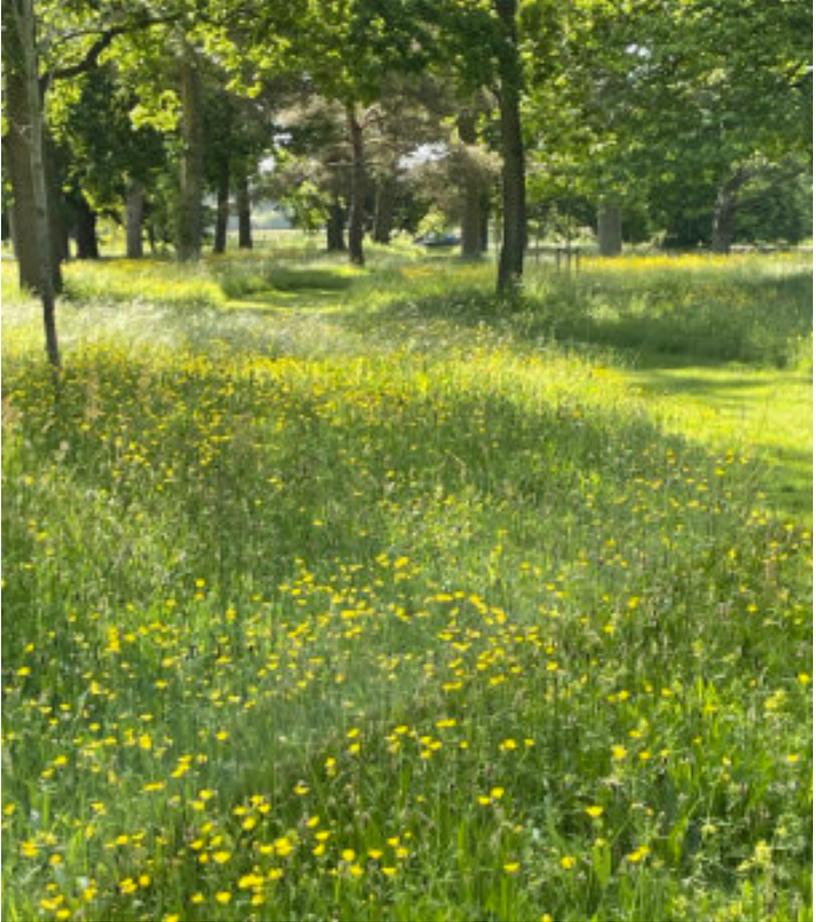


# *Englefield Parish News*

June - July 2023





## Diary dates

West Berkshire Mobile Library: Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> June and 12<sup>th</sup> July, outside the Old Fire Station Nursery, Englefield, 2pm to 2.25pm.

Let's Talk Theology: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June and 12<sup>th</sup> July, 7.30pm, at St Mary's Sulhamstead, contact carolboulter@ntlworld.com if you would like to be added to the mailing list for this group looking at current issues of faith and life.

Time to Pray: half an hour of prayer, Bible reading and reflection in the Englefield Chapel, fortnightly on Mondays, 6.30 - 7pm, details on the church bulletin.

Englefield Flower Show & Village Fete: Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July, see back page, schedules now available from the Village Stores or email efsentry@gmail.com.

Aldworth Afternoon Teas: at St Mary's Church, Aldworth, every Wednesday in July, August and September, from 2.30–4.30pm.

Ride+Stride: in aid of Berkshire Historic Churches Trust, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September, see www.berkschurchestrust.org.uk for more details and join us on that day.

## Local contacts

Englefield Estate Office	0118 930 2504; <a href="mailto:office@englefield.co.uk">office@englefield.co.uk</a>
Englefield Estate Yard	0118 930 2538 <a href="mailto:maintenance@englefield.co.uk">maintenance@englefield.co.uk</a>
Englefield Stores & Tea Room	0118 930 2479 <a href="mailto:admin@englefieldstoresandtearooms.co.uk">admin@englefieldstoresandtearooms.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.englefieldstoresandtearooms.co.uk/">www.englefieldstoresandtearooms.co.uk/</a> <a href="https://www.englefieldvillagehall.co.uk/">https://www.englefieldvillagehall.co.uk/</a> <a href="mailto:info@englefieldvillagehall.co.uk">info@englefieldvillagehall.co.uk</a>
Englefield Village Hall	
Cobbs Farm Shop	0118 930 4064
Theale Medical Centre	0118 930 2513
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
Lloyds Pharmacy (Calcot)	0118 938 2265
NHS dentist Dentalcare, Pangbourne	0118 984 5894
West Berkshire Council	01635 551111 (out of hours 01635 42161) <a href="http://www.westberks.gov.uk/">www.westberks.gov.uk/</a> <a href="http://www.englefieldpc.org.uk/">www.englefieldpc.org.uk/</a> <a href="http://www.thealeparishcouncil.gov.uk/">www.thealeparishcouncil.gov.uk</a>
Englefield Parish Council	
Theale Parish Council	
Englefield Primary School	0118 930 2337; <a href="http://www.englefieldprimary.co.uk">www.englefieldprimary.co.uk</a>
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 0800 714 614;	
Drainage - Total Drainage 0118 9421140	

## Congratulations

To Emma Strang and Richard Wills, married at St Mark's on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

To Emily and Digby Don on the safe arrival of baby Martha on 25<sup>th</sup> April, a granddaughter for Lorraine and Tom Dehn.

## Baptisms

Alice Ford Pereira, daughter of Joanne and Joao and granddaughter of Pete and Carole, Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April.

Samuel and Thomas Pentecost, twin sons of John and Amanda, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May.

## New date for the Flower Show!

The **Englefield Village Fete and Flower Show** is on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July**, 2pm to 4.30pm, on the school playing field. Schedules are now available from the Village Stores or email efsentry@gmail.com. Best Kept Garden entries please contact Mark Postles on 07551 981587 or Gordon Fletcher on 07939 504145 before Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June, all other entries by 26<sup>th</sup> June. As well as flower, vegetable, fruit and household classes, there are photography, art, needlework and handicraft, and children's classes and all entries are welcome! See back page for more details and please put the date in your diary!

## Farewell and welcome

At the end of April, we said farewell to Sara Ward, who retired from the role of Personal Assistant following eight very successful years at the Englefield Estate Office. We are delighted that Nicole Routen has joined us in Sara's place and brings a wealth of experience, including with global IT organisations.

*Edward Crookes, Estates Director*

## RIP

Isabel White who died on 29<sup>th</sup> March and whose funeral was held at West Berkshire Crematorium on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

Madeleine Palmer, died on 19<sup>th</sup> April, whose funeral was at West Berkshire Crematorium on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May.

## St Mark's APCM

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) was held on May 15<sup>th</sup> in church and the Churchwardens, Paula Fenwick and Torquil Montague-Johnstone were re-elected for the coming year. They were thanked for their service over the past year, with particular thanks expressed by the Rector and her husband for the Churchwardens' immense support to them since their arrival in Englefield.

The audited PCC accounts for 2022 were presented together with PCC and parish reports and these were approved by the meeting.

Nominations were received from Dee Boddy and Peter Hollands who were re-elected for a further three-year term. Lorraine Dehn and Peter Haig were elected as new members, together with Ron Marillier who had previously served as a Deanery Synod Representative. Thanks were recorded to Carol Boulter and Melanie Townsend who stepped down this year, having served as faithful members of the PCC for a good number of years.

This year elections for Deanery Synod Representatives also took place and the PCC was grateful to have nominations from Paula Fenwick and Torquil Montague-Johnstone, who were duly elected for a further three-year term. Their commitment on Deanery matters was greatly appreciated.

The annual revision of the Electoral Roll confirmed 95 on roll and Richard Smith was thanked and appointed ER Officer for a further year. Other appointments were Ron Marillier as Treasurer, Penny Savage as Secretary, Lucy Roper as Safeguarding Officer, Liz Marillier as St Mark's Verifier, Paul Myles as Health & Safety Officer, and Francis Wells as Independent Examiner.

The Rector read out her report which was accompanied by a slide show and described the services and special events at St Mark's and in the village month by month.\* She concluded with a prayer for thankfulness and the Churchwardens echoed huge thanks on behalf of the congregation for Julia's vibrant ministry and Paul's steadfast support.

\*The Rector's report is on the St Mark's website <https://www.stmarksenglefield.org.uk/video/>



**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

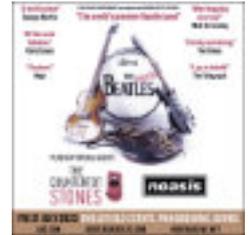
**DROP OFF LOCATION:**  
Holy Trinity Church, Theale

**WHEN?**  
SUNDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS  
10.30AM TO 4.00PM

## Englefield summer concerts

Between Friday 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July, a full programme of Heritage Live summer concerts will be taking place at Englefield House followed by Flackstock on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July, a festival in honour of Caroline Flack and raising awareness of mental health issues.

On the Friday evening, the world's favourite Beatles tribute band for more than four decades, The Bootleg Beatles and their string and brass ensemble, are set to play alongside two other impeccable tribute bands, The Counterfeit Stones and Noasis. The iconic singer-songwriter Richard Ashcroft will perform on the Saturday evening, along with special guests for the event, Ocean



Colour Scene and The Sherlocks. Richard Ashcroft first came to attention with The Verve in the 1990s and released one of the biggest albums of the era in the shape of *Urban Hymns* that included a succession of anthems which remain staples of his live set today.

Award-winning, multi-platinum singer and songwriter Hozier will be occupying the stage on Sunday evening. Driven by the thought-provoking quintuple-platinum anthem *Take Me To Church*, Hozier's self-titled full-length debut album enjoyed nine weeks at number 1 in his native Ireland. Special guests are Far From Saints that includes Kelly Jones of Stereophonics and also Victoria Canal, an inspiring and empowering young artist, who is on a mission to improve humanity through music.



In its inaugural year in 2022 Flackstock raised an incredible £325k split equally between four worthy charities - Choose Love, Mind, Samaritans and Charlie Waller Trust. On the Monday following on from the Heritage Live summer concerts, Flackstock will again take place with the intention of building a legacy festival to raise money and awareness for a range of brilliant charities. The line up for this year has just been announced and includes many performers from comedy, dance and music including Sophie Ellis-Baxter, Louise Redknapp, Jason Manford, Matt Goss plus a special appearance by Olly Murs.



Further details are on the Englefield Estate website and tickets are now available for sale through the Heritage Live website, <https://www.heritagelive.net/>.

Peter Carson, Events Manager



## Big Coronation Tea Party

On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June, residents and friends of our Parish, many sporting red, white and blue clothing, celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III with a bring and share tea. The very fine weather was in sharp contrast to the Coronation day itself and the children were able to take part in games and activities overseen by Rev Julia. A huge thank you to the team of volunteers who gave up their time to organise a fantastic event, including Penny Norris, Lynn Dennison, Liz Reeves, Peter Carson, Luke Wade, Julia and Paul Myles and Catherine Haig, and to all the helpers who stepped up on the day. Thank you to the Estate Yard team for setting up too and to all who came along to an historic community event.

*Englefield Parish Council*



*The St Mark's Sunday Club spent time designing and decorating crowns for the Coronation of King Charles, and learned that Charles echoed Jesus in his von, 'Not to be served, but to serve'.*



## Englefield Herefords prize

Congratulations to Simon Strang for his hard work which has enabled Englefield Home Farms to bring home 1<sup>st</sup> prize for the best Pedigree Beef Unit in the Newbury & District Agricultural Society's grass, beef and sheep competitions.

The prize will be presented at the Newbury Show which is back this September after a three-year hiatus. The dates are September 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and advanced tickets are available on <https://newburyshowground.co.uk/newbury-show-2023/>.

## Annual Parish Assembly

The Annual Parish Assembly was held in the Village Hall on 18<sup>th</sup> May, it was lovely to see a few more members of the public join us this year. 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.

The Council also thanked Mark Postles for his committed service as a Parish Councillor of 10 years following his retirement at the recent election.

Lynn Dennison provided an update on the wide variety of groups and events taking place at the Village Hall; and James Meade gave an update on behalf of the Englefield Estate, including its priorities for the forthcoming year and progress on projects within the village.

We were joined by our newly re-elected Councillor Ross Mackinnon, who gave an interesting overview of the work of West Berkshire District Council over the past year. Finally, we watched a fantastic video update from Reverend Julia Myles who unfortunately couldn't join us in person.

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 Wirth for the superb refreshments which were thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The next meeting of the Council will take place on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm at the Village Hall.

All members of the Parish are welcome to attend.

*Nia Rands, Parish Clerk*



## Isabel White RIP

Mum was born in 1938 in a small village just outside La Coruna in north west Spain, a rural part of Spain where most families had land they farmed, hard work then, hand tools, donkey and cart, a sight we would still see on our holiday trips back to Spain growing up.

Mum decided to come to England in 1961 with her best friend Carmen to find new opportunities, whilst working in Pembury

Hospital in Kent she met Dad at a party and they married a few years later. They arrived at Englefield with Dad's job as a beat keeper for Sir William and Lady Benyon and settled in Bradfield and lived there for over forty years before moving to Rectory Cottage. Mum loved gardening and her chickens and of course cooking, you never left hungry if you visited.

Mum was a selfless person, nothing was too much trouble, myself Martin and Dad were very lucky to have her to love and look after us through the years. RIP Mum.

*Robin White*

## Summer planting

Well by now you should have your bedding plants in and they should be blooming. Don't forget that to get the best out of them, you will need to dead head and feed them regularly. Also watering in the early morning and late evening will be more beneficial than during the day. The team have been flat out over the last few months so we are all just catching our breath ready for the cyclamen and autumn bedding to arrive so we can start all over again ready for the autumnal season. The team would like to say thank you for all your support and kind comments over the last few months, see you soon.



*Austin Crabbe, Garden Centre manager*

## Recycling bins in Theale

There is now a mini recycling centre at the end of the High Street in Theale, between the entrance to Woodfield Way and the M4 footbridge. You can drop off textiles, small electrical items, food and drink cartons, card and all those plastic pots, tubs and trays that cannot go in the regular kerb-side recycling.



## Councillor vacancy

Due to the uncontested May 2023 election, there is a vacancy for a Councillor to join the Englefield Parish Council.

If you are interested in being involved in this important first tier of local government and would like to know more about the role of a Councillor, please contact the Clerk of the Parish Council at [clerk.englefieldpc@outlook.com](mailto:clerk.englefieldpc@outlook.com).

## North Street's celebration

On Sunday 7th May, North Street marked the Coronation weekend by sharing a very successful community barbecue on the green. The bench was oiled, posts painted, grass cut and bunting attached, ready to welcome a large turn out of residents, relatives and visitors.

There was an abundance of delicious food to share together on a beautiful evening, including home-made burgers, local sausages, cakes and Pimms. It was great fun to share time together as music played and children ran around having fun together. Thanks to all who contributed to a memorable evening.



*Jackie Postles*

## Free tickets for Bradfield's Greek play

This summer, the Bradfield College Greek Play returns to 'Grecker', the school's open air theatre, for the 41st production which will be *Oedipus The King*.

The 2023 production will, for the first time, be a hybrid of classical Greek and modern English, with the aim of making the play more accessible to a wider audience and to help nurture a love of classical theatre. The production will feature a new 'cinematic' score, incorporating elements especially recorded for this production by internationally acclaimed aulos player Barnaby Brown.

Sophocles' play, first performed in 429BC, follows Oedipus' discovery of a dark family secret that threatens not only to destroy the city but the King himself. Please note, this play contains themes which are of an adult nature and may not be suitable for those under the age of 11. Free tickets for the performances on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> are available from [www.ticketsource.co.uk/bradfieldevents](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/bradfieldevents).

## Memories of life in Englefield

Having just returned from the village tea party for the Coronation, it got me thinking about my life in Englefield. I first came to Englefield as a baby when my dad started work at Wickcroft farm for Simon Strang's grandad as a cowman in 1946.

I started at the school when I was five years old and also attended the Sunday school at church. And I also remember when we came out of church to play in the laurel bushes opposite the church (where they no longer exist) to be told off by Sir Henry Benyon (Harry as he was known).

Then in 1953 for the late Queen Elizabeth II going into the park to celebrate her coronation and then up to the Big House.

Every August Bank holiday they had one of the biggest cycle races in the country then it was called the Bath Road 100 which used to start and finish on the Pangbourne Road A340 and some of the residents of the village used to accommodate the cyclists for the weekend.

We had a brief period away from the village when my dad got work on another farm, only to return in 1956 to live at 43 Chalkpit Cottages. I then returned to the school and joined the church choir where we sang at Sir Harry's funeral. When in my early teens, I was confirmed at the church, where I tried my hand at bell ringing but with not much success. I left the school in 1958 to go to the Willink School in Burghfield which was the first secondary modern school to be built in this area. I remember when we had hard winters ice skating on the lake and tobogganing in the top park which we called the beeches. And in the summer cycling down to Hogmore bridge to leave our bikes in the wood there to go swimming in the River Pang. When I was 14 I started playing cricket for the village where my mum and other ladies would do the teas. When I joined Reading Athletic Club I used to go training in the top park with my two brothers, Don and Gerry.

When I joined the Working Men's Club which changed to a social club in 1963 I played darts and snooker for the club and became a life member. Then, when I got married in 1969, we had our wedding reception in the club.

In 1973 we moved into a Benyon cottage in Burghfield where we stayed 32 years. We kept our connections by having both our boys christened in the church. Then one day out of the blue Ken McDiarmid came to see us as they wanted to build four new cottages in the village and he needed my help as the only way to get planning permission from the council, was to get someone with an attachment to the village. I had to fill in a form to send to the council regarding my life in the village. Then in 2004 we moved into 1 Partridge Gardens where we still live.

*Ray Stevens*



## Looking forward to summer!

We have exciting news! Five A Day is formally registered as a charity! We now have a board of trustees as well as the management team. Who would have thought all those years ago we would have come this far! We now move on to the next exciting chapter for Five A Day.

The garden is looking particularly beautiful due to the hard work of our fabulous gardening volunteers who are harvesting radishes and rhubarb which is on sale along with herbs directly from the garden Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 12.30pm, or from the gazebo in the garden centre. Cash only please. We will be harvesting beans and potatoes soon so look out for them.

The Ella's Explorers school visits have resumed for the spring term and it is lovely to see the children enjoying the garden.

We are keen to fill places for Thyme Together, should you know anyone who might be interested in joining these free sessions. They can call us on 07555 184343 or email to [info@fiveaday.org.uk](mailto:info@fiveaday.org.uk).



We produce a quarterly newsletter which contains more news. If you would like to subscribe to it please visit the Five A Day website and register. If you are interested in any of the items mentioned, volunteering or know of a business who supports staff volunteering please email [info@fiveaday.org.uk](mailto:info@fiveaday.org.uk) or call 07555 184343. Please leave a contact number where you can be reached.

*Wendy Cadman, Five A Day management team member  
<https://fiveaday.org.uk/>*

## The curious case of the carrot...

Can anyone help solve the curious case of the nocturnal carrots?

On a regular basis, locals have been surprised to find raw carrots and lettuce deposited along North Street, apparently arriving during the night. No-one seems to know the what, who or, more importantly, why of this veggie mystery...

(An Ufton Nervet resident has confirmed that he has also seen lettuce and carrots when walking the dog where he lives too...!)

*Jackie Postles*



## From Englefield Primary School

### 'Sowing the Seeds for a Flourishing Future'

It is so nice to be writing this with the sun shining outside and our younger children out doing their woodland learning. We seem to have waited a long time for a glimpse of summer but it really feels as if it's on the way now.

A huge well done to the Year 3/4 class for putting on a fantastic production of the Diwali story just before Easter. The acting, speaking and singing were super; so many children had individual speaking and singing roles...a wealth of talent! Performances are such a good way of growing children's self-confidence - it was particularly lovely to see some of our quieter children 'giving it their all'. A high thank you to parents for helping their children learn their lines and to Miss Stuart and Mrs Jackson for bringing the whole show together.



Well done to the eleven children who performed in our concert at the end of the spring term. We heard piano, flute, guitar, recorder and drum performances. As one young member of the audience said, 'I am making happy memories'.



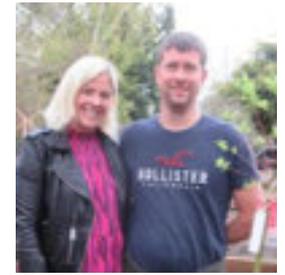
We all learned about the importance of helping others from Lily and Ryleigh who went out of their way to support good causes. Lily raised much-needed funds for the British Red Cross's Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal. Lily put together a tempting Easter basket of chocolate treats and sold tickets in school. She raised £151 for the appeal which was a great outcome. Ryleigh slept outside in the wind and rain, taking part in The Big Tommy Sleep Out, raising money for homeless ex-servicemen and women (both her dad and step-dad are ex-servicemen). She raised a grand total of £310.

As a school we raised £328 for Comic Relief, another excellent cause.

Four of our Year 5/6 pupils joined six other schools at the 'There is Only One Earth Climate Summit'. Each team had to present an idea which they would be promoting in their own schools to tackle the climate crisis. Will and Pharrell prepared a presentation about eco-lunches. They hope to provide information to parents on how to create packed lunches that are more nutritious, more environmentally friendly and also cheaper. Lily and Sophie's idea involved developing an Englefield Primary School copse on Englefield Estate land. Alok Sharma MP spoke to all the participants about their ideas.



The school community came together for a very poignant yet joyous occasion - the grand opening of Ruby's Garden. The White family, along with friends and colleagues, have worked tirelessly to develop this wonderful garden which will be tended and cherished by many pupils, staff and parents in the years to come. It contains raised beds, work benches, a greenhouse and compost bins, raspberry canes and a lovely sitting area made from a sawn tree trunk where children can hear a story or just sit quietly and enjoy their surroundings; some are already making use of this at breaktimes. In the centre of the garden is a beautiful cherry tree. The children have already begun to grow and nurture their plants, and we are taking one photograph a week over the coming year to see how the garden flourishes.



Sadly, someone has been coming into Ruby's Garden at the weekends or in the evenings and walking in all the raised beds. We really hope this will stop. This is a special memorial to Ruby as well as a working allotment where our children want to enjoy the thrill of growing their own food and watching the garden flourish.



Mrs Elliott kindly gave Mrs Sheppard's class some eggs to hatch. Out of the twenty-one eggs (a mixture of Appenzeller Spitzhaubens, Pekins and Heinz 57 varieties), ten chicks hatched and are now tweeting merrily in the classroom!



Eleven of our choir sang at the Bradfield May Fayre. They were well supported by other pupils and made a lovely sound. It was so nice to welcome this great local event back into our school calendar.

Finally, a reminder that the **Englefield Village Fete & Flower Show**, combining with the school Summer Fayre, will be held in the school grounds on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> July**. The children are busy practising the Maypole in readiness! We would love to see a big crowd again like last year, enjoying all the fun. It would also be great to see lots of entries in the tent. Please let us know if you can help, either before or on the day itself – the more, the merrier!

*Hilary Latimer, Headteacher*

## Madeleine Palmer RIP

From the address given by Madeleine's son, Simon, at her funeral on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May:

My mum was the rock of our family, the constant one who was measured and a voice of reason through the ups and downs of life. My mum was there to take us to school, to pick us up, take us to parties, make our fancy dress outfits, provide a sympathetic ear for our woes, in fact everything except if we cut ourselves, then we had to go next door. My mum didn't do blood! This carried on with the grandchildren, of which there are nine when my mum used to look after them when we were at work.

My mum loved dancing in her early life and it was through dancing that she met my dad and they used to teach ballroom dancing together. Mum also tried to teach Tracie and I to dance, although after several painful attempts to teach me the waltz that stopped, as apparently I have two left feet.

Mum was also a great collector of things. It started off with teaspoons, collecting one from every place we went, and in later years it moved on to clowns and then more recently elephants. What I don't think we realised until now was that this also included scarves, the amount we found when clearing the house was staggering! Despite this, Mum was also very careful with her spending, often waiting for something she liked to be available in a sale, then thinking about it so much the sale had ended, and she would say 'Oh well, I didn't really need it'.

Mum was also a great lover of sport, watching Premier League football and snooker on television religiously, in fact when thinking of appropriate music for today, one suggestion was the *Match of the Day* theme tune!

I don't think my mum will have a problem fitting in upstairs because as I'm sure most of you know she was a saint putting up with my dad, always there to support him, putting up with his moods and going along with his plans. Mum missed Dad terribly after he died, I'm sure she's happy now to be back with him. Rest in peace Mum, we all miss you. We will have a Baileys every now and then in remembrance of you!



## Carers Week 2023

Carers Week this year runs from 5<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> June and free local events for unpaid carers are listed on the West Berkshire

Directory: <https://directory.westberks.gov.uk/eb5/westberkshire/directory/service.page?id=5ZiINUNCKsM>.

## Physics in action at Rushall Farm

Some days don't go that well, do they? We were busy with visits, and a notable school from London was without a leader. I was pleased to be asked to step into the breach. It was this time of year, and hot, with plenty of pollen about. The day had been organised by the school's physics department and it was my job to demonstrate physics in action on the farm. A perfect start was the chalk pit with its evidence of where the giant asteroid hit the earth 65 million years ago. The impact caused a slight wobble to planet earth bringing chaos; five-mile-high tsunamis, dust where the asteroid disintegrated and volcanic activity, together partially blocking out the sun for an estimated 10,000 years. The result was a massive wipe out of life including the most vulnerable dinosaurs. They had dominated the earth for around 180 million years, surviving today in the huge variety of different birds including our egg-laying champions, the chicken. On the face of the chalk pit pockets of the high Iridium dust are evidence to this event.

After that, my poor performance at A level physics came to the fore. We talked about tractors and mechanics, fence posts and taking the strain, lightening and its release of electricity to make the air into useful fertiliser. I should have told them what happened when our brand new combine rolled over into a pit and bounced (time stood still for me that day). As our time together wore on, one girl enquired whether we were still in London. Another, who had been fasting from food and water since 4am was feeling rather faint, along with several suffering from hay fever. There were, however, two girls walking with me as we viewed the amazing landscape of the Pang Valley. I humbly asked their opinion as to how the visit was going? 'Man, we don't do the countryside,' was their reply, 'This is the 21<sup>st</sup> century!'

What greater incentive do you need to continue the work of the Trust of connecting children with the countryside? It is, after all, where our food comes from. It links us with weather and the seasons, with soils and rivers, the world of insects and pollinators, trees and pastures, wildlife and conservation. AND it sets us the challenge to look after such a special place really well.



John Bishop  
[www.rushallfarm.org.uk](http://www.rushallfarm.org.uk)

Date	Sidesman	First reading	Epistle	Gospel reading	Prayers	Sacristan	Server	Sunday School and crèche	Cleaners
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> May Pentecost	Penny Savage	Lorraine Dehn Numbers 11:24-30 (Psalm 104:26-36)	Carole Ford Acts 2:1-12	Preacher John 20:19-23	Dinah Perkins	Sue Smith	Saffy O'Sullivan	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL: activities can be collected from vestry	Peter and Catherine Haig
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> June Trinity Sunday BCP	Peter Haig	Dinah Perkins Isaiah 40:12-17,27- end (Psalm 8)	Ronan O'Sullivan 2 Corinthians 13:11-end	Preacher Matthew 28:16- end	BCP	Catherine Haig	Torquil MJ	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL: activities can be collected from vestry	Carolyn Ahanchian
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity	Liz Marillier	Anne Edgar Job 29:11-16 (Psalm 112)	Mike Kimber Acts 11:19-end	Preacher John 15:12-17	Ron Marillier	Penny Norris	Peter Haig	Saffy O'Sullivan Liz McKean	Liz McKean
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2nd Sunday after Trinity	Paula Fenwick	Linda Price Genesis 18:1-15 (Psalm 116)	Torquil MJ Romans 5:1-8	Preacher Matthew 9:35- 10:8	Catherine Haig	Dee Boddy	Penny Savage	Sara Guiducci Liz Reeves	Penny Norris Saffy O'Sullivan
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 3rd Sunday after Trinity	Torquil MJ	Catherine Haig Genesis 21:8-21 (Psalm 86)	Michael Ahanchian Romans 6:1b-11	Preacher Matthew 10:24- 39	Penny Savage	Penny Savage	Saffy O'Sullivan	Liz McKean Meryl Bonser	Pete and Carole Ford
Sunday 2nd July 4th Sunday after Trinity BCP	Penny Savage	Aldo Guiducci Genesis 22:1-14 (Psalm 13)	Lorraine Dehn Romans 6:12- end	Preacher Matthew 10:40- end	BCP	Penny Norris	Torquil MJ	Saffy O'Sullivan Liz Reeves	Peter and Catherine Haig
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> July 5th Sunday after Trinity	Liz Marillier	Miles Edgar Genesis 24:34-38 (Psalm 45)	Carole Ford Romans 7:15- 25a	Preacher Matthew 11:16- end	Paula Fenwick	Sue Smith	Penny Savage	Saffy O'Sullivan Liz McKean	Carolyn Ahanchian
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 6th Sunday after Trinity	Peter Haig	Graham Harvey Genesis 25:19-end (Psalm 119)	Kahlen Spaulding Romans 8:1-11	Preacher Matthew 13:1-23	Saffy O'Sullivan	Catherine Haig	Paula Fenwick	Saffy O'Sullivan Liz McKean	Liz McKean
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 7th Sunday after Trinity	Paula Fenwick	Mike Kimber Genesis 28:10-19a (Psalm 139)	Linda Price Romans 8:12-25	Preacher Matthew 13:24- 43	Denny Hollands	Denny Hollands	Peter Haig	Liz McKean Liz Reeves	Penny Norris Saffy O'Sullivan
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> July 8th Sunday after Trinity	Penny Savage	Peter Haig Genesis 29:15-28 (Psalm 105)	Dee Boddy Romans 8:26- end	Preacher Matthew 13:31- 52	Catherine Haig	Dee Boddy	Denny Hollands	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	Pete and Carole Ford
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> August 9th Sunday after Trinity BCP	Peter Haig	Paul Myles Genesis 32:22-31 (Psalm 17)	Dinah Perkins Romans 9:1-5	Preacher Matthew 14:13- 21	BCP	Catherine Haig	Penny Savage	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	Carolyn Ahanchian
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> August 10th Sunday after Trinity	Torquil MJ	Michael Ahanchian Genesis 37:1-28 (Psalm 105)	Torquil MJ Romans 10:5-15	Preacher Matthew 14:22- 33	Dinah Perkins	Penny Norris	Saffy O'Sullivan	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	Liz McKean
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> August 11th Sunday after Trinity	Liz Marillier	Ronan O'Sullivan Genesis 45:1-15 (Psalm 133)	Ron Marillier Romans 11: 1- 2a, 29-32	Preacher Matthew 15:21- 28	Penny Savage	Sue Smith	Paula Fenwick	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	Penny Norris Saffy O'Sullivan
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> August 12th Sunday after Trinity	Paula Fenwick	Dee Boddy Exodus 1:8-2:10 (Psalm 124)	James Bamforth Romans 12:1-8	Preacher Matthew 16:13- 20	Ron Marillier	Penny Savage	Torquil MJ	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	Pete and Carole Ford

*If you have swapped duties, please contact Saffy O'Sullivan ([saffyosullivan@gmail.com](mailto:saffyosullivan@gmail.com)) and the churchwardens. Please send all prayer requests to Linda Price ([pricelinda8@gmail.com](mailto:pricelinda8@gmail.com)).*



## Schools Days 2023

The annual Englefield Estate Schools Days are fast approaching! This year's dates are Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Our staff are busy preparing, and amazing organisations, such as Butterfly Conservation, Action for the River Kennet, The Angling Trust and the Museum of English Rural Life are taking part this year.

Classes will be diverted away from The Street while on foot to maximise safety, but please can everyone take care extra care and be patient when driving on these dates.

We'd like to make you aware that coaches and minibuses will be driving through Englefield at the start and end of the days, with particularly busy times between 9:00-10:00am and 2:00-3:00pm. We ask that you kindly avoid parking along The Street, which should be much easier now the new car park is in operation. Following the morning school run, essential areas will be coned off to ensure access.

Please keep your fingers crossed for fair weather. We are fully booked, with 32 schools from Berkshire and north Hampshire looking forward to their visit!

*Dr Liz Mattison, Education & Environment Officer*



## 'The New Village'

The first new houses to be built were three of the five identical pairs standing on what was then a new straight length of road towards North Street from the junction where that road diverged from the Tidmarsh turnpike. The course of the old road can still be seen by the line of the wall that runs along the back of these houses. These were labelled on the 1822 plan for the new Pangbourne Road as 'The New Village'. However, before talking about new houses, we must first consider the last of the old houses, the shop, parts of which are from the 18<sup>th</sup> century or earlier. It was a bakery as well and Charles Webb was the baker and grocer, certainly from 1844. In April 1871 his son James was missing for four days before being found unconscious in the river at Twyford. He was resuscitated and charged with attempting suicide (a criminal offence until 1961). Despite that, when his father retired he took over the business and ran it for about 20 years.

James Webb remained unmarried and died in February 1901 after which Frederick Pocock became the grocer and baker until his death in 1915. Sidney Wilcox from 42 Chalk Pit Cottages was also a baker by trade so probably did, or assisted with, the baking until he joined the Army, also in 1915, and was killed at Hamel on 24<sup>th</sup> May 1918 while serving with the Royal Berkshire Regiment. After Frederick died his widow Alice Emily Pocock carried on running the shop. In 1921 her elder son, Frederick, and his new wife Kathleen (née Morton) whom he had married the previous year were also living at the shop but although his occupation is described as 'Baker' and his employer as 'A E Pocock' there is a note 'Out of work' so presumably baking had by then ceased. Her younger son Albert was also still living with her, but he was employed as a motor engineer at Vincents garage in Reading.

In 1924 Sylvester Gosling, listed as a Master Baker in the 1939 Register, with his wife Elsie took over the shop and remained there into the 60s, with bread being supplied in the 1950s by Percy Gundry with a horse and cart. In 1939 Percy Gundry lived in Bloomfield Terrace in Theale and there is evidence of some sort of connection to the Goslings because in the late 1920s a Hilda Gundry was living with them at the shop. Also living in the same house in Bloomfield Terrace in 1939 was another baker, Alf Kent, who also had a connection to Englefield.

The 'New Village' was clearly Richard Benyon's aspiration for a replacement for the old village which, if not demolished by 1821, was at least uninhabited. When they were originally built the first three houses were simply rectangular in plan; the 'wings' across the ends are a later addition. Exactly when these were added is unclear, but it must have been before 1914 for a photograph showing the village Fire Brigade loading William Cox's coffin onto the bier outside his home at number 19 The Street, clearly shows them as they are today. Probably the additions were made shortly before 1891 when in his Harvest Home speech the Rector commended Mr Benyon for the standard of houses he provided, all with three bedrooms. The fifth house (counting from the Pangbourne Road) has similar brickwork to the original three, so it is possible that it was built shortly after 1822

and before the fourth which has different brickwork. All five pairs were in place by 1829 though. The second pair (now 24/25) had a small addition to the side which was the blacksmith's shop of George Read who lived there. Number 22 also had an addition at the rear in 1844 and was occupied in 1851 by widow Pricilla Whitburn, her widowed daughter Elizabeth Read and her three children. Elizabeth was a dressmaker so the addition may have been her workroom.

The house nearest the Pangbourne Road (27) was the replacement Three Daggers Inn, kept by Edward May and after he died by his widow Kitty. It was also the venue for auction sales and Coroner's inquests including the inquest into the death of Kitty May herself when she died, of a stroke, in the garden of the Daggers in December 1850. The Three Daggers, named from the arms of the Paulet family, had been an old Englefield inn since at least the time of William and Mary when it was kept by William and Elizabeth Chamberlayne and was situated near where the front drive to the Old Rectory meets the road up to Englefield House from the lodge gates. In Edward and Kitty May's time the inn occupied only number 27 but when John Woods kept it in the 1850s it seems to have been the whole of 27 and 26. Even then it must have been a squeeze, for John Woods and his wife Caroline had eight children and a lodger living in the house. The Three Daggers ceased to operate shortly after 1861 when John Woods moved to the New Inn in North Street at the junction with Piper's Lane.

The new Pangbourne Road was opened in 1825 and the old road running from Bostock to Hogmoor Bridge was blocked up, irrevocably at the Bostock end for Bostock Lodges were built squarely across it soon after, and certainly by 1829. At the same time Chalkpit Lodge, called Awberry's Lodge in 1855, was also built at the junction of the new road and the road to Chalkpit Farm.

*Richard Smith*

## *Berkshire Young Farmers Club*

Bradfield members enjoyed the sun at Bradfield May Fayre – as older members and parents served tea, coffee and cake to the public, our younger members got soaked having fun with the Club Stocks and sponges. There was no escape for Club Leader Gordon either... The next event was the Berkshire Country Fayre, Berkshire YFC's main competition and promotional day. Bradfield were of course in the middle of it and managed to retain most of the silverware and trophies that we won last year, together with the overall points at show Cup in what was a real team effort. Members now look forward to a summer programme of fun evening meetings and will continue with the competition programme, but further afield in Area and National finals.

*Bradfield YFC meets at Milehouse Farm every Wednesday evening. Contact Gordon Fletcher [gletcher@drorganic.co.uk](mailto:gletcher@drorganic.co.uk) or follow the Club on social media.*

## Reflections

### *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.**

**They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' (Acts 1 v 11 [NRSV])**

What was the purpose of the ascension? The gospels and this first chapter of Acts tell us that Jesus had appeared to his disciples and disappeared again several times. Why didn't he finally leave his disciples in the same way?

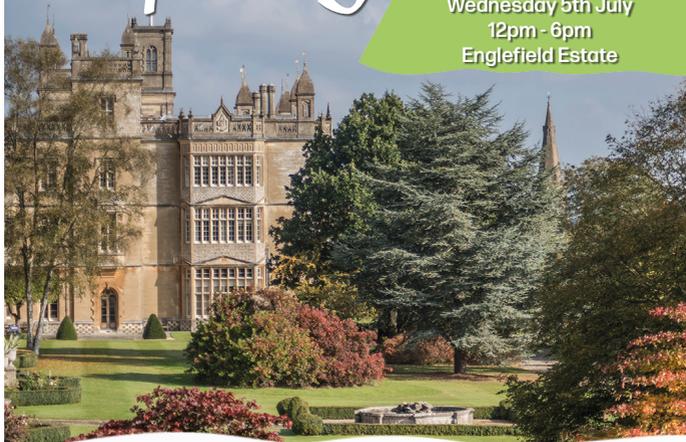
Last month, on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023, King Charles III ascended the throne. What do we mean by that? Do we mean that he literally climbed up onto a big chair? Well, in one sense yes - he did exactly that. But the visible act of his climbing up on to the physical throne spoke of the reality that he was, at that point, assuming the authority of monarch. His physical ascension pointed to his being vested with power and authority; was a symbol of his taking over the government.

Jesus' ascension is similar. It speaks of his identity. In rising up physically in the air, Jesus is being declared to be taking on spiritual authority over the world. Psalm 110, one of the most quoted Psalms in the New Testament, opens with these words: 'The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet."' Having defeated his enemies at the Cross, and having been declared the victor by God raising him from the dead, we now see Jesus ascending in fulfilment of this prophecy, to sit at God's right hand. There he will now remain, in the position of authority and power, until such time as God finishes making his enemies a footstool for his feet. And one day, as the two men dressed in white tell us, this same Jesus will return in the same way he went into heaven – a physical reality, an event that takes place in human history. And not only that, but the event will be clearly supernatural, and visible. When Jesus first came, he was born in obscurity and laid in a manger. When he comes the second time however, he will appear in unmistakable power and authority. Let's make sure that we are living lives that are ready for his return.

*To find more of these weekly reflections go to [www.stmarksenglefield.org.uk](http://www.stmarksenglefield.org.uk) and click on the Thought for the Week link on the left hand side. And, further down the home page, use the Video link to find recordings of Julia's sermons, now also uploaded to the website each week.*

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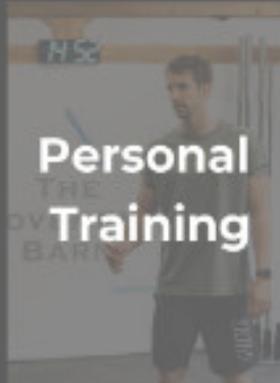
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