

St. Michael & All Angels
CHURCH IN THE PARK | LIVING, LOVING, SERVING

Outlook



February
2019

Welcome to Your Church

The fact that you are reading these words suggests that you are a new reader of this magazine. Either you are a newcomer to this area or you are a visitor.

If you are a visitor, we hope that you have enjoyed your visit to our church; that you have found it interesting, instructive and conducive to prayer. If you are going to be here at one of our regular service times, we hope that you will join us in the worship of God and we ask that you take our greetings back to your own church.

If you are new to this Parish, we bid you welcome and invite you to join us and share in the fellowship of God's family in Hughenden. This magazine gives details of the regular times of worship here. We hope that you will find something to meet your spiritual needs. The printed word is cold and remote and we would like to make personal contact with you, so please leave your name and address in the box at the back of the church.

Whoever you are who reads these words, may God bless you, sustain you and protect you, your family and friends, now and always.

Grant us Lord, faith to believe and strength to do thy will

Outlook

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February 2019

Dear Readers,

I have recently been sorting through my Christmas cards and have realised that a sizeable proportion of them contained notes and messages telling me about family members who temporarily or permanently were now living abroad. Maybe this resonated with me particularly this time round as part of my own family is now residing in New York. Thus there were fewer of us at Christmas lunch and I didn't even have to extend the dining table! One friend in Brittany, with one son in Australia and the other in Devon, described a Breton Christmas Eve meal where each person was invited to light a candle and place it in the centre of the table to remember absent friends and family.

As we bring up our families we have in mind that they will one day fly the nest. We want them to have adventures, maybe we want them to see the world ... but maybe also we don't want them to settle too faraway! I recently told a friend in a similar situation that we were actually very lucky. We have whats app, Skype, FaceTime, mostly free all over the world. We have email, text messages as well as easily available phone calls and of course Moonpig for speedy birthday cards. That is a lot of communication. I have clear memories of the 1950s and 60s when my uncle would book a 5 minute call to relatives in Sydney on Christmas afternoon. The operator would ring to say she was ready to connect us and we would then struggle with a bad, crackly line. Apart from that, you kept in contact with thin, blue airmail letters.

Other people of course this Christmas were missing those who were special and important to them but who had died during the previous year. This is where memories are so important and so comforting, particularly when they can be shared. My mother, who died nearly 5 years ago, had a habit at big family meals of proposing a toast just as everyone was putting the first forkful of food into their mouths. It is good to remember that together and as we smile and laugh it brings her back into the family circle.

As I was thinking about this editorial, I received an email (not a private one!)

from the author Alexander McCall Smith. If you are not familiar with his books do look them up. They are gentle reads written with a wry smile. Anyway, the email contained this poem by him which seemed very apposite to my subject and I wanted to share it with you.

Even those who cannot be with you physically now can be anchored firmly in your heart ... and you in theirs.

Susan Brice

Editor

On Anchoring Correctly

The theory of anchoring is simple enough,
An anchor must be heavy, its chain
Weighty, too, with enough played out
To lie content, snaked along the seabed
To take the strain of a boat
That would prefer to be somewhere else
If left to her own devices:
The wind encourages a boat to drift,
*Says: Come with me, for I am free
And blow exactly where I wish,
Mine is a freedom that those
Who do not bend to me
Cannot have, and will always miss.*

People, too, curiously prefer
Sometimes to be somewhere
Other than where we want them to be;



So, even the closest friends
Will say goodbye, will leave us
For a place, perhaps, or, what's worse,
For people they appear to prefer;
Children leave as well, move
From their childhood home.
Set off On adventures of their own instigation;
We watch them go, and we think
Of the anchors we do not have.

Places, too, may seem to drift;
We know, of course, they shouldn't-
It's a long time since the continents
Waved goodbye to one another.
As when Nova Scotia, Newfoundland,
Wrenched themselves away from Scotland,
Entered a new future as North America;
Even so, we feel that the places
We have become attached to,
Leave us, change, slip away
As the face of a city changes,
Or a beloved stretch of land
Is transformed by the things
That happen to land; again we wish
For an anchor to secure the place to us,
And ourselves to a cherished moment;
It cannot always be, our anchors.



Alexander McCall Smith

From the Vicarage



As I sit and type these words, the country is holding its collective breath, as we are hours away from the key Brexit vote in the House of Commons. I know that I am far from alone in being deeply saddened by the division within our nation and our parliament on this issue above all others in recent memory. Except for a wonderful break over Christmas and New Year, our media has been feeding us a seemingly endless Brexit related diet for months, and the side effects of political indigestion are widespread.

Did you know that the following prayer is said in the House of Commons every time they meet...?

“Lord, the God of righteousness and truth, grant to our Queen and her government, to Members of Parliament and all in positions of responsibility, the guidance of your Spirit. May they never lead the nation wrongly through love of power, desire to please, or unworthy ideals, but laying aside all private interests and prejudices keep in mind their responsibility to seek to improve the condition of all mankind, so may your kingdom and your name be hallowed. Amen.”

Bishop Steven of Oxford wrote an open letter to parliament just before Christmas, which was very much in step with the sentiment of this prayer.

“At this moment I want to urge you, if I may, to beware of four particular temptations and dangers in this debate which have been apparent in recent months for politicians on all sides of the argument.

The first is to allow your course to be shaped by self-interest and personal ambition... The second is to allow yourself to be swayed by narrow party interest and the pursuit (or retention) of power in the short term... The third temptation is to nostalgia, a romantic attachment to the past: to imagine that we can reverse one referendum by another; or go back to a time before the Brexit debates when all was well; or go back still further to a different age of independence and imagined glory.

We cannot. We must deal with the world as it is, not as we would like it to be and steer our course accordingly.

The fourth temptation is to idealism: in a world of difficult choices and necessary compromise to hold onto an ideal which is no longer tenable (whether of a particular kind of leaving or remaining)."

No one can be sure what is in store for us as a nation in the next few months and years, especially with regard to our relationship with the rest of Europe. Whether or not you voted to leave the EU, our nation needs our prayers during this troubled time.

No matter what the outcome is for 29 March 2019 and beyond, we should continue to hold tightly to the virtues which have ensured that our country has been known as a Christian nation for centuries – love, compassion, especially for those in need, respect for others and loyalty.

Please join me in praying that unity might be regained, as those we have elected to positions of responsibility, locally and nationally, strive to work for the common good.

Keith

In Memory of Maureen Stone

It was with much sadness that we heard that Maureen had passed away.

Maureen was Mothers' union leader at Hughenden for over 9 years, and was very efficient, and always very welcoming and encouraging to people to might join. Maureen also had a very strong faith.

Family was important to her and Bob. In times of trouble I always found Maureen very supportive, she had very strong views and was not afraid to voice them. Maureen also ran the Church Bookstall for many years.

It was a privilege to support Bob and family at her funeral. As with so many of our members Maureen will be sadly missed. Rest in Peace Maureen.

Sara Badrick

New Year's Day Walk



The Church's social and outreach calendar got off to a fantastic start with 60 people gathering to conquer Naphill's and Downley's Commons in what is set to be a new church tradition.

The New Year's day walk saw people from every service (8am, 9am, 10:45 and Evensong), and relatives and friends of the congregation, get together at Naphill Village Hall before setting off for an hour long stroll to the Le De Spencer's Arms in Downley on a route that circumnavigated the boundary of Naphill Common before crossing into Downley Common for a well-deserved drink and nibbles at the pub. After an hour long pitstop, the final leg of the wooded-ramble rounded off the hour and twenty minute walk thus achieving its objective of being a respectable distance for those wanting to blow off the cobweb's they'd accumulated over Christmas whilst making it accessible to those of all ages and walking ability.

Event organiser and member of the social and outreach group, Antony Rippon, had this to say about it, "I am absolutely bowled over by the turn-out we had for this event. The feedback we received was overwhelmingly positive with many keen to repeat it as an annual event and a number suggesting that the format could be applied at other times of the year such as Easter. The great benefit of this type of event is that it integrates the church family; I met



people who've attended the church for years but we'd never met one another because we go to services at different times. A big thank you to all of those who supported the event".

The social and outreach group are always looking for new ways to bring the existing church family together and to create opportunities that reach out to others to enable growth. If you've got an idea you want to share and even better, if you wish to lead an event, please get in touch with Frank Hawkins (frankhawkins@aol.com) or Antony Rippon (antonyrippon010@gmail.com).

Things That Go Whine and Whir in the Daytime

If it's summer and the windows are open, or winter and I am coming up the church path strange noises seem to be coming from ... who knows where? The very centre of High Wycombe perhaps?

Reaching the gate the noises stop. Weird!

The man from the Environment Agency does not wish to be thought weird; and this is his first visit to our well. He is just withdrawing the (if you like) dip-stick from the depths of this H₂O source.



"How's it doing?" I say. "18.59," he responds. "Oh dear!" say I.

So, did you know that the EA take well measurements once a month? Well, if you'll pardon the usage, they claim to. I am not sure where it gets them. It tells us that the water level is low. In good times the reading has been 16 metres. And wouldn't you think "after all that rain" it would be up a bit?

It's the wrong rain, though. We need a long period of steady, not heavy, rain, our man explains. There's bad news: he has just come from a well in Stokenchurch which is dry.

When you have read this, say a prayer for the charity Water Aid, and give thanks for our hot and cold taps whenever you use them.

Arthur Johnson

A Creative Evening

On 23rd November a number of ladies from the Women's Group met together in Church House to learn how to make Christmas wreaths to hang on our front doors. We arrived with basic wreaths made of twigs, plus evergreens, Christmas baubles, ribbons, etc for an evening of fun and



creating. Ester Comunello was our very able instructor and soon we were beavering away, making little bunches of evergreens which were then fixed to the bare wreaths.

The odd glass or two of mulled wine or Prosecco and some nibbles carried the evening along and made up for the painful moments when holly prickles pierced fingers. Once covered in greenery, the wreaths were decorated with bright baubles, berries, bundles of cinnamon sticks, dried orange slices, etc and ribbons.



There was much fun and laughter and we could have continued for longer, but the clock caught up with us so we proudly posed for a photograph with our completed wreaths. A big thank you

to Ester and also to Lucy Rippon who organized this very enjoyable evening.

There are plans for further creative events, who knows - homemade crackers? Watch this space!

Sylvia Clark

What Do You Do With Your Unwanted Post Cards?

For our August Meeting the Friendship Group had asked David Tester if he would come and talk to us about the work of MAF – Mission Aviation Fellowship.



Mission Aviation Fellowship is a Christian organization that provides aviation, communications, and learning technology services to Christian and humanitarian agencies, as well as thousands of isolated missionaries and indigenous villagers in the world's most remote areas.

For over 70 years, MAF has been flying light aircraft over jungles, mountains, swamps and deserts. They enable over 2000 aid, development and mission organisations to bring medical care, emergency relief, long-term development and Christian hope to thousands of communities.

Following David's interesting presentation he told us about a MAF volunteer who sells postcards to collectors as a way of raising money for MAF. He is asking people to donate any old postcards - used or unused - that they no longer need. The Friendship Group decided that this was something that they could contribute to.



If you have any old postcards, used or unused (maybe tucked away in a drawer or cupboard or even in a box in the loft) that you no longer need or want, would you please consider donating them to MAF? I suddenly remembered that I had collected postcards of paintings by famous painters when I was a young girl and had used them to brighten up my College bedroom. What was I keeping them for?

You will see a Blue MAF Collection Box on the chest in Church House. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could fill this up during the year?

On behalf of the Friendship Group I would be really grateful if you would look out your unwanted postcards and donate them to MAF. If there are too many for the box David Tester (01494 563354) has offered to collect them from you.

Penny Austin

On behalf of the Friendship Group

One Can Trust Update

Thank you all for the amazing response to the Christmas Countdown Appeal. It was a privilege to come and check the boxes the week before Christmas and find them overflowing with cans and packets. It was all safely delivered for distribution. I am aware that the response came from the community all around our Parish and find it very heartening that God's love can be shown in this way.

I visited the warehouse this week and they are well prepared if the cold weather suddenly arrives as forecast. Our prayers have been answered around the Wycombe area, the number of organisations and clubs supporting the trust is truly awesome! Do visit the website soon, they were preparing an update and thank you when I visited.

I will post current requirements on The Mission Support Group Board but for the time being the ongoing requirements are longlife milk, rice and cans of vegetables (not corn or peas please).

We also know that members of our congregations have responded to appeals for help in various ways, sorting, packing, helping with the food drives in the supermarkets and collecting the donations from the supermarkets. Thank you for your support!

Barbara Willson

Mission Support Group

Good Companions

For our meeting on 7th February **at 2 o'clock**, Colin Oakes will be telling us about the Land Army and Timber Corps. Do any members remember the Land Army?

As usual at every meeting we will have tea, cakes and a raffle for which members are asked to bring an item. We are a friendly group and we warmly welcome newcomers.

Pat Furness

That Would Never Happen To Me!

So, I had reported faults on my telephone line and internet connection; and I was expecting an engineer to visit in a two hour slot. Just before the two hours I was phoned by a caller who claimed to be BT. She asserted that I had problems on my line, and proposed to put things right – with my help and cooperation, of course.

Later that day an attempt was made to relieve one of my accounts of a four-figure sum. Fortunately, my

bank has systems in place to apprehend unusual transactions and check them. Their fraud department called me to check whether I had actually made the transaction to an account abroad. No, a fraud had been in progress.

The bank's extremely helpful fraud department were the bearers of the good news that the sum was without further ado back in my account.

If you think you will not fall prey, let me tell you, you are several times more gullible than you think you are.

All this should come as no surprise: here is St Peter's take in 1 Peter 5:

"Be alert! Your enemy the Devil prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour."

Watch out! There's a thief about. And thieves are not what they used to be.

A Parishioner

Name and address has been supplied

"There is a problem with your computer.



Please give me your credit card."

Can anyone recommend a dressmaker or someone good at alterations?

If so please contact Kay on 01494 529579. Many thanks.



St Michael & All Angels Church
of Hughenden invites you to
join us for a

with pub meal
at The Gate Inn Pub



Time: 19:00 to 23:00

Date: Saturday 9th February 2019

Venue: The Gate Inn, Bryants Bottom

Price: £10 with main course, quiz & prizes

Bookings: Please contact Antony Rippon on 07747 643270 or
01494 562425

*Teams of 6 people • Places are limited • Please select meat or
vegetarian option at the time of booking • Drinks from the bar on
the night.*

Mothers' Union

We were delighted to welcome Keith to celebrate the Eucharist at our annual Advent service on December 4th in Church House. As usual the service was well attended by our members and their guests. The collection from the service was used for buying Christmas gifts for the bereaved, sick and housebound in the parish. These were delivered by the members before Christmas and we enjoyed catching up with our neighbours in the area and seeing how they appreciated the visits.

Members also brought their gifts and donations for Wycombe Women's Aid. We would like to thank everyone in the Parish for also donating to this cause, it is heartening to find bags of gifts left in our collection box in the Church, thank you all so much.

The evening was rounded off by enjoying Joan Steele's excellent mince pies with coffee and tea. Thank you Joan.



Diary Dates

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 5th at 7.30 pm in Church House for the AGM and planning for the coming year. All are welcome to join us.

There will be a Coffee Morning in Church House on Tuesday, February 19th from 10.00 am to noon, homemade cakes, scones and a Bring and Buy stall.

The World Day of Prayer (previously Women's World Day of Prayer!) is at 10.30 am on Friday, March 1st at the Union Baptist Church in Easton Street and the service has been prepared by the people of Slovenia. All are welcome.

Barbara Willson

Corporal Alfred Montague

[Note: the writer, Cynthia Felstead, attended the Remembrance Service at St Michael's on Sunday the 11th November 2018 and identified herself afterwards. She has kindly sent this tribute to her grandfather, which will be summarised in the Second Edition of the IN MEMORIAM pamphlet due to be published soon: Christopher Tyrer]

My grandfather, Corporal Alfred Montague, was born in North Dean to Ann and Richard Montague probably in 1883. His exact date of birth is uncertain. The family story is that he lied about his age and joined the Rifle Brigade as a boy bugler during the time of the Boer War. This is likely to be true as he is not listed in the 1901 Census as living with the family in North Dean. In the 1911 Census the entry provided by the Rifle Brigade used the words "Believed to be" prefacing his age as 28 years and his estimated year of birth as 1883. He is listed as a Bugler with the 2nd Battalion in District 641, India.

I do not know the story of his romance with Edith Williams of Flint Cottage, North Dean but I have the original special marriage licence granted by the Bishop of Buckingham on 13 August and his Special Leave Pass issued at the Winchester Barracks on 16 July prior to their marriage at Hughenden Church on 18 August 1915.

He was killed fighting with the 13th Battalion at the Battle of the Somme on 11 July 1916. The carnage of the first day's fighting on 01 July 1916 is so well documented that accounts of the fighting in the days following until the next big offensive in August 1916 tend to be condensed. During our visit to the Thiepval memorial (we craned our necks to find his name high up on pillars 2B and 2C on 12 July 2016) I found it difficult to pin point exactly the area where he would have "gone over the top". But recently, from a book by Lyn MacDonald, I have learned that on 09 July the 13th Battalion, The Rifle Brigade was moved up from La Boisselle to the front line. The morning of 10 July was a beautiful sunny one following a "slithering, wet shambles of a night". At 8am two battalions of the 111th Brigade were ordered to prepare to attack.

The 13th Battalion in the Front Line Trench were to lead. As the offensive commenced the commanding officer Colonel Pretor-Pinney noticed that the expected supportive barrage from the guns behind and from the units either side were silent. The advance continued *"the Rifle Brigade were determined "at all costs" to capture the lethal stretch of line. The Germans were equally determined "at all costs" to hold on to it. Even without support they made it. Even though men were falling at every step, the survivors kept on. They took the first German line. They bombed and battled their way into the second."* According to the account by Lyn MacDonald a small force even got into a strongpoint in the third German line. At about that point a runner caught up with Colonel Pretor-Pinney with the message that the attack had been cancelled. The message had been sent out in good time and had reached the artillery in time to prevent them firing the barrage. Similarly, it had reached the Division to their left and the troops who would have moved forward to support them from behind. The accounts given by survivors of the 13th Battalion in the book make harrowing reading. I do not know the exact detail of Corporal Montague's part in the battle but as a professional soldier he was likely to have been in the first wave sent "over the top" and as his death is reported as 11 July it makes me wonder if he was killed following the order to retreat that eventually reached the forward line late on 10 July.

As a child I was told that grandad died when my father was six weeks old but in fact it was less than 3 weeks as Corporal Montague's son was born on 22 June 2016. It is probable that the baby was 6 weeks when Edith received the official confirmation (dated 22 July 2016), sent out from the Winchester Barracks that he had been "Killed in Action". Edith had gone to stay with her sister in Hanwell, West London for the confinement. One of the saddest documents I have is a small envelope indicating the sender was "Lionel", the new baby's name, but scribbled over it are the words "Killed in Action – Return". Correspondence with front-line troops was relatively quick and I like to think that, even though my grandfather did not live to receive the photograph that I feel sure the envelope contained, he had received news of the birth.

Attending the service in Hughenden Church to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Armistice that ended the 2014-2018 war and hearing my grandfather's name read out was deeply moving. Later looking through the documents I have inherited, in addition to Grandad's Medals and the "Death Penny", I was moved by the words underneath the Royal Crest of George V on a scroll:

"He whom this scroll commemorates was numbered among those who at the call of King and Country, left all that was dear to them, endured hardness, faced danger, and finally passed out of the sight of men by the path of duty and self-sacrifice, giving up their own lives that others might live in freedom.

Let those who come after it see to it that his name be not forgotten

Cpl. Alfred Montague

Rifle Brigade"

I hope and pray that Hughenden Church will continue to honour, in years to come, not just my grandfather but all the brave men of the Parish that lost their lives in the two World Wars and subsequent conflicts. For myself, the words have prompted me to begin to properly research and archive all the information I have regarding Corporal Alfred Montague in the hope that someone in future generations of his family will be interested and *"see that his name be not forgotten"*.

Cynthia Felstead (née Montague)

Postscript: Mrs Felstead is very grateful to Arthur Johnson who assisted her in locating the graves of her grandmother Edith Montague and those of her Great Grandparents [Williams] in our Churchyard. She has also a copy of a page from the 1922 Parish magazine and copies for the years 1899 and 1900.

Chris Tyrer

Open Doors

Serving Persecuted Christians World-Wide

For more than 60 years, Open Doors has been serving persecuted Christians. This continues to be essential because over 20% of the countries in the world discriminate against Christians and in many cases persecute us severely. To ensure that believers do not feel alone, Open Doors supplies bibles and other Christian literature to them - by smuggling, if necessary. Some countries, such as North Korea, are so dangerous that individuals and small groups must worship in secret, using hidden bibles. If caught they are liable to be beaten, sent into slave labour, or killed.



Father Daniel, serving in Iraq, and Eddie Lyle, President, Open Doors UK & Ireland, with children at Erbil Trauma Care Centre.

In places such as the North Korean–Chinese borders and the Somalian borders, where Christians in Kenya for example are liable to be abducted and women captured into forced marriage, Open Doors secretly assists the escape to exile of especially endangered individuals.

It also uses its local contacts to train leaders - in preaching, pastoral care and in learning how to bear, resist and recover from imprisonment and torture.

It is a hard thing to ask ourselves how we would respond if put under such pressure to renounce our faith. In circumstances where families and children as young as seven, as well as the original victims, are targeted, we can understand the need for absolute secrecy. Open Doors publishes an annual Word Watch List and at present the five countries where suffering is worst are North Korea, Afghanistan, Somalia, Sudan and Pakistan. Brother Andrew, whose Ministry began in 1955, and who is now aged 90, tells us *“Our prayers can go where we cannot. There are no borders, no prison walls, no doors that are closed to us when we pray.”*

During the Open Doors Focus Mission quarter, we intend using our notice board to illustrate some more basic facts, plus case studies from selected regions. As

well as the horrendous situations where there is gross abuse of fundamental human rights, or total lawlessness, we will include some examples where there are rays of hope – in certain parts of the Middle East, for example.

Please follow our campaign and pray that courage and strength may be given to believers; steadfastness and endurance granted to the workers of Open Doors and to those of HART, who tackle similar problems. Give thanks to God for our lives in this free and very largely honest and incorrupt country (despite how the media may portray it!) Thank Him too that Syrian re-building is ongoing and that there are pastors there who have served Him through all the worst times.

Christopher Mettem

Mission Support Group

More Coffee Vicar?

For more years than I care to remember, I've been sorting out post-service coffee for the 8.00 am and 9.00 am congregations. When we started serving coffee after these services, we aimed to cover the costs and hoped that there might be some surplus which we could give to a charity. The one we chose was ROPE (Relief for Oppressed People Everywhere). Well, the coffee drinkers are a generous bunch, and over the years, after covering all our costs, we've not only supported ROPE's work with children in South America, but now also make regular donations to ZANE (Zimbabwe A National Emergency) where we are currently supporting their Clubfoot programme. At the end of the year, we still had cash in hand, so top-up donations were made to both these charities, and our giving to each over the year totalled £290. With what was *still* in hand, we made a one-off donation to WaterAid of £100.



My personal thanks to all of you who work so diligently to drink all that coffee and more so for donating so generously, and enabling us to support the work of these charities. Keep up the good work!

Lin Smit

The Path Through Millfield Wood

*I shall remember the path through Millfield wood as metaphor:
the stretching of reluctant sinew, the bidding of unwilling bone;
eyes focused on a narrow footpath
like mine-detectors, searching for flints and stumps
concealed beneath autumn's leaf-litter;
and for those ankle-snatching brambles that would trip,
just as the snatch-sight of a redbreast
wrests from me attention's watch.
The track narrows, darkness like an ambush
wraps us in its fetid, fungal breath.*

*Then suddenly, light!
A welcome respite,
a bursting out, a gaol-break.
Breath gasps as the rising path
grasps at my laboured intake.
But there, just in view, the bench:
a plain wooden slab where we can sit
and rest our eyes upon a town's drab sprawl,
ameliorated by tree-wrapped hills
that cup an ordered audacity in healing hands.*

*The path suddenly made smooth.
Darkness dissolving into light.
Ascent and rest.
The saving gift of forgiving grace.
Metaphor: a moment of God's own sight.*

Ron Cretchley

30.11.05

Four Go to Church House Oxford

On Saturday November 24th, four members of St Michael's (Christopher and I, Ben Sharp and Guy Mannerings) attended our Diocesan Headquarters at Church House, Langford Locks to attend a course entitled 'Introducing the Church of England'. We had all individually signed up after seeing an invitation in Outlook, or the weekly notices... I can't remember which.



I don't think any of us knew quite what to expect, but we were all interested in finding out more about how the Church works. About a dozen other people were there from across the diocese, (including, strangely, two who worked at Church House). The congregations, we found out were either ones who practiced a variety of forms of worship- like us- or who had modern evangelical forms only.

During the day we had 4 sessions, led by two ministers with wide experience of the Anglican Communion both in England and Overseas.

Our first session was an introduction to the history of the Church of England, which was perhaps the least successful session. However, it was perhaps a little ambitious to cover nearly 2000 years of development in anything other than the briefest of details in half an hour or so. We raced through Tacitus, Bede, St Gregory, the Synod of Whitby, the Vikings, Normans, Tudors, Puritans, James 1, Cromwell, Restoration, Methodism and the Oxford Movement.

Each session was followed by a group discussion and questions.

The second session was, for me, more informative, but still quite wide ranging. This dealt with doctrine, and explained the foundations in: the Bible; the Catholic Creeds (Apostles', Nicene, and Athenasian); the 39 Articles and the Book of Common Prayer.

We looked at the declaration for admission to Office, the place of Scripture,

the meaning of the Church and the importance of speaking in 'such a tongue as the people understandeth'.

We moved on to an explanation of the tiers of Church Government from PCC to Synod, and the effect of the Church being Established.

After eating our packed lunches, the afternoon sessions covered Worship and Organisation.

In the Worship session we covered what was required by Canon and what was permitted. The history of the Prayer Books, including the Book of Common Prayer, and the role of Service of the Word, the development of Family Services and Messy Church were explained. It was also mentioned that Cathedral service attendance had been steadily increasing across the country, and that mid-week service attendance had also been increasing.

The final session was on 'organisation' which covered the worldwide Anglican Communion, Dioceses, Archdeaconries, Deaneries, Benefices and Parishes, PCCs, Synods and all their respective roles.

For me, many of the sessions filled in gaps or put nuggets of knowledge I had into some sort of order. Perhaps the course could have been over two days, to allow more explanation: but maybe that would have put people off.

Most of the attenders, as we four, fell into the category of 'interested learner', but there were a few who were going through the process of *discernment* seeking to identify whether they should pursue training for the Anglican ministry.

Although some of the organisation of the day could have been slightly improved, (for example we were admitted into the building by a young lady who was actually there for interview...) it was a worthwhile day. Apparently there are a number of courses of all sorts run at Church House, which can be accessed through the Diocesan website. (www.oxford.anglican.org/our-faith/lifelong-learning/) The cost of our course was £20 per head. We had to bring lunch, but tea and coffee flowed throughout the day.

We all felt it was a day well spent.

Jane Tyrer

Modern Day Slavery

In 2004 the National Federation of Women's Institutes voted in favour of a resolution concerning the trafficking of women and children for sexual gratification and forced labour, calling on the government of the day to put legislature in place to combat trafficking and support victims.

In late November last year I attended a seminar in Milton Keynes organised by Bucks WIs to consider the situation 13 years later.

Along with other WI members we listened to a variety of speakers who discussed different aspects of the situation and how things have deteriorated to the point that it is no longer only women and girls who are exploited by men but boys as well.

Our first speaker was a lecturer from Nottingham University. She looked at the global aspect of slavery, pointing out how many forms of slavery are involved in our everyday lives, via items of food and clothing, all made or grown by slaves. Forced marriage is itself another form of slavery. She told us that Nottingham is aiming to be the first slavery free and slavery proof city, but she didn't explain how or when.

Our next speaker was an "Intelligence Development Officer" from Thames Valley Police. She told us that there are an estimated 10,000 - 13,000 slaves in the U.K. with 2,500 in the Thames Valley area. The number is increasing as more crimes involving slavery are uncovered. It costs £70 to buy a slave - cheaper than buying a dog. She quoted cases of a consultant surgeon and his wife employing a slave to do housework, another case where slaves had been made to build a bar, using stolen (by themselves) equipment from B and Q, and the story of "Vlad", a typical case where a young Albanian man paid £1,500 to be smuggled here with the promise of a job in computers, only to discover there was no such job. The price of smuggling has been doubled and he was put to labouring work, and eventually encouraged to steal for the gangmaster who had bought him. 8 slaves were recently discovered on a building site in Iver. The wages given were £20 a day from which they had to

feed and clothe themselves. Little chance of them ever being able to repay the cost of the trafficking. As in most cases of slavery, their passports had been removed.

After she had spoken, we had an officer from the Salvation Army who talked about the rehabilitation of slaves. The Army has been tasked by the government to play a major part in this. He spoke of the army's history dating back to the famous case of Eliza Armstrong in the 1800s. Since 2011 when they officially began caring for victims, they have seen a 300% increase in 6 years in the numbers they have helped.

We then had Milton Keynes Area Dean talk to us. He urged us to make a difference. Modern Slavery is hidden but in plain sight in our communities. He spoke of the Clewer Institute in Windsor and their involvement and an APP they have produced.

A lady called Liz Gough then gave us information about her work as a Sex Therapist amongst the refugee population in Greece. Her 4 instances were harrowing to say the least. She is willing to come and talk to WIs and I would imagine other organisations as well.

Finally we were told about a fairly new charity called Unseen. They operate a helpline to support survivors of modern day slavery. Their phone no. is
08000 121 700

To round off we were reminded of 3 things.

Do you use a carwash? Do the attendants look well cared for - do they have waterproof footwear and gloves? Do they have protective overalls? If not - perhaps they might bear investigation by the police.

Do you or your family or neighbours employ builders? Again, are the men well covered, hard hats, stout boots, sensible clothing. Do they seem well-nourished? Are they brought and collected from work? Is someone regularly keeping an watch on them, rather than the work?

Do you, your wives, daughters, feminine friends use nailbars? Do the operatives seem happy? Do they chat, make eye contact? Smile?

Just three examples of things we can all look out for and give us pause for thought.

I went with 2 other ladies to this meeting and I have to say, we scarcely spoke in the car coming home, so taken aback by what we had heard.

I know the WI intends to try to take matters further in Bucks, but you don't have to belong to our movement to have been moved by what we heard that day. Hopefully we can all be aware of what is going on around us and try to do something about anything we are uncomfortable with.

Judy Wilson



Chiltern Arts Festival

The 2019 Chiltern Arts Festival brings world class artists to venues across the Chilterns this February

Chiltern Arts is an exciting and distinctive new initiative to bring music, literature and art to the towns and villages in and around the Chiltern Hills. Every February, churches, stately homes and outdoor spaces across the region will be transformed into stunning concert and arts venues, as a varied and exciting programme unfolds in beautiful surroundings.

The programme is created by Creative Director, Naomi Taylor with Grammy award-winning pianist, Christopher Glynn.

Chiltern Arts has now released its programme for the Chiltern Arts Festival 2019 – offering a feast of music over eight days with something for every music-lover in the area. “We’re returning in our second year to some of our favourite venues from our first year of events,” explains Naomi Taylor, Founder and Creative Director of Chiltern Arts, “There are eight events in this year’s festival, and we’re so excited to be able to tell you about the fantastic musicians we’re bringing to the beautiful Chilterns.”

Featuring a number of esteemed artists, the 2019 Chiltern Arts Festival brings almost every kind of music imaginable to venues across the Chiltern Hills. You

can hear the City of London Sinfonia with a wonderfully-named programme Bach and the Cosmos in Berkhamsted. Celebrated pianist Steven Osborne visits Great Missenden with a performance including Schubert's famous Sonata in B Flat. Renowned baritone Roderick Williams stars in a world premiere performance in Marlow. Folk-classical trio the Kosmos Ensemble bring their unique style to a special concert and dinner event at The Gatsby in Berkhamsted.

In Hughenden, a new young baroque ensemble Flauti d'écho appear as part of the Chiltern Arts Young Artist Scheme with a programme of Handel, Bach, Purcell and Telemann.



For further information and tickets see: www.chilternarts.com/event/flauti-decho-traces-take-note

Choral lovers will be thrilled to hear one of the world's finest vocal ensembles Stile Antico with a programme inspired by the musical gems of the time of Elizabeth I, and to have the opportunity to sing with the renowned composer and conductor, Bob Chilcott – there's even a ticket deal to attend both events, which take place at St Mary's Church in Henley-on-Thames. And last but certainly not least, there's a dazzling new performance of Mozart's most-loved opera *Così fan tutte*, at the new performing arts centre theatre at **Pipers Corner School**.

There's information about all of these events online at **chilternarts.com**, where you can also request a brochure, purchase tickets and find out how you can get involved with Chiltern Arts.

For further information please contact Naomi Taylor: naomi.taylor@chilternarts.com / 07943875640

Performance Details:

City of London Sinfonia: Bach and the Cosmos

Saturday 9th February 2019, 7.30pm

St Peter's Church, Berkhamsted

Steven Osborne: Schubert, Debussy and Prokofiev

Monday 11th February 2019, 7.30pm

Church of St Peter and St Paul, Great Missenden

An Italian Songbook featuring Roderick Williams

Tuesday 12th February 2019, 7.30pm

All Saints' Church, Marlow

Kosmos Ensemble: Concert and Dinner

Wednesday 13th February 2019, 7pm

The Gatsby, Berkhamsted Flauti d'Echo:

Baroque Trio

Thursday 14th February 2019,

1pm Hughenden Parish Church

Stile Antico: Queen of Muses

Friday 15th February 2019, 7.30pm

St Mary's Church, Henley-on-Thames

Come and Sing with Bob Chilcott

Saturday 16th February 2019, 10am–4pm

St Mary's Church, Henley-on-Thames

Così fan tutte

Saturday 16th February 2019,

7pm Pipers Corner School, Great Kingshill, High Wycombe

Tickets:

Online tickets: www.chilternarts.com/festival

Box office phone: 01442 920303 (Mon–Fri 9am–5pm; Sat 10am–1pm)

Floodlighting Dedications

Fond memories of Kathleen Moxham on the 1st Anniversary of her death on the 11th January – Margaret Friend.

In memory of the late Jim Long whose 70th Birthday was on 26th January. His wife Ann and Family remember him with much love and miss him greatly.

If you have special occasions to mark, why don't you dedicate the floodlighting? Your dedication can be for anything within reason, remembering loved ones, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, new babies – or just for the joy of being alive!

Lynn Brook

From the Parish Registers

The Departed:

Gerd Basker, aged 84

Moira Lewis, aged 66

Maureen Margaret Stone, aged 81

Margaret Kitty Rabson, aged 98

Phoebe Ridgeley

Communicants

Sundays

November

18th: 20 + 39 = 59

25th: 23 + 75 = 98

December

2nd: 30 + 38 = 68

9th: 24 + 49 = 73

16th: 22 + 34 = 56

23rd: 18 + 68 = 86

30th: 77

January

6th: 21 + 34 = 55

13th: 21 + 82 = 103

Weekdays

30th: St Andrew 7

4th: Mothers Union 29

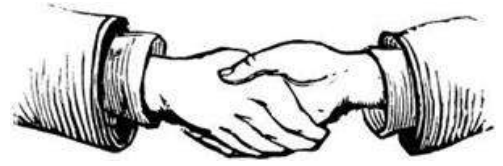
24th: Christmas Eve 10

25th: Christmas Day 86 + 25 + 38 + 86 = 235

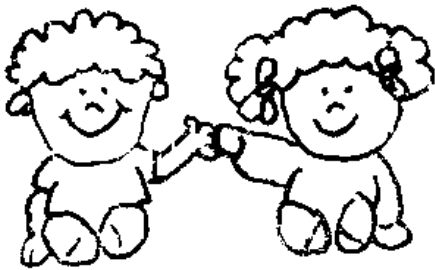
Regular Meetings and Organisations

Friendship Morning

This is a get together in Church House on the third Thursday each month at 10.30 am. It is primarily for those who are bereaved, who live on their own and for those who are lonely. The emphasis is very much on companionship and the atmosphere is light and cheerful. Please contact Penny Austin on 01494 529596 if you think this is for you.



Babies & Toddlers @ St. Michael's



Babies and Toddlers @ St. Michael's meets every Thursday in term time from 9.30 - 11.30 am in the North Room. Come for chat, play, craft and refreshments. Included, every second Thursday of the month, will be 'Tiny Tots', a time of fun worship in Church. For details contact Helen Peters – helen.peters@peters-research.com

House Groups

A variety of house groups meet throughout the week: for days and times, or for further information contact Revd. Keith Johnson, HW 257569.

Young People's Groups @ St Michael & All Angels

- CYFA (School years 10+) - Alternate Sunday evenings in term time.
- FLASH (School years 7-9) - Monthly Sunday evening in term time.
- AWESOME AND ACTIVE (AAA) (School years 4-6) - Monthly Sunday teatime in term time.

For dates of meetings for all groups and further details contact Rebecca Hawes - rebecca@wycombeyfc.org.uk

February Calendar

Sat	2	12.15 pm	Candlemas Lunch: Church House
Sun	3		Candlemas – Presentation of Christ in the Temple
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (Said) (BCP)
		9.00 am	Sung Communion (Common Worship)
		10.45 am	All Age Family Service
		6.00 pm	Evensong (BCP) (no sermon)
Mon	4	10.00 am	Come and meet the vicar!: Hughenden Village Shop
Tue	5	7.30 pm	Mothers Union Annual General Meeting: Church House
		7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Wed	6	10.00 am	Come and meet the vicar!: Bon Ami Café, Naphill
		1.00 pm	Knit and Natter: Church House
		7.45 pm	Choir Practice: Church
Thu	7	9.30 am	Toddler Group: North Room
		7.00 pm	Safeguarding Training: Church House
Fri	8	10.30 am	Visiting Bell Ringers (3hrs)
Sat	9	7.00 pm	Church Pub Quiz Night: The Gate Inn, Bryants Bottom
Sun	10		4th Sunday before Lent
		8.00 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship)
		9.00 am	Matins (Sung) (BCP)
		10.45 am	Family Communion (Common Worship)
		6.00 pm	Evensong (BCP) (no sermon)
Tue	12	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice
Wed	13	7.45 pm	Choir Practice
Thu	14	9.00 am	Chiltern Arts Festival Recital: Church
		9.30 am	Toddler Group: Church House
		10.30 am	Tiny Tots: Church House

Sat 16 10.00 am Baptism Preparation Day: Church House

Sun 17 **3rd Sunday before Lent**

8.00 am Holy Communion (Said) (Common Worship)

9.00 am Sung Communion (Common Worship)

10.45 am Service of the Word

6.00 pm Evensong (BCP) (no sermon)

Mon 18 10.00 am Come and meet the vicar!: Hughenden Village Shop

Tue 19 10.00 am Mothers Union Coffee Morning: Church House

7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice

Wed 20 10.00 am Come and meet the vicar!: Bon Ami Café, Naphill

10.30 am Visiting Bell Ringers (3hrs)

7.45 pm Choir Practice

Thu 21 9.30 am Toddler Group: North Room

10.30 am Friendship Morning: Church House

Sat 23 9.30 am Visiting Bell Ringers (3hrs)

10.00 am Wedding Preparation Morning: Church House

Sun 24 **2nd Sunday before Lent**

8.00 am Holy Communion (Said) (Common Worship)

9.00 am Matins (Sung) (BCP)

10.45 am Family Communion (Common Worship)

6.00 pm Evensong (BCP) (no sermon)

Mon 25 10.00 am Come and meet the vicar!: Hughenden Village Shop

Tue 26 7.30pm Bell Ringing Practice

Wed 27 10.00 am Come and meet the vicar!: Bon Ami Café, Naphill

7.45 pm Choir Practice

Thu 28 9.30 am Toddler Group: North Room

3.30 pm Messy Church: Cryers Hill Methodist Church

February Lectionary

Date	Lesson	8:00 am / 6:00 pm	9:00 am	10:45 am
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3rd Candlemas

Malachi 3: 1-5	Arthur Johnson	Chris Tyrer	Jo Sharp	
Hebrews 2: 14-end	Philip Hynard	Ann Moore		
Luke 2: 22-40	Priest	Priest	Priest	
Evensong: Psalm 132				
Haggai 2: 1-9	Mike Morgan			
John 2: 18-22	Emily Bailey			

10th Fourth Sunday before Lent

Isaiah 6: 1-8	Judy Wilson	Edie Sadler	Anne Smart	
1 Corinthians 15: 1-11	Lin Smit	Louise Stallwood		
Luke 5: 1-11	Priest	(check which)	Priest	
Psalm at 9.00 am: 138				
Evensong: Psalm 2				
Hosea 1	Beryl Doran			
Colossians 3: 1-22	Susan Brice			

17th Third Sunday before Lent

Jeremiah 17: 5-10	Alison Stacey	Ann Moore	Jacky Sackville
1 Corinthians 15: 12-20	John White	Sara Badrick	
Luke 6: 17-26	Priest	Priest	Priest

Who's Who at St Michael & All Angels

VICAR	The Rev'd Keith Johnson	257569
ASSOCIATE MINISTER	The Rev'd Helen Peters	716772
LICENSED LAY MINISTER	David Tester	563354
CHURCHWARDENS	Julia Grant	565746
	Nicholas Devlin	712693
PARISH CLERK & VERGER	Arthur Johnson	521471
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR	Lynn Brooks	07928 536543
CHURCH NOTICES/WEBSITE	Ben Brice	445899
PCC VICE CHAIR	Clare Godfrey	563296
PCC SECRETARY	Louise Stallwood	712705
PCC ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Clare Godfrey	563296
PCC TREASURER	Ian Faulkner	451279
PCC ASSISTANT TREASURER	Arthur Johnson	521471
PLANNED GIVING SECRETARY	Arthur Johnson	521471
TASK GROUP LEADERS: COMMUNICATIONS	Jane Tyrer	01844 344650
PRAYER	Ann Gamon	564009
YOUTH	The Rev'd Helen Peters	716772
MISSION	The Rev'd Keith Johnson	257569
OUTREACH & SOCIAL	Frank Hawkins	565050
ALPHA COURSE - ADMINISTRATOR	Frank Hawkins	565050
ELECTORAL ROLL OFFICER	Arthur Johnson	521471
DEANERY SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES	Arthur Johnson	521471
DIOCESAN SYNOD REPRESENTATIVE	Christopher Tyrer	01844 344650
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER	Neil Brice	445899
WORSHIP LEADER	Tony Sackville	446035
TINY TOTS FUN WORSHIP	The Rev'd Helen Peters	716772
AV AND SOUND SYSTEM	Frank Hawkins	565050
SERVERS	Andrew Cole	442191
MOTHERS' UNION PARISH LINK	Ann McCarthy	712004
CAPTAIN OF BELLRINGERS	David Cornwall	714718
VALLEY FRIENDS	Heather Mayer	436044
CRECHE ROTA	Ester Comunello	07749 672548
HUGHENDEN BABY AND TODDLER GROUP	The Rev'd Helen Peters	716772
FRIENDSHIP MORNING	Penny Austin	529596
CHURCH HOUSE TEAS BOOKINGS	Julia Grant	565746
CHURCH COFFEE ROTA	Sylvia Clark	562801
CHURCH FLOWERS	Jean Godfrey	522198
CHURCH BOOKSTALL	Elaine Morley	562714
CHURCH HOUSE BOOKINGS	Parish Administrator	07928 536543
HUGHENDEN VILLAGE HALL	Christine Powell	07815 163269
NAPHILL VILLAGE HALL	Norma Clarke	563116
OUTLOOK MAGAZINE EDITORS	Sylvia Clark	562801
	Christopher & Jane Tyrer	01844 344650
	Susan Brice	445899
MAGAZINE PRINTING	Brian Clark & Team	562801
MAGAZINE DISTRIBUTION	Andrew Cole	442191
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER	Tricia Devlin	712693

Our Mission is

To enable all to follow Jesus Christ

We shall live out this mission through
Prayer, Presence, Persuasion and Proclamation by:

Leading lives centred on Jesus Christ

- That are steadfastly based on the Bible and prayer.
- That are based on Jesus' example.
- By being ambassadors of Christ to our friends, families, neighbours and work and school colleagues.

Being seen and known in the wider Community by

- Understanding the communities in which we live and seeking to be fully involved in those communities.
- Building appropriate bridges between our church and our community.
- Taking every opportunity to share the good news about Jesus Christ.

Offering and receiving spiritual and practical support and development

- That is appropriate to wherever people are on their spiritual journey.
- That is based on worship that is honouring to God and accessible and relevant to all.
- And that is led by prayer that engages with the will of God and his purposes.

*O Lord God, Comfort, we pray, all victims of intolerance
and those oppressed by their fellow humans.
Lead the oppressors towards compassion and give hope to the suffering.
Through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*