



St Mary's Church Wargrave  
With Knowl Hill



St Peter's Church Knowl Hill  
With St Paul's Warren Row

OUR VISION IS TO BE A CHURCH AT THE HEART OF OUR COMMUNITY

# PARISH

MAGAZINE

MAY 2022



## COGS REBOOT

What does serving our Parish look like and how can you help?

## JUST ONE WAY?

How do we as individuals engage with and think about our faith?

## EASTER IN WARGRAVE

Discover what took place across the Parish this Easter

In other news:  
Easter Walk of Witness  
Ukraine Concert  
Butterflies Dinner  
Wargrave War Memorial  
Confessions of a Churchwarden  
Ride & Stride for Churches

## From the Editor

Welcome to the new-look Parish Magazine. We hope that you will like the new layout; please let us know your comments as we welcome feedback from our readers!

Our front cover mirrors the feature this month of COGS, which represent the work that we are doing in Church to develop our faith and reach out to the wider community. Do please reflect on how you can contribute to the life of the Church here in Wargrave.

The village (including the Church!) is in full preparation for the Festival in June and we hope that you have all bought your tickets for the various Church events. There are still a few tickets left but they are going quickly so do not delay!



*Bob*

BOB AUSTEN | PARISH MAGAZINE EDITOR

WELCOME

### The copy date for submissions for the June Magazine is noon on Wednesday 18th May 2022.

Articles of up to 400 words are most welcome for publication in this Magazine and should be sent to the Editor: [bobausten@wargravechurch.org.uk](mailto:bobausten@wargravechurch.org.uk). The decision to publish material is at the Editor's discretion. Views expressed in articles included in the Magazine are not necessarily shared by the Editor. The Parish Magazine cannot accept responsibility for any products or services advertised in this publication.

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## PARISH REGISTERS : WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS & FUNERALS

### Baptisms within the Parish

15th March Edward Thomas Owen Dee at St Mary's  
20th March Albert Nicholas Wheadon at St Peter's  
20th March Arabella Grace Hobden da Silva at St Mary's

### Funerals, Cremations and Ashes at St Mary's, Wargrave

7th March Gwendoline Rosetta Daffey, 94, funeral at St Mary's, burial Fairmile  
11th March Robert Annan, 72, cremation at Reading  
12th March Patricia Mary Downing, 90, burial of ashes at the New Cemetery  
13th March Arthur Neville Hampton, 80, burial of ashes at the New Cemetery  
14th March the Lord James Wogan Remnant CVO, 91, funeral service at St Mary's  
17th March Hubert Ernest Pictet, 93, funeral at St Mary's, burial at the New Cemetery  
21st March Colin Robert Turner, 87, cremation at Reading

### Service of Remembrance - Lord Remnant

For those that wish to join the friends and family of Lord Remnant, a service of remembrance will be taking place on Monday 30th May at 12 noon at St Paul's, Knightsbridge. Please RSVP to [stpaulsthanks@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsthanks@gmail.com).

REGISTERS & SUNDAY SERVICES

## SUNDAY SERVICES *May*

### St Mary's Church, Wargrave - 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th May

8.00am Holy Communion: a said service in traditional language  
9.45am Family Service

1st Sunday of the month:

9.45am All Age Family Worship

2nd & 4th Sundays of the month:

9.45am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday of the month:

9.45am Morning Worship in modern language with music

5th Sunday of the month:

9.45am Short All Age Holy Communion

### Ascension Day - Thursday 26th May

11am Holy Communion

### St Peter's Church, Knowl Hill

1st Sunday of the month 10.30am Holy Communion

3rd Sunday of the month 10.30am Village Praise

### St Paul's Church, Warren Row

2nd Sunday of the Month 9.15am Holy Communion in traditional language



# Our Groups

## BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies continues to meet on Wednesday mornings (1st and 3rd of the month in term times), enjoying a delicious breakfast, chat and parenting discussion time in the church centre.

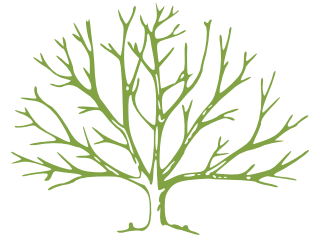
If you are the parent of a baby or toddler, we'd love to meet you! Details can be found on our Facebook page @butterflieswargrave

Butterflies is held in the Church Centre, 9.30am - 11am.

**Next Sessions: 4th & 18th May**

## LADIES' BREAKFAST

Did you know that trees are mentioned in the Bible more than any other living things apart from people?



There's a tree in the first chapter of Genesis, the first Psalm and the last chapter of the book of Revelation. What can we learn from trees? Come to Ladies' Breakfast on **Saturday 7th May** at 9.30am to discover more!

OUR GROUPS

## OPEN CHURCH

St Mary's Church is open Monday to Saturday 9am to 5pm.

## WELCOME CAFÉ

The café will be open on Tuesday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st May from 2.30 - 4pm in the Hannen Room.



## MINISTRY AT ST MARY'S

### THE 'CALLS OF GOD' (COGS)

During the pandemic, much of our usual way of operating at St Mary's had to cease. But now that we are learning to 'live with Covid', we are returning to 'normal' as best we can. That means that the ministry teams (areas in which we can all serve to build up the life and witness of Christ's church in Wargrave) are being rebooted. We call our ministry teams COGs, which stands for 'Calls of God'.

St Paul's teaching in 1 Corinthians 12 tells us that each Christian is specially and deliberately gifted by the Holy Spirit to build up Christ's Church. Every Christian has a particular 'vocation' (calling). The question is, 'Where is God calling you to serve?' The 'Calls Of God' are (in no particular order) ...

#### Stewarding

Keeping an eye on of all we do – particularly our land and buildings - to ensure we care for God's creation.

*Coordinator: **Mike Buckland***

#### Gathering

Responsibility for our Church worship services.

*Coordinator: **Rosie Creedon***

#### Nurturing

Christian teaching outside of Sunday services.

*Coordinator: **Sue Witney***

#### Reaching

Taking the good news of Jesus Christ to our community.

*Coordinator: **TBC***

#### Caring

Taking the kindness of Jesus to our congregation and community in need.

*Coordinator: **Steve Turville***

#### Celebrating

Organising events that celebrate and build our family life together.

*Coordinator: **Vacant***

#### Supporting

All of the admin tasks that help us function as an efficient & legally accountable body.

*Coordinator: **Mark Puddy***

#### Communicating

Helping people know about us and how they can join in.

*Coordinator: **Mark Puddy***

The COGs graphic helps us to understand that the COGs work together to build the Kingdom of God here in our community, with Jesus Christ at the heart of all that we do. The COGs though are not cold metal, but living, breathing, bleeding people - us.



What do you genuinely care about? What makes you angry or stirs you up? Do you care about the environment? Do you like working with your hands? Do you find yourself talking naturally with people about your faith?

Do you really want to communicate truths of the gospel in ways that people find easy to understand? Do you have a heart for those in need? Do you have skills leading others that could be used to serve our mission?

Do you have an eye for detail, enjoy computer work and writing? Are you creative and artistic? Do you love to worship? Are you musical? Prayerful?

The list goes on and on. The ways in which we can serve God are many and diverse because we as His people are many and diverse.

Please think and pray about where and how God is calling you to serve, then please talk to John our Vicar, or the COG coordinators.

## MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE

A large congregation attended the Mothering Sunday service on 27th March, the first of the new 9.45am all-age service.

The music and the readings were beautifully arranged and presented, and it was a truly happy and fulfilling experience. It was a joy to see so many smiling faces and thanks must go to all those that put together this lovely service.



At such an uncertain time it was good to see everyone praising the Lord and thanking Him for all the good things that He has provided for us. We prayed for those suffering in the war in Ukraine and trust that they will gain comfort from the presence of the Lord in their lives. We know that as Christians we are not immune from the hardships of life, in whatever form that takes, but we also know that by walking with Jesus we are never alone in our struggles. We pray for a resolution to this ghastly war.

Mothering Sunday reminded us of the gifts of love and compassion that we enjoy from our own mothers and are bestowed on us all from the Lord Jesus.

A REFLECTION

## EASTER WALK OF WITNESS 2022

Good Friday 15th April dawned fine and sunny as we gathered at Highfield Park to commence our annual Walk of Witness to the Church, taking in Elizabeth Court and The Mount on the way. Not so many joined us this year but those that did were able to proclaim the message of Easter to the community as we journeyed through the village.



Peter Dart led the singing in true professional style and Andy Ferguson organised the prayers and readings with his customary efficiency and aplomb.

We made our way into Church as the last station in the Walk of Witness and then were treated to lovely hot cross buns in the Church Centre. Grateful thanks to Camilla and her team.

Many of the walkers returned into Church for the Bible readings and time for reflection, whilst others departed for London to continue the Easter message by attending the Messiah at the Royal Albert Hall.

Our photograph shows cross-bearer Richard basking in the sunshine at The Mount.



## BUTTERFLIES' MOTHER'S DAY DINNER

After a gap of three years, we met for our annual Mother's Day dinner on 23rd March.

Pre-Covid this had become a real feature in the diary and this year did not disappoint. Even with the local rise in Covid cases we were able to press ahead with a delicious Tex-Mex extravaganza, coordinated by the highly organised Kerry Lerski. Each of the Butterflies helpers contributed a section of the meal: a delicious table of burritos and fajitas with loads of tasty accompaniments. The meal was rounded off with a choice of two yummy deserts: Julia's lemon pudding and Cynthia's Malteser meringue cake.



This was the first time, for a very long time, for helpers and mothers to sit and chat, without the demands of little people. It was wonderful to have that time together and to get to know each other better. I think that the mothers really enjoyed a night out (the first time some had ever left their babies!)

One mother wrote:

*'Thank you so, so much for organising Wednesday evening. The effort you all had made in the organising, setting up (and clearing up!), the delicious food as well as the plants and sunflower seeds meant so much. It was amazing to have a night off from any baby, cooking, washing up responsibilities!*

*Your community spirit and generosity is remarkable, all of us who come to Butterflies are so grateful to...the team for making our lives as modern mums that little bit easier.'*

A huge thank you to the team who set up, cooked, served and cleared up.



Our Butterflies' dates for the summer term are:

- May: 4th & 18th
- June: 1st, 15th (Butterflies @The Wargrave Festival, watch out for further details) & 29th
- July: 6th & 20th

All mothers and carers with babies and/or pre-school children are welcome. We look forward to seeing you over the summer!

## CHURCH SPRING CLEAN

With an impressive team of fit flexible volunteers, the elite troops of St Mary's special air squadron hit the Church at 7.30am sharp, tasked with clearing years of dust, dangling cobwebs and old birds' nests.

This exercise required daring (climbing ladders), dedication (no harness) and ingenuity. The ingenuity required overcoming a challenge similar to that usual army exercise of building a bridge with no single plank long enough to stretch right across the river.



Of course, this caused no bother to the A team. Sergeant Turville strapped together impressive lengths of bamboo from Richard Eve's garden, (surely a panda reserve, given how much bamboo there was when he moved in), and soon produced immense bendy poles stretching up to the roof. With dusters attached to one end, the squaddies were soon engaged in a dirty war, wielding the poles like circus trapeze artists.

Captain Nick Johnson showed his professional experience gained from days spent hacking through the garden jungles of Wargrave. It helps having a strong military tradition running through the family. Private Ruth Howse courageously volunteered for a solitary mission to the bell tower, where the dust has rested undisturbed for generations. Pausing only for a cup of coffee and a Madeleine (doesn't that bring back memories!) it was soon time for the aerial team to be relieved, as the ground force led by Colonel June Knox arrived with hoovers, brushes, spit and polish (except for the spit). It was wonderful to see the woodwork gleam and smell the beeswax.

The 2 Corporals Carver put on a fine display of synchronised sweeping, and Private Annette Dart gave the organ a lusty polish. Demob happy Major Matthews suggested that in order to prevent the church from getting dusty again in the future, we ought to now keep it locked all the time.

After such a Herculean Effort, it was time to sit down and relax, and ponder a Churchillian quotation:

**“Continuous effort - not strength or intelligence -  
is the key to unlocking our potential.”**

Oh dear, time to get up and do some more cleaning!



## CONCERT FOR UKRAINE RAISES £2,500

Over a hundred people attended the Concert for Ukraine in St Mary's on Palm Sunday afternoon, 10th April.

The majority of the music was performed by top local professionals Laura Anstee ('cello) and Sally Pryce (harp) and included Bach, Bartok and music from Ireland and Ukraine. There were also some songs from West Side Story from Katie Dart and James Warner. And Rosie Dart sang The Sound of Music with the audience joining in to Edelweiss at the end.

The star of the show was young Evan Liu (one of Laura's pupils) who made his debut performance on the 'cello.

Thanks to Andy and h'Artisan for selling tickets and the Puddy family for tea and cakes at the end. And a huge thank you to everyone who came and contributed to the £2,500 raised, which has been forwarded to DEC Ukraine, Wargrave.



## HANDEL'S 'MESSIAH' AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL

A dozen or so people from St Mary's travelled to the Royal Albert Hall on Good Friday afternoon to hear a wonderful performance of Handel's 'Messiah'. The weather was glorious and everyone appreciated the performance.... 'something really special'.

Richard Cooke has been the Musical Director of the RCS for over 25 years and he conducted; the soloists were wonderful, the trumpet did sound, and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and the organ and of course the choir, enthralled us for over two hours. It was again great to hear live music.



The next performance from the Royal Choral Society (Peter is the Chairman) will be in the Festival Hall on June 1st - the magnificent Verdi's Requiem.

# RAMBLIN' WITH BOB

27th March

Mother's Day and a small but perfectly formed group of 9 of us met at Burchetts Green for a familiar ramble across land belonging to Berkshire College of Agriculture. The weather was fine if a tad chilly but wrapped up warm, we set forth in good spirits!

We passed the lovely Hall Place and through the grounds of the College to arrive at the statue of Diana the Huntress, looking somewhat weather-beaten. She actually makes it into the Bible, although named as her Greek equivalent, Artemis. Acts 19 verses 23-40 tells of Paul's visit to Ephesus where Artemis was worshipped, and an ensuing riot.

The craftsmen who made shrines to Artemis were annoyed at Paul for saying there was only one God,

because that challenged their trade. The city went into uproar, shouting, "Great is Artemis!" but the city clerk managed to calm them down. I doubt whether Bob's role as Town Clerk of Eton includes such duties!

We continued up to High Wood for spectacular views of the Thames Valley, including Hurley and in the distance, Danesfield House. Bob explained the importance of both places during WW2; Hurley was the home of OSS, the American equivalent of our SOE (later to become the CIA) and Danesfield House in its guise as RAF Medmenham was the home of the RAF Photo Reconnaissance Unit. Both these sites were of course highly secret during the War and played a significant part in the victory over Germany.

Using a different route we walked downhill towards the start, passing the brick pyramid and surrounding trees that were planted by the Clayton East family in the formation of the fleet at the Battle of the Nile. Such amazing snippets from Bob's rambles!

No Sunday lunch this time; Mother's Day saw to that but all agreed it had been a lovely afternoon ramble!

RAMBLIN' WITH BOB



## LADIES' BREAKFAST: SATURDAY 2ND APRIL

The heading was 'Question Time' and the focus was on questions hidden in the first chapter of the book of Jonah.

These are some of the questions:

- What did God ask Jonah to do?
- Why was that such a huge problem for Jonah?
- Why did Jonah think that running away to a foreign country would solve his problems?
- How do we sometimes try to run away from God?
- Is it actually possible to run away from Him?
- What did it cost Jonah to run away?
- What might it have cost him to obey?
- What examples of kindness, prayer, loving care, mercy, acceptance, even conversion did the Captain and crew show?
- How did God prove that He was still in control even when everything was going disastrously wrong?
- How did God show forgiveness and offer a 'second chance' to Jonah, even after he had made such a determined effort to avoid God, deny Him and shut Him out of his life?

There are many other questions and we had a really helpful and lively discussion because perhaps, these are questions we all ask at some point in our lives. Also it is wonderfully comforting and encouraging to know that God is ready to give us another 'chance' when we say sorry after denying Him or just wandering away from Him – as Jonah found out!

## THE FIRST CUT IS THE DEEPEST

This photograph inaccurately depicts the length of the grass that greeted the first of the 2022 St Mary's churchyard grass cutting team on Saturday 2nd April! Mother Nature had done her best to provide a stiff challenge to the mowers and with newly serviced machines and a willing heart, the job of cutting back the elephant grass was accomplished within two hours. Thanks are due to Nick, Rory, Bill and Bob for their sterling efforts in making sure that subsequent teams would be able to perform their mowing duties without the need for scythes and agent orange.

We are always looking for new recruits to join our teams. If you can spare a few hours on a Saturday morning once a month during the season, contact Bob Austen. Pleasant exercise and good company, so much nicer than going shopping or washing the car!

Tel: 0118 940 3038 Mobile: 07970 611013  
Email: [austenrobert@hotmail.com](mailto:austenrobert@hotmail.com)



## JUST ONE WAY? SATURDAY 14TH MAY



## JUST ONE WAY? Being a Christian in a World of Options

Nobody likes to be told what to think. Many of us like to think of ourselves as independent thinkers: we are skeptical of 'received wisdom' and have our own unique way of looking at life and understanding the world. There's a suspicion of the person who tries to change our mind. Why are they so interested in what we think or believe? What's in it for them? What's the angle?

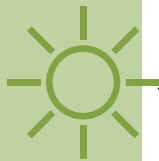
Whenever someone claims to have unique access to a particular piece of knowledge or truth, or we sense that someone is trying to get us around to their point of view, we're rightly cautious. But what does this mean for the seemingly exclusive claims of the Christian faith? "I am the way, the truth and the life", Jesus said, 'Nobody comes to the Father except through me.' How do we make sense of this in a world of competing and diverse religious groups, to say nothing of all of the other worldviews and systems of understanding that we all encounter every day?

This isn't an issue confined to the realms of Philosophy or Theology. How do we as individuals engage with and think about the views of friends, family, and colleagues when their views are very different to our own? How do respect, tolerance, inclusion and faithfulness fit together as we seek to build relationships with people of widely divergent perspectives?

All of this is what we are going to be considering at our next CCT seminar morning. If you're interested in finding out more about that the bible teaches in this area, how Christians have thought about it, and what it means for our own personal relationships you're most welcome to join us.

GET INVOLVED

## RAMBLIN' WITH BOB: 29TH MAY



For our May ramble on Sunday 29th May we shall meet at St James Church in Ruscombe at 12 noon (please note new time!) for a walk through Twyford and across Loddon Nature Reserve before crossing the lovely farmland around Stanlake Park. It can be muddy after wet weather so do come suitably shod! We shall return in time for lunch at the Bull in Wargrave at 3pm.

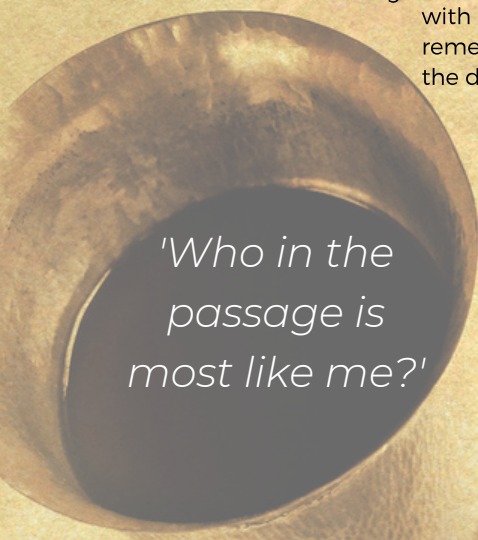
If you would like to join us on this walk, please contact Ramblin' Bob by Friday 20th May latest to book your place and advise whether you wish to stay for lunch.

Email: [austenrobert@hotmail.com](mailto:austenrobert@hotmail.com)  
Phone: 0118 940 3038 or Mobile: 07970 611013

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

On Thursday evening, as the bright sunshine of the day slowly gave way to the lengthening shadows, and then to darkness, a small number gathered in the Church Center to remember the meal that Jesus shared with his disciples on the night before he died.

Steve Turville led us in a quiet and reflective time of food, readings, music, and silence. As he did, he encouraged us to imagine ourselves there in Jerusalem, in the upper room, with Jesus, on the night of Passover. As we heard of Jesus sharing bread and wine with the disciples, we drank and ate as well, and as we remembered Judas dipping his bread into the wine with the disciples, we too dipped our bread in the wine.



*'Who in the passage is most like me?'*

I reflected after the service on the ways in which the Bible invites us into the narrative accounts that it records. So often when reading a Bible account, the question that comes to mind is "Who in this passage is most like me?" Who, as it were, represents me? Sometimes answering the question is straightforward; very often in the Gospels for example we find ourselves in the crowd, watching and listening to Jesus, and seeing how he interacts with the various people who come to him.

But as we listened to the account of that Thursday evening, I found myself wondering which, if any, of the disciples I was most like.

Judas, pretending to love Jesus with all of the others yet secretly hating Him and working for His destruction. Peter, zealous for his Lord and yet hugely overconfident in himself and his qualities. The beloved disciple, sitting close to Jesus, observing what is going on around Him, and yet with very little understanding of any of it.

Are we to see ourselves in one or more of these disciples? Or is there another even deeper recognition that we can make as we ponder and meditate on these happenings.

Could it be that in the same ways Jesus dressed himself as a servant and washed his servants feet, these things happened and were recorded for us? Our job then would simply be to receive; to sit and listen and watch. What if we aren't one of the performers, but the audience, and these things, as someone observed about the old testament, were written not about us, but for us. How fitting that would be as we remember the one who came not to be served, but to serve.



## SAVE THE DATE: SATURDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER

This national event happens every year in every county. In 2021 Berkshire raised nearly £25,000 which was terrific and this year we want to do even better. Any mode of transport is fine – you could walk, cycle, ride - simply choose a route and find lots of sponsorship from all your friends and family.

You can go by yourself or in a group, any time between 10am and 6pm and many people make a day of it. There are so many wonderful and interesting churches to visit, many will be open and offering refreshments too.

There is also the Daphne Barnes-Phillips trophy which is awarded to the most successful church each year – this is a splendid silver cup and currently resting with St Peter's Woolhampton as they raised the most sponsorship in 2021. (Note that St Mary's Wargrave was a close second!)

Your nominated church will benefit hugely as they will receive half of your sponsorship. The remaining 50% goes to Berkshire Historic Churches Trust which in turn makes generous grants to churches in need.

More details will be provided closer to the event from your local co-ordinator, Christine Walker email [csw3749@gmail.com](mailto:csw3749@gmail.com), tel: 0118 940 3749, or from the BHCT Ride & Stride website [berkschurchestrust.org.uk/ride-and-stride](http://berkschurchestrust.org.uk/ride-and-stride).

SUPPORTING OTHERS

A background image for the treasure hunt announcement featuring a magnifying glass over an old map, a seashell, a rope knot, and a compass rose.

## TREASURE HUNT AROUND THE VILLAGE FRIDAY 27TH MAY

Come and enjoy an evening Treasure Hunt around the village, starting from the Church Centre between 7-8pm and then meet back at the Church Centre after the hunt for drinks and nibbles.

Please email Helen at [hvonka@yahoo.com](mailto:hvonka@yahoo.com) if you would like to participate, to give us an idea of numbers.

A voluntary donation of £5 per person would be appreciated to cover the costs, with any surplus being donated to the Ukrainian DEC Appeal.

[WARGRAVECHURCH.ORG.UK](http://WARGRAVECHURCH.ORG.UK)



# CONFESSIONS OF A CHURCHWARDEN



**Ian Matthews**

---

By the time you read this, the Meeting of Parishioners will have happened, and a replacement churchwarden will have been elected to serve alongside Mark Puddy. I have been asked to write a brief personal reflection of my relatively short time in the role.

We all have been affected by the COVID nightmare to some extent – either our health or just our way of life. The worst of this is hopefully behind us but anxiety and perhaps a keen sense of loss will live on. During the various periods when the church family could not meet together, I have been greatly impressed by the commitment and flexibility of our clergy and their helpers who managed to bring weekly services to us via the internet. It took courage for them to leave their comfort zone and a large commitment of time and energy to deliver.

A great sadness for me was that Christmas worship in 2020 was written-off and somewhat curtailed in 2021. The same can be said for Remembrance Sunday, a mere shadow of former years where our service was a standing room-only event. But our church will return to normal. It's just that the new normal will inevitably be slightly different, but we will doubtless get used to that.

During my wardenship, I have noticed a gradual changing of the guard in the parish. A number of long-serving servants of our church have decided to stand down due to

changed personal circumstances, deteriorating health or just advancing years. We thank them all for their service and sincerely hope that their work can be carried on by others.

Our PCC is now considerably under strength. We are also short of sidesmen and sideswomen. Please think prayerfully about what talents you can offer to the church and complete your nomination papers before too long.

Several of the volunteer rotas supporting the church also give rise for concern. They include (but are not limited to) grass-cutting, coffee making, readers, church cleaning and audio-visual support. I think it would be great for more younger members of the congregation to step up to the plate – why should we need to rely on the commitment of so many people who are already of pensionable age? If you have an aptitude and some spare time, then please do volunteer.

The church has listened carefully to those who responded to our survey about future patterns of worship at St Mary's and thought long and hard about possible solutions. We all hope that there will be a variety of content going forward that will appeal to all worshippers.

In closing, it is my sincere hope that congregations will be strengthened and that more people in our parish will come to know the Lord and His love for us all.

## WARGRAVE WAR MEMORIAL ON MILL GREEN AT 100

The village's war memorial, designed by the nationally renowned architect Sir Edwin Lutyens, was dedicated on 28th May 1922 and is a Grade II listed building. It was just one of many memorials he designed including the Cenotaph in London.

After the First World War ended there was a clamour to erect memorials to those who had lost their lives. Cemeteries were planned on battlefields but at home, schools, churches and factories set about commemorating their dead through memorial tablets or boards. Communities and local authorities also wanted to acknowledge the sacrifices made. Some chose to build memorial hospitals or village halls but most erected monuments varying in scale and grandeur. One example was the Henley-on-Thames and District War Memorial Hospital erected by public subscription.

Wargrave was no exception in wanting a monument – a Peace Memorial - so following a public meeting in 1919 a committee was formed, money raised, and a site at the southern end of Mill Green chosen on land donated by Mr Henry Bond. Many monuments were designed as a result of competitions but it is probable that Lutyens was commissioned to design this through his connection with the Hannen family. It is a simple, appealing design with its hexagonal shape and short-armed cross made from Portland stone and standing 23 feet high on four hexagonal steps. The cost was £600 (£33,000 today).

The names of soldiers, sailors and aviators of the parish who did not return from the war was inscribed on the lower stonework. Some years later, the names of the dead of World War Two were added.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS



## OBITUARY

# Lilian Taylor



13TH OCTOBER 1919  
7TH MARCH 2020

Lilian was born in Croydon, Surrey the only daughter of four children, brothers Henry (Junior), William and Ronald (Ron), to Henry Alfred Dunmore (Senior) and Lilian Dunmore (Senior).

Lilian served as a WREN (Women's Royal Naval Service) during the Second World War before joining the GPO (General Post Office Telegraph and Telephones department), which was where she met Edward Charles Taylor (Ted) who she was to marry in 1962.

Lilian and Ted had one son, John, in 1963, and the family moved, from their maisonette in Addiscombe, Croydon, in May 1969, to a newly built house, in The Copse, Wargrave. Lilian gave up work to concentrate on bringing up John and keeping house, but Ted commuted daily to London, until his retirement in June 1978. Sadly, just three weeks after his retirement, Ted suddenly died from cancer. Lilian decided to remain in Wargrave so that John could finish his education.

Lilian remained in The Copse, until the June 1986, when she finally "downsized" and moved the short distance to Hill Lands. Here she spent over 35 years at number 27, making many friends on the estate, some of whom she came to rely on in later years. She loved her time there and it was particularly sad when she had to leave, last September for what would be the last time. That said she seemed very happy and was well cared for at The Mount Care Home, where she saw out the final period of her life. Family and close friends attended the Committal at the South Chapel, Reading Crematorium on 31 March, followed by a lovely Thanksgiving service, conducted by Pastor Jeremy Bray, at Henley Baptist Church, where Lilian had been a member for over 30 years. There then followed a Life Celebration, finger buffet, at Hennerton Golf Club, where family and friends were able to enjoy and share memories.

Having spent over 50 years as a resident of Wargrave, Lilian leaves behind her son John, youngest brother Ron, as well as many church, "Pop-in" and Thursday luncheon club, friends.

## PARISH GIVING SCHEME

You may have received an email or letter from me earlier in the year explaining about the transition to the Parish Giving Scheme. If you have actioned that already, you need read no further, but if like many it got lost in the inbox or you did not receive it, read on....

We have launched our use of the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS), which has been set up and is administered by the Church of England on behalf of parishes. The PGS scheme makes it easier for individuals to give, saves parishes a huge amount of time in administration, and since it is automated, considerably speeds up payments of the Gift Aid tax benefit from the government.

At Wargrave and Knowl Hill we have been trialling this over the last year, and it is proving very easy to use, with many people already signed up. With this success we are now rolling the scheme out to all our church supporters. If you are a regular giver, we would ask you to transition across, and if you are not at this stage then now is the moment to consider whether you would like to make that regular commitment.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

To join, you just need to sign on to the Parish Giving Scheme and afterwards cancel your existing periodic payment instruction (if any) to fit in with your PGS start date which will be the first day of the following month.

The easiest way to do this is to go on to the PGS website [parishgiving.org.uk](http://parishgiving.org.uk), follow 'Find your Parish' to get to the Wargrave or Knowl Hill parish page, and fill in the straightforward on-line Donation and Direct Debit forms .

You may want to consider a couple of points:

- It is a good time to assess how much you give. If you are able to use this opportunity to increase the amount that would be great as we look to build the work of God in the parish, with many needs and opportunities right now;
- It is particularly helpful for us to plan for the future if gifts are increased annually in line with inflation, so this is an option you will be asked about including as you proceed.

The website includes full details of the scheme, frequently asked questions and the benefits, so feel free to look through those. Once you are enrolled with a login, it is also easy to go back in and adjust payment levels without having to contact your bank. If you are a non GiftAid giver, then it still makes sense to join PGS to save our administrative costs. Just leave the 'eligible for GiftAid' box unticked when you get to it.

If you prefer to use a paper form rather than the PGS website let me know by email or phone and I will send it to you. ([sutcliffefamily1@btinternet.com](mailto:sutcliffefamily1@btinternet.com) or 0118 940 1105)

Many thanks for your help in securing the finances of the parish and easing the administration burden.

Sean Sutcliffe

Wargrave and Knowl Hill Parish Giving Scheme Co-ordinator

[WARGRAVECHURCH.ORG.UK](http://WARGRAVECHURCH.ORG.UK)

## VICAR'S LETTER

**"I have no-one else like him, who will show genuine concern for your welfare. For everyone looks out for their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ"**

**(Philippians 2: 20-21)**



Dear *Friends*

A friend recently wrote to me, mentioning in his letter the phrase written by the Apostle Paul in Philippians 2: 20-21. It prompted me to think about the people we honour across our parish and in our three churches.

The way of the world is to honour those who are gifted, impressive, successful, powerful, and influential.

However, if we are Christians, we are challenged not be shaped by what the world values. Paul urges those he is writing to, to find godly role models and fix their eyes on them (3:17). Then in Philippians 2: 19-30 he gives us two examples: Timothy and Epaphroditus. Nobody would have ever put up a statue in their honour. They were not particularly impressive; neither were famous military, political, or spiritual leaders. And yet the Apostle Paul says we should honour people like them (Philippians 2:29). The Apostle Paul looks at these two men and they stood out in marked contrast to the rampant blight of self-interest in Philippi as he was writing, and he rejoiced at these two, who had a true Christian perspective. It was former Prime Minister Gladstone (1809-1898) who observed that "selfishness is the greatest curse of the human race", and we might add sometimes the local church as well.

Why did the Apostle Paul rejoice over Timothy and Epaphroditus? The reason was that both modelled a Christ-like character. This takes us back to our Lord Jesus Christ who did not consider equality with God something to be used for His advantage. Following the Lord Jesus Christ's example Timothy and Epaphroditus made themselves the servants of others. They considered the welfare of others ahead of their own. Epaphroditus even risked his life to be a blessing to others.

They stand in contrast to the general run of Christians, as the Apostle Paul saw them, who put themselves first and the Lord Jesus next! They were different characters, with varying gifts and diverse temperaments; their backgrounds could not have been more dissimilar; but they were coming to resemble the Saviour; they loved him and followed his example. What was true of them can be true of us; God has not changed.

There are many in our church families, people like Timothy and Epaphroditus, who might never be noticed by many. As we emerge out of Covid these are the people we ought to honour, and the disciples we should raise up and pray for across our churches.

Let's pray for the most important fruit of Christ-like character to be formed across the whole of our church life, where we are all meant not just to be spectators but participants.

*John*

John R.M. Cook  
Vicar of Wargrave with Knowl Hill

# YOUNG PEOPLE ON SUNDAY AT ST MARY'S

Following our Mothering Sunday launch of the 9.45am service at St Mary's, all of us are getting used to the new pattern of things, and here is a little taste of what's begun...

We started the month with an energetic all-age service, led by Annie and Jubi da Silva and since then have had two Sundays of the children going out to their groups. A real highlight of the all-age service was the introduction of a monthly Bible verse which ties in with what the children will be learning about but also challenges us as adults to memorise Scripture!

Pathfinders (11-16 year olds is meeting in the Hannen Room on 2nd and 4th of the month), Sunday Club (3-11s) and Creché (under 3s) are taking place on 2nd, 3rd and 4th of the month. Palm Sunday saw an enthusiastic 'donkey' taking 'Jesus' and the palm waving 'crowd' on a procession round church. Over coffee on Easter Sunday we were treated to a short video of the children's re-enactment of the women visiting the tomb on the very first Easter Sunday morning. In the creché, the under 3s have been learning about our big creator God making the sea and fish and sky and birds (with the help of Florence the Flamingo, Peter Parrot and Herbert the Hermit Crab).

We would love your young people to join us. Why not bring them along to test the waters, so to speak! For further details:

**Creché - Camilla Cook** [camillacook@btconnect.com](mailto:camillacook@btconnect.com)

**Sunday Club - Annie da Silva** [hobden.da.silva@gmail.com](mailto:hobden.da.silva@gmail.com)

**Pathfinders - Marc Uniacke** [marcuniacke@gmail.com](mailto:marcuniacke@gmail.com)

IN THE PARISH

## KNOWL HILL NEWS

Prompted by the solemnity of Good Friday and the joy of Easter Day and being, one might say hopefully, in the afternoon of one's life, thoughts occasionally turn to one's demise (must stop speaking like "the Queen"). It was interesting therefore to catch completely by chance a Lent talk on Radio 4 a couple of Sundays ago on the physical process of dying. I had always thought unless you died in your sleep or got run over by a bus it would be as portrayed in films - a sudden feeling of impending doom followed by a dramatic collapse to the floor, but no. A doctor described in detail the various stages and timeframe and how gradually you lose consciousness and then slip away. This was most comforting as, like Clive James or was it Spike Milligan said, "I didn't mind the thought of dying but didn't particularly want to be there"! She confirmed that as is often thought hearing is the faculty that is the last to go. Being a Christian of course means that we are promised eternal life so dying is just a gateway to God's kingdom. However, if you are worried/scared or curious about dying I can highly recommend the above mentioned talk.

Regarding our project at St. Peter's, I was recently informed that we had received a donation of £15,000 from an anonymous donor. What a wonderful, generous and hugely appreciated and surprising gift. If you are reading this Mr or Mrs AD thank you so much. It brings ever nearer the fulfilment of our plans for our lovely church to be the spiritual and social heart of our community here in Knowl Hill.

Sandra Baker, Churchwarden at St Peter's  
01628 822402

# NEWS FROM THE PCC

The PCC met on 21st March

Items addressed included

- Jubilee Lunch Ticket Sale and the plans for Church involvement in the Wargrave Village Festival.
- Report on the Visit to the Deanery by Bishop Stephen.
- Approval of Leaders for Butterflies, Welcome Cafe, Tuesday Youth Group, Sunday Club, Pathfinders and Crèche.
- An update on the Parish Giving Scheme - thank you to all those who have signed up - if anyone else would like to join please contact the Church Office for a link.
- The 2021 Accounts were formally adopted and would be presented at the APCM.
- Plans for repairs to the South Wall of the Churchyard were approved.
- A period was set aside for discussion of the COGs system for organising the Ministry of the Church. The benefits of the system were explained, and the way in which it created opportunities for involvement of all members of the Church were appreciated. However, it was understood that due to the pandemic it had not been possible for the system to develop as envisaged over its initial couple of years. Breakout sessions in smaller groups, plus general sharing of ideas were used to gather opinions and the subject would be revisited at a future meeting where possible restructuring could be agreed alongside plans to relaunch to the whole Church - hopefully this time without COVID getting in the way of sharing and developing it.
- The Parish's response to the Ukrainian refugee crisis was considered and it was agreed to sign up to The Sanctuary Foundation to find out ways we can help.
- Arrangements were confirmed for the APCM - the Annual meeting of the Parish which will follow the shortened morning service on 24th April. Please come along to hear about how the Parish is doing now, and what are the plans for the future - and take the opportunity to contribute your comments and ideas about where you see Your Church going in the years to come.
- Finally the PCC took time to reflect on the passing of Lord Remnant and the years of faithful service which he gave to St Mary's as Patron. He was a wise and constant friend and support to the Parish, and a real example of Christian service in the wide range of his activities.

Sheila Williams  
PCC Secretary

## ECO CHURCH UPDATE

We bring news of two initiatives from the Oxford Diocese and World Evangelical Alliance.



### Greenshoots Network

The Oxford Diocese has set up a group that enables parishes to share their experiences of creation care via email, Zoom and in person, learn from each other and ask questions. I am representing our parish and would welcome cover. The group is friendly and supportive, and all meetings (once a month at most) are optional.



### World Evangelical Alliance

In February 2022, the Lausanne Creation Care Network, an initiative of the World Evangelical Alliance, hosted a webinar which you can watch here: [youtu.be/N6j-bpblMT8](https://youtu.be/N6j-bpblMT8). Those of you who attended our 2021 Lent Course will recognise two of the eight international speakers.

A week before Easter, the WEA issued the following message:

***Climate change. It's here, and it's getting worse.***

*The effects of climate change are felt by everyone, but especially by those who are least responsible: the poor, our children, and future generations. So where is the church?*

*For far too long, the church has remained on the side-lines when it belongs on the frontlines.*

*It's time to change that.*

*We are partnering with the **Porter's Gate Worship Project** and several other Christian organizations to create the **Climate Vigil Songs** worship album. We believe these songs will inspire millions of Christians to respond to the climate crisis with prayer & action for the sake of God's world and our neighbour's well-being.*

*We want you to be a part of it. We've already raised over 80% of the funds needed to complete the album. If you feel able to help, or to learn more, please visit [indiegogo.com/projects/climate-vigil-songs#/](https://indiegogo.com/projects/climate-vigil-songs#/) or email [info@wea-sc.org](mailto:info@wea-sc.org).*

For further information, visit [wea-sc.org](https://wea-sc.org)

Mike Buckland







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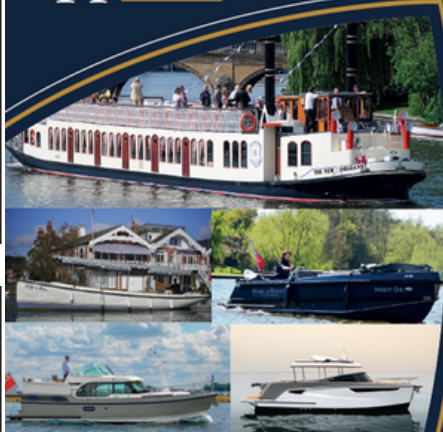
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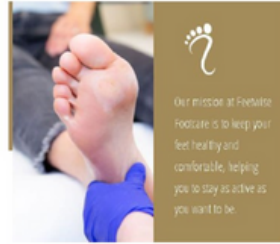
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Our mission at Feet Wise Footcare is to keep your feet healthy and comfortable, helping you to stay as active as you want to be.



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