

Englefield Parish News

August - September 2018



The Parish of St Mark's, Englefield

Resident Priest

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Front cover: *Bright sunshine and happy crowds of children enjoying their visit to the Englefield Countryside Days for Schools in June (see page 6 for more details).*

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

'It's coming home'

but sadly the hope of the 'Three Lions' anthem chant was not fulfilled this year, although the team's performance did much to heal the '30 years of hurt' that has dogged the English game. Gareth Southgate and his team generated a new respect and spirit which, it is hoped, will be met with faithful and not fickle support. At the same time as our interest was aroused by the fortunes of our national team, attention was riveted by the fate of another football team six thousand miles away, and hope for their 'coming home'.

The 'Wild Boars' football team with its 25-year-old coach, Ake Chantawong, had gone to explore a local tourist attraction in Thailand. They had no idea of the mortal danger they would face when entering the challenging cave system which can be suddenly and severely flooded during the rainy season. A downpour trapped them for 18 days, 1.2 miles into the cave, half a mile below ground. They were stranded in the dark tunnel, surrounded by water, until discovered by an expert caver. The escape route is extremely dangerous and a former Thai Navy SEAL, Saman Gunan, died trying to reach the group. An international team of expert divers was convened to plan and execute the ensuing complex and costly rescue effort, which was followed by the whole world. Ake was the last one out and was among the weakest in the group because he gave his food to the boys and showed them how to drink condensed water from the cave's walls. One of his friends said 'He loved the boys more than himself'.

The 'Wild Boars' practise on a field at the Baag Jong Church, which houses a Compassion International centre which was used as a base for the rescue. Among those celebrating were the parents of a boy sponsored through Compassion's ministry. His mother spoke for them all when she said, 'I'm so happy to see my son again. Thank you God. Thank you everyone that has been praying for us and the boys and helping us.' In an age of many disheartening news stories, the story of how rescuers, countries and diverse people came together in selfless commitment for a common cause is truly inspiring. The sacrificial acts of love shown by Saman and Ake are deeply challenging in an age which seems self-absorbed. They are also a reminder of a far greater rescue from a far greater danger from which we cannot save ourselves. As Isaiah wrote, 'the people living in darkness have seen a great light' (Isaiah 9v2 in the Bible) – the light of Christ, who came to rescue us from our dead-end tunnels and lead us into the liberty of those who are ...

... 'coming home'

Nick and Harriet

Diary: August - September

Saturday 4 th August	Bingo at the Social Club, 8pm
Sunday 5 th August	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's
Monday 6 th August	Fish and Chips supper at the Social Club, 8pm <i>please pre-book with Tony by Friday 3rd (07802 479952)</i>
Sunday 12 th August	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's Open Day at Holy Trinity , Theale, 2.30-5.00pm, a chance to climb the tower, see the interior of the church and enjoy tea and cakes
Tuesday 14 th August	Darts, Games Social at the Social Club, 8pm
Sunday 19 th August	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's Englefield House gardens open for the Red Cross Open Gardens scheme, 9.30-4.30
Sunday 26 th August	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's Rotary Club of Reading 10k charity run
Saturday 1 st September	The Village Artisan Food Market , Beenham Village Hall, RG7 5NN, 10am till 12 noon Bingo at the Social Club, 8pm
Sunday 2 nd September	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's
Monday 3 rd September	Fish and Chips supper at the Social Club, 8pm, <i>please pre-book with Tony by Friday 31st August (07802 479952)</i>
Saturday 8 th September	Ride + Stride in aid of Berkshire Churches Trust (see page 5) Royal Berks Charity Soapbox Challenge
Sunday 9 th September	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's
Tuesday 11 th September	SBAA Ploughing Match at Mayridge Farm Darts, Games Social at the Social Club, 8pm
Saturday 15 th and Sunday 16 th September	Royal County of Berkshire Show (see page 9)
Sunday 16 th September	Holy Communion , 10.30 St Mark's.
Sunday 23 rd September	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's
Weds 24 th September	Parish Council meeting, 6.30pm at Englefield Estate Office
Saturday 29 th September	Ufton Cycle Sportive (see page 22)
Sunday 30 th September	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's
Sunday 7 th October	Harvest Festival , a special family service at 10.30am at St Mark's

Mondays 6th and 20th August and 3rd and 17th September

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.

Congratulations

To Nicko Watson, Ann Stone's grandson, and Charlotte married on June 2nd.
To Richard Goodman and Sophie Goss married at St Mark's on Saturday 23rd June.

To James Reid, son of Sandy and Janet, and Alexandra Cardona, married in Chelsham on Saturday 30th June.

To William Haig and Monica Smith who celebrated their marriage at Ufton Court on Saturday 14th July.

To Andrew Strang and Katy Tidbury on the announcement of their engagement on 29th June.

To John and Liz McKean on their 40th wedding anniversary on July 21st.

To Hugh and Carol Boulter on their 50th wedding anniversary also in July.

Baptism

Frieda Mary Wethey O'Sullivan, daughter of Saffy and Ronan, baptised at St Mark's on Sunday 3rd June.

RIP

Jake Southall, son of Ian Southall;

Ian Collis, Andy Allen's brother.

David Lay who died on Saturday 21st July, in the Duchess of Kent hospice.

Our thoughts are with all their families and friends at this sad time.

APA 2018

The Annual Parish Assembly was held at Englefield Tea Rooms on 23rd May with good attendance from members of the community. Reports were given by Edward Crookes, Chairman of the Parish Council, Inspector Chris Ward of Thames Valley Police, and Councillor Keith Chopping, our District Councillor. We also said goodbye to the Parish Clerk, Julia Ives, whose hard work and expertise have been much appreciated during her time as clerk. Nia Rands has been appointed as the new Parish Clerk, and started on 1st June.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 26th September at 6.30pm at Englefield Estate Office. All members of the parish are welcome to attend. Please do check the website, www.engagefieldpc.org.uk, for updates regarding the Parish Council.

Nia Rands, Clerk to the Parish Council

Pastoral reorganisation

The Church Commissioners' Mission & Pastoral Committee met on July 18th to consider the Bishop of Oxford's draft Pastoral Scheme for the benefice of Theale and Englefield. The Committee recommended that the reorganisation should proceed with separation into two separate parishes as proposed in the Scheme, subject to the objectors' right of appeal. We pray that, freed from distractions, both parishes may now be enabled to direct their energies into their ministry and mission by God's grace and for his glory.

Nick Wynne-Jones



RIP: Dick Seaman 1922-2018

A thanksgiving service for the life of Dick Seaman was held at St Mark's on Friday 8th June. Dick and Fiona moved to The Old House in North Street 40 years ago and have been faithful members of St Mark's ever since - with their daughter Katie married there and two of their grandsons christened there too.

Dick was born in Jamaica. He served in the Royal Artillery and after the war became ADC to the governor of Bermuda before returning to the UK to teach at Sandhurst. He was a keen horseman, a member of the National Champion Riding Club show jumping team, skilled at four-in-hand coach driving, and hunting for many years with the Garth and South Berks. After the army he became a successful businessman and enjoyed a year as Master of the Worshipful Company of Launderers. He was a BHS horse trials steward and cross-country steward at Windsor three-day event. He was unfailingly charming and always impeccably dressed. He will be much missed by all his family and friends.

A new parish

The Rev Ann Templeman has accepted the offer of becoming the vicar of Much Hoole St Michael in the Diocese of Blackburn. Her institution and induction is planned to take place at the beginning of December. She and Peter will therefore be leaving Theale in the autumn. They would value prayer as they prepare for their new role. They are sad to be leaving Theale and Englefield but are looking forward to being very near their daughter and four grandchildren in Preston. Their final service at Holy Trinity is expected to be Harvest Festival on 30th September at 10.30am with a farewell/Harvest social on Friday 28th September.

Thank you from the Archbishop

Following Archbishop Donald's recent stroke, the PCC sent an email with good wishes for his recovery. He has sent this reply:

Shalom! How nice it was to hear from you all at St Mark's Englefield! Thank you so much for your very encouraging letter to me. I really appreciate the time you took to pray for me. I am making good progress. I am still attending the Physiotherapist Clinic. I am learning to speak again! I want to thank you too, so much for the support you have given to me over the past years (even now), towards my ministry. I know I was always blessed by the folk at St Mark's Englefield. My spiritual strength was always renewed whenever I came to your church and the home fellowships where I got invited. Gladys and I were so much blessed by you, and so were encouraged to continue with the Lord's work, knowing that people like you were always behind us. Kindly pass our love and gratitude to all our dear friends in Christ at St Mark's Englefield. Yours in Christ,

Archbishop Donald and Gladys Mtetemela

Ride+Stride round Reading

Ride+Stride is the main fund-raising event of the Berkshire Churches Trust and this year it takes place on Saturday 8th September. There are lots of interesting churches in central Reading and still more in the surrounding areas like Caversham. If anyone would like to join me on that day, walking or cycling to as many of them as

possible, please do get in touch. And if that is the last thing you would like to do then please feel free to donate to this excellent cause on the BCT's page on justgiving: www.justgiving.com/berkshirechurchestrust. Thank you!



Catherine Haig



Schools Days 2018

Once again, on June 13th and 14th, the peace and quiet of Englefield was shattered as the Estate was transformed into a huge outdoor classroom for the Countryside Days for Schools. Over 1700 pupils and staff from 39 schools invaded the village to learn more about the countryside and the intrinsic link between farming and countryside management. Each year, we are so grateful to people in the village who help by keeping vehicles clear of the trailer-tractor route and who join the team of helpers and guides. The days are truly a community project and our appreciation goes to everyone for their solid support.

Primary schools from Wokingham, Slough, West Berkshire and Reading joined the event this year and the Estate staff took on the role of honorary teachers for the two days, on topics including farming, sustainability, community, environment, history, building and construction, arable, dairy and meat farming, horticulture, forestry and countryside management.

The experience is hugely enriching for the children who get to see a working estate in action and learn directly from those involved. The children are so full of enthusiasm and get to see how things work first hand which really enhances what they learn back in the classroom. They go home feeling much more connected with the natural world around them.

We are always inundated with thank you notes from the children afterwards, it's clear they have a lovely day.

Tina Haynes



Estate moves

As many of you will know, Pete Hatton retired as caretaker at Englefield House at the end of July after 14 years of dedicated and greatly appreciated service in this role. Pete and Sally are moving out of the flat in Englefield House over the next few weeks and into Stable Cottage which will enable Sally to continue as Housekeeper.

Taking over the caretaking role is Alan Beavers, who started at the house on Monday 23rd July. Alan's role is to ensure the smooth running and security of Englefield House, carrying out general maintenance duties and keeping the building and surrounding areas up to standard. Since 2007, Alan has worked for private households in Dorset and Cheshire and has spent a number of years managing holiday chalets in the Alps.

Luke Wade also joins us from Sovereign Housing Association in the role of Maintenance Manager based at the Estate Yard overseeing day to day maintenance and repairs. We are delighted to welcome him and Chloe to Englefield and to their new home at Parkers Corner.

Edward Crookes, Estates Director

From the archive: fire at Wickcroft

The buildings being renovated at Wickcroft will be the second lot of farm buildings on the site. The first ones were built at the turn of the 18th/19th century after the Great Field was enclosed but were destroyed in the disastrous fire of 20th December 1873, when only the house and one granary were saved. The fire started when the men were clearing out the firebox of the steam engine, used to power a threshing machine, at the end of the day's work. They raked the hot embers onto a wet stone (as was the usual practice) but the stone split and the embers fell on to some dry chaff, which immediately ignited. The cows and horses at the farm were all led to safety but the barns, a number of grain ricks, a quantity of grain and a store of feed were all destroyed. The machinery was also damaged and the cost in all was put at £5,000. The manual fire pump bought for Englefield House only a few months earlier and the one from Chalkpit Farm, together with three fire engines from Reading, were used in putting out the fire and the ruins smouldered all the next day. Three men were injured fighting the fire. The tenant farmer at the time was Mr Jenkyn Davies, a renowned local figure, and he and his 'wife' (thereby hangs a tale) with three of their children are buried in the same plot in the churchyard.

Richard Smith



Summer concerts at Englefield

Thousands of music fans enjoyed three evenings of spectacular summer concerts in the grounds of Englefield House at the beginning of July. On Friday July 6th, British pop icons **Madness** took fans ‘One Step Beyond’ with a colourful performance of all their greatest and best-loved hits that got everyone up on their feet. Support act The Tailormade opened the show warming up the crowd, before

The Lightning Seeds took to the stage. Their rendition of ‘Three Lions’ proved the biggest hit of their set, with even the non-football fans in the crowd belting out ‘It’s coming home...’

Saturday July 7th saw platinum selling classical vocal quartet **Il Divo** wow crowds with a collection of their newest songs and old favourites, all to celebrate 15 years since the group formed. Special guest, Michael Ball OBE, captivated audiences with stunning renditions, ranging from Elvis hits to favourites from the musicals. Finally, Sunday July 8th saw music legend **Sir Tom Jones** take to the stage, celebrating his music career which spans five decades. A selection of Sir Tom’s greatest loved hits made sure everyone was singing along.



Specially selected charity partners were invited to hold charity collections at each of the events. Madness crowds raised over £2,000 for ABF The Soldiers Charity on Friday. The Charlie Waller Memorial Trust raised over £400 at Saturday night’s Il Divo concert and local charity Swings and Smiles raised £638 as Tom Jones performed.

*Peter Carson, House and
Events Manager*

'In the fancy' at the Royal Berkshire Show

Most agricultural shows host a poultry section where breeds from around the world can be seen competing for the highest honours with exhibitors eagerly competing to be placed on Champions row. Showing is the shop window for breeds and once you have found a breed that appeals then breed clubs can provide information and support to get you started on exhibiting the best specimens.

The Royal Berkshire show hosts a Poultry Club of Great Britain affiliated Championship show each year where children as young as five can enter. Classes for novices are also on offer and the poultry show secretary is always able to offer advice for those who are unsure on which classes to enter. Children are warmly encouraged and can benefit from displays such as live hatching.

The week before a show is a busy time for those in the fancy with birds being carefully bathed, dried and groomed to emphasize their unique breed qualities. You may see fanciers with vanity cases in hand during the morning of a show where last minute finishing touches are applied such as oiling of legs and combs to accentuate their colouring. Feathers are prudently attended to with silk scarves and the poultry tent is filled with the bustle of preparations and excitement as competitors greet old friends. Whether you keep a few hens in the garden for eggs or you have caught 'hen fever' and are establishing a flock then there is always a way for you to become involved in your local show.

Yours 'in the fancy'



Georgia Braby

*As well as her full time work running Pets Lodge kennels on Lambdens Hill, Georgia is Poultry section head at the **Royal County of Berkshire Show** which takes place this year on **Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th September**.*

Advance tickets are now available from the Show website www.berkshireshow.co.uk.

Filming in Englefield

Recent activity in the Deer Park has been the filming of Housefull 4, the fourth in this successful series of Indian comedy films. Directed by Sajid Khan, who directed Housefull 1 and 2, it is due for release next year.

Fans of Unforgotten, the ITV crime drama starring Nicola Walker and Sanjeev Bhaskar, will know that Season 3 kicked off with the first of six weekly episodes on Sunday 15th July. This was partly filmed here in the church and garden last spring.

New premises for CCA

Dear friends and supporters, our new furniture shop is open at: Christian Community Action Ministries, 79 Northumberland Avenue, Whitley, Reading RG2 7PT (0118 975 9459). We are so pleased with the new shop - we are already building relationships and making friends with the local community. Our opening times for the present are: Monday to Friday 10.00 to 16.00 and we are planning to open Saturdays soon.

Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them (Psalm 111v2).

Gill and all the CCAM team

Gardening in the heat

Well, we have had an interesting year so far. We've had one of the hottest and driest summers for a very long time, which has had a real impact on a lot of plants with them dropping leaves or in a current state of stress. Things you can do to help your gardens flourish when we have times like this is to make sure you are using ground cover plants or even bark or slate so the sun cannot get to the soil. Another option is to create little wells around the plants so when you do water it pools around the base of the plant. You can also leave watering to as late in the evening as possible or again really early in the morning when the plants can take full advantage of the water.

Our workshop team has already been hard at work with the first batches of violas having been pricked out and now starting to come into colour. They have also been hard at work with all the cyclamen starting to show new growth already. Let's see what autumn has set in store for us.

Austin Crabbe, Garden Centre Manager

News from Rushall Farm



It is almost 35 years since John Simonds died while driving along Back Lane late one Saturday night. Rushall Manor site was derelict, with a large heap of manure adding to the general air of decay. Lindsay and I had been here for almost ten years and had a heart for welcoming people to the countryside. From the moment we set eyes on the farm we were bewitched by its beauty, unaware its difficult sands, clays, gravel tops and flints would make average to poor yields of corn and grass the norm. John's death at the age of 19 was the catalyst for putting something positive into practice.

We owe an incredible debt to the Cumber family who own the farm and gave the John Simonds Trust a 30-year lease on the buildings. Their goodwill and patience allowed joint occupancy of children and people with the sheep, cattle and crops in residence. We are also grateful for the many friends locally who watched, encouraged, supported and gave us direction over the years. To have a vision is simple. The outworking is long and at times complicated but today we welcome over 14,000 young people on visits and camps each year. We also provide a place you can come and enjoy being here using the facilities, or just taking a walk in the countryside (with no fear of trees falling on your head).

Each new day offers the opportunity to all of us here to make a difference in a person's life. It is a privilege that we can welcome young people of all backgrounds from the poor to the very rich and of all ethnic and national backgrounds. From 70 pupils from Cardinal Vaughan School, consistently at the top of the national league tables, to Brookfest, a gathering of 16-18-year olds from Brookfield Special School enjoying being normal teenagers on a warm June evening. From the five-year-old in recovery from a brain tumour earnestly eating his apple, oblivious of his fellow classmates, just pleased to be alive, to the strong confident group from Bradfield College on weekly community service.

At the end of June we launched 'The Friends of the John Simonds Trust' with tea and cakes and talks from Richard Benyon and Andy How. Both emphasised the enormous scope we have here in making a difference in young people's lives. If you would like to support this work financially or practically please get in touch with me on john@rushallfarm.org.uk or 0118 9744547.

'One person cannot change the world but you can change the world for one person'.

John Bishop

News from Five a Day

Back in May we were still remembering the freezing cold but now we can't recall when it last rained and everyone is talking about the summer of '76. The ground is rock hard and difficult to dig but despite this the garden is providing produce – the courgettes are particularly impressive. It's also lovely to see the flowers in the garden including the beautiful scented roses and sweet peas. The garden is full of wildlife – bees, butterflies, rabbits, blackbirds, crows, pigeons and we even spotted a wren the other day. The pigeons enjoyed feasting on our strawberries earlier in the year, so next year we'll need to protect them.



Running the garden takes a lot of work and inevitably our volunteers can't do everything, so we rely on support from conservation and corporate groups. Recently we have had amazing teams from TCV, Ella's Kitchen, Prudential, Vodafone and Sage who all worked in temperatures of over 25 degrees to provide us with a new children's area, re-paint garden furniture, sort our overgrown bug garden and build a new demo area bed.

In July we had our second visit from Bill Buckley of Radio Berkshire who bravely took on interviewing some Brownies on a site visit. His considerable skills were put to the challenge and he may have been forgiven for thinking of the old adage of 'never work with children or animals'.

Our Open Day is the major event in July and runs alongside the School Fete and Flower Show. We had lots of visitors enjoying the garden and they were in for a treat as we were privileged to have a local amateur clarinet group playing some wonderful music. The group includes one of our produce managers, Margaret, who manages to fit this in alongside making us some amazing crafts.

Finally do pop down to the garden and look at our produce. We have lettuce, cucumber, tomatoes, herbs, beans and soft fruits available.

Yvonne Redgrave, www.fiveaday.org.uk

We need your help – please save water

Last month the Estate Office wrote to all residents served by the private water supply at Englefield about the need for everyone to use water as carefully as possible please. Since then we have had several more weeks with no rainfall and the water level in the aquifer from which we abstract our drinking water is falling. We wish to avoid restricting use of water if the current prolonged dry period continues and so we would ask everyone to make a conscious effort not to use water unnecessarily or wastefully in order that these measures may be avoided. There are sensible measures that everyone can take to reduce their usage of water please which include:

In the kitchen: fix dripping taps; don't leave the tap running constantly when washing food or rinsing dishes; fill the kettle only with the water you'll need; keep a jug of water in the fridge so you do not have to run the tap until it goes cold.

In the bathroom: turn off the tap when brushing your teeth; take shorter, sharper showers – 5 minutes maximum; put a water-saving bag in the toilet cistern.

In the garden: use a watering can or a bucket, not a hosepipe; put a water butt in the garden; do not fill paddling pools with large volumes of water; in particular please **do not use sprinklers** - let your lawn grow a little longer to conserve moisture.

We, as your water supplier, have to play our part by dealing promptly with leaks in our distribution system. If you or one of neighbours spots a leak please report it immediately and we will fix it. With many thanks for your assistance.

Edward Crookes, Estates Director

Water-saving gadgets are available from www.thameswater.co.uk/Be-water-smart.

Congratulations

To Victoria Savage who has officially qualified and is a registered architect after seven years of combined study and work. She would like to say thank you to her church family at St Mark's for their prayers and support on the journey this far.

Volunteers needed at the School

Englefield Primary School has an increased need for volunteers to come in at convenient but regular times during the school day to help children one to one with their reading. Anybody interested and who would like to know more is most welcome to call the Headteacher Hilary Latimer on 0118 9302337 or to pop in to the school reception.

Date	Sidesmen	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
July 29th 9th Sunday after Trinity	Terry and Dinah Perkins	Ronan O'Sullivan 2 Samuel 11:1-15	Victoria Fishburn Ephesians 3:14-end	Harriet Wynne-Jones John 6:1-21
August 5th 10th Sunday after Trinity BCP	Doris Edwards Dianne Graham		Penny Savage Ephesians 4:1-16	Aldo Guiducci John 6:24-35
August 12th 11th Sunday after Trinity	Richard and Sue Smith	Peter Hollands 2 Samuel 18:5- 9;15;31-33	Peter Haig Ephesians 4:25-5:2	Ann Stone John 6:35; 41-51
August 19th 12th Sunday after Trinity	Terry and Dinah Perkins	David Gibbons 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3- 14	Gloria Sleep Ephesians 5:15-20	Melanie Townsend John 6:51-58
August 26th 13th Sunday after Trinity	Paula Fenwick Linda Price	Linda Price 1 Kings 8:22-30; 41-43	Dee Boddy Ephesians 6:10-20	Ian Savage John 8:56-69
September 2nd 14th Sunday after Trinity BCP	Peter and Denny Hollands		Liz Marillier James 1:17-end	Victoria Fishburn Mark 7:1-8,14,15,21-23
September 9th 15th Sunday after Trinity	Ronan and Saffy O'Sullivan	Paula Fenwick Isaiah 35:4-7a	Mike Kimber James 2:1-17	Dinah Perkins Mark 7:24-end
September 16th 16th Sunday after Trinity	Gloria Sleep Liz Marillier	Dudley Fishburn Isaiah 50:4-9a	Denny Hollands James 3:1-12	Saffy O'Sullivan Mark 8:27-end
September 23rd 17th Sunday after Trinity	Terry and Dinah Perkins	Catherine Haig Jeremiah 11:18-20	Linda Price James 3:13 - 4:3; 7-8a	Dee Boddy Mark 9:30-37
September 30th 18th Sunday after Trinity	Dianne Graham Linda Price	Don Barton Numbers 11:4-6; 10-16; 24-29	David Gibbons James 5:13-end	Ann Stone Mark 9:28-end
October 7th HARVEST FESTIVAL FAMILY SERVICE	Richard and Sue Smith		Victoria Fishburn Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-9	Stephanie Gibbons Matthew 6:25-33
October 14 th 19 th Sunday after Trinity	David and Stephanie Gibbons	Ron Marillier Amos 5:6-7, 10-15	Ronan O'Sullivan Hebrews 4:12-16	Aldo Guiducci Mark 10:17-31

If you are unavailable for any duty on the rota, please try to find a swap, or otherwise contact Saffy O'Sullivan on 0149 website, www.stmarksenglefield.org.uk/rota, or in the church porch. Please let Penny Savage know if you have any not 0118 9302731, and the intercessor will include your request on the following Sunday.

Intercessions	Sacristan	Administrators	Sunday Club	Cleaners
Stephanie Gibbons	Catherine Haig	Dudley Fishburn Penny Savage	Zoe Benyon Catherine Haig	Harriet Wynne-Jones
BCP	Dinah Perkins	Terry and Dinah Perkins	NO SUNDAY CLUB	Carole Ford Dianne Graham
Catherine Haig	Dinah Perkins	Carol Boulter Dinah Perkins	NO SUNDAY CLUB	John and Liz McKean
Ron Marillier	Dee Boddy	Gill Barton Torquil MJ	NO SUNDAY CLUB	Elizabeth Benyon Melanie Townsend
Aldo Guiducci	Penny Norris	Denny Hollands Penny Savage	NO SUNDAY CLUB	Doris Edwards Dinah Perkins
BCP	Catherine Haig	Dudley Fishburn Melanie Townsend	Liz McKean Sara Guiducci	Paula Fenwick Harriet Wynne-Jones
Carol Boulter	Sue Smith	Carol Boulter Peter Haig	Tiffany Ebrey Alice Johnson	Carole Ford Linda Price
Dinah Perkins	Dee Boddy	Dinah Perkins Penny Savage	Susannah McBain Gillian Pinkhardt	John and Liz McKean
Harriet Wynne-Jones	Dinah Perkins	Gill Barton Torquil MJ	Melissa Bennett Denny Hollands	Elizabeth Benyon Melanie Townsend
Melanie Townsend	Penny Savage	Denny Hollands Terry Perkins	Zoe Benyon Sara Guiducci	Doris Edwards Dinah Perkins
Sunday Club	Penny Norris	Carol Boulter Saffy O'Sullivan	Penny Savage Alice Johnson	Paula Fenwick Carole Ford
Dudley Fishburn	Sue Smith	Dudley Fishburn Melanie Townsend	Carolyn Ahanchian Gillian Pinkhardt	Gill Barton Dianne Graham

01 825996 or 07799 060949. For diary planning for future Sundays, an up-to-date rota can always be found on the notices for the pew sheet or announcements to be made in church. For prayer requests, please contact Dinah Perkins on



All the fun of the Fayre - and Fete

Those of us with long memories of the Englefield Flower Show will tell you that we have always been incredibly lucky with the weather during what is the highlight of the year for the village

and many of our neighbours. Even last year, when it poured until half an hour before the crowds arrived, we had a dry two hours for the event itself. Well this year, in the middle of what is set to be the driest July on record, no one would have given you odds on Saturday 14th July being anything but another scorcher - and indeed we all enjoyed a glorious day of blue skies and sunshine on a rather brown and crispy school field and village 'green'.

Carrying on what is set to be a tradition established last year, of combining the show with the school fete, your Flower Show Committee with the lifesaving help of the incredible Englefield School PTA, planned and executed another joyous celebration of summer in Englefield village. The car park was full and the crowd was just the right number to create a steadily busy time for the stall managers and a stream of admiring viewers in the exhibits tents.

The show this year was expanded and we not only maintained traditions but we built on past successes. The 50% increase in entries to the show tent achieved last year was maintained this year despite worries that the drought would have affected the flower and vegetable classes. There were more children's craft entries too, to complement the traditional handwriting and painting classes. The new challenge for the children to grow potatoes in a bag was hugely popular and exciting to the extent that some of the young growers couldn't wait until the day to harvest their crop!

The number and variety of stalls and attractions was also increased without

sacrificing quality (Graham Parsons' hamburgers come from Greens in Pangbourne – about as far a cry from McDonalds as possible!). The wonderful Book Stall, Bric-a-Brac, Tombola, Crockery Smashing, Bowling for a Pig, and many others are the backbone of the whole event and the magnificent school PTA, representing a mere 70 families,



is stretched to capacity running numerous stalls including the extensive raffle and the very lucrative tea tent bursting with freshly baked cakes and scones.

A huge thank you is richly deserved by the Beenham Wind Orchestra who join us every year to play a cleverly chosen programme of summery tunes.



Conductor Robert Roscoe tells us that the reputation of the orchestra is drawing players from as far as 50 miles away and yet they have no difficulty in persuading members to attend the show. Indeed the players say that they love coming to a traditional village fete – a rarity these days - it is the highlight of their summer season.

In the interval, we all gathered round the straw bale arena to enjoy maypole dancing by Year 3/4 children followed by country dances from Year 1/2 children. There was a lot of happy skipping – including from the class teachers (it is no easy task to execute a round, holding hands with someone a third of your height!). And it was a delight, capped only by the Year 5/6 choir with a repertoire of show tunes.

But creating all the fun of the fayre is not without its costs: financial, physical and emotional. The show has amassed a lot of equipment which wears out and needs maintenance. For example, last year five of the tents were damaged in storage. We are hugely grateful to the Englefield Estate who stepped in and paid for replacements. Our gratitude also extends to the invaluable assistance the Estate gives to setting up the tents and marquee and connecting power cables around the field. Balancing the books is not easy in a show that sets its store by providing free entry and relies entirely on income generated on the day to pay for the expenses incurred.

One of the great advantages to the school of combining their Summer Fete with the Flower Show is that it has not only helped revive both events, it has provided an opportunity to generate much needed income for the school. Next year it is proposed, once costs are covered, to devote all profits on the day to the school. This should give us all an added purpose for future shows. The expanded show community now includes the Theale Dr Ellerton's Allotments and the Bradfield Garden Club and we are looking to create more family classes to encourage show novice growers, hobbyists and household cooks to enter exhibits.

So this is not only a big thank-you to everyone who attended or were involved in creating a delightful day, it is also an appeal to all parishioners to help make next year another great success.

Chris Gittins, Show Administrator

CONGRATULATIONS!

The winners of the cups and shields this year were:

CHALLENGE CUPS

Garden of the Year

GIVEN BY

Lady Benyon

HOLDER

1st Trevor Allen

2nd Mel Tuson

3rd Johny & Hils Phillips

The Cox Cup

M & P Cox

Trevor Allen

Rose Challenge Cup

F. Lamperd & H. Wilkinson

Mel Tuson

Oliver Bridges Cup

H.O. Bridges

Mel Tuson

Bill Partridge Memorial Cup

Flower Show

Ding Parish

Kathleen Lamperd Memorial Cup

F. Lamperd

Mel Tuson

Bob Orchard Memorial Cup

Flower Show

Trevor Allen

Ambrose Setterfield Memorial Shield

Mel Tuson

Senior Citizens Shield (for the over-sixties)

Mel Tuson

Miniature Challenge Cup

Sarah Fraser

Floral Art Challenge Cup

M. Hart

Sue Smith

Victor Brown Memorial Bowl

J Brown

Anthony Powell

Novice Challenge Cup

N. Allen

Not awarded

Social Club Ladies Challenge Cup

The Social Club

Anthony Powell

Wendy Greaves Memorial Cup

C. Roberts

Ann Tong

Photography Cup

T. Perkins

Tiffany Ebrey

Des Allen Memorial Cup

N Allen and Family

Tiffany Ebrey

Children's Cup

J.K. Strang JP

Sam Ebrey

Handwriting Shield Yrs 1 & 2

J. Dunn

Jude Kornelissen

Handwriting Shield Yrs 3 & 4

J Dunn

Eddie Hartley-Burden

Handwriting Shield Yrs 5 & 6

J Dunn

Sarah-Renae Hall

Joan Dunn Memorial Cup Yrs 1 & 2

Flower Show

Matthew Morgan

Joan Dunn Memorial Cup Yrs 3 & 4

Flower Show

Bea Buxton

Joan Dunn Memorial Cup Yrs 5 & 6

Flower Show

Harry Challand

The Mrs Black Memorial Cup

Mrs S. Smith

Sam Ebrey

A plea for next year!

Please make a note for next year's show and fete: **Saturday 20th July**, starting at 2.30 (date to be confirmed). Please spread the news – bring your neighbours, friends and relatives next year. Please have fun entering exhibits and encourage any relatives to join you – there are classes and prizes for everyone. Please offer help on the lead up to the day or on the committee – contact the Committee

Chairman Mark Postles – mapostles@gmail.com. Thank you!



Floral exhibits in the marquee at the Englefield Flower Show and School Fete.

Bradfield Young Farmers Club

The Club programme is always good fun in the months following the Country Fayre. We were given a tour of Snelsmore Common by BBOWT and although we didn't see any snakes or lizards we enjoyed the surroundings. Our annual bingo evening was held outside at Barn Elms Farm with a BBQ. Thanks to the Balsdons for the fabulous venue. Next we made our own pizzas using Graham's Hog Roast outdoor pizza oven. Members rolled and spun the dough and created their own toppings and, of course, the best bit was getting to eat them - some definitely looked more palatable than others! August brings the Club camp with who knows what madness and adventure and then we start meeting weekly again in September.

To find out more contact sonia.walters2@btinternet.com or find BYFC on Facebook.



Lost and found

Thank you so much to everyone who helped in the search when Lil, our 14 year old Irish terrier, went missing a few weeks ago. She disappeared on a walk, down by the Bourne about a mile from Mayridge and was eventually found 36 hours later, by Reg and Molly Sherwood, about half a mile upstream. She was very tired and very hungry but unharmed. We were so grateful for everyone's help and a particular thank you to Reg and Molly.

Catherine and Peter Haig

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.

When they came to the threshing floor of Nakon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God because the oxen stumbled. The LORD's anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down, and he died there beside the ark of God (2 Samuel 6 v 6-7)

This sobering episode highlights something that our current generation is in danger of forgetting. The good news of God's grace, and our redemption through the death of Jesus on the cross, is a wonderful truth and should act as a great encouragement and comfort. But it should not blind us to the truth of who God is. Our God is a God of blazing perfection – he is God Almighty, not 'God all-matey'. To forget this, to reduce the awesome majesty of God to merely that of a friendly companion, is to blaspheme against him. Uzzah, acting instinctively to protect the ark when the oxen stumbled, forgot the indescribable holiness of God when he reached out and laid hands on the ark. Even living in the light of the New Testament, we should not think that God is any less majestic now than he was then. Though we approach him with confidence through Jesus' blood, we nevertheless must approach him in holy fear, for 'our God is a consuming fire' (Hebrews 23:29).

When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever (2 Samuel 7 v 12-13)

Who is this son of David that God is talking about through the prophet Nathan? At first glance, the obvious answer is Solomon. Solomon takes over the kingship from David, is firmly established as king, and builds the great temple in Jerusalem. However, there are a couple of discordant notes: Solomon is made king while David still lives (1 Kings 1), rather than after his death; and Solomon's throne doesn't remain firmly established after his death, but is torn apart by rivalry (1 Kings 11). It is through the lens of the New Testament we see the true fulfilment of this prophecy in the person of Jesus. Jesus was born of the line of David generations after David died; his kingdom was established by his death and resurrection; and he has built a house for God's Name – the church, in whose members God lives by his Spirit. Jesus has ascended into heaven, where he has begun his eternal reign at God's right hand (1 Pet 3:22).

The Church and the City

We have spent much of the last 12 months in the Master's flat at Clothworkers' Hall in the middle of the City. During this time Carol has been Master of the Company, handing over on July 18th. Our last event in the Hall was a family party to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary on July 21st.

During this year we have had a wonderful opportunity to observe the Church in the City. There are many churches often dating back to the great fire of London in 1666 and their rebuilding by Christopher Wren. Today there is huge variety from conservative evangelical to high Anglican to inclusive church, welcoming all regardless of background or orientation.

The Clothworkers' Company is associated with St Olave's where the vicar has also been Area Dean and an exorcist in the London Diocese. We have attended the midweek communion service when we could and have found it to be a very Spirit led community, welcoming, prayerful and with scholarly biblical teaching.

Of the churches rebuilt after the great fire, St Paul's Cathedral is preeminent and we attended a number of services and events there. We were fortunate to have excellent seats for the installation of Dame Sarah Mullally as Bishop of London. She was received with great acclamation and in her sermon recognised that while her appointment was seen in some quarters as controversial she was happy to embrace this and was determined to remain in conversation with those who disagreed with her whatever their point of view.

Another remarkable occasion occurred in Holy Week when I was told of a discussion being held at St Paul's between Paula Gooder, the Biblical scholar, and Canon Mark Oakley on different themes in scripture and poetry about an understanding of the Crucifixion. I had imagined a small gathering of intellectuals. In fact there were well over 600 people listening to a deeply fascinating insight into varied Christian thinking. For me the most moving was an anonymous Anglo-Saxon poem written from the point of view of the tree on which Jesus hung.

On a much smaller scale I attended St Mary at Hill where the vicar is also chaplain to the Speaker and where they have an eminent speaker once a month, including Baroness Sayeeda Warsi on her book, *The Enemy Within*, and Jonathan Aitken on life in prison. Each was preceded by evensong sung by four voices, each pitch perfect. Church music is another aspect of many of the City churches.

The ties between the churches, the Livery companies and the mayoralty remain strong and can be best summed up by the Clothworkers' own motto: My Trust is in God Alone.

Hugh Boulter

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