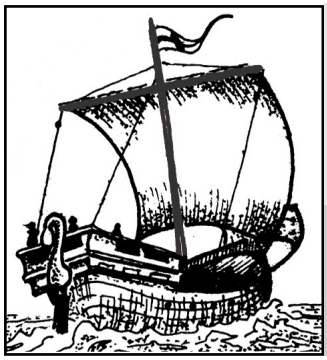


The Ship

St Jude's Church, Englefield Green Newsletter

Anglicans and Methodists working together

Number 195 **September 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 12th September (cream tea and coffee available).

Fourth Sunday at Four

Our next Fourth Sunday at Four service will be on Sunday 27th September at 4.00pm. Please save the date, and plan to join us for this shorter and more informal service. Refreshments are served from 3.15pm in the Monsell Room. Please come if you can.

Open Church and Cream Teas

Saturday 12th September

2.00–4.00pm

It's time for a Macmillan Coffee Morning

and you're invited

Saturday 19th September

10.00–12.00noon

Piano Recital by Matthew Stanley

Saturday 19th September

4.00pm

Admission free

Refreshments provided

Donation welcome

Looking back and looking onwards

This time last year, we were waiting to greet the arrival of our new Methodist pastors. The Revd Lansford Penn-Timity, and Deacon Jacqueline Esama-John, had both been newly appointed to our Staines and Feltham Methodist Circuit, Lansford as our Methodist Superintendent Minister. A year on, they have become our dear friends. We thank God for their ministry and for their fellowship, and, at this time of anniversary we wish them, and their loved ones, God's greatest continuing blessing in the years that lie ahead.

In a recent sermon I was reflecting on the life of another great servant of St Jude's, the Revd John Bewley Monsell. This year marks the 167th anniversary of the foundation of our beautiful Church. My reflection went something like this:

In the mid nineteenth century, the storm clouds were gathering. The earth experienced what became known as "The Carrington Event", the most intense solar storm on record. It caused global telegraph lines to fall and dazzling auroras to appear as far south as the Caribbean. At the same time, the second Italian War of Independence was beginning. The balance of power in Europe was shifting. Charles Darwin published his groundbreaking scientific study "On the Origin of Species", a work which took the scientific world by storm, and sent tremors through the Christian church.

In July 1859, in a village some miles from London, a new church opened its doors to its first worshippers. The church was the fulfilment of the vision of the Rector of the neighbouring town. He had engaged the services of a London-based architect, Edward Buckton Lamb, whose innovative work was attracting criticism as well as acclaim. Letters to the local press of the time tell us that the distinctive internal stonework of the building was seen by some as "gaudy" and displeasing! The church was consecrated to the glory of God in the name of two of Jesus' more obscure disciples, St Simon and St Jude, both martyred for their faith, perhaps together, in the early years of the emerging Christian church. Would the new church in Englefield Green, battered by the many storms of the day, prove to be a lost cause?

The new Rector, the Revd John Samuel Bewley Monsell, was experiencing personal turbulence. In October 1853, the Ottoman Empire has declared war on Russia, precipitating the Crimean War, which was to last almost three years. Britain joined the conflict, and in November 1854, John Monsell's eldest son, Lieutenant Thomas Bewley Monsell, set sail for the Crimea. He never reached his destination. He died, probably from a typhoid infection, just a few days out to sea. His body was committed to the waves of the Mediterranean.

The grief for the Monsell family must have been overwhelming. But John's determination to bring the privilege of worship to the wealthy, and the poor, of Englefield Green never wavered. He was reputed to have been a great preacher, who kept his congregation on the edge of their seats! He found refuge in his faith, which often he expressed in poetry and hymns.

Like the 19th century, the 21st century is also a time of turbulence and change, globally, nationally, and perhaps even personally. This summer our country has experienced the most severe heat and drought on record. Perhaps the effect of that has been to turn our thoughts and prayers more readily to the plight of others across our world where drought is a constant, and where the consequences of climate change are an even more present reality. Perhaps we have also prayed more earnestly for our farming community, ever grateful for everything they do on behalf of us all. At the same time, we have remembered those in our own village community who have found the extreme heat hardest to bear.

Who knows what changes may lie ahead? Some, like the coming among us last year of Lansford and Jacqueline, will be very good. Others, harder to meet. But some of John Monsell's hymns we still sing today. This one surely speaks of John Monsell's own experience of finding comfort and hope as he knelt before God in prayer:

Low at his feet lay thy burden of carefulness, high on his heart he will bear it for thee, comfort thy sorrows, and answer thy prayerfulness, guiding thy steps as may best for thee be.

Judith Allford

Looking to the future

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". (Jeremiah 29v.11)

Our Ecumenical Church Council will be meeting this month with the Revd Jens Mankel, one of the Mission Enablers from the Diocese of Guildford, for a Vacancy Vision Workshop which will explore our hopes for the way ahead under new leadership and, most especially, under the guidance of God. Please pray for all our ECC members, for wisdom and discernment as together we look to the future.

Royal Holloway University of London

The Revd Daniel Walker is the Anglican Chaplain to RHUL and often worships and leads worship at St Jude's. Daniel writes:

"This September will see the beginning of a new academic year at Royal Holloway University, with Freshers' Fair falling on Tuesday 22nd. This year the Chaplaincy is excited to welcome two new Chaplains to its team. We shall also have first year choristers joining the Choir and returning Chapel Wardens, who help support the life and worship of the Chapel. Several students and alumni will begin working as Volunteer Ministry Assistants both at St Jude's and at St Mary's Thorpe, throughout 2026/2027. Please pray for them all. As the Parish Church of most of the Royal Holloway Campus, St Jude's has the exciting privilege of offering a spiritual home for students in the heart of the community in which they have chosen to live for the next three years at least".

Please continue to pray for Daniel and for those who work alongside him in the Chaplaincy. Please pray especially for students attending Freshers' Fair and for members of the Chaplaincy Team who will be there to greet them.

Our St Jude's Organ Scholar, Joshua Davis, is about to begin his second year at RHUL. We look forward to greeting him on his return. Please pray that St Jude's will indeed be able to provide a spiritual home this year for some of our new and returning students.

Congratulations!

Very many congratulations to Cordelia Tubb on being awarded her Doctorate! Cordelia's PhD is in Biological Sciences. Her research title was "Modelling the effects of human and ape variants in cilium proteins on neurogenesis using the zebrafish model system". We are so pleased for you, Cordelia. We know it's been a lot of hard work! Congratulations Dr Cordelia Tubb!

Readings at Communion

Sunday 6th September (14th Sunday after Trinity)	Ezekiel 33. 7–11 Psalm 119. 33–40 Romans 13. 8–end Matthew 18. 15–20
Sunday 13th September (15th Sunday after Trinity)	Genesis 50. 15–21 Psalm 103 1–13 Romans 14. 1–12 Matthew 18. 21–35
Sunday 20th September (16th Sunday after Trinity)	Jonah 3. 10–end of 4 Psalm 145. 1–8 Philippians 1. 21–end Matthew 20. 1–16
Sunday 27th September (17th Sunday after Trinity)	Ezekiel 18. 1–4, 25–end Psalm 25. 1–8 Philippians 2. 1–13 Matthew 21. 23–32

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.

Easyfundraising.co.uk

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

Food Bank

Thank you for all your continuing support for the Runnymede Foodbank. Please pray especially this month for our Foodbank Volunteers. The Summer heat can make both the collection and distribution of donations more difficult, although ways are being found around this.

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 for us.

From the Registers

Baptism: (23rd August) Reece Harding

Funeral: (20th August) Lewis Jeffrey Arthur Patterson

Diary for September

2 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
6 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Holy Communion (Methodist Liturgy)
9 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
12 Saturday 2.00–4.00pm Church open Cream Teas available
13 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 6.00pm Compline (Zoom)
16 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
19 Saturday 4.00pm Piano Recital by Matthew Stanley
20 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist
23 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion
26 Saturday 10.00–12.00 noon Coffee Morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support
27 Sunday 8.00am Holy Communion (said) 9.30am Sung Eucharist 4.00pm Fourth Sunday at Four service
30 Wednesday 10.00am Holy Communion

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

Volunteer Ministry Assistant

We are very excited that this September at St Jude's we shall be welcoming, for the very first time, a volunteer ministry assistant. Sofie Palmer has just completed an MSc in Geoscience at Royal Holloway College, University of London, having previously studied at RHUL for her undergraduate degree.

Whilst at Holloway, Sofie served for four years as a chapel warden and took on a variety of roles in the life of the Chaplaincy. She also became part of the life and worship of St John's Egham, where she has sung in the choir and been part of the student worship band. Music is very important to Sofie, and as a child growing up, she attended the church where her father played the organ.

Sofie has worshipped with us on a number of occasions at St Jude's, most recently attending and participating in our Wednesday Holy Communion services. She is looking forward to developing her ministry among us at St Jude's, and at our Village Centre. Her role will be part-time, as she will need to find employment to cover some of her living costs, but there will be plenty of opportunity for Sofie to use some of her many gifts within the life of our fellowship.

One of Sofie's first tasks, I hope, will be to write a proper introduction to herself which will appear in the October edition of this newsletter. But for now, we very much welcome you Sofie, and we thank God for your faithfulness to his calling to come amongst us here. May God bless you very much in the year of ministry which lies ahead for you, and may he bless others through you.

Judith Allford

St Jude's Church of England Schools Federation

Once again, the eagerly anticipated long summer holidays have sped past, and this month it's back to school once more! We hope everyone has been able to enjoy at least some rest and recreation, and to find some cool breezes amidst the sunshine! Thank you to those who have looked after our school buildings in the holidays, and to teachers and other members of staff who have been busy preparing for the weeks ahead.

We offer every member of our schools' community our prayers and best wishes as a new term and academic year gets under way. We pray especially for those children starting "big school" for the first time and for those transitioning from Infant to Junior School! All the very best for a happy year ahead. God be with you all.

Bereavement Coffee Morning

Thursday 24th September at 10.15am

at the Jurgens Centre,

Church of the Assumption of our Lady, Harvest Road

Everyone is welcome

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

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

The Village Centre

68 Victoria Street, Englefield Green TW20 0QX
01784 471110

manager@villagecentre.org.uk

website:www.villagecentre.org.uk

The Centre is closed on 31st August, Bank Holiday Monday and then returns to termtime opening hours of 9am–2pm.

This month's article is based around an extract from a newsletter which Helen Hallett, our Centre Manager, has recently written to the Staff and Volunteer team, or, in Helen's own words - "all the amazing people who contribute to the Village Centre".

Helen writes: I wanted to thank you for your hard work and endurance that goes into running the Village Centre. Being able to fill such a breadth of roles for the weekly rotas and the general management of the building is a real feat. Every time I have the privilege of showing visitors around the centre, they are amazed at the scope of our work and the depths to which we support our local community.

I have applied for 6 grants this past month. I've written down on paper the number of services that are available, how we run things and how we look after people. It has highlighted for me the way in which together we have demonstrated such competence and ability to reach the people in need and to fulfil our role of providing a place that the community of Englefield Green wants to visit.

There have been some exciting developments in the last few weeks, and we have been delighted to welcome people into their new roles. That includes the appointment of a Treasurer to succeed Andrew Sheer, and three new Café Assistants. If you are passing through, please pop in and welcome our new staff members.

We are still looking for someone to employ on a Tuesday and Friday as a Café Assistant. So, if you know anyone who might be suitable, please get in touch. We will be advertising for the role soon.

Lily and Debbie, previously our long-standing Café Assistants, are now our Village Centre Team Leaders, with Lily taking a lead role in the Community Fridge, and Debbie doing the same for the Child Contact Centre and Baby Basics programme.

Turning to the building, we have several projects that have been funded. After 3 years of seeking a grant to replace the boiler, we received the money from Runnymede Borough Council. The boiler was replaced last week, and it is running well. Blinds are being installed in the hall in September thanks to a grant, also from RBC.

RBC has also funded the installation of an online booking system. This will reduce the amount of administration required surrounding the hire of the building. If anyone is willing to help with the installation or the transfer of the diary onto the system, that would be welcome.

We have received a grant from Surrey County Council to refurbish our washrooms. The very tired looking six toilet cubicles plus the shower will be completely replaced before Christmas. Please get in touch if you would like to help with planning the design!

We are grateful that in so many ways the Village Centre continues to be a place of laughter, fun, support and a refuge at the heart of Englefield Green.

Helen Hallett

Memorial Matters

The Carr family of Rusham House

One of the most noticeable memorials in Englefield Green Cemetery is the broken column across the path from the Greek Orthodox Church. As Graham Dennis notes in The Englefield Green Picture Book (p. 14), the column isn't damaged: this was the original design. The person for whom this memorial was originally placed was John Carr 'of Rusham, Egham' (as the inscription reads), but the base of the column has four sides, on which we find the names of eight other members of his family.

John Carr was a wealthy stockbroker who lived in Egham. He was born in Battersea in 1829, the fourth son of Benjamin Carr (also a stockbroker) and Charlotte (née Patient). In 1854 John married a widow called Mary Ann Gawdery (born Mary Ann Baker in Bermondsey, daughter of a ropemaker). The couple, who set up home in Lambeth, produced nine children: John Baker (born in 1855), Emily (1856), Ada Jane (1858), Horace William (1860), Ambrose Patient (1862), Florence Elizabeth (1863), Charlotte Anne (1865), Arthur James (1867), and Jessie Louisa (1869). The family obviously enjoyed a comfortable life (at the time of the 1871 census they were on holiday in Margate) and around 1877 they moved from South London to Egham, taking up residence in Rusham House. Named for the medieval manor of Rusham, this was a beautiful eighteenth-century house a short walk from the railway station. (Sadly, the house was demolished in the mid-twentieth century — the site was subsequently occupied by Procter & Gamble — but photographs of it can be viewed online via the Surrey History Centre, www.surreyarchives.org.uk.)

It was in Rusham House that John Carr died on 22 April 1885. He was 56 and had been suffering from an attack of bronchitis which turned into pneumonia. After John's death his family moved away from the Egham area. Most of the children ended up living in Bromley (and the three elder sons followed their father and grandfather into the Stock Exchange), but their mother Mary Ann settled in Streatham (in a house which she named 'Ankerwyke', a memory of her time near Runnymede). Mary Ann died in 1891 and was buried with her husband: her name is on the memorial's second face.

The memorial's third face remembers the Carrs' second son, Horace, and his young wife. He had married Florence Emily Osmond ('Dollie') in 1889, but in 1892 (aged just 21), she died after giving birth to their second child. Horace followed her in 1896 (the orphaned children were brought up in Bromley by their unmarried aunt Florence).

On the memorial's final face, we find the names and dates of five more Carr children: Ambrose (who died in 1903), Charlotte (1910), Florence (1961), Jessie (1967), and Arthur (his name squeezed in at the bottom: he had emigrated to the US, where he worked as a salesman, dying in Iowa in 1934). Not named are John Baker, the oldest, and the two married daughters Emily and Ada Jane. I think it's interesting to note that both John Baker and Emily married members of the Notley family. Emily's husband was the patriarch Richard Albert Notley (1840-1925), an estate agent and surveyor originally from Lambeth. The Notley family home was Larksfield, Bagshot Road, and the family is commemorated today by two roads in the development where their house once stood, Larksfield and Notley End. Meanwhile Richard Notley's niece Emily Notley Farlow — whose family actually lived in Rusham House before the Carrs — had married John Baker Carr! Englefield Green Cemetery has side-by-side memorials to the Farlow and Notley families in line with the Carr pillar (along the path towards St Jude's Road), so these families interconnected in life are still close today.

Dr Helen Mckee

From the September 1966 Magazine

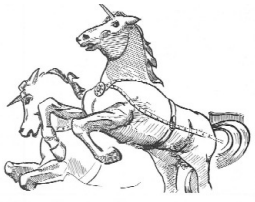
Cover — how many of us remember this building? It was the Infants' School — the entrance was in Alexandra Road.

Mr George Cross

Mr George Cross was born in Staines and was a choirboy in St Peter's Choir when, so **he** says, it was at its best. After his voice broke (never to be mended) he became a server. His first interest with St Jude's was in 1935 when he and his then fiancée Lucy (later Mrs Cross) became members of a band of Glee singers run by Mrs Tindall. In 1937, they were married in St Jude's. It was not until 1952 that he became an active member of the congregation. In that year he was elected a sidesman and also chairman of the Fete Committee — a post he held until Mr Chappell took over.

1953 Mrs Cross was elected a member of the Parochial Church Council and served until 1957 when Mr Cross was elected a member. In 1959 (the Centenary year) he was elected churchwarden with Mr Charles Hutchings and over a period of seven years he gained as much experience as any churchwarden — Centenary Year (with all its activities), the first Planned Giving Scheme, months without a Vicar when Canon Vallins was first ill, a new Vicar and then Chairman of the second Planned Giving Scheme. In all that had to do, he had every help and support from his wife.

He said that circumstances were the reason for his being Churchwarden for as long as seven years and expressed the hope that at the coming Annual General Meeting someone would be found to take his place.



One of Richard Falkner's drawings from the magazine

Saint John's Egham

ECO FAYRE

Saturday 5th September

11am -3pm

St John's Church Grounds, TW20 9HL

Free Family Friendly event to learn, share and take steps towards a greener future - for our neighbours, our planet and generations to come.

Come with an open mind and an open heart and...

Bring Your:

Mugs for drinks

Apples for the apple press

Bottles for detergent refills

Bags for produce from the Community Fridge(11am-1pm)

Items to be repaired or sharpened(including bicycles) for the Repair Clinic.

Book a fix here:

https://stjohnsegham.com/repair-clinic-booking/

Scan here for more info

Bring cash for refills, nearly new store, upcycles and more!

Learn from experts & talk to others concerned about the Environment

Save money & the planet by reusing / recycling