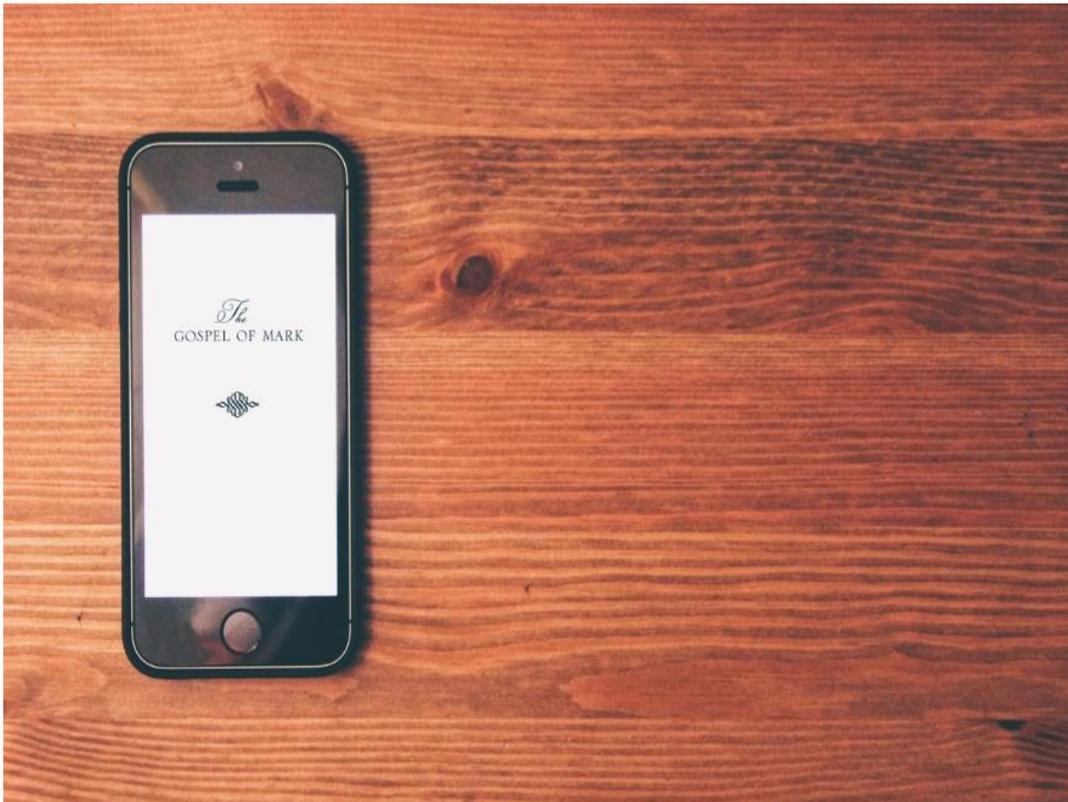


# The LINK

# 30p

## November 2018



The Parish Church of  
St Michael Braintree  
[www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk)

# **We will Remember Them**

**Music and readings inspired by World War 1**

**Including works by Butterworth, Novello and Gurney**

**Janet Moore**  
mezzo-soprano

**Adam Sullivan**  
tenor

**Richard Reed**  
accompanist

**St Peter's Sixteen**  
Musical Director **David Wood**



**Saturday 10 November. 7.30**

**St Michaels Church, Braintree CM7 1EY**

**Tickets £6 on the door, or £5 in advance**

01376 321248 or email [vicarspa@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk](mailto:vicarspa@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk)

Refreshments. Retiring collection for Royal British Legion





## **‘We will remember them’**

Dear Friends,

On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11am we will again have our two minutes’ silence at our 10am service in St Michael’s Church. This year, as we remember those who have suffered in war, there is an added significance as it will be 100 years, to the minute, since the guns fell silent at the end of the First World War.

For that reason, while we will remember all who have suffered in times of war, there will be a particular focus on World War I. We will be having a number of events and services over that weekend, (see information about the weekend on page??).

On the Friday and Saturday, we will be having a World War I exhibition in the church. A number of people have kindly offered memorabilia, photos and information about friends and relatives who were involved in World War I. Some will speak of the Christian faith of those involved. Entry is free – do please pop into the church on Friday 6-9pm or Saturday 10am-1pm.

On the Saturday at 7.30pm, there will be a concert in church titled “We will remember them”, with music and readings inspired by World War I. Participants include Janet Moore, Adam Sullivan, Richard Reed and the St Peter’s Sixteen.

On the Sunday, we will welcome Colonel Dr Simon Tustin, who will be speaking at both our 10am morning service and the 3pm Civic Service.

Simon Tustin will be speaking about the words of Jesus, as he approached the end of his earthly life, and gave to his disciples a commandment, that they should love one another, as he had loved them. The words of Jesus seem particularly appropriate as we consider the sacrifices made in war, "*Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.*" (John 15:13)

It is with humility and gratitude that we remember the First World War generation, many of whom courageously gave their lives, so that we can enjoy the freedoms we have.

Jesus' words are, of course, ultimately fulfilled in his own life. Jesus showed the greatest love, in the agonies of the Cross, so that we could be saved. His love means that, if we turn in repentance and faith to God, we can have our sins forgiven, enjoy God's peace and presence, and have the sure and certain hope of life forever with our loving God.

This Remembrance Weekend, may I encourage you to take time to remember those who have sacrificed so much in war, and our Lord Jesus who gave his life for us.

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:  
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.  
At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them.*  
(Laurence Binyon)

Yours in Christ,  
Nigel

# **NOTES FROM PCC MEETING HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2018**

## **The Vision**

The PCC and staff team had Awaydays in September to discuss the vision for St. Michael's Church. We looked at the following areas and identified where we are doing well and where we could develop:

1. Welcome & Outreach
2. Discipleship
3. Sunday Worship
4. Specific Groups
5. Fabric & Finance

It was amazing that even though we were split into groups the main outcomes were the same or similar. This was then presented as a first draft by Nigel at this PCC meeting. There are short, medium, and long-term goals that we are already working on. Details will be given to all church members very shortly.

## **Fabric & Finance**

We are currently undertaking a lot of building and repair work, both in Church and Church House. This will make our buildings safe and compliant to current standards. We have requested a grant from the Trotter Fund and are using legacies to pay for most of this work. We are grateful to the Lord for his provision.

Currently we are facing a 6K deficit for this financial year. We will be holding a Stewardship Event in 2019 to encourage us all to consider giving regularly to the work of St Michael's.

## **Mission & Ministry Partnership - MMP**

We are now part of an MMP which includes all the churches in the Deanery. New to us this year is how the Parish Share is calculated. The Share Summary for the Braintree MMP £545,762, this is then apportioned to each church in the MMP. Our share currently stands at £83,858.

## **Verse of the Year for 2019**

We looked at several verses and decided on Jesus words of reassurance in Matthew 11:28, **“Come to me, all who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.”**

*Helen Hopkins  
PCC Secretary*

## **THANK YOU**

I would like to thank everyone for the prayer support of the past few months.

We never know how our lives can be changed in a moment.

I would love to have had an instant miraculous healing but instead this has been a lesson in patience, submission and perseverance.

*Lionel Clark*

## WHO NEEDS KNEES?

A calamitous fall with no pain at all,  
ending up in a heap and a feeling of ease.  
But nothing will move but an odd toe or two,  
- so where on earth are my knees?

I can't feel my legs – just two wooden pegs,  
carpe diem – the day I must seize.  
On top of the strife, it's a big change of life,  
but who has control of my knees?

I can wiggle my toes and waggle my legs,  
though they all flap about in the breeze.  
There is nothing to feel as they shake all about,  
someone else has control of my knees!

With physio's help and barely a yelp,  
I search for the muscles it needs.  
But the nerves won't obey – they are out for the day,  
and they don't have control of my knees.

There's a power above, who holds me in love,  
and has taught me to trust in his deeds.  
To Him I will pray for hope everyday –  
maybe He's in control of my knees.

With the help of the wife, I must face up to life.  
Big 'C' is a rotten disease.  
But help is all there, and I'll never despair  
it will be me in control of my knees!

*Jim R. Wild*  
5<sup>th</sup> October 2018

## WOMEN @ ST MICHAEL'S SATURDAY SCHOOL

We enjoyed another Saturday School together recently with Journey as our theme for the morning beginning with bacon rolls to give us sustenance and Kendal Mint cake for our journey home...interspersed with homemade cakes in the middle of the morning.

We were delighted to have Grace Hopkins with us and enjoyed and were encouraged as we heard her journey of faith so far... she then spoke to us about the journey on the road to Emmaus ... a highlight of the morning.



Another highlight of the morning were shoes everywhere! What started off as quite a light-hearted discussion about shoes that we wore on different journeys and in different places became the serious subjects for our discussion groups in the second half of the morning.

Seven different kinds of shoes, seven readings from the Bible, seven explanations and seven times three questions for discussion and seven leaders made for a variety of thought, reflection on our journeys of faith...

**BUT**

Amazingly as we were preparing these groups, Grace was preparing her talk, independently of each other... and when I e-mailed her our plans we found that her opening illustration to her talk used a very old pair of shoes and an identical brand-new pair and used the verse from 2 Corinthians 5.17 ...



**Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone, the new is here!**

Some 'pearly shoes' led us to the end of our journeys and Revelation 21 with a picture of a new heaven and a new earth ...



## **UNDERSTANDING CHRISTIANITY**

An invitation not to be missed. Come to St Michael's School on Wednesday morning December 5<sup>th</sup> and find out and see how Christianity is taught throughout the school.

Coffee will be served from 9.00-9.30am in the School Hall.

There will then be a presentation, practical activities and time for questions.

Often, we are asked how Christianity is taught in schools these days, so a real opportunity for you to see what is happening in St Michael's. It is exciting!

## **WOMEN @ ST MICHAEL'S**

**Our next event and an opportunity to invite friends!  
TASTE and SEE at our CRAFT EVENING**

This is on Friday November 23<sup>rd</sup> in Church House from 7-9.30  
There will be Craft activities to try, other displays to see and our  
Refreshments are to be:

### TASTE and SEE...

There will be Christmas delicacies to taste from a variety of outlets  
but you will not know which are which! Then you will give your  
verdict by marks out of ten! It will be fun!

We are planning a short epilogue during the evening which will be  
called simply TASTE and SEE!

Tickets will be available soon.

Come and bring your friends.  
Everyone welcome from 11 to 90Plus!

*Jennifer Bailey*

## NOVEMBER DIARY

### **1 Thursday**

- 3.30pm ASK  
7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study  
8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

### **2 Friday**

- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

### **4 Sunday 4th before Advent**

- 8.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am Church Family Worship – Who is the greatest?  
6.30pm Evening Worship – The kindness of God  
7.30pm Focus

### **5 Monday**

- 12.15pm Spotlight  
5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers  
7.30pm Bell Ringing  
8.00pm Badminton

### **6 Tuesday**

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks

### **7 Wednesday**

- 9.45am Meeting Point Bible Study  
5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts  
7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House  
8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study  
8.30pm SuMMiT – Beer and chat – Wetherspoons, Fairfield Rd

### **8 Thursday**

- 3.30pm ASK  
7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study  
8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

### **9 Friday**

- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts  
6.00-9.00pm World War I exhibition in Church

## **10 Saturday**

10am-1pm World War I exhibition in Church  
7.30pm "We will remember them" concert in Church

## **11 Sunday 3rd before Advent**

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am Morning Worship – A greater love  
3.00pm Civic Remembrance Service  
6.30pm Holy Communion – The Law of the Lord is perfect  
7.30pm Focus

## **12 Monday**

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers  
7.30pm Bell Ringing  
8.00pm Badminton

## **13 Tuesday DECEMBER LINK SUBMISSION DUE**

1.15pm Tiddlywinks  
8.00pm First Priority – Church House

## **14 Wednesday**

9.45am Meeting Point Bible Study  
10.00am Holy Communion  
5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts  
7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House  
8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

## **15 Thursday**

7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study  
8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

## **16 Friday**

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

## **18 Sunday 2nd before Advent**

8.00am Holy Communion  
10.00am Holy Communion – What God has joined together  
6.30pm Evening Worship – Wise advice  
7.30pm Focus

## **19 Monday**

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

## **20 Tuesday**

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks

## **21 Wednesday**

- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts
- 7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House
- 8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

## **22 Thursday**

- 7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study
- 8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

## **23 Friday**

- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

## **25 Sunday Christ the King**

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 10.00am Morning Worship – Who will inherit eternal life?
- 6.30pm Evening Worship – The redeemer
- 7.30pm Focus

## **26 Monday**

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

## **27 Tuesday**

- 1.15pm Tiddlywinks

## **28 Wednesday**

- 9.45am Meeting Point Bible Study
- 5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts
- 7.45pm Bible Reading Group – Church House
- 8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

## 29 Thursday

7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study

8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

## 30 Friday

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

7.30pm Flower Club

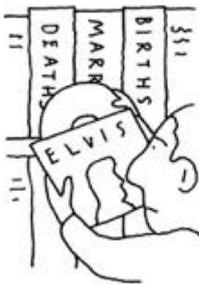
# FROM THE REGISTERS

No entries

## A LITTLE HUMOUR

# INSPECTIONS

THESE MUST BE CARRIED OUT REGULARLY



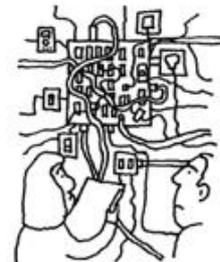
RECORDS

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

REGISTERS



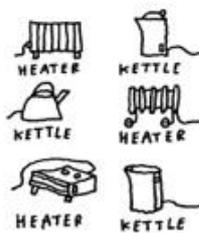
EXTINGUISHERS



WIRING



ACCOUNTS



PORTABLE  
CHURCH  
APPLIANCE  
TESTING



PRE-  
SERVICE  
CHECKS



THE  
PRAYER  
BOARD



THE  
ORGANIST



DROOP

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (SHOEBOXES)



A big thank-you to all who supported our coffee morning in Church House on Saturday 27 October. All funds raised will go towards the cost of transporting the boxes to their final destination.

Thank you too for the boxes and fillers already received.

Please try to bring your donations to church by **4 November**.

If you are running late or would like further information, please contact one of the following:

Jenny Chapman  
Sue Marriott  
Jill Jackson

# DIARY OF A NEW CHURCH WARDEN

## 8<sup>th</sup> September

PCC away day. This was a great opportunity to get away as a PCC and discuss the direction and needs of the church. (See separate article for the results). For me it was a great day of fellowship and focus. Whilst at Felsted church we looked round the building and its nice and shiny new hall/kitchen. It is a great fusion of old and new. In the old church, there are new fairy lights round the pillars and new LED lighting throughout. The space is open and welcoming for any occasion.

What was very pleasant was when Helen and I nipped out to get some more food (yep there was a lot in the end!) and met the students from Felsted School that pointed us in the right direction. They were a credit.

## 24<sup>th</sup> September

We started work on the next stage of renovations at Church House. We have now almost finished the new fire alarm in the building, and we will shortly be working on the electrics there. All this work is to ensure that Church House is safe and suitable for all the great things we carry out in there.

## 6<sup>th</sup> October

This was the day I had the phone call saying the vestry was getting wet. So with a small group of hard working parishioners we emptied the vestry, the monuments room above and saved a lot of valuable history from the church from being damaged. We are currently working with the insurance company and our builders to get the roof above the north-side of the church repaired.

*Dave Marriott*

# **BELFRY BULLETIN**

## **Autumn Outing Saturday 13th October**

What a way to start an outing? Peter, the organiser, gets the leave time wrong. We were leaving Braintree at the time we were due to start ringing at Purleigh. Peter's apology to Graham Snow of Purleigh for wasting his time was graciously accepted. Ellis saved the morning as he knew a Cake and Coffee Cafe in Southminster, lovely cake.

This kerfuffle meant our first ring of the day was the easy to ring 9cwt 6 at Tillingham. Here we rang our full repertoire of methods for 5 and 6 bells. We rang them very well. As we were leaving, Tony Eaton Tower Captain at Tillingham, said how impressed he was especially with the number of young ringers we had. A lovely compliment.

It was time for Lunch and on this beautiful day we ate a delicious meal outside next to Tillingham Village Green with the display in memory of Villagers lost in WW I.

Off to Canewdon to ring the lovely 17cwt peal of 10. We rang rounds and call changes on the 10 and much on 8. These bells are a joy to ring and we all enjoyed the experience of ringing them again after our last visit 9 years ago.

The day finished with our Traditional Cheese and Port evening. Some had Chicken Goujons!!!!

We all had a wonderful day full of laughter, friendship and good ringing despite the hiccup at the start. Which Peter will no doubt be reminded of in the future.

## **Sunday 14th October**

For the 6.30pm Holy Communion we rang 1260 changes of Plain Bob Minor in 46mins. Gareth Davies 1, Ellie Gray 2, Debbie Hill 3, Ellis Whitehouse 4 Peter Smith 5, Bradley Hill [c] 6.

With the Guilds congratulations to Lin and Richard Ould on their 46<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary, also to Ellie Gray on her Graduation. 1<sup>st</sup> Minor inside 2, 1<sup>st</sup> Minor 1, 1<sup>st</sup> in method as conductor 6.

We said we would ring this QP and at our Fourth attempt success. Well done.

*Peter Smith*