

The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 191

May 2026

Are you new to St Jude's?

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

Open Church

In addition to service times, St Jude's Church will be open between 2.00pm and 4.00pm on Saturday 9th May (tea and coffee available).

Fourth Sunday at Four

Our apologies that there will not be a Fourth Sunday at Four Service on Sunday 24th May. This is because there is a Methodist Circuit Service at the United Church of Egham on that day at 6.30pm. (You will find further details of that service elsewhere in this newsletter). We hope that as many as possible will be able to come to that service, so we have decided to leave the afternoon free. This means that our next Fourth Sunday at Four Service is on Sunday 28th June at 4pm. More details of that service in the June edition of this newsletter!

Annual Meetings

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Vestry Meeting at which the Churchwardens are elected (currently Mike Brooking and Gill Sloan) and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place at approx 11.15am on Sunday 17th May. This is where we receive the revised Electoral Roll and the Annual Report and Accounts and normally elect members of the Church Council. This year we will also be electing our representatives to the Deanery Synod.

Concert

by James Kirby's
students from
Royal Holloway

Saturday 16th May

4.00pm

Admission free

Donations welcome

Refreshments provided

Save the dates!

Sunday 24th May is a significant date in the church's calendar. This year it happens to be the day on which we celebrate the Festival of Pentecost which commemorates the coming of God's Holy Spirit on the early Christian believers and marks the beginning of the spread of the Christian Gospel across the known world. Please come and worship with us at St Jude's as we rejoice in the work of the Holy Spirit in our world today.

BUT this date is significant in another way also. On Sunday May 24th, 1738 a young Church of England clergyman attended a service in Aldersgate Street in the City of London. A commentary on the apostle Paul's letter to the Romans was being read, and the Revd John Wesley was listening. He would later write in his journal that, in that moment, he felt his heart "strangely warmed" and that, "I did trust in Christ, Christ alone, for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death."

John Wesley had been ordained ten years before as a Priest in the Church of England. But, despite rigorous Bible Study and a deep commitment to social action, at home and abroad, John felt conscious of a lack of genuine Christian faith. His experience on May 24th, nearly three hundred years ago, changed that completely. A few months later John Wesley preached his first "outdoor" sermon in Bristol.

John had previously been a leading member of a study group in Oxford. The group had become known as "Methodists" because of their "methodical" devotion to study. The name caught on, and John, his faith blessed with a new joy and a solid conviction became the leader of the Methodist revival. Famed for his itinerant preaching ministry, John travelled by horseback across Britain sharing the Gospel of the love of God in Jesus Christ. Like the early church of old, the Methodist movement began to grow in number and in strength.

On Sunday 24th May, our own Methodist Circuit is marking the 288th Anniversary of John Wesley's conversion. Please see elsewhere in this newsletter for details of that celebration service. There is much to celebrate! In the aftermath of the Methodist Revival the relationship with the Church of England was sadly fractured. But in more recent times those wounds have been healing – and our own Anglican-Methodist Partnership at St Jude's is a wonderful living example of that. I treasure the privilege of ministering alongside Methodist colleagues.

In May's Memorial Matters, by Dr Helen Mckee, we have a wonderful insight into the early history of the Methodist Church in Englefield Green, now thriving once again as our Village Centre!

In April, our own Methodist minister, the Revd Lansford Penn-Timothy, was with us in St Jude's for a meeting with the Revd Lydia Corbett, Vicar of St John's Egham, and her Curate the Revd Holly Byles. Our very positive experience of partnership working with the Methodist Church was highlighted as we explored what the future might look like as Holly will, almost certainly, succeed me next year as Vicar. We welcome the possibility that a small group from the St John's congregation may join Holly at St Jude's, and that another, equally exciting and fruitful, partnership will begin to flourish, with Anglicans and Methodists continuing to worship and work together. Thank you to everyone who joined us for that meeting. If you missed it, Holly has offered to come back to St Jude's for a similar meeting on Wednesday 20th May at 11.30am, following our Holy Communion Service at 10am. Do please come if you would like to, to the service, the meeting, or both!

Before then, on Sunday 17th May at 11.15am, we have our Annual Vestry and Annual Parochial Church Meetings at St Jude's. There is an open invitation to everyone resident in the Parish, or on our Electoral Roll, to attend. If you are not on the electoral roll and would like to be, please contact our Electoral Roll Officer, Brian Hooker at brian.hooker@stjudeschurch.info.

Please join us for our meeting as we give thanks for God's goodness through another year. As John Wesley said: "One who always prays blesses God for all things".

Judith Allford

Pentecost and Aldersgate Service

St Jude's is privileged to be part of the Staines and Feltham Methodist Circuit. We benefit especially from the ministry of our Methodist Superintendent, the Revd Lansford Penn-Timity and our Methodist Deacon Jacqueline Esama-John, and from our partnership in our Village Centre.

The Circuit has a regular programme of united services and the next one of these is being held at one of our neighbouring churches, the United Church of Egham. It will take place at 6.30pm on Sunday 24th May, Pentecost Sunday, and a warm invitation is extended to us all. Lansford will be preaching at that service and the other churches in the Circuit will also be contributing to our worship. It promises to be a lovely occasion – please see further details elsewhere in this newsletter and please join us if you can.

The Valerie Ward Organ Scholarship

Just a reminder that St Jude's has recently established an organ scholarship, so named in memory of Mrs Valerie Ward, who very sadly died in 2014 and who had contributed so much to the life of St Jude's, not least musically. Val is remembered among us with great gratitude, and her presence is much missed. It is wonderful to have the opportunity to honour her memory in such a tangible way.

Would you be willing to help us grow this exciting new venture? If you would like further details please talk to our resident organist, Geoff Chew. If you would like to know how you can support this project, please contact our treasurer, Brian Hooker, at his email address: brian.hooker@stjudeschurch.info.

Thank you all!

Bereavement Coffee Morning

Thursday 28th May at 10.15am

at the Jurgens Centre,

Church of the Assumption of our Lady, Harvest Road

Everyone is welcome

We have an open invitation to join our neighbours at the Church of the Assumption of our Lady, Harvest Road, TW20 0QR, usually on the last Thursday in each month, for their regular Coffee Morning in the Jurgens Centre beside the Church.

You may have been recently bereaved, or your loss may be further back in time. Whatever your circumstances, you will find a quiet and welcoming space to talk or simply to listen and to be amongst friends. The invitation is to everyone; you may or may not be a church goer. You may drop in and out as you wish. We shall be very glad to see you.

Diary for May

- 3 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Holy Communion (Methodist Liturgy)
- 6 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 9. Saturday 2.00–4.00pm Church open
- 10 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Compline (Zoom)
- 13 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 14 Thursday **Ascension Day** 7.00pm Sung Eucharist
- 16 Saturday 4.00pm Concert by James Kirby's students from Royal Holloway
- 17 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 11.15am Annual Meetings
- 20 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 24 **Pentecost** 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist NO 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service 6.30pm Pentecost and Aldersgate service at the United Church, Egham
- 27 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
- 31 **Trinity Sunday** 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist

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

Email: enquiries@stjudeschurch.info

Web: www.stjudeschurch.info

Readings at Communion

Sunday 3rd May Acts 7. 55–end
(5th Sunday of Easter) Psalm 31. 1–5, 15–16
1 Peter 2. 2–10
John 14. 1–14

Sunday 10th May Acts 17. 22–31
(7th Sunday of Easter) Psalm 66. 7–end
1 Peter 3. 13–end
John 14. 15–21

Sunday 17th May Acts 1. 6–14
(Sunday after Ascension Day) Psalm 68. 1–10
1 Peter 4.12–14, 5. 6–11
John 17. 1–11

Sunday 24th May Acts 2. 1–21
(Pentecost) Psalm 104. 26–36
1 Corinthians 12. 3b–13
John 7. 37–39

Sunday 31st May Isaiah 40. 12–17, 27–end
(Trinity Sunday) Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13. 11–end
Matthew 28. 16–end

Food Bank

We continue to hear about, and to experience for ourselves, the rising cost of living. Across the country this means that increasing numbers of people need to look to Foodbanks for some support with daily living. All our Foodbanks play a wonderful role in supporting those who from time to time find themselves in particular need. Here in Englefield Green, we are grateful to the Runnymede Foodbank for the vital help they give to our community. Thank you as always to those of you who contribute to this work through St Jude's. Your regular contributions, in kind or in cash, are passed on to Runnymede Foodbank week by week, and we are grateful for all the donations which find their way to our Foodbank crate in the Monsell Room. Thank you to Geoff Chew who continues to co-ordinate this on behalf of us all.

From the Registers

Baptisms: (19th April) Jackson Brian Redman,
Albie Mark Redman,
Nicole Pamela Redman

Funerals: (13th April) Stephanie Shepherd

Putting your stamp on it

We are grateful to you for all your used postage stamps. We forward them to a charity and they are put to very good use! Thank you to Joan who manages this collection for us.



St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation



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

During April some of the children from Year 5 at our Junior School, accompanied by members of staff, enjoyed a short stay at High Ashurst Outdoor Education Centre. The Centre's website describes it as being "set in 56 acres of woodland on Box Hill, near Dorking, in the tranquil Surrey Hills 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty'". The description of the work of the Centre continues: "Our residential visits focus on developing the personal, social, physical and emotional health outcomes of the visiting groups through the many adventurous activities we have on offer". The Centre certainly lived up to its billing, and children and adults returned reporting a truly wonderful stay! Special thanks to school staff who gave up free time to make this trip possible.

And special thanks also to our Senior Leadership Team, teachers, every member of staff, children, parents/carers and governors, who prepared for and participated in our SIAMS inspection at St Jude's Infant School. The Statutory Inspection for Anglican and Methodist Schools (hence SIAMS) is held every five years in Church of England and Methodist Schools. Its aim is to ensure that we are living up to our declared vision as a Christian School – see the St Jude's vision above! It was a busy day – with lots of questions to think about! The report will be published around mid-May, so please watch this space. Thank you again to everyone.

The Village Centre

Victoria Street, Englefield Green TW20 0QX

01784 471110

manager@villagecentre.org.uk

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

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

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

This month we would love to spotlight our café, as it supports all the community outreach programmes. Lily is busy baking some delicious cakes to go with our barista coffees that we offer as a takeaway or come and sit in the café and enjoy the Grade II listed building with its separate children's play area and ball pit. We have bananas with pancakes or bacon butties and sausage baps to get your day started, plus a great selection of tasty toppings for our jacket potatoes including homemade pulled pork and vegetarian chilli. For lighter bites, our homemade soup with a freshly baked crusty roll is a firm favourite. Please do bring your family and friends to enjoy a Latté and you will be supporting all the work that goes on here.

We are now in need of additional staff to maintain the work we are doing. Please pray that our advertising will attract people with appropriate skills to help us maintain the vital ministry of our Centre.

Baby Basics, Over 55's Community Lunch, Bus Trips to Brooklands and the Child Contact Centre are very busy and the Community Fridge is seeing an average of 60 visitors every week. The Covid Spring booster vaccinations day was very successful. We have two more dates in the diary for the walk-in booster, so please come down if you are over 75, or immuno-compromised, on the 29th May and 26th June.

As always, we are especially grateful to our volunteers. Once again, this month we have welcomed new volunteers. Please pray for them as they settle into their new roles. Our volunteer force often includes students on work experience and young people working for a Duke of Edinburgh Award. We are grateful to them all for their presence and input.

Our Village Centre Management Committee has sadly lost two members who have stepped down in recent weeks. We are enormously grateful both to Tanya and Siobhan who have given outstanding service to the Committee and to the Centre. We have welcomed Jackie, a new member to the Committee and our prayers are with her as she settles in amongst us.

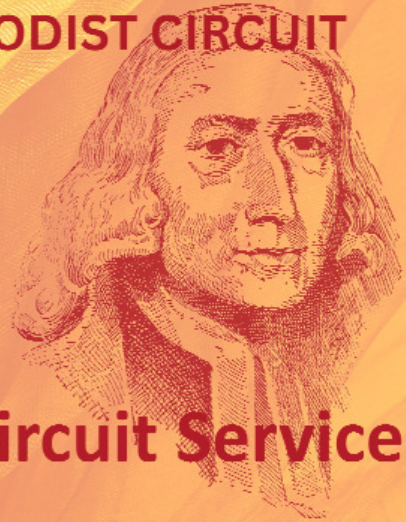
And a special note to everyone! Please check out our new Facebook Page - here's a welcome for you all:

Hello Englefield Green. Welcome to The Village Centre's new Facebook Page! Pop into our café for home-made treats, bring the little ones to play, or join one of our weekly classes. A cosy community space where everyone is invited to relax, connect, and feel at home. Please can you click to follow us, so we can share our latest news and goings on from the heart of Englefield Green.

We are continually grateful to all those who support our Village Centre in such a variety of ways. If you are reading this and would like to offer help in some way – or if perhaps you would like details of our popular Monday Lunch or Tuesday Bus Trip to Brooklands – please contact Helen on the number above or email: manager@villagecentre.org.uk



STAINES & FELTHAM METHODIST CIRCUIT



Invites you to our

Pentecost & Aldersgate Circuit Service

Sunday 24th May - 6:30pm

United Church of Egham

The High Street, Egham, TW20 9EX



**Led by: Dcn. Jacqueline
Esama-John**



**Preacher: Rev. Lansford
Penn-Timity**

Tea and Coffee will be served after the service

Memorial Matters: Elizabeth Rose Pocock

This month's memorial is not one of those in Englefield Green Cemetery. Instead, it may be found in the Village Centre —which used to be the local Wesleyan Methodist Church, and contains several memorial tablets. I have often studied the one on the wall behind the counter and wondered about its subject.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ELIZABETH ROSE POCOCK
ELDEST DAUGHTER OF
T. W. POCOCK. ESQ. J. P.
OF GLENRIDGE, VIRGINIA WATER.
BORN MARCH 14TH 1845,
FELL ASLEEP MAY 4TH 1913.
AT BURGHERSDORP, SOUTH AFRICA.
HE TURNETH THE SHADOW OF DEATH INTO THE MORNING
AMOS 5.8

It's nice to get some biographical details (including addresses) as well as exact dates of both birth and death, but I wanted to know more about Elizabeth Rose Pocock. If her father lived in Virginia Water, why had she died in South Africa? And why was she commemorated by this prominently-displayed memorial in the Englefield Green Methodist Church?

An immediate answer to these questions is provided by a short article in the Surrey Advertiser of 17 May 1913.

We record with regret the death of Miss E. R. Pocock, of Wakehurst, Englefield Green, which took place at Burghersdorp, Cape Province, on Sunday, May 4th. The deceased left England for a visit to her brother, the Rev. Thomas Pocock, in January, and it was at his residence that she passed peacefully away. She was well known in Egham for her interest in Wesleyan Methodism, and in the nurse fund. It was chiefly through her influence that the Englefield Green Wesleyan Church was built. Miss Pocock was the daughter of the late Mr. T. W. Pocock, J. P., of Glenridge, Virginia Water.

So Elizabeth Pocock was intimately involved in the building of the Methodist Church on Victoria Street.

Elizabeth was born to wealth and influence. Her mother was the daughter of Seth Smith, a successful and upwardly mobile builder who developed large parts of the West End. Meanwhile, her father, Thomas Wilmer Pocock, was the son of an architect; he himself had qualified as a surgeon before retiring from practice to live at a house designed by his father in Virginia Water (the 'Glenridge' of Elizabeth's memorial plaque, off Callow Hill: for much of the twentieth century, Glenridge was a hotel, but it has now been demolished and instead the site is occupied by a retirement community called Virginia Beeches). The Pococks were devoutly Methodist: Elizabeth's great-grandfather had been a carpenter employed in the construction of Wesley's Chapel, the 'Mother Church of World Methodism'. Graham Dennis records in *The Englefield Green Picture Book* that her brother and sister used to walk from Glenridge to Englefield Green to take the Methodist Sunday school (at that time in a mission hall on Alexandra Road). It's unsurprising that Elizabeth played a role in the construction of the new Wesleyan Church in 1903. Given that she came from a family of builders and architects, it's also unsurprising that the building's architect, William Howard Seth-Smith, was her first cousin.

Elizabeth's involvement with Methodism in Englefield Green was helped by the fact that she lived locally. By 1891, she was based in 'Wakehurst' (a house which survives as the right-hand part of Wetton's Terrace, on the Royal Holloway campus). Here she would spend the rest of her life. With her lived a companion: Lilian Ellen Cope (known as Nannie) was twenty years Elizabeth's junior and had trained as a nurse at Guy's Hospital. Nannie apparently moved to Wakehurst shortly after she qualified in 1890, and she remained with Elizabeth for over two decades, until her own premature death — which happened in 1912 when she was 46. The *Surrey Herald* reported Nannie's death, describing her as the 'loved and loving friend of E. R. Pocock, Wakehurst, Englefield Green'.

It was after this loss that Elizabeth made the journey to South Africa to see her brother Thomas — the brother who had walked from Glenridge to Englefield Green to take Sunday school. He had become a Methodist missionary and emigrated to the Eastern Cape in the 1870s, where he settled in Burg(h)ersdorp (he named his house 'Glenview').

Elizabeth's parents and three of her brothers were buried in the family vault at Christchurch, Virginia Water, and Nannie Cope rests nearby. Dying six thousand miles away, Elizabeth was unable to join them, but the memorial tablet in the church she helped to build keeps her name on view to this day.