

Englefield Parish News

June - July 2022



The Parish of St Mark's, Englefield

Rector

During the interregnum, enquiries to St Mark's House 0118 9303595

Churchwardens

Paula Fenwick churchwarden@stmarksenglefield.org.uk 07850 603508

Torquil Montague-Johnstone 0118 9714536

Safeguarding Officer

Lucy Roper 0118 9585417

Parochial Church Council

Secretary office@stmarksenglefield.org.uk

Penny Savage 0118 9410808

Treasurer treasurer@stmarksenglefield.org.uk

Ron Marillier 0118 9305152

Electoral Roll Officer richard@transport-studies.org

Richard Smith 0118 9833258

Parish Council

Chairman edward.crookes@englefield.co.uk

Edward Crookes 0118 9302504

Clerk clerk.englefieldpc@outlook.com

Nia Rands 07725 171223

St Mark's Church website:

www.stmarksenglefield.org.uk

Englefield Parish Council website:

www.englefieldpc.org.uk

Front cover: Nick and Harriet Wynne-Jones at the door of St Mark's Church, taken on Sunday 8th May before the lunch in the Long Gallery to celebrate their ministry in Englefield and to wish them well in their retirement.

Englefield Parish News is published every two months and is 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 the Village Stores by the 20th of the preceding month.

From St Mark's House

Dear friends

We were given this print (from *Punch*, October 1921) when we arrived, and our departure seems too good an opportunity to miss sharing it with you!



As we leave, we do so with precious memories of life shared with you through joys and sorrows over the last ten years in this special place and community. Words are inadequate to express all that is in our hearts and so we commit you to God and the word of his grace (Acts 20 v 32), with our love

Nick and Harriet

Diary dates

Time to Pray: Monday 6th and 20th June and Monday 4th and 18th July, 6pm to 6.30pm, in the Englefield Chapel, prayer, Bible readings and reflection.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations: June 2nd - 5th.

West Berkshire Mobile Library: Wednesday 8th and 29th June, 20th July, at the Old Fire Station Nursery, Englefield, 2pm to 2.25pm.

Let's Talk Theology: Wednesday 8th June and Wednesday 13th July, 3.30pm, contact Carol Boulter to be added to the mailing list.

Englefield Schools Days: Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th June.

PACT Garden Party, Englefield garden: Monday 18th July (see page 8).

Concerts in the Park: Saturday 23rd to Monday 25th July (see page 13).

Local contacts

Englefield Estate Office

0118 930 2504

office@englefield.co.uk

Englefield Estate Yard

0118 930 2538

maintenance@englefield.co.uk

Englefield Stores

0118 930 2479

admin@englefieldstoresandtearooms.co.uk

www.englefieldstoresandtearooms.co.uk/

Cobbs Farm Shop

0118 930 4064

englefieldshop@cobbsfarmshops.co.uk

Theale Medical Centre

0118 930 3081

NHS online coronavirus service

111.nhs.uk/covid-19 or call 111

Royal Berkshire Hospital

0118 322 5111

West Berks Community Hospital

01635 273300

Theale Pharmacy

0118 930 2542

(Mon-Fri 09.00-18.00 Sat 09.00-13.00)

Lloyds Pharmacy (Calcot)

0118 938 2265

NHS dentist Dentalcare, Pangbourne

0118 984 5894

West Berkshire Council

01635 551111 (out of hours 01635 42161)

www.westberks.gov.uk/

Englefield Parish Council

www.englefieldpc.org.uk/

Theale Parish Council

www.thealeparishcouncil.gov.uk

Englefield Primary School

0118 9302 337

www.englefieldprimary.co.uk

Police

101 or 999 (for emergencies)

Utility suppliers: Electricity - SSEN 0800 072 72; Oil - Ford Fuels 0148 872 829;

Gas - National Grid 0800 111 999; Water - Thames Water 0800714 614;

Drainage - Total Drainage 0118 9421140

Our heartfelt thanks

On behalf of the congregation of St Mark's and the entire Englefield community we give heartfelt thanks to Nick and Harriet for their wonderful ministry over the past ten years. We cannot emphasise more strongly how truly blessed we have been by their teaching and care that has been so appreciated by the school, the village and the congregation.

We wish them a happy and well deserved retirement for many years to come and we bid them a loving farewell in this last issue of the Parish News before they leave Englefield in a few weeks' time.

The Churchwardens



Congratulations

To Harry and Sarah Benyon on the birth of Archie Philip William on 7th April.

To Tom Russell and Tory Benyon on their engagement.

To Jake and Sophie Hall on the birth of Elizabeth Joy, on 1st May, a granddaughter for Edward and Emma Crookes.



Big Jubilee Lunch

Still time - just! - to come and join the Englefield and North Street Big Jubilee Lunch on Sunday 5th June, 12 noon till 3pm, at the Englefield Village Hall. All welcome - bring and share lunch (surnames A-M bring savoury, N-Z sweet) - more information at the Village Stores, on the events page

of the St Mark's website or email englefieldjubilee@gmail.com.



Update from the Village Stores

It's been another couple of busy months at the Store and we have had a few busy Bank holidays with people making the most of the tables in the

courtyard while enjoying some refreshments.

Renovations are well underway and it's lovely to see it progress on a daily basis. Dave and Brendan are doing a fantastic job!

The ground work for the Tea Garden has started, thank you to Luke and his team. We are still planning to open in July and please check the website (www.EnglefieldStoresandTeaRooms.co.uk) for any updates. We will start by opening Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10-3pm and will serve cooked Breakfasts to Afternoon Teas. The new menu will be on the website nearer the time.

We would like to thank all the village for their continued support, it has been hard work and long days but we are very much looking forward to moving into the village and being part of this lovely community.

Dan, Liz, Connor and Bethany

We need your help!

All being well, by the time you read this article we will have had a spell of plentiful rain. However, a very dry April, with only 34% of the long-term average rainfall, served as a reminder of our community's reliance on the Estate borehole to serve the majority of the parish.

We would gently remind everyone in the parish to use water as carefully as possible please. If we all save a little bit of water now, given the limits upon the volume that can be abstracted from the borehole, this could help avoid restrictions should there be a drought this summer. Advice on how to save water is available from various bodies such as www.waterwise.org.uk/.

In particular, we would please ask residents on the private water supply not to use sprinklers and to use hosepipes very sparingly whether washing cars, filling paddling pools or watering the garden.

Water is a precious commodity that cannot be taken for granted anywhere but especially at Englefield. The Estate, as your water supplier, has a part to play too by dealing promptly with wastage or leaks in the distribution system. If you or one of your neighbours spots a leak, please report it immediately and we will fix it as quickly as we can. Many thanks.

The Englefield Estate

Safeguarding at St Mark's

At St Mark's church we take safeguarding very seriously. We are very grateful to Susannah McBain who has been Safeguarding Officer for the last few years. She stepped down at the APCM and Lucy Roper has now taken over as the designated contact, in the first instance, should any concerns be raised.



Lucy has been a member of the congregation at St Mark's for several years. She has experience with safeguarding through her current employer, University College of Estate Management, Reading, and also held the role of Welfare Officer for Reading Swimming Club and Thames Valley Triathletes.

The latest guidance from the NSPCC defines the role as:

Promoting the welfare of children and protecting them from harm:

Child protection is part of the safeguarding process. It focuses on protecting individual children identified as suffering or likely to suffer significant harm. This includes child protection procedures which detail how to respond to concerns about a child.

Safeguarding means:

- protecting children from abuse and maltreatment
- preventing harm to children's health or development
- ensuring children grow up with the provision of safe and effective care
- taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes

Lucy can be contacted on the following number **0797 0768528** or via email at lucybmroper@gmail.com.



From the Sunday School

The Sunday school children used fingers and hands to paint trees adjoining the churchyard, including the glorious ginkgo, around a chalk drawing of St Mark's, to present as a gift for Nick and Harriet. So many of the children were baptised by Nick over the past decade, and we have all been blessed indeed to come together within his ministry.

We shall miss them very much, and may well follow Mrs Latimer's excellent suggestion, and take a Sunday school safari tour to Stow!

Saffy O'Sullivan



Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Assembly was held in the Village Hall on 19th May. It was lovely to see this taking place in person for the first time since 2019.

Reports were given on the workings of the Parish Council over the past year by Chairman, Edward Crookes, and Clerk to the Parish Council, Nia Rands.

An update was given by Glen Higgins and Yvonne Redgrave of the great work that the Five a Day Market Garden do with the community and local groups, as well as how they managed through the various restrictions during the pandemic.

Lynn Dennison provided an update on the Englefield Village Hall; and Edward

Crookes also gave an update on behalf of the Englefield Estate, including its priorities for the forthcoming year as well as upcoming projects within the village. Finally, an update was provided by Councillor Ross Mackinnon on the work of West Berkshire District Council over the past year, including how it is supporting Ukrainian refugees in the area.

The Council would like to thank all members of the community who took the time to attend the meeting, as well as the Village Hall for hosting, and Liz and Dan Wirth for the fantastic refreshments.

The next meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 21st June at 6.30pm at the Village Hall. All members of the Parish are welcome to attend.

Nia Rands, Clerk to the Parish Council

RIP

Brenda Bosley, wife of St Mark's organist Andrew Bosley. Our thoughts are with Andrew and all family and friends.



Why give to your local Foodbank?

- **400% increase in take up since March**
- **16 tonnes of food parcels a month (up from 4 this time last year)**
- **A growing need in Theale**

DROP OFF LOCATION:
Holy Trinity Church, Theale

WHEN?
SUNDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS
10.30AM TO 4.00PM





PACT Garden Party

The PACT Garden Party fundraiser to support the charity's work with children, families and the local community, is being held this year on Monday 18th July from 2pm to 5pm at Englefield House.

In addition to celebrating and supporting PACT's work, the afternoon will be an opportunity to enjoy the Englefield gardens and Sue Broughton, head gardener, will be on hand to answer any questions.

There will be live music and a raffle with a top prize of tea-for-two at the Ritz, and our fabulous Alana House café team will be selling delicious refreshments and cakes to top off a special afternoon.

Tickets are £20 each for adults and accompanying children are free - <https://register.enthouse.com/ps/event/PACTGardenParty2022>.



Schools Days 2022

A quick reminder that the Englefield Estate Schools Days will be on **Wednesday 15th** and **Thursday 16th June**. Thirty-five schools from across Berkshire are really looking forward to visiting Englefield!

Owing to coaches travelling through, we'd be very grateful if residents could avoid

parking on The Street, particularly from 9:00-10:00am and 1:30-2:30pm each day. Many thanks.

Dr Liz Mattison, Education & Environment Officer

St Mark's APCM

Torquil Montague-Johnstone and Paula Fenwick were unanimously appointed as churchwardens for a further year and were thanked for their service during the past year. The annual reports and audited accounts for 2021 were presented and approved. Following the annual revision the electoral roll was confirmed at 94 with 76 of the roll being non-resident in the parish.

PCC lay members re-elected were Aldo Guiducci, Catherine Haig, Liz Marillier and Penny Savage. Appointments made included Ron Marillier as Treasurer, Penny Savage as Secretary, Richard Smith as Electoral Roll Officer, Lucy Roper as Safeguarding Officer, Liz Marillier as St Mark's Verifier and Francis Wells as Independent Examiner.



Particular thanks were accorded to Gill Barton whose faithful service to the PCC and the choir was greatly appreciated; to Peter Hollands and Ronan O'Sullivan for their technical brilliance in providing the online service every Sunday and Susannah McBain who stepped down as Safeguarding Officer.

Nick concluded the meeting by reading from the book of Acts, chapter 20, where Paul gives his farewell message to the elders of the church in Ephesus. In this Paul says he has not hesitated to proclaim the whole will of God and he warns them of false teaching to challenge the word of God in their lives. Nick endorsed Paul's blessing, 'I commit you to God and the word of his Grace which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified'.

On behalf of the PCC Torquil expressed heartfelt thanks to Nick and Harriet for all they have done for St Mark's over the past ten years. He knew that all have been truly blessed by Nick's ministry in Englefield and he hoped that after 50 years of ministry they would have many years of happy retirement ahead of them. They would leave with our prayers and best wishes. Agreement with these sentiments was endorsed by a round of applause.

Penny Savage, Secretary to the PCC

New classes at the Village Hall

It's been busy in the hall over the last few weeks and we now have a couple of new classes starting which is very exciting!

There is a Messy play for little ones every Tuesday morning, 10am to 11am. In good weather they are able to enjoy the garden, as you can see from the photo!

Yoga continues on Wednesdays at 12pm and 7.15pm, and Saturday at 9.30am. We also have an after school kids yoga every Wednesday at 3.30 pm.

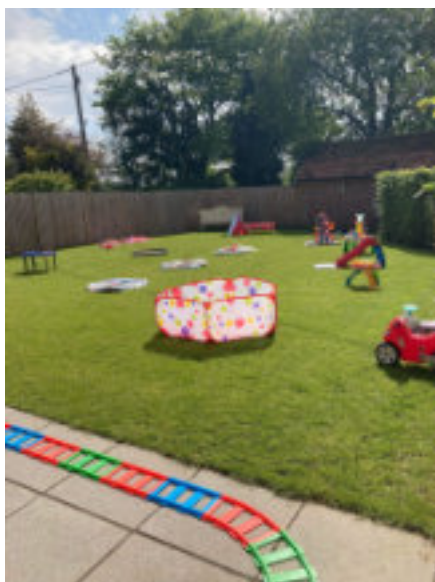
Our community coffee morning continues every Wednesday at 10am, please do come along. Apart from some lovely cake (we won't mention my fruit cake with the sunken fruit!), we are all getting to know new people from within the village and beyond - for example the lovely ladies who were just passing by and were accosted by Lady Benyon who dragged them in!

From September we will have baby massage starting and I'm really hoping we will have an art class starting soon too.

We have had lots of children's parties, a few baby showers, a wedding reception, parish meetings and a balloon modelling workshop which looked amazing!

We are really looking forward to getting the community together in the hall for the Big Jubilee Lunch. We are really hoping we get some nice weather. Hope to see many of you there!

Lynn Dennison, Village Hall Committee



Ride+Stride 2022



Berkshire Historic Churches Trust helps churches in Berkshire by giving grants to help with restoration projects. BHCT funds are raised through subscriptions (from churches and individuals), from events held during the year and from our annual sponsored Ride+Stride event in September - which this year is happening on Saturday 10th.

People find a route walking, cycling or driving to as many churches as they wish. It is often lovely weather and a great day out. Our churches have such a wealth of wonderful architecture, they are well worth a visit.

For every Rider and Strider signed up by your church who raises money through sponsorship, your church will receive half of the total raised. The other half goes to the BHCT. Everyone in BHCT is a volunteer who is keen to see our precious churches preserved, please join us in this quest.

For more information please visit our website: www.berkchurchestrust.org.uk/ride-and-stride. And please put **Saturday 10th September** in your diary and look out for more information in church.

Prue Matchwick, Berkshire Ride+Stride Coordinator

Wellbeing sessions

Those who enjoyed the Englefield wellbeing sessions last year might be interested to know that there are other sessions in the area:

Wednesdays, 3.30pm, seated exercise and wellbeing with Kate, Theale Library;
Fridays, 11am, seated yoga and wellbeing with Sami, The Dorman Room, Pangbourne.

There are also two weekly virtual sessions: Wednesdays 11am and Fridays 11.15am.

These gentle chair-based sessions are perfect for gently rebuilding your strength, suppleness, skill and stamina and also provide an opportunity to reconnect and socialise with others. Call or email Kate to book or for more info: kate.wiggins@getberkshireactive.org, 07706 357801.



From Englefield Primary School

'Sowing the Seeds for a Flourishing Future'

Hooray for the sun! It has been great to finally enjoy some sunnier weather of late and it has meant that the children are now able to use the school field. It is so lovely to see the children enjoying a game of football or playing tag and making use of all our space.



We have recently had a new multigym fitted on the school field. The new gym is aimed at encouraging the children to stay active whilst also having fun. It also means that those children who may not like particular PE lessons, can take part in a different type of fitness. It is very popular and the children are excellent at lining up and waiting for a turn.

The children in KS2 recently took part in Archery sessions in school. The Year 3/4 class learned the techniques of archery and did target practice. The Year 5/6 class also learned techniques, but then played a game of archery tag, where they were split into two team and hid behind giant inflatables and had to try to hit the other team's target. The bows that were used were all safety ones with soft ends that looked like giant marshmallows!

Mrs Watts has come back to Englefield to restart her bee-keeping club. Six pupils from Year 5/6 donned their protective suits and joined her on a visit to the bee hives. They even held the queen!



Our school Wendy House has undergone a re-vamp. It was first donated to school by the PTA in 1997 and has since then been a much loved playtime activity for the children. It has over the years had various repairs, but was recently starting to look a bit worn out again and in need of some new equipment. With funds donated from our PTA we were able to buy a new play kitchen, toy food, a table and chairs and a new doll and crib. Mrs Latimer and Mrs Carney came in over the Easter holidays and painted inside and out. It once again looks lovely and is getting plenty of use.

The summer term means only one thing here at Englefield, school band for our KS2 children. Every Wednesday afternoon the children all join together in the school hall and under the conducting skills of a music teacher from Berkshire Maestros, rehearse as a school band ready for a performance at the end of term. Children are welcome to bring in their own instruments or one supplied by school. We have a mix of guitars, pianos, ukuleles, drums, flutes and percussion instruments. The children and staff are really enjoying playing together and we are all looking forward to their concert.

Finally, on Friday 13th May we said a very fond farewell to Reverend Nick and Harriet Wynne-Jones in a special school assembly. Both have supported the school throughout their time in Englefield and will be greatly missed by us all. We presented them with some special gifts to remember us by and they both spoke beautifully, inspiring us for the final time.

Hilary Latimer, Headteacher



Concerts in the Park

As you will have seen from the posters around the local area, the line up has been confirmed for the 2022 Heritage Live concerts in the Deer Park in July:

Saturday 23rd July - Boy George & Culture Club, with Lulu, Kim Wilde & Gabrielle

Sunday 24th July - 'Last Night at the Heritage Proms', Russell Watson & the Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra

Monday 25th July - 'Flackstock', a festival celebrating Caroline Flack's life with comedy, dance and music, raising funds for mental health charities

More information on the events and details of how to book are available on the Heritage Live website: <https://www.heritage.live.net>. For any questions relating to Englefield please email concerts@englefield.co.uk.

Peter Carson, Events Manager

MAKE A CHANGE
BECOME A COUNCILLOR

Parish Councillor vacancy

Englefield Parish Council will consider filling the vacancy for Councillor by co-option at its meeting to be held on Tuesday 21st June 2022.

Anyone interested in the vacancy should

contact the Clerk (clerk.englefieldpc@outlook.com) to register their interest and obtain an application and eligibility form.

These forms will be required to be returned by 14th June 2022. Further information on the role of a Councillor may be obtained by contacting the Chairman of the Parish Council at edward.crookes@englefield.co.uk.

Nia Rands, Clerk to the Parish Council



Rev Tom Ekin RIP

Many will remember with great fondness Tom Ekin, Resident Priest at Englefield from 1994 to 2004. He passed away peacefully on 7th March 2022. He was 92 years old.

Tom Croker Ekin was born on 19th August 1929. During the war, he was evacuated from school in London, enjoyed a varied career including doing

national service, working as a salesman for a well-known drinks company, and serving in the colonial police in what was then Tanganyika in East Africa, before attending theological college in Lincoln.

He was a curate in Leamington Spa before taking up his first parish in Ilmington, Warwickshire. He then left for a post in Durban, at St James' Church, from 1970 to 1977, before returning to the UK to take up a parish in Moreton-in-Marsh and Batsford, in Gloucestershire, after which he came to St Mark's. While at Englefield, Tom married Liz, in 1996, which proved a very happy partnership. Together, they presided over a flourishing ministry at St Mark's, making many friends and drawing many to the church. The picture below was taken to mark the millennium and Tom and Liz can be seen in the centre.

Tragically, after their move from Englefield to the parish of Redhill in North Somerset, Liz died in 2009 from an aggressive form of cancer. Redhill was to be Tom's final post. After he retired he moved to the neighbouring village of Wrington, and then to Sandford Station care home after a severe stroke in November 2018.

He leaves behind three loving sons, Charlie, Simon and Jono, who organized a moving celebration of their father's life at All Saints, Wrington, on Friday 18th March, attended by many family and friends.



Bluebells at Rushall Farm

I first met Rose Tocock at a Harvest Lunch we hosted for Reading MS sufferers. At the time my sister was very ill, and being looked after in a Cheshire Home near Norwich, so it helped me to be doing something locally. Rose's husband Dave had MS, and she worked for Philip Green. When Dave died she retired and became chairman of the Reading Branch. She has run it in a no-nonsense way and received an MBE for her efforts.



With an ageing workforce of twenty volunteers the prospect of getting the MS support group up and running again after covid was daunting. But what a relief and joy it was for us all to be hosting the Bluebell Walks for the MS Society again. And what a response! We were mindful of global warming and the changing effects on seasons, but stuck to the last two weekends in April for this year's events. Two things happened: the weather was good and dry and the paths were not muddy, so a lot of people came, and the bluebells were at their peak. They were not alone because there were still clumps of primroses, beds of celandines and wood anemones, wood spurge, some early orchids and yellow archangel just emerging. With the trees coming into leaf and birdsong filling the air, the countryside delivered 'rest for the soul' and fresh air and exercise for the body. Of course, that could all be undone by the bacon butties, burgers and homemade iced cakes being delivered in the barn to refresh weary walkers. And what a boost it was to those gallant helpers. Some were a little sun burnt and all definitely tired, but there was a sense of achievement they all had in helping this worthy cause. Around £12,000 was raised, and will be used to support those in the Reading area with MS.

There was just one mishap. A man had wandered off the beaten track in his rough terrain wheelchair and toppled over into a ditch. He had previously had a stroke and so was very heavy, being paralysed down one side. We found him in the middle of the woods with his wife. As we were trying to work out how to get him back on his vehicle a lady appeared and said, 'I am a physiotherapist. Now listen to me.' So, we got him safely back on his vehicle and thanked God for His provision.

John Bishop
www.rushallfarm.org.uk

Date	Sidesman	First lesson	Gospel reading	Prayers	Sacristan	Server	Sunday School	Cleaners
Sunday 5 th June Pentecost BCP	Paula Fenwick	Carol Boulter Acts 2:1-21	Aldo Guiducci John 14:8-17	BCP	Sue Smith	Torquil MJ	Melanie Townsend	Pete and Carole Ford
Sunday 12 th June Trinity Sunday	Torquil MJ	Lorraine Dehn Romans 5:1-5	Paula Fenwick John 16:12-15	Penny Savage	Penny Norris	Peter Haig	Saffy O'Sullivan	Penny Norris Saffy O'Sullivan
Sunday 19 th June 1 st Sunday after Trinity	Catherine Haig	James Bamforth Galatians 3:23-end	Ron Marillier Luke 8:26-39	Catherine Haig	Penny Savage	Saffy O'Sullivan	Liz McKean	Liz McKean
Sunday 26 th June 2 nd Sunday after Trinity	Linda Price	Kahlen Spaulding Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Dudley Fishburn Luke 9:51-end	Richard Benyon	Sue Smith	Carol Boulter	Saffy O'Sullivan	Peter and Catherine Haig
Sunday 3 rd July 3 rd Sunday after Trinity BCP	Peter Haig	Carole Ford Galatians 6:7-16	Catherine Haig Luke 10:1-11	BCP	Catherine Haig	Peter Haig	Saffy O'Sullivan	Penny Norris Saffy O'Sullivan
Sunday 10 th July 4 th Sunday after Trinity	Penny Savage	Dee Boddy Colossians 1:1-14	Linda Price Luke 10:25-37	Stephanie Gibbons	Penny Norris	Paula Fenwick	Liz McKean	Pete and Carole Ford
Sunday 17 th July 5 th Sunday after Trinity	Paula Fenwick	Toby Thompson Colossians 1:15-28	Torquil MJ Luke 10:38-end	Carol Boulter	Penny Savage	Torquil MJ	NO FORMAL SUNDAY SCHOOL; VESTRY OPEN	Liz McKean
Sunday 24 th July 6 th Sunday after Trinity	Torquil MJ	Peter Hollands Colossians 2:6-15	Catherine Haig Luke 11:1-13	Paula Fenwick	Sue Smith	Denny Hollands		Peter and Catherine Haig
Sunday 31 st July 7 th Sunday after Trinity	Denny Hollands	Meryl Bonser Colossians 3:1-11	Paula Fenwick Luke 12:13-21	Ron Marillier	Catherine Haig	Peter Haig		Pete and Carole Ford
Sunday 7 th August 8 th Sunday after Trinity BCP	Linda Price	Catherine Haig Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	James Bamforth Luke 12:32-40	BCP	Penny Norris	Carol Boulter		Liz McKean
Sunday 14 th August 9 th Sunday after Trinity	Paula Fenwick	Meryl Bonser Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Saffy O'Sullivan Luke 12:49-56	Denny Hollands	Catherine Haig	Paula Fenwick		Penny Norris Saffy O'Sullivan
Sunday 21 st August 10 th Sunday after Trinity	Torquil MJ	Miles Edgar Hebrews 12:18-end	Carole Ford Luke 13:10-17	Penny Savage	Penny Savage	Torquil MJ		Pete and Carole Ford

If you swap duties please contact Saffy O'Sullivan (saffyosullivan@gmail.com) and the churchwardens. Please send prayer requests to Linda Price (pricelinda8@gmail.com or 07951 660169).

Come in Number 13

To see rows of houses missing a number 13 is quite common and is usually down to triskaidekaphobia, the morbid fear of the number 13 and its supposed connection with bad luck. That's not the case with Englefield Street, though, for there was a 13 until it was pulled down in about 1892. Number 13 was one of a pair of cottages (with the original number 12) that stood opposite the Timber Yard entrance where there is now a shed, and both were certainly there on April 5th 1891, for the census return of that year numbers the houses in Englefield village for the first time and has them both, numbered as such, with the old schoolroom and schoolhouse, two separate dwellings, numbered 11 and 11a, just up The Street, and numbers 14 and 15 (a fairly recent replacement for the old Chantry Cottage) further down, immediately before Elmfields, home of Clerk of Works William Rhind.

When the houses were first numbered is unclear, but it was certainly before 1881 for the census enumerator for Sulhamstead Bannister in that year has numbered two of the Mayridge Farm cottages as 61 and 62. The other two appear, unnumbered, in the Englefield census so there was clearly some confusion as to where the parish boundary ran as all four were actually in Sulhamstead Bannister at that time. Ten years later all four appear correctly under Sulhamstead and are numbered, as today, 59 to 61.

The new school opened in 1863 but in 1871 and although there are no numbers given in that census, it is clear that it was still then a single dwelling occupied by gardener George Swadling, his wife Sarah and their two children, with William Horne (also a gardener) as a lodger. Ten years later in 1881, George and Sarah Swadling were still in part of it (and still with William Horne as a lodger) but the building had been divided and was shown as two properties for the first time, though one of them listed as unoccupied.

The Ordnance Survey six inch to the mile map surveyed in 1877/78 shows the garden to be divided into two so it would appear that the numbering of the houses must have been carried out before then but probably only very shortly before because number 8/9 appears to have been built after the 1871 census but before the map was surveyed and without it the numbers in 1891 would not work out.

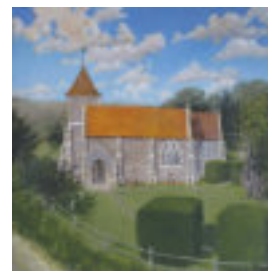
The upper floor was probably added to the schoolroom, therefore, between 1871 and 1877 and the house then divided in two to produce a classic 'L-plan' Englefield house in the style of the new ones built during the early part of Richard Fellowes's time as Squire. From the road, the later addition of this upper floor is clearly visible on the gable end.

By the time of the 1891 census, William Horne had moved to lodge at the old number 12 with Edward Leavy, who looked after the steam engine in the Timber

Yard, and his wife Hannah. Next door at 13, carpenter and joiner John Chamberlain also lodged with widow Martha Trinder, a garden labourer. In number 11 in that year was David Horne, a painter and decorator, with his third wife Mary and two children but 11a was shown as unoccupied.

Less than a month after the 1891 census date, the Rector noted in the parish magazine that '*David Horne has removed to No 11a and George Fisher will shortly be in the old "Mission Cottage" which really is No 11*'. It was about this time that the new 'wing' was added across the back of the property so perhaps it was after that was completed that David Horne moved from the smaller front part to the now larger rear. Certainly, in the 1901 census David and Mary Horne (now with six children) are listed in number 12 and Parish Nurse Jane Fair is in 11 with her daughter and niece. There is also a note that there is now no number 13, it having been demolished soon after the 1891 census along with the original number 12.

Richard Smith



Afternoon teas are back in Aldworth

Afternoon teas will be available again at St Mary's Church, Aldworth, every Wednesday from 6th July through July, August and September. Delicious homemade cakes will be on offer from 2.30 to 4.30pm, in the company of the famous Aldworth Giants.

For further details and to book groups contact: Gill Wilding 01635 578624 or gillwilding@hotmail.com.

Recycling soft plastics

It is now possible to recycle soft plastics such as salad and vegetable bags, bread bags and crisp packets (none of which are accepted by West Berkshire Council's kerbside recycling service) at the Coop in Theale. There are now two soft plastics recycling units at the back of the store (more information available on www.coop.co.uk/environment/soft-plastics).

The Watermill comes to Aldworth

The renowned Watermill Theatre's brand-new touring production of **Camp Albion** by Newbury-born playwright Danielle Pearson comes to Aldworth Village Hall on Thursday 23rd June at 19:00 for an unmissable outdoor performance.

This new production explores the building of the 1996 Newbury bypass and the activism and environmental debate that accompanied it. Told through the eyes of Cassie, a university student, the play investigates both sides of the argument as she and her mother find themselves on opposing sides. In a time before smartphones, Twitter, Greta Thunberg and Extinction Rebellion, the 'Third Battle of Newbury' was one of the definitive environmental campaigns of the 1990s.

Camp Albion has been written by The Watermill's playwright in residence Danielle Pearson. Danielle's recent works include A Mini Summer Night's Dream (Watermill Theatre); D Day 75 (101 Greenham Arts) and Tabitha's Ballad (South Street Arts Centre, Reading).

For tickets, priced at £15 per person, please email katherinealee09@gmail.com.

Look at your home security in a new light

As the clocks go forward and we enjoy the longer days it is important that people remain mindful of their home security.

With the weather improving, more people leave windows open and doors unlocked whilst they are out in their gardens, putting them at a higher risk of being burgled.

There are a number of simple steps that can be taken to minimise the risk to your home:

- Lock your doors while working in the garden
- Close your windows in areas that are accessible to a thief, such as a flat roof or rear window next to garden furniture that can be used as a climbing aid
- Close the downstairs windows or doors after they have been opened in hot weather
- Keep an eye on neighbours' homes when they are on holiday. Consider opening and closing their blinds for them and collecting their mail

For more information on how to keep your property safe please visit the Crime Prevention Advice section of the Thames Valley Police website.

Thames Valley Neighbourhood Policing

Bradfield Young Farmers Club

YFC life is currently very much competitions focused. Newbury YFC hosted the County Pre-Show competitions at the end of April. Our members represented the Club against Newbury, Shefford, and Windsor and Maidenhead in Stock Judging, Cookery and Fence Erecting.

The stock judging competitions test the members' ability to judge a set or 'ring' of animals for a designated purpose ie dairy or breeding. They rank the animals and give verbal reasons to the judge as to why they paced them as they did. It's a daunting competition, but as usual all the Bradfield members gave it their best. Our training must have paid off because plenty of placings and points were gained and four of our members selected to represent Berkshire in the Young Stock Judge of the Year competition at the South of England Show in June.

In the Fence Erecting, an inexperienced young team of Josh, Bradley and Stephen battled hard against the ground conditions to erect a prescribed piece of fence - a tough ask when digging in gravel. They worked well but were unable to beat the more experienced team from Shefford. Bradfield were the only club to field a Cookery team - the task was to create a four-course meal, in an hour with only two gas burners! Not only did they manage it, in a barn whilst being watched and judged, they made it look easy. Three Junior members, Maisie, Kate, and Skye, prepped, chopped, cooked, and displayed their menu of local or home grown produce fit for the Jubilee dinner. In a competition akin to the Great British Menu, it was fantastic to see these youngsters using and applying skills we've taught in our Club meetings!

The Club meets weekly, to find out more about what Bradfield YFC has to offer please find us on Facebook or contact Gordon Fletcher on 07939 504145.



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 had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?'... The third time he said to him, 'Simon son of John, do you love me?' Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time (John 21 v 15a, 17a)

Jesus had already met with his disciples twice after he had risen from the dead; on this third occasion he corners Peter after breakfast and asks him what on the surface looks like a simple question. But there are some barbs in it. By three times addressing him as 'Simon, son of John', Jesus deliberately avoids using the name which he himself gave him: Peter, the Rock. By asking if Peter loves him 'more than these' Jesus is drawing his attention to the boastful assertion Peter made before the arrest in the garden that he would stick by Jesus even if the others fell away (see Mark 14:29). Finally, in asking the question three times, Jesus deliberately echoes the three denials that Peter made during that awful night before the Crucifixion.

That Jesus drew Peter's focus to his failure was important precisely because it showed Peter that Jesus knew everything. Nothing was swept under the carpet, where it could fester and cause Peter angst later on. And after all this, when Jesus finishes with 'Follow me!', it shows Peter that their relationship is completely restored. So it is with us. To all who look to him, Jesus says in effect 'whoever you are, whatever you've done – come home. All is forgiven!'

'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.' (John 13 v 34-35)

What is the hallmark of a Christian in the world of today? Is it self-righteousness? A holier-than-thou judgemental attitude? In these words, Jesus tells his followers what they should look like – people who love one another.

In case we are tempted to think about watering this down – what the minimum threshold for this love might look like – Jesus spells it out for us: his followers must love one another 'as I have loved you' (v34). This is a love which doesn't count the cost. A love which doesn't hold back. Jesus' love took him all the way to the cross for the sake of those he loved. And that is what he calls us to – a radical way of living which flies in the face of our individualistic, self-focused age. Soon after his death and resurrection, Jesus' followers set the world on fire with this radical way of living. The church was unique in that people from every social level and background, with nothing in common except for their faith in

Jesus as God's triumphant King, loved one another in a way which set them apart from the society around them. People on the outside noticed the change that Jesus had made in the lives of those who followed him, and were deeply challenged by it. Do we provoke the non-Christian world around us to think again about Jesus and the difference he can make?

Jesus replied, 'Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching.' (John 14 v 23-24a)

The heart of the Christian faith is having a heart for Jesus. In this passage, Jesus describes the wonderful reciprocal relationship of love that exists between Jesus, his followers, and God the Father. Those who love Jesus are loved by the Father, and both the Father and Jesus will dwell with them. What does that mean?

Jesus is clear: those who love him are those who obey his teaching. Conversely, those who do not love him do not obey his teaching. His words are a rebuke to those who would say they are Christians yet show no interest in finding out what Jesus approves of, nor do what Jesus says. Loving Jesus involves finding out what he teaches, and putting it into practice. This is why Bible study is so important: it is through reading the Scriptures that we learn what Jesus says, and so getting into a habit of daily Bible reading is a great discipline to develop to help deepen our love for him. If we don't know what the Bible says, how can we be sure we know what Jesus teaches? And if we don't know what he teaches, how can we obey him?

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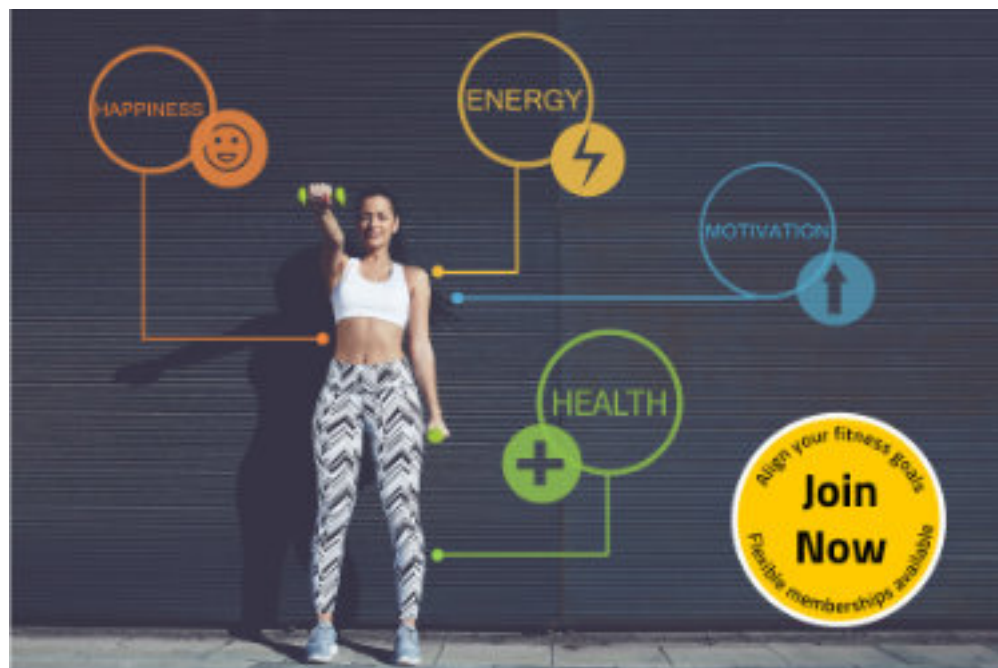
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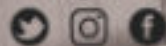
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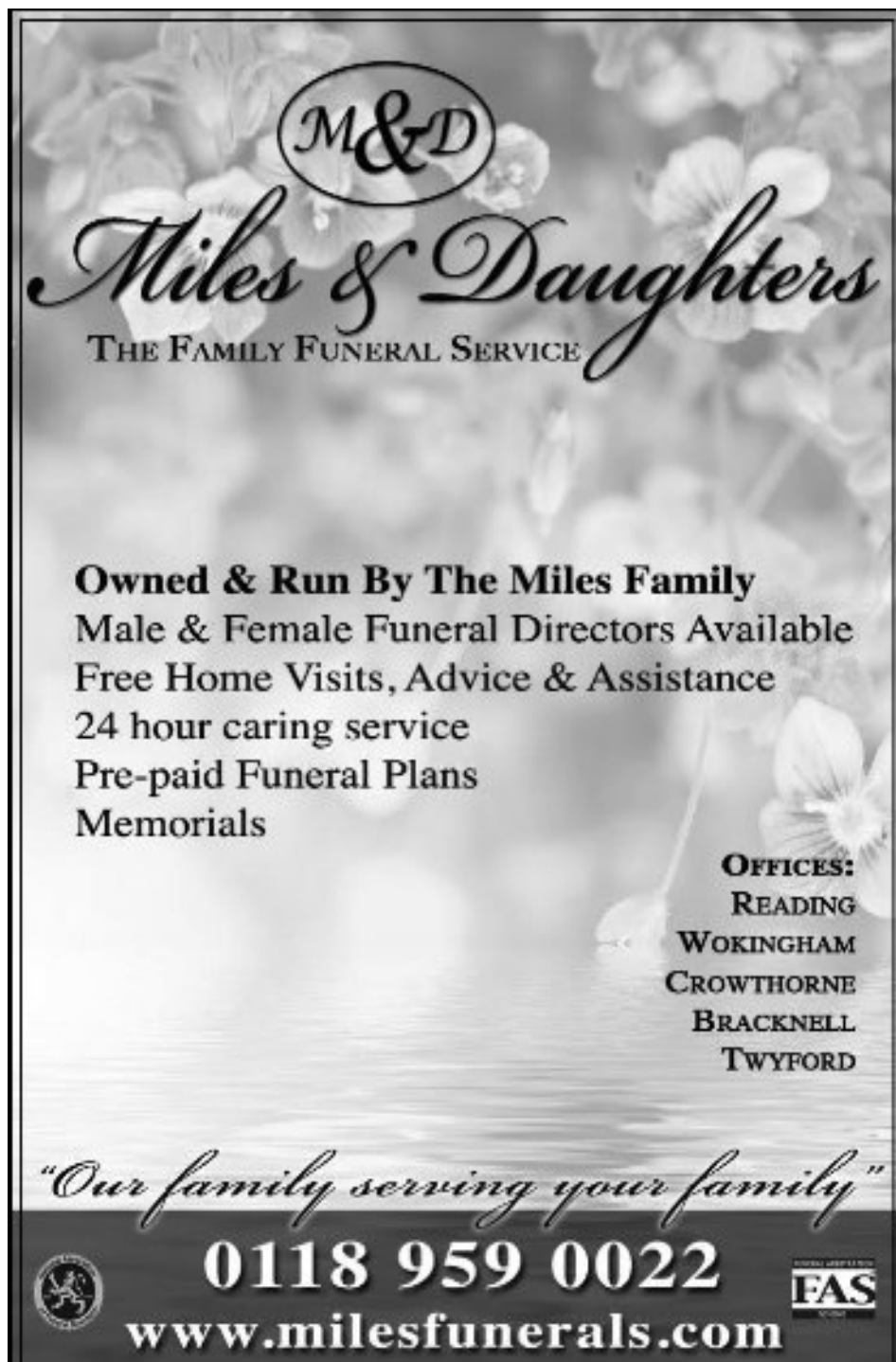
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Green and Yellow Camp ⌚ 0900 - 1600 £ £60/Day

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