

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine June 2017

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First Words

There are lots of weddings being celebrated at St Mary's in June. It is a real privilege for us to be able to welcome couples and their guests into St Mary's and to share with them the joy of their wedding day. Please pray for the couples to be married over the coming months.

Apart from the weddings there are two very important events this June, one at the beginning of the month and the other towards the end.

On **Sunday the 4th of June we celebrate Pentecost**. Weather permitting we will hold the 10am service outdoors. We will be welcoming Rainbows, Brownies and Guides with their leaders and their families and with the 'May Queens' to our Pentecost service.

Pentecost celebrates the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit on Jesus' disciples fifty days after Easter. The Spirit of God, promised by Jesus, fell on the disciples and remained with them, guiding them in their life and witness.

I often describe the Holy Spirit as 'God in the present tense'; He is God as we experience Him now, and, as the people of Jerusalem discovered on that first Pentecost, He is for all people - young and old, male and female; all races and social groups. It is the presence of the Holy Spirit that makes Church into the Body of Christ and turns us into Jesus' disciples.

On **Thursday the 22nd of June at 11am** our new bishop, Pete Wilcox, will be consecrated by Archbishop John Sentamu in York Minster.

Bishop-elect Pete moves from Liverpool where he is the Dean of the Cathedral. He is a very gifted preacher and teacher and in his writings concentrates on the Old Testament. As Dean of Liverpool he has led the Cathedral in growth and mission.

We are truly blessed that he will be our leader in prayer and outreach as we seek to be the Church for this diocese and all of its people. Please pray for him especially on the 22nd.

Tim



Front Cover – Syringa vulgaris – The Common Lilac – A shrub whose heady perfume sings of a summer to come before the perfumed roses take over. It always reminds me of my grandma's garden and interestingly it is also the state flower of New Hampshire - USA.

Back Cover – EIB Poster

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Mrs Ann Hackett (0114) 246 7159

Thought for the Month

I can hardly believe that we are going to the polls again on the 8th of this month. It seems hardly any time at all since the last general election, followed quickly by the poll on Britain's membership of the EU. Is there such thing as voter fatigue?

Whatever the result of the election, it promises to leave our country more divided, less unified, with less of a sense of having a common vision and common values.

One of the defining marks of the early Church was how it managed to bridge the divisions in Roman society; how people who should have been enemies saw each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. Slaves and masters were members of the Church on equal grounds. Men and women were seen as being of equal standing and, unusually in that environment, women as well as men exercised leadership in the churches.

Paul writes in his letter to the Galatians: "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Who we are in God's sight is more fundamental than the things that divide us. Those who are different to us - sometimes very different, are still our sisters and brothers.

As Christians we are praying about how we will use our vote. It is also important that we pray for the politicians who are standing and for the parties and their supporters; particularly for those that we disagree with. It matters that we pray for and work to bring reconciliation after the vote.

It is easy, all too easy for us to regard those we disagree with as simply wrong. The early Church showed that difference does not necessarily mean division. Jesus is bigger than our divisions and His love reaches across boundaries and barriers. In an increasingly divided world it is important that the Church shows a unity that embraces those who are different, those we disagree with and declares them to be the brother or sister that Jesus loves and died for.

May God bless you,

Tim

Prayer for the Month

The Lord's Prayer, Part 2.

Religions in general, and Christianity in particular, are often accused of escapism; of concentrating on heaven with its blessings while ignoring life for people in the here and now on earth. While this may be true of some expressions of Christianity, it is certainly not true of Jesus nor of the prayer that He gave to His disciples.

We don't pray for escape, we pray '*Thy kingdom come*'. In the New Testament the Kingdom of God or the Kingdom of heaven is not a place or a realm; it is the rule of God, the kingship of God.

To pray this prayer is to pray that God's will be effective here on earth. This is at the heart of Jesus' life and ministry. By the mercy and forgiveness that He showed to the lost and the broken, by the healing of bodies and minds, by the joy and the peace that He brought to the lives of the people that he met, Jesus brought God's kingly rule to touch our world. He made life around Him more like heaven; more like the world that God created it to be.

As followers of Jesus we pray "Thy kingdom Come" and we live as we pray. Through our words and by the lives that we live we try to make the world around us more as God intended it to be. We try to show the welcome that Jesus gave to every person that He met; we point those who are in distress to the mercy and forgiveness that is promised by Jesus. We minister to the sick, the bereaved and the suffering, praying for healing and wholeness. In our worship we witness to Jesus, the king of God's kingdom.

Our prayer is that inspired by Jesus and filled with His Spirit, Christians will live kingdom lives until Jesus returns. And as more people turn to Jesus and become His Spirit-filled disciples, so the kingdom of God grows, one soul, one life at a time.

Christianity is not a form of escapism. It is about our living today for Jesus in such a way that the lives of others and the world around us is touched by heaven.

Being a kingdom Church and kingdom people begins with ourselves as we ask, "What in my life; what in the life of our Church is not what God made it to be?" If we take the risk of asking God that question, He will show us how we can be more like the people and the Church He calls us to be. We pray as we live, as people of the kingdom of God.

Next month we look at the most costly part of Jesus' prayer, and consider the cost of following Jesus.

Tim

Ecclesfield Library

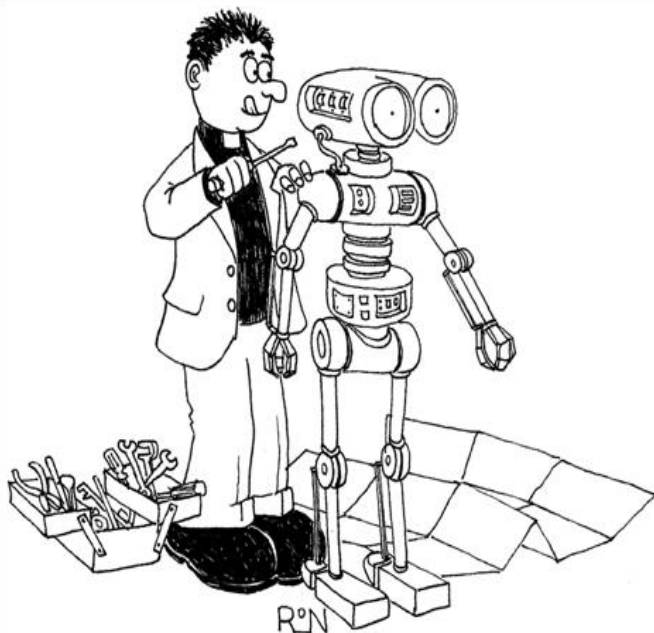
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There's Lots Happening At Ecclesfield Library in June

Ecclesfield Library will hold its Annual General Meeting on Monday 26th June at 7.00pm. New trustees will be elected on the evening who will continue the development of the library for the community to enjoy as a space of all-age learning. This is a great opportunity for interested individuals to gain and develop new skills. The library would welcome approaches from all parts of the community across a broad range of backgrounds, experiences and skills to create an enthusiastic and diverse management group.

Interested in knowing more about being a Library Trustee?
Contact Sue or Rose at the Library for an informal chat



*The difficult bit was persuading
a bishop to ordain him*



*We did keep warning the Vicar not to pick a fight with
the flower arranging team!*

On a very English sort of family - Throckmarsh Hall revisited

Editor: Readers of the St. James the Least letters have asked to know a little about the family history of the characters involved; it is a little unusual...

Many decades ago, Admiral Horatio and his wife the Honourable Mrs Chalfont-Morgan lived at Throckmarsh Hall, Gloucestershire. There they had two children, Eustace and Penelope.

Eustace followed a traditional path: public school, then Oxford. He was something of a disappointment to his father as careers in the armed forces, law or finance were clearly not appropriate to his temperament. Having sung in the school chapel choir and later been an occasional church attender, ordination into the Church of England seemed the only choice.

Eustace served his curacy in one of the more fashionable churches in central London, before becoming chaplain to the bishop of one of our ancient dioceses in southern England. His Machiavellian talents made the life of the bishop so much easier that by way of reward, Eustace was comfortably settled into one of the pleasanter parishes in the Cotswolds, where he remained for the next 40 years. His eventual sudden death, the result of an apoplectic seizure, would happen when he read in "The Times" one morning over breakfast that one of his former curates had been appointed a bishop. But that is fortunately still some years off.

Penelope's life was rather different. She was recalled from finishing school in Switzerland to become companion to her mother, on the death of her father while at sea. One day, while running errands in the local market town, she met Jack Crump, a second-hand car salesman from Liverpool. She eloped and they married. Within months, it was discovered that he was already married - to two other ladies. Unfortunately by this time, Penelope was pregnant and later gave birth to her only child, Darren.

One day many years later, Darren was cycling to his work at the local undertakers when he suddenly knew he was being called to ordination. After studying by correspondence course, he was ordained and served his curacy in an inner-city parish in the North West of England.

His only living relation was his uncle Eustace, who felt a duty to keep an eye on his innocent nephew. The two were less chalk and cheese, more Chateau d'Yquem and draught bitter. Uncle Eustace, with resigned determination, sent his young nephew a series of monthly letters, advising him on all aspects of parish ministry.

Darren later denied that it was these letters that eventually drove him to minister to natives in the remote forests of Brazil, far from any postman...

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Mothers' Union

Our last meeting was held on the 3rd May when about 25 members were present. Maureen Lambert led the meeting as Stephanie Hartshorne was on holiday. Joe Hawksworth took the short service with which we started the meeting. We began with the Mothers' Union prayer followed by a short meditation and then we sang the hymn "Jesus you are changing me". The service concluded with us all joining in the Lord's Prayer.

Our guest speaker was Margaret Vivian who is the MU's Diocesan Faith & Policy Co-ordinator. She took as her themes Celebration of Faith and Faith in Action. Faith in Action is the central theme for the MU this year.

Margaret gave us several illustrations of how we celebrate our faith including some which she and her family had been part of recently: Her son's wedding in Essex, the consecration of Martin Snow as Bishop of Leicester. Martin was vicar at Pitsmoor where Margaret and her husband worship. Also celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday when the Queen shared her faith with us all. The service in Winchester Cathedral for the AGM in September 2016 to mark the 140th anniversary of the founding by Mary Sumner of the Mothers' Union and all the work of the MU around the world was celebrated. As a church family we are all part of celebrating the important events of birth, marriage and death.

Margaret gave us plenty of inspiration as to how we can follow the Mothers' Union theme of Faith in Action. Asking Jesus for help to help others. The Away From it All Scheme that gives holidays to needy families. Welcoming families into church on Sundays, and for baptisms. Helping troubled families. Supporting the Make a Mothers' Day Project.

Margaret gave us lots of information about how she puts her faith into action. As a church welcomer, prayer leader, making tea, leading services in an old people's home, helping children of different faiths play together, helping out at toddler groups and lunch clubs, supporting prisoners. Her list of activities left us all feeling quite exhausted!

Let us all be pro-active and take inspiration from this and put our own faith into action.

Jennifer Armeson



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Afternoon Tea

*Ecclesfield Mothers' Union are hosting
An Afternoon Tea*



In Church on Sunday 23rd July at 3.30 pm

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Obtainable from:

Norma Priest - Stephanie Hartshorne - Maureen Lambert

*The tea will be followed at 6 pm by a service of Songs of Praise
If you have a favourite hymn and would like to share it together with the
reason it is special please let a member of the Mothers' Union Committee know*



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Will You Remember Them – June 2017

Sudanese Prisoners Released

Please join with your brothers and sisters around the world to celebrate wonderful news!

Rev. Hassan Abdulraheem Kodi Taour and Mr Abdul Monem Abdumawala were released from prison in Sudan, 11th May 2017, after a presidential pardon.

Hassan and Abdulmonem were arrested in December 2015 along with Kuwa TShamal and Petr Jasek, a Czech national. All four were charged with espionage, inciting strife between communities and several other offences. Kawa was acquitted on 2nd January 2017, and Petr received a presidential pardon and left Sudan on 26th Feb.2017. On 29th January 2017, Hassan and Abulmonem were each sentenced to 11 years imprisonment.

Since that date they have been serving their sentences in prison while their lawyers appealed against the verdict. Christians in Sudan rejoice at their release and request ongoing prayer.

Please Pray

- That Hassan, Abulmonem and their families will know the Lord's restoration, peace and joy after their release from prison.
- For an end to increasing pressure against churches and other religious minorities in Sudan, and that they will know the peace of the Lord.
- That all officials involved will be touched by God's love and will change their ways.

“Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever.”
(Psalm 136: 1)

JD

Christianity in Sudan - Significant, long-established groups of Coptic Orthodox and Greek Orthodox Christians exist in Khartoum and other northern cities. Ethiopian and Eritrean Orthodox communities also exist in Khartoum and eastern Sudan, largely made up of refugees and migrants from the past few decades. The largest groups affiliated with Western Christian denominations are Roman Catholic and Anglican. Other Christian groups with smaller followings in the country include the Africa Inland Church, the Armenian Apostolic Church, the Sudan Church of Christ, the Sudan Interior Church, Jehovah's Witnesses, the Sudan Pentecostal Church, the Sudan Evangelical Presbyterian Church (in the North).



St RICHARD of CHICHESTER

St Richard of Chichester, who lived from 1197 to 1253, is patron saint of the English county of Sussex.

In 1244 Richard was elected Bishop of Chichester but King Henry III wanted someone else as bishop and he ordered that no one should feed or house Richard. So Richard lived with a friend who was a parish priest and visited his entire diocese on foot for two years until the king relented.

Richard is widely remembered today for the prayer he is supposed to have said as he was dying. The prayer was adapted for the song 'Day by Day' in the musical Godspell and it is in this form that most people know it today:

Day by day,
Dear Lord, of thee
three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly,
Love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly,
Day by Day.

SOUNDS STRANGE

There are still quite a few people called Richard today but some saints' names sound very strange to our modern ears - how many of these names are saint's names and how many of them are something else all together? Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. Wenceslas
2. Mesrop
3. Blaise
4. Porphyry
5. Waudru
6. Methodius
7. Attracta
8. Sebbi
9. Fiacre
10. Budoc

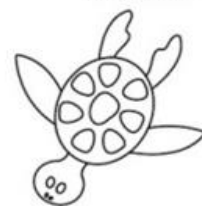


**What do you call a man with a
map on his head?**

Miles.

**What do you call a
woman with a
tortoise on her
head?**

Shelley.



**What do you call a man
checking your homework?**

Mark.

**What do you call a Vicar
on a moped?**

Rev.

Answer: all of them are saints listed in
the Penguin Dictionary of Saints -
honestly.

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St Mary's – Regular Services

8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP) - On 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

10.00 am Services

1st Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ and choir

2nd Sunday of the month - Service of the Word with music group

3rd Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ, choir and music group

4th Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ, choir and music group

5th Sunday of the month - Sunday Celebration Services

12:00 pm Baptism Service

Baptism Service 1st Sunday of the month – (Except: August no baptisms)

4.00 pm Living Stones Service

An interactive service for children and families 3rd Sunday of the month

6.30 pm Evening Service

Except: 2nd Sunday of the month Holy Communion and 4th Sunday of the month Prayer and Praise

Midweek Holy Communion – Thursdays at 9.30 am

Eva Ratcliffe Service - 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10.30am

St Mary's - Activities & Groups

Church Office Opening times

Tuesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Wednesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Thursday 9.00 am to 12.00 pm

Coffee Shop

Tuesday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Friday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Bell Ringers

Tuesday 7.30 pm Bell ringing practice

Friday 7.30 pm Silent Bell ringing practice

Choir Practice

Friday 7.30 pm Choir practice in choir vestry

Music Group Practice

Thursday 7:30 pm Music group practice in church

Church Diary Items to Note for June 2017

Day and Date	Time	Item
Saturday 3rd	10 am	Village in Bloom Coffee Morning Baptism
Sunday 4th	10 am	Service for Pentecost
	12 noon	Baptism Service
Monday 5th	7.30 pm	PCC in Church
Wednesday 7th	1.00 pm	Mothers' Union meet in the Gatty Hall
Monday 12th	7.30 pm	Baptism Preparation in Church
Thursday 15th	10.30 am	Prayer Meeting in Church
Sunday 25th	6.30 pm	Prayer and Praise Service
Monday 26th	7.30 pm	Ignatian Prayer in Church
Wednesday 28th	7.30 pm	Finance Team meet in Church

From the Registers

Baptisms

7th May Elijah Harry Edmund Birtles
 7th May Edward Colin Thornhill
 7th May Ruby Whittington

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

Weddings

6th May Harry Dean Pepall & Natalie Dawn Tomkins
 13th May Matthew Robert Doult & Lisa Clair Callaghan
 26th May Gary Saunby & Jenny Michelle Platts
 27th May Matthew John Pearson & Emma Louise Womersley

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

Funerals

30th March Thomas Elliott Taylor 97
 23rd May Maurice Worth 72
 1st June Kathleen Pears 81

Grant them, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace

Flower Rota June 2017

4th June Jeanne Sutton 18th June C. Ambler
 11th June S. Johns & S. Dale 25th June K. Lonsborough & P. Clarke

Christian Aid May Day Trek 2017

Every year on May Day, a sponsored walk is arranged in the Sheffield area for Christian Aid and CAFOD. There are usually two distances – 6 miles and 11 miles.

This year, the walk was hosted by St. Luke's church, Lodge Moor, a relatively modern (20th century) building, compared to our ancient church here at St. Mary's. In previous years, Pam Prior and Heather Johnson have done an excellent job in making all the arrangements to get together a group from Ecclesfield to take part in the walk, and this is how I first started taking part in this annual event.



Yvonne Ridgeway, James Kay and Jeni Fryer

There was only a small group of us this year who were able to take part in the walk: Jeni Fryer, James Kay and myself. Jeni picked James and I up at around 9:00am in the morning, which was a great help as the buses were running a Sunday service on the Bank Holiday. It was a cool, grey morning with a bit of drizzle in the air. Jeni took us on quite a scenic drive over to Lodge Moor, apparently a route she knows quite well. We arrived at just after 9:30am. Jeni parked up, and we all went inside to get fully registered to start the walk.

There were already a number of people congregating in the church hall. There were two or three people sat at a desk, checking off walkers' names (we had previously registered online). We got an armband with our walker number on it, and a copy of the route description. However, the walk was to be carefully marshalled at all locations where it might be possible to 'go wrong'. There was also a welcome cup of tea (or coffee) and biscuits being served for a small donation. Whilst we were waiting, we saw Jean, who is our church cleaner, waiting to do the walk. She was all geared up to do the 11 mile route; obviously fitter than us!

At 10am, the Christian Aid Co-ordinator for South Yorkshire gave us a reminder of the people whom we were walking to support – some of the poorest in the world. Then, Hedley Siddall, a United Reform Church local preacher, held a short prayer. We were then ready to set off!

Continues on page 23

The Gardening Year – June 2017

Roses

Many hybrid tea roses have flowering shoots on which two or three side buds are produced in addition to the main buds at the top. If you want quality blooms or blooms with long stems for cutting, remove the small side buds as soon as it possible to pick them off with finger and thumb. This procedure is called disbudding. Hoe the soil to improve aeration and remove weeds. Do not use lawn mowings as a mulch if the lawn has been treated with weed killer. Pull away brier shoots on the main stems of standard roses at the point where the growth emerges. Remove briars appearing through the soil in rose beds after tracing them back to their source. During dry weather water miniature roses growing in tubs, window boxes or troughs. Spray with a systemic rose insecticide if greenfly appear.

Hardy Biennials

Sow hardy biennials if this was not done last month. They can be raised out doors or under glass. As soon as they reach manageable size, set out in a nursery bed seedlings of hardy biennials which are at present in seed boxes or outdoor seed beds. Plant them 6-9 in. apart in rows 12in. apart, so that they have space to make sturdy, bushy plants for setting out in their final positions in September. Ideally carry out this transplanting during showery weather, failing this water the plants in after their move.

Trees and Shrubs

Do not allow grass to grow right up to the trunk of a newly planted tree or shrub. For the first two years keep a clear space about 4.ft in diameter around the base. Keep the area well mulched. In time the grass may be allowed to grow nearer. Prune deciduous shrubs cutting out shoots that have just flowered. Rhododendrons and azaleas keep a watch out for the Japanese lacewing fly which hatches in June. The larvae feed on the underside of leaves causing them to turn spotty and yellow. They are easily seen in clusters under the leaves. If left to reach adult stage they will get up into the new growth of the plant and lay eggs on the mid-rib under the leaves. Spray with a systemic and contact insecticide, control is usually complete after two sprays three weeks apart, since not all lacewing flies hatch out at the same time.

Vegetables

Plant out Brussels sprouts, marrows, outdoor tomatoes, Swedes, courgettes, leeks and outdoor cucumbers.

Colin Williams

Late for church

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could, trying not to be late for church. As she ran she prayed, *"Dear Lord, please don't let me be late! Dear Lord, please don't let me be late!"*

While she was running and praying, she tripped on a curb and fell, getting her clothes dirty and tearing her dress. She got up, brushed herself off, and started running again. As she ran she once again began to pray, *"Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...But please don't shove me either!"*

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With Trinity Sunday in mind:

If asked to define the Trinity, we can only say that it is not this or that. - *Augustine*

No wonder that the doctrine of the Trinity is inexplicable, seeing that the nature of God is incomprehensible. Our faith must assent to what our reason cannot comprehend; otherwise we can never be Christians. - *Francis Burkitt*

Thousands of the ablest minds of the centuries have pondered this problem and no one has been able to explain it; who then invented it? What man can invent, man can explain: what man cannot explain, man cannot have invented. It must be a revelation. - *G H Lang*

The Trinity is the basis of the gospel, and the gospel is a declaration of the Trinity in action. - *J I Packer*

Tell me how it is that in this room there are three candles and but one light, and I will explain to you the mode of the divine existence. - *John Wesley*



Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

E		F		E		T		B		A		O
G	R	A	N	D	C	H	I	L	D	R	E	N
Y		V		O		O		U		M		E
P	R	O		M	A	R	V	E	L	L	E	D
T		U		I		N				E		G
S	T	R	U	T		S	T	A	R	T	L	E
	E			E				D			O	
B	A	B	Y	S	I	T		O	R	A	T	E
R		E				H		P		R		X
E	U	C	H	A	R	I	S	T		M	A	P
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C	O	M	M	I	S	S	I	O	N	E	R	S
H		E		D		O		N		S		E

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British Institute of Funeral Directors Eric Eyre National President
1989 - 1990



Important Notice – but when do we tell you?

“Then the Curate shall declare unto the people what Holy-days, or Fasting-days, are in the week following to be observed. And then also (if occasion be) shall notice be given of the Communion; and Briefs, Citations, and Excommunications read. And nothing shall be proclaimed or published in the Church during the time of Divine Service, but by the Minister...”

“Are there any notices?” the minister asks after welcoming everyone to the service, and sometimes someone shyly explains that the Tuesday meeting is now on Wednesday of this week, and the Wednesday meeting is now on Monday and...oh well.. it is all on the notice sheet. Then another person jumps up to say there is a mistake on the notice sheet!

Ever wonder when this all started? The above quotation is taken from the notes to the prayer book service written in the Seventeenth Century. It is interesting that even then there were notices to give out.

In those days, Notices could only be announcements of holy days, days of fasting or celebration or what was approved by the bishop or monarch. A “brief” was a letter to a community on a point of discipline and a citation was news of a court case probably a church court case. Notices were for important church or state business only. These were the days before newspapers, so church notices would be the main source of news.

So when is the best time to have them today? If you have them at the beginning of the service, it can be a bit of a let-down, welcoming people to your service of praise and thanksgiving - but don't forget the fish and chip supper next Saturday is at 6 pm not 8 pm, in the village hall not the church hall, and also, the flower arranging has been re-arranged, and Mrs Boggins' leg is much better.

Or you can have them at the end, just as some folk are shooting off to see if the roast has burnt (only to find they forgot to put oven on), and everyone is dying for a cup of tea.

Perhaps notices work best in the middle of the service – like a commercial break. It avoids spoiling the welcome, and yet gets them in while people are still interested.

Perhaps you can prepare a notice about it?

Christian Aid May Day Trek 2017 – *Continued*

The six mile walk headed down a footpath called the conduit, as an outlet from the Redmires reservoirs ran alongside it. It was still cool and a little drizzly.

There was quite a crowd of us at this point, although the walkers spread out a bit after a while. Jeni had brought us some jelly babies to share – she said that marathon runners used them for energy! At each turn of the route, there was a volunteer marshal ready to point us in the right direction.

As we reached the first of the Redmires reservoirs, we noticed that one of the marshals was a little upset. She pointed out a female mallard duck, which was flying around in distress and making a lot of noise. The marshal said that a dog had frightened the bird, and scattered a number of ducklings, which were now nowhere to be seen. Anyhow, as she was speaking, a couple of the ducklings reappeared, obviously responding to their mother's loud quacks. Mother duck re-joined these ducklings, then continued calling out for the missing ones. We hope she found them all.

We had a pleasant walk around the Redmires reservoirs, built between the 1830s and 1860s, following the Sheffield Cholera epidemic. About half way round, there was a refreshment stop, where fruit squash and biscuits were available. We continued around the reservoirs. The sun finally came out and it became a little warmer. On the water's edge, we did see an Oyster Catcher, a beautiful black and white wading bird with a red bill.

Finishing the walk via the conduit footpath, we returned to St. Luke's church. We had another cup of tea (and cake!) and also ate our packed lunches. After collecting our certificates, Jeni drove us back to Ecclesfield. It was still only early afternoon. We had had an enjoyable walk and helped raise money for Christian Aid. We hope that we will be able to repeat the experience next year, and hopefully more people will be able to join us!

Yvonne Ridgeway

Solomon

Solomon – a king who was wise
Found favour within the Lord's eyes.
Yet, a man quite so clever
Ought really to never
Have married that number of wives!

By Nigel Beeton

Soloman's Wives and concubines

According to the Bible, Solomon had 700 wives and 300 concubines. The wives were described as foreign princesses, including Pharaoh's daughter and women of Moab, Ammon, Sidon and of the Hittites. The only wife mentioned by name is Naamah the Ammonite, mother of Solomon's successor, Rehoboam. The Biblical narrative notes with disapproval that Solomon permitted his foreign wives to import their national deities, building temples to Ashtoreth and Milcom.

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Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

- 8** Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)
- 9** In favour of (3)
- 10** 'The child's father and mother — at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)
- 11** Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)
- 13** 'Terrors — him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)
- 16** Bay bits (anag.) (7)
- 19** Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)
- 22** Holy Communion (9)
- 24** 'On their way to — out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)
- 25** Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

Clues Down

- 1** 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and — sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)
- 2** 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in — with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)
- 3** The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)
- 4** The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)
- 5** Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)
- 6** One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)
- 7** 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — — ' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)
- 12** Ate (anag.) (3)
- 14** 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our — as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)
- 15** Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)
- 16** Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)

17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to — children of God' (John 1:12) (6)

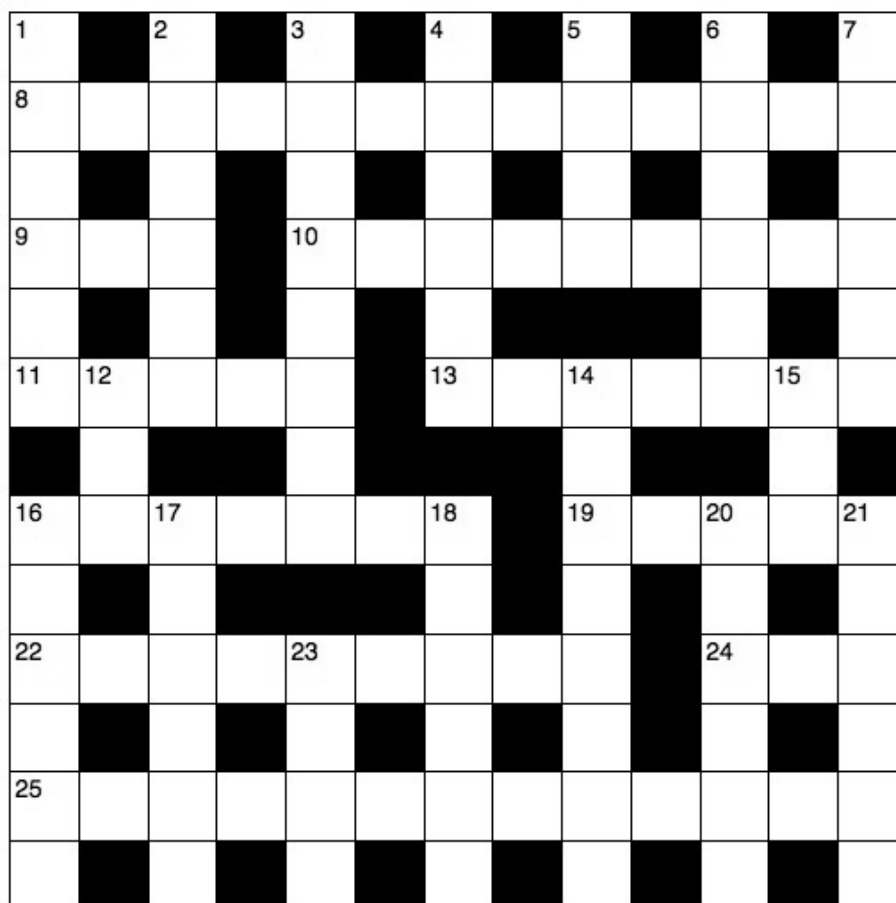
18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all — . — he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)

20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)

21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to — her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)

23 Diva (anag.) (4)

Solution is on Page 20



Ecclesfield Priory Players - Diary

6th-10th June - High Green Musical Theatre Group is producing '**Return to the Forbidden Planet**'. Tickets are £9 each, and there is a matinee on the Saturday at 2.15. All evening performances, including Saturday, are at 7.15

Saturday 17th June - Theatre Open Day to celebrate the bi-centenary of the laying of the foundation stone of the theatre building. Further details to follow, but we hope you will come along and support us on this very special day.

Prayers and Poems Page

Sending Prayer

Heavenly Father, Thank you that you are a sending God. From your divine community of Father, Son and Spirit, you sent Jesus to live as one of us, to die, rise and ascend for us. You then graciously sent your Spirit to live in us to equip us for our own sending.

Help us Lord, to hear your voice, to respond to your empowered sending, to be witnesses of your love and reality and relevance in our troubled world. Help us each to be willing to say, "Here am I, send me!" And then to go. In Jesus name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Church bells on the Wind

It matters not how sad you feel
If eyes, with tears, are dimmed;
Your heart will lift to hear the peal
Of church bells on the wind.

Was e'er a sound that had the pow'r
To touch one feeling grim –
To bring relief in gloomy hour
Like church bells on the wind?

I love that sound upon the breeze
With joy my soul is twinned!
And I give thanks upon my knees
For church bells on the wind.

By Nigel Beeton

Christ

Yesterday, Today, and Forever

Christ yesterday, today, forever;
King of Kings and Lord of Lords.
He the Alpha and Omega;
Source of life and life's reward.

Life He heals and life sustaining
He embraces all in love:
Lifts the world to highest heaven,
Works in death His love to prove.

Christ has Risen, Christ is with us,
With us now in time and place:
Blessing each and every moment
With His peace and plenteous grace

By Sam Doubtfire

Short prayers

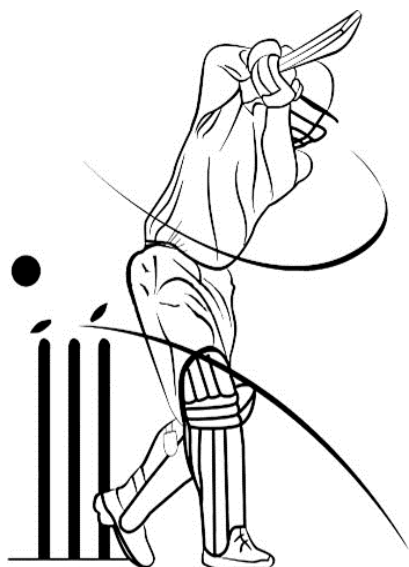
Prayers don't need to be long to be acceptable to God. For instance, consider:

Peter (Matt 14.30): 'Lord, save me!' A Canaanite woman (Matt 15.25): 'Lord, help me.'

Christians in later years have adopted the same form. Why not practise saying a simple sentence prayer each day – and simply mean what you say?

Michelangelo:	'Lord, make me see your glory in every place.'
Gladys Aylward:	'O God, give me strength.'
William Barclay:	'O God, keep me from being difficult to live with.'
Francois Fenelon:	'Teach me to pray. Pray yourself in me.'
John Wesley:	'O Lord, let us not live to be useless, for Christ's sake.'

Whitley Hall Cricket Club



The 1st team has continued its excellent start in the ECB Premier League with a very tight home win over Cleethorpes on 27th May making it 6 games played and all six won. Bank Holiday Monday 29th May was an away game at Sheffield Collegiate, who were joint top of the league. After a rain interrupted innings from Whitley, the game was abandoned leaving Whitley still in joint number 1 spot with Collegiate. In the cup, the 1st XI has also won both games in the Yorkshire Heavy Woollen Cup, beating both Appleby Frodingham and Morley at home.

However, the 2nd XI is struggling in the relegation places with defeats in May by Rockingham, Aston Hall and Warmsworth and an abandoned match against Norton Woodseats. The 3rd XI is also finding 2017 a difficult season with only 2 victories out of 6 games and lie slightly below mid-table. Everyone is welcome at the club to use the facilities in the pavilion.

Forthcoming Senior Home Games at Cinder Hill Lane

3 rd June	2 nd XI	v	Barnsley
4 th June	1 st XI	v	Appleby Frodingham Yorkshire League Cup
10 th June	1 st XI	v	Barnsley
17 th June	2 nd XI	v	Wakefield
24 th June	2 nd XI	v	Norton Oakes
1 st July	1 st XI	v	Sheffield Collegiate

Contacts

Joe Webster, Secretary: 0114 245 2518

Steve Fletcher, Director of Cricket: 0114 245 2406

Website: <http://www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk>

ACR

Cricket One-Liner

Welcome to Worcester where we have just seen Barry Richards hit one of Basil D'Oliveira's balls clean out of the ground.

Brian Johnston - Cricket Announcer

Contact Numbers for Local Groups ☎

Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 5.00 pm to 6.15 pm
Leader - Debbie
Tel: 07860 471793

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Monday 5.30 pm to 6.45 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

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Run by the community for the
community.
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Tel: 0114 246 3651
email: ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com

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 - Bryony Hemming
Tel. 07983 719155
Group Scout Leader
John Otter Tel. 0114 246 1752

The Grenoside Singers

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Secretary – Joe Webster 245 2518
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If you would like your local group
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Mrs P Blackburn ☎ 0114 246 8453



Useful Contacts

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



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