

PARISH

MAGAZINE



From the Editorial Team

With the Church's Calendar oddly skewed with all the festivals in six month period between the Sunday before Advent and Pentecost, we should be looking forwards to a time of quiet contemplation over the next few months.

No way!

No sooner will we be over the Wargrave Festival, than we will be thrown into 'Life after John and Camilla', the Summer holidays, and the process for the appointment of a new Vicar for Wargrave. Please hold the future of this Parish, as well as John and Camilla, in your prayers.

Mark

MARK PUDDY | MAGAZINE EDITORIAL TEAM

 Scan the QR to send photos or articles for next magazine via WhatsApp



 magazine@wargravechurch.org.uk

March copy date:
Wednesday 19th June 2024

A FOND FAREWELL

by Mark Puddy



At the end of June, we will be saying farewell to John and Camilla, after 15 memorable years.

We are planning a special edition of the Magazine next month to commemorate and celebrate the last decade and a half, and would be very grateful if you could please send in your photos of John and Camilla at important events and informal moments.

Please send in via email to the address below or contact the office with your printed photos.

farewells@wargravechurch.org.uk

SONGS OF PRAISE

WARGRAVE FESTIVAL

by Sue Witney & Mark Puddy, Churchwardens

You are warmly invited to celebrate the end of this years' Wargrave Festival at St Mary's Songs of Praise service on Sunday 30th June.

Taking place in the Marquee on Mill Green, the service will feature a brass band playing some of the village's favourite hymns and worship songs, along with talks including a special testimony from Camilla Cook.

We will also be hearing from Revd Jon Drake, Vicar of St Mary's, Maidenhead, and former curate in the village, reflecting on his time here and what the good news of Jesus Christ makes to life here.

This will also be John and Camilla's last service with us, so let's make this one to remember!



 St Mary's Church Wargrave
With Knowl Hill

WARGRAVE FESTIVAL

SONGS OF PRAISE

SUNDAY 30 JUNE 2024
10.30AM | FESTIVAL MARQUEE

HYMNS & WORSHIP SONGS
BRASS BAND | TALKS | TESTIMONIES
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

ALL WELCOME
Guest Speaker: Revd Jon Drake



CHURCHES COUNT ON NATURE

by Mike Buckland



Every year in June, in churchyards across the country, groups and individuals identify and photograph wildlife, for example plants, fungi, lichens, trees, butterflies, birds, bats. The dates are chosen to coincide with the Great Big Green Week, the UK's biggest annual call for action on climate change and nature, which this year runs from 8th - 16th June.

The organisers (a charity called Caring for God's Acre) provide all the resources and accept completed surveys throughout June. They then forward them to experts who forward those they agree with to the National Biodiversity Network's database. Users of the iNaturalist app can submit their findings to them directly.

Anyone who would like to take part is asked to contact our Eco Church Lead Mike Buckland.

For full information, visit caringforgodsacre.org.uk

stewarding@wargravechurch.org.uk

SPECIAL EVENT

Wargrave Cubs bell-ringing and nature survey
Thursday 6th June | 7pm - 8.30pm | St Mary's Church
All are welcome to listen and watch

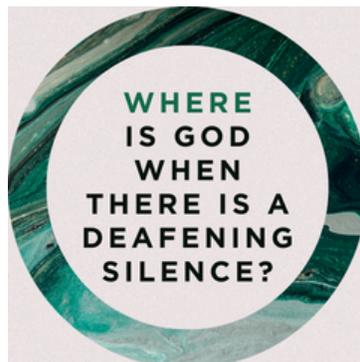
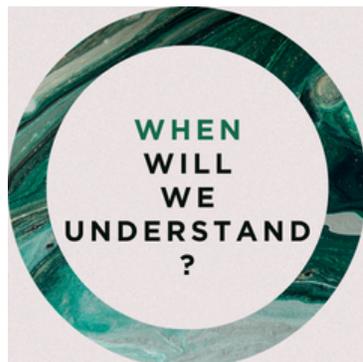
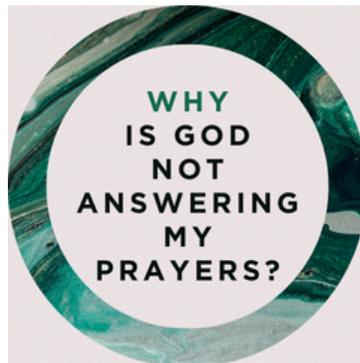


UNANSWERED PRAYER

by Angie Buckland

As those of us who attended this course recently discovered, it is not for those who shy away from the difficult questions of life. However, even for those for whom unanswered prayer is not currently a major problem it provided a greater understanding of those for whom it is.

Through videos and conversations between Gemma Hunt and Pete Greig (24/7 Prayer) and the testimony of invited guests the course asks 4 key questions:



It took us through Holy Week in the company of Jesus who was confronted with the same questions. He asked in vain that 'the cup of suffering' would be taken from him and uttered the heart-wrenching words, "My God, why have you forsaken me" as he hung on the cross.

The presence of Jesus in our most difficult moments

We found comfort in knowing that Jesus has shared our experience of suffering and unanswered prayers and thereby understands our human predicament. As we shared in small groups, all of us could testify to the presence of Jesus in our most difficult moments, his scars visible as he stood at the bedside of the dying or beside us as we faced the great disappointments and tragedies of life. We learned too that God can make something beautiful out of our brokenness.



It was fitting that the course finished with Easter Sunday, the day when death was conquered and we could begin to look towards a new heaven and a new earth, when there will be no more sickness or war or natural disasters. The prayers that we think have gone unanswered may in fact be lodged there awaiting a greater fulfilment than we ever anticipated.

Should you wish to learn more about the Unanswered Prayer course, please speak with Angie or follow online:
unanswered.prayercourse.org/sessions

REGULAR GIVING TO THE CHURCH

SCAN QR OR VISIT
PARISHGIVING.ORG.UK



More information: Sean Sutcliffe 0118 940 1105 | sutcliffefamily1@btinternet.com



JUNIOR CHURCH: LUKE STREET

by Lis Hobden

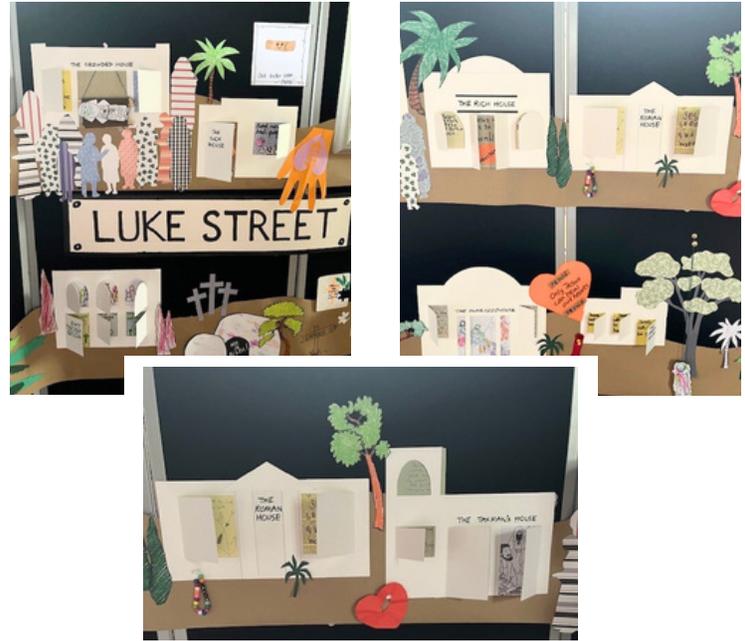
Our Luke Street adventure has taken us on quite a journey in Junior Church.



We've seen Jesus healing people from all sorts of backgrounds; enjoying the company of outcasts and forgiving their sins; dealing with increasing criticism from the religious leaders; speaking words of authority; teaching his disciples and gradually opening their eyes to realise he is indeed the promised Messiah.



We'd love you to take a look at our Luke Street display at the back of the church. Each house Jesus visited tells us something different about who he is and why he came, so open the windows and doors to see what that something is. It was surprising to see how often the stories involved food! Jesus must have been such good company. Above all we understood that he can open our eyes to realise that he loves us, rescues us and is always with us, even in Wargrave in 2024. JESUS IS AMAZING.



LADIES' BREAKFAST

by Linda Caradine

Our monthly breakfast meeting is a time of fellowship, nurture and sharing, and of course a delicious continental breakfast.

We usually have a different person lead each month, which brings a variety of subjects and styles. Most subjects relate in some way to the Bible but occasionally we just enjoy a time of worship or encouragement. We have previously had studies on Doubting Thomas, Be Still and Know that I am God, The Wise Men, crafts, sharing good books and religion in art. At Christmas we usually have an extra special breakfast!

For the future we have a study based on a personal testimony about how we can deal with disappointment and doubt.

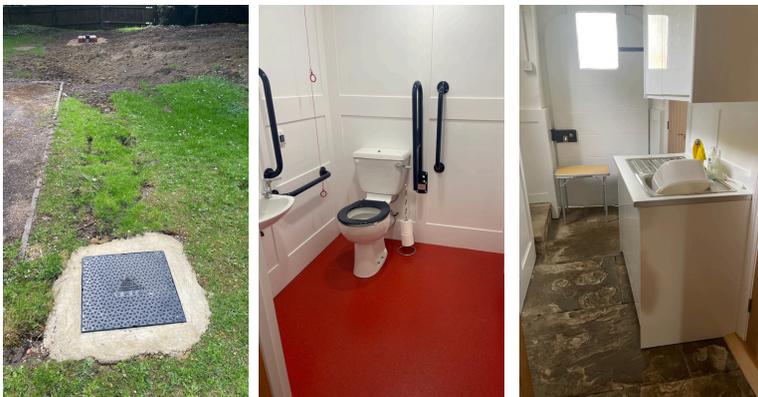
Do come and join us! All are welcome.

1st Saturday of Month | 9am - 12pm | Church Centre

ST PETER'S PROJECT UPDATE

by Lesley Bell

... and finally the work is completed.



CAMEO - MAY

by Lesley Bell

We were delighted to welcome the children from Knowl Hill Academy to join us for the afternoon on Thursday 16th May.



We all enjoyed a drink, lovely cakes, kindly provided by Caroline Shailles, and getting to know the regular members of CAMEO. This was followed by an afternoon of mixed activities of colouring, scrabble, dominoes, crosswords and many other games. Everyone had a wonderful time.

Next Event: Thursday 20th June - Cards
2.30pm | Knowl Hill Village Hall

CURATE'S LETTER

Dear

Parish Family



Of course, in order to know that, we also need to know who God is. This God who is both light and love - in whom there is no darkness at all, and who sent His Son to die for those whose lives were full of darkness.

Knowing, loving, and living with a God like that isn't something we can achieve on our own. It takes a transformative act on God's part. "You must be born again," as Jesus told Nicodemus. But it is a transformation that God promises to anyone - no matter how dark their past, no matter how loveless their life before - who puts their faith in Jesus Christ.

Do you know God, and does God know you? Everything hinges on the answer to that question.

Richard

Richard Eves
Curate of Wargrave with Knowl Hill

June

DIARY EVENTS

Saturday 1st

9am - Ladies' Breakfast (WG)

Wednesday 5th

9.30am - Butterflies (CC)
11.45am - Monthly Prayer (CC)



Monday 17th

6.45pm - ASMF Concert (WG)

Tuesday 18th

7.30pm - Festival Folk Club (CC)

Wednesday 19th

9.30am - Butterflies Brunch (CC)

Thursday 20th

2.30pm - CAMEO: Cards (KH)

Sunday 23rd

9.30am - Ramble & Picnic (EX)

Sunday 30th

10.30am - Songs of Praise (MG)

WG = Wargrave | KH = Knowl Hill | CC = Church Centre
MG = Mill Green | EX = External

CHURCH CENTRE BOOKINGS

Looking to hold an event in the Church Centre?
Contact Lucy in the office to discuss your requirements

SUNDAY SERVICES

ST MARY'S CHURCH, WARGRAVE

8am	Every Sunday	Holy Communion (A said service in traditional language)
9.45am	2nd June	Morning Worship
	9th June	Holy Communion
	16th June	Father's Day All Age Service
	23rd June	Holy Communion
	30th June	Festival Songs of Praise, Mill Green

JUNIOR CHURCH

9.45am	Every Sunday	0-3 yrs Crèche 3-16 yrs Church Centre
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ST PETER'S CHURCH, KNOWL HILL

10.30am	2nd June	Holy Communion
	16th June	Holy Communion



ST PAUL'S CHURCH, WARREN ROW

9.15am	9th June	Holy Communion
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FOND FAREWELLS
Camilla & John

30 JUN 11.30AM
Festival Marquee

PARISH REGISTERS : WEDDINGS, BAPTISMS & FUNERALS

Baptisms at St Mary's, Wargrave

7th April Poppy Louise Kinsbrook

Funerals at St Mary's, Wargrave

5th April Jaqueline Mai, 79, Memorial followed by woodland burial at Rotherfield Greys
 6th April Albert Edward Leighton, 95, Interment of Ashes - The New Cemetery
 8th April Georgia Floate, 91, Cremation at Reading, Thanksgiving at St Mary's
 16th April Leslie Souter, 63, Cremation at Reading
 25th April Derek Anthony Bluett Richmond, 90, Interment of Ashes at St Mary's



THE PARISH OFFICE

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