

GUIDE TO THE PLAQUES in the Park



THANKSGIVING FIELD

UPLIFTERS CELEBRATION PARK



BEHIND THE BARN AT TALLY HO FARM, CROUCH LANE, WINKFIELD, BERKSHIRE SL4 4RZ UK

WWW.THANKSGIVINGFIELD.ORG Co-ordinator: Hugh Gibbons, 75 Qualitas, Roman Hill, Bracknell RG12 7QG

E-mail hughgibbons@just1.org.uk Tel (0)1344 451847

Our first plaques – brought from near and far



GIVING THANKS SEAT
by the
Second Schweinfurt Memorial
Association
to honour all former
foes become friends

The Giving Thanks Seat was the first to have a plaque – on 13 June 2014. The wording echoes the dedication at the American German Air Memorial Garden in Schweinfurt.



WITH THANKS AND APPRECIATION OF
THE SPIRIT OF THIS PLACE
FROM THE WINDSOR BRANCH OF
THE UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS
8 MAY 2015

The fence is an ideal place for personal plaques that celebrate someone or something uplifting. The very first was put in place on 8 May 2015 by Angela Murphy of Windsor UCM.

In May 2016, the Field had a historic visit. Bob & Colleen Disher brought from the USA a plaque honouring Bob's uncle Staff Sergeant Jack Disher, ballgunner on our B17. This features a quote by Captain Ken Treadwell interviewing Jack for the BBC in 1944. Having heard the first-hand account of Second Schweinfurt, Ken said "Boy, his guiding star has taken care of him."



SECOND SCHWEINFURT MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION Bob & Colleen also presented a plaque from SSMA with the quote by Colonel Budd Peaslee seen in Arlington National Cemetery - at their memorial to those who did not return: "There are no battlefields in the skies... There are only these inauspicious markers that we the living have erected to honor our comrades".

Our big display of small plaques

placed on 26 November 2016 to mark the newly-named Uplifters Celebration Park



LAUGHTER IS THE SHORTEST DISTANCE BETWEEN TWO PEOPLE Den Øplende Victor Borge. Maestro of music and humour, Victor delighted audiences across the world. The plaque is wittily set between the distance signs for Long Beach and Schweinfurt. Øplende is Danish for uplifting, BTW.



DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF BEN AND VIOLET KING selfless and loving parents and grandparents. It seemed appropriate to place this beside another uplifting couple...



...BARATES PALMYRENUS & REGINA LIBERTA XXX
Inscribed in 2016 on a slug of lead unearthed near Silchester, this is reference to a glimpsed story of uplifting love on a stone plinth found near Hadrian's Wall. Immigrant Barates came there from Palmyra in Syria around 200CE. He met and married a freed slave called Regina from the Catevellauni tribe. When she died age 30, he had the plinth made in her memory.



AN UPLIFTING PUBLIC SPEECH BY SALVADOR DALI: I SHALL BE SO BRIEF I HAVE ALREADY FINISHED is said to be the only known one by this Surrealist artist – and a good example for many others committing sermons, after-dinner talks, wedding tributes and the like.



WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW WITH THE GIFT OF YOUR LEFT LIFE?
Our uplifting poet laureate Carol Ann Duffy On the gatepost as you go, the last words of her fine poem "Snow" are the lasting thought that many visitors may take away in their minds.

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In thanks for the exemplary humanity of JO COX MP and her uplifting family Before becoming an MP in May 2015, Jo worked for humanitarian charities. In her maiden speech she said "we are far more united and have far more in common with each other than things that divide us". In June 2016 Jo was killed just before a constituency surgery. In public tributes, her family showed their own remarkable courage and compassion. In 2017, The Great Get-Together built on this an annual echo of the spirit shown.



FOR J.H.L. the unknown inspirer of Thanksgiving Field
Amid the cartridges and lumps of molten duralumin unearthed in the debris site on 20 October 2013, there was small metal tag engraved with J.H.L. Seeing this suggested the idea of finding the families of the crew in the USA today and returning the tag to them as a memento. However, nothing transpired to identify an owner (and it may have been dropped in the field by someone local). The lump of duralumin is airborne here in tribute.



For the hundreds of uplifting tunes of JOHN PHILIP SOUSA not just the one borrowed for our Spirit of the Field Anthem "Be Kind to Your Webfooted Friends for a Duck May be Somebody's Mother..." As well as cheery marches, Sousa composed many other works for instruments and voices. He perhaps personifies the spirit of a kinder and more hopeful USA than today – with surprising tunes that you hear with your feet and heart. He was also an exemplary leader of his band and family – generous with praise, encouragement, advice and rewards. You're welcome to sing the rest of our Anthem which uses The Stars & Stripes tune and a version of comedian Fred Allen's words in one of the great choral surprise endings: "... Be Kind to Your Friends in the Pond, Where It's Always Cold and Damp. Oh You May Think That This is the End. WELL IT IS."



For composer JOHN CAGE whose 4'33" you're listening to right now
The marvellous Cage composed this experimental work in 1952, for any instrument or combination. The score instructs the performers not to play them during the entire three movements. So the piece consists of the sounds of the environment that any listener hears – not simply four and a half minutes of silence. Here today, you may catch such sounds as animal and human life in the Tally Ho fields, the wind, and clouds chatting with passing planes. You're welcome to take a recording home.



LEAVE ONLY THREE WASPS ALIVE IN THE WHOLE OF EUROPE AND THE AIR OF EUROPE WILL STILL BE MORE CROWDED WITH WASPS THAN SPACE IS WITH STARS
Physicist Sir James Jeans

A mathematician and astronomer, Jeans was a leading British cosmologist. His quote exemplifies the ability of some scientists to explain things in a neat way – and in this case with new perspective.



IN MEMORY OF ALL THE MISLAYERS WHO FOR OVER 2000 YEARS have dropped in fields like these the coins and other objects of Au Ag Pb Ni Sn ZN et Al that we like lifting up back to light - The metal detectorists of Berkshire November 2016 It often seems that for millennia people have been going across field with holes in pockets or purses. We rarely know names or circumstances - or the scale of personal or family loss they represent.



FOR ALL THE UPLIFTING BIRDS, HORSES, BUTTERFLIES AND BEES (AND TALLY HO HUMANS!) WHO SHARE THESE QUIET FIELDS
Given in thanks by the Gibbons of Bracknell 26 November 2016



FOR THE WORLD'S WINGWALKERS and their uplifting advice: Never let go of what you've got hold of until you've got hold of something else
Wingwalkers have been thrilling air shows for nearly a century. Today's professional teams in the UK are usually all-female, of admirable mental resilience and physical ability – great at smiling for the crowds at 100+MPH while standing on an upper wing just behind the propeller, often upside down (which helps keep the rain off). To climb out of their transit seat and up on to the wing requires nerve, commitment and adherence to their general advice for us on the ground as well.

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SIDCOT QUAKER SCHOOL IN SOMERSET BOTTLED THEIR 300-YEAR-OLD WEEKLY SILENCE SO YOU COULD GRAB HANDFULS HERE TO TAKE AWAY AS BREATHING SPACE FOR HOME OR WORK This cheery gift for all visitors (in person or on-line!) sprang from an uplifting letter to The Guardian by Jackie Bagnall, Director of their Centre for Peace & Global Studies.



Dedicated to the Memory of FRANK DOONAN
An inspiration to His Children, Grandchildren and Those Who Knew Him is another tribute to a fond family's Uplifter.



For all the uplifting volunteers of JEALOTT'S HILL COMMUNITY LANDSHARE who grew and gave our November 2016 trees Rowan Williams and Nathaniel Hawthorne

JHCL is a remarkable nearby garden managed by volunteers, whose purpose is to encourage and nurture individuals and groups to learn, share and develop horticultural skills - particularly people with a disability or disadvantaged background.

Replacing the original apple trees, our JHCL trees are aptly named after two new Uplifters!



SINGLE WHITE LASS SEEKS/ LANDED GENTRY FOR MARRIAGE, WHIST. /NO PARSONS, THANK YOU. Pride & Prejudice by Jane Austen as one of 100 Great Books in Haiku by the uplifting David Bader VGSOH

"Avoid eyestrain, reduce deforestation and show off your literary prowess – the perfect gift for book lovers with short attention spans" is on the tiny dust cover of this collection. It's here as tribute to the power and value of taking a sideways look – while working within a classic poetic canon. Said a review: "War and Peace it's not. It's far funnier."



For the uplifting humanity of L/Cpl MICHELLE NORRIS MC RAMC Combat Medical Technician with PWRR Iraq 2007
ANICIUS INGENUUS Medical Ordinarius 1st Cohort Tungrians Housesteads Fort Hadrian's Wall circa 207CE

For their uplifting courage and compassion, military medics have always been held in high respect throughout the world. We have two examples here, separated by nearly 2000 years and the breadth of the Roman Empire. Michelle was the first woman to be awarded the Military Cross, while attached to the Princess of Wales Royal Regiment – in which Tally Ho's Chris Adkins served in Iraq, incidentally.

Anicius was a medical orderly who died age 25. and his border guard colleagues were moved to put up a touching stone memorial to the spirits of the departed and Anicius. The Tungrians were from Belgium, one the great range of nationalities for whom a corner of a north England field is forever foreign.



TOM DOBNEY 1926-2001 who for a dare at school told the RAF he was born in 1922 and as a qualified pilot flew 20 missions until found out and an honourable discharge. No service medal after the war until his mum complained to Churchill who knew an uplifting story when he saw one.

Quite what his flying instructor Reg Nutter at Medicine Hat in Canada and later crews made of him (and lack of moustache?) is your guess. He'd told his mum at Leicestershire he was off with the cadets, and it was only when his step-dad saw a photo of George VI visiting a Whitley base that things came to light. They eventually let him back in to the RAF, and he later served with the Royal Flight. So next time you think your airline pilot looks a bit young...



Come to the edge. We might too fall. Come to the edge. It's too high. COME TO THE EDGE. And they came, and he pushed, and they flew.

An uplifting poem by Christopher Logue.
And a lesson in encouragement, courage and trust!

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LARGER PLAQUES



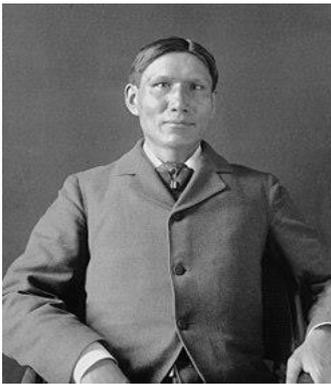
To provide visitors with extra information and interest, since May 2017 some larger plaques have been added.

All are home-made by Hugh Gibbons using a Dremel hand-held engraver and aluminium finger plates from Wickes and Screwfix!

DR CHARLES ALEXANDER EASTMAN Born HAKADAH and later named OHIYE S'A

We give thanks here for the uplifting spirit of this Native American physician; educated at Boston University; writer, national lecturer; and reformer. Of Santee Dakota, English and French ancestry, as a doctor on reservations he cared for Indians after the Wounded Knee Massacre. He became active in politics and issues on Native American rights, and 1911 represented the American Indian at the Universal Races Congress in London, and in 1933 won the first Indian Achievement Award. In his speeches and teachings, he emphasized peace and living in harmony with nature.

This plaque also celebrates the ethos of Gibbs Farm and Ramsey County Historical Society in Minnesota (linked in spirit with Tally Ho) and the visitors from there come here on 26 May 2017.



In May 2017, this plaque to Dr Eastman was unveiled by Heather Worthington, Deputy Manager of Ramsey County MN. She's seen here patiently waiting while Hugh Gibbons drives a screw through his hand helped by Heather's friend Joe. With Heather's husband Chris and another friend Ann, they took time to pop into Thanksgiving Field for this happy happening. Heather is a long-time friend of the Field. Her job at the County included supervising the project to regenerate the land of the former Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant where the cartridge cases found in the Field in 2013 were made in 1943. She took one back in the form of Image of Peace – as historic gift to the County, a companion piece to their mighty Vision of Peace in the Ramsey County Court House.

It was a special pleasure to find out about, research and commemorate the story of Dr Eastman. The plaque was placed next to the Corner remembering Henri Dunant, to echo his own compassion and civilisation after the brutal battle of Solferino - that led to the creation of the International Red Cross.

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LARGER PLAQUES about the story of the Field

MISSION 115Z: HAPPY LANDINGS

Our B17F #3351Z finished up in this field in October 1943 at the end of Mission 115 of the 8th Air Force. Most of the tiny hoard of unsalvaged spent cartridge cases and lumps of burnt aluminium unearthed 70 years later has been mounted on 200+-year-old oak from Lily Hill Park which the plane flew by. They make small but poignant gifts and conversation pieces. Their new homes include today's families of the crew of 3351Z; the US and German embassies in London; the US Air Force National Museum in Dayton and their Academy in Colorado Springs; Ramsey County Minnesota where the cartridges were made in 1943; Rosie the Riveter Memorial Foundation in Long Beach where they put Z together; churches, a ballbearing factory, and the city of Schweinfurt; and more local settings.

In thanks to a local hero with his sleeves rolled up

The Unknown Farmworker of Winkfield

At 6.24pm on the historic Thursday 14 October 1943, our B17F #3351Z glided over the far woodland and tumbled through tiny RAF Winkfield, ending up about 200 yards away on the left of the field in front on you. "#1 engine started to burn and crew abandoned ship", said pilot Rich Lyng at debriefing back at Podington that night. "One had an injured ankle, and was helped out by a farm worker on hand", recalled Marie Andrews in 2014. Like other local schoolchildren around here, Marie witnessed Z fly in and the fireworks as the ammo blew up - wrecking the plane, but not the happy landing for 10 brave but bushed American airmen after their saga said to be "one of the most remarkable of WWII".

In appreciation of an uplifting observer - and good citizens everywhere

Rambling Old Bogonian Percy Hathaway

"Later in the war a group of us were standing down by Bog Bridge in South Ascot* when we heard the noise of an aircraft approaching from the south. Looking up, we saw an American Flying Fortress coming towards us about one hundred feet up. It had great big holes in it, as well as bits and pieces hanging from it.

We thought that it was going to crash on Ascot, but it carried on and crashed in a field in Crouch Lane in Winkfield."

In "Ramblings of an Old Bogonian" 1995. *The Village Green there has a public memorial bench to Percy.

In thanks to the uplifting author

JAMES HERRIOT OBE FRCVS

and all the world's veterinary surgeons
and those who help care for creatures great and small

In the furthest field before you, the then RAF Winkfield,
Aif Wight (his real name) learned to fly in Spring 1943, soloing on 7 June,
as recorded in his book "Vet in a Spin".

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LARGER PLAQUES Placed 19 November 2017

IF ANYTHING IS EVER LEARNED FROM BLOODSHED,

and it would be better if we didn't have to learn it repeatedly,
it's that there is no fitter memorial to those who gave their lives than
near infinite generosity between those who didn't.

Zoe Williams in The Guardian 31 July 2017

LT GENERAL JAY SILVERIA

Superintendent of the US Air Force Academy September 2017

"If you can't treat someone from another gender, whether that's a man or a woman, with dignity and respect, then you need to get out. If you demean someone in any way, then you need to get out. And if you can't treat someone from another race or different colour skin with dignity and respect, then you need to get out."

In response to racial slurs posted at the Academy's Prep School in 2017, he gathered the whole Academy together to give a powerful public expression of outrage and reminder of duty.



KERRY LEMON

UPLIFTING ARTIST WITH A FOREST OF WORKS!
You can see her delightful Artscape Management designs
throughout the Lexicon in Bracknell
at eye level and underfoot

JEAN VANIER

and everyone associated with "Summer in the Forest"

Jean founded L'Arche, an international federation of communities for people with developmental disabilities and those who assist them. Directed by Randall Wright, the uplifting 2017 film shows many surprising sides of life in the centres at Trosly-Breuil and Bethlehem.

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SCIENCE IS A GIFT ECONOMY

Your status is earned not by how much you accumulate but by how much you give. References to your papers are one way the value of your gift is recognised, one of the rewards for your hard work. It keeps the community of science alive.

Like all communities – think of the Church – we can never forget that our labour depends on the labour of those around us.

Like our data, we too need validation.

Brother Guy Consolmagno SJ Director of the Vatican Observatory In The Tablet 2017

In appreciation of the uplifting and uplifted

GILES DULEY

“I can only tell you what my eyes see”

Giles is a renowned documentary photographer and photojournalist, best known for his coverage of humanitarian issues and the consequences of conflict.

Reporting on these in Afghanistan in 2011, Giles stepped on an IED and lost both legs and left arm. Thankfully, a typically determined US Army Medevac team lifted him to safety – and care in the UK. Within months, Giles was back at work – being an inspiring example of courage and compassion.

CHIUNI SUGIHARA

“THE SCHINDLER OF LITHUANIA”

was a Japanese government official who served as vice consul in Lithuania. He helped thousands of Jews flee Europe by issuing transit visas to them so that they could travel through Japanese territory, risking his job and his family's lives. In 1985, the State of Israel honoured Sugihara as one of the Righteous Among the Nations for his actions, the only Japanese national to have been so honoured.

ROBERTO KOZAC

“The Oskar Schindler of Latin America”

Argentinian by birth, as Director of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration he organised safe passage from Chile for over 30,000 people under political oppression or in danger of it during the Pinochet regime. In 2015 he was made a citizen of Chile by Special Law 20.862

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**LARGER PLAQUES Placed 25 March 2018
making 100-years-to-the-day history**

2nd LIEUTENANT WALTER TULL 28 April 1888-25 March 1918

The first black person to serve as an officer in the British Army

Overcoming family struggles and prevailing racial prejudice, before WW1 he played for Tottenham Hotspur and Northampton Town. On 21 December 1914 he volunteered to join the "Football Battalion" of the Middlesex Regiment, and suffered The Somme with those Pals. Despite military regulations forbidding "any negro or person of colour" being an officer, as a popular and uplifting leader Walter received his commission in May 1917. He was recommended for a Military Cross but never received the award.

Remembered in thanks and admiration here on 25 March 2018 by the family of Dick Gibbons who was just along the road on 25 March '18.



ALFRED CHARLES ("DICK") GIBBONS MC BCom

About a WW1 hero – and a post-war heroine. A few days after his 18th birthday in Cork in 1915, Dick volunteered to join the British Army. In France, he served with the Irish Guards and Lancashire Fusiliers. Commissioned, on Monday 25 March 1918 at Behagnies "he rallied stragglers and led a successful counter-attack with great courage. Throughout the day he proved a brave and resolute officer", said his Military Cross citation. Back in Cork, republicans came with guns, and Dick became a political refugee studying in Birmingham for a business degree. His student garb was his now-scruffy officer's tunic, the white-and-purple MC ribbon still in place. As so often after war, it was his wife Ilma who coped with the aftermath of experiences he never talked about. And our 1940 bomb in Brum! Remembered here on Sunday 25 March 2018 by son Hugh & family in Bracknell. (*We've no idea).



Granddaughter Maggie Gibbons with plaques side-by-side

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LARGER PLAQUES The Paternoster Gallery Example

The array of people celebrated at Thanksgiving Field makes it an unusual display of cultural diversity. To extend this, co-ordinator Hugh Gibbons considered the idea of having a set of plaques in different languages – versions of The Lords' Prayer – mounted on wooden boards and given weatherproof paint. However, this seemed out of place in the tiny Park.

What emerged instead from Hugh's garage was the Paternoster Gallery - an indoor display that can be adapted to all sorts of settings. Schools, churches and other communities are welcome to borrow the Gallery and put it to use.

The 20+ plaques can be exhibited on staves leant against any wall space, on table tops. Each has a commentary on the back. They are robust to stand handling and examination. Information boards carry the story of the Gallery. The whole lot fits on the back seat of a car.

The Paternoster Gallery had its first public outing in November 2017 – along a fence by the Park. One representative plaque was placed on a post on the west fence. As you can see, the German was a collaborative effort by someone local and someone in Schweinfurt.

You can find information on all language at www.just1.org.uk/paternostergallery



VATER UNSER
im Himmel, geheiligt werde
dein Name, dein Reich
komme, dein Wille
geschehe wie im Himmel
so auf Erden.
Unser tägliches Brot gib
uns heute.
Und vergib uns unsere
Schuld wie auch wir
vergeben unseren
Schuldigern.
Und führe uns nicht in
Versuchung, sondern
erlöse uns vom Bösen.
Denn dein ist das Reich
und die Kraft und die
Herrlichkeit, in Ewigkeit.
Amen.

GERMAN

Thanks to Ursula Docherty
nee Morowski in Kassel
of St Joseph &
St Margaret Clitherow Parish
in Bracknell;
and
Michael Pfrang,
Pastoral Assistant at
St Josef's Parish in
Schweinfurt



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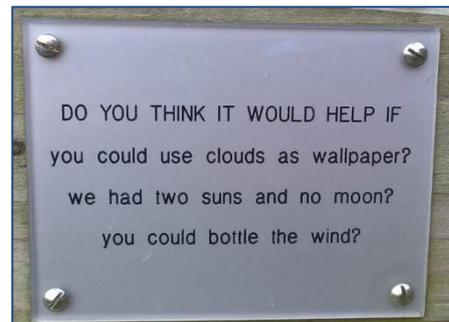
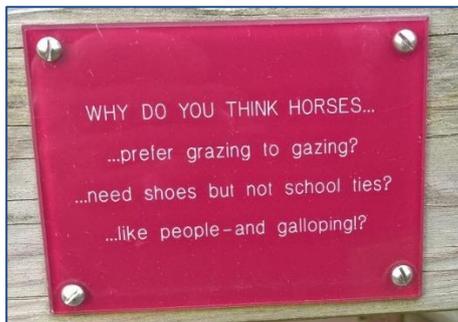
Plaques on the Thinksgiving Seat placed June 2014



This Seat is meant to amuse and educate children of all ages, and had its public unveiling on 13 June 2014.

The six plaques carry questions about here suggested by Ian Gilbert's delightful and eye-opening Little Book of Thanks. They add to the education in the Park. There are no correct answers, but plenty for families and other visitors to get their mind into.

(One extra is: what's going on in this picture? It's one of the human Wardens of the Park planting our new rowan Williams in early November 2016 supervised by the resident crew of wandering hens.)



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OUR FEED-THE-MIND-AND-SOUL PLAQUES ON THE POSTS

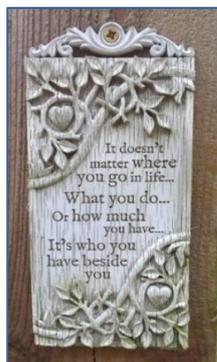


These 10 little acrylic plaques from a nearby garden centre were put in place for the opening of the Field in June 2014.

Each has a personal thought for visitors to reflect on, and maybe raise another smile to take away.

It's said that they represent each member of the crew of B17F #3351Z that ended up in the field beyond the warden grazing here.

PEACE is at the entrance gate to the Park, to set something of the spirit of this place. The others are fixed on the upright posts on the south fence.



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