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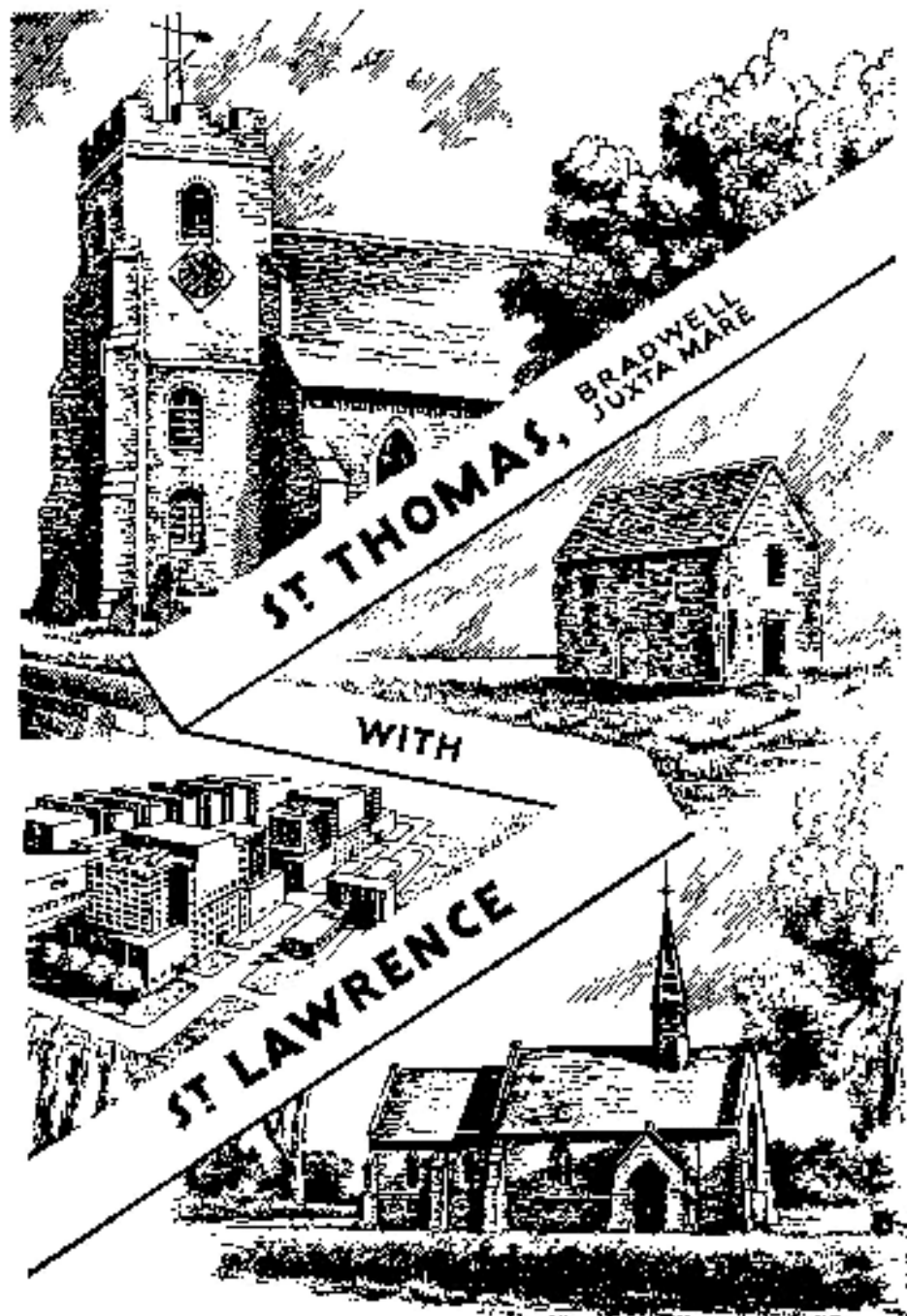
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JANUARY 2024

Village View

PAROCHIAL INFORMATION: BRADWELL-ON-SEA

Rector Revd Steven Poss 779820

Churchwardens: Theresa Reed 776247
David Thorpe 776848

School Head Teacher 776219

Village View Co-ordinator Bradwell Women's Institute
Roger Scurrell 776341 Secretary: Mrs T Reed 776247
Village Hall, 2nd Wed 19.30

Church Flowers David Thorpe 776846

Flowers at St Peter's Chapel David Thorpe 776846

Bell Ringing - Tower Cap-
tains:
Laurie Main 776438
John Pryke 776260
St Thomas Bradwell Fridays
Practice 7.45, Sunday ringing
09.30 am

Thursday Club
St Thomas' Chapman Room -
1st Thursday of month 2.00
- 4.00
Sheila Edwards 776517

Rainbows 5 - 7 yrs
Brownies - 7 - 10 yrs
Guides - : 10 - 14 yrs
for information phone
07757636446 or email enquiries@girlguidingesssexne.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding
Representative Graeme
Eyre 776981/07985520634

Pastoral Assistant:
David Thorpe 776846

Age Concern 01245 264499
Two Rivers Association for
Age Concern

St. Cedd's School Parent-
Teacher Association
Secretary: Contact School
776219

Parish Council
Matthew Neall 776956
Parish Council meetings Vil-
lage Hall, 3rd Monday 8.00pm

P.C.C. Secretary
Mrs Jayne Hill 776317

Othons Community
Warden Debbie & Richard
Sanders 776564

St Peters Chapel Chaplain
Rev S Poss 779620

District Councillor
Matthew Neall 776956

Bradwell Flower Show
Committee Secretary:
Teresa Fowler 776588

Village Hall Trustee's
Chairman: R Scurrell 776341
Bookings: Mrs J Allen 776547

Crime Stoppers
Anonymous Crime Report-
ing 0800555111

Badminton/Table Tennis
Village Hall
Tuesdays 7pm John Noble
jbn_bradwell@hotmail.com
Fridays 10am Ann Barrett
theannbarrett@gmail.com

Bradwell Quay Yacht Club
Secretary: Mr R. Price 890173

Mobile Library
Every three weeks Thurs-
days
East End Rd. Bradwell
10.55—11.25am.

The Medical Centre
Tillingham 778383
Out of hours 111

The Trinity Medical Centre
Mayland 745400
Out of hours 111

Local Police Team Phone
Non Emergency 101
Emergency 999

Bradwell Bay Football Club
Youth Football Team Con-
tact Krysta Collins Practice
Village Hall Field Saturday
9am

If any of the above information is incorrect or you wish to publicise your organisation then please contact Roger Scurrell on 01621 776341

PAROCHIAL INFORMATION: ST. LAWRENCE

Rector Revd Steven Poss 779620

Churchwardens: Jane Pudney 772345
Gerry Lewsey

Village View
Eunice Siggins 778904

Children's Society
Eunice Siggins 778904

St Lawrence PCC Secretary
Victoria Eley
v.eley@icloud.com

Parish Council Chairman;
Chairman: Marian Gibson
clgibson.slpc@gmail.com
Clerk to the Parish Council:
Kevin Money
slparishclerk@gmail.com

District Councillor
Linda Hayward
Clr.Linda.Haywood@maldon.gov.uk
Wendy Laybourn
Clr.wendy.laybourn@maldon.gov.uk

Stone Sailing Club
(Weekends) 779344

Church Flowers
Margaret Cowell 779219
Janet Cowell 779310

St Lawrence Singers
Friday at 5.45 - 7.00pm
Shirley Masterson 07956
799989 .

Pebbles
10.00 - 12.00noon
Carers and toddlers get together
for tea, coffee and a chat
Rev S Poss 779620

Bridge Club
Monday at 1.30pm

St Lawrence Social Club
Secretary Gwen Adams
778386

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07757636446 or email
enquiries@girlguidingesssexne.org.uk

Coffee Morning
Tuesday 11.00am
Maureen Storey

Women's Institute
2nd Wednesday 7.30 pm at
Church Centre
Secretary: Eunice Siggins
778904

Thursday
St. Lawrence Art Group
10 - 12noon Stone Sailing Club
Bob Dorks 778392

The Friends of St Lawrence
Newland Church
Carole Taylor 778523
John Barnes 779267

Church Centre Bookings
All Church Centre bookings:
Eunice Siggins 778904

St Lawrence Village Hall
Karl Terkelsen
Bookings: Marian Gibson
01621 778102

Mobile Library
Every 3rd Thursday,
Jubilee Field car park
11.40 - 12.10

The Medical Centre
Tillingham 778383

William Fisher Medical
Centre 772360

Trinity Medical Centre
Mayland 745400

If any of the above information is incorrect or you wish to publicise your organisation then please contact Shirley Lea on 779403

**To advertise in Village View email
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**Can you contribute to Village View?
Do you have news you would like to share
with others.**

**Promote your Hobby or organisation
news.**

**Please let us have your article by the 15th
of each month email
stthomaspc@btinternet.com.**

From the Vicarage

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year!

As we enter 2024, we plan new beginnings and ventures for the coming year.

Personally, I am very much looking forward to preaching at St Paul's Cathedral at Evensong on Sunday 28th April. Further details can be found in this paper.

Our Diocesan Bishop Guli, writes in her New Year message:-

When, I wonder, do you take down your Christmas decorations? The timing of this can be a hotly debated topic. Are you someone who likes to get rid of the clutter and back to normal as soon after Christmas as possible, or do you prefer to let the decorations linger as a lasting reminder of the festive season during those dark January evenings? Either way, it's good to be reminded that in the life of the Church, the season of Christmas doesn't stop with the coming of the New Year, nor indeed on twelfth night. Strictly speaking the Christmas season continues through to Candlemass, which this year is on the 2nd of February. But more important than that, the hope of the message of the Christmas story - of God being born among us, sharing our lives so that we might know that even in the darkest of circumstances, God's light still shines on – this message remains true throughout the year.

None of us knows with certainty what the New Year holds for us, and for our friends and family. As we listen to the news, there are many situations globally, and indeed closer to home, which may well leave us feeling unsettled and uncertain. But it's at times like these, that it's even more comforting to hold on to those eternal truths of the Christmas story. And to know that the good news of Jesus' birth is not just for one season, but brings hope and joy, comfort, and peace throughout the year. And so whatever you may face in the year ahead, I pray that the hope and joy of Christmas will last far beyond the lights and decorations whenever it is that you take them down.

God bless,

Reverend Steven





**St Paul's Cathedral Evensong
3pm Saturday 28th April 2024**

Preacher: Revd Steven Poss

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Bradwell WI

Wednesday 13th December at the Village Hall

Our annual Christmas party featuring the Tillingham handbell ringers

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INSPIRING WOMEN

Our last meeting of the year was our annual Christmas party. The Tillingham handbell ringers kicked off the night's entertainment with their fabulous renditions of some classic Christmas carols to get us all in the Christmas spirit (although John's Christmas cracker jokes didn't go down quite as well!). Some of our ladies also tried their hand at it. They assured us that the professionals made it look much easier than it actually was!

After the entertainment, we tucked into our buffet and Pat's famous mulled wine before playing our traditional pass the parcel with forfeits. It was a great evening and a perfect end to a fantastic year for our WI.

Our next meeting is on the 10th of January in the village hall for a beetle drive with our Carol as host.

New members are always welcome, so please feel free to come along!

If you have any questions about what we get up to, you can contact Sue Pirret on 07824696807 or sue@dailygrindimports.com

Alice Nightingale

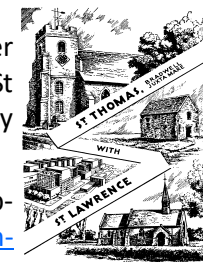
Village View

All copy for the February Village View should be sent to Roger Scurrill by phone (776341), posted through the letterbox of 6 St Thomas' Row, Bradwell, or by email to the address below, by January 15th.

Copy may also be submitted as a text or Microsoft Word or Publisher file, either on CD or, better still, by email to stthomaspc@btinternet.com. We ask you to limit your article to 300-350 words and please include a picture.

We apologise but **no articles will be accepted after January 15th**.

If you belong to an organisation that does not yet submit articles for the Village View we would like to hear from you even in longhand if you do not have access to a computer. Any news you have is always very welcome.



The Othona Community in January 2023

All at Othona hope you had a Christmas filled with love and hope, and we share with everyone our best wishes for 2024.

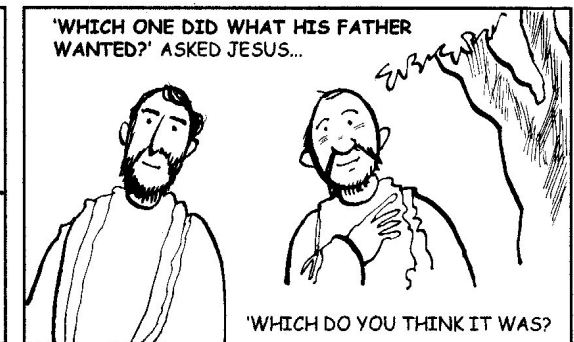
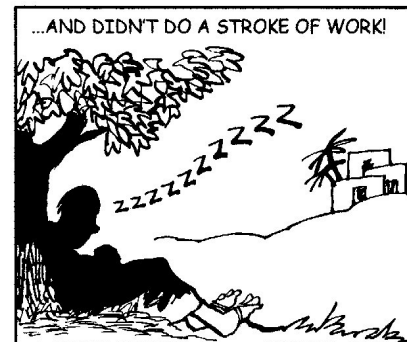
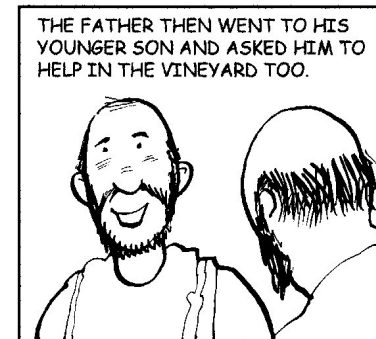
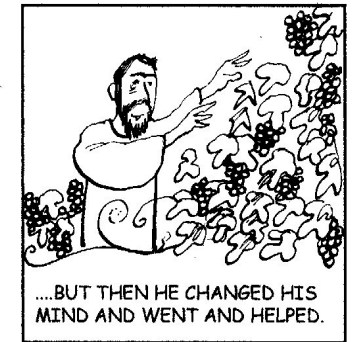
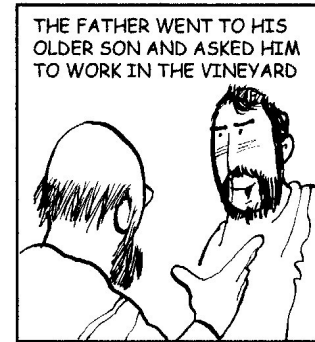
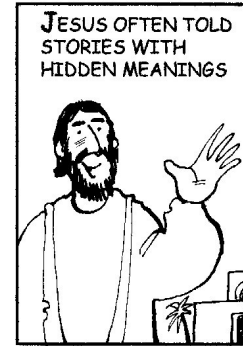


2023 has been an exceptionally busy one - for all the right reasons. Hardly a day has gone by without the wardens and core team welcoming new and returning faces, during Open Community times, for groups and private family bookings, for individuals seeking a place and gentle company in times of personal stress – and for plenty of people who love Othona, or are curiously peeping in for the first time, for that ever-offered cuppa. The resident group, even with regular volunteers, is small for the amount of thinking and praying, planning and organizing, nurturing and sustaining that underpins this unique Community. Even so, Warden Debbie still has time to write a regular Newsletter, emailed round to Members, and those who opt to be on the mailing list (your name can easily be added, if you just let Debbie know your contact details.) here below is extracted from the latest Newsletter:

British Legion We have now got a new part-time person to help with the office administration. Kristie started at the beginning of December and is doing a great job of speeding up response times in the office. Hopefully you will have a chance to meet her in 2024. Sadly Floriane (Flo), our French volunteer, is leaving us in January to go to NZ. It has been lovely to have her here for what will be 6 months, she has done some fine French cooking and been a pleasure to have here. Our second French volunteer, Paul, is with us until March next year and is also a great benefit to the team. We are hoping to apply for two more French volunteers next year if possible. We are also fortunate to have George Harp, who many of you will know, with us until the summer. We very much appreciate the hard work of our younger volunteers, along with all the fantastic band of volunteers that come regularly to give their precious time here.

The first two weeks of December were relatively quiet here but that allowed for some valuable maintenance time both inside and outside. We had the pleasure of hosting the first group from St Ethelburga's Centre for Peace and Reconciliation (St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace (stethelburgas.org) as part of their lifelines project. This project connects community and faith groups with farmers to help plant a network of hedgerows and wildlife corridors across the country. The first hedging plants were put into the 11 acres at the boundary with the cultivated field in the top section. The group this time were staff and their families from the centre and we are looking forward to forging more links with them in the future. The next planting will be in February where we have a Buddhist group and a Bahá'í group coming to work

The tale of the Two Sons



Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Exodus chapter 2 verses 1 to 12

In Egypt the Hebrew people flourished so well that the new Pharaoh grew scared and ordered all their new-born boys to be killed.

Moses' mother hid him when he was born, but he grew too big.



She made a basket from reeds for him and put it in the grass by the river Nile.



She told Moses' sister Miriam to keep watch.



Pharaoh's daughter found Moses



Shall I get someone to look after the baby?



So Miriam got her mother.



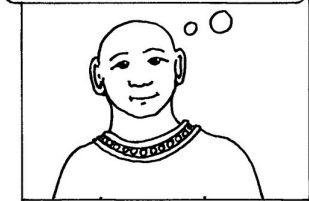
The princess adopted Moses as her son.



When Moses was grown up he went to see where his people worked as slaves.



Perhaps I will be the one to save my people.



Moses saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew slave.



Moses checked no-one was looking and...



He hid the body in the sand.



together. Eventually we hope to have a hedge that runs all the way down to the lower end of the 11 acres and links with existing hedges.

We are currently recruiting for a new link Trustee for Bradwell, if you or someone you know might be interested in finding out more then please take a look at the advert for the role- Bradwell Link Trustee Vacancy Our link trustees play a vital role in representing the Bradwell Centre on the wider Trustee board and along with all our Trustees we are extremely grateful of the time and effort they put into to keep the centres running successfully.

Our new programme is in the final stages of completion and many events are already on our website-Events Listing | Othona Essex. We have got some exciting new events as well as the return of our regular, popular ones. Highlights include:

- Two half terms in February due to the differing term times in various counties- February Half Term Week-1 | Othona Essex and February Half Term Week - 2 | Othona Essex. Both will have the usual mix of family activities.
- A Woodland Management weekend led by Becky Wilkinson- An Introduction to Woodland Management | Othona Essex
- Spoken Voice Workshop led by Morag Stark - Spoken Voice Workshop | Othona Essex, this is an opportunity to develop your vocal confidence and stamina
- Water Colour Workshop led by Stephen Jordan- Watercolour Painting Workshop | Othona Essex
- The 3rd Essex Green Weekend- Essex Green Weekend | Othona Essex, with the usual mix of speakers, music and workshops
- And many more, see the website!

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Every blessing

The Othona Bradwell Team Debbie and Richard Sanders are our Warden/ Managers, Othona is accessed through East Hall Farm, East End Rd, Bradwell on Sea (electric entry gate, collect free exit token from the office.) If you would like to visit, contribute your time, or make a financial donation or legacy, please contact Othona - www.othonaessex.org.uk, bradwell@othona.org, tel: 01621 776564.



Epiphany 6th January

On 6th January we celebrate Epiphany - the visit of the Wise Men to the baby Jesus. But who were these Wise Men? No one knows for sure. Matthew calls them 'Magi', and that was the name of an ancient caste of a priestly kind from Persia. It wasn't until the third century that they were called kings - by a church father, Tertullian.

Another church father, Origen, assumed there were three - to correspond with the gifts given. Later Christian interpretation came to understand gold as a symbol of wisdom and wealth, incense as a symbol of worship and sacrifice, and myrrh as a symbol of healing - and even embalming. Certainly Jesus challenged and set aright the way in which the world handled all three of these things.

What about the gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh?

The story of the coming of the Magi grew in the telling. By the 6th century they had acquired names: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. By medieval times they were considered to be kings.

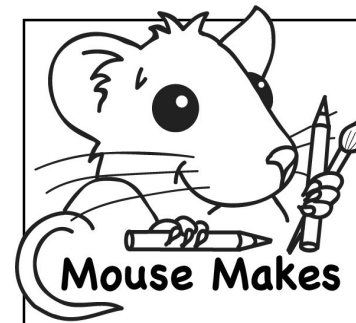
Whoever they were, we do know from Matthew that they brought three gifts to Jesus.

What about their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh? While we cannot know for sure what was in the minds of first century Magi, one Victorian scholar has offered a possible explanation as to the significance of their gifts. He was the Rev John Henry Hopkins, an American Episcopalian minister, who in 1857 wrote his much-loved Christmas carol, 'We Three Kings of Orient Are'.

Gold, said John Henry Hopkins, was a gift that would have been given to a king. Frankincense had traditionally been brought by priests as they worshipped God in the Temple. Myrrh was a spice that the ancients used in preparing bodies for burial.

If that is true, then you could say that the Wise Men, in choosing their gifts for this infant, honoured Jesus with gold because He was King of the Jews, with frankincense because He was to be worshipped as divine, and with myrrh, because He would also become a sacrifice and die for His people.

The Wise Men were the very first gentiles ever to worship Jesus. What faith they had! They travelled for months over difficult terrain, they never saw any evidence of Jesus' kingship, His divinity or His sacrificial death. They worshipped Him through faith in God's promises about Him. Isaiah foresaw this response to Jesus: 'Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.' The Magi's eyes of faith saw clearly and far into the future.



EPIPHANY is the time in the Church year that we remember when the 'wise men' or 'Magi' followed a star that led them to the Christ child Jesus. They bowed down, worshipped him and left *three* special gifts.



Where was Jesus born?

Luke 2:1



What three gifts did the wise men give Jesus?



Who was the king?

Luke 2:1

and

Luke 2:11

Where did the wise men come from?
the -----
Luke 2:1

How were the wise men warned not to return to Herod?
In a -----
Luke 2:12

What had the wise men seen?
a -----
Luke 2:2

Luke 2:12



Look up the Bible verses, fill in the blanks, find them in the word search then look for the words opposite.

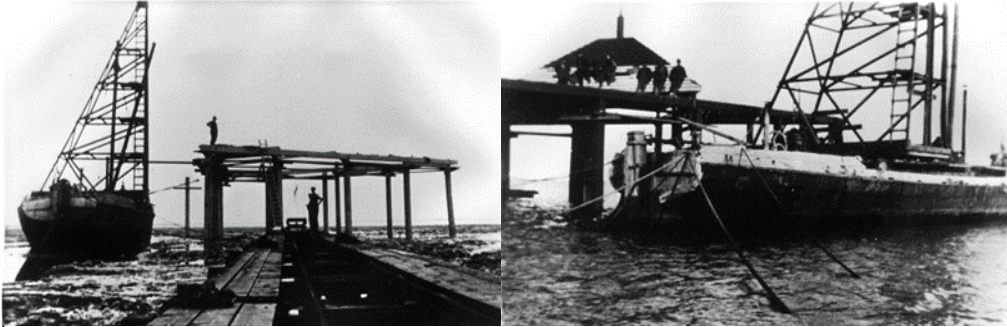
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JESUS
WISEMEN
WORSHIP
SHEPHERD
KING • JEWS
CHRIST • CHILD
BORN • RULER
ISRAEL • REJOICE
JOY • HOUSE • MARY
GIFTS • EPIPHANY

How many other words can you make from the letters in EPIPHANY?

News from RAF Bradwell Bay

The bureaucracy and planning of the Dengie Flats range took a couple of years, during which time the building of the airfield and range commenced. Local builders were employed. The construction of the range presented more problems than the airstrip construction. A track had to be built which across the flats which diverged to the north and south, at the respective ends of the tracks were platforms which held the targets. Narrow gauge railway tracks were built to enable repairs to be carried out. Barges carrying steam hammers were used to drive piles in.



Both Photos Courtesy of Kevin Bruce Collection

This was a major engineering project due to the thick mud of the Dengie Peninsula coastline and the tidal range of the area. This construction needed to be sturdy as it was continually battered by the tidal sea and of course stray ammunition. In his book *Narratives of War* by Jim Bye (published by the Burnham Museum) he states: *When completed it was possible to walk along the tracks, even at normal high tides. Sometimes the waters would lap onto it just a little, it was then that you realised how accurate the builders were for as far as one could see, the track was completely level, it was a real achievement.*

Each track ended in a platform on which were built pyramid shapes, painted yellow as target guides. The railway tracks enabled the targets to be reached for maintenance. The targets were damaged by stray munitions of well as the environmental effects of the sea and its tides.

The train/dolly used to reach the end of the tracks carrying repair materials still exists and was for a time stood outside St Cedd's school. Hopefully when we get our museum we will get it displayed.

The RAF Bradwell Bay Preservation Group seeks to preserve the history of the RAF in Bradwell on Sea. We are planning for a museum near the memorial. You can help by donating via our website

www.rafbradwellbay.co.uk



Compare that with the High Priest and religious leaders whom the Wise Men saw in Jerusalem when they first arrived. These head priests knew all about the prophecies of their own coming Messiah, but NOT ONE Jewish religious leader travelled to look for Him in Bethlehem. And it is only six miles down the road!

Where did the Wise Men come from?

Magi from the East – it isn't a lot to go on. The Magi had originally been a religious caste among the Persians. Their devotion to astrology, divination and the interpretation of dreams led to an extension in the meaning of the word, and by the first century the Magi in Matthew's gospel could have been astrologers from outside of Persia. Some scholars believe they might have come from what was then Arabia

Felix, or as we would say today, southern Arabia.



It is true that in the first century astrology was practised there, and it was the region where the Queen of Sheba had lived. She of course had visited Solomon and would have heard the prophecies about how one day a Messiah would be born to the Israelites and become their king.

Matthew's gospel (chapter 2) is clear that the Magi asked Herod: 'Where is the One who has been born king of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.' So it is possible that in southern Arabia the Queen of Sheba's story of how a Messiah would one day be sent to the Israelites had survived. Certainly, there are a

number of other early legends that connect southern Arabia with Solomon's Israel.

To many people this makes sense: that the ancient stories of a Messiah, linked to later astrological study, prompted these alert and god-fearing men to the realisation that something very stupendous was happening in Israel. They realised that after all these centuries, the King of the Jews, the Messiah, was about to be born.

One more interesting thing that gives weight to the theory that the Magi came from southern Arabia is this: if you study any map of Palestine as it was during biblical times, you will find that the old Arabian caravan routes all entered Palestine 'from the East'.

JANUARY SERVICES

Time	Service	Church	Readings
5th	Friday		
12:00	Communion with Lunch	St Lawrence Church	
7th	Epiphany		
10:00	Communion	St Thomas Bradwell	Isaiah 60: 1-6 Ephesians 3: 1-12 Matthew 2: 1-12 <i>Psalm 72.[1-9]10-15</i>
10:00	Morning Worship	St Nicholas Tillingham	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
15:00	Evening Service	St James Dengie	
8th	Monday		
10:00	Pebbles	St Lawrence Centre	
7th	Epiphany		
10:00	Communion	St Thomas Bradwell	Isaiah 60: 1-6 Ephesians 3: 1-12 Matthew 2: 1-12 <i>Psalm 72.[1-9]10-15</i>
10:00	Morning Worship	St Nicholas Tillingham	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
15:00	Evening Service	St James Dengie	
14th	Epiphany 2		
10:00	Communion	St Nicholas Tillingham	1 Samuel 3: 1-10[11-20] Revelation 5: 1-10 John 1:43-51 <i>Psalm 139.1-5,12-18*</i>
10:00	Morning Café Church	St Thomas Bradwell	
10:00	Communion	St Lawrence Centre	
18:00	Evening Service	St Lawrence Church	
15th	Monday		
10:00	Pebbles	St Lawrence Centre	
19th	Epiphany 3		
09:00	Communion Breakfast	St Thomas Bradwell	
21st	Epiphany 3		
08:00	Holy Communion	St James Dengie	Genesis 14: 17-20 Revelation 19: 6-10 John 2: 1-11 <i>Psalm 128</i>
10:00	Communion	St Lawrence Church	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Nicholas Tillingham	
18:00	Evening Service	St Thomas Bradwell	
22nd	Monday		
10:00	Pebbles	St Lawrence Centre	

Time	Service	Church	Readings
28th	Epiphany 4		
10:00	Communion	St James Dengie	Deuteronomy 18: 15-20 Revelation 12: 1-5a Mark 1: 21-28 <i>Psalm 111</i>
10:00	Café Church	St Thomas Bradwell	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Church	
18:00	Evening Service	St Nicholas Tillingham	
29th	Monday		
10:00	Pebbles	St Lawrence Centre	
2 nd Feb	Friday		
12:00	Communion with	St Lawrence Church	
4th	Candlemas		
10:00	Communion	St Thomas Bradwell	Malachi 3: 1-5 Hebrews 2: 14-18 Luke 2: 22-40 <i>Psalm 24.[1-6]7-10</i>
10:00	Morning Worship	St Nicholas Tillingham	
10:00	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Centre	
15:00	Evening Service	St James Dengie	



Poppy Appeal 2023



Many thanks to everybody who contributed to the Poppy Appeal this year 2023. Also very many thanks to those seven volunteers who undertook the house to house collections. Amazingly we were able to raise £965.62. So thank you again to all.

Sue Perrott