

st Mary's Church Burghfield

Welcoming all, growing faith, serving others

JULY 2025 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our monthly newsletter, which we hope will keep you informed of what's happening in our parish life, the community and also more widely.

It seems such a long time since I wrote something for the monthly newsletter. My sabbatical has come and gone and we've already reached the middle of the year! I want to express my very sincere thanks to everyone as everything seems to have gone smoothly in my absence, and also my thanks to my wonderful colleagues who covered all the Sunday services as well as a few others. My special thanks to Revd Juliet Straw who covered the majority of the services, and who provided continuity through the 3 months I was away.

I did have a wonderful sabbatical, with time for reflection, prayer, family and friends, and we travelled quite extensively too. My retreat in North Wales was a delight and unusually for Wales, the weather behaved, and spring was in the air and everywhere around me.

View over the Clwyd Valley from the top terrace at St Beuno's.

Wayne then travelled up to Liverpool by train and we went up to the Northern Lakes for almost a week.

My favourite lake- Stunning View over Derwentwater with Braithwaite in the distance



This was closely followed by 5 weeks in Australia spent with our daughter, son-in-law and 2 little granddaughters. In a slight change of weather patterns, while the weather here at home was apparently wonderful and dry, we had rather a lot of rain and even some local flooding on the Sunshine Coast, where they live as we went into autumn-though temperatures were equivalent to our summer and more! However, we enjoyed sun, sea, fresh air, beautiful scenery and made special memories with our family.

In my last month we spent time at home catching up and I did quite a bit of sewing and we visited friends further afield, including Revd Lorraine, who sends her best wishes to all at St Mary's.

All in all, it was a truly wonderful time of rest and I have so many amazing photos, of such beautiful places, scenery, sunrises, sunsets, beaches, mountains, rivers, sea, lakes, waterfalls and special times with family. The opportunity to spend so much time in God's beautiful creation really restored my soul and resourced me for the next couple of years before I look to retirement. A particular hymn popped into my mind in thanks and praise for all I'd enjoyed during my sabbatical. It's an old one and if you look up the lyrics, they express so much of what I felt and enjoyed. *For the beauty of the earth – Folliot Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917)*

As I returned to work on 1st June we were both made so welcome and thank you for our lovely card, flowers and delicious cake – my favourite, coffee walnut! Since then I've been catching up with emails and people, meetings, the Bumps, Babies and Toddler group, enjoying time in schools, The Hollies, Youth Club, Crafty Church, Sunday services and lots more besides. If I haven't caught up with everyone yet, please be patient as I hope to do so soon.

As we now approach the end of the academic year our thoughts are with all those young people busy with exams and end-of-year functions. Please do keep them all in your thoughts and prayers as it's often a very stressful time for them. We think particularly of those who will look to moving on either from primary to secondary, or to college, university or into work.

With every Blessing

Revd Glynn



Here's
What's
Happening!

JULY NEWSLETTER

- Sat 5th July 12.30-7pm Rear Car park being used by residents
- Sunday 6th July 10am Parish Communion & via Zoom,
Climate Sunday with guest speakers
- Mon 7th July 8am Morning Worship
9.30-11am Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group in Church
- Thurs 10th July 1.30-2.45pm BSM School Yr6 Reflection day in Church
- Sat 12th July 7pm Summer Soiree with the Hurst Singers performing, see pg 3
- Sunday 13th July 10am Parish Communion & via Zoom
6pm Sunday@6 service in Church
- Mon 14th July 8am Morning Worship
9.30-11am Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group in Church, last of term
- Thurs 17th July 11am Communion service held at The Hollies Care Home
- Fri 18th July 6.30-8pm Youth Group in Parish Centre, see page 4
- Sunday 20th July 9am Breakfast@Church
10am Parish Communion & via Zoom
- Mon 21st July 8am Morning Worship
9-10am Mini Oaks Preschool graduation ceremony in Church
8-10pm PCC meeting in Parish Centre
- Wed 23rd July **SCHOOL SUMMER HOLIDAYS START**
9.30am Ecumenical service held at Burghfield Methodist Church
- Thurs 24th July 2-5pm Fundraising Whist Drive in Parish Centre, see pg 6
- Sunday 27th July 10am Parish Communion & via Zoom

BUMPS, BABIES & TODDLER GROUP

June was a busy month at group with lots of fun activities and crafts taking place. Here are a few photos to show you what takes place and if you would like to join us please feel free to pop along.

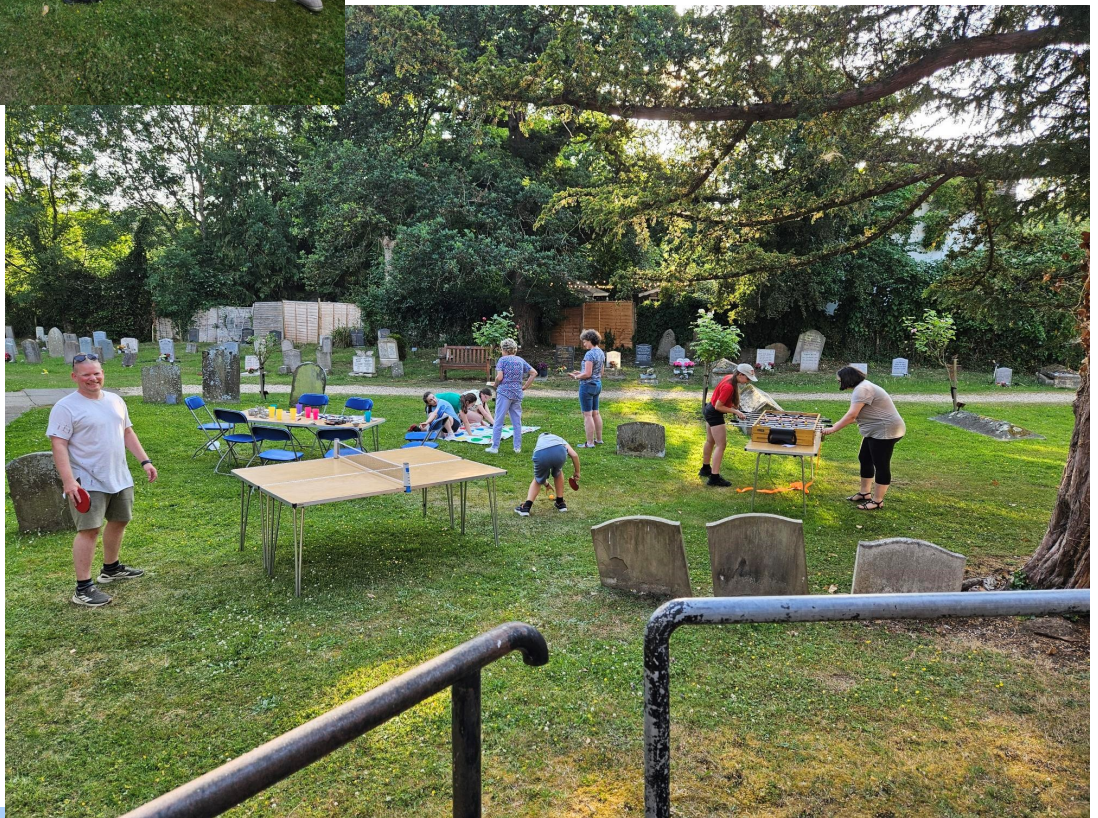


JUNE'S YOUTH CLUB

June's Youth Club was on a scorching hot day so we took everything outside and enjoyed our activities in the shade.



Thank you as always to the team for making it such a fun evening.



Summer Crafty Church

Lots of fun was had by everyone at our Summer Crafty Church in June. Thank you to our team of volunteers who work tirelessly preparing all of the great activities.





st Mary's Burghfield

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Summer Soirée

Music, Canapés & Pimms

Saturday 12th July, 7pm

With the Hurst Singers performing.

There will be a Bar selling

Pimm's and Fruit Punch.

Tickets £10 to include tasty canapés.

All funds raised will go towards Church fundraising

To book your tickets contact Anne Pocock on 07713911748

or bannepocock@aol.com





***Did you know we hold an
Ecumenical Communion service at
The Hollies Care Home, on the 3rd
Thursday of the month.
This month it will be on Thursday
17th July, 11am.***

***It is a short communion service in the style of
the Church of England
though anyone is very
welcome to attend,
Including any staff,
relatives or visitors of
residents.***



***Revd Glynn & Anne Burtenshaw
were made very welcome at
their visit in June.***

***Vee, Sarah, staff & residents
at The Hollies greeted them
warmly and had even made
their own poster advertising
our monthly visits which was
so lovely.***



This is the last group before the Summer holidays, we will then return on Friday 19th September.

FUN - GAMES - ACTIVITIES - SNACKS

st Mary's Church Burghfield
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Youth Club

6:30-8:00

FRIDAY
18TH JULY

Years
6&7

Questions? - stmarysburghfield@outlook.com



This is a space for years 6's and 7's where they can come and hang out, where fun and friendship come together! Meeting once a month, our club offers a safe and welcoming space for young people to connect, play games, and participate in exciting activities. Whether you're into board games, creative projects, or just looking for a place to hang out, there's something for everyone. We will also host discussions on topics that matter to you, giving you a voice and a chance to share your ideas. Come be part of a community where you can grow, laugh, and make new friends!



NEWSFLASH

From September 2025 we will be inviting Year 8's to Youth Club

We take safeguarding seriously and parents/carers will need to come along to the 1st session attended to sign a registration form. Please be assured all leaders and volunteers have completed all necessary safeguarding requirements.

st Mary's Burghfield

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**Come and join us for our
Fund Raising**

Whist Drive

**Thursday 24th July
2-5pm**

**Enjoy a friendly game of cards and
tasty refreshments**



**All donations in aid of much needed
church funds**

**book via Anne Pocock on 07713 911748
or bannepocock@aol.com**



st Mary's Burghfield

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Bumps, Babies & Toddler Group

Monday's

9.30-11am

(term time only)



**To find out more take a look at our
Facebook page, Website or notice
boards in Church.**

**St Mary's Church,
Church Lane, Burghfield, RG30 3TG
Tel : 07979 871608, www.stmarysburghfield.org**

We only meet in term time so our last group before the summer holidays is Monday 14th July, we then meet again on Monday 8th September. We hope you all have a lovely summer break. We have a bookmark with term dates on in Church if you would like to pick one up for reference.



A Service every second Sunday of the month.
An informal service for **all ages** including worship,
teaching, prayer and of course refreshments.

We look forward to seeing you!

The next service is
on Sunday 13th July 2025 at 6pm

PETITION

Require recycling facilities for blister packs in all dispensaries and chemists

We have finally got approval from the House of Commons for our petition to **require all dispensaries and chemists to offer a bin for recycling blister packs.**

We have been offering a recycling service for a few years now but the take up is overwhelming and our thoughts are that just relying on big branches of Boots and Superdrug to offer this service isn't really taking the service to the greatest point of need. Most people collect their prescriptions (Or have them collected for them) from much more local outlets and the incentive to recycle would be much enhanced if people could drop off blister packs at the point where they normally collect them.

As we have seen in our own church porch, the amount of blister packs in use these days is truly staggering and the thought of most of them ending up in landfill is quite horrifying.

I hope you don't mind us asking you to sign this petition which the St Mary's Creation Matters team has approved and hopefully circulating it amongst as many others as possible.

We have 6 months to get 100,000 signatures!

Click this link to see your petition and start sharing it:

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/714733>



Terracycling at St Mary's Church as of February 2025

Ink Cartridges (**NO** toner cartridges)



Milk Bottle Tops – Red, Blue, Green & Clear tops from supermarket milk bottles only.



Biscuit Wrappers – Biscuit, Crackers, Cake (single & multipacks) Cereal Bars, Rice Cakes, Flapjacks, Scones, Mini Cheddars, Ryvita types, Cheese Straws, Wafer Biscuits, Twiglets, Breadsticks, Naked Bars, and other fruity /oaty snacks and kid's biscuits.



Dishwashing / Laundry Wrappers – Any brand of flexible dishwasher tablet, salt bags, or stain remover, cleaning products refills. Outer sleeves from aerosol air fresheners & Dishwashing tab bubs, Dishwashing cleaner outer packaging. **NO** bottles, tubs, cardboard, laundry, bleach, toilet or oven cleaning products.



Pill Blister Packs (Empty, **NO** plastic or paper bags or foil)



Bottle Triggers **NO** bottles only the Triggers



Burts Bee's

All brands not just Burts Bee's accepted for:-
Flexible Plastic & Metallic tubes for body creams & moisturisers, Lipstick, Lip Glosses, Lip Balms, Mascara, Eye Shadow Compacts)



NO GLASS OR NAIL POLISH or TOOTHPASTE TUBES PLEASE

Stamps



Bras



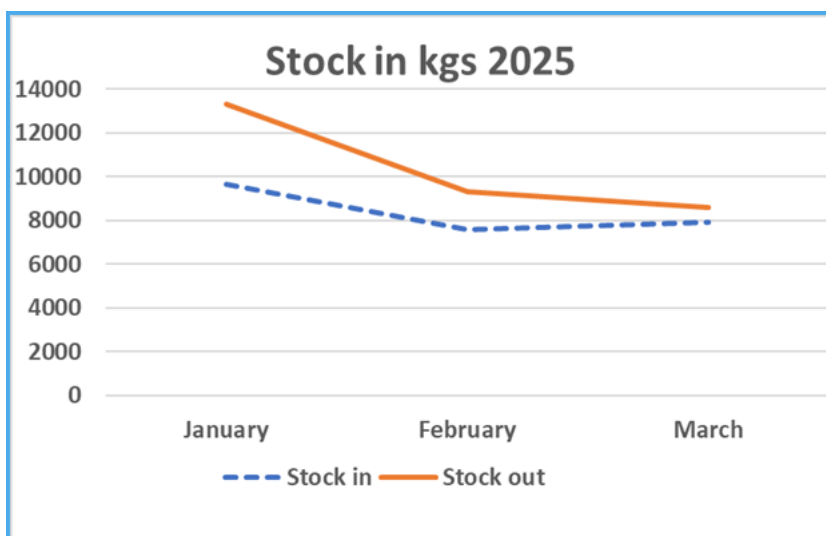


Dear Friends,

As we approach the school holidays, families should be looking forward to a time of joy and relaxation. However for many this brings the worry of putting food on the table. When schools close, free school meals stop. For the 10th consecutive year, West Berks Foodbank is addressing this issue with the Hungry Holidays project. 87 Schools in West Berkshire, primary and secondary, have been contacted and asked to identify families that they know are going to be struggling over the summer holidays. So far 46 schools have replied (48 in 2024) so we will be providing support to at least 478 households (555 in 2024) with 1026 under 18 year olds (1276

in 2024) – so the this year's figures are very comparable to last year's. The food will be sent to the schools, who will distribute it before the end of term. **This is a major undertaking and we really need your support to make it successful.** I have included below a graph of the stock in and out for the first 3 months of the year. You can see that the stock in from donations and purchased goods is not matching the stock distributed.

Last year the stock sent out in July



alone, which included the Hungry Holidays parcels, totalled 23,000 kgs! With your help, this year's Hungry Holidays project can succeed in supporting all these families. I have attached a list of items that are urgently needed and will email an updated list in a couple of weeks. Please circulate this appeal amongst your church communities and wider if possible. Cash donations are also needed as for the schools with large deliveries, an order will be sent directly from a supermarket paid for by WBF. Details for giving can be found on the website at <https://westberks.foodbank.org.uk>

I conclude with a comment from a grateful family last year:

I received a food delivery today and am so grateful to you all. I can't believe it.

It has made me very tearful today.

I can't thank you enough for your generosity and I can't believe how much food I have received for my family. It's going to help so much.

By continuing to work together, we can support those in need and also ensure that no child in West Berkshire goes hungry this summer.

Thank you.

Sheila Moore

Churches Collections Manager, West Berks Foodbank

07778 992862

Email: Churches@westberks.foodbank.org.uk



Local Outlet -St Oswald's Church on Fridays between 1-3pm

local food collection points are as below:

St Mary's Church- collection point in our church porch.

Tesco Express in Burghfield – opening hours 6.00am –11pm

Co-op in Mortimer—opening hours 7.00 am –9pm

Donations may be made directly to their bank account, with the following details:

Lloyds Bank, Newbury: Sorting Code 77-95-05

West Berks Foodbank: Account No. 72784660

Or, you may send a cheque payable to “West Berks Foodbank” and send to: The Treasurer, West Berks Foodbank, 23 Charter Road, Newbury, Berks. RG14 7EW.

You may also wish to complete a **Gift Aid form to add 25% value to your donation**

Please copy & paste this link <https://westberks.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> to find out what food donations are urgently needed at the foodbank.

St Marys Food Bank contact person:

Anne Eatwell

07747 535540 or

0118 9832666

If you have any questions or would like to offer help in any way please get in touch with Anne.

Foodbank have Instagram a page that you can follow and add to your Instagram



Foodbank Shopping List 01/06/2025

Items needed for Hungry Holidays 2025

Ambient Sponge Pudding (shelf stable, ready to eat, cans or tins)

Biscuits Cereal

Cereal Bars

Instant Noodles

Jam

Long Life Juice

Sugar

Tinned Fruit

Tinned Meat Meals Spag Bol/Curry/Stew

UHT Milk Full Fat or Semi-skimmed





2025 Dates for your diaries

More details for each event as we near them but if you could pop the dates into your diaries you'll be sure not to miss out -

12th July, 7pm - Summer Soirée £10 per person –
Hurst Singers, Canapés and a bar selling Pimm's

27th September, 7pm £15 per person -
Harvest Celebration.

24th October - Autumn Craft Evening, 7-9pm
£15 per person.

14th November, 7pm - Games Night

6th December, 12-4pm – Christmas Craft Market

6th December, 7pm – Music, Wine & Canapés

23rd Jan 2026 Quiz & Curry Evening

For more information & to book your place at any of the
above please contact Anne Pocock on
bannepocock@aol.com or 07713 911748

**The cost to run our Church in 2024 was £9,244 per month
which is £303 per day !!**



A totally FREE way to raise funds for our Church. Sign up and every time you spend money online through a participating store they donate to us, it's so easy and costs you nothing so please sign up to-day.

Click this link (you might need to copy & paste it) to sign up or refer friends & family to the scheme, then search **St Mary's Burghfield**

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=49900&invite=lvzji&referral->



Church Cleaning

Please join our happy band in cleaning our Church. **Our next cleaning date is TBC.** Any help is much appreciated. Please keep an eye on our pew sheet.

Emmaus

What's Emmaus about?



It's a group of friends who meet twice a month on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday mornings of the month (10-11.30am) to enjoy reading & talking about the Bible together, drinking coffee, munching biscuits & generally have a good chat. You don't need to be a Bible scholar because we all learn together & help each other along the road. We usually meet at Margaret's house in Loves Close. Just ask Margaret, Susan Potter or Lesley Brigden about it.

ECO CHURCH
AN A ROCHA UK PROJECT

Silver Eco Church
Award Certificate

This is to certify that

St Marys Church Burghfield

has won a Silver Eco Church Award in recognition of their efforts to care for God's earth in each of the following areas (as applicable):

Worship and Teaching
Management of Buildings and Land
Community and Global Engagement
Lifestyle

Signed *Andy Haines* Date **26 January 2025**
CEO, A Rocha UK



ecochurch.arocha.org.uk
arocha.org.uk



We at St Mary's now offer an online donation page!
If you would like to donate, please scan the QR code
Thank you for supporting our ministry and mission



Contact Details

Rector -Revd Glynn Lautenbach

07979 151598 or Email: rector@stmarysburghfield.org

Parish Administrator Tuesday –Friday 08:45 –12:45 Office location & Homebased

If you need a face to face meeting please email or call on the below to arrange a date and time

Office Mobile– 07979 871608 Email: admin@stmarysburghfield.org

To Contact the Churchwardens:

Michael Wood– Email: mike.wood@stmarysburghfield.org

Alison Eves—Email: alison.eves@stmarysburghfield.org

Website: www.stmarysburghfield.org

Find us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysburghfield) too! Photos and news of upcoming and recent events on our page “St Mary's Church Burghfield”.

Address: Church Lane, Burghfield Village, Reading, Berks, RG30 3TG

The PCC of St Mary the Virgin Burghfield is a Registered Charity No.1167639



Groups and Clubs currently held in our Parish Centre

MONDAY

Pilates with Heather 9.30 & 10.30am (upper room)

Call Heather on 07785 254313 or hsfitnessuk@mac.com

Pilates For Life with Marianne 6.30pm (upper room)

Contact on 07985 085597 / hello@pilatesforlife.org.uk


TUESDAY

Pilates For Life with Marianne 7pm (upper room)

WEDNESDAY

Yoga with Janet 9.45-11.45am (upper room)

Contact: janetdacre@hotmail.com

 **WeightWatchers** with Sarah 5.50-7.30pm (lower room)

Pilates with Heather 6.30 & 7.30 pm (upper room)

THURSDAY

Yoga with Julie 7.30-9pm (upper room)

Contact: julie_yoga@btinternet.com

FRIDAY

Yoga with Amanda 9.15-10.30am (upper room)

Contact: amandaefox@protonmail.com

Pilates with Heather 12.30-1.30pm (upper room)

SATURDAY

Yoga Dance with Julie 10-11am (upper room)

Fitsteps with Burghfield Dance Club 10.30-11.15am (lower room)

Contact Ewa: burghfielddanceclub@gmail.com





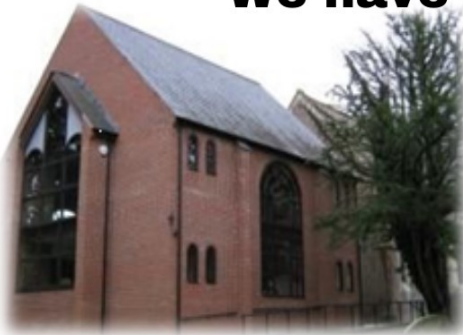
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**Do you need a venue for a
Work Lunch Meeting, Venue for Training,
Childs Birthday Party,
Social Occasion or a Community Class?
St Mary's Parish Centre could be the ideal
location for you.**

We have plenty of FREE Parking.



Downstairs Room



Upstairs Room



Upper Room Mobile Served

**Please contact our Parish Administrator if you would
like to book or have a look around our facilities.**

**Either by calling 07979 871608 or email to
stmarysburghfield@outlook.com**

**Hire charges are:- Weekdays up to 6pm £14.65 &
Weekdays after 6pm & Weekends £17.40**