

# January 2025 Magazine



# SHIRLEY PARISH GUIDE (see also inside the back cover)

CLERGY

## Reverend Paul Day

email: vicar@shirleyparishb90.co.uk

Tel: 0121 537 9672

## Reverend Richard Haynes

email: curate@shirleyparishb90.co.uk

Tel: 07972 530161

## Reverend Rich Brooker

email: richbrooker@shirleyparishb90.co.uk

Tel: 07922 564696

## Reverend Wendy Carter

email: revwendy@sky.com

Tel: 0121 744 6315

## Reverend Dr. Theresa Jones

email: theresaj1@btinternet.com

Tel: 0121 272 3366

## Parish Administration Manager - Emily Ellis

### Parish Office, Church House, Church Road, Shirley, B90 2AX

Opening hours: Monday to Friday, 9.30am to 12.30pm

Telephone: 0121 745 8896

Email: office@shirleyparishb90.co.uk

Parish Website: <https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk>

Social Media: [twitter.com/@ParishB90](https://twitter.com/ParishB90)

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YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@shirleyparish5736>

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**CHRIST THE KING CHURCH, Widney Junior School, Clifton Crescent, Solihull B91 3LQ**

**ST JOHN THE DIVINE CHURCH, Tilehouse Lane, Tidbury Green, Shirley B90 1PW**

## FOR ANY ENQUIRIES ABOUT THIS MAGAZINE PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE OR THE EDITOR -

**Gill Hanton - Telephone : 0121 733 2347 or 07973 942145**

**Email : shirleyparishmagazine@gmail.com**

***Deadline for information and articles for next month's magazine: 12th of the month***

*Whilst every care is taken to ensure that the contents of the magazine are correct, the Parish cannot be responsible for any errors that may occur in the editorial or advertisements, nor for the actions of the advertisers.*

**Registered Charity number 1131912**



# January 2025

Date	Time	Service	Venue
Thursday 2nd	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Sunday 5th <i>Epiphany</i>	10.30am 3.30pm	Parish Communion Reflective Worship	St James Church St James Church
Thursday 9th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Sunday 12th	8am 9am 10.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Morning Worship Holy Communion	St James Church St John's Church St James Church Christ the King Church
Thursday 16th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Saturday 18th	10am	Messy Church	St James Church
Sunday 19th	9am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Worship Holy Communion Morning Worship	St John's Church St James Church Christ the King Church
Thursday 23rd	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church
Sunday 26th	8am 9am 10.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion Holy Communion Worship 4 Everyone Holy Communion	St James Church St John's Church St James Church Christ the King Church
Thursday 30th	10.30am	Holy Communion	St James Church

**PLEASE CHECK FOR ANY CHANGES TO OUR SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES ON THE WEEKLY NOTICE SHEET, SOCIAL MEDIA OR ON OUR WEBSITE**  
<https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk>

*Copies of the sermons preached at our services can be found on our website -*  
<https://www.shirleyparishb90.co.uk/download-a-sermon>

## THE FRIENDS OF ST JAMES 100 CLUB

**Congratulations to the December winners**

**£50 ~ Christine Beeston £25 ~ Sandra Oakes Christmas Bonus £50 ~ Denise Smith**

## A JOURNEY BACK TO THE FUTURE

Hannah the Angel, Denise the Shepherd, Gill the Innkeeper, Kate, Bernard and numerous others as the camel travelling wise scientists..!

St James Church recently underwent a transformation as over 700 children from local primary schools took their seats for a journey back, back to the future of their lives and back to the history of the church, told in a series of nativity sketches, narrated by old Mary and Joseph, as the story of the star, the wise scientists and the angels unfolded before their eyes.

The story was supplemented by various activities. This included making stars, an interpretation of modern Christmas, a journey to the stars, and the popular Shepherd's learning zone, where our visitors were taught how to scare away wolves, heal poorly sheep and search for fresh pasture, all whilst following the angel's instructions, heading for a newborn baby in Bethlehem.

It was fantastic to see all the smiley, happy faces, the thrill as they saw a real baby Jesus emerge from the vestry and make his/her way towards the manger in the middle of the dais. Eyes lit up, hearts fluttered and there were sudden gasps of 'it's a real baby' or, as one little boy remarked, "it's Jesus"!

The care and huge attention to detail that had gone into every aspect was superb. From the writing, the costumes, the props, learning of scripts and the vast decorative decor that had gone into transforming our everyday church into a place of pilgrimage, peace and presence, sharing the giving heart of God with small people.

It would be impossible to write an article like this without mentioning all the hard work of Sarah in pulling it all together and staying calm(ish) throughout the week.

Looking back, I'm thinking of all the hundreds of children that have journeyed through our doors this past week, hoping and praying that something of the life and faith that we share has perhaps touched their hearts, their lives, and will lodge in their memory, like the boy who told his younger sister, on her coming to the Stable, about every single aspect that had happened to him at his visit two years before. Over the twenty plus years Journey to the Stable has been performed, it is estimated that over 15,000 children will have visited us!

It was certainly memorable for me and I'm sure it was for them too ... another Stable Journey completed, another year, another load of children making their Christmas pilgrimage, back to the future of Christmas.

*Reverend Rich Brooker*

## NEW FRIENDS AND OLD – JOURNEY TO THE STABLE

Now you may be thinking that this is an odd way to title writing about an activity – perhaps you were expecting a few facts. But when journey week comes it is not about the facts at all, but about the people.

We make new friends, mostly quite small people excited about anything to do with Christmas, and anything outside the normal classroom routine. They share the songs they are learning for Christmas productions, the roles that they will take in nativity plays at school, and their hopes for Christmas morning presents.

This year we welcomed some older new friends from the child development class at Light Hall school who accompanied the younger children on their activities, helping them with stickers and star making, and generally making sure they were in the right place.

There are the old friends on the journey team. Some of us have worked together for many years – others have joined more recently. This year we welcomed Emily and Rich, although they hardly felt like newbies. And as usual I asked for too much – ‘I didn’t say that I would act, and you’ve given me lines!’ Or multi-tasking that required several quick costume changes.

And familiar faces among the teachers – so many of them now feel like old friends. One proudly told me that she has been to the journey more years than I have. True! Others fool us by changing schools.

There is room on the journey team for some more new faces, so how about getting involved in the Easter Journey. Tempted? Please come and have a chat.

*Sarah Penfold*

P.S. If you are desperate for facts - 13 schools (14 if you include Light Hall), 700 year 1 children, 24 people on the team, 4300 craft sticks, 8700 extra sticky glue dots, and lots of cake!



## THE GIFT TREE

When I hung gift labels on the tree at the back of St James Church it was early November and it was hard to tell what response we would have to our request for gifts for the ADAVU clients. Over the next few weeks that question was answered. Kate Crocker collected up bags of gifts as they were brought on a Sunday morning and stowed them in her spare bedroom. More found their way to our house.

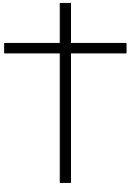
A few people gave me cash to 'fill any gaps' in what came in. That resulted in a bizarre supermarket visit when another customer expressed concern about me buying 18 chocolate bars, but she wasn't bothered about the 14 pairs of socks!

The staff at the Shirley branch of Co-op Funeralcare asked about our gift giving and offered to help. They provided a pair of pyjamas for each of the children, and some strong bags to pack things in. The pyjamas are lovely, wearing them would bring a smile to any face, and obviously picked with great care.

Our pile of presents needed packing, individual bags for each adult or child, 50 individual bags, then family bags to keep the individual bags together. Finally fitting it all into the car of the ADAVU staff member who collected everything ready for distribution at the Christmas party later in December.

So a big thank you to anyone who donated, to the expert and focused packing team who sorted everything in about two hours, and to Co-op Funeralcare.

*Sarah Penfold*



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## SHIRLEY PARISH BOOK CLUB

### Accidental Hitman by A.W. Wilson

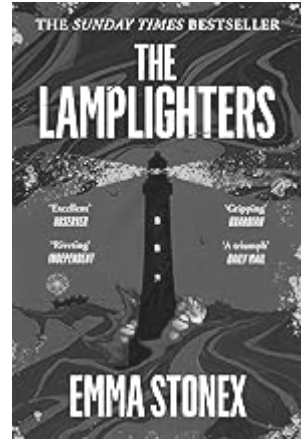
This was certainly a book which many of us would never have read if it wasn't for the Book Club! This is the joy of belonging to such a dynamic and diverse group. It was a brave recommendation and triggered a lively discussion.

The group seemed to split into two camps, those who loved it and found it funny and entertaining and those who thought it was mediocre and not particularly funny at all, with questionable morals and unnecessary descriptions!

Everyone read the book through (even those who didn't like it that much) and the general opinion was that this book shouldn't be taken seriously, you need to allow yourself to be entertained by this book and not think too deeply about the moral dilemmas described.

Our next book is **The Lamplighters** by **Emma Stonex**. We will be meeting to discuss this on **Monday 6th January**, please do come and join us, even if you haven't read the book, it really doesn't matter! Refreshments and a lighthearted chat will cheer up a dull January afternoon!

The Book Club members have also ranked the books read throughout 2024 and the hit parade is as follows:-



Ranking	Title of Book	Author	Score
1	Shoes for Anthony	Emma Kennedy	9.3
2	The Lost Bookshop	Evie Woods	9
3	The Library	Bella Osborne	8.5
4	I Let You Go	Clare Mackintosh	8.2
5	The Dress Circle	Laurie Graham	8
5	In Falling Snow	Mary Rose MacColl	8
5	Strangers	C P Taylor	8
6	Wahington Black	Edi Edugyan	6.4
7	Before the Coffee Gets Cold	Toshikazu Kawaguchi	5.6
8	The Bird Cage	Eve Chase	5.4
9	Accidental Hitman	A W Wilson	5.2

# Mothers' UNION

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A very Happy New Year to you all.

Our annual Advent Service, held on Wednesday 4th December, was a combined service with people from our Home Communion Community. During the service we welcomed two new members, Reverend Richard Haynes and Susan Maskell.

Refreshments followed looked after by Jan Dalton. Thank you, Jan.

By now members should have received their Branch Newsletter and 2025 programme. Members annual subscription for 2025 of £29.00 is now due, payment to the Treasurer would be appreciated by the 23rd of January please.

There will be no meeting in January. However, there will be a Wave of Prayer, please see the weekly pew slip for further information.

Our next monthly meeting will be the A.G.M on **Wednesday 5th February** at 2pm in Church House.

*Susan Knight*

## COMBINED MU AND HOME COMMUNION SERVICE

The naughty winter gremlin decided to have fun with the Church heating so the boiler had to be turned off but that did not dampen the enthusiasm of all the lovely people who attended the combined Mothers' Union and Home Communion Service on December 4th. The swell of the singing, especially when we came to sing "O Little Town of Bethlehem" was really inspiring to hear. The Revs Richard, Paul and Rich were the ministers who gave us what was an inspiring service and I think everyone enjoyed it. We were all invited to greet one another and we met people we would not have normally met. I hope I meet them again!

Rev Richard and Sue were enrolled into the Mothers' Union, which was enjoyable to witness and Margaret Foresheew read the lesson (I don't know how she did it so calmly, I would have been blubbering all over the place).

After the service had finished we were waited on with dainty little sausage rolls which were so good I couldn't stop eating them! (I don't think I'll tell the dietician about this!). There was also delicious lemon drizzle cake all of which was washed down by a lovely refreshing cup of tea served in beautiful china cups.



On behalf of everyone I offer a gigantic thank you to the ministers, reader, pianist and volunteers who worked so hard to give us this Christmas treat and my congratulations to the chefs for their scrumptious contributions – move over MasterChef, you’ve got some competition!

I think everyone is looking forward to the next Home Communion Service and it is becoming a regular treat. If you have not come to one then please try it out, I think you’ll find that you’ve been missing out.

*Mary Hayes*

## JANET WILSON

I should like to write a short, light-hearted but very sincere, tribute to Janet who died recently.

As you may have heard, I collect dolls, all shapes, all sizes, to give out to Small Beings in their pushchairs when they come with their parents to collect a food parcel at Sparkhill Food Bank. These dolls rarely arrive dressed and ,for many years, Janet has been knitting underwear for them. She has been known affectionately as The Knicker Knitter! I couldn’t guess how many Small Beings just down the road are clutching dolls made modest by Janet. Rather a strange but such a kind thing to be remembered for?

*Elizabeth Paice*

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## FOODBANK UPDATE

Many thanks for the small saucepans which came in during November and December. We have been able to give one each plus basic cutlery, a bowl, a plate, and a mug to the young men living in a local hostel. They are often newly out of prison, allocated a room in a House of Multiple Occupancy where the kitchen and bathroom are supposed to be fully resourced by the Landlord. Ho!!! Ho!!! They are very grateful and, whatever they have done in the past, it feels good to help them along just a little bit. They do look young ...

I mentioned previously that I was in a dilemma about how to spend a small amount of money given to me; in the end I blew the lot on large size nappies. Folks sometimes donate newborn ones, and sizes 1 and 2, but the most frequently requested sizes are the larger ones, 5,6,7 and even 8. I hope some Small Beings will have had a comfortable Christmas Day!

Parents were encouraged to choose a present for each of their children from the gift tables at Sparkhill Food Bank; not all the toys/games/clothing were new, but all were in very good condition. We had accumulated them during the year. David put new batteries in the toys, kind folks like Jean Wall, Gwen Albrow and others dressed the dolls (underwear by courtesy and design of Janet Wilson), my neighbour created dolls' beds out of mango boxes and pillowslips.

And colouring/sticker books in bags with felt tips, rubbers etc. And if a small bar of chocolate had fallen in with the gift, well ...

We were also able to offer knitted hats and mittens, thanks to Glenys Arkell, Margaret Barber and other Knitters of This Parish.

Many thanks for the wonderful support you have given to "our" local Food Bank; when we started helping at the first Food Bank down in Bard Street many years ago, we thought that the need might exist for a year or two. Whatever happened? Part of the problem is the huge rise in the cost of renting in the private sector as the local authorities have less social housing to offer; rent now swallows up a huge percentage of folks' benefits.

Well done everyone, *Elizabeth Paice*



## CHARLOTTE'S FUNDRAISER FOR MENTAL HEALTH UK

On June 7th 2025, I'll be taking a huge leap - literally out of a plane! Don't worry, I'll be strapped to a qualified instructor who I trust completely.

But what's driving me to do this?

For years, I've lived with depression. It sneaks up on me, often hidden behind the laughter and energy people know me for.

People see me as the life of the party, and I am! I'm the crazy, fun one with wild stories and lots of memorable moments. But having an outgoing personality doesn't mean I'm immune to struggle. Sometimes, those who seem the most carefree carry the heaviest burdens.

The reality is that hundreds of lives are lost every year to mental health issues, and 1 in 5 people face this battle. And this isn't just my story; I've lost people to depression, and it's left deep wounds in my heart and their families.

We need to normalize speaking up when we're struggling - whether we're men or women, young or old. Keeping it all inside only deepens the pain. This jump is my way of confronting fear, of taking one bold step toward confidence. When those hard days come, I'll be able to look back on this and remember what I'm capable of.

Thank you in advance for any support you give. It means the world to me.



<https://www.justgiving.com/page/charlotte-smith-1729971525334>

*Shared by Margaret Foreshew*



**PLACES OF WELCOME**

Every Tuesday in  
Church House

10am until 11.30am

## SHIRLEY PARISH ECO GROUP

### Which Rubbish is Actually Rubbish?

The Eco Group is a sub-committee of our PCC, and its brief is to look into the fifth of our Anglican Marks of Mission, to 'strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth'.

It is to this end that we regularly encourage everyone to save water, use less plastic, be mindful of the things that we buy, carefully use the things that we have, and to consider acquiring less 'stuff' by reusing, re-purposing and recycling the things that we already have. These are big asks, and bringing these things to God in prayer often helps us to realise that we can't always have what we want but must give them up for the greater good of the planet and it's peoples (amongst whom are our grandchildren - let's do it for them).

There are three rubbish/recycling stations on our premises; one in the kitchen in Church House, one in the St James Church sacristy, and one at the back of St James Church near the main entrance. The three recycling bins are often contaminated with unrecyclable waste so that the whole binfull has to be put with the rubbish. However, one member of the Eco committee goes through the recycling bins and removes all the rubbish that's in them so that the rest can go into the big recycling bin outside Church House. PLEASE improve this situation by recycling correctly!!! Do not put paper of any kind into the recycling bins, as it is often contaminated. To help the situation improve we have simplified our recycling and now ask that only four items be put into the recycling bins;

**Clean plastic bottles**

**Clean cardboard**

**Clean cans/tins**

**Clean glass bottles**

Unwanted pewslips can be left in church.



**REDUCE  
REUSE  
RECYCLE**

Especially in the kitchen, if you have items that you know are recyclable but not accepted in our bins, please take them home and recycle them there. There are signs on each bin to tell us what is accepted. Please read these signs and make sure that your waste goes into the correct bin. The people monitoring these bins will be very grateful.

*Chris Terry on behalf of the Eco Group*

# COFFEE MORNING



**Monday 13th January 2025**

10.30am until 12 noon

including  
an  
'unloved  
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## NEW YEAR PRAYER

*As Christians we are people of the promise. We live in the light of God's unconditional love for us, knowing that there is nothing we can do to make God love us any more, and nothing we can do to make him love us any less. For the coming year let us recommit ourselves to God's promise of love using these words.*

I am a child of God, made in your image and likeness,

I am included in the heart of your love.

You know me completely,

my faults and my weaknesses,

my gifts and my strengths.

You call me to live in the fullness of your love,

abundantly, generously, inclusively.

You call me to empty myself, to serve as Jesus served,

willingly, humbly, selflessly.

You call me to bear witness to your presence,

boldly, courageously, gently.

You are the potter,

I am the clay.

shape me, reshape me,

give me purpose and meaning,

energy and vision,

open me up as a channel of your grace.

May your promises be written on my heart.

May my life reflect them.

What is true in heaven,

may it be seen in me,

within the dance of the Trinity of Love,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen

*With thanks to Chris Thorpe*

*Reverend Paul Day*

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## SOME DATES FOR YOUR NEW DIARY ...

Month	Date	Event	Venue	
<b>January</b>	Monday 13th	Coffee Morning	St John's Church	
	15th to 17th - TBC	MU - Wave of Prayer	St James Church	
	Sunday 19th	Shirley Churches Together - Unity Service	OLW	
<b>February</b>	Saturday 1st	MU - Coffee Morning	Church House	
	Wednesday 5th	MU - AGM	Church House	
	Tuesday 11th	The Friends of St James - AGM	Church House	
<b>March</b>	Wednesday 5th	Ash Wednesday	Church House	
	Friday 7th	MU – Reverend Richard Haynes		TBC
	Saturday 8th	World Day of Prayer		Church House
	Saturday 22nd	The Friends of St James - Coffee Morning	Church House	
	Sunday 30th	The Friends of St James - Book Sale	Church House	
	w/c Monday 31st	Mothering Sunday Easter Journey	St James Church	
<b>April</b>	Wednesday 2nd	MU – Hanging Baskets – Jo Roberts Hill	Church House	
	Friday 18th	Good Friday Walk of Witness		
<b>May</b>	Wednesday 7th	MU – Police Chaplain – Reverend Rich Brooker	Church House	
	Sunday 11th	VE Day Service	St James Church	
	Sunday 18th	APCM	St James Church	
	Saturday 24th & Sunday 25th	St John's Church Centenary	St John's Church & garden	
<b>June</b>	Wednesday 4th	MU – RNLI – Lorraine Hoskins	Church House	
<b>July</b>	Wednesday 2nd	MU – How I became a vicar part 2 – Rev. Kathy Lloyd Roberts	Church House	
<b>August</b>	Wednesday 6th	MU - Summer Social	Church House	
	Sunday 17th	VJ Day Service	St James Church	
<b>September</b>	Wednesday 3rd	MU – Life as a GP – Kate Crocker	Church House	
<b>October</b>	Wednesday 1st	MU – Lest We Forget – Mary Bodfish	Church House	
	Saturday 4th	The Friends of St James - Coffee Morning	Church House	
	Saturday 25th	The Friends of St James - Book Sale	Church House	
<b>November</b>	Wednesday 5th	MU – Craft Session – Jan Dalton	Church House	
	Sunday 9th	Remembrance Sunday		
	Saturday 29th	The Friends of St James - Christmas by Candlelight	Church House	
<b>December</b>	Wednesday 3rd	MU – Advent Service	St James Church	



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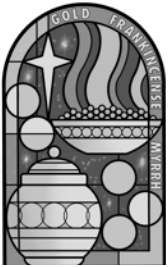
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## WORDSEARCH - GIFTS OF THE WISE MEN

What about their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh? One Victorian scholar has offered a possible explanation. He was the Rev John Henry Hopkins, an American Episcopalian minister, who in 1857 wrote the 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!

ANCIENTS  
BODIES  
BURIAL  
CAROL  
DIE  
DIVINE  
FAITH  
FRANKINCENSE  
GENTILE  
GIFTS  
GOLD  
HENRY  
HONOURED  
HOPKINS  
KINGS  
MYRRH  
ORIENT  
SACRIFICE  
SPICE  
TEMPLE  
THREE  
WORSHIP

N	L	E	T	N	I	F	M	F	R	L	M
M	C	A	R	O	L	E	A	H	B	G	I
T	H	R	E	E	R	O	G	I	F	T	S
E	S	H	B	U	R	I	A	L	T	S	A
M	W	G	O	Y	R	N	E	H	T	H	C
P	O	S	D	E	R	U	O	N	O	H	R
L	R	G	I	E	L	W	E	P	T	R	I
E	S	N	E	C	N	I	K	N	A	R	F
C	H	I	S	G	C	I	T	S	S	Y	I
I	I	K	O	N	N	D	V	N	E	M	C
P	P	L	A	S	I	D	A	I	E	I	E
S	D	A	G	S	P	I	D	H	D	G	P

*Answers are  
on page 20*



# Bastock & Bruce Ltd

F U N E R A L   D I R E C T O R S

*If Knowle is difficult to get to,  
we will happily visit you at  
home or you can meet Bruce  
at any of the Bastock family  
funeral homes.*

A partnership between C. Bastock Ltd and Bruce Bragg

Bruce is now the only remaining member of the Bragg family still in the industry following the sale of the Bragg family business in Shirley. This partnership brings a family business to Knowle with generations of experience ensuring the truly personal service you would expect from an independent business.

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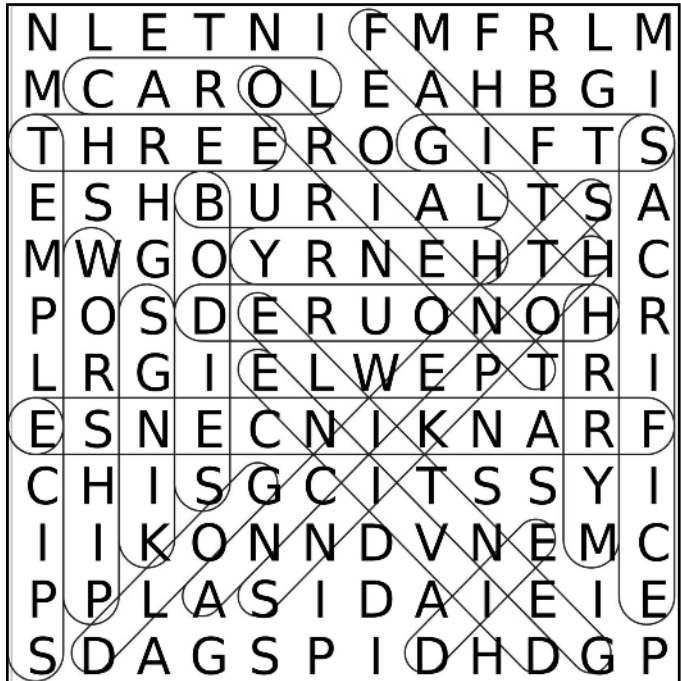
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## WORDSEARCH ANSWERS





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### Solihull Funeral Home

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Solihull. B92 7HP  
0121 706 4040

### Yardley Funeral Home

112 Church Road,  
Yardley. B26 8UX  
0121 784 3230



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- ✓ THICKNESS REDUCED  
CALLOUSES REMOVED
- ✓ CORNS & VERRUCAS  
TREATED
- ✓ DIABETIC FOOTCARE

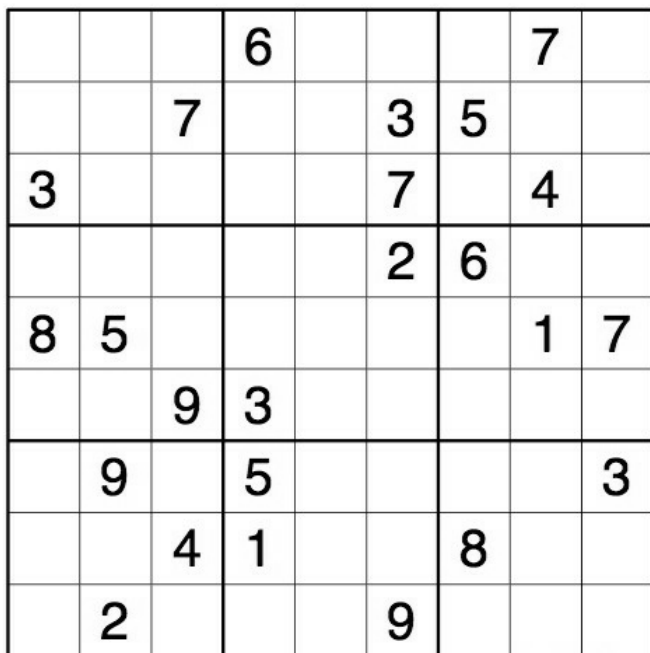
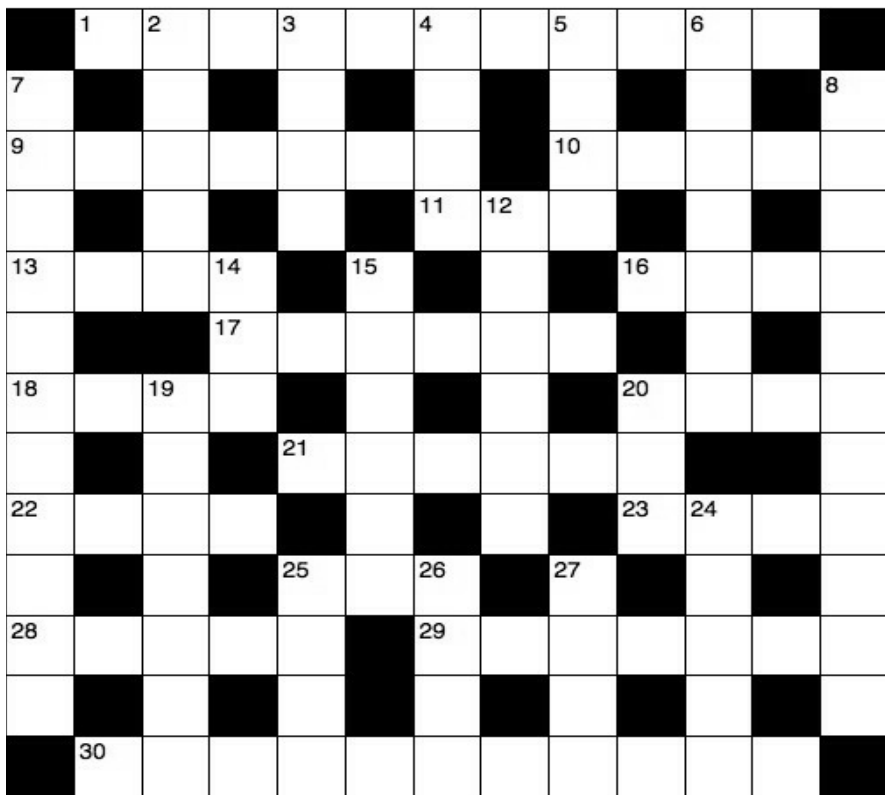
## JANUARY CROSSWORD & SUDOKU

### Across

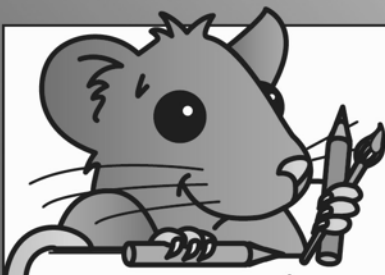
- 1 Paul said the wrath of God 'is being revealed from heaven' against this  
(Romans 1:18) (11)
- 9 Go smite (anag.) (7) 10 'But — I have risen, I will go ahead of you into  
Galilee' (Matthew 26:32) (5)
- 11 'Take and —; this is my body' (Matthew 26:26) (3) 13 Type (2 Thessalonians 2:10) (4)
- 16 'Woe to those who — iniquity' (Micah 2:1) (4)
- 17 'How shall we — if we ignore such a great salvation?' (Hebrews 2:3) (6)
- 18 Opposite of evens (4)
- 20 Previously cited (Latin) (4)
- 21 'There is surely — — of God in this place, and they will kill me because of my wife'  
(Genesis 20:11) (2,4)
- 22 The Thessalonians were warned to keep away from every brother who was this  
(2 Thessalonians 3:6) (4)
- 23 Beat (anag.) (4)
- 25 To trouble or afflict (Job 16:3) (3)
- 28 Part of a roof (1 Kings 7:9) (5)
- 29 Attain (Job 5:12) (7)
- 30 Insect noted for its gymnastic ability (Psalm 78:46) (11)

### Down

- 2 Smell (John 11:39) (5)
- 3 Lion's home (Jeremiah 25:38) (4)
- 4 'Jesus Christ is the — yesterday and today and for ever' (Hebrews 13:8) (4)
- 5 Tidy (4)
- 6 Made their home (Genesis 47:27) (7)
- 7 Their task was to carry the curtains of the tabernacle (Numbers 4:25–26) (11)
- 8 Timothy's was called Lois (2 Timothy 1:5) (11)
- 12 The Lover likened the fragrance of the Beloved's breath to these  
(Song of Songs 7:8) (6)
- 14 Times Educational Supplement (1,1,1)
- 15 Eight-tentacled sea creatures (6)
- 19 'And lead us not into temptation, but — us from the evil one' (Matthew 6:13) (7)
- 20 D.L. Moody's legendary song leader, — D. Sankey (3)
- 24 Rarely used musical note (5)
- 25 'Your will be done on earth — it — in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,2)
- 26 and 27 'The Lord Almighty will — them with a — , as when he struck down Midian  
at the rock of Oreb' (Isaiah 10:26) (4,4)
- 27 See 26 Down



Answers are on page 25



# Mouse Makes

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem looking for the child born to be king of the Jews. They had seen his star and had come to worship him. King Herod was troubled so met with the wise men to tell them to let him know when they found him.



When they saw the star rest over where Jesus was they rejoiced and gave him three special gifts. God warned the wise men in a dream not to go back to Herod so they went home by another way.




J E W S  
M A R Y  
W S O N  
O T N A

How many other words can you make from:  
**EPIPHANY**

C H I L D K H M Y R R H  
F R A N K I N C E N C E  
J O Y A N G E L R H  
G A E G Y P T P

**EPIPHANY** is the Greek word for **MANIFEST** which means 'to show'. God shows us who He is through His son Jesus Christ

Herod wanted to destroy Jesus, but God told Joseph to flee to Egypt to be safe.  
*Where did Jesus finally grow up?*

  
**READ**  
the story of the wise men in *Matthew 2:1-23*



H L A N D T W O A  
R E S T A R K I L L C  
C R Y W Z J O S E P H  
B O Y S A D R E A M R  
M D W O R S H I P L I  
E Z S H E P H E R D S  
N G I F T S V I S I T  
B E T H L E H E M  
E J E S U S U

E G O D  
B O R N  
F L E E  
L D G E



WISE • MEN • EAST • STAR  
REST • BETHLEHEM  
VISIT • JESUS • GIFTS  
GOLD • FRANKINCENSE • MYRRH  
WORSHIP • SON • CHILD  
BORN • KING • JEWS • CHRIST  
SHEPHERD • JOY • GOD  
HEROD • KILL • BOYS • TWO • CRY  
ANGEL • DREAM • JOSEPH • MARY  
FLEE • EGYPT • LAND • NAZARETH



## PUZZLE ANSWERS

9	4	2	6	8	5	3	7	1
6	1	7	4	9	3	5	8	2
3	8	5	2	1	7	9	4	6
4	7	1	8	5	2	6	3	9
8	5	3	9	6	4	2	1	7
2	6	9	3	7	1	4	5	8
1	9	6	5	4	8	7	2	3
7	3	4	1	2	6	8	9	5
5	2	8	7	3	9	1	6	4



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## PARISH REGISTERS - NOVEMBER

### Funerals

- 6th Brenda Lillian Biddle
- 13th James Marion Dixon
- 21st Stewart Mark Anthony Phillips



### Tudor Grange Primary Academy St James

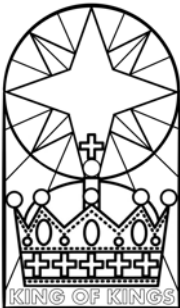
*Nurture, Learn, Achieve*

Principal - Mrs H Lynch

For details about the school contact the PA to the Principal - Mrs G Giles

Tudor Grange Primary Academy St James, Halifax Road, Shirley, Solihull B90 2BT  
 Phone: 0121 744 7897 office@stjames.tgacademy.org.uk www.stjames.tgacademy.org.uk

## PRAY WITH US



Give to us your people, living God,  
 A renewed faith and a bold vision  
 that we may proclaim  
 the Good News of your Son  
 with faith that your kingdom will come,  
 with hope for our community  
 and with love for Him  
 who died and rose again  
 to save us, Jesus Christ our Risen Lord  
 Amen



God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church,  
 send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,  
 wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.  
 Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you,  
 and in service to our local community.  
 Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
 Amen

# SHIRLEY PARISH GUIDE *continued*

## READERS

**Kate Day**

email: kate\_day@me.com

Tel: 0121 537 9672

**Gill Gough**

email: g.gough@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 0121 603 2636

**Sarah Penfold**

email: sarahpenfold@blueyonder.co.uk

Tel: 0121 681 1525

**Denise Smith**

email: deesmith1181@hotmail.com

Tel: 07815 193892

## CHURCH WARDENS

### Parish Wardens

Linda Pitt Tel: 0121 744 6777  
email: lindaalisonpitt@gmail.com

Gill Hanton Tel: 0121 733 2347  
email: gill.hanton@btinternet.com

### Deputy Wardens - St James the Great Church

Kate Crocker John Richards  
Tel: 07562 664163 Tel: 07941 634971

### Deputy Warden - Christ the King Church

Denise Smith  
Tel: 07815 193892

### Deputy Warden - St John the Divine Church

Linda Alford  
Tel: 0121 430 4785

## SAFEGUARDING

Sue Harries  
Tel: 07977 012753 or 0121 745 8896 (c/o Parish Office)

***As you all know we are a parish that takes safeguarding very seriously.  
Everyone who comes to our churches deserves to feel included and  
very importantly, safe.***

***If anything is concerning you, please talk to Sue Harries, Safeguarding Co-ordinator,  
or Paul Day, Vicar.***

***We must all look after one another.***



## Glazing and Locks

- Misted/broken double glazing replaced
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**Contact Jason on 07789761412**

# How to choose the right care home?

## At Carehome Connect We care about your care...



Choosing a care home can be daunting

- How do I know where to look and what to look for?
- What questions should I be asking a care home?
- What funding can I apply for?

**We can support you throughout the process from beginning to end.**

### Care advice

- Identifying what care is needed
- Advising how to meet care needs
- Discussing options - residential care, nursing care, home care

### Care search

- Finding care homes
- Short term care options
- Signposting related services

### Care choices

- Researching care options that match your needs
- Information and guidance

### Funding advice

- Information about funding
- Advice on how to apply

## FREE advice

## FREE support

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Email **help@carehomeconnect.co.uk**  
Web **www.carehomeconnect.co.uk**



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**Blossomfield Grange care home,  
Solihull**

### Dementia café

**Monday 3rd February, 10:30am - 12 noon**

Aimed at those living with dementia and their loved ones, you'll have the opportunity to meet other people, share experiences, take part in our fun activities, and get advice and support.

### Friendship café

**Last Monday of every month, 11am - 12 noon**

Join us for our monthly friendship café where you can meet like-minded people in the community for a chat, over a complimentary hot drink and freshly baked treats, prepared by our talented Head Chef.

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