

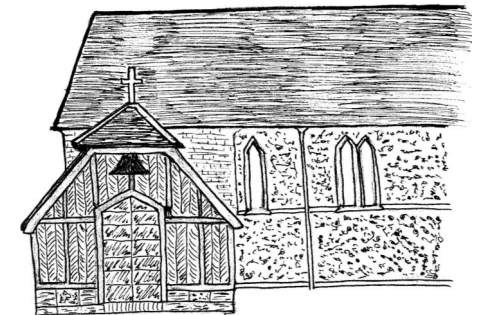
February/March 2012

The Parish Magazine for



St Mary the Virgin
Whitchurch

Whitchurch and



St John the Baptist,
Whitchurch Hill

Whitchurch Hill.

SERVICES AT ST MARYS AND ST JOHNS

First Sunday of the month:

8 am Holy Communion at St John's
9.30 am Parish Communion at St Mary's

Second Sunday of the month:

9.30am Sung Eucharist at St John's
11 am All Age Worship at St Johns
6pm Evening Prayer at St Mary's

Third Sunday of the month:

9.30am Sung Eucharist at St Mary's

Fourth Sunday of the month:

8am Holy Communion at St
Mary's
11 am All Age Worship at St John's
6pm Evening Prayer at St Mary's

Fifth Sundays

10.30am Team Service in one of the Team
churches

For further information see Pew Sheets or contact the church wardens.



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Officers of the Parish

Team curate:

Revd Claire Alcock
0118 9845702

Churchwardens:

Peter Ferguson, 21, Swanston Field,
Whitchurch on Thames 0118 9841262
Paul Witcher, Shepherds Close, Hardwick
Road, Whitchurch on Thames
0118 9844959

Vergers:

Honorary Secretary:

Anthea Laing, Swanston West, High Street,
Whitchurch-on-Thames 0118 984 2466

Organists and Choirmaster: Derek Benbow, Colin Windsor

Honorary Treasurer:

Robert Plumb, Uplands Cottage.
0118 984 4838

Assistant Treasurer:

Tony Voysey, Mow Cop, High Street.
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Our vision statement:

**We seek to be a worshipping family, looking outwards to
bless our community with the love of Christ.**

Editorial.

This first magazine of 2012 brings news of new ideas and new ventures within the church family and its activities. The Old Stables is (yes that is grammatical even if it looks and sounds odd, because that is the name of one single meeting room.) up and running, with Decathlon happening on Sunday mornings, a drop in starting on Tuesday mornings and a Ladies' meeting once a month on Monday afternoons. More details of all these activities are in the magazine.

In the magazine too, there is what I hope will be a long running series of features on the jobs that people in this village do. Jesus was a carpenter, before he became an itinerant teacher and healer, and it is only in our daily life that we can encounter God. He is as concerned about what we do from Monday to Friday as he is about what we do in church on Sunday. Also, there are very many interesting jobs done by people in this village and we are lucky to have such a variety of experience and expertise among us. So this series is an attempt to celebrate the many various ways life in this small village affects the world outside and beyond.

Because if the Christian faith tells us anything, it tells us that God himself came and shared, and sanctified human life, and cares about every and all people, everywhere.

Which is why you will also see in this issue an invitation to be part of a village seedbank, and information about concerts and other activities. And the church hopes to be part of this thriving and lovely village for many years to come, so do come and take part in the services and activities we put on. Life has a spiritual aspect and God wants to share the day to day lives of the people he has made.

Geraldine

*“Indoors or out, no one relaxes in March, that
month of wind and taxes,
the wind will presently disappear, the taxes last
us all the year.”*

- Ogden Nash



Dear friends,
 January can seem like a long month after the fun of Christmas. It contains the maximum number of days a month can have and therefore the longest wait for that pay cheque. January is also the month when the highest numbers of applications for divorce come into solicitors' offices. At the same time, magazines are full of ideas to 'detox' and lose weight, as if all the enjoyment of Christmas has to be undone as soon as possible.

In the church's calendar we are still in the season of Epiphany, which is not just endlessly remembering the visit of the wise men to Jesus but more generally the celebration of the 'revealing' of God in the flesh for us (epiphany means 'revelation' in Greek.) 'God in the flesh' is a neat way of describing the Christian faith. In Jesus Christ we have someone who wholly identifies with us yet who is mysteriously part of the Godhead too. Day to day this means that we have a God who is not too distant to be involved in the messiness of life and its problems (and joys) not just in January but all year round. So He cares when our relationships break down, when we don't have enough to live on, when we struggle as parents or worry about grandchildren. The church down the centuries has lost its way when it has given the impression that you must be 'sorted' and morally upright to approach God. It's the other way round in fact. Jesus came 'to seek and to save the lost' and spent most of his time mixing with people who were decidedly unreligious. When we know Christ, of course, we want to live lives that are pleasing to God and that bless other people, but we mustn't lose sight of the face that the Saviour is still seeking the lost, and that we can all become lost in so many ways without Him.

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PANGBOURNE CHORAL SOCIETY'S CELEBRATION OF ROYAL MUSIC

Pangbourne Choral Society will usher in the Queen's Diamond Jubilee with a Royal Music Celebration on Saturday 4th February at 7.00 pm in the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel, Pangbourne College, under their Music Director, Jonathan Brown.

The programme includes the Mozart *Coronation Mass*, Handel's four *Coronation Anthems* including *Zadok the Priest*, Walton's superb *Te Deum* (for two choirs) and Parry's grand coronation finale *I Was Glad*. There will also be a two-verse National Anthem with full trumpet fanfare. The timing coincides almost to the day with the anniversary of Her Majesty's accession to the throne in 1952.

Jonathan Brown will also conduct the Chameleon Arts Orchestra (appearing by arrangement with Chameleon Arts Management) in a performance of Vaughan Willams's arrangement of *Greensleeves*, which featured at the Queen's Coronation and was originally thought to have been composed by Henry VIII.

PCS is fortunate to be welcoming some exceptional soloists: Hannah and James Atherton (Soprano and Tenor), Stephen Taylor (Counter-Tenor) and Giles Underwood (Bass). Hannah and Stephen will be making their debuts with PCS.

Tickets (£15 including programme) are available from Premier Pets, Pangbourne, online at <http://www.wegotickets.com/event/147651> and via PCS members or on the door. Further information from <http://www.pangbournechoral.org.uk> or pchoralsoc@googlemail.com. Or call Tony Maynard on 01635 200354

So as the first month of the year finally draws to a close, we give thanks for a God who knows us, loves us and seeks us out. Locally we also give thanks that we have started our boys' group – 'Decathlon' - on Sunday mornings in The Old Stables (see separate article) and that we can also enjoy our post-worship coffee there now (come and share our refreshments on 1st and 3rd Sundays, 10.30!) In addition we will soon be open for Tuesday coffee mornings between 10 and 12. Do come - free coffee, good company and toys for kids (see advert in this magazine.)

Blessings, Claire

Coffee in the Old Stables

*Tuesday February 21st 10-12 noon
and weekly...*

Coffee drop in

*Free refreshments
Toys for children*



All welcome

*If you can help serve refreshments or make cakes
please contact Rev. Claire*

On 0118 984 5702

*Parish of Whitchurch
St Mary's and St John's*



We want to let people in the villages know about the things we plan and discuss in our PCC (Parochial Church Council) meetings. They are where we plan the activities of the church. So from now on, the Bulletin Board will be the place to look if you want to know what is going on in your local church.)

From the PCC meeting on January 26th

- Services:
 - ⇒ There will be joint services on Mothering Sunday (Sunday March 18th St Mary’s 10.30 am with refreshments in the Old Stables afterwards) and Easter Sunday (April 8th at St John’s 11 am, also with coffee afterwards)
 - ⇒ On Ash Wednesday (February 22nd at St Mary’s 7.30 pm) there will be a team service and on Good Friday (April 6th at St Mary’s 2pm)there will be a short Easter Meditation.
- Lent Course. We are considering material and venue for the Lent course this year. Anyone interested in attending contact Claire or the church wardens.
- The Old Stables.
 - ⇒ The coffee after the morning services in St Mary’s has moved to the Old Stables, where they join the Decathlon boys who have been having activities there during the service. Thanks go to Jenny Plumb for donating a plentiful supply of crockery.
 - ⇒ There will be drop in coffee morning on Tuesdays from 10– 12 am (Claire would like volunteers to help serve the coffee) and an informal ladies’ Bible Study from 2-3 on the first Monday of each month.
- We are hoping to have a stall at the Whitchurch Hill Fete and hope this will be something the All Age Worship congregation feels able to be part of.
- We were made aware of Nick Brazil’s wish to set up a concert for the Queens’ Jubilee and Claire is going to tell him the church would like to take part.
- Finance. We have paid our Parish Share. We need a faculty before we can continue with the new heating. This is because all changes to church buildings have to be agreed by the Diocese.

PURLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Talk

The AGM will take place on Wednesday, 15 February 2012 commencing at 8pm in Purley Memorial Hall, Glebe Road. As in previous years, when the official business has been completed there will be a “Bring & Share Buffet” We would be grateful if everyone attending could bring a plate of finger food. Wine and fruit juice will be supplied by the Society. Any nominations for election as an Officer or Committee member must be made in writing to Mr. J. Devine, 88 Purley Rise, Purley-on-Thames, RG8 8DH by 8th February, 2012. Please try and attend this meeting if possible.

Trading

The store in the Memorial Hall car park is now closed for the winter months and will re-open on Saturday, 4th February 2012. Seed potato order forms will be available at the Shed when it re-opens. If you wish to put in an early Sutton's seed order, please contact Margaret Rolfe on 9417247 for more details about discounts.

Secretary

The Society will require a new Secretary next year. The Committee is looking into the probability of splitting the duties between a Minute Secretary and someone to look after the secretarial side of the Society. We have six Committee meetings per year. If there are any of our members who feel they could carry out these important duties for the Society, John Devine (9625818), will be pleased to give you more details.

Spring Show

This will take place on Saturday, 31st March, 2012.

On behalf of the Committee I would like to wish you all the best for 2012.

Marion Dabbs,
9422349

*"The flowers of late winter and early spring occupy places in our hearts well out of proportion to their size."
- Gertrude S. Wister*



A Message of thanks from Lions Santa

Despite the current grim economic situation, Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club are pleased to announce they collected a grand total of £ 3,299.67 during their pre-Christmas tour of South Oxfordshire villages with Santa Claus this year. Below are figures for the Whitchurch collections for this year. Santa was able to do much better in the milder weather than last year, when he was unable to travel to reach Whitchurch, Whitchurch Hill and the Toll Bridge due to the heavy snow fall and icy conditions.

Whitchurch on Thames	11-Dec	£228.41
Whitchurch Hill	20-Dec	£320.00
Toll Bridge	17-Dec	£589.54

Lions Annual Charity Run Results

A perfect day for running enabled more than 400 people to take part in the 28th Annual 10k Charity Road Run organised by Goring, Woodcote & District Lions Club on Sunday 8th January 2012. During the run there was no wind and it was very mild for the time of year. Over £3,500 was raised which will be shared between the Air Ambulance (Berks/Oxon/Bucks) and "Robbie the Robot" (The RBH Prostate Cancer Appeal).

Although Goring, Woodcote and District Lions Club is part of an International "family" of Lions Clubs it is very much a local club, dedicated to helping the local community with members who live here. The majority of the Club's fund raising receipts are spent locally with approximately 10 % of funds going to support Lions International charitable projects in other parts of the world where people are in need of help.

For more details please telephone: 0845 833 9837 or e-mail 10k@lions-gwd.org.uk

Heating St Mary's

Pew heating of the main aisle and choir chancel was completed last year under Phase 1. We are most thankful for those folk who specifically donated towards the heating. Phase 1 has obtained an immediate cost savings of about £4000 which has helped with both reducing expenditures and increasing our savings.

However the church is still considered cold as the under pew heaters only provide background heating from the waist down. As we have more funds, the PCC at their last meeting voted for the commencement of phase 2 which entails high level solar infrared radiant heating and provide warmth to the top of the body. It is anticipated that with both phase 1 and 2 in operation that our outlay should not exceed £2000 pa. for heating and lighting, giving us an annual saving of £2000 from our original heating outlay

However phase 2 does require a submittal for a further faculty, although the initial total scheme was approved by the diocese and architect which included the high level heaters. However it is understood that there has been a change in regime and the new lady who sanctions faculties is influenced by English Heritage and opposed to high level heaters from an aesthetics perspective.

This is controversial and your church wardens will argue our case most vigorously, particularly as this does not seem to be a problem in other diocese in other parts of the country.

Peter Ferguson has discussed a further option with our design engineer John Francis that might be acceptable to the diocese if there is opposition to our solar heaters, using a chandelier system, which is more expensive and we have requested a ball-park quotation.

The church wardens are continuing to pursue a successful outcome



Peter Ferguson Church Warden, 30 January 2012

Spring is sooner recognized by plants than by men.

~Chinese Proverb

News from around the Team Ministry.

This is my first letter of 2012, so a belated Happy New Year to all readers. It is one of those occasions when a lot has been and will be happening around the Team ministry churches, so a short round up is in order.

St John's STROKE ROW are getting to grips with their exciting new open plan church, together with the under floor heating system. Bishop Colin is coming to take part in a special service of thanksgiving for the completed works on Friday March 9th at 2pm, when children from the school will also be involved. Everyone from around the Team is welcome to this service.


Revd Linda Smith (my deputy, and responsible for WOODCOTE) has been granted a sabbatical for the months of July-September. She is going to be undertaking further study in the spiritual exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola, and as a part of her leave will be at St Beuno's retreat centre in North Wales for a 30 day silent retreat, during which she will complete the Ignatian spiritual exercises.

St Peter & St Paul CHECKENDON are in the final stages of obtaining tenders and legal permissions for the roof project, which will see a new roof and improvements to drainage all around the church. If all goes to plan work could begin as early as March. Parishioners should be aware that when the works do commence the church will need to close for at least three months, as there will be scaffolding both filling the inside and cocooning the outside of the building. Sunday services will be able to continue however, next door in Checkendon School, by kind invitation of the Headteacher, Mrs Mary Bather. We pray that over the next twelve months we will see work completed on the church building that will enable it to continue to serve the community to the glory of God for the next hundred years.

The TEAM OFFICE at The Grove, Stoke Row is shortly to take delivery of a new Risograph high speed copier. One of the many advantages for smaller churches working together as we do is that resources can be pooled, and that items which would prove a struggle for Church Councils to afford or justify by themselves are now available for us all to use at a fraction of the cost.

And, lastly, St Mary and St John, WHITCHURCH are to be congratulated on the recent opening of their converted "Old Stables" parish centre, which sees the conclusion of ten years of works in and around the Old Rectory site, and an excellent new community facility for church and parish.

Things may look grim on the national scene, but there is much under our noses for which we should go into 2012 with gratitude in our hearts to God, whose mighty power has made these things possible.



HELP! We have a beautiful church which is part of our heritage but it needs to be cleaned and maintained. Due to age and infirmity the small but willing band who clean the brasses at St Mary's has dramatically contracted so that too heavy a burden is being placed on the few who remain. Please could we have some help.'

Lesley Landen 0118 984 2414

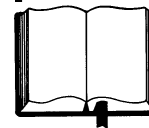
FRIENDS OF ST JOHNS

The Friends of St John's have done a tremendous amount of work over the last ten years in repairing and maintaining the buildings and the churchyard and have saved the PCC thousands of pounds. The list of projects is far too long to put here but you can see what has been achieved. Now is a good time to go and wander round the churchyard – this is best time of year with all the spring flowers blooming, silent reminders of all those otherwise unmarked graves.

At the end of the year there were no major projects at St John's on the horizon and although there is work to be done in the churchyard the PCC are looking after it. We had £43 left in the kitty and so, following the much lamented departure of Jo and Harvey Adams, rather than ask for subscriptions and do more fundraising which is not required we have donated that money to the church fund. Should the PCC find in the future that it needs assistance then the Friends will be resurrected.

Many thanks are due to Jo and Harvey, who have been the driving force, Kate and David Giles and John Baty for their hard work and also to the many supporters who have attended the Suppers, donated money and have made St John's look so good.

Sue Matthews



Evening Service

This takes place at St, Mary's at 6 pm, on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. It is supported by a small and faithful congregation.

We use the Book of Common Prayer service and extend a warm welcome to everyone for a short and contemplative act of worship .

Dalby Landen



What I do for a living

In this issue, we are starting a series of features on the working lives of people in the village. The series starts with a piece by Graeme Pearce

I am one of South Oxfordshire's many 'homeworkers'. I am a consulting engineer in water treatment working as a membrane technology specialist. My clients are worldwide, but thanks to the internet, I do most of my work from my home office, with occasional long haul travel. Since moving to Whitchurch in 1999, I have seen a dramatic change in working methods, which has made the way I do my job possible. There are pros and cons of working for yourself. Office politics are simpler, but motivation can sometimes be elusive until deadlines loom! If I want to wander into someone's office for a chat, I have to do it by telephone or skype.

Water treatment used to happen using large concrete structures, but the last 15 years have begun to see the extensive use of membrane technology. Initially membranes were seen as expensive and fragile. Now, they are used widely, particularly in North America and Asia. Membranes provide a barrier to contaminants in water sources. As populations increase and we all use more water per person, good quality sources have come under extreme pressure in some areas. Sometimes alternative resources have to be used which maybe from a seawater or wastewater source. Membranes are becoming more critical, since they provide a barrier to contaminants from stressed or low grade sources.

My clients may be contemplating a water treatment project and need help with deciding on the technology to use. New companies are coming into this expanding field and they want help with a strategic review or guidance on mergers and acquisitions. If I am lucky, they hear about me and that's my next client. Fortunately there are not too many people with my name, especially with the unusual spelling, and this helps with google search. If you would like to see more detail of what I do, have a look at my web site, www.membraneconsultancy.com.

Dr Graeme K Pearce

St John's Church Yard

We are most grateful for the work of the Friends of St John's who for many years raised funds and supported the upkeep of the church yard, with an emphasis on preserving wild life.

However the maintenance and preservation of St John's church yard is ultimately the responsibility of the elected church wardens.

Nature has a tendency to take over and it is necessary from time to time to prune back if not to overwhelm. It seemed that action was required for a number of reasons.

A family member from Australia visiting his relative's grave complained that it was inaccessible owing to trees growing through the grave.

The hedge on the boundary of the village green was impossible to prune because it was over-grown.

St John's church was not visible from the road and was a security issue from potential thieves.

Trees to the eastern boundary were causing damage to the eastern boundary fence of Orchard Coombe houses which has prompted Paul Whitcher to commission a part repair of a fence.

Most importantly the church yard was running out of burial plots to the West side and scrub to the eastern side needed clearing for future plots.

Both church wardens attended the last meeting of the friends of St John's and explained our position and also to thank members of the Friends for their past support. In order to undertake remedial work in a transparent process, it was proposed that a plan would be made of the intended work, indicating what trees would be removed.

This plan has been displayed on the church notice board since early December. The plan itself was reviewed by a tree specialist who conferred with the proposal.

The Church Wardens approached both the Diocesan legal team and local authority and received their approval for intended works.

Both Bill and Ken Butler have volunteered in their own time and have done sterling work in removing an ash tree causing damage to John Gray's property at Orchard Coombe as well as the removal of scrub to clear graves and open up new burial ground. They plan grass seeding which should assist with mowing.

We are also happy to say that last year the Bill and Ken pruned the hedge to the southern boundary and interspersed it with new planting. In a couple of years the hedge will be well-established and at a height where it can be accessible for cutting and be well-maintained.

Two of the benefits are that for many years the church has not been visible from the green. Now the charming aspect of the church is opened up to the village and many comments of appreciation have been received. A second point is that mothers have felt safer after the hedge has been removed to prevent undetected lurking.

As per the tree plan we intend to remove a couple of fir trees that have encroached onto the entrance drive to the church. The removal of these trees will allow the church to be seen from the main road and deter potential thieves. We shall be retaining one fir tree near the church as children from the All Age Worship enjoy playing there.

We have a plan to tie back the firs in an arch to the south side of the church which should open up a beautiful view of the Cross from the road. New dramatic views of the church with a blend of wild life are envisaged to allow visitors the beauty of a quite sanctuary that is well-maintained.

As the Butlers have created a pile of wood from their pruning we are asking the parishioners if they would like to help themselves to the wood but we would request a small donation to help with the expenses and upkeep of the yard.

Also in the spring we will call upon volunteers and working parties to help Bill and Ken to clean up some of the graves that have been exposed.

It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade. ~

Charles Dickens

Christmas Coffee Morning

The Christmas Coffee Morning held at Dalby & Lesley Landen's home in December was a great success. A good time was had by all who attended and we thank them.

£460.90p was raised for the Church Heating Fund.

Lesley thanks all those who have supported this event over the years and especially this year at the final one to be held by her.

Is there anyone who wants to take it on???

Tony Voysey

Lesley would like the owners of two scarves and a 'Green's' shopping bag which were left after the coffee morning, to come and collect them.

We also need to give Lesley a huge thank you for so many years of organising and hosting this Coffee Morning.



Prayer Page

The purest form of prayer is worship. St Francis saw God in everything around him and this is his song of praise and worship to the Creator of the world he loved.

You are holy, Lord, the only God, and your deeds are wonderful.
You are strong, you are great, you are the most high, you are almighty.

You, Holy Father, are King of heaven and earth.

You are Three and One, Lord God, all good.

You are good, all good, supreme good, Lord God, living and true.

You are love, you are wisdom. You are humility, you are endurance.

You are rest, you are peace.

You are joy and gladness, you are justice and moderation.

You are all our riches, and you suffice for us.

You are beauty, you are gentleness.

You are our protector, you are our guardian and defender.

You are courage, you are our haven and hope.

You are our faith, our great consolation.

You are our eternal life, great and wonderful Lord,
God almighty, merciful Saviour.

St Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)



SEED SWAP !

SATURDAY 11TH FEB at 2 – 4.30pm
The Old Stables Meeting Room, High Street, Whitchurch

The main purpose of this first Seed Swap is to kick-start a Seedsavers Group in the Whitchurch and Pangbourne area. The primary aim of the group is to build up over time a truly living seed-bank of vegetables that will be genetically adapted to our local environment, and will be independent of the big seed companies. By saving seed and then sharing our surplus seed with other local gardeners each season, we hope to turn the tide in a modest way against the standardised hybrid varieties, where every seed is identical, in every packet, year after year - no adaptability for different soils, or for changes in climate over time.

If you are new to this interesting aspect of gardening, there will be lots of hints and tips about how to start seed saving this year, so that you will be able to contribute your own surpluses in 2013!

We will welcome contributions of saved vegetable seeds, saved flower seeds and any left-over packets of non-hybrid commercial seeds. All packets should preferably be well-sealed and clearly labelled please. If you have any unwanted gardening magazines and books, do bring those too for passing on. However, you are very welcome to join in, even if you are not able to bring anything to this first Swap.

A short introductory talk will take place at 2.30pm followed by the Seed Swap and a chance to meet and exchange ideas. Refreshments will be available throughout the afternoon.

For further details, please contact Sally Woolhouse on 0118 9844365 or sally.woolhouse@gmail.com



*"Keep your faith in beautiful things;
in the sun when it is hidden,
in the Spring when it is gone."
- Roy R. Gibson*

Church Charity Fund

As a church we want to share the good things that we have been given with those who are less blessed. One way we do this is through the church charity fund. At the moment we support two charities—one in Africa and one very locally in Reading. Lagos Dragons Rugby Football Club is a charity set up by church warden Peter Ferguson to give street children in Lagos a hope and a goal by giving them something to belong to and a focus to their lives. Christian Community Action is a charity of which our other church warden, Paul Witcher is a trustee. It aims to bless the poor and needy in the local area supporting them with the necessities of life, and Christian love and support. Increasingly, this includes the basic food to keep families healthy. We in the church have agreed to bring non perishable food items to the services on the second Sunday of each month to help with this. But they also need furniture and household items of all kinds, as well as clothes and bedding. Or....

Turn your old computers into cash for CCA



We have teamed up with Money4Computers, who will recycle your old computers and give us 90% of the money they get for them. So you can stop your computer from going to landfill and raise funds for CCA in the process!

Personal data is safely destroyed - all personal data is either destroyed using government approved data wiping software, or shredded.

We can accept all kinds of laptops and desktops, as well as keyboards, cables and mice. Please note however that we can't take monitors, speakers and disk drives.

Simply **take them to our Silver Street outlet Mon - Fri 10am - 4pm, Sat 10am - 1 pm** (unfortunately we are unable to accept them at any of our other sites).

Wanted! We're always short of these for clients: Chests, double beds, wardrobes, bunks

In addition the Outlet is turning a small area of waste ground into a garden. Raised flower bed edging and other garden related paraphernalia would be much appreciated.

For more information or to donate phone Paul on 9844959

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I want you to do more than just watch a race. I want you to take part in it. I want to compare faith to running in a race. It's hard. It requires concentration of will, energy of soul.

Eric Liddell 400M Gold Medallist in Paris 1924

Where? The Old Stables Meeting Room in Whitchurch-on-Thames (opposite the Ferryboat).

When? 15th January and other Sundays @ 0945 till 1045

What? A chance to train for the Greatest and most Challenging Event of all- THE RACE OF LIFE.

How? Using sport and fun games to explore the Christian Faith, followed by refreshments.

Why? A chance to ask/discuss the BIG Questions about God! And to get us ready for the London Olympics!

Who? Boys ages 9-14. Hopefully girls when we can get a woman leader!

<u>Decathlon Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>
15th January	Goalball
29th January	Volleyball
5th February	Archery
4th March	Dressage
1st April	Shotput
15th April	Modern Pentathlon
6th May	4x4 Relay
20th May	Fencing
17th June	Marathon
1st July	Gymnastics
15th July	Olympic Special



All Age Worship

Second and fourth Sundays of each month. St John's Church, Whitchurch Hill. 11 am The services are informal, fun, inclusive and not too long. . We use puppets, powerpoints and have activities for children. There is coffee and cookies after the service.

If you want any further information please contact Paul or Geraldine Witcher on 0118 9844959 or Rev Claire on 0118 9845702

