

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine for June 2014

www.stmarysecclesfield.com

Price 60p

First Words...

- **Open Gardens** – We’re holding an “Open Gardens” event on 28th and 29th June. A number of people will be opening their beautiful gardens and the Church will be open for refreshment and prayer. The event finishes with an “Open Gardens” themed Service in Church on the Sunday evening at 6.30 pm.
- **Anniversary Service for the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood, Sheffield Cathedral** – On Saturday 14th June, at 11.00 am, there’s a special served to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood in the Church of England. We’ll be celebrating here in Ecclesfield during June and giving thanks to God for the richness of women’s ministry that we have received over recent years
- **10 Days Of Prayer** - Between Ascension Day and Pentecost we will again be observing 10 days of prayer for the life of this Parish and the Diocese of Sheffield. Please take time to read the information in this Magazine and online about what we are doing in Ecclesfield.

Daniel Hartley



Prayer for Month - The Collect for Pentecost

God, who as at this time
taught the hearts of your faithful people
by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit:
grant us by the same Spirit
to have a right judgement in all things
and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort;
through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Front Cover – May Queen Service
Back Cover – Event Adverts

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The Vicars' Letter

Working beyond rhetoric

Election time is always a time when rhetoric abounds. Rhetoric is, after all, the art of persuasion. The European and local elections in May were no exceptions. Rhetoric abounded and votes were cast. Here in Ecclesfield we voted in two United Kingdom Independence Party Candidates (UKIP).

I'd like to begin by offering words of congratulations to the successful candidates, Pauline Andrews and John Booker. I would also like to offer words of thanks to the outgoing councillors, Garry Weatherall and Vic Bowden. Elections come and go but work, of course, does not. Regardless of political persuasion, I believe that we have been well served by Garry and Vic. I would encourage our new councillors to pick up the mantle of service and, above all, to pick up the mantle of hard work.

Beyond the words of rhetoric, the lot of the politician is hard work. There are committees and groups to serve on that can deliver important changes for the residents of Ecclesfield. I would encourage our new councillors to get stuck in and deliver these changes. I would particularly encourage an attention to those most in need and most vulnerable within our communities. The Church should not wear political colours, but we do have an interest in political debate and action. The Church in Ecclesfield will be looking to its new councillors to be agents of cohesion; to support policies that bring stability and nurture families and communities. The churches in this area are great repositories of community involvement, as are many other community groups.

We have become accustomed to seeing our politicians as ineffective but I do not believe that this is the case. Politics can, and does, deliver real change to real people. As the then Prime Minister of Prussia and future first Chancellor of Germany, Otto von Bismark, said in 1867: "politics is the art of the possible". For the local politician, searching out the possible begins in engagement with the local communities that they serve and ends in a tireless and unceasing commitment to improving the lives of those very same people. The rhetoric is over – it's now time for the hard work.

Daniel Hartley

On The Impossibility of Keeping Silence in Church

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Your remark that you rather liked the silence we keep before starting Services gave me pause for thought. I suppose all things are relative. I know that the noise your congregation makes before worship resembles a packed stand on the football terraces any Saturday afternoon, but the days seem long-gone when I could expect our congregation to sit in real silence for ten minutes.

There's the sound of the treasurer counting the previous day's jumble sale takings, of the ladies at the back asking each other when the fish van will next come round, and of Major Hastings's deafening whisper as he comments some women's choice of hats. Add to this the weekly competition between the organist and the bell ringers to see who can make the most noise, the roar from the choir vestry as they all complain they don't like my choice of hymns and the sound of books, umbrellas and collection money being dropped. I sometimes suspect that an informal rota is arranged whereby people volunteer to drop heavy objects in rotation, thus maintaining a constant clatter, for which no single person can be held responsible.

There is also the weekly ritual when the vergers – always waiting until the church is full – goes round each microphone, giving them a bash and bellowing “Testing, testing” and relishing the echo as it bounces off the walls.

The only time the noise level drops significantly is if the congregation see Miss Simpson sidle up to me to have one of her confidential little chats about someone in the village. Everyone knows that her information will provide more than enough to keep gossip flourishing for the following week.

Equally, periods of silence during Services are rarely welcomed; some find them threatening, but the majority simply assume it means I have lost my place. I gave up after one occasion when, on announcing we would say the Lord's Prayer and then leaving a time of silence for recollection, a choirman leaned over to me and whispered helpfully: “It begins ‘Our Father’”

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Ecclesfield In Bloom

Just to keep you up-to-date with what is happening with the above Group.

During 2014 we will not be competing in the Yorkshire in Bloom competition.

This, however, does not mean that planters and floral areas will be left unattended. As you may have noticed every planter has been showing off its excellent spring Tulips and Daffodils.

It has been decided that we should have a year's sabbatical, consolidate what we have and plan for the future. A further reason was the forthcoming road-surfacing and pavement improvements, which would mean having to temporarily relocate most of the plants and disturb plant management. Locations have been allocated and planters will again be filled with summer floral displays but this will leave some areas quite barren. Obviously the planters will be replaced on completion of the road works.

An additional grass cutting machine has been purchased, which should make life easier for our grass cutters. In addition to our home grown plants, summer plants are being bought and with compost and fertiliser also being purchased, significant funding is needed.

We receive some funding from generous local companies and householders. The money raised from the Plant sale held on the 17th March amounted to over £500 and we would like to thank everyone who supported this event.

A further project is currently in hand concerning "The Green" (i.e. the land bordering lower Priory Road and Church Street). The Group have secured the future of the piece of land for the village of Ecclesfield for the next 125 years, ensuring that no building-type work can be carried out on it. To do this we have had to form "Ecclesfield in Bloom Limited" as a legal entity. We are currently waiting to receive documents from Sheffield City Council, and hopefully it should be finalised in June or July 2014.

We will keep you up-dated but we are always looking for people to come and join the Group. We meet at "The Stocks" on the 1st Tuesday of each month.

Humour – Church DIY

Our churchwarden has the courage, but not always the skills, to tackle any DIY job that needs doing around the church. For example, in the church shed are still pieces of the church lawn mower she once tried to fix. So our vicar wasn't surprised the day he found her in the vestry, attacking the vacuum cleaner with a screwdriver. "This thing won't cooperate," she complained.

The vicar thought for a moment: "Why don't you drag it out to the shed and show it what you did to the lawn mower?"



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The Bishop's Letter - June 2014

This Month, Bishop Steven Writes:

A Christ-like Church

Five years ago, when I first came to Sheffield, I travelled round the Diocese meeting people at a series of Deanery events. People asked me lots of questions. The most frequent one was this: “What’s your vision for the Church in this diocese?”

The answer I gave was always the same. At the heart of my vision for the Church is that we should become more like Jesus: we are called to be Jesus’ People and to become a more Christ like church. That phrase is at the heart of our Diocesan vision.



But what does that mean? Five years ago, I explored the theme of being a Christ-like church through the lens of the beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5.1-10). If we are to be a Christ-like church we must learn to be poor in spirit, mourning for the needs of the world, meek, hungry and thirsty for righteousness, merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers and willing to be persecuted for righteousness sake.

In the second half of our Centenary year, I want us to return to the core of our vision to be a Christ-like church. This time, I want to invite you to explore this theme through a different lens: the great “I am” sayings of St. John’s Gospel.

There are seven great sayings and we will explore them at the different centenary events, beginning with the Cathedral service on 8th June. According to John, Jesus says, “I am the bread of life”, “I am the good shepherd”, “I am the door for the sheep”, “I am the light of the world”, “I am the resurrection and the life”, “I am the way the truth and the life”, and “I am the vine”.

These are enormous claims made in bold, striking images, rich in allusions to the Old Testament scriptures. No-one else has made such claims in the entire history of the world.

As the Church in this Diocese we are called to bear witness to this Christ in the 21st Century, just as those who went before us were called to bear witness in the 20th Century in these same communities but in very different times. At the heart of our witness, as theirs, is the call to proclaim Jesus Christ and to be like him together.

Please do come and join us at the different centenary events. I am excited at what we will learn together about Jesus and what it means to be a Christ-like Church as we look back and as we look forward. I'm hoping to produce a short study guide for Churches to use in the autumn to explore the same themes together.

As one old translation of Psalm 95 puts it:

“Come let us sing for joy to the LORD, let us shout aloud to Jesus our Rock”.

+Steven



Justin Martyr (c. 100 – 165) June 1st - First ever Christian philosopher

Justin Martyr is regarded as the first ever Christian philosopher. He was born at Nablus, Samaria, of parents of Greek origin, and was well educated in rhetoric, poetry and history before he turned to philosophy. He studied at Ephesus and Alexandria and tried the schools of the Stoics, the Pythagoreans, and the Platonists. Then in c 130 Justin became a Christian, and never looked back. His long search for truth was satisfied by the Bible, and above all by Christ, the Word of God.

This apologist and martyr is known as the most important early ‘apologist’. He went on to offer a reasoned defence for Christianity, explaining that it was the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecies. Justin’s aim was evangelism: he thought that pagans would turn to Christianity if they were made aware of Christian doctrine and practice.

Justin’s martyrdom took place in the reign of Marcus Aurelius, along with six other believers. At his trial, whose authentic record survives, he clearly confessed his Christian beliefs, refused to sacrifice to the gods, and accepted suffering and death. As he had previously said to the emperor: “You can kill us, but not hurt us.”

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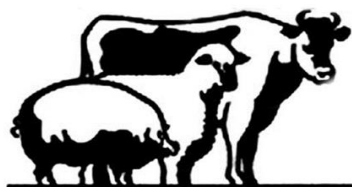
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Will You Remember Them – Sudan

Pregnant Christian woman could face execution for apostasy in Sudan.

A Pregnant Christian woman in Sudan could face the death penalty for apostasy because she was born to a Muslim father, so is deemed to have left Islam. She has also been charged with adultery for marrying a Christian man, which is illegal for a Muslim woman according to sharia law.

Meriam Yahia Ibrahim (27), who is due to give birth within weeks has been detained since Feb. Her 20-month-old son, Martin Wani, is in jail with her. She has suffered beatings, emotional abuse and pressure to convert to Islam, and been denied medical care and visitors while in jail. Meriam was charged with apostasy and adultery on 4th March after a man who said he was a relative brought a case against her and her husband, Daniel Wani. Apostasy is officially punishable by death in Sudan, while adultery carries a penalty of 100 lashes. A rights worker for Justice Center Sudan in Khartoum said: “We are fighting for Meriam’s life, freedom and fair treatment. According to the law, if she had been a Muslim she should be killed soon after she gives birth to her child.” Meriam and Daniel met at church and were married in 2012. Daniel, who is from South Sudan but holds US citizenship, has been accused of converting Meriam from Islam. His passport has been confiscated, and he has been forbidden from travelling.

Meriam was born to a Christian mother and Muslim father, the latter left when she was 6years old, and she was raised as a Christian. Under Islamic law, which is being strengthened in Sudan following the secession of the mainly Christian South in 2011, the child of a Muslim is considered a Muslim, even if the other parent is not. So Meriam is considered to have left Islam, even though she never practiced it. And as marriage between a Muslim woman and a non-Muslim man is not permitted under sharia law, Meriam and Daniel’s union is not legally recognized: hence the charge of adultery. Their marriage may be annulled. The authorities have refused to let him care for his son while his wife is in jail because he is a Christian. He says that he has been unable to obtain any help from the US Embassy in Khartoum despite the fact that he and his son hold American citizenship. Three witnesses have already testified in court to Meriam's lifelong Christian faith, but at a hearing on 18th April, the court requested more witnesses to testify that she had never practiced Islam. No one has been executed for apostasy in Sudan in nearly 30years, but President Omar Hassan al-Bashir has repeatedly stated his intentions to make the country “100% Islamic” following the independence of South Sudan, making converts more vulnerable than ever.

Please Pray That:

- Meriam, Daniel and Martin may know the strength, peace and protection that comes from God.
- That a quick and just solution be found for this family’s situation.

JD



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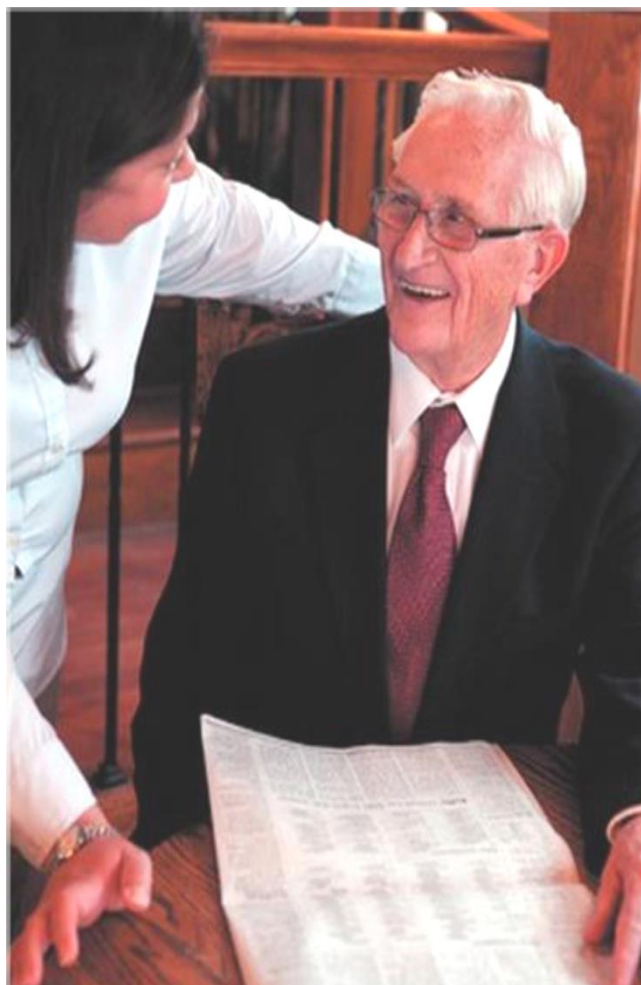
Paces Campus, Pack Horse Lane,
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THURSDAY. 12-1pm

The Gatty Hall, Priory Rd,
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Ecclesfield Ladies Group.

On the 8th May our speakers for the evening were from – “Home Instead” – Senior Care.

‘They are a highly respected independent UK home care provider, providing high quality care for older people in their own homes. Through regular meetings and close contact with our at home clients, their families and our Caregivers we can provide unique ongoing care that adapts to peoples changing needs’.

They spoke to us however, about the problem of fraud in the homes of older people. Older people are vulnerable targets from criminals who regularly devise new schemes in an attempt to steal their valuables: whether it’s their money, their identity, or their property.

In the UK, mass marketing (also referred to as scam marketing) which includes the use of the internet, phones and post, makes up the largest proportion of fraud. Between 2012 and 2013, 1 million (2%) of UK adults sent money in reply to unsolicited communications and just under one-half (almost 500,000 people) are believed to have been defrauded as a result, costing UK individuals an estimated £3.5 billion in total!

It is, however, believed that this is just the tip of the iceberg as many victims do not wish to speak up or do not think it’s worth reporting this sort of crime.

“Home Instead” - have partnered with Think Jessica, a charity which works to raise awareness of scams and supports victims and their families, in order to spread the message about the scale of the problem and help protect seniors. Think Jessica was set up in 2007 by Marilyn Baldwin, whose mother Jessica suffered several years at the hands of fraudsters, who tricked her into parting with thousands of pounds.

The charity is supported by fraud protection agencies, local and international organisations, and police forces nationwide. Marilyn is now a regular face on TV and recently won ITV’s Inspirational Woman of the Year Award for her relentless campaigning.

The talk from the three representatives of the “Home Instead” team was really valuable and an eye opener to us.

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St ALBAN

St Alban, whose special day is 22nd June, was the first English martyr, the first English person to be killed for the Christian faith.

He lived in Verulanum which was an important Roman settlement in Hertfordshire. At the time the Romans were persecuting followers of Jesus and Alban was brave enough to shelter a travelling Christian priest. Exchanging clothes with the priest so that he could escape, Alban was arrested.

When asked to prove his loyalty to Rome and the Emperor by making offerings to the Roman gods, Alban declared his faith in 'the true and living God who created all things'. He was condemned to death and had his head cut off.

All this happened a long time ago but St Alban is remembered today in the name of the place where he lived and died: Verulanum was renamed the city of St Albans.



THE FIRST

All the answers to this Bible quiz are the first: either the first thing in a list or the first person to do or be something.

1. The first man (Genesis, chapter 2).
2. The city where Jesus' followers were first called Christians (Acts, chapter 11).
3. The first bird Noah sent out of the ark (Genesis, chapter 8).
4. The first woman (Genesis, chapter 3).
5. The first person to see Jesus on the first Easter Sunday (John, chapter 20).
6. What happened on the first day of creation (Genesis, chapter 1)
7. Israel's first king (I Samuel, chapter 10)
8. The first of the four Gospels (New Testament)

What is a forum ?

Two-um plus two-um !

VIII

Why didn't the two 4s feel like dinner?

Because they already 8.

Answers: 1.Adam 2. Antioch 3.Raven
4.Eve 5.Mary Magdalene 6.God made light and dark 7.Saul 8.Matthew

Diary for the Month of June

Sunday 1st

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 10.00 am Parish Communion
- 12 noon Baptism Service
- 6.30 pm Evening Service
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice
- 10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
- 1.00 pm Mothers' Union in the Gatty Hall / Heather and Pam – Coordinators
- 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 2.00 pm Mothers' Union Deanery Festival
- 7.30 pm Ladies' Group / Tom Dixon – Sweet Fifties
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)

Tuesday 3rd

Wednesday 4th

Thursday 5th

Friday 6th

Sunday 8th

Pentecost

- 8..30 am Holy Communion
- 10.00 am Pentecost Praise
- 6.30 pm Holy Communion
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice
- 10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
- 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 2.00 pm Service at Hartwell House
- 7.30 pm Ladies' Group / Coffee Evening
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)

Tuesday 10th

Wednesday 11th

Thursday 12th

Friday 13th

Sunday 15th

Trinity Sunday

- 10.00 am Parish Communion
- 4.00 pm Living Stones
- 6.30 pm Holy Communion with prayer for healing.
- 7.30 pm Outreach Team Meeting
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice
- 10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
- 9.30 am Holy Communion
- 7.30 pm Ladies' Group Summer Outing
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)

Monday 16th

Tuesday 17th

Wednesday 18th

Thursday 19th

Friday 20th

Sunday 22nd

The First Sunday after Trinity

- 8.30 am Holy Communion
- 10.00 am Parish Communion
- 6.30 pm Evening Service
- 7.30 pm Ignatian Prayer in Church
- 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice

Monday 23rd

Tuesday 24th

Wednesday 25 th	10.30 am	Service at Eva Ratcliffe House
Thursday 26 th	9.30 am	Holy Communion
	7.30 pm	Ladies' Group / Ken Bell – Making a Will with a Smile
Friday 27 th	7.30 pm	Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)
Sunday 29th		Peter and Paul
	8.30 am	Holy Communion
	10.00 am	Parish Communion
	6.30 pm	Open Gardens Service

From the Registers

Baptisms

4th May	Estelle Ramsden
4th May	Sophie Kathryn Bell
4th May	Callan Harris Andrews

May they know the love of God in their lives and may all thing of the Spirit live and grow in them.

Weddings

25th April	Thomas Evans & Susan Lenthall
26th April	Wayne Jackson & Samantha Chetwynd
26th April	Martin Savage & Sarah Crossley
8th May	Richard Bishop & Claire West

May each be to the other strength in need a comfort in sorrow and a companion in joy.

Funerals

8th May	Ray Bradford Elwood 81
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Grant them, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace

Flower Rota

1st	Vacant
8th	S. Johns & S. Dale
15th	J. Adams & G. Loxley
22nd	C. Ambler
29th	K. Lonsborough & P. Clarke



The Gardening Year – June 2014

Sowing seeds where plants are to grow. To germinate, a seed needs moisture, warmth and air, therefore the soil must be damp, not too cold and the seed must not be buried too deeply. Sow when the soil is dry enough to be walked on without it sticking to your boots. This is the best time for judging the time to sow. Do not follow the calendar slavishly if conditions are unseasonably cold or wet. Plants sown a week or two later than the time suggested on the seed packet will still catch up. To make a straight drill for sowing the seeds use a garden line, straight rows make the most of available space and are easier to thin and hoe than rows sown haphazardly. Take out the drill along the line with a draw hoe use a corner of the blade to make a narrow V shape drill for small seeds such as carrots and spinach and the full width of the blade to make a wide flat drill for peas and beans. In both cases form the drill with a succession of smooth separate motions rather than pulling the hoe along without a break.

Make the drill $\frac{1}{4}$ / $\frac{1}{2}$ in deep for the smaller seeds such as carrot, turnips and lettuce $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 in deep for slightly larger seeds, such as beetroot and about 2 in deep for larger seeds such as peas and beans. In each case the shallower depths apply to spring sowings when the soil is warmer near the surface and the drills to the summer when the seeds need to be in damp ground below the surface. If in doubt it is better to err on the shallow side, sowing too deep is a common cause of failure especially on heavy soils. In summer either water the ground thoroughly the day before sowing or use a watering can without a rose to soak the bottom of the drill just before sowing. Sow small seeds as thinly and evenly as possible by shaking a few at a time into the palm of your hand and plant them between thumb and forefinger into the drill. Do not try to shake them directly from the packet or the row will be uneven. On light soil cover the seed by placing your feet on each side of the drill and shuffling the soil back.

Alternatively, stand between the rows and pull the soil over the seeds with the back of the rake then hold the rake vertical and tap the surface flat. On heavy soils use only gentle pressure to firm the soil otherwise it will become compacted and the seedlings may have difficulty in breaking through. The best method of filling drills after sowing peas and beans is to stand between the rows pulling the soil back with a rake then firming the surface with the back of the rake. Before removing the marker line insert a label identifying the vegetable and variety. **Vegetables** – all tender vegetables can be planted out this month without fear of frost such as outdoor tomatoes, marrows, cucumbers, courgettes and peppers etc.

Colin Williams

Whitley Hall Cricket Club



The club has made a disappointing start to the season and for the third successive year, bad weather has affected many matches. With 6 matches scheduled at the time of writing, the 1st XI has won two, lost two and had two matches cancelled because of rain. A fine win at Elsecar on 17th May followed by a win in the Whitworth Cup over Hallam the following day showed the potential but they now stand in 5th position in the league with a lot of work to catch up. The second XI has fared even worse with a single win over Elsecar after 6 matches, also with two matches cancelled, leaving them currently in the relegation zone. The bright spot has been the Colts

who have won all 3 matches completed with a further 4 abandoned or cancelled because of the weather.

Selected Home Matches at Cinder Hill Lane

31 st May	2 nd XI	v	Sheffield United
7 th June	1 st XI	v	Darfield
14 th June	2 nd XI	v	Warmsworth
21 st June	1 st XI	v	Whiston
28 th June	2 nd XI	v	Wickersley
5 th July	1 st XI	v	Aston Hall

Please come and support your local club. 1st XI Saturday/Sunday matches commence 1.00pm and other matches at 1.30pm. Weekday evening matches at 6.00pm.

For the full list of games, please call in for a fixture card

Joe Webster, Secretary: 0114 245 2518

Steve Fletcher, Director of Cricket: 0114 245 2406

Andrew Robinson, Publicity and Fundraising: 0114 246 3646

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Ecclesfield Open Gardens

28th and 29th June 2014

There will be a Children's Miniature Garden Competition in Ecclesfield Park Community Garden

Three age groups: Up to 7, 8 to 11 & 12+



Entrance is FREE - Enter as an Individual, Group or a Team

Use any container – e.g. tray, box, teapot, wellies etc. Size not more than 40cm x 40cm

For further information, Ring Angela 0114 246 1095
Full information about the Open Gardens event in the June magazine

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

C	A	R	E		P	A	R	A	D	I	S	E
O		E			R		F		O			D
N	U	L	L		P	R	O	F	A	N	E	D
F		I		A		E		L		A		Y
L	E	G	A	L	I	S	T	I	C			
I		I		L		T		C		P		A
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			M	I	S	S	I	O	N	A	R	Y
S		D		A		O		N		C		R
C	O	V	E	N	A	N	T		T	H	A	I
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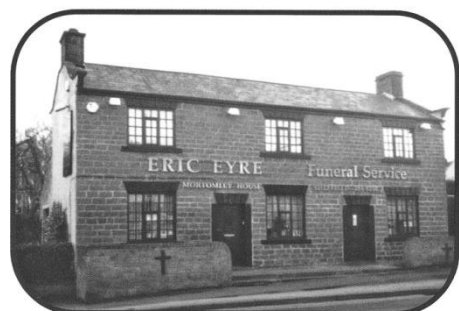
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Eric Eyre National President
1989 - 1990



Where's Moley?

While walking in my garden One lovely sunny day,
I stopped and saw a baby mole
Who had lost his way.

He looked in such a panic stumbling around
What are you doing here? I said
You should be underground.



My grandson said, let's keep him, I said that cannot be
For he's one of God's creatures
And should be running free.

We can't put him down here I said as we looked around,
One day the lawn is green and flat,
Next day another mound.



We carried him across the road and made sure he was safe.
He buried his head in the soil,
He now had lots of space.

My grandson asked, how do we know if Moley is still there?
I said look in the farmer's field
There are mole hills everywhere.



E Ann Oldknow

Mother's Union

On Wednesday 13th May 25 members made a trip to W.O.R.K. (Worthwhile Occupational Recreational Krafts) which is on Ringinglow Road, Sheffield. We were served with very large warm scones with butter and strawberry jam together with drinks. After refreshments, groups were taken round the workshops to see the crafts undertaken by the employees, who are all affected by a disability of some kind. Finally we were entertained by Andrea, who sang "She'll be coming round the mountain when she comes". We all had a great time. W.O.R.K. are holding their Spring Fair on Saturday 7th June 10am-4pm.

PP

Summer Solstice 21st June – longest day of the year

June, of course is the month of the summer solstice, the month of the Sun. *Sol* + *stice* come from two Latin words meaning ‘sun’ and ‘to stand still’. As the days lengthen, the sun rises higher and higher until it seems to stand still in the sky. The Summer Solstice results in the longest day and the shortest night of the year. The Northern Hemisphere celebrates in June, and the Southern Hemisphere celebrates in December.

While the Druids worship at Stonehenge and elsewhere, here is a Christian alternative that honours the Creator rather than the created.

A Canticle for Brother Sun

Praised be You, My Lord, in all Your creatures,
Especially Sir Brother Sun,
Who makes the day and enlightens us through You.
He is lovely and radiant and grand;
And he heralds You, his Most High Lord.
St Francis of Assisi

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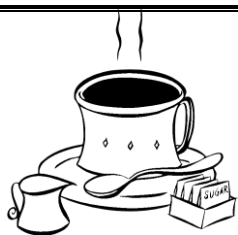
Ear Acupuncture

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315 High Street Ecclesfield S35 9NB

Salon Telephone: **0114 246 7762**

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Coffee Shop *at St Mary's Church*



Every Tuesday and Friday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Luscious Cakes, Tea / Coffee

All Welcome – Free Internet Wi-Fi

Prayers and Poems Page

My Shepherd

From time's faint dawn the shepherd men
Their sheep and lambs have kept
From dangers path oft and again
How safe the sheep have slept!

And that is how my lord loves me
My Shepherd and my Guide
In pastures green my feet shall be
Still waters by my side

In righteous paths my feet shall tread
My shepherd shows the way;
His love will light the road ahead
I'm safe through night and day

Though death may cast its sombre shade
No evil deed befalls
Of death I can be unafraid
No sepulchre appals

His rod and staff, they comfort me
They show my God is near
His grace to me - my foes can see
That Jesus holds me dear

He blesses more than cups can hold
His mercy follows me
His house of love shall me enfold
Till time shall cease to be

By Nigel Beeton

1914: One Man

One man and his wife
Went out to take a ride
But then he lost his life
And countless others died.

One man and his gun,
Went out to cause a crime
One victim – only one!
Yet millions over time.

One man's Teutonic pride
A spark became a flame
The fire spread worldwide
A deadly, pointless game.

However could it be
That these misguided men
Could cause such misery?
Could it only happen then?

For the vic'try of such ill
One thing along required
That good folk just keep still
And keep their tongues retired.

By Nigel Beeton

Come Reign in Me

Oh God, who made the world so fair,
And formed the earth, the sky, the sea;
Who gave us ears, and eyes, and minds,
To hear, to see, to know all love is thee.

Oh God, who in the Lord Jesus,
Gave us a light to light our way;
Let our life's lamp be lit by Him
Whose strength will see us safely through
each day.

Oh God, whose Spirit gave us birth,
And holds all life secure, e'en mine;
Take all I am, and all I have,
Bless and redeem them for they both are
Thine.

Oh God the Father, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, three in one;
Blessed be thy name, come reign in me,
And in me let thy will be done.

By Sam Doubtfire

Crossword Puzzle

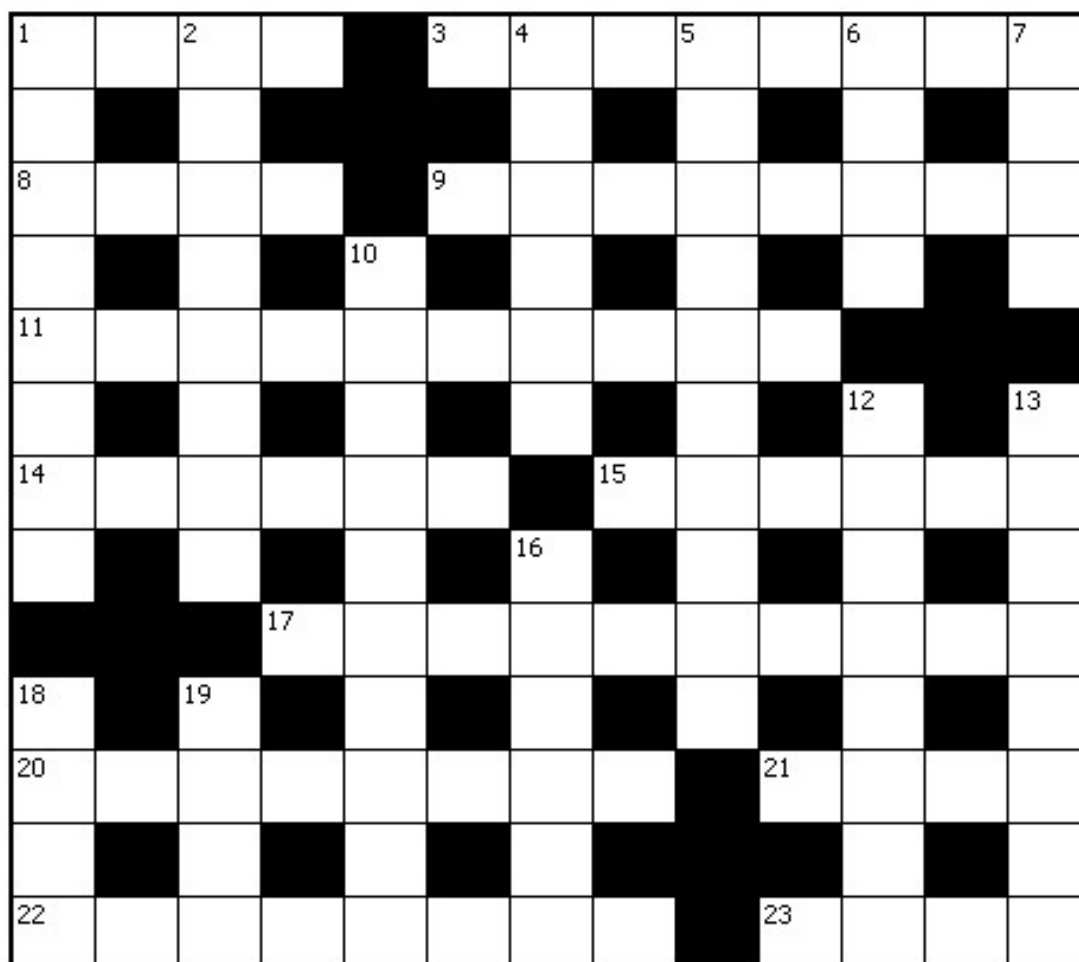
Clues Across

- 1 See 23 Across
- 3 Where the thief on the cross was told he would be, with Jesus (Luke 23:43) (8)
- 8 Invalid (4)
- 9 Blasphemed (Ezekiel 36:20) (8)
- 11 Adhering to the letter of the law rather than its spirit (Philippians 3:6) (10)
- 14 Shut (Ecclesiastes 12:4) (6)
- 15 'This is how it will be with anyone who — up things for himself but is not rich towards God' (Luke 12:21) (6)
- 17 Mary on Isis (anag.) (10)
- 20 Agreement (Hebrews 9:15) (8)
- 21 Native of, say, Bangkok (4)
- 22 Deaf fort (anag.) (5-3)
- 23 and 1 Across 'The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of — to work it and take — of it' (Genesis 2:15) (4,4)

Clues Down

- 1 Struggle between opposing forces (Habakkuk 1:3) (8)
- 2 James defined this as 'looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself from being polluted by the world' (James 1:27) (8)
- 4 'The one I kiss is the man; — him' (Matthew 26:48) (6)
- 5 'Be joyful in hope, patient in — , faithful in prayer' (Romans 12:12) (10)
- 6 St Columba's burial place (4)
- 7 Swirling current of water (4)
- 10 Loyalty (Isaiah 19:18) (10)
- 12 'God was pleased through the foolishness of what was — , to save those who believe' (1 Corinthians 1:21) (8)
- 13 Camp where the angel of the Lord slew 185,000 men one night (2 Kings 19:35) (8)
- 16 'There is still — — — Jonathan; he is crippled in both feet' (2 Samuel 9:3) (1,3,2)
- 18 David Livingstone was one (4)
- 19 Driver and Vehicle Licensing Authority (1,1,1,1)

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is on page 21



Ecclesfield Handbell Ringers

Summer Ringing & Singing Concert

Saturday, 21st June 2014 at 7.30pm

Gatty Hall, Ecclesfield



With guests
Grenoside Singers



Tickets: £5.00

To book tickets, please phone: 0114 246 3626 or 0114 234 2608

Tickets also available on the door or via our web site:

www.ecclesfieldhr.org.uk

Saint of the Month - St Alban - Saints Day 22nd June

Britain's first Christian martyr

Canon David Winter considers the first British martyr....

Alban was the very first Christian martyr in Britain - or at least the first we know of. A 'martyr' is someone who has died for the faith - the word literally means 'witness'. He was probably killed during the persecution under the emperor Diocletian in the early years of the fourth century, in the late stages of the Roman occupation of Britain. His martyrdom took place in the amphitheatre outside the Roman city of Verulamium, which is now St Albans, in Hertfordshire.

The church historian Bede, writing six hundred years after Alban's death, records that Alban was a Roman citizen (possibly a soldier) who gave shelter to a priest who was being hunted by the Romans. During the priest's stay in his home, Alban was converted to the Christian faith. When the soldiers eventually tracked the priest down, they arrived at Alban's house and insisted on searching it. What they found was Alban dressed in the priest's clothes, while their real prey escaped. They arrested Alban and demanded that he make a sacrifice to the Emperor - a common test of loyalty. He refused. He was then condemned to death and taken into the amphitheatre, which still stands in the fields below St Alban's Abbey, to be put to death. One of his executioners was converted, Bede claims, but the other one took a sword and beheaded him.

He was buried nearby, on a site where a shrine was later erected. In the early fifth century two Continental bishops, Germanus of Auxerre and Lupus of Troyes, were sent to Britain and record that they visited the shrine of Alban at Verulamium. The date of their visit was given as 429.

The martyrdom of Alban is a reminder that Christianity was planted first in these islands during the Roman occupation, though it was all but extinguished in England in the dark centuries that followed, until people like David, Cuthbert and the other Celtic missionaries restored the faith in many parts of the land - especially in the north. The fact that his shrine existed and was venerated right through to the time of Bede also demonstrates that the faith did not die out completely, even in the south of England.

Not a great deal is known about Alban apart from the story of his martyrdom, but what we do know is probably enough to give him a substantial claim to be the patron saint of England ahead of the foreigner George. The magnificent abbey dedicated to him in St Albans is, of course, a permanent reminder of his place in the nation's story.

Contact Numbers for Local Groups

Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 4.45 pm to 6.00 pm
Leader - Mrs B Travis
Tel: TBA

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Monday 5.00 pm to 6.30 pm
Leader - Mrs J Hutchinson
Tel: 0114 257 8609

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 6.15 pm to 7.45 pm
Leader - Mrs A. Kendall
Tel: 0114 246 8866

Ecclesfield Guides

Gatty Hall
Thursday 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm
Leader - Mrs C Topham
Tel: 0114 246 1289

Ecclesfield Priory Players

EPPIC Theatre
Monday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm
Wednesday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm
Secretary –Carol Travis
Theatre Tel No. 0114 240 2624

Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Park
(located between Ladycroft
bridge/stream and Bowling greens)
Open Wednesday + Saturday
10 am to 12 noon
Tel : Angela 0114 2461095

Ecclesfield Cubs

Scout Hut (off Yew lane)
Wednesday 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm
2nd Pack 6.30 pm to 8.0 pm
Leader - Mrs A Hancock
Tel: 0114 245 2780

Ecclesfield Beavers

Scout Hut (off Yew lane)
Monday 6.00 pm to 7.15 pm
Leader - Mrs J Steel
0114 246 0218
Thursday 6.00 -7.15 pm
Rachael Otter 0114 246 1752

Ecclesfield Scouts

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)
Tuesday 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Leader - Mr E. Buttimer
Tel: 0114 258 6935
Group Scout Leader
John Otter Tel. 0114 246 1752

The Grenoside Singers

Practice Monday in St Mark's
Church Hall at 7:30 pm
Secretary: Garry Leigh
Tel: 0114 246 4714
www.grenosidesingers.co.uk

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Secretary – Joe Webster 245 2518
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If you would like your local group advertised please contact:
Mrs P Blackburn  0114 246 8453



Useful Contacts



Vicar Revd. Daniel Hartley 257 0002

Churchwardens:
 Mrs Irene Proctor 246 0373
 Mr Tommy Proctor 246 0373
 Mr Andrew Robinson 246 3646
 Mr Michael Waldron 246 3091

Readers:
 Mrs Pat Clarke 257 7191
 Mrs Norma Priest 246 1729
 Mrs Stephanie Dale 245 2392

Pastoral Workers:
 Mrs Stephanie Hartshorne 284 5381
 Mrs Pat Wood 246 5086

Church Office:
 Tuesday - Wednesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am
 Thursday 9.00 am to 12.00 pm 245 0106

Church Choir Practice in Church
 Friday 7:30 pm - Contact: Don Knott 246 8430

Music Group Practice in Church
 Thursday 7:30 pm - Contact: Andrea Whittaker 246 0746

Mother's Union in Gatty Hall
 1st Wednesday of month 1:00 pm
 Contact: Maureen Lambert 246 9690

Ecclesfield Ladies Group in Gatty Hall
 Thursday 7.30 pm - Contact: Linda Waldron 246 3091
 or Joan Fisher 246 9914

Bell Ringers meet in Church Belfry
 Tuesday 7:30 pm Contact: Mr Phil Hirst 286 2766

Gatty Hall Bookings,
 Contact: Mrs Margaret Roberts 246 3993

Baptisms: Contact – Revd. Daniel Hartley 257 0002

Weddings: Contact - Revd. Daniel Hartley 257 0002

Vicar's e-mail: *vicar.ecclesfield@gmail.com*

Office e-mail *office.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com*

Magazine e-mail *magazine.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com*

Ecclesfield Open Gardens

Saturday 28th June - 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday 29th June - 12 noon to 5 pm

Featuring: Twelve gardens of varying sizes, styles and maturity - Gardens open on both days. Refreshments will be available in the church and plants will also be on sale in church

Admission £3 Adults, Children under 15 free

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