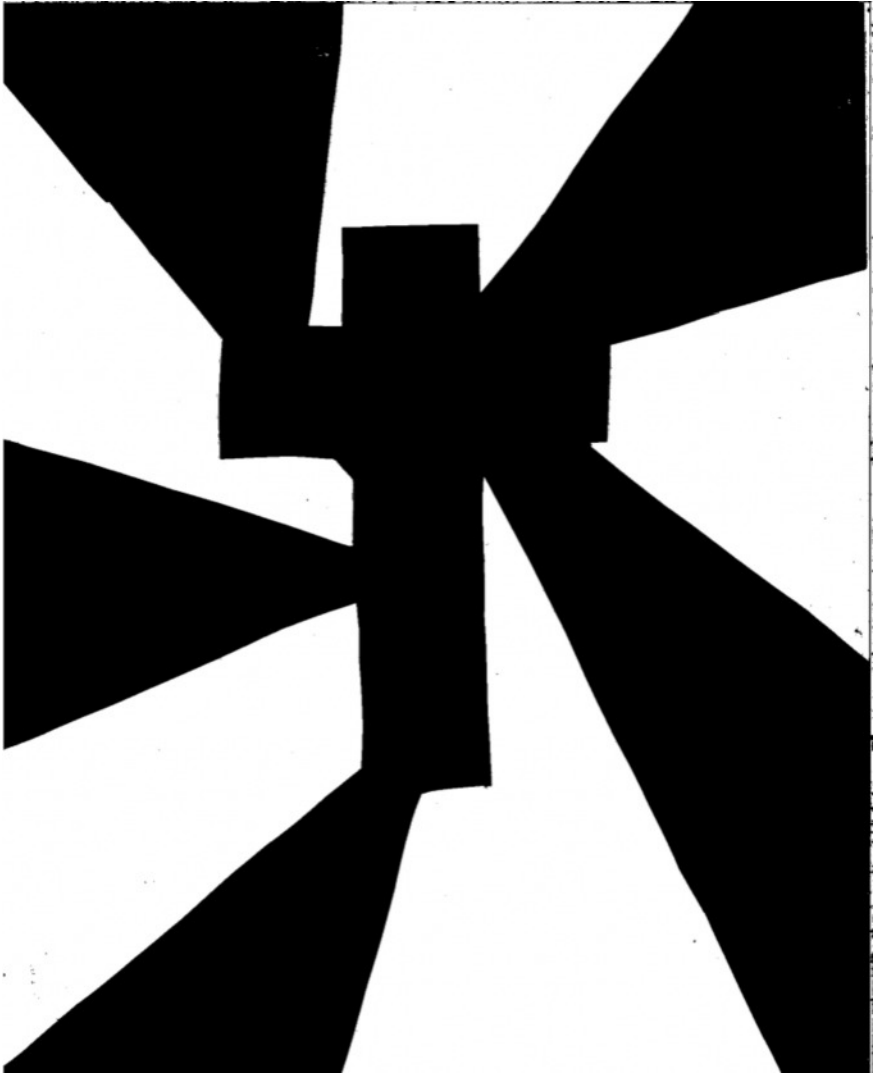


Englefield Parish News

April - May 2018



The Parish of St Mark's, Englefield

Resident Priest

The Reverend Nicholas Wynne-Jones nwwj@stmarksenglefield.org.uk
St Mark's House, Englefield, Reading RG7 5EP 0118 9303595

Priest-in-charge of the Benefice revd.ann.templeman@holotrinitytheale.org.uk
The Reverend Ann Templeman 0118 9302759

Churchwardens churchwarden@stmarksenglefield.org.uk
Victoria Fishburn 0118 9302497
Peter Haig 0118 9302416

Child Protection Officer
Susannah McBain 07772 425133

Parochial Church Council

Secretary office@stmarksenglefield.org.uk
Penny Savage 0118 9410808

Treasurer treasurer@stmarksenglefield.org.uk
Ron Marillier 0118 9305152

Electoral Roll Officer susan.smith.ufton@gmail.com
Sue Smith 0118 98333258

Parish Council

Chairman edward.crookes@englefield.co.uk
Edward Crookes 0118 9302504

Clerk ajuliaives@btinternet.com
Julia Ives 01635 248411

St Mark's Church website: www.stmarksenglefield.org.uk
Englefield Parish Council website: www.englefieldpc.org.uk

Front cover: *One of several drawings on an Easter theme by children at Englefield Primary School featured in the pages of this issue. A big thank you to all the contributors.*

Englefield Parish News is published every two months and is now distributed free to all households in the parish of Englefield. Contributions are welcome and can be emailed to catherinehaig@gmail.com or handed in to Nick Wynne-Jones or to the Village Stores by the 20th of the preceding month.

From St Mark's House

Dear friends

'Pebbles', introduced elsewhere in this *Parish News* (see page 6), made the children of Englefield Primary School glad when he emerged from hibernation. Some were concerned that he had spent the winter in the fridge (as is appropriate for a hibernating tortoise). It is hard to tell the difference between a live tortoise and a dead one! The children were reassured by Pebbles' 'bursts of speed' and appetite for his favourite food as evidence that he had emerged into the land of the living. Bursts of speed, however defined, are not usually associated with tortoises but the term does bring to mind Aesop's familiar fable of *The Hare and the Tortoise*.

As you no doubt remember, the over-confident hare takes a nap during the race only to find that the tortoise crosses the finishing line first. Before we dismiss this fable as an instructive but fantastic tale, it is interesting to note conservation geneticist Taylor Edwards' reminder that in the Olympics you don't have just one race, but sprints and cross country, too (*BBC Earth 9/2015*). In a sprint the hare would win hands down. In an endurance race it might be more even. But once the course is prescribed, the results are likely to be different: hares tend to live in a particular area, do not venture too far away from their home territory and 'tend to run in circles, and not travel very far. To cross a finishing line, you have to go somewhere.'

Fascinating though *chelonians* may be (what a marvellous name for the tortoise and his kin), far more important are the truths the fable imparts: like the Tortoise, we have a race to run - it isn't a sprint, it's a life-long marathon in which we take one step at a time. Through perseverance the Tortoise finished the race; through pride the Hare failed to win. As we run, we are encouraged in the biblical letter to the Hebrews to 'fix our eyes on Jesus'. This Easter we have watched Him on His agonising way to the Cross where He took our place and bore our sins, until with His final breath, He cried triumphantly 'It is finished'. He had crossed the finishing line and on Easter morning he rose as Victor over sin and death. Now he cheers us on along the path he has blazed, to ensure that his followers will share his victory and finish the race.

Pebbles encourages us, as winter ends and spring buds, to awake from spiritual hibernation and follow the Lord Jesus on whom our faith depends from first to last.

Running together, with you

Nick and Harriet

Diary: April - May

- Sunday 1st April **EASTER SUNDAY** Family service with Holy Communion, 10.30 at St Mark's, followed by an Easter egg hunt for the children
- Monday 2nd April **Fish and Chips supper** at the Social Club, 8pm
please pre-book with Tony by Friday 30th March (07802 479952)
- Saturday 7th April **The Village Artisan Food Market**, Beenham Village Hall, RG7 5NN, 10am till 12 noon
Bingo at the Social Club, 8pm
- Sunday 8th April **Holy Communion**, 10.30 at St Mark's
- Tuesday 10th April **Darts, Games Social** at the Social Club, 8pm
- Wednesday 11th April **Let's Talk Theology**, see page 4 for details
- Sunday 15th April **Holy Communion**, 10.30 at St Mark's
- Sunday 22nd April **Holy Communion**, 10.30 at St Mark's
- Monday 23rd April **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**, 6.30pm at the Social Club. Everyone is welcome
- Sunday 29th April **Holy Communion**, 10.30 at St Mark's
- Saturday 5th May **The Village Artisan Food Market**, Beenham Village Hall, RG7 5NN, 10am till 12 noon
Bingo at the Social Club, 8pm
- Sunday 6th May **Holy Communion**, 10.30 at St Mark's
- Monday 7th May **Fish and Chips supper** at the Social Club, 8pm,
please pre-book with Tony by Friday 4th (07802 479952)
- Tuesday 8th May **Darts, Games Social** at the Social Club, 8pm
- Thursday 10th May **Ascension Day**
- Sunday 13th May **Holy Communion**, 10.30 at St Mark's
- Sunday 20th May **Pentecost: Holy Communion**, 10.30 St Mark's
- Wednesday 23rd May **Annual Parish Assembly**, 7pm at the Englefield Tea Rooms. All parishioners welcome.
- Sunday 27th May **Holy Communion**, 10.30 at St Mark's
Berkshire Country Fayre, see page 16 for details
- Mondays 2nd and 16th April and 7th and 21st May
Time to Pray in the Englefield Chapel - an opportunity to meet for half an hour for quiet reflection and prayer - from 6pm till 6.30pm, usually on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of every month. All welcome.
- Save the date:
Friday 6th to Sunday 8th July **Concerts in the Park** at Englefield, see page 6 for more details
- Saturday 14th July **Englefield Flower Show and School Fête**, please contact Mark on mapostles@gmail.com or 07551 981587 if you would be willing to help

Congratulations

To Ronan and Saffy O’Sullivan on the birth of a daughter, Frieda Mary Wethey, on Wednesday 14th February.

To Pat Mills, Liz Marillier’s father, on his 100th birthday.

To Lara and Jono de Jong on the birth of a daughter, Eleanor Joy, on March 1st, a granddaughter for Ron and Liz Marillier.

To Ahmad Bjobj and Manal al Faloojee on the birth of their son, Almothana, a brother for Elham.

Welcome

To Christina, Freddie and Benjamin Shelton who have moved into No 2 The Street. Christina has a strong connection to Englefield as she is the granddaughter of Pat Wilkinson who lived in The Street for many years.

RIP

Dick Seaman, who died on Thursday 15th February. There will be a service to celebrate his life on Friday 8th June at 2pm, at St Mark’s Church.

Jean Cripps, who died on Monday 19th March.



Notice of the APCM

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held this year on Monday 26th April starting at 6.30pm at the Social Club. This is the meeting when your Churchwardens, Deanery Synod representatives and PCC members are elected for the coming year. The annual reports and accounts for the meeting will be available to view in church one week beforehand. Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

Penny Savage, Secretary to the PCC



Mothering Sunday

A big thank you to everyone who so kindly supplied the flowers and came along to make posies for the service at St Mark's on Mothering Sunday. There was a glorious array of spring flowers and around 80 beautiful posies were prepared to be handed out to mothers, grandmothers and friends on Sunday morning.

Electoral Roll

Please may I remind you that the Electoral Roll is available to view in church. Would you kindly check that your details are correct. If you are not on the roll and would like to be added kindly ask for a form.

Sue Smith, Electoral Roll Officer



Let's Talk Theology

The last of three evenings looking at the Old Testament today is on Wednesday 11th April. The theme is 'The Son of God: alive and kicking in the Old Testament'. 8pm, Parish Room, St Mary's Sulhamstead, RG7 4ED.



On Palm Sunday, Tizzy the donkey came to church with John Bishop. The children waved 'palm' branches and processed into church before making an Easter garden and taking it in turns to ride on Tizzy's back.

Women's World Day of Prayer at St Mark's



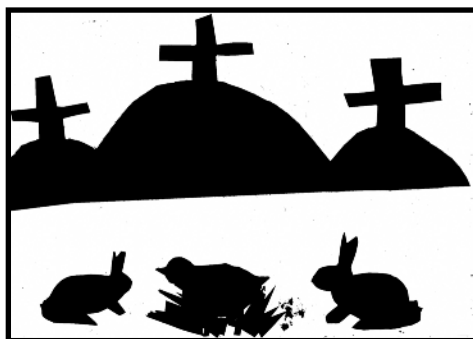
Postponed because of the snow, this service took place at St Mark's on Friday 9th March. It had been written by the women of Suriname and the theme was 'All God's Creation is very good!' or 'A heri grontapu di Gado meki bun doro, dóro!' in the local Sranan Tongue. Words, readings, prayers and music all focused on God's gift of the Creation and our personal responsibilities for it and accountability to Him as his stewards.

This is an annual event, each year written by women of a different nation, and forms a great wave of prayer encircling the globe - starting as the sun rises in Samoa and ending some 36 hours later as the sun sets over American Samoa. The form of service is translated into over 60 languages and 1,000 dialects and celebrated in 170 countries and islands. Next year, weather permitting, it will be on Friday 1st March and will be written by the women of Slovenia on the theme: 'Come - Everything is Ready'.

Battle's Over

One hundred years on from the Armistice, on **Sunday 11th November** this year, bells will ring out in unison from churches and cathedrals all across the country. The organisers of Battle's Over, an international event marking the Armistice, want to see more than 1,000 churches and cathedrals participate by ringing their bells simultaneously at 7.05pm on the night of 11th November. It is hoped to recruit 1,400 ringers to represent the 1,400 bell ringers who fell in the Great War.

St Mark's tower needs more ringers to take part in this event and is looking to train up some new recruits. Please come along on any Tuesday evening from 7pm till 8pm or before the Sunday service to find out more, or contact Janine Alston on 0118 9302427.



Concerts in the park

Englefield Estate is delighted to announce that Englefield House and grounds will be the backdrop to some spectacular summer outdoor concerts in 2018.

On Friday 6th July, British pop icons Madness will bring their 'House of Fun' to Englefield and go 'One Step Beyond' as part of their latest tour, Stately Madness. The next day, on Saturday evening, Il Divo, the world's first and most successful classical group, will be performing their Castles and Country Tour. And finally, celebrating his music career that spans three decades, Sir Tom Jones will perform at Englefield House on Sunday 8th July.

To find out more about each of the concerts and to book your tickets, visit <http://www.englefieldestate.co.uk/>

Peter Carson, House and Events Manager



Introducing 'Pebbles'

Pebbles joined our school community three years ago and immediately settled in, becoming part of the Englefield family. He is much loved by the pupils and staff. Each year he spends a few weeks in Mrs

Latimer's fridge having a well-earned rest, but for the remainder of the year, he can be found chomping on dandelions in the field, walking around one of the classrooms or having a warm bath.

Englefield Primary School

'Nextdoor' letter

A number of Englefield residents have expressed concern regarding a letter received encouraging them to join www.nextdoor.co.uk with an invitation code that expires within seven days. The letter purports to be connected to a named neighbour but we are not aware that the company in question has any local connections. We would urge caution if you have received one of these letters and you may wish to check online reviews.

Englefield Parish Council

Summer plans at the Garden Centre

Well, we've had an interesting start to spring with two bitterly cold snaps which knocked the plants back just a little, but the team and people we support have all been working hard potting up over 4,000 herbaceous plants which are currently coming along nicely in the cold tunnels. In the greenhouses we have also been potting up all the different varieties of summer bedding and plants for hanging baskets and containers to give you the wide range that you wouldn't always find in garden centres.



We still have a wide range of bulbs for summer planting. We also still have a great range of herbs and alpines for the garden or why not make up a little herb pot of your own, you can't beat fresh herbs in cooking. So why not pop down and support your local independent garden centre.

Austin Crabbe, Manager

Future of Theale Primary School

A parish poll was held on March 15th. A total of 2,357 Theale residents were eligible to vote. The result was 499 residents in favour and 440 against the proposal to release land on the North Street playing fields to build a new primary school. The poll was only advisory and Theale Parish Council, which holds the lease, will now make a final decision.





News from the School

As the cold weather tries to leave us and the spring takes hold, the pupils and staff at Englefield Primary School are making the most of every opportunity to enjoy the outdoors. Our younger children have continued to enjoy weekly outdoor-learning sessions in the woods throughout the term. Mrs Sheppard's and Mrs Carney's classes had a fabulous day out at Rushall Farm. After an exciting tractor and trailer ride to the farm buildings, they spent the morning learning about farming today and in the past. A particular highlight was getting to hold a

lamb. In the afternoon, groups enjoyed pond dipping, learning about bees, looking for signs of spring in the woods and even dissecting an owl pellet! The staff at Rushall Farm were delighted by the children's behaviour, knowledge and questions.

Our Year 3/4 class went to Ufton Court for the day as part of their topic on the Tudors. They dressed up and learned all about life in Tudor times, including playing games from that period. Our Year 5/6 pupils had a wonderful opportunity to go to a classical music concert at The Hexagon which was put on by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra for local schools. They were fascinated by the range of instruments and greatly enjoyed the variety of music on offer.

Recently we enjoyed Book Week which included a dress-up day, a poetry-performance competition and workshops by one of our parents who is a writer by trade. During the week, every child in school participated in producing their own book. Following that, we had a science day, organised by Mrs Postles and our House Captains. The pupils worked in their house groups, visiting four workshops on 'Confusing Cans', 'Bubbles', 'Colour Factory' and 'Pond Investigators'. Everyone enjoyed working in mixed-aged groups and developing their science skills whilst having a lot of fun.



Finally we have been busy on the sports field, achieving a great deal of success along the way. We have taken part in cross-country events, netball matches and football tournaments. Our Year 1/2 football team topped the tables by winning the recent Elstree Football Tournament which was attended by 11 different schools...a superb achievement!

Claire Bushnell, School Secretary

Rail closures

Works have started to electrify the railway line between Reading and Newbury which will mean a series of four-day closures between Pewsey and Theale from now until November. The first full closure was in March and the following are confirmed: Monday 23rd to Thursday 26th April; Monday 14th to Thursday 17th May; and Monday 4th to Thursday 7th June. Other dates throughout 2018 are apparently still to be decided but several more are listed on the GWR website: www.gwr.com/Newbury2018. You can also call the 24 hour national helpline on 03457 11 41 41 or email crwest@networkrail.co.uk for more information.

There will be replacement bus services between these stations and season ticket holders are permitted to travel from Didcot, Whitchurch or Overton instead. Several stations will lose some parking spaces to allow Network Rail to store equipment and machinery and for the replacement buses. The GWR website shows 85 spaces being removed at Theale so check before you travel. The top two floors of the multi-storey car park at Reading station are also closed for maintenance until around the end of May.

The good news is that the electrification of the line, together with new Intercity Express trains, will ultimately mean quicker journeys and more capacity.

Filming in Englefield

From Wednesday 25th to Friday 27th April, filming will be taking place along the drive and at St Mark's Church for series three of the popular ITV crime drama 'Unforgotten', starring Nicola Walker and Sanjeev Bhaskar.

*Englefield Primary
School's Year 1/2
football team celebrating
its win at the Elstree
Football Tournament.*



From winter into spring

Winter in a garden can seem a barren place but it is a time to appreciate the structure of Englefield garden such as the ornate 19th century balustrades, the natural looking stream built in the 20th century and the bare branches of the woodland trees.

Many shrubs are in flower and a few have a sweet scent to them. The flower on the witch hazel looks like orange peel and if you bring a twig close to your nose a very strong scent can be enjoyed! The stems of the dog woods and the berries on the Skimmia japonica 'Rubella' stand out in the winter sunshine as do the flowers on the camellias. Bobbing heads of hellebore flowers line the drive and snowdrops, aconites, crocus and primroses and the first of the early daffodils are just some of the plants you can enjoy at this time of year.

In the autumn of 2017 after spending two years preparing the field off the main drive and adjacent to the Old Rectory, we were finally able to sow it with perennial wild flower seed. I am pleased to see that it is now showing rosettes of leaves of the primrose, ox-eye daisy and achillea. I am confident that many more wildflowers will start to appear as spring progresses.

The garden really is a busy place to be in and not just for us! We often see squirrels, rabbits and many birds such as song thrush, wayfarers, wrens, gold crest, robins and blackbirds. Always present are the kites and pigeons with the odd pheasant taking cover!

Susan Broughton, Head Gardener

ENGLEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

A vacancy has arisen for a part time Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (circa 3 hours per week) for Englefield Parish Council. You would be required to arrange, attend and minute approximately 6 evening meetings per annum.

The role is home based apart from attendance at Parish Council meetings. See www.inglefieldpc.org.uk for details of the Council's work.

Other duties include giving procedural advice, dealing with emails and correspondence, preparing a budget, keeping accounts, paying bills, preparing for annual audit, maintaining the parish website etc. A job description is available upon request.

The role requires good administration, communication and IT skills. Salary is within the national pay scale depending on experience and qualifications. Candidates will preferably hold the CiLCA or other relevant qualification, although training will be given where required.

Applicants should forward their CV, with a covering letter explaining their suitability for the role to the Chairman, Edward Crookes, at edward.crookes@inglefield.co.uk. For an informal discussion or further information please call 01189 302 504

News from Rushall Farm



How do you continue with school visits to Rushall Farm when the wind chill is minus two degrees? We were expecting the phone call from the lead teacher of the Holt School, Wokingham, on the Monday morning at 7.30am. 'What contingency plan did we have in place?' Knowing that many children coming here are likely to be inadequately dressed, our first job was to encourage them that, although it may be 'COOL' not to zip their coats up, the consequences today would be that they would be very cold. Lindsay had also made very sweet oatmeal biscuits and flapjack in quantity with an urn ready for hot drinks of chocolate or squash. We were faced with over 100 children coming on each of three consecutive days but were determined to do our best. The girl who suffered from epilepsy on the first day was rescued from a muddy field but soon recovered by a warm fire at Rushall House. However, the lights in the toilets tripping out at peak demand added a sense of drama to the occasion.

Two extra Rhino radiant heaters made the Black Barn look quite festive for a session on organic shop and input and output processes, but sadly not much warmer. But it all worked out, digging through frozen ground to compare real clay with bright yellow sand and acceptable loam, the sort you would want in your garden. Then a short walk, being mobbed by four very lively Shetland ponies on loan from David White, one donkey and two alpacas, followed by a viewing of the newly landscaped exposed chalk face boasting its regionally important features. It was the chickens next but sadly two less male turkeys, sentenced for beating up their 'up till then' brother and best friend. At last into the lambing shed with new-born twins and triplets everywhere and lambs to cuddle.

Somehow nothing else seemed to matter, including the cold, as weary shepherds Steve and Elizabeth look with patience and forbearing at this interruption to their exhausting work schedule. Machinery next, then cows and calves, so adorable and yet how unfair that a cow has four teats for its mainly single offspring while triplet lambs have to fight over two teats! There is still land use studies to do, and rotations, maybe even a glimpse at Farmer Steve's day book. Then the home trail, removing mud-laden boots, washing hands and back on the coach. Certainly, a day full of learning experiences although the most profound one could have been 'That it is not very COOL to be cool when it really is freezing'.

John Bishop

Newbury Spring Festival 2018

Tickets are now available for the 40th Newbury Spring Festival 2018. From 12th to 26th May concerts by international artists from the worlds of classical music, musical theatre, folk, jazz and cabaret as well as community events will take place at venues in and around Newbury with something for everybody to enjoy. For more information go to www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk, 0845 5218 218.

There are two events being held in the Long Gallery at Englefield House:
Tuesday 15th May, 7.30pm, a concert by classical music partners and international superstars, violinist Alina Ibragimova and pianist Cédric Tiberghien.
Thursday 24th May, 3pm, a talk on Caravaggio: A life Sacred and Profane, by Andrew Graham-Dixon, based on his prize-winning book about the dark and dangerous life of Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio.

Bradfield YFC visit

Our members were fortunate to have a visit recently to the Englefield Estate Works Yard on a very cold evening, where we watched the saw mill in action as a gate post was made from an 'Englefield' Larch log. We saw the old yard boiler and steam engine plant as well as the Englefield museum and of course the Englefield Fire Engine which looks to be in amazing condition for its age. Many thanks to the Estate for this opportunity but also to Roy and Trevor for demonstrating the saw mill to us.

Bradfield YFC meets on a Wednesday evening. To find out more contact Club Leader Sonia Walters sonia.walters2@btinternet.com or find Bradfield Young Farmers on Facebook.



Gold award

Congratulations to my goddaughter, Rebecca Herd, who received her Gold Duke of Edinburgh award from HRH The Earl of Wessex on Monday 19th March at St James's Palace.

Congratulations, all the hard work paid off!

Liz Reeves

News from Five a Day

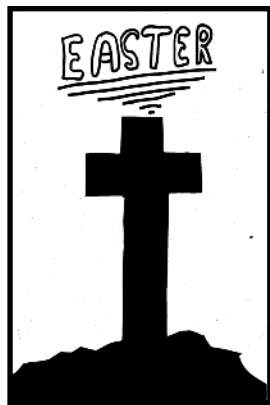
It's three months since Yvonne Redgrave took over as project co-ordinator at Five a Day. 'It was quite daunting at first, taking over from Pam as she knew so much but everyone in Englefield has been welcoming and have made things so much easier. Andy in the village shop, Janet and Austin in the garden centre, Edward and Sara in the Estate Office, all have been very supportive.'



In the market garden, our lovely volunteers started in back at the beginning of February, despite the cold weather, and they have been pruning all of the fruit trees, fruit bushes and willow. We collected so much wood we decided to celebrate the beginning of spring by having an evening bonfire for the volunteers with hot soup and toasted marshmallows on March 20th.

In March we started the sowing, preparing the beds and putting in the potatoes. The broad beans and rhubarb are coming along, so hopefully we will have produce in May to sell. March also means the start of our courses and we had some good news: we have been given a grant to re-start our popular Thyme Together course. So if you know of anyone who is over 65 and would like to spend a couple of hours a week doing some gardening and of course having tea and cake, then please contact Yvonne on yvonne@fiveaday.org.uk. We always welcome new volunteers and particularly those willing to support our learning disability group. We will provide appropriate training if you are interested.

Easter sees the return of our amazing family activity days. Easter Hop-a Long sessions for 5-14 year olds are on April 10th when the children will be bouncing like bunnies, see what's springing into life, graffiti their own eggs, make willow nests and follow the clues to find where the bunnies are burying the eggs.



From May you can buy the organic fruit, veg and flowers we grow from Englefield Garden Centre or by popping by the garden on Wednesday and Fridays. All the funds raised subsidise the courses for isolated and vulnerable adults.

For more info visit the website fiveaday.org.uk

Date	Sidesmen	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
April 1 st EASTER SUNDAY	Richard and Sue Smith		Carol Boulter Galatians 4:4-7	Richard Benyon Luke 2:15-21
April 8 th 2 nd Sunday of Easter	Doris Edwards Diane Graham	Linda Price Acts 4:32-35	David Gibbons Ephesians 3:1-12	Dee Boddy Matthew 2:1-12
April 15 th 3 rd Sunday of Easter	David and Stephanie Gibbons	Ian Savage 1 Samuel 3:1-10	Denny Hollands Revelation 5:1-10	Stephanie Gibbons John 1:43-end
April 22 nd 4 th Sunday of Easter	Terry and Dinah Perkins	Ronan O'Sullivan Genesis 14:17-20	Mike Kimber Revelation 19:6-10	Linda Price John 2:1-11
April 29 th 5 th Sunday of Easter	Paula Fenwick Linda Price	Catherine Haig Malachi 3:1-5	Victoria Fishburn Hebrews 2:14-end	Melanie Townsend Luke 2:22-40
May 6 th 6 th Sunday of Easter BCP	Terry and Dinah Perkins		Tony Collings Acts 10:44-end	Elizabeth Benyon John 15:9-17
May 13 th Sunday after Ascension Day	David and Stephanie Gibbons	Don Barton Ezekiel 36:24-28	Dudley Fishburn 1 John 5:9-13	Mike Kimber John 17:6-19
May 20 th PENTECOST	Richard and Sue Smith	Dee Boddy Ezekiel 37:1-14	Peter Haig Acts 2:1-21	Gloria Sleep John 15:26-27; 16:4-15
May 27 th TRINITY SUNDAY	Peter and Denny Hollands	Victoria Fishburn Isaiah 6:1-8	Peter Hollands Romans 8:12-17	Stephanie Gibbons John 3:1-17
June 3 rd 1 st Sunday after Trinity BCP	Doris Edwards Diane Graham		Catherine Haig 2 Corinthians 4:5-12	Gill Barton Mark 2:23-3:6
June 10 th 2 nd Sunday after Trinity	Liz Marillier Gloria Sleep	Lucy Birkett 1 Samuel 8:4-11, 16-20	Aldo Guiducci 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	Ann Stone Mark 3:20-end
June 17 th 3 rd Sunday after Trinity	Diane Graham Linda Price	Paula Fenwick 1 Samuel 15:34- 16:13	Penny Savage 2 Corinthians 5:6- 10,14-17	Melanie Townsend Mark 4:26-34
June 24 th 4 th Sunday after Trinity	Richard and Sue Smith	Carole Ford 1 Samuel 17: 32-49	Miles Edgar 2 Corinthians 6: 1-13	Ron Marillier Mark 4: 35-end

If you are unavailable for any duty on the rota, please try to find a swap, or otherwise contact Saffy O'Sullivan on 01499 website, www.stmarksenglefield.org.uk/rota, or in the church porch. Please let Penny Savage know if you have any notes 0118 9302731, and the intercessor will include your request on the following Sunday.

Intercessions	Sacristan	Administrators	Sunday Club	Cleaners
BCP	Penny Savage	Dinah Perkins Torquil MJ	Sara Guiducci Gillian Pinkhardt	Doris Edwards Dinah Perkins
Victoria Fishburn	Catherine Haig	Saffy O'Sullivan Melanie Townsend	Tiffany Ebrey Sara Guiducci	Paula Fenwick Linda Price
Dinah Perkins	Denny Hollands	Peter Haig Torquil MJ	Susannah McBain Denny Hollands	Gill Barton Diane Graham
Aldo Guiducci	Penny Norris	Saffy O'Sullivan Penny Savage	Melissa Bennett Liz Reeves	Linda Price Harriet Wynne-Jones
Harriet Wynne-Jones	Sue Smith	Gill Barton Terry Perkins	Zoe Benyon Alice Johnson	Elizabeth Benyon Melanie Townsend
BCP	Penny Savage	Dinah Perkins Carol Boulter	Catherine Haig Gillian Pinkhardt	Melanie Townsend
Carol Boulter	Dinah Perkins	Dudley Fishburn Torquil MJ	Tiffany Ebrey Sara Guiducci	Lucy Birkett
Ron Marillier	Catherine Haig	Peter Haig Saffy O'Sullivan	Penny Savage Denny Hollands	John and Liz McKean
Aldo Guiducci	Dee Boddy	Gill Barton Dudley Fishburn	Carolyn Ahanchian Liz Reeves	Carole Ford Diane Graham
BCP	Penny Norris	Penny Savage Terry Perkins	Andrea Kean Alice Johnson	Paula Fenwick Harriet Wynne-Jones
Melanie Townsend	Sue Smith	Carol Boulter Melanie Townsend	Susannah McBain Sara Guiducci	Elizabeth Benyon Melanie Townsend
Elizabeth Benyon	Penny Norris	Peter Haig Dinah Perkins	Melissa Bennett Liz McKean	Doris Edwards Dinah Perkins
Victoria Fishburn	Dinah Perkins	Torquil MJ Terry Perkins	Zoe Benyon Gillian Pinkhardt	Gill Barton Diane Graham

1 825996 or 07799 060949. For diary planning for future Sundays, an up-to-date rota can always be found on the pages for the pew sheet or announcements to be made in church. For prayer requests, please contact Dinah Perkins on



Reg Charity
No 300104



"A FUN DAY OUT FOR
ALL WALKS OF LIFE"



Reg charity
No 300104

Berkshire Country Fayre



Sunday 27th May 2018

Englefield Estate, Englefield, Theale,
RG7 5EN

By Kind Permission of Englefield Estate

9.00am until 5.00pm.

Adults £7.50 Children & Concessions £4

Family ticket (2+2) £20, Under 5's FREE

Dogs on Leads Welcome
CASH ONLY ON THE GATE

Berkshire Young Farmers Practical and Exhibition Classes

Craft & Food Marquees
Countryside Area Farms 2 Ewe
Inflatables
Bar and Food
Main Ring Displays

Trade Stands
Birds of Prey
Fun Fair
Dog Show
Vintage Machinery/Tractors

Hounds
Ferret Racing
Donkey Rides
Classic Vehicles

For further information and details please call Lydia 07733 325110

berkscountryfayre@gmail.com



Ufton Court Wedding Fayre

Sunday 29th April 2018 11am - 3pm

Ufton Court, Green Lane, Ufton Nervet, Reading RG7 4HD



0118 983 2099 | www.uftoncourt.co.uk | weddings@uftoncourt.co.uk

a dream day that leaves a lasting impression

Proceeds from your special day go towards our children's charity



PR Motors celebrates Apprenticeship week

PR Motors is a regular advertiser in this magazine and is well known to many local residents. Last month Reading West MP Alok Sharma dropped in to its Tidmarsh workshop during National Apprenticeship Week.

Alok met some of the apprentice technicians at the MOT testing and car garage services business to hear about their experience of following this route. PR Motors' Operations Director Rob Bulter said: 'Apprentices are the life blood of our industry and our business. PR Motors is extremely proud of our apprenticeship programme and of the six technicians who take part in it. The mix of college and workshop experience benefits the individual, the business and so ultimately the customer.'

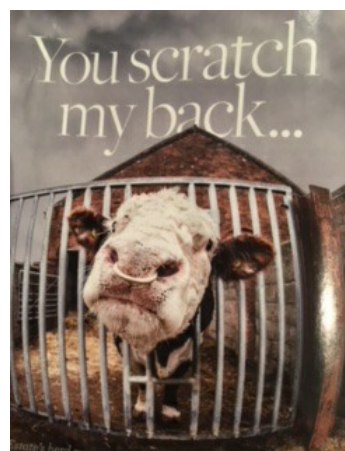
Franny Hornblow, Finance Director

The Herefords in print

If you saw the March issue of *Berkshire Life*, you will have noticed that Englefield's very own Terry Perkins and the Mayridge herd of prize-winning Herefords featured in its pages.

Journalist Fran McElhone interviewed Terry for a three-page feature article about his work at Mayridge, the challenge of showing the cattle, his own career and the work he does with Berkshire Agricultural College students.

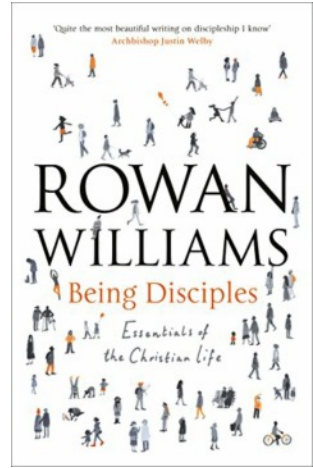
The magazine also featured an article about Five a Day and its new project coordinator Yvonne Redgrave. And another Englefield resident also featured under the headline: 'Waggy tails greet MP'...



Book Review

Being Disciples: Essentials of the Christian Life by Rowan Williams
(SPCK, 2016)

This is a remarkable book which, although short, repays constant revisiting to fully grasp its insights. Based firmly in scripture, it starts by looking at how the gospels depict the relationship between Jesus and the disciples and underlines the importance of listening and of seeing the significance of the situation in which they find themselves.



As Christians today, we need to listen in our prayers to what Jesus and the Holy Spirit are saying. The life of Jesus is a model for us and, as God's son, gives us an insight into the Father himself.

From the importance of seeing, we learn how to engage with society. Society is constantly changing and Williams writes, 'We are most commonly perceived as people who are anxious about who they should say no to. Jesus of course engaged with some of the most despised in society and we may similarly be called to welcome those to whom we may want to say No.'

This does not mean we should be uncritical but as society changes we may need to be ready to argue firmly but without rancour and above all to be patient both with society and in the political arena. In line with St Paul in his letter to the Galatians, Williams argues for a virtue-led ethics (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self control), rather than a rule-led ethics which can become judgemental.

This small book is based on a number of talks which Williams has given to lay people both at home and abroad. It has been acclaimed by a wide range of Christian leaders of all different doctrinal points of view. I commend it to you.

Hugh Boulter



Thoughts for the week

These reflections are just some of the short commentaries that are compiled by Aldo Guiducci each week on the readings in church. They are all available, week by week, on the pew sheets and on the church website.

‘For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it’ (Mark 8 v 35)

These are strong words! Jesus doesn’t say ‘might’, or ‘could possibly’ – he says ‘will’. There are no shades of grey, or potential mitigating

circumstances here. Jesus is setting out the blunt truth of the gospel message; that all people need rescuing by him. The only way a person can be saved is by turning to Jesus, and the good news (gospel) of the salvation he offers – ‘losing their life’ (in the sense of surrendering their drives and ambitions, not ceasing to physically live). The alternative – saving their life in the sense of rejecting Jesus’ claim to be pre-eminent in that person’s desires, drives and focus of living – ultimately leads to death. If we are at our core trusting in anything other than Jesus, if our lives are founded on status, money, personal networks or anything else, Jesus warns us that we are heading for disaster. The question is, what are we living for? And in the long run, is it worth it?

‘On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there.’ (Mark 11 v 15a)

Jesus’ clearing of the temple is an episode that some people want to gloss over, as it contradicts the idea of “gentle Jesus meek and mild”. In these verses we see Jesus get angry; angry enough to start physically remonstrating with people in the temple, and cause quite a scene. Uncomfortable as it may make us feel, the truth is that there is a time for righteous anger. To stand by and do nothing in the face of wickedness is not a godly response to wrongdoing. There will be times when it is right – even necessary – for those who belong to God to feel moved to take action against injustice or blatant sin. But we must be careful to ensure that our anger, when it is roused, is righteous anger. It is much more likely that we will be angry for the wrong reasons than it is for us to fail to become angry for the right reasons. When we become angry, it is vital to check whether we are angry because we feel personally slighted, or because God is being dishonoured.

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‘Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.’ (Mark 10 v 15)

What is Jesus saying in this passage? Some have thought that Jesus is talking about innocence here – that to enter the kingdom of God a person must be a good person, not a guilty one. But anyone who actually has children will quickly realise this reasoning is flawed – wonderful though they are, little children are often guilty of all sorts of things. The key characteristic of a child is not innocence, but dependence. He or she will unashamedly come to a parent asking for something, with no pretence or expectation that they will have to pay for it or earn it. It doesn't occur to a toddler that a parent would expect something in return for providing breakfast – they just ask for it. Jesus is reminding us here that God's kingdom is based on grace, on God's undeserved favour, not on our works. He warns us that to think we can earn our place in the kingdom is totally wrong, and that those who try will find that they aren't able to enter. Pride in our own abilities is completely misplaced, and will lead to ruin if we ignore what Jesus is saying, rather than trust him to provide the rescue we badly need.



Book launch in Aldworth

Gardening Notes by a Late Bloomer by Clare Hastings

Clare is the daughter of the gardening writer Anne Scott-James and has written this book about her garden on the Berkshire Downs. Join us for an informal reading and a few gardening 'notes' enhanced by a glass of wine, on Thursday 26th April in Aldworth Village Hall, 7 - 8.30pm, rsvp clare@indytute.com.

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Thursday 19th April 2018

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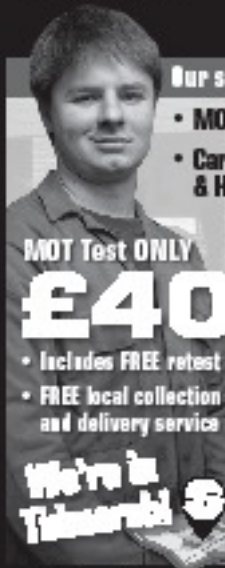


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