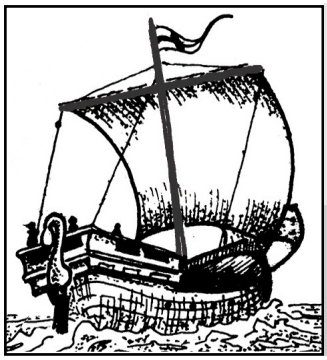


The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 197 **November 2026**

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 14th November. Do come along for tea coffee and a chat.

Fourth Sunday at Four

Our next Fourth Sunday at Four service will be on Sunday 22nd November at 4.00pm. Please save the date, and plan to join us for this shorter and more informal service. Refreshments are served from 3.15pm in the Monsell Room.

Words and Music of World War I

A recital for Remembrance Time

given by

Valerie Fry and

Dimitri Kennaway

Saturday 7th November

4.00pm

Admission free

Donations welcome

Refreshments available

Piano Recital by James Kirby

Saturday 21st November

4.00pm

Admission free

Donations welcome

Refreshments available

Lest we forget

As November begins to unfold, I am very aware that this will be my final opportunity to share in the Acts of Remembrance around the War Memorials in Englefield Green Cemetery. For seven years I have been privileged to experience alongside many others, the beauty and solemnity of the familiar words of honour and sorrow. We have witnessed the dignity and devotion of all who participate, including the respect and understanding of our uniformed organisations and school pupils. We have been blessed by the remarkable leadership of John Scott MBE and the representatives of the British Legion, Memorials Trust, and the village veterans, whom we hold in such esteem. It has been a unique privilege, and I shall look back on it with great gratitude.

This year Remembrance Sunday falls on Sunday 8th November and the traditional Ceremony of Remembrance will take place as usual around the Cemetery War Memorials from 10.50 am with the observation of two minutes silence at 11am. The Ceremony will be followed at approximately 11.15am by a Parade Service in St Jude's Church. We look forward to welcoming our uniformed organisations and many other representatives from our village. We so look forward to seeing many of you there.

This year Armistice Day itself falls on Wednesday 11th November. Our Schools' Act of Remembrance will take place around the Cemetery War Memorials from approximately 10.45am with the traditional two minutes silence at 11am. We are hoping that many village residents will be able to join us.

November is always an especially poignant month and for many it is a time of enormous sorrow. No community is untouched by personal loss, or by the remembrance of bitter conflict, and our hearts go out especially to those in our own community of Englefield Green whose suffering, so often in silence, casts the longest of shadows. But the remembrance of war and the unspeakable suffering it brings in its wake should inspire us all to strive for peace. How true that is in the turbulent world in which we live today. Someone once said that those who fail to learn from the mistakes of the past are doomed forever to repeat them. How carefully we need to listen to the lessons of yesterday and so equip ourselves to create a better today and to build a brighter tomorrow.

God calls us to be a people who remember. "Remember the former things" God said to his people of old (Isaiah 46v.9). Our Acts of Remembrance focus our thoughts not only on the courage and sacrifice of human beings, but also on the goodness and grace of God. In remembrance of the past lies hope and new confidence for the future.

Central to the faith and worship of St Jude's Church is another act of remembrance. As Jesus prepared for his own death, he shared bread and wine with his disciples and urged them "Do this in remembrance of me". Still today, the Christian Church across the world regularly celebrates the service of Holy Communion in thanksgiving for the self-sacrifice on the cross of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

In the sacrifice of so many individuals in the pursuit of peace, we see reflected the sacrifice of God himself. As we honour those who sacrificed their today so that we might enjoy the gift of tomorrow, we hear afresh the words of Jesus as he turned his face towards the cross:" Greater love has no one than this: than to lay down one's life for one's friends". (John 15:13).

One of the greatest voices for peace in our world today has proved to be that of Pope Leo XIV. Christians all over the world have come together in recent weeks to pray for his healing and well-being. Pope Leo draws his courage and inspiration from the foundation of his faith, the Lord Jesus Christ himself through whom "God made peace by the blood of his cross" (Colossians 1:20). Let us pray at this Remembrance-tide that his voice of peace, and the voices of so many others, past, present and future, may not be silenced.

Thank you all for the remembrance I shall take with me when I leave Englefield Green.

Judith Allford

Looking to the future

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". (Jeremiah 29.11)

When Judith retires on 31st December, St Jude's will formally enter a period of Vacancy. We hope this time will be short, as the Revd Holly Byles is the Preferred Candidate to be our next Vicar. If Holly is appointed, she is likely to come into post towards the end of April 2027. In the interim, the day to day running of St Jude's will be overseen by the Revd Simon Vibert, our Area Dean, and by our own Churchwardens, Mike Brooking and Gill Sloan. Please pray for them as they prepare to take on this vital ministry.

Judith will still be here to lead our Christmas services. BUT, as Christmas is a busy time, our plan is to hold a farewell service for Judith, before Christmas! This will be on Sunday 20th December at 9.30am. Please save the date and come if you can!

Harvest Thanksgiving

"He crowns the year with his goodness" Psalm 65. v11

Our October Harvest weekend at St Jude's was cause for special celebration of God's goodness, generosity and grace. Thank you to those who provided, prepared, and served delicious food for our Harvest Lunch. We were able to raise £400 for the work of WaterAid. Thank you to those who grew, foraged, and arranged fruit and vegetables for our Harvest display. Everything except the oranges were grown locally!

Safeguarding Sunday

Many churches mark Safeguarding Sunday at this time of year. We shall be doing so at our 9.30am service on 15th November. Our service is being prepared for us by Diana Bendall, our Parish Safeguarding Lead, and Gill Sloan, one of our Churchwardens. We are delighted that our preacher will be Revd Holly Byles. Our focus is on how we can best care for, support and protect one another in the life of the Church as we worship and serve God together. Please come and worship him with us.

Putting your stamp on it

Thank you to everyone who contributes to our charity stamp collection and to Joan who manages the collection for us and passes on the stamps. Our supplies are running a bit low! Please look to see if you have any used stamps at home! They are put to good use!

Readings at Communion

Sunday 1st November (All Saints' Day)	Revelation 7. 9–end Psalm 34. 1–10 1 John 3. 1–3 Matthew 5. 1–12
Sunday 8th November (Remembrance Sunday)	Amos 5. 18–24 Psalm 70 1 Thessalonians 4. 13–end Matthew 25. 1–13
Sunday 15th November (2nd Sunday before Advent)	Zephaniah 1. 7, 12–end Psalm 90. 1–8 1 Thessalonians 5. 1–11 Matthew 25. 14–30
Sunday 22nd November (Christ the King)	Ezekiel 34. 11–16, 20–24 Psalm 95. 1–7 Ephesians 1. 15–end Matthew 25. 31–end
Sunday 29th November (First Sunday of Advent)	Isaiah 63. 18–64.9 Psalm 80. 1–8 1 Corinthians 1. 3–9 Mark 13. 24–end

From the Registers

Baptism: (11th October) Hope Victoria Phillips

Funerals: (26th October) Joseph Thomas Berry/ Baby Dylan Joseph Berry

Burial of Cremated Remains: (26th October) Jill Gooch

Easyfundraising.co.uk

We are very grateful to all those who are supporting us when buying things through Amazon, John Lewis and others by using easyfundraising.co.uk. You have raised well over £1700 (so far) for us through this scheme and that is without any cost to you. All you need to do is to go to easyfundraising.co.uk online and choose St Jude's United Church Englefield Green as your charity.

Circuit Prayer Seminar

Saturday 21st November
Ashford Common Methodist Church TW15 1LW
10.30am – 12.15pm

How do we respond when someone asks us to pray for them? How can we pray for those going through challenging circumstances in their lives? ALL are welcome to attend this important session.

Diary for November

1 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Holy Communion (Methodist Liturgy)
4 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
7 Saturday 4.00pm World War I recital of music and poetry by Valerie Fry and Dimitri Kennaway
8 Remembrance Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
10.45am Act of Remembrance at the War Memorials followed by a service in church 6.00pm Compline (Zoom)
11 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
14 Saturday 2.00–4.00pm Church open
15 Safeguarding Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Sung Eucharist 3.00pm Blessing of Graves
18 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion 7.00pm Standing Committee meets (in church)
21 Saturday 4.00pm Piano Recital by James Kirby
22 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service
25 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
28 Saturday Christmas Market 2.00–4.00pm in St Jude's Church
29 Advent Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion 9.30am Holy Communion

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.

Remembrance Sunday

Please see the first page of this edition of the SHIP for details of services on Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day.

Advent Sunday

Sunday 29th November at 9.30am

Our 9.30am Holy Communion Service is a special celebration of Advent Sunday, as we begin to look towards Christmas.

Sunday 29th November at 6.30pm

Staines Methodist Church TW18 4SD
Staines and Feltham Methodist Circuit Advent Service.
All Welcome!

Blessing of the Graves

Sunday 15th November 3.00pm

It has become a special and much appreciated November tradition for St Jude's to join with our friends from the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption for a "Blessing of the Graves" ceremony in Englefield Green cemetery. We meet at the main cemetery gates just before 3pm. Our time together will be led as always by Father Chris Spain, and we shall be visiting and blessing the graves of those remembered especially among us. Tea and cake will be served afterwards in the Monsell Room at St Jude's Church. Please join us.

Food Bank

Thank you as always to those of you who contribute to the work of our local Foodbank through St Jude's. In these difficult times for many people, your generosity is ever more appreciated. Thank you for sharing in this important part of our outreach into our community. Continuing thanks to Geoff Chew for co-ordinating this for us. The black crate in our Monsell Room is always there to receive donations in kind. Please talk to Geoff if you wish to make a financial donation.

Apologies

Apologies to two people whose names were recorded incorrectly in our October edition of the SHIP. Firstly, apologies to our Ministry Assistant, Sofie Palmer, for the misspelling of her first name! Sorry Sofie — but thank you again for coming amongst us! And if you are reading this, and haven't yet met Sofie, please come along and say "hello".

Secondly, apologies to Sam Jenkins, newly appointed Chair of our Schools' Governing Body, whose surname we recorded incorrectly in our October Edition. Congratulations on your appointment, Sam — and thank you for all you are already doing for our schools.

Bereavement Coffee Morning

Thursday 26th November 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, usually on the last Thursday in each month, for their regular Coffee Morning in the Jurgens Centre beside the Church.

You may have been recently bereaved, or your loss may be further back in time. Whatever your circumstances, 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 glad to see you.

The Village Centre

68 Victoria Street, Englefield Green TW20 0QX
01784 471110

manager@villagecentre.org.uk

website:www.villagecentre.org.uk

Just a small collection of Autumn Bees for you this month, buzzing with exciting news of developments at the Village Centre!

Blinds: Our new thermal blinds have now been installed in our Hall, which should make it easier to provide provision for black-out when we need it. We hope it will also mean that the hall is warmer in winter and cooler during the Summer months. We are very grateful to Runnymede Borough Council for this provision.

Baking: Our occasional cooking classes include a class for toddlers! Lily is leading a free class once a month for toddlers and their parents. Classes have been running for six months already and will continue for a further six months. Healthy and delicious food and snacks are being produced every month!

Bathrooms: Thanks to a grant from Surrey County Council via Your Fund Surrey, and with special support from Marisa Heath, the plans for the refurbishment of both our toilet and bathroom areas are now well under way. We are grateful to staff, volunteers and centre users for their help in progressing the plans. Work should be completed by Christmas.

Another thing — we are looking forward to the introduction of "Stay and Play" sessions on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 9–11am between now and Christmas. We shall be opening the Hall for these sessions so that parents can spend time with their children and supervise them as they play. Toddler friendly snacks and discounted Barista coffee will be available. We look forward to meeting you there!

Our thanks to those who have supported our grant applications and to those who have generously responded with significant awards.

As always, if you would like further information on our activities, or if you would like to support the work of the Village Centre, please contact Helen Hallett, our Centre Manager, as above. *Helen Hallett*

St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation

Special thanks to our Infant and Junior Schools, staff, pupils and governors, for a memorable and magnificent Harvest Festival service on Monday 12th October. It was very special to experience the dignity, reverence and joy of all the children as they sang, read, and led us in Harvest prayers. The theme of the service was "Hope" and the Schools' Worship Ambassadors shared the story from Africa of a Sudanese Mother, who found new hope for her family through the compassionate practical support of a project sponsored by Christian Aid. Thank you all for a truly special occasion.

All Souls' Day

Wednesday 4th November at 10.00am, St Jude's Church

As in previous years, our regular weekly service of Holy Communion on the November Wednesday closest to All Souls' Day, will focus on the reading of the Roll of Remembrance for our loved ones no longer with us here. If you have the name of someone you would like to ensure is included, please let us know.

Memorial Matters — the Choules brothers

Special thanks to Dr Helen McKee for her latest edition of Memorial Matters with its particular relevance to this season of Remembrance.

The Englefield Green cemetery contains numerous CWGC gravestones, but one of the most noticeable memorials to soldiers is something different: a large white cross on a stepped base, near the monkey puzzle tree and by the path leading to the church's south door. It commemorates members of the Choules family, two of whom died in the First World War.

IN MEMORY OF MY DEAR HUSBAND
JOHN THOMAS CHOULES
DIED 20TH FEBRUARY 1929
AGED 74

ALSO OF EMMA SARAH CHOULES
WIFE OF THE ABOVE,
DIED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1940
AGED 79 YEARS

ALSO OF OUR SONS
JAMES WILLIAM (JIM)
DIED IN FRANCE
3TH NOVEMBER 1918, AGED 31

AND ALBERT
KILLED IN ACTION, FRANCE
3RD MAY 1917, AGED 19

(It looks as though the widowed Emma originally commissioned this memorial for her husband, including on it the names of her two lost sons, and her name was added to it later.)

John and Emma Choules were not local to Englefield Green: John (a butcher by trade) was born near Tring in Hertfordshire, while Emma (the daughter of a butcher — which suggests how the couple met) came from Kentish Town. They were married in 1880 and subsequently lived in Stockwell before moving to 50 Thorpe Road, Egham Hythe in the early 1890s. Here they lived for the remainder of their married life. It was a productive marriage, Emma giving birth to eleven children — six girls and five boys - all of whom survived to adulthood. The five youngest, born after the move to Egham, were baptised at St John's Church.

The house numbers on Thorpe Road seem to have changed since the 19th century, but number 50 may have been at the corner of Rochester Road, at the point where today Thorpe Lea Road becomes Thorpe Road. It was across the road from Hythe Park Farm (which was on the site now occupied by Magna Carta School). Several butchers are listed as living in this area in the 1901 census. The eldest two Choules sons, John Thomas junior and James William (Jim), followed their father into the trade.

When the Great War broke out in 1914, John and Jim were both of fighting age, at 29 and 26, while the third brother, Albert, was 17. By 1916 all three had enlisted. John joined the Royal Field Artillery. His initial service was in England (which made it easier for him to marry, in Egham in March 1917), but he was then shipped out to India with his regiment and remained there until the end of 1919 (including nine days in hospital with sandfly fever in August 1918). He was the only one of the three brothers who would survive his military service.

Jim, who was a Sergeant in the 13th Battalion (The Kensingtons) The London Regiment, had an eventful war. An article in the Surrey Herald & News in June 1917 comments that he 'had the good fortune to go through an immense amount of fighting and some trench work without any sort of injury'. Sadly, just as the war was ending, he fell victim to the 'Spanish flu' pandemic. He died of bronchial pneumonia, a complication of influenza, at the 39th Stationary Hospital, Ascq, on 13 November 1918, and is buried in the Lille Southern Cemetery.

Albert, youngest of the three, enlisted in the Life Guards but was transferred to the Household Battalion of the Household Cavalry. His surviving medical record indicates that on enlistment (aged 18) he was judged to have a weak chest, fit only for home service; later this was revised to 'Fit for general service'. In France he 'had a severe taste of hard fighting and trench life' (according to the report from the Surrey Herald, mentioned above) but his letters home were 'always of a cheerful character'. He was killed in action on 3 May 1917 at Rœux, a small village east of Arras where there was a large agricultural chemical factory. Here the British advance halted in April 1917 and there was bitter fighting there until the British finally took the chemical works in the end of August. Albert is commemorated on the Arras Memorial - with nearly 35,000 other servicemen who fell in the Arras sector from 1916-18 and have no known grave - and on the cross by our church.

James Choules, the nephew of Jim and Albert, has researched his uncles' war service, and his brief account of their lives plus a photo of Jim may be found on the Royal British Legion website (https://www.everyoneremembered.org/profiles/soldier/278445/). In addition to this, Albert Choules featured in a 2017 exhibition at Arras commemorating soldiers who fought there, the website of which remains online (https://www.regardsdesoldats.com/26-choules) - including a photograph of the young man gazing solemnly down from his horse.

From the November 1966 magazine

Over sixty confirmed in St Jude's

Bishop St J. Pike, an assistant bishop in the diocese of Guildford, came to St Jude's on 24th October (1966) to hold a confirmation. There were sixteen candidates from our parish, and fifty more came from the parishes of Egham, Egham Hythe, Lightwater and Camberley. Those from our parish were: Charles Anderson, Paul Chamberlain, Ronald Belchamber, Andrew Enstice, Peter Falkner, Tony Gumbleton, Brian Thorn, Laurence Turner, Linda Anderson, Susan Anderson, Julia Creasor, Sally Creasor, Janet Falkner, Julie Faulkner, Alaine Rolph, Pauline Stakkalls.

Adults baptised during Evensong

As Baptism is generally thought to be a matter for babies, it is good to be reminded that it has always been first a grown-up affair which was extended to younger children as part of a Christian family. It is a public profession of faith in Christ and of the intention to follow him, and a public guarantee of God's grace, and of membership of his church. In September (1966) two grown-ups were baptised during Evensong, Mr William Tatum (was also married to Miss Barbara Davies) and Miss Pauline Stakkalls. We welcome them both into Christ's Church.

Rosemary Mummery

Rosemary was a regular visitor to St Jude's Church — she attended many of our concerts. We are grateful to Jill and Richard Williams, of the Egham by Runnymede Historical Society for allowing us to include the obituary written by Richard.

The youngest of three children, Rosemary lived her entire life in Englefield Green, where her father William was the proprietor of a garage business in Harvest Road. The family had a number of local connections — her grandfather Alfred had been an Englefield Green Councillor for Egham Urban District Council in the pre-Runnymede Borough days; Rosemary's Aunt Amy by marriage, was a personal maid to Miss Ellen Higgins, Principal at Royal Holloway College (1907-35), while Amy's father, Mr Beasley had served as a butler in the early days of the College. (Coincidently, Rosemary's mother's maiden name was Holloway). Upon leaving school, Rosemary continued the family connection with the College, and joined the technical staff in the Botany Department, where she remained until retirement in 2007. Initially, the Department shared a building with the Physics Department before moving, in 1967, to the former grace and favour house, Huntersdale, Callow Hill. In 1993, the Department returned to the main campus to become part of the School of Life Sciences. This day-to-day involvement with plants and their habitats, left an impression on Rosemary and she became a keen, knowledgeable gardener. She was a long-time member of the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), an organisation she generously supported in later life. In retirement, she put her horticultural knowledge to good use and became a Tour Guide at Savill Gardens, Windsor Great Park, stoically fulfilling her duties, whatever the weather. She was also a tour guide at St George's Chapel, Windsor and at Royal Holloway. Although normally a quiet, private person, she enjoyed meeting and talking to people, gaining her a wide circle of friends and acquaintances.

Rosemary joined the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society (EbRHS) in 2007 and was elected to the committee in 2008. A year later she became Membership Secretary. By now, she was a regular volunteer at Egham Museum, rediscovering her interest in local history and subsequently published a number of articles in the Society's monthly newsletters. She was also a regular helper for the EbRHS at local shows, including Magna Carta Day and the Egham Royal Show. For many years Rosemary organised a series of local history lectures at the Hythe Centre for the Runnymede U3A group. One of her research topics was to study the lives of some of the local people buried in the cemetery at St Jude's Church, Englefield Green. She later turned her research into a talk, which she gave to the Society in June 2023. She later said she found her role as tour guide much easier than lecturing! In 2009, the EbRHS published Rosemary's booklet on Milton Park containing a number of colour illustrations. She also updated and enlarged Diana Fear's booklet on Egham Royal Show, which was re-launched at the Show this August.

In 2018, Rosemary and her brother Donald, decided to sell the family home in Harvest Road and move somewhere away from the village centre. Sadly, shortly before the move, Donald was taken ill and died, delaying Rosemary's move until January 2020. Rosemary enjoyed entertaining at home and frequently hosted EbRHS committee meetings, always providing ample refreshment, including homemade cakes.

Rosemary passed away during the late afternoon of October 12th, having returned home from a "Tea & Talk" meeting at Thorpe Church. She was discovered early that evening by a neighbour who had been concerned when the door-bell wasn't answered. The previous day she had been one of 29 EbRHS members who had enjoyed a Sunday morning outing to the Great Cockcrow Railway at Lyne, and had emailed a 'Thank you' to our Chairman that afternoon. On both occasions she seemed her normal self with no hint of the tragedy about to occur. The news was met with universal disbelief when it was announced, particularly as many of us had been in her company so recently. The funeral will take place at St Jude's Church, details of the arrangements will be made following the inquest.

Rosemary had a large number of friends from the various activities she engaged in and will be greatly missed by all of us. She leaves so many gaps within the local community that will be difficult if not impossible to fill.

From us all Rosemary, our sincere thanks.

© Jill and Richard Williams,

From the November 1966 magazine



Our picture shows a group of people at a Parish Supper in Royal Holloway organised by Mr Boog with his staff. There was an excellent meal and most of all there was the feeling that we were welcome. Among the guests were the Archdeacon of Dorking and Mrs Evans and the Revd F. Duke, Rural Dean from Egham Hythe. This supper was start of what was called at the time a stewardship campaign. How many of the faces do you recognise?

St Jude's United Church
Englefield Green

CHRISTMAS MARKET



Saturday 28th November

2.00–4.00pm

St Jude's Church

(St Jude's Road, Englefield Green TW20 0BZ)

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