



The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 184

October 2025

Are you new to St Jude's?

It's lovely to welcome you among us — in person or online. If you have any questions or requests for prayer or if you would like to come and talk more personally, please contact our Vicar on vicar@stjudeschurch.info

Open Church

In addition to service times, St Jude's Church will be open between 2.00pm and 4.00pm on Saturday 11th October) tea and coffee available). Do come along.

Fourth Sunday at Four

Please join us for our fourth Sunday at Four Service on Sunday 26th October. This is a short service (approximately 30 minutes) and does not include Holy Communion. Refreshments are served in the Monsell Room from 3.15pm. We look forward to seeing you!

Stewardship Sunday

Mid-September saw the premiere in St Jude's Church of our Stewardship Video. Many thanks to Guy Bunce, our Audio-Visual Lead, for his outstanding production and to members of our congregation who courageously made their debut on film! If you haven't yet seen it, you should be able to access the video here: <https://youtu.be/v9RsnLu3jPo?si=IBStsKzmOvsPrPVN>

We are hugely grateful for ALL the generosity shown to St Jude's in so very many ways, both by regular members of the congregation and by so many residents of our beautiful village, who have given so sacrificially to our appeals over the years. The video simply reflects the fact that we are ever conscious of something which affects us all — the rising cost of just about everything! So, we are looking to increase our regular giving so that we can keep paying our bills and grow our activities!

Many thanks to our Treasurer, Brian Hooker, and to all the members of our Church Council, for putting together some very useful information leaflets to accompany the video. If you would like copies of those leaflets, please do contact Brian at brian.hooker@stjudeschurch.info

We are most of all aware of our debt to our infinitely generous God, who has given everything for us. Please enjoy the video!

The New Churchwarden

I've joined the crew of the good ship St Jude's! It's been a voyage of discovery so far, but it's also been a relatively calm one, thanks to the kindness and expertise of the rest of the crew.

After a lovely service at St Paul's in Addlestone where, along with numerous colleagues from across the Diocese, I was formally appointed by the Archdeacon as churchwarden, my first duty was to acquire a "faculty" for some restoration work to the church building. I'd never heard of a "faculty" except in the context of teaching and I had visions of trying to recruit some specialist tutors.... But no. It is simply a permission to undertake the work, issued by the Bishop or Archdeacon, depending on the work to be done. Thanks to a very helpful lady at the Diocesan office I got the hang of it and am now fully trained in that aspect! Hopefully you're starting to see the fruits of that training (hint — look in and outside the church porch).

Before I took on this role I had a chat with Claudia Tubb, from whom I took over in May, about exactly what was going to be required of me. I understood that I, together with Mike Brooking, my co-churchwarden, would be responsible for the running of the church. This meant learning quickly about all the issues that St Jude's was dealing with and the best way of doing this was to attend the subcommittees who take forward matters like finance, building works and worship, together with practical issues such as IT. As a churchwarden, I am an ex officio member of all the subcommittees of the ECC (Ecumenical Church Council). I decided early on that it was impractical for me to join every single one so I have concentrated on those which I felt were more most important.

The first one I attended was the Village Centre Management Committee. As you know, the Village Centre is a vital part of our Outreach programme. I am one of those people who, when something needs doing, puts their hand up to volunteer. So I volunteered to be the secretary of that committee. It has been a joy to work alongside our Vicar Judith, together with the Methodist Minister, Lansford Penn-Timothy, Helen, the Centre Manager, and her dedicated team. They all work incredibly hard and their reward is the happiness and satisfaction of their customers. The Village Centre truly is a place where everyone is welcome and made to feel at home.

Another committee which I attend on a regular basis is the Fabric Committee. Hence the need to learn about faculties! Luckily, I am not expected to know too much about plumbing and electrical works. I can leave most of these practical issues to Mike Brooking and the rest of the very experienced committee members. I'm still finding my feet but I'm there to help take matters forward and to do any paperwork that might be needed. Similarly with the Finance Committee; I'm there to assist in any way I can.

On reading, this sounds very dull. This is far from the truth! These committees are lively and productive and I leave with a sense of fulfilment and excitement for the future. We have a lot planned for future. It includes a harvest lunch, a Christmas Fair, a Carol service, as well as a special service highlighting safeguarding. All before the end of the year — so watch this space for more news of these wonderful and fun-packed events!

Safeguarding is not a new subject to me but I have been required to undertake some training. It has been an eye opener, to say the least. Diana Bendall, St Jude's Safeguarding Officer, and I shall be focusing on St Jude's responsibilities for this very important issue over the next few weeks. There will be a special service on Safeguarding Sunday which will highlight what we all have to do to make sure everybody is safe in the church community. Please do join us for that — more details nearer the time.

It has been a joy to meet all of you who worship in person and I hope to get to know those who join us online. I have loved every minute of being a churchwarden so far! I'm still waiting for the (churchwarden) pipe though.....

Gill Sloan

A Churchwarden's pipe



Future Ministry at St Jude's

Just to remind you, the Revd Judith Allford has retired from full-time ministry. But she will be staying with us at St Jude's on a part-time basis during the year ahead. The Bishop of Guildford has kindly agreed that she may still hold his Licence and so continue for the next 12 months as Vicar of St Jude's.

Readings at Communion

Sunday 5th October (16th Sunday after Trinity)	Habakkuk 1. 1-4, 2. 1-4 Psalm 37. 1-9 2 Timothy 1. 1-14 Luke 17. 2-10
Sunday 12th October (Harvest Thanksgiving)	Deuteronomy 26. 1-11 Psalm 100 Philippians 4. 4-9 John 6. 25-35
Sunday 19th October (18th Sunday after Trinity)	Genesis 32. 22-31 Psalm 121 2 Timothy 3.14-4.5 Luke 18. 1-8
Sunday 26th October (Simon and Jude, Apostles)	Isaiah 45. 22-end Psalm 119. 89-96 Ephesians 2. 19-end John 15. 17-end

Looking ahead

Piano Recital

James Kirby will give a piano recital on Saturday 8th November at 4.00pm.

Christmas Market

This will be in the Village Centre on Saturday 29th November.

Piano Recital

Geoff Chew will give a piano recital on Saturday 6th December at 4.00pm.

Lebkuchen and Mince Pie Tea

This will be in Church on Saturday 13th December from 2.00-4.00pm.

Harvest Lunch Sunday 12th October at 1.00pm

Tickets (£10) are now
available in church
(all profits to WaterAid)

Diary for October

- 1 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 5 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Holy Communion (Methodist Liturgy)
- 8 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 12 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 1.00pm Harvest Lunch (tickets required) 6.00pm Compline (Zoom)
- 15 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 19 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
- 22 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 26 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service
- 29 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion (said)

Please note that our 9.30am service each Sunday is always live-streamed on our YouTube Channel. If you are unable to join us in church we warmly invite you to tune in.

Food Bank

Thank you all as always for your generous donations to the Runnymede Foodbank. Please do continue to leave your donations imperishable foodstuffs and other items in the crate in the Monsell Room. We apologise that we cannot accept cash donations at present. Thank you all.

Donations of perishable food items are welcomed by our Village Centre Community Fridge and Kitchen. The Kitchen is open on Mondays and Fridays, 9am-11am, excluding Bank Holidays. Donated food must still be within its sell by/use by date on the Monday or Friday when it will be recycled by the Fridge. If you feel this is something to which you can contribute, please contact the Centre on 01784 471110. Thank you!

Putting your stamp on it

We are grateful to all who continue to pass on their used postage stamps to us. They are sent on to a charity and put to very good use! Thank you to Joan who so kindly manages this collection for us.

From the Registers

Baptisms:

(21st September) Harley-Del Anne Osborne;
(21st) Craig Jackie Osborne II; (28th) Sophie Etta Missen.

Funerals:

(10th September) Arlene Estelle Brown;
(22nd) June Fletcher;
(29th) Malcolm Leonard George Hales.

Easyfundraising.co.uk

We are very grateful to all those who are supporting us when buying things through Amazon, John Lewis by using easy-fundraising.co.uk. You have raised well over £1500 (so far) for us through this scheme and that is without any cost to you.

Bereavement Coffee Morning

Thursday 30th October at 10.15am

at the Jurgens Centre,

Church of the Assumption of our Lady,

Harvest Road

Everyone is welcome

We have an open invitation to join our neighbours at the Church of the Assumption of our Lady, Harvest Road, TW20 0QR, on the last Thursday in each month, for their regular Coffee Morning in the Jurgens Centre beside the Church. We welcome anyone who has been bereaved, whether recently, or further back in time. You will find a quiet and welcoming space to talk or simply to listen and to be amongst friends. The invitation is to everyone, you may or may not be a church goer. You may drop in and out as you wish. We shall be very glad to see you.

The Village Centre

Victoria Street, Englefield Green TW20 0QX 01784 471110

manager@villagecentre.org.uk <https://www.villagecentre.org.uk>

<https://www.facebook.com/villagecentreenglefieldgreen>

<https://www.instagram.com/villagecentreenglefieldgreen>

September was a very special month for the Village Centre, including as it did a visit from the Mayor of Runnymede, Cllr Margaret Harnden. The Mayor attended our Community Lunch on Monday 15th September and was very positive about everything she saw — and very positive about the delicious meal that was served! Pictures from her visit will appear on our social media. Among those there to meet the Mayor were Lansford Penn-Timothy and Jacqueline Esama-John — it is so good to have them both among us!

An Urgent Appeal

This Village Centre Report is a bit different from usual as it is a plea for your help!

We are looking for people who would like to try out what it's like to volunteer in our Café!

October will be extra busy for our Centre Manager as she completes a project for us.

Can you take some shifts in our Café this month please?

You will be working alongside our trained staff.

The Café is open from 9am–2pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

And on Thursday from 9am–5pm.

Can you offer some help please? Shifts can be split to your convenience.

Your help would be invaluable, and our volunteers always say how much they enjoy it!

Please contact us on the telephone number above.

THANK YOU!



St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation

"Excellence in Education,
Kindness in Community,
Courage through Faith"



We had a particularly interesting and helpful report from our Schools in September, and we are very grateful to our Chair of Governors, Juan Pemberton for contributing that article for us.

So this month I simply wish to invite your continuing prayer for our St Jude's Schools Federation, not least in the light of potential changes ahead. Please give thanks with me for our wonderful leadership and staff team, for our governors, our parents and our children. Please pray for energy, vision and joy for the term now well under way. God bless you all.

The Time of Harvest

How many words can you create from the word HARVEST? Very soon our St Jude's Infants and Juniors will come into St Jude's to celebrate their own Harvest Festival. Previously the children have used the word "harvest" to draw attention to the significance of the season.

HARVEST is a time to give thanks to God for all that we HAVE and especially for all that we have to EAT. We remember those who do not have, because we do SHARE God's blessings equally. We remember the VAST number of those who STARVE today because so often we do not have their best interests in our HEARTS. If we are to SAVE the world from hunger, then perhaps we need to SET different priorities in our own lives.

It's a reminder that as we celebrate the abundance of the blessing we so often enjoy, there are many who go hungry because of the greed of others. And yet, Harvest in the 21st Century is also an opportunity to celebrate the work of Food Banks, Community Fridges, food recycling agencies and many other charities and initiatives seeking to address the needs of those who would otherwise go without. We are so thankful for the work of the Runnymede Food Bank on our own doorstep.

Our St Jude's Church Harvest Festival celebration is on Sunday 12th October. Do join us for our 9.30am Holy Communion Service when together we can rejoice and reflect on the joys, challenges, hopes and opportunities of Harvest 2025.

Memorial Matters

This month we are delighted to introduce the first of an occasional series of articles, written by Dr Helen McKee, Visiting Lecturer at RHUL, good friend of St Jude's, and a Governor at St Jude's Schools. Helen will explore the stories behind some of the older memorials in Englefield Green Cemetery. In her first article Helen tells the story of a tragedy which shocked our village.

Memorial Focus: Arthur John Chapman, William Giles and William Howe

If you stand by the west end of St Jude's Church and face the path down to Blay's Lane, you will see on the right a small memorial which looks like a cairn, but with three shield-like faces. This marks the final resting-place of three teenage boys who died on the same tragic occasion in Windsor Great Park.

On the afternoon of Sunday 28 February 1886 it was freezing, and a group of boys had gone to Great Meadow Pond (behind Cumberland Lodge, private in theory if not in practice) to slide on the ice. Fifteen-year-old Arthur John Chapman put his skates on and headed out from the shore. One of his friends thought he was trying to scare the wild ducks which (then as now) flourished in the Great Park. However, the ice was less than an inch thick, and it gave way before he reached them. There was an immediate attempt at rescue. William Howe (16) hurried over to where Arthur had fallen in and tried to catch him, but instead slipped into the icy water himself. James White (19) also went to help — and also went in, though he was lucky: he was rescued by two more boys, Charley Critcher and Charles Deacon (they used wooden hurdles, keeping their distance from the edge). By this time, however, both Arthur and William had drowned. And, in the panic, nobody noticed that another boy (William Giles, 15) had got into trouble in the water about 50 yards away. He would be the third victim of this awful day.

An inquest was held on 3 March, at the Fox and Hounds, and widely reported in the newspapers, doubtless in part because of the tragedy's proximity to Cumberland Lodge, which was the home of the Queen's daughter Helena (Princess Christian). These reports, combined with other contemporary records, can bring the lost boys into focus.

All three boys lived in 'New Egham', as Englefield Green was then called: Arthur Chapman and William Howe in Bond Street, and William Giles in St Jude's Road. All three belonged to big families, and although two of the mothers were local girls, the fathers of all three boys were incomers: Arthur's from Essex, William Giles's from Wiltshire, and William Howe's from Buckinghamshire. Arthur's father was a carrier (later he would be a gardener, and in fact look after the gardens of Englehurst, the large Victorian house which stood near the church). William Howe's father and grandfather were also gardeners — although William's father had died in 1873, and his mother had to work as a laundress. William's older brothers both became gardeners, as perhaps William might have done. (In the absence of his father, William's body was identified at the inquest by his brother John Thomas, who ended his career as groundsman at Strode's College.) William Giles's father was a carpenter (who had, intriguingly, changed his name: his original surname was Vanstone, and a memory of this survives in Vanstone Cottages on Bagshot Road).

The inquest concluded that Arthur Chapman and William Giles had 'Accidentally drowned while sliding', whereas William Howe had 'Accidentally drowned while trying to rescue another boy who had fallen in water'. Perhaps it was William Howe's heroism which led to his name occupying the most prominent position on the middle of the cairn's three faces. The boys were all buried on 4 March, on the day after the inquest, and share a single memorial. It's hard to imagine what the effect in the village must have been.