

PRESS RELEASE

24 November 2015

EWELL UNITES BEHIND UNIQUE ADVENT TREASURE HUNT

A Christmas countdown with a difference will begin on Tuesday (December 1) as Ewell's community unites for the village's Advent Calendar Treasure Hunt.

Letters of the alphabet, or 'clues', found in 24 shops and churches around the village will combine to make a Christmas-themed phrase.

The winning child who finds all 24 clues and works out the answer will receive a family ticket to Epsom Playhouse with runner-up prizes also available.

This exciting venture is the result of collaboration between St Mary's Church, Ewell Village Traders' Association and 1st Ewell Village (St Mary's) Brownies, who have been working on plans for the treasure hunt since the summer.

Each child wishing to take part has their own booklet, with a list of the names of all the shops and churches displaying a clue and space to enter beside each name the letter they find there. The draw to find the winners will be made at the beginning of the 2.30pm Crib Service at St Mary's Church on Christmas Eve.

Traders are also inviting villagers to take advantage of special offers, discounts and freebies on the dates corresponding with their shop names.

Vicar of St Mary's, Ewell, the Revd Russell Dewhurst said: "I'm so glad that church and village are coming together for the second year running this Advent. The calendar treasure hunt will add to the excitement of the season as Christmas draws near and we discover, at the end of 24 days, Jesus at the heart of it all."

Among the shops to take part in the calendar is 'All things Nice' in Ewell High Street which will be providing the runner-up prizes. Shop owners Sara and Nicci said: "'All things Nice' is very excited to be starting the Ewell Advent Calendar again this year. We are so pleased with the support we have received over the past year and have 'grown' into the shop next door. We look forward to welcoming you."

Annie Ralph, representing Ewell Village Traders' Association said: "An ideal time for children to find the clues will be on 4th December from 5pm to 8pm at

Ewell Yule. That evening many of the shops in the village and St Mary's Church will be open and there will be lots happening."

You can find out more about the Ewell Advent Calendar Treasure Hunt at https://www.facebook.com/All-Things-Nice, about Ewell Yule on 4th December 5-8pm at https://www.facebook.com/EwellYule2015 and about what's happening at St Mary's Church through December and over Christmas by visiting www.stmarysewell.com or Facebook www.facebook.com/stmarysewell-ends

Notes to editors:

- 1. 24 numbered posters created by St Mary's Brownies will be displayed on 1st December and the Ewell Advent Calendar Treasure Hunt begins on that day.
- 2. Copies of the booklet for children who wish to participate will be available in the village shops and two churches and distributed to local schools.
- 3. The 24 letters, the clues which need to be discovered to make up the catch phrase which is the answer, will be displayed inside the participating shops listed below and on the outside notice board of both churches.

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1<sup>st</sup>
             All Things Nice
2<sup>nd</sup>
            The Cottage Hair Lounge
3<sup>rd</sup>
             Greenfield Estate Agent
4<sup>th</sup>
             Ricky's Chemist
5<sup>th</sup>
             Riche (Fashion Boutique)
6<sup>th</sup>
             Sainsbury's Local
7<sup>th</sup>
             BBL (Florist)
8<sup>th</sup>
             Country Clothing & Store
9<sup>th</sup>
             Pink Lemon Honeypot (Cupcakes/parties)
10<sup>th</sup>
             Alpine Works (Electrical/mechanical)
11<sup>th</sup>
             Houghton White (Optometrist)
12<sup>th</sup>
             Skin Secrets
13<sup>th</sup>
             Christ Church (Cheam Road)
14<sup>th</sup>
            Deli Delight
15<sup>th</sup>
            Ram Security & Fire
16<sup>th</sup>
            Beauty Box
17<sup>th</sup>
            Dancia
18<sup>th</sup>
            Mark Anthony Estate Agents
19<sup>th</sup>
            Kelly's Chemist
20<sup>th</sup>
            Co-Op
21<sup>st</sup>
            Krinkles
22<sup>nd</sup>
            Ewell Village Dry Cleaners
23<sup>rd</sup>
             Headstuff Coaching (Lighter Life)
24<sup>th</sup>
             St Mary's Church, London Road
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- 4. The 1st prize is a family ticket to Epsom Playhouse. There are other prizes. The draw will be made at the beginning of the 2.30pm Crib Service 'Come to a Party!' at St Mary's Church London Road KT17 2AY on Christmas Eve.
- 5. The heart of Christmas will also be revealed at a 4pm Crib Service 'The arrival at Bethlehem' at St Mary's on Christmas Eve and at 11.45pm there will be Midnight Mass. See the church website www.stmarysewell.com for details of all their Christmas services.

For more information contact: Annie Ralph on 07765 515 744 or the Revd Sue Ayling on 020 8337 6347 or assistantpriest@stmarysewell.com