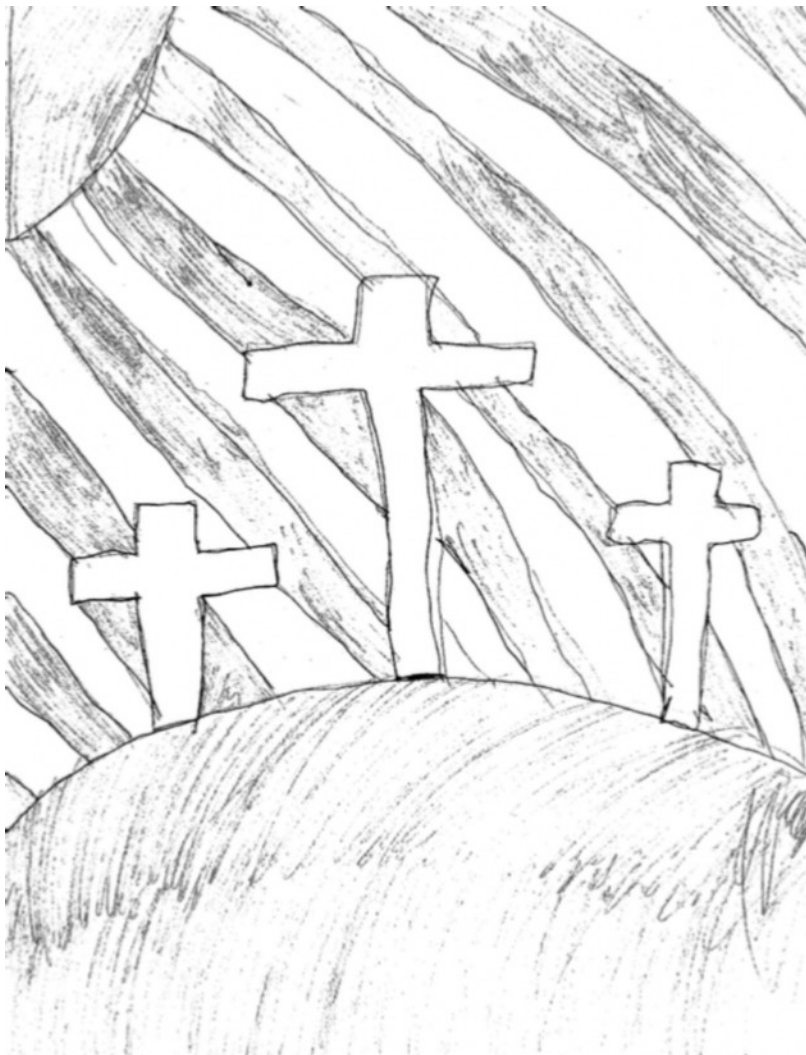


Englefield Parish News

April - May 2019



The Parish of St Mark's, Englefield

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Englefield Parish Council website:

www.englefieldpc.org.uk

Front cover: *A big thank you to all the pupils at Englefield School who provided the Easter drawings for this issue, including this one shown on the cover.*

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

We were just leaving *Le Bec-Hellouin*, regarded as one of the "most beautiful villages of France", when our tyre went flat. Without ado our guest rolled up his sleeves, got down on the ground to resolve a problem with the locking nuts and changed the tyre. Bishop John Taylor was the speaker at the retreat a number of us had just attended. Over the years the memory of the retreat has faded, but the lesson he demonstrated in servant leadership is as vivid today as then.

In 1998 he wrote in *Our National Life*, "We urgently need to rediscover the importance of developing a more Christian life-style in the life of our Nation. There is a real danger of social breakup as more and more emphasis is placed on the individual and the goal of personal self-fulfillment. In my judgement the two areas of life most at risk are the integrity of the family and the place of authority." Sadly the intervening years have proved his judgment all too true.

As Easter approaches we are reminded of Jesus' servant leadership, washing the disciples' feet and setting the example for his followers as he went to the Cross. It was there that he endured the fury of evil and the horror of darkness – to free us from the powers that enslave us. But the mocking multi-lingual placard on the Cross, proclaiming him 'King', proved true. He conquered sin and death. His resurrection vindicates His claims and his completed work. It has been truly said, "God is at His most God-like at the cross." He reigns from the Cross and rules as a servant – the Servant King.

Such a reign and rule is diametrically opposed to all human philosophy and practice, but is God's way of working. It is the basis for Paul's appeal in his letter to friends in Philippi where the church's unity was threatened by personal disputes. "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others" (Philippians 2.2-4). Jesus modelled leadership and provided a new way of leading - not for one part of life (the religious rather than the secular, the private rather than the public) but in contrast with the way rulers usually exercise rule over their subjects. As one professor of moral theology avers, "That the way of love, even when tortured and killed, shall not be kept dead...such a claim would re-order not merely one's private life, but the whole of life, and the whole of history, and the whole of politics." To that the voice of the martyrs bears eloquent witness.

Praying for that 'Easter-shaped' re-ordering at the heart of 'Our National Life'.

Nick and Harriet

Diary: April - May 2019

Sunday 31 st March	Mothering Sunday family service, 10.30 at St Mark's with posies for mums
Monday 1 st April	Berkshire Churches Trust lecture , Long Gallery, Englefield House
Thursday 4 th April	Farewell evening service for Bishop Andrew, 7.30pm at St James the Less Pangbourne
Sunday 7 th April	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's
Saturday 13 th April	St Mark's spring clean , see page 4
Sunday 14 th April	Palm Sunday Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's, with a visit from Tizzy the donkey
Thursday 18 th April	Maundy Thursday Communion service, 7.30pm at St Mark's
Friday 19 th April	Good Friday An Hour at the Cross , 2pm at St Mark's, see page 13
Saturday 20 th April	Bluebell Walks at Rushall Farm , 20 th and 21 st April, see page 24 for details
Sunday 21 st April	EASTER DAY Family Communion , 10.30, St Mark's, followed by Easter egg hunt, see page 13
Wednesday 24 th April	Deanery Lecture : Martin Parsons speaking on the plight of children in war zones, 8pm, Aldermaston Primary School
Friday 26 th April	St Andrew's School concert in aid of the Charlie Waller Memorial Trust at St Mark's, see page 19
Saturday 27 th April	Bluebell Walks at Rushall Farm , 27 th and 28 th April, see page 24 for details
Sunday 28 th April	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's
Monday 29 th April	Annual Parochial Church Meeting , 6.30pm at St Mark's Church, see page 4
Sunday 5 th May	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's
Wednesday 8 th May	Let's Talk Theology : canonicity in the Old Testament, 7.45pm, St Mary's Sulhamstead
Sunday 12 th May	Holy Communion , 10.30 St Mark's
Sunday 19 th May	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's
Wednesday 22 nd May	Annual Parish Meeting , at the Village Tea Rooms, 7pm, all parishioners welcome
Sunday 26 th May	Holy Communion , 10.30 at St Mark's
	Berkshire Country Fayre , Englefield Park
Mondays 1 st and 15 th April and 6 th and 20 th 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 1 st and 3 rd Mondays of every month. All welcome.	

Congratulations

To Sophie Crookes and Jake Hall on their recent engagement.

To Joanne and João Pereira on the birth of Alice Marion Ford Pereira, a granddaughter for Pete and Carole Ford.

To Joseph and Rebecca Scherer on the birth of Jacob Joseph Winston, a brother for Gabriella.

To Alice and Louis Watt on the birth of Hugo Dominic, a brother for Eloise and Maddie and grandson for Dudley and Victoria Fishburn.

To Katherine Savage on completing the Reading Half Marathon on Sunday 17th March.

To Brenda Hunt and John Jacob on their recent marriage.

RIP

Bob Embling whose funeral was held at St Mark's on Thursday 31st January. Our thoughts are with Hazel and the family at this time.

Gerry Burnham, long-standing resident of Englefield, who died on February 1st. He and his wife came to the village to run the Social Club and, in his later years, Gerry worked as a decorator on the Estate. He lived at 6 The Street before his move to a nursing home last year.

Mark Lay, who died suddenly in February and whose funeral was held at Reading crematorium on March 5th. Our thoughts are with Chris, Karen his wife, their children and all the family.

Parish Assembly

The Annual Parish Assembly will be held this year on Wednesday 22nd May, 7pm, in the Village Tea Rooms. Come and meet your Parish Councillors. Everyone who lives in the parish of Englefield is welcome to attend.

Nia Rands, Clerk to the Parish Council



APCM

This year the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in St Mark's Church on Monday 29th April at 6.30pm. Churchwardens and PCC members will be elected, as well as officers appointed for the year. The annual reports and accounts for the meeting will be available to view in church one week beforehand. We hope you can join us for this short but important meeting.

Penny Savage, PCC Secretary

Spring clean at St Mark's

The cleaners on the church rota are meeting on Saturday 13th April, from 9 - 11am to give St Mark's a thorough spring clean before Easter. It would be wonderful to have as many people to help as possible, and ideally some tall men as well. There will be croissants, cakes and coffee to fuel our efforts. Please speak to Paula or myself if you might be able to help or just turn up on the day. Thank you!

Saffy O'Sullivan

Real Easter eggs

Real Easter Egg Company eggs are Fairtrade and each one comes with a copy of the Easter story. They are a great way of sharing the real meaning of Easter and are available in original (£3.99), dark (£5.50) and special editions (£9.99). They are made in the UK, without shea butter or palm oil, and the packaging is plastic-free. You can buy direct from the website www.realeasteregg.co.uk and from independent retailers including Christian bookshops such as Shoemakers in Newbury.



Deanery talk

The next Deanery Spiritual Development Group talk will be given by Martin Parsons who will be speaking on the plight of children in war zones. It will take place at Aldermaston Primary School on Wednesday 24th April, 8pm, refreshments 7.30pm.



Did you spot this?

When the BBC News app carried a story on February 22nd under the headline 'Churches no longer have to hold Sunday

services', it was accompanied by this photograph of St Mark's. The General Synod had just voted to end the law - dating back to 1603 - which required priests to hold a Sunday service in every church they looked after, a decision which reflects the current practice of priests who look after multiple churches today. The BBC was obviously unaware that it chose to feature a single church benefice where a Sunday service is held every week of the year!

Join the Englefield Tower

If you are looking for a new experience, challenge or hobby for 2019, why not come and see us on any Tuesday evening between 7pm and 8pm at St Mark's tower. Bell ringing is a team activity for any age that stimulates the brain and helps to keep you fit. It also makes a pleasurable sound and is a lifelong learning experience. We need new ringers to help keep the Englefield Tower functioning. Please contact me at janinealston@hotmail.com or 07740 183087.

Janine Alston

New electoral roll

The deadline is approaching for signing up to be on the electoral roll of St Mark's Church. Every six years each parish is required to prepare a completely new roll so even if you have been on it before you have to reapply now. Forms are available in church and have to be returned by Sunday 7th April.

Sue Smith, Electoral Roll Officer

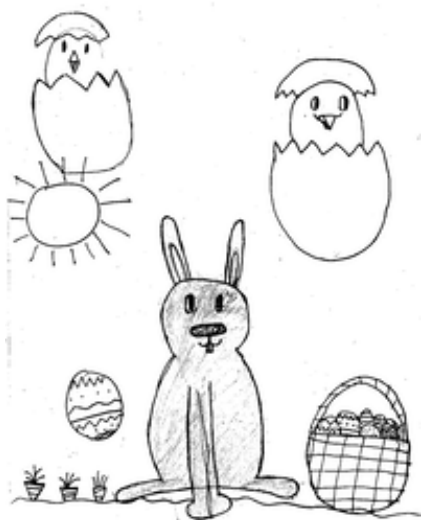


Thank you from the Village Shop

Well another year passes and a new one begins. As I write this, spring is in the air and the bulbs in the garden are producing some lovely colours so I'm going to start with some fantastic news from the Tea Room. A couple of years ago one of our regular customers said she had started knitting toys for a hobby and would we like to sell them in the Tea Room for a charity of our choice. Well that's how it started. All the wool is donated by friends and customers and 100% of all money goes to charity, so from the Shop and Tea Room we applaud you Mr and Mrs Thatcher for your kind and hard work. Between you and the Tea Room you have raised £4,660 for our chosen charity which is Headway, a charity that is close to the hearts of our family again a massive well done!!

Working and running the Village Shop and Tea Room gives us so many pleasures and after over 12 years of doing so, you realise it has become not only a job but is about 90% of your social life and we wouldn't change that. From time to time we get customers that also live in rural villages around the country and commonly say how lucky and fortunate Englefield is to have a Village Store and Tea Room. I used to just smile and agree with them but now I always tell them it's getting harder all the time due to inflation over the last couple of years, in our case our overheads have increased dramatically and of course there are modern shopping habits to contend with, so it's at this point I would ask you all please don't forget about your local businesses and please do try to use and support them if you want to keep them. Many thanks

Andy and Laura Allen



Extended hours at Padworth recycling

From April 1st West Berkshire residents will have more opportunity to recycle and dispose of their rubbish at Padworth Recycling Centre. The Recycling Centre (which now also takes general household waste) will be open every day from 8am to 6pm as part of a pilot scheme which runs until 30 September 2019.

Englefield community venue

We received an excellent response both from within and beyond the Parish which demonstrates the overwhelming support for the refurbishment of the Club building to provide a venue for a range of community activities. In addition, it was great to see a number of people willing to provide voluntary support to manage those activities.

The Estate remains very keen that the building continues to be used for the benefit of the community but, as you know, it is in need of refurbishment to meet modern standards. As a result, we have been undertaking surveys and are working up plans to improve the layout of the facilities and we will update you further in due course. In the meantime, to keep the ball rolling, we will begin some preparatory works shortly. We are grateful to everyone who took the time to contribute to the survey.

Edward Crookes, Estates Director

Garden of the Year

With the promise of warmer weather just around the corner, now is the time to think about entering your garden into the **Garden of the Year Competition 2019**. All personally kept gardens large or small are welcome. It is a chance to show off all your hard work and we would love to see the results. Sue Broughton, Head Gardener on the Englefield Estate, has kindly agreed to be our judge once again and judging will take place on Tuesday 11th June. The winner will be announced on the day of the Flower Show, **Saturday 13th July**. If you would like to enter your garden please contact me on 07940 410611 or Mark Postles on 07551 981587.

Sarah Fraser



New wheels for the volunteer group

A new car converted to take a wheelchair has been acquired recently by the Carebus Volunteer Group (CVG) which provides transport for disabled and vulnerable people in Englefield, and surrounding areas. It joins the group's two minibuses and another car to bring the fleet to four.

The new vehicle is a specially converted VWCaddy and will be used to take wheelchair users to hospital appointments, shopping trips and other essential trips where other means of transport are not readily available. As with the other CVG vehicles, it will be driven by volunteer drivers, specially trained in its use.

The Carebus minibuses have sophisticated wheelchair ramps operating via twin rear doors, and can accommodate up to 10 passengers with three folded wheelchairs, or eight passengers plus another who travels in his or her wheelchair which is secured with special floor clamps and an inertia seatbelt for the user. The Carebuses are used by groups for a wide variety of outings, and also run two scheduled services each week from the villages into Reading and Newbury enabling non-drivers get out and about with others in a similar position. As well as running the four vehicles, CVG has a second team of volunteer drivers offering a similar service using their own private cars, for clients who are more mobile.



CVG was founded in 1986 in Englefield and now serves the eastern part of West Berkshire. The services benefit over 1,250 people annually. It is funded by a modest mileage charge to users and through the support of local councils, charitable trusts, and private donations. The acquisition of the new vehicle was made possible with the support of West Berkshire Council grant aid and a discount

from Gowrings Mobility. If you would like to know more about CVG and its services, or can offer any help, please visit the website www.carebuscommunitytransport.org or call 0118 930 4837.

Above: Rose Reynolds, CVG chair, accepts the Caddy keys from David Hawkins from Gowrings Mobility of Newbury.

Friendship lunches

The Old Boot Inn in Stanford Dingley has started running Over 60's Friendship Lunches. They take place once a month, on the second Thursday, and are open to anyone who may wish to come along. Prices are £9 for two courses or £12 for three courses, the menu changes every month and entertainment is included. The dates are listed on the website www.oldbootinnstanforddingley.co.uk and you need to book. Call 0118 9745191 to make a reservation.



Great British Spring Clean

This year the Great British Spring Clean started on March 22nd and runs until April 23rd. Community litter picks are taking place all over the country organised by Councils, churches and community groups - there are 20 within ten miles of here listed on the website www.keepbritaintidy.org. Although Englefield remains wonderfully litter free, other areas around the village are not so well cared for. There are some #litterheroes in our community who quietly take responsibility for their particular stretch of road or footpath or hedgerow and they deserve our thanks. If everyone followed suit....?

From Dandaswara, Nepal

In the hope that you are not fed up with hearing from me about this project, I am pleased to report that Support Nepal is now a UK registered charity no.1181380 and donations can be made to sort code 30 84 58, a/c no. 76796368.

My ex-Ghurka friend Navin Garung has been gathering funds successfully all round the world to provide Dandaswara, the village of his father and grandfather, with a welfare, education and meeting place with clean water, but money is still short and the building needs a roof. You can imagine the magnitude of the task confronting this project with all materials having to be transported off-road by oxen in an area which has also been hit by earthquakes and flooding.

If you or someone you know could go to Nepal and help Navin, please ask me for more information, otherwise please give what you can using the details above.

Liz Reeves

Radio Berkshire comes to St Mark's

Saturday 2nd March saw me waiting in the church porch for Anoushka Williams to arrive with Roger driving. They were following a treasure hunt clue in Andy Peach's Saturday morning show, Peach Quest, that they had picked up at the previous location of the Basildon Park.

Clue 3 had read: *To find the next clue you will need to head Away from the beaten track To the Saxon Angles land which the Danes once tried to claim. At this holy site Carol is waiting in the pews which stand back to back If on the way you get lost Roger will be to blame.*

The white Radio Berkshire car rounded Parkers Corner with its wireless antenna on top and out they sprang greeting me at the lych gate. Lots of cheerful banter about the Middleton wedding and the graveyard. But I had been instructed to hide the next clue inside the church. It was on the altar in the Englefield Chapel. They found it after a clue that it was in our prayer room and they were soon working on solving this clue with the help of the team of four of the Sainsbury Singers, who are putting on *Guys and Dolls* at the Hexagon in May, in the studio and listeners who phoned in. It was much more difficult and Bradfield and Aborfield were suggested but a listener solved the anagram as Tadley Library and they were on their way.

Clue 4 read: *You won't find the next clue in among the books, rather it's near the bricks you will need to look. Often Bradley Artily builds a piece of work that is worlds apart, solve this clue and you'll be nearer to the peach than you were at the start!*

They narrowly missed finishing in a record time at The Vine which was the answer to clue 5 and jubilantly claimed the peach. The life of a churchwarden is certainly varied and fun!

Carol Boulter

All the clues are on Twitter including photos and the recording can be accessed via the Radio Berkshire website. For those who need it Radio Berkshire is 104.1.

New stock at Flowers Farm

Flowers Farm Interiors are delighted to announce the arrival of a lovely collection of ladies wear, handbags, clutch bags, purses and scarves. Pop in and visit us soon. We're at 9 High Street, Theale RG7 5AH, www.flowersfarminteriors.co.uk.

Jane Harms

News from Rushall Farm



We have just finished clearing out Oaklands Yard at Rushall Manor. For 20 years it was the home of Pang Valley Woodland Products. The site has delighted the many children on a visit to the farm. They saw huge stacks of logs, the bellowing smoke from the large charcoal kilns and piles of great slabs of seasoning timber. Inside the workshop was a world filled with beautifully made workbenches, a timber floor of thousands of pieces of oak left over from the construction of the Globe, a shave horse, a massive timber clamp, a foot treadle for turning bowls and a bicycle-driven wet stone for sharpening tools. Sparing no luxury, there was a Rayburn for boiling up the remains of charcoal-cooked hog roasts, and a sink supplied with water harvested from the roof.

So, no more pegs for timber framed buildings, tile pegs, charcoal, laths for lath and plaster, seats and benches, or long chats about life, the weather and cricket.

Over the last three days 240 girls from the Holt School in Wokingham have been here on a geography visit. Part of the day includes a session on diversification when they look at the woodlands and plan improvements for hedgerows, the pond, and the farm environment for wildlife. They are also expected to ponder opportunities for other land use like camping, horse paddocks and biogas generation, and how to preserve old farm buildings. The sites looked at included Oaklands, with the questions, 'What is the building being used for, how does it contribute to the rural community and does it generate any income?' Today Oaklands offers nothing apart from the newts which live in the adjacent pond.

So, we have now started work with a very special project in mind. Every Tuesday a group of 20 plus young people from Brookfield and Castle Schools come for a day to visit the farm. They love the opportunity to be out of school working with Steve Waters and the sheep and cattle, and Oaklands will be their new base. Part of the inspiration for this project was the tragic death of Stuart Featherstone who went to Brookfield. Stuart was born in 1970. As well as working in Tesco's in Newbury he went around being himself, stubborn and independent at times but always open and friendly. Strong and determined he touched the lives of many people who would say it was good to have known him. Well over 200 people came to his funeral. We are quite sure that the new Oaklands will help to enable those whom others would define as weak, vulnerable and in need of protection, to be like Stuart and live life to the full, and in doing so enrich the lives of others.

John Bishop

News from Five a Day

Spring is a happy season when you can almost hear the plants in the Five a Day Market Garden growing in the warm sunshine.

April and May are busy times in the polytunnel where we start off all our vegetable plants before transplanting them into the garden as soon as the risk of late frosts has passed. We're looking forward to bumper crops of broad beans, strawberries and potatoes, followed by tomatoes, salads and more beans!



Every Thursday afternoon we welcome older people, some who have dementia, and their carers to enjoy the gardening club atmosphere of Thyme Together. These popular sessions give older people the opportunity help with sowing seeds and potting on young plants. For many people this brings back memories of gardening when they were younger, and stimulates conversations. Thyme Together sessions are free of charge, thanks to funding from

The Pargiter Trust via Berkshire Community Foundation. If you know anyone who would like to come along to Thyme Together, please contact Five a Day via learning@fiveaday.org.uk.

Blossom on our fruit trees has transformed the garden, so we're looking forward to a good crop this autumn. In March we spread shredded willow, which has anti-fungal properties, as a mulch to help keep the fruit trees healthy. Thank you to CROW volunteers who coppiced the willow and Englefield Estate for shredding it.

Five a Day Market Garden volunteers keep the garden productive and looking good, making sure it's safe and enjoyable for schoolchildren to visit as well as the young adult students from Priors Court and Little Heath Court. We are always keen to hear from anyone who would like to give an hour or two of their spare time, especially if they would like to help out with the groups who visit. If you're interested, please contact wendy@fiveaday.org.uk. While Yvonne Redgrave is recovering from a serious illness we are recruiting an Interim Coordinator to manage the garden. This is a paid job and may be suitable for two people to job share. Please check www.fiveaday.org.uk for more information.

Wendy Tobitt on behalf of the Five a Day Committee

Holy Week

at St Mark's Church Englefield

PALM SUNDAY 14 APRIL

10.30am

Holy Communion Service
with children's activities:
donkey procession & Easter Garden



MAUNDY THURSDAY 18 APRIL

7.30pm

Commemoration of the Last Supper

GOOD FRIDAY 19 APRIL

2.00pm

'An Hour at the Cross'

Time for reflection with readings, hymns and prayer



EASTER DAY SUNDAY 21 APRIL

10.30am

Family Communion
with Easter Egg hunt



For more details please contact the Revd Nick Wynne-Jones
Tel: 0118 9303595 Email: nwwj@stmarksenglefield.org.uk



News from the School

This term seems to be flying past so it has been lovely to look back over all that we've done. On Friday 1st February we had a 'snow day' when it was too treacherous to ask people to drive into school. The children all made the most of the time at home, building snowmen, having snowball fights and over-dosing on hot chocolate!



A total of eight children from Year 4 and Year 5 went to the St Gabriel's School maths challenge in Newbury. They had a wonderful afternoon of maths puzzling and really tested their maths knowledge. It is so important for children at small rural schools to be given these opportunities to meet up with, and work alongside, those from larger schools.

Two teams entered a ten pin bowling competition at Lakeside in Thatcham. They challenged themselves to improve on their scores and had a great time. Thank you to the West Berkshire School Sports Network for organising this.



During the half term break, Angel Sports ran their holiday club at the school. This has become a popular activity for many of our pupils and is open to other local children too. Please contact the school office for more details.

On Pancake Day the KS1 children made delicious pancakes whilst the KS2 pupils held pancake races and challenged themselves to improve the number of pancake tosses they could do in a minute.



Book Week was a big success with everyone writing their own poem to go into a school anthology. We also had a poetry reading competition with the four winners receiving poetry books as prizes. Thank you to local writer, Nick Parker, for giving each class a stimulating workshop based around poetry.

Sadly we have had a number of sports tournaments cancelled owing to the weather which was hugely disappointing for both pupils and staff. Hopefully we can get out to other schools soon and start competing!

Our KS1 children have just enjoyed a great day at Rushall Farm in the wind and rain of Storm Gareth! They went on a tractor ride to see all the farm animals, learned the

bee waggle dance, found out about food chains and the signs of spring and went for a walk in the woods.

Our Year 5/6 pupils are just preparing for their four-day residential trip to Swanage. They will be having a night walk when they will be learning about astronomy, doing orienteering and some beach studies amongst other things. The teachers are hoping to get some sleep!

We are all looking forward to the annual Englefield Flower Show and School Fete which will be on Saturday 13th July from 2pm. Please put it in your diary. We hope to see many of you at the fete enjoying the fun. Please remember that you are always welcome to contact the school (0118 930 2337) if you would like to come in to help in any way.

Hilary Latimer



Using rights of way in Englefield

The Estate is keen to encourage the use of rights of way around Englefield but would like to remind all residents of the need to keep to public rights of way and the additional permissive paths the Estate provides. These routes can be seen on the Parish Council website in the community section. See <https://englefieldpc.org.uk/>.

With spring now upon us and livestock soon to be turned out we would also ask walkers to adhere to the Countryside Code by keeping dogs under close control, shutting gates behind you, and by keeping to the designated footpaths and bridleways at all times. In addition to keeping livestock safe, the Estate is also involved in a number of environmental projects, hence the need to keep areas quiet for wildlife to establish itself and so please avoid being tempted down private tracks and headlands.



For further information, please contact the Estate Office on 0118 9302504 or office@englefield.co.uk.

Edward Crookes, Estates Director

Date	Sidesmen	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel
April 7th 5th Sunday of Lent BCP	Dudley and Victoria Fishburn		Mike Kimber Philippians 3:4b-14	Penny Savage John 12:1-8
April 14th Palm Sunday	Paula Fenwick Linda Price	Aldo Guiducci tbc	Ron Marillier tbc	David Gibbons tbc
April 19th Good Friday, 2pm	Penny Savage	Harriet Wynne- Jones	Dinah Perkins	Ian Savage
April 21st Easter Sunday	Liz Marillier Gloria Sleep	Dee Boddy Acts 10:34-43	Stephanie Gibbons 1 Cor 15:19-26	Carol Boulter John 20:1-18
April 28th 2nd Sunday of Easter	Doris Edwards Dinah Perkins	Kahlen Spaulding Acts 5:27-32	Linda Price Revelation 1:4-8	Elizabeth Benyon John 20:19-end
May 5th 3rd Sunday of Easter BCP	Peter and Catherine Haig		Dianne Graham Revelation 5:11-end	Liz Marillier John 21:1-19
May 12th 4th Sunday of Easter	Ian and Penny Savage	Peter Haig Acts 9:36-end	Gloria Sleep Revelation 7:9-end	Linda Price John 10:22-30
May 19th 5th Sunday of Easter	David and Stephanie Gibbons	Mike Kimber Acts 11:1-18	Harriet Wynne- Jones Revelation 21:1-6	Catherine Haig John 13:31-35
May 26th 6th Sunday of Easter	Peter and Denny Hollands	Paula Fenwick Acts 16:9-15	Dudley Fishburn Revelation 21:10, 22-end; 22:1-5	Aldo Guiducci John 14:23-29
June 2nd 7th Sunday of Easter BCP	Dudley and Victoria Fishburn		Ann Stone Revelation 22:12- 14;16-17; 20-end	Melanie Townsend John 17:20-end
June 9th Pentecost	Paula Fenwick Linda Price	Hugh Boulter Acts 2:1-21	Victoria Fishburn Romans 8:14-17	Richard Benyon John 14:8-17

If you are unavailable for any duty on the rota, please try to find a swap, or otherwise contact S. The up-to-date rota can always be found on the website, www.stmarksinglefield.org.uk/rota, or in the church announcements to be made in church. For prayer requests, please contact Dinah Perkins on 01

Intercessions	Sacristan	Administrators	Sunday Club	Cleaners
BCP	Dee Boddy	Dinah and Terry Perkins	Liz McKean Liz Reeves	John and Liz McKean
Carol Boulter	Penny Savage	Saffy O'Sullivan Melanie Townsend	Susannah McBain Denny Hollands	St Mark's Spring Clean Saturday 13th April 9.30am
Aldo Guiducci	Penny Norris	Peter Haig Dinah Perkins	Zoe Benyon Sara Guiducci	Paula Fenwick Linda Price
Melanie Townsend	Sue Smith	Torquil MJ Penny Savage	Andrea Kean Catherine Haig	Gill Barton Dianne Graham
BCP	Dinah Perkins	Gill Barton Dudley Fishburn	Melissa Bennett Alice Johnson	Pete and Carole Ford
Ron Marillier	Dee Boddy	Terry and Dinah Perkins	Carolyn Ahanchian Saffy O'Sullivan	Doris Edwards Dinah Perkins
Penny Savage	Catherine Haig	Saffy O'Sullivan Melanie Townsend	Liz McKean Liz Reeves	John and Liz McKean
Catherine Haig	Penny Savage	Carol Boulter Peter Haig	Susannah McBain Sara Guiducci	Gill Barton Dianne Graham
BCP	Penny Norris	Gill Barton Penny Savage	Zoe Benyon Denny Hollands	Paula Fenwick Linda Price
Dinah Perkins	Sue Smith	Denny Hollands Torquil MJ	Andrea Kean Sara Guiducci	Elizabeth Benyon Melanie Townsend

Saffy O'Sullivan on 01491 825996 or 07799 060949. For diary planning for future Sundays, an up-church porch. Please let Penny Savage know if you have any notices for the pew sheet or 018 9302731 and the intercessor will include your request on the following Sunday.

Bradfield Young Farmers

2019 has already seen notable competitive successes for Bradfield YFC and the Club programme looks set to support more success in the coming months. The Club hosted the Berkshire Public Speaking event at the beginning of February and the members did not disappoint. Two Public Reading teams and four, yes four, Junior Public Speaking teams gave the opposition no chance and reaped the rewards of their training commitments. A clean sweep of the all the Public Speaking competitions including the Braintrust debate is an indication of the talent we have in the club. All of our members performed amazingly and we are proud of all of their achievements. Alongside the public speaking we ran the prestigious Member of the Year competition and again saw a clean sweep of placings for our members who had to complete a synopsis, a six minute power-point presentation and formal interview. All of which helps equip them with skills they can use at school and the work place. The winning ways continued through to the Area rounds and we saw members winning the Reading, the Junior Speaking and the Situations Vacant. All the winners now progress to the next round. The Club meetings continue and despite the weather we have used the courts at the village hall for sports evenings, run a Can't Cook Won't Cook evening, made pancakes, had a hands-on pottery evening at Malthouse Farm thanks to Mrs Jackie White, had a games night and been ten-pin bowling. It isn't all about the fun and games though as we've been honing the members' Stock Judging skills with beef cattle and sheep/ lambs and in coming weeks will look at dairy and have first aid instruction.

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

Save the date!

Sunday 26th May: **Berkshire Country Fayre** in the Deer Park at Englefield

Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th June:

Countryside Days for Schools

Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th June: **The Great British Food Festival** is coming to Englefield, tickets www.greatbritishfoodfestival.com/

Saturday 13th July: **Englefield Flower Show and School Fete**

Saturday 14th September: **Berkshire Churches Trust Ride+Stride** for Berkshire churches





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St Mark's Church, Englefield

7pm

Friday 26 April 2019

There will be a retiring collection in aid of the CWMT

Newbury Spring Festival 2019

Tickets have gone on sale for the Newbury Spring Festival 2019. From May 11th to 25th, there will be concerts by international artists and performers from the worlds of classical music, theatre, folk, jazz and cabaret as well as community events, all taking place at venues in and around Newbury. There are two events being held in the Long Gallery at Englefield House this year: AN Wilson speaking about Queen Victoria, May 21st at 3pm; and a concert by the Doric Quartet on May 22nd at 7.30pm. For tickets see www.newburyspringfestival.org.uk or call the Box Office on 0845 5218 218.

National pride

I spent a few days in Wales to share with Welsh friends in their celebration of St David's Day. We gathered in front of Cardiff Town Hall and St David himself (not looking too bad considering his age!) led the procession through the streets of the city, with flags flying, and leeks and daffodils proudly worn, cheering and singing all the way. On to Caerphilly Castle to a six-course banquet with diners entertained by wonderful harpist Ayihsa Palmer, the Three Tenors, and a bi-lingual folk group called 'Dim Problem'. A great evening!

On Sunday 2nd March, we went to a community centre in Pontypool for a full afternoon of clogging, Folk groups playing and singing, folk dancing (I tried my hand at this and also at jiving - it's been a long time!). We also went to see the huge Guardian statue erected in 2010 to remember the 48 men who lost their lives in a colliery disaster 50 years earlier. This visit reinforced my disappointment that we do not seem to have the same pride about our St George's Day or in our flag!

Liz Reeves



At home library service

For anyone who is housebound, West Berkshire Council's 'At Home' library service can arrange for a volunteer to visit you at home with a small selection of library items. There is no charge for this service, except when you request a book not held in any West Berkshire library. The mobile library visits Englefield regularly, stopping at the Old Fire Station Nursery from 2 - 2.25pm, on the following Wednesdays: 10th April, 1st May, 22nd May and 12th June.

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.

**In fear and amazement they asked one another, ‘Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.’
(Luke 8 v 25b)**

There have always been those who deny the truth about Jesus’ identity. Many people would say that he was a great moral teacher, and so he is – but Jesus is much more than that. Luke’s account of Jesus calming the storm shows beyond doubt that he is more than just a man, since no mere human being can still a raging storm with just a few words. And in case we are tempted to think that first century people were naïve and credulous, and that Jesus somehow duped those who were with him (perhaps being able to tell from the look of the clouds that the storm was about to blow itself out naturally), Luke has already ruled that out. A few chapters earlier, at the beginning of Luke 5, we see his first disciples were fishermen – tough professionals who would have been very familiar with the squalls on the Sea of Galilee. If they were afraid they were going to drown (v24), we can be sure that this storm was the real deal. They recognised Jesus’ power – have we?

They replied, ‘Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, that one of the prophets of long ago has come back to life.’ ‘But what about you?’ he asked. ‘Who do you say I am?’ (Luke 9 v 19-20a)

The answer we give to this question is the most fundamental, profound and important answer we will ever make. A person’s eternal destiny hinges on the response they make to the question, ‘who is Jesus?’. Since he first began his ministry around Galilee some 2000 years ago, people have been divided over what they make of him. Some say he was a prophet. Some say he was a madman, or a liar, or a fraud. Some recognise him as the unique Son of God. Ultimately, what others say about him is not important – it is what we say about him that matters. We have to make a choice, to accept his claims about himself or to reject them. If we haven’t looked at the evidence about Jesus and considered it for ourselves, how can we be confident that we have made the right decision?

The Post Office

A sub-post office was opened in Englefield in 1895. It was the decision of the Post Office authorities that this should be at the Club rather than the shop and a small building was constructed for the purpose, the left-hand single-storey extension on the front of the caretaker's house when viewed from the road. It is very small and was divided across the middle by a counter so there was only room for about two customers at a time. James Claydon, caretaker of the Club, became sub-postmaster.

At the start the Club committee formed an association to sell certain household items from the new post office, presumably things that were not sold by James Webb, the baker and grocer. This was intended to keep any profit in the village rather than it go to itinerant traders from Reading "*whose carts are perpetually coming through the village*". Items sold were newspapers and magazines, stationery, tobacco, lamp oil and wicks, soft drinks, tea, biscuits, sweets and garden seeds. In the words of the Rector, "*...the whole little undertaking is not set on foot with the idea of making much gain, but to give men an interest in trade, in home efforts, and in the desire to help ourselves...*"

A new post box was incorporated into the wall of the post office, to the right of the door, but before that there was a post box in the high wall surrounding the Gardens. This was emptied at 7pm each evening and the children were sent to wait for the postman who sold them stamps. The postman had a pony pulling a red cart and came through the park from Bradfield by way of the Bradfield Lodge gates.

In 1930 when Mr Claydon retired and moved to Burghfield the new Club steward, Mr Cook, also took on the job of sub-postmaster. His salary for this was about £40-£45 per year, almost the same as that for looking after the Club. Running the post office became very much a family affair with Mrs Cook and their three children all taking a hand, especially when Mr Cook was busy with his Club duties.

Local mail deliveries were made from the Englefield post office until the Second World War. In those days post office duties began at 6am with the arrival of the mail from Reading. This had then to be sorted into the rounds ready for the postman - if there was one. If not, the family had to make the deliveries. One round extended to Parker's Corner, Bostock Lodges, Daintylands, Beenham Lane, Englefield House and Wimbleton's and the other one covered the Street, Chalkpit Farm and Tidmarsh Moors. Mr Cook would do one and his son James the other. The second delivery would arrive at 11.30 and this would be delivered by Mr Cook's elder daughter Renee. This was a shorter round comprising the Street, North Street, Blossom Lane and Blossom End. This was later taken on by the younger daughter Emily after Renee started work as a children's nurse.

The post office opened for business at 8am and for many years stayed open until 7

at night. After closing, all the letters had to be removed from the post box, stamped, tied into bundles and put into the mail bag. The bag was then tied with string and the knot sealed with sealing-wax and stamped with a special seal. The mail van from Reading came at 7.30 and after cashing-up the day was over - provided there was no function at the Club to cater for.

Mr Cook retired in 1964 and by 1968 the post office had been moved to the village shop. Services were withdrawn in 2008. A return of business conducted in 1960 shows that then over-the-counter pension payments formed a large part of the business but much larger were the sales of Postal Orders and National Insurance Stamps - none of which apply today.

Richard Smith



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NOTICE OF ELECTION

West Berkshire

Election of Parish Councillors

for the Parishes listed below

Parishes	Number of Parish Councillors to be elected	Parishes	Number of Parish Councillors to be elected	Parishes	Number of Parish Councillors to be elected
Aldermaston	Seven	Great Shefford (Great Shefford)	Six	Poasemore	Five
Aldworth	Five	Great Shefford (Shefford Woodlands)	One	Purley on Thames	Thirteen
Ashampstead	Six	Greenham (Common)	Ten	Shaw-Cum-Donnington	Nine
Basildon	Nine	Greenham (Sandleford)	Five	Speen	Thirteen
Beech Hill	Five	Hampstead Norreys	Seven	Stanford Dingley	Five
Beedon	Six	Hamstead Marshall	Five	Stratfield Mortimer	Fifteen
Beenham	Seven	Hermitage	Eleven	Streatley	Seven
Boxford	Six	Holybrook (East)	Eight	Sulham/Tidmarsh (Sulham)	One
Bradfield	Nine	Holybrook (West)	Seven	Sulham/Tidmarsh (Tidmarsh)	Five
Brightwalton	Six	Hungerford	Fifteen	Sulhamstead (North)	Three
Brimpton	Six	Inkpen	Seven	Sulhamstead (South)	Six
Buckebury (East)	Four	Kintbury	Eleven	Thatcham (Central)	Five
Buckebury (West)	Seven	Lambour (Eastbury)	Two	Thatcham (Crookham)	Three
Burghfield	Nineteen	Lambour (Lambour)	Nine	Thatcham (North East)	Five
Chaddleworth	Six	Lambour (Upper Lambour)	Two	Thatcham (West)	Five
Chieveley (Chieveley)	Five	Lambour (Woodlands St Mary)	Two	Theale	Eleven
Chieveley (Curridge)	Four	Leckhampstead	Six	Tilghurst (Calcot)	One
Cold Ash (Cold Ash)	Seven	Midgham	Six	Tilghurst (Central)	Nine
Cold Ash (Florence Gardens)	One	Newbury (Clay Hill)	Five	Tilghurst (North)	Eight
Cold Ash (Little Copse)	One	Newbury (East Fields)	Five	Upton Nervet	Six
Cold Ash (Manor Park)	Two	Newbury (Speenhamland)	Two	Welford	Six
Compton	Nine	Newbury (Wash Common)	Six	West Isley	Six
East Garston	Six	Newbury (West Fields)	Five	Wokingfield	Five
East Isley	Six	Padworth	Seven	Wootton Bassett	Seven
Enborne	Six	Pangbourne	Eleven	Yattendon	Six
Englefield	Five				
Fritsham	Six				

- Forms of nomination for Parish Elections may be obtained from Clerks to Parish Councils or West Berkshire Council, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD from the Returning Officer who will, at the request of an elector for any electoral area, prepare a nomination paper for signature.
- Nomination papers must be delivered to the Returning Officer, West Berkshire Council, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD on any day after the date of this notice, but no later than 4pm on Wednesday, 3rd April 2019.
- If any election is contested the poll will take place on Thursday, 2nd May 2019.
- Applications to register to vote must reach the Electoral Registration Officer by 12 midnight on Friday 12 April 2019. Applications can be made online: <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>
- Applications, amendments or cancellations of postal votes must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at West Berkshire Council, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD by 5pm on Monday, 15th April 2019.
- Applications to vote by proxy at this election must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at West Berkshire Council, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD by 5pm on Wednesday, 24th April 2019.
- Applications to vote by proxy at this election applied for on grounds of physical incapacity, where that physical incapacity occurred after 5pm on Wednesday, 24th April 2019, must reach the Electoral Registration Officer at West Berkshire Council, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD by 5pm on Thursday, 2nd May 2019.

Dated Friday 15 March 2019

Nick Carter - Returning Officer

Printed and published by the Returning Officer, West Berkshire Council, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, RG14 5LD

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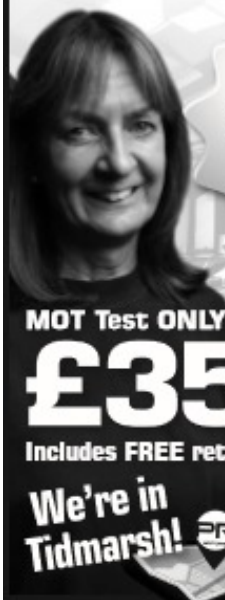
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