

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

Tuesday 1	11am	Service and Coffee in Frampton Mansell
Wednesday 2	7.30pm	BEAT meeting in St Peter's Hall
Thursday 3	7.30pm	Coates Gardening Club <i>Butterflies and Moths</i>
Saturday 5	2 - 4pm	Farm Club at Watershed RDA
Monday 7	7.30pm	Coates Parish Council meeting
Tuesday 8	7.30pm	Sapperton with Frampton Mansell Parish Council meeting in Sapperton
Tuesday 15	2pm	Kemble & Ewen WI meeting
Tuesday 15	7pm	Frampton Mansell Rural Cinema <i>Brooklyn</i>
Tuesday 15	11.55am	Mobile library visiting Coates
Thursday 17	2.30pm	Good Companions AGM and Bingo
Friday 18	10.30am	Coffee Morning with stalls in Kemble Village Hall

APRIL

Tuesday 12	11.55am	Mobile library visiting Coates
Tuesday 12	7.30pm	Sapperton with Frampton Mansell Parish Council meeting in Frampton Mansell
Thursday 3	7.30pm	Coates Gardening Club <i>Gardens, Gardening and Plant Conservation</i>

MAY

Tuesday 10	11.55am	Mobile library visiting Coates
Tuesday 10	7pm	Sapperton with Frampton Mansell Parish Council AGM in Sapperton

THE WATERSHED MAGAZINE



St Matthew's, Coates

March 2016

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Coates Village Hall	Susan PJ	770596
Coates Neighbourhood Watch	Liz Allen	07771 553061/771229
Frampton Mansell Village Hall	Bookings	760102 or 760300
Rodmarton & Tarlton PC Chair	Paul Drake	770267
Rodmarton & Tarlton PC Clerk	Susan Hare	ex-dir
Rodmarton School		841284
Rodmarton Village Hall	Jasper Biddulph	770230
Rodmarton Cricket Club	Nick Clarke	841421
Sapperton with FM PC Chair	Sarah Osborn-Smith	760874
Sapperton/FM PC Clerk	Kath Sanderson	760480
Sapperton/FM Snow Warden	Mark Franklin	760226
Sapperton Tree Warden	Paul Dingley	760788
Sapperton Village Hall	Annette Bullock	760468
Sapperton School	Dawn Thomas	760325
Royal British Legion	John Chilton	770726
Good Companions	Betty Mixture	770569
Watershed RDA	Bob Merrill	771496
Watershed Farm Club	Liz Collins	770621
District Councillors		
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Kemble Ward	Tony Berry	770220
County Councillor	Anthony Hicks	01666 504792
Member of Parliament	Geoffrey Clifton-Brown	01452 371630
Cirencester Hospital		655711
Police non emergency (24hrs)		101
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MOBILE LIBRARY VISITS

The mobile library visits Coates every 4 weeks. The visit for the next 2 months will be on Tuesday 15 March and 12 April between 11.55am and 12.55pm outside the village hall.

CLOSING DATE FOR THE APRIL MAGAZINE

Contributions should be sent to Bob Merrill at Glebe House, Coates, GL7 6NU. Telephone 07866 972389 or by e-mail to the Watershed magazine at watershedmag@gmail.com. Articles should be in Arial font at 11 point with **formatting kept as simple as possible**. The editor reserves the right to edit any articles. **All articles should be submitted by 12 March at the latest for inclusion in the next issue.**

ADVERTISING IN THE WATERSHED

If you wish to advertise in our parish magazine please contact Bob Merrill at Glebe House, Coates, GL7 6NU. Tel 771496, Mobile 07866 972389 or by e-mail to the Watershed magazine at watershedmag@gmail.com.

SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE

2 March	10am	Kemble	Holy Communion
6 March	9.30am	Kemble	Family Service
	9.30am	Coates	Family Service
	11am	Poole Keynes	Family Service
	11am	Somerford Keynes	Morning Prayer
	11am	Rodmarton	Holy Communion
	11am	Sapperton	Holy Communion
9 March	10am	Kemble	Holy Communion
13 March	9.30am	Coates	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Kemble	Family Service
	9.30am	Poole Keynes	Holy Communion
	11am	Tarlton	Holy Communion
	11am	Somerford Keynes	Holy Communion
	11am	Rodmarton	Mattins
	11am	Frampton Mansell	Holy Communion
16 March	10am	Kemble	Holy Communion
20 March	9.30am	Kemble	Family Service
10.15am - Palm Sunday procession from Kemble and Somerford Keynes to Poole Keynes. For more details see p6.			
	11am	Rodmarton	Liturgy of Palms
	11.30am	Poole Keynes	Morning Prayers
23 March	10am	Kemble	Holy Communion
24 March	7.30pm	Coates	Foot Washing
25 March	9.30am	Coates	Village Procession
	11am	Kemble	Meditation
	2pm	Somerford Keynes	Meditation
	2pm	Sapperton	Meditation

7pm	Rodmarton	Compline
26 March	Holy Saturday	
7.30pm	Tarlton	Easter Fire
27 March	Easter Day	
6.30am	Poole Keynes	Holy Communion
8am	Tarlton	Holy Communion (BCP)
9.30am	Kemble	Holy Communion
9.30am	Coates	Holy Communion
11am	Poole Keynes	Family Service
11pm	Somerford Keynes	Holy Communion
11am	Rodmarton	Holy Communion

REFLECTIONS FROM THE RECTORY

Matt 7:²⁴ “Therefore, everyone who listens to these messages of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on a rock. ²⁵ The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, but it did not collapse because its foundation was on the rock.

²⁶ “Everyone who keeps on hearing these messages of mine and never puts them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. ²⁷ The rain fell, the floods came, the winds blew and battered that house, and it collapsed—and its collapse was total.”

²⁸ When Jesus had finished saying all these things, the crowds were utterly amazed at his teaching, ²⁹ because he was teaching them like a person who had authority, and not like their scribes.

I expect almost everyone will be familiar with this scripture, it is a graphic image that seems too close to home in those parts of the country that seem to regularly be at risk of flooding. Jesus though is not talking about the physical risk but is drawing a parallel with our responses to the spiritual realm. What is it that you rely upon, what are the building blocks of your life? Have you thought through and considered what you believe and why you believe it or do you think it doesn't matter. I would argue that it is crucial to reflect on why you believe what you believe and why we act the way we do. The fundamental question of life is what it means to be human. If there is nothing beyond the present moment then survival is everything but if there is reason and purpose to the universe then being in tune with it is surely important. The foolish man was too lazy or too self centred to think about it and act upon his conclusion and so suffered the consequences. He did not believe the rainy day would come or that if



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it did it would not be too bad. He was wrong and it was too late to change.

In our Lent group this year we are looking at some ideas that come from the story of Stephen Hawking as told in the recent film 'The Theory of Everything' (highly recommend it if you haven't seen it). Good science has to ask questions and test the limits of our knowledge and understanding, it seeks to explore the unknown but good science should also not seek to make the evidence fit the desired conclusion. As far as I am aware the jury is out (scientifically speaking) on God. Of course if we could prove the existence and nature of God then I don't think he would be God so it is a futile search in that regard but science cannot answer the really important question about the meaning of life (the answer is not 42). The firm foundations in the story are built upon the promises of God, upon his eternal purpose and love for that which God has made. It is a mystery, why should God pay any interest in us, except that it pleases him to do so? Easter is the visible and painful expression of that interest as Jesus dies in agony on the cross. The promise of God's love is sealed in Christ's blood and revealed in the empty tomb. Beyond the mystery lies the truth that God commits to his creation and seeks to bring it to the point of choice, a good choice to follow the perfect will and love of God and live in his light.

This Easter as you break open the tomb of your Easter Egg will it be hollow and without purpose or will it be filled with the richness of life lived with God? Happy Easter!

With love and prayers

Trevor Kemp

Rector

TIME OUT BIBLE DISCUSSION

The Time Out Bible discussion group for mothers of school age children in the Benefice meets twice each month on Thursdays at 10am. For further details please contact Julie on 770123 or email julieallen47@btinternet.com or juliepaulmorton@gmail.com.

PRAYERS IN THE BENEFICE

- ◆ Wednesdays at Kemble at 10am (Holy Communion)
- ◆ Tuesdays at Kemble at 8.30am
- ◆ Fridays at Rodmarton at 9.15am
- ◆ Saturdays at Somerford Keynes (first Saturday in the month only)

PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

On Palm Sunday there will be a procession to Poole Keynes starting at 10.15am from Kemble and Somerford Keynes aiming to arrive at Poole Keynes at about 11.30am for a service in the church followed by a bring and share meal in the village hall. Both walks are about 2½ miles.

We hope to arrange leave cars at Poole Keynes to be able to take people back to their start point if they wish.

For further details contact any of the clergy listed at the front of the magazine. Please note there will be no services at Coates or Frampton Mansell. The Liturgy of Palms will take place at Rodmarton at 11am.

www.thamesheadchurches.org.uk

We are delighted to announce the arrival of the new Thameshead Benefice Website!

Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, starting out at church or already a member or if you just want to know more, there is something for everyone.

Open meeting - all welcome!

Tuesday 12th April, 6pm (The Bell, Sapperton)

Are you willing to lend a hand to make this year's Cotswold Highland Games the best yet? The games raise funds for Sapperton School and the beautiful Churches of St Kenelm in Sapperton and St Lukes in Frampton Mansell. From the BBQ to welly wanging to taking money on the gate - even if you can spare just a couple of hours that afternoon it would be a great help. Or perhaps you have some ideas to throw into the mix? Either way - please get in touch:

Come along to our open meeting or contact
Jeremy Hoskins: jeremyhoskins@btconnect.com or
Rachel McHugh: rachel.mchugh@yahoo.co.uk

www.cotswoldhighlandgames.org (Park Corner Farm, Nr Sapperton - Sat 14th May)



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NEWS FROM COATES

COATES VILLAGE LOTTERY

The recent draw of this year's Coates Village Hall lottery took place on 5 February. Prizes were awarded as follows:-

First prize	£50 to no 57	Fiona Merrill
Second prize	£30 to no 9	Virginia Russell
Third prize	£20 to no 45	Philip Yates

Please remember that new subscribers are always welcome.

Subscriptions cost £4 per month, for any number of months from one to the number of remaining months in that year. Forms are available from Diana Crane, Betty Mixture, Ron Smith or Michael Vaughan. The next draw will be held at 7.30pm on Friday 4 March at the village hall if there is a Family Day, or at the Old School if there is no Family Day. All are welcome to attend.

Diana Crane

COATES PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of the parish council will be on Monday 7 March in the village hall. There will be an opportunity for people to hear about plans for rerouting Cotswold Show traffic through the village, Chesterton housing plans and the possible transfer of ownership to Coates parish council of the Bromford Garage site in the village. Everyone is welcome to come and offer their opinions on these matters as well as hearing the rest of the business.

Libby Harrison Coates Parish Clerk

COATES HAS A NEW WEBSITE

Add www.coatesparish.org.uk to your favourites now so it's easy to keep in touch with news and events in Coates.

- Would you like to publicise an event that you are organising?
- Would you like to promote a service that you can offer?
- Want to know what is discussed at the parish council?
- Ever wondered about hiring the village hall?
- New to the village?

Explore the website to find out about village history and local facilities. How else could the website help you? Got a village photo that would look good on the website? Send your ideas to: info@coatesparish.org.uk.

COATES GARDENING CLUB

We had an excellent evening in February when Sue Albone told the story and showed a film (made for Australian television) about the making of her son's breath-taking garden entered in the 2015 Chelsea Flower Show. He was awarded a well-deserved Silver Gilt. The immense amount of preparation, construction and planting was a revelation, and we will look out for Charlie's next entry to Chelsea in May this year.

Our meeting on Thursday 3 March at 7.30pm in Coates village hall will have Sue Dodd and Sue Smith advising us on Gardening for Butterflies and Moths. There will be a raffle and refreshments and visitors are welcome to join us for £2.50 for the evening.

Then on Thursday 7 April a local speaker, Fiona Merrill from Coates, will speak on Gardens, Gardening and Plant Conservation. Do come along.

Margaret Reynolds 771354

THE GOOD COMPANIONS

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 17 March at 2.30pm in Coates village hall for our Annual General Meeting. New members over 55 are very welcome. Bingo will follow the business and we will finish with a raffle and refreshments. Annual subscriptions will be collected.
Betty Mixture

THINKING OF OTHERS

On Friday 18 March at 10.30am in Kemble village hall we will be raising money for the Gurkha Welfare Trust and the National Memorial Arboretum. Stalls will include Easter bring and buy, cakes and produce, raffle and guess the bucket contents. Entrance will be £3 to include a savoury or sweet scone and hot drink.

This event has been organized independently by members of the RBLWS branch. Any contributions to the event most appreciated either in cash or donations to the stalls to Pat. Just ring her on 770385 if you need them to be collected. Thank you on behalf of the charities.

CIRENCESTER EATING DISORDER SUPPORT GROUP

The local team will be on hand for the monthly meeting to be held on Wednesday 2 March which takes place in St Peter's Lounge, St Peter's Court, St Peter's Road, Cirencester from 7.30 - 9pm.

The International Eating Disorder conference takes place in London later this month and I will be attending some lectures.

Please feel free to call me for a chat anytime; if the answerphone kicks in I will ring you back at my earliest convenience.

Further details about the group in confidence can be obtained from Pat 01285 770385.

CIRENCESTER CRICKET CLUB

invite

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Come along and meet us – Have fun!!

NOTES FROM CULKERTON (cont)

strengthens its hold on us, and a promise of a richer future.

Lent brings an element of discipline to spring, and perhaps more importantly, of deep contemplation; without it, spring might become pantheistic or even degenerate into a Bacchanalian riot, such that its meaning might be overlooked, and the whole experience taken utterly for granted. Maybe we need Lent, simply because Lent is the genesis of spring.

Matthew Oates

KEMBLE AND DISTRICT RBL WOMEN'S SECTION

In the press recently there has been a lot of news re the future of the women's section. As it stands at the moment The National and County Standards will be laid up but the branch Standards will stay. Branches will continue but the women's section as a whole will become a District under the Royal British Legion. The National Women's Section conference takes place in April in Southport and I am sure there will be quite a lot of discussion and even moaning!

Do join the local ladies and help us continue our valued work which we have done for the past 70+ years.

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NEWS FROM SAPPERTON AND FRAMPTON MANSELL

PAWS FOR THOUGHT

It's strange isn't it that, in the story of Pandora's box, the last thing left when everything else flew out was Hope. For me it suggests that human beings see it as a last resort. We seem to take a negative view of Hope; it is only there when all else fails.

For our four pawed friends however Hope features high in their lives; they follow our actions always looking for clues. Putting on a coat may be greeted with anything from a raised head to a full body wag, donning boots increases anticipation still further and the sight of the lead confirms that the Hope of a longed for walk is fulfilled.

Our dog stops whatever he is doing at the sound of car keys, he doesn't care who is going out, where they are going, he simply loves to go for a ride. Of course if you happen to be passing through pheasant infested countryside then it becomes the best day ever, surpassing all Hope and almost, but not quite, fulfilling his wildest dreams.

I take for granted unlimited supplies of marmite soldiers. I'm lucky enough to even have a jar with my name on. But actions lead to expectation for animals; the sound of the toaster and of a knife scraping over the crisp surface of the bread will undoubtedly lead to a chin on the knee and a pair of soulful eyes gazing hopefully up in the expectation of a little morsel. I know, I know, it's a bad habit to succumb to those eyes and I always put the little pieces from the end of each marmite finger into his bowl; I don't give in and feed him from the table. It is within my power to fulfil Hope and fill his doggy life with little pleasures which I too enjoy and which bring a smile to my face.

The dictionary defines Hope as 'the feeling that what is wanted can be had or that events will turn out for the best'. This definition is far more positive than the way Hope features in many of our lives. Perhaps our four legged friends have it right once again and we too should believe in Joy rather than merely Hope it can occasionally be glimpsed.

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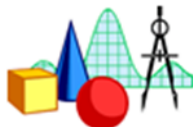
Does your teenager need a little extra help with Maths?

Would it help if they could understand some topics better?

Do you feel they could speed up with a bit more practice?

Wouldn't it be good for them to feel confident about Maths, not just for exams but for life?

If the answer to any of these questions is "Yes", then call Rosemary Bailey on 01285 770278 to find out how I can help. Afternoon and evening sessions available.



SERVICE AND COFFEE

We are holding a said communion service, followed by coffee on the first Tuesday of the month, 1 March, at Woodstock in Frampton Mansell. The service will start at 11am with coffee and a natter at 11.30am.

We would love to see you for either or both. Want to know more? Need a lift? Phone Pepita or Paul on 760211.



NOTES FROM CULKERTON (cont)

This year I will be trying out soil blockers. Cubes of seed compost are formed with a gadget, and lined up on trays, ready to take the seeds. The benefit is less root disturbance when planting out.

If you are planning to relocate any of your garden plants do this now before the end of the month, and remember to water in newly planted, even if rain is forecast.

Continue to remove weeds, and to protect young plants from short bursts of cold frosty conditions.

Sally Oates

LENTEN MUSINGS

By excluding Sundays, when we're obliged to be good anyway, Lent is extended from 40 to 46 days. But that may be no bad thing, for Lent is perhaps the most magical time of year, bringing the birth of spring. It is a time of yearning, for spring is a yearning that gradually becomes real. And Lent is a time of relenting, as winter gradually relents its grip – not that it had much grip this time round, being of the mild, wet and windy variety, again.

Our Lenten spring is a time of re-acquaintance with old friends, many of which lie half-forgotten until they suddenly reappear within spring's sequence. How often do we forget that there is a patch of Grape Hyacinths or a great aunt's favourite Crown Imperial outside the old summerhouse, until it suddenly reappears? How many of summer's lesser birds fade from our minds until they suddenly reappear, and are welcomed – like the Blackcap and Common Whitethroat? How many of us forget the very existence of butterflies until one suddenly appears as spring lifts off? (The latter, in my humble opinion, constitutes a cardinal Sin). Spring does that to us. And Lent plays tricks on us, deliberately I suspect – like extending itself to 46 days.

Above all, our spring is a living miracle, a time of radical transformation, transmogrification and, more obviously, resurrection. It is a deep metaphor for something almost unfathomable, quite ineffable; and Lent exacerbates it all, deliberately. Lent is a master of ceremonies. Spring and Lent are partners, in beatification. The very words and concepts associated with Lent - like Lenten, Lenten days and Lenten ways - offer a sense of deeper, truer belonging, a vital attachment to a rich past in danger of becoming lost as materialism

NOTES FROM CULKERTON

GARDENING TIPS FOR MARCH

Whatever the weather the daylight hours are improving; we can now enjoy 11 hours and are gaining light evenings.

Thoughts now can turn to seed sowing. The ground is probably still too cold for direct sowings, but hardy plants can be sown under protection, either greenhouse, cold frame or a windowsill with good light. A heated propagator is very useful at this time of year. Read growing instructions as some seeds need light to germinate, and best germination temperatures are advised.

Lettuce varieties, baby leaf salad mixtures, Brussels Sprouts, Celeriac, Aubergines or something different like Pea shoots can be started now. Put the pea seeds thickly in seed trays and cut at 8cm length as required. 'Black Badger' is said to be very sweet. This is a cut and cut again crop. Grow on a sunny windowsill, place a thick layer of seed peas over compost there is no need to cover these. Water carefully but frequently to keep the peas growing again and again from new side shoots.

Flowering plants to start now with extra heat are antirrhinums, asters, Dahlia 'Bishop's Children', Cleome and Ten week Stocks. A good tip for sowing small seeds is to use a dampened artist's paintbrush to pick up and space each seed.

Some planting outside can be considered around Easter this year if the weather has stayed mild. Prolonged wet weather does seem to keep the ground colder for longer and seeds will just rot in cold wet ground so if in doubt wait or put fewer seeds in and repeat sow in two weeks' time. Last year early sowings did well with a very warm April, but seeds sown during April failed to germinate as it was too warm and dry.

There are plenty of vegetables that can be started outside soon such as beetroot, broad beans, chard, summer cabbages, kale, kohlrabi, leeks, peas and while the ground is cool parsnips.

Hardy Annuals like cornflowers, nigella, calendula, clarkia and Californian Poppies can be sown where they will flower. Although sweet peas are hardy I find starting them in pots is more reliable. If you have already have young plants, pinch the tops out to promote side shoots, and harden off well before planting out to avoid immediate slug attacks!

SCHOOL TIES - SAPPERTON SCHOOL NEWS



Schools Out! The evenings are getting lighter and we have seen all weathers over the last few weeks from endless rain to bright sunshine and even a light dusting of snow. We are already at half term and, who knows, by next month's newsletter spring might actually be with us!

So what's been happening at Sapperton? Year 5 have attended the annual Dancing Festival at the Bingham Hall (and did very well by all accounts), After School Clubs have been very well attended (and it's nice to see some Reception, Year 1's and 2's joining their seasoned shipmates for Board Games on the Orlop Deck) and Pancake Day has been and gone (this term just seems to be flying by). At this latter event a delicious serving of pancakes in the playground was cooked, tossed (well almost) and served by Years 5 & 6. This is where the snow came in although, on the whole, the weather was kind, spirits weren't dampened and the event managed to raise a small sum for school.

Also on the subject of Years 5 & 6, from the sports desk, I can report that Sapperton did well in a recent local schools indoor cricket competition at Kingshill School which bodes well for the summer term (although I am reliably informed that competition is fierce and further successes may be dependent on some dedicated bowling coaching: Are there any Dads out there who would like to develop their budding Ray Illingworths? (sorry, that dates me – but you know what I mean).

Cricket not your thing? Well, elsewhere, there are rumours from the Ship's Chandlery that, with the arrival of warmer weather, a volunteer working party will be getting to grips with restoring the Adventure Playground and planting the area behind and below the new classrooms. This is an ideal opportunity to make the most of this valuable space and all help will be greatly appreciated. Further details will no doubt be promulgated by the Bo'sun in Parent Mail.

And finally, one to look forward to as we get nearer to Easter. By popular demand Canon Andrew and Sue Bowden's donkeys will be back for a special Holy week Donkey Service in Cirencester parish church on Wednesday 9 March at 10.45am which Years 3 & 4 will be attending. As ever, all are welcome to this event. Watch this space for further details.

Molesworth

NEWS FROM RODMARTON, TARLTON, CULKERTON AND HAZLETON

FROM LENT

It's true, we cannot reach Christ's fortieth day;
Yet to go part of that religious way
Is better than to rest:
We cannot reach our Saviour's purity;
Yet are we bid, 'Be holy ev'n as he':
In both let's do our best.

Who goeth in the way which Christ hath gone
Is much more sure to meet with Him than one
That travelleth by-ways;
Perhaps my God, though He be far before,
May turn, and take me by the hand, and more,
May strengthen my decays.

George Herbert (1593-1633)

RODMARTON CHURCH CHOIR

Forthcoming choir services are:

6 March

Mothering Sunday

QUIZ NIGHT SUCCESS

Our annual quiz was not only a superb evening as usual, but also raised £1,300 (and 99 pence) for St Peter and St Osmund. Many thanks indeed to all who came, and to all who helped to make it such a success. Particular thanks to our brilliant quiz masters, Chris and Rachel, who stepped into the breach when Wendy and David were sadly unable to do it this year and to Mary, Sophia and Marian for the delicious supper - much enjoyed by all. Congratulations also to our winning team who went home with six bottles of wine between them.
Jane Marlowe



COME AND JOIN US!

At Kemble Primary School

Monday - Friday 8.45am – 12.45pm
(with an option to collect at 11.45am)

Now also open Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from
12.45pm – 2.45pm

Open to all children aged 2 – 4

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9:30am - walking to 2yrs
10:30am - 3mths to walking
11:15am - 2yrs+

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