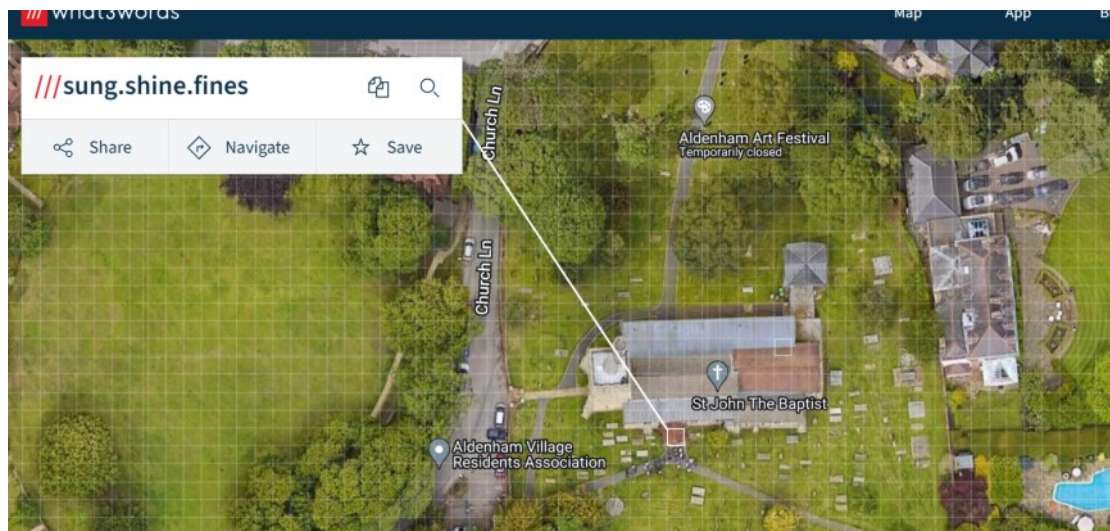
I was on my own and had fallen to the ground and very badly injured my hip. I called my wife who on arriving said an ambulance is required and she called 999. On the question where is the injured person she had the sense to use the 'What3Words' app on her phone. I was on a long bridle path between roads at each end, but difficult to describe exactly where by any other means. The call handler took the three words and stated 'I know where you are' and proceeded to send an ambulance crew to recover me.

So having the 'What3Words' app, with the mass of identifiable 3mtr by 3mtr squares it contains, means pinpointing a casualty is relatively simple and time saving. The emergency services state that using 'What3Words' saves time on every 999 phone call they receive.

I would strongly recommend it, it certainly helped my situation.

Roy Adcock

Go to www.what3words.com or download the app to find your words!





We need more people to help with things both at church please with the general duties, admin and organising the Art Festival.

- ◇ **IT and Clerical**
- ◇ **Churchyard maintenance**
- ◇ **Weekly coffee rota**
- ◇ **Sidesman rota**
- ◇ **Readers rota**
- ◇ **Servers rota**
- ◇ **Etc.etc**

Can you help in any way please?

Please contact Ken or email
info@aldenhamchurch.com

From the Registers

Baptism

10th December Ebony Smith

Wedding

3rd February Jack Hobhouse and Isabel
Holland-Hibbert

Funerals

6th February Sandra Gilson

9th February Dennis Day

27th February Lee Goldhill

5th March Nigel Bassett

Special Service Days & Events

Sunday 28th April

10.30am. Parish Communion
followed by the Annual Parish Church
meeting

Saturday 4th May

Coffee/Concert with Pianist Wing Tun
Fan. See inside front cover.

Thursday 9th May

7.30pm Ascension Day Confirmation
service at St John's, Gills Hill.

Sunday 19th May

10.30am Pentecost Sunday, Matins

Sunday 26th May

10.30. Trinity Sunday Communion
6.30pm Robert's last service with us.
A team service with the Right Revd
Jane Mainwaring, Bishop of Hertford as
guest preacher.

Everyone welcome!

Saturday 1st June

Coffee/Concert with Classic Cabaret
See inside front cover.

Sunday 23rd June

10.30am Patronal Festival Eucharist

14th July

10.30 Family Pet service



BAPTISMS



WEDDINGS

FUNERALS



St. John's Aldenham is here!

Contact: info@aldenhamchurch.com

www.aldenhamchurch.com

Regular Services at the Church.

The main Sunday services are at 10.30am and Evensong at 6.30pm

Communion is offered in the traditional manner with wafers and chalice, the chalice is optional and to receive the bread only is perfectly alright and valid. Refreshments are served after the morning service in the hospitality area with everyone welcome.

More information and the order of services appears in our weekly email bulletins and special service days are mentioned opposite.

More information can also be found on the website at www.aldenhamchurch.com.

Scan the code for easy access!

Otherwise normal services are:

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| 1st Sunday | BCP Communion |
| 2nd “ | Family Service |
| 3rd “ | Matins |
| 4th “ | Common Worship Communion |
| 5th “ | Matins |

We always welcome enquiries for Baptisms, weddings, funerals and other occasions including letting the church and church room for other purposes, see page 14.

Please contact the Vicar or Churchwarden for more information.

(Scan the code for direct access to the website where you can make an enquiry.)

General donations

If you would like to make a donation you can do so on line with the following Bank details:

*St John The Baptist Aldenham Parish Church.
Account no 90100668 Sort Code 20-74-09.*

Thank you!

GET IN TOUCH...

TEAM VICAR (until end of May)

Robert A Fletcher

01923 854209

r.a.fletcher@outlook.com

CHURCHWARDEN

Ken Haslar

ken@aldenhamchurch.com

TREASURER - Jill Gillam

jillgillam@hotmail.co.uk

CHURCH SECRETARY

Linda Lambert

lindalambert30@btinternet.com

STEWARDSHIP

Catherine Baker

cathbaker@gmx.co.uk

FRIENDS - Catherine Baker

cathbaker@gmx.co.uk

TOWER MASTER

(Bellringers) Roy Adcock

royadcock98@gmail.com

ORGANIST/CHOIR MASTER

admin@aldenhamchurch.com

FLOWERS

Di Marsh, di.marsh@sky.com

WEBSITE

info@aldenhamchurch.com

NEWSLETTER - Ken Haslar

info@aldenhamchurch.com

GENERAL ENQUIRIES

enquiries@aldenhamchurch.com

VISIT US AT

www.aldenhamchurch.com

for information about the church and what's on, or send us your email to receive the latest information.

Address for post:

*The Vicarage, Church Lane,
Aldenham, Radlett, Herts
WD25 8BE*





ALDENHAM
GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB



Aldenhams Golf & Country Club, Church Lane, Aldenhams, Radlett, WD25 8NN

Tel: 01923 853929

Email: sales@aldenhamsgolfclub.co.uk

Web: www.aldenhamsgolfclub.co.uk

P•BRANT

& SONS LTD

Established 1939

Telephone 020 8950 1804

Email info@brantandsons.co.uk

- ◆ New memorials and renovations by craftsmen
- ◆ Hand lettering specialists
- ◆ Colour brochure available
- ◆ All memorials erected to BS 8415-2018

Showroom and workshops
5 Park Road
Bushey
WD23 3EE



BATTLERS GREEN FARM

RURAL SHOPPING VILLAGE & TEAROOMS



Fine quality produce, goods and services in one of England's most pleasant locations – with **free** parking

A lovely farmyard setting and over a dozen prestigious retailers including a tearoom and the long-established Farm Shop with its superb range of high quality food and wines.

Common Lane | Radlett | Herts | WD7 8PH

T | 01923 856551

www.battlersgreenfarm.co.uk