

The LINK

30p

June 2018



**The Parish Church of
St Michael Braintree
www.stmichaelsbtrees.co.uk**



God at Work?

Dear Friends,

I don't know what you think of when I mention "work":

- Perhaps you think of something that is rather dull, boring or exhausting – "hard work"
- Perhaps you view work as a necessary evil – something you have to do to bring in some money to live on
- Perhaps your work, your career, is the thing that consumes most of your time and energy – the thing that you live for

When I speak of work, I am not just thinking of paid employment. Our work, in whatever season of life we are in, may be our role as a homemaker or parent, as a carer, or what we do in retirement. But here is, maybe, a surprising question: what does God think of your work?

During June and July, we will be having a mini-series of four sermons called, "God at Work". We will be looking at what the Bible tells us about work. Some of what it says may well surprise you.

We will start by looking at “**Work as God intended**”, because work (that is, purposeful activity) was part of God’s good plan for human beings. Genesis 2:15 tells us that “*the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.*” Work, as originally intended, was a gift from God, to give purpose and pleasure to people.

We will then look at “**Work in a fallen world**”. In Genesis 3, as a result of Adam and Eve disobeying God, the ground was cursed. God said to Adam, “*By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground.*” Human beings, by turning away from God, caused work to become painful, frustrating, tough and ultimately futile. Work today can still give us purpose and pleasure, but can also be painful and frustrating.

The final two sermons will be about “**Work in the light of the gospel**”. One writer comments that “Christ’s death does not change work, but changes the worker”. I hope that, as we look at what the Bible tells us about work, we will see more of God’s purposes for our current work, as well as the opportunity to make a difference for him.

The series will run in the 10am services on 17th & 24th June and 15th & 22nd July.

May God bless you, as you seek to work for him.

Nigel

MISSION OF THE MONTH LANGHAM PARTNERSHIP

Rula Mansour is a Palestinian Christian. She is a lawyer. She knows what it is to be discriminated against.

She became a Langham Scholar. Now she has returned to her homeland to help the Palestinian church.

REMARKABLE STORY

June's 'Mission of the Month' is Langham Partnership (LP). On display is their magazine, 'Transform'. In it you can read Rula's remarkable story. It gives an insight into what it is like to be an Arab Christian in the state of Israel as well as describing how LP helped one of its scholars to be equipped to serve the church in her homeland.



THE OTHER TWO PRONGS

Also 'Transform' tells us about LP's other two prongs: it is training of preachers and it's literature work. It gives us a new picture of what it 'mission' means in the C21st.

Stephen Bailey

Barn Dance

With fish and chips supper
(sausages also available)

For all ages. Everyone welcome

Saturday 16 June

6.00—9.00, food 7.00

St Michaels Church House

Cost £8.00 adult

£4.00 child

Tickets: Lin Terris Jenny Chapman

Sue Marriott, Jo Adams



GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Sunday 1st July at 12.30pm

Janet and Cyril Bamforth

will be having a garden party at Church House to celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary and would like everyone in our St. Michael's family to come and join us.



TRIP TO CAMBRIDGE

Why not join in a trip to visit the site of the WHITE HORSE TAVERN in CAMBRIDGE?

It is on SATURDAY 14 JULY.

A coach will leave St Michael's at 9.30am.

Here are the options:

A guided tour around KING'S COLLEGE and chapel costing £7.00 per person

Lunch at the 'Grad-Pad'

Punting

Walking tour around Cambridge

Shopping

Look out for the sign-up sheet in church.



GOD IN THE TRENCHES

11 November 2018 is the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI. To commemorate this historic anniversary St Michael's Church will be holding a special weekend of events.

Some might ask why we should remember war at a church? First, this is a celebration of the restoration of peace. Secondly it does raise the very important question 'Where was God in all this?'

The surprising answer (for many, though not for all of us), is that God was with the soldiers in the trenches. And through these events we want to prompt people to consider the theme of salvation through faith in Jesus.

There will be an **exhibition** in Church, possibly on Friday evening and Saturday morning (opening times to be confirmed). At its centre will be the testimonies of the faith in Christ of soldiers in the war. Each of them is related to members of our congregation; not all survived. We also need other material to set these stories in their context.

We are also planning for a concert of appropriate **music**, finishing with hymns and a clear gospel message. Look out for details later.

We will still be hosting the **civic service**, and we will welcome Colonel Dr Simon Tustin as speaker at this and our Sunday morning service.

We need your help now!

- Do you have any WWI era memorabilia, artefacts, documents, or stories, which you could loan or copy for display? These could be about relatives involved, or about the effect on the Church, Braintree, or Britain.
- Could you use your artistic gifts to help to prepare and put together the exhibition?
- Could you help Lin and Jenny to plan this weekend?
- If you can help in any of the ways mentioned, please contact Lin Terris 01376 322870 or linterris@uwclub.net
- Please put the dates of Friday 9 to Sunday 11 November in your diary and plan to pray, support and invite people.

*Jonathan Wicks, Lin Terris, Jenny Chapman,
Jo & Nigel Adams, SueMarriott*

Want to flex your DIY skills for in the summer?

Want to share a working fellowship with others?



Church and Church House Working Party

Saturday 9th June from 9:00am

Please let Dave Marriott know if you want to make that difference.

Jobs planned include:

Church:

- Clearing behind the organ
- Gutters cleaning
- Clearing out cupboards



Church House & Garden:

- Clearing out cupboards
- Clearing, filling, and undercoating the office
- Transportation of rubbish
- Outhouse tidy/stock check
- New hinge on courtyard door
- Lots of pruning/gardening
- Lights in corridor
- Recycling broken chairs



Church House:

- Supporting the team with Tea/Coffee
- Lunch catering

You can always come for the morning and enjoy the Carnival later
(or stay and avoid it)

JUNE DIARY

1 Friday

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

3 Sunday 1st after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Church Family Worship – In the thick of it

6.30pm Evening Worship – A promising start

7.30pm Focus

4 Monday

7.30pm Bell Ringing

8.00pm Badminton

8.00pm White Horse Tavern – Church House

5 Tuesday

1.15pm Tiddlywinks

6 Wednesday

9.45am Meeting Point Bible Study

6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts

7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House

8.30pm SuMMiT – Beer and chat – Wetherspoons,
Fairfield Road

7 Thursday

3.30pm ASK

8 Friday

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

9 Saturday

12pm - 5pm Church and Church House work party

10 Sunday 2nd after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Morning Worship – Set your minds on things above

6.30pm Holy Communion – A fond farewell

7.30pm Focus

11 Monday

- 12.15pm Spotlight
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
- 7.30pm Bell Ringing
- 7.30pm Commissioning of the new Braintree Mission & Ministry Unit at Great Notley Church
- 8.00pm Network Course – Church House
- 8.00pm Badminton

12 Tuesday JULY LINK SUBMISSION DUE

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks
- 8.00pm First Priority – Church House

13 Wednesday

- 9.45am Meeting Point Bible Study
- 10.00am Holy Communion
- 6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
- 7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House

14 Thursday

- 3.30pm ASK

15 Friday

- 2.00pm Bradbury House Service
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

17 Sunday 3rd after Trinity

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.00am Holy Communion - God at Work I:
Work as God intended
- 6.30pm Evening Worship – Tarnish on the crown
- 7.30pm Focus

18 Monday

- 12.15pm Spotlight
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers
- 7.30pm Bell Ringing
- 8.00pm Badminton
- 8.00pm White Horse Tavern – Church House

19 Tuesday

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks

20 Wednesday

9.45am Meeting Point Bible Study
6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House

21 Thursday

3.30pm ASK

22 Friday

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

24 Sunday 4th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Morning Worship - God at Work 2:
Work in a fallen world
6.30pm Evening Worship – A leader who trusted God
7.30pm Focus

25 Monday

12.15pm Spotlight
7.30pm Bell Ringing
8.00pm Badminton
8.00pm Network Course – Church House

26 Tuesday

1.15pm Tiddlywinks

27 Wednesday

9.45am Meeting Point Bible Study
6.30pm 4th Braintree Cubs & Scouts
7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House

28 Thursday

3.30pm ASK

29 Friday

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts
7.30pm Flower Club

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptisms

29 April - Adam and Evelyn Conduit
Jason Martin

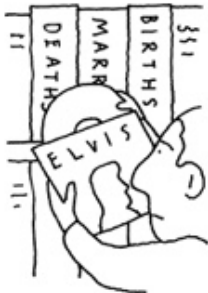
Renewal of Baptism Vows

13 May - Chinyere Umeh

A LITTLE HUMOUR

INSPECTIONS

THESE MUST BE CARRIED OUT REGULARLY



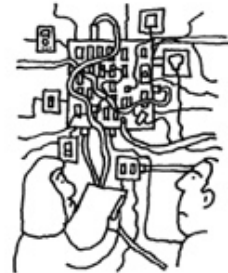
RECORDS

	✓	✓	✓
AUDREY	✓	✓	✓
BRIAN	✓		
MARGARET	✓		
PETER	✓	✓	✓
JOHN	✓		
CELIA	✓		
VINCENT	✓		

REGISTERS



EXTINGUISHERS



WIRING



ACCOUNTS



PORTABLE
CHURCH
APPLIANCE
TESTING



PRE-
SERVICE
CHECKS



THE
PRAYER
BOARD



THE
ORGANIST



DROOP

CartoonChurch.com

POLAR EXPLORERS

5-11s

SMASH CLUB
2018

St Michaels

23 - 27 JULY
10am - 12noon
£5 per child for
the week

Application enquiries:
smash.club.info@gmail.com

For more info. contact:
Andy - 01376 321248

A CHANGE OF DIGITAL ADDRESS

Over the last few years we have been seeking to improve how the church operates with its information storage, communication, and compliance with legislation.

May 2018 is a notable month in that it is from this month that we need to comply with the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Sounds boring? Lost you with IT talk?

Simply put for most of you, we will be making it easier to put things in the magazine and weekly newsletter by introducing a new email address for both:

notices@stmichaelsbtreet.co.uk

You will be able to contact PCC and staff members for church related business new email addresses set aside for that purpose. (See contact information for all the new addresses)

You may be involved in a church project and now able to share documents and plans with others, saving bouncing emails, lost bits of paper. All safely and securely. For these needs we can provision access.

In short, a lot of changes of address to make it a lot easier for the church and its family to communicate.

If you have any further questions about this feel free to talk to David Huxter or myself to explain the opportunities further.

Dave Marriott

EDITORS NOTE

Thanks to everyone who is liking the latest form of the church magazine. Its been the case of refinement over the last 3 years that I have been editor. Yes, it is indeed since June 2015 I have been the editor (or compiler of articles).

This month there are more changes:

- A move to using a new copier with more automation
- More colour on the front page
- Contact details for weekly sheet and magazine
- The content of the PCC members
- Different page sizing and layout for the design (Its gone in design from A5 to A4).

The latest version of the magazine will be a lot better value for money and make it the simplest to look after.

If anyone wants a copy of a back issue of the magazine, they are all online on the church website, and I know they are popular.

Finally, with all the other changes going on, I would like someone to take on compiling the magazine and putting it together ahead of printing. It is a great opportunity for some creative flair, so if interested please come and talk to me.

Dave Marriott

BELFRY BULLETIN

Looking through the Guild's Tower Log Book makes interesting reading as it maps the increase in our abilities and our wider range of methods rung and on a larger variety of number of bells.

On Easter Day, Sunday 1st April, we were joined by 6 of Ellis's friends to ring for the 10am service. For the 6.30pm service we rang a Quarter Peal, 1320 April Day Bob Doubles in 44 mins. The ringers Lin Ould Treble, Ellie Gray 2, Debbie Hill 3, Bradley Hill 4, Peter Smith [c] 5, Gareth Davies 6.

The footnote in the Log Book reads:-

For Easter Sunday service on April Day.

First in method for 2 and 4

First conducting in method for 5

We welcomed more visitors for our practice night on Monday 2nd April. This gave us the opportunity to practice for our next QP attempt in May.

Before the morning service on Sunday 29th April Bradley called us to ring 240 changes of April Day Bob Doubles as an appropriate method to finish our Sunday ringing in April.

A quote from the Log Book:- Monday 30th April. Stedman Doubles all night with no Tenor. Peter then took us on an adventure down Stedman Lane calling at every lead end. That was fun.

Peter Smith