

Longfield-Links



10th January 2021

Happy and Peaceful New Year to you all

Hi everyone, welcome to the latest edition of the Longfield-Links our **bi-weekly** newsletter to keep you informed of the work of St. Mary Magdalene Church here in Longfield and its mission outreach within our community, we do hope that you are all finding it an interesting read.

St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield Up-date on the Church works



The first phases of the church works were completed just before Christmas. During this phase, the drainage system has been re-designed to take water well away from the walls of the church. Two large soakaways were created and the guttering around the church and hall was replaced.

The concrete drains around the base of the church on the south and east sides were re-lined. Inside the church, there was a considerable amount of damage to the internal rendering from years of damp. This required



hacking out to a considerable depth and then re-plastering layer-by-layer which took many weeks. The re-plastered areas were then painted with five coats of lime wash which is a traditional technique and will help protect against mould and damp in the future.

Many thanks go to Astral Ltd., our building contractor and Thomas Ford, the church architects who oversaw the work. The next phase will include re-painting the remaining areas of the church - likely to start in the spring once the walls have dried out.

During the first phase, we've been using the church hall for worship, putting into use the new screen which has enabled us to avoid printed service sheets. We also plan to upgrade the audio-visual capabilities of the main church ready for our return following this further period of lock-down.

We had hoped for a working party to clear and clean the church during January. This will now be scheduled once we get the all-clear, hopefully in mid-February.

Paul and Gill
Churchwardens



Monday Bible Study

You are very welcome to the Monday Evening Advent Bible Study: On Zoom at 7.30.

We recommence the Monday evening Bible Study on Monday 11th January 2021.

Please contact Anne Philpott [philptanne@gmail.com] or Lawrie Townson for details;

[lawrencetownson@btinternet.com] Please contact Paul Thomas at paulnthomas@outlook.com for the Zoom link and a copy of the weekly notes

Thursday Bible Study Group, Study @130



Alan and Revd. Helen Reeves are running a Bible study group on Thursdays at 1.30pm via Zoom. **We will be continuing our study of the Acts of the Apostles.** The sessions are not intense so just rock up and link in. It is a really relaxed and fun filled group so please do Contact Alan or Helen for more details. We restart our Bible study on Thursday the 14th January 2021.

The earth is the Lords and everything in it. Psalm 24

Please keep yourself informed about what is happening to our world and how you could help care for it in our own local environment.

Talk to members of the RNWK Green Matters group about your ideas to make a difference in our environment. (St. Mary Magdalene representatives - Alan Strachan or Pat Dixon)

Celebrate and pray about what is happening locally and in the world regarding our environment.

Meat & Cake Raffle

First of all, thank you to everyone who supported our Meat & Cake Raffle in 2020 - in these difficult times you have helped to raise **£450** for church funds! This popular Raffle has been running for many years so Sylvia and I have been pleased to be able to keep this going throughout 2020 and the winners have been able to receive their Meat Voucher or cake each month, as before. The only difference in the current circumstances is that the cakes are shop bought rather than home-baked.

For anyone unfamiliar with this fundraiser - For just £1.25 per month (£15 for the year), members are allocated a raffle number between 1 and 90. There are two chances to win every month – with one draw taking place for a £25 voucher to spend at The Longfield Village Butchers (in Station Road) and the second draw for a cake. *We would like to thank Michael Jones of Longfield Village Butchers (in Station Road) who has continued to support us to make the Meat Voucher prizes possible.* Looking to 2021 and with the raffle continuing due to popular demand - we would love to welcome some new members and we would like to start collecting the membership subs where possible and safe to do so.

I will be collecting the raffle subs and contacting everyone in due course – but in the meantime if you would like to join or arrange to pay for the coming year please get in touch with Sylvia or myself – it will really help.

At the present time, payment can be made by cheque payable to **Longfield PCC** posted to the address below:

Mrs. G Horner
Woodhorn
New Barn Road
Longfield
Kent DA3 7JJ

Sylvia Partridge 01474 704678

Gill Horner 07803 387303 and gill@abacusvaluers.co.uk

Thank you and best wishes to everyone, Gill and Sylvia

Contact Details. Alan Strachan
phone:-07778 047940 or
e-mail:- a.m.strachan@btinternet.com

Revd. Adele Barker
phone:- 01474 703819 or
e-mail:- adele@rnwkgroup.org.uk

Zoom History Sessions Fund Raiser for St. Mary Magdalene Church, Longfield.
On Saturday 23rd January at 2.00pm.

**The V1 and V2 Vengeance Weapons
Hitler's last throw of the dice in 1944.**

Send cheque for £2.50 per person made
Payable to **Longfield PCC** and send to:
Alan Strachan, Toringo, Maidstone Road,
Hadlow, TONBRIDGE, TN11 0HP.
(call if you would like alternative method
of payment 0777 804 7940)