

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine May 2017

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First Words

After Lent, Holy week and Easter, May is a relatively quiet month. During May there will be quite a number of weddings in church please pray for the couples who are to be married here in the coming year, and do say 'Hello' when they come along to hear their banns called on Sunday mornings.

In the week leading up to the 12th and 13th of May it is the 'May Queens'. Although I am not sure what it involves I am looking forward to welcoming them into Church and celebrating the life of our community.

Towards the end of May we will be hosting a joint Ascension Day service (Thursday 25th May, 7.30pm). We will be welcoming our neighbours from Chapeltown and Grenoside. Ascension Day marks the end of Easter season when Jesus, having spent 40 days with the disciples returned to the Father.

The Archbishop Canterbury, Justin Welby, has called upon the Church to hold special time of prayer in the days from Ascension to Pentecost (25th May to 4th June). He has called us to pray for renewal in the Churches of this land and to pray for the nation. As this falls in the lead up to the general election, our prayers for Great Britain will be even more important.

The Archbishop calls this invitation to prayer "Thy kingdom Come". The focus of our prayers for both the church and there nation is 'God's will done here on earth as in heaven'.

We hope to have prayer-events happening in Church on every day during this time. look out for more information.

God bless,

Tim



Front Cover – Hallerbos – 'The Blue Forest' – The most important and most extensive forest area between Zenne and Zoniën in Belgium. The forest is a crowd favourite thanks to the beautiful purple carpet of bluebells, which bloom around mid-April. The giant Sequoia trees also make a visit to this forest more than worth it.

Back Cover – Monteney Primary Nursery and E.P.P.I.C Posters

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Mrs Ann Hackett (0114) 246 7159

Thought for the Month

Spring has finally arrived with bluebells and blossom. It is a real joy to get up early at this time of the year and get out with my two dogs, Tara and Oscar. Another sign of the arrival of Spring is the increasing number of Wedding and Baptism enquiries that are coming in!

It is good to be in a place where people from the wider community still want to come to Church for their wedding or for a 'Christening'. Often families comment on the warm welcome that they have received from the Church family when they come to make a booking or come along to hear their banns being called.

The 'pastoral offices' of Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals are important for the Church of England; in fact they are the reason why we can call ourselves the National Church (rather than the fact that some of our bishops sit in the house of Lords). These are the main way in which we relate to the wider community. We are a *parish* church, not a congregational church. We exist to serve every person who lives in the parish; and every person has the right to call on the ministry of **their** Parish Church.

Over the past few years the Church of England has commissioned some serious research into the experiences of people when they come to their local church on these occasions.

I hope that we can engage with this research and discover how we can better be a Church that, in the words of Archbishop William Temple, exists for the benefit of those who are not 'members'.

In the next few weeks I will be gathering a small group of people to review our Baptism policy; next year we will do the same thing with funerals and the following year with weddings. This will build on the work done at the end of April seeking God's vision for St Mary's in the coming years.

One change that I want us to consider is how we can begin to do most of the baptisms in the main service. Although this may bring some disruption, it is a way in which we as a church family can welcome the wider community and celebrate with them.

Baptism is not just a private family occasion. The children that we baptise are baptised into the Church. They become part of the Body of Christ here at St Mary's. It is always our hope and prayer that the families who come along will make this their spiritual home and will become active worshippers and members of the Church.

The service is an opportunity for the whole Church family to welcome and encourage the newly baptised, and it is a way for every one of us to respond to Jesus call to "make

disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” When we fulfil Jesus’ call we can claim His promise to be with us always, “to the end of time” (Matthew 28:20).

Baptism matters to us because people matter to God.

God bless,

Tim.



Prayer for the Month

The Lord’s Prayer, Part 1.

I always think that this prayer should be called the Disciples’ Prayer; it was the prayer given by Jesus to His followers when they asked Him to teach them how to pray. They had seen in Jesus a depth and quality of prayer and of relationship to God that they wanted for themselves. In asking Jesus to teach them how to pray they were asking Him how their own lives could be lived with the same trust in God that they recognised in Him.

And so this prayer begins:

*Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.*

For Jesus God is not simply a Creator to honour and a Lord to obey; He is above all else a Father. The word used by Jesus is *Abba* which is best translated as ‘Dad’.

Most people have the idea that all religions contain the same basic teaching about God. But even the most basic research shows that this is not true. Jesus was the first person who related to God as His Dad; and He taught us that God is our Dad too; that the creator and sustainer of the universe loves us. He calls us His children and He wants us to live our lives as His children.

The most basic fact about any one of us is that we are loved with a depth and a passion that is beyond our understanding. This fact is the foundation on which we build our lives; it gives us the confidence to face life in a world that is often very far from what God made it to be.

Continues over page

It gives us a security from which we can face life and all of its challenges. The love of God is a fundamental fact: it isn't something that we have to earn; it isn't conditional; it isn't something that we deserve. God's love, our Father's love, just is. How we respond to this love is important, but before our response is the basic truth: that we are loved deeply, passionately and eternally.

The second line of this prayer is the beginning of our response to the Father's love: "hallowed be your name"; "may your name be honoured." As soon as we have prayed this we can immediately see the ways and the places where God's name is not honoured. We can also see the ways in which we, by our thoughts and words and actions, are not honouring God. And so we have something to do; a practical offshoot of our prayer life. As we honour God in our lives so we are living more as His children.

As we follow this disciples' prayer in the next few months, we will see that it is not just a prayer to say; it is a prayer to live.

Tim



Life in the 21st century...

Tact: the ability to shut your mouth before someone else wants to. *Anon*

If it's true that we are here to help others, then what exactly are the others here for?
Anon

My inferiority complex is not as good as yours. *Anon*

I am in shape. Round is a shape. *Anon*

Indecision is the key to flexibility. *Anon*

Life's evening will take its character from the day that has preceded it. *Anon*

Life is a journey that no one makes alone. The more people you touch along the way, the more meaningful and rewarding your time. *Anon*

In the money: a condition many hope for, but only a banker experiences. *Anon*

Middle age: that difficult period between juvenile delinquency and old age, when you have to take care of yourself. *Anon*

Letter from St James the Least of All: On the hazards of baptisms

The Rectory
James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

Your new thermostatically controlled, underwater illuminated baptismal tank with wave simulation, for total immersions, sounds rather intimidating. I am slightly surprised you don't have computer-generated doves flying overhead, in order to add that final touch of authenticity. I would imagine that to perform baptisms in your tank, you need a degree in electrical engineering as much as one in theology.

I do, however, agree with your Vicar's decision to stop the practice of you performing these rituals in the river Mersey. It is one thing for your newly baptised to emerge from the waters filled with the Holy Spirit, and quite another to emerge filled with typhoid. Better to give them a baptismal certificate, rather than a free ride to the hospital for a stomach pump. The river Jordan may have been all very well for John the Baptist, but I expect that even he would hesitate at the river Mersey.

Had I baptised dear Miss Pemberton in the Mersey last month – at 93 years, taking the decision a little late in life (I did not attempt to hold her in one arm) – being a lady of such proportions, I suspect she would have constituted a shipping hazard.

I appreciate your suggestion that such procedures would look charming on the banks of our local Cotswold stream, but irrespective of our differing theologies, I would not want to be seen by parishioners in my bathing costume. Such apparel may be all very well when I am on holiday somewhere where I am totally unknown, but it hardly seems fitting for an honorary Canon in his parish.

I do concede that baptisms in medieval fonts can have their own particular problems. The plug in our own has never fitted properly, and so after filling it, I know I have precisely 16 minutes and 45 seconds to come to the actual baptism, otherwise the water has disappeared entirely. As I have discovered over the years, it is impossible to look dignified disappearing into the vestry half way through the Service in order to fetch a second bucket. For baptisms in winter, the presentation from Admiral Barnaby of the small silver hammer has been a great help in order to break the ice that slowly forms across the surface as the service proceeds.

In future, as you and your own candidates luxuriate in this heated baptismal spa, do spare a thought for those of us who maintain the true faith.

Your loving uncle,

Eustace

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Mothers Union – 6th April 2017

Our speaker was Mary White – Lay Reader at St. Cuthbert's Firvale. Mary led us through 14 Stations of the Cross.

Station 1 – The Chief Priests and elders had persuaded the crowd to demand the release of Barabbas and the execution of Jesus. Pilate asked them 'which of these two men do you want me to release for you?' They continued to shout for the crucifixion of Jesus and as we know Jesus was crucified on Good Friday.

Station 2 – Jesus takes up his cross. The soldiers stripped him, put a scarlet cloak on him, put a crown of thorns on his head and placed a reed in his right hand and they mocked him. When they had finished making fun of him they took the reed and struck him with it, re-clothed him in his own clothes and led him away to be crucified.

Station 3 – Jesus falls for the first time. Jesus knew his weakness and he said, 'My Father if it is possible let this cup pass from me'.

Station 4 – Jesus meets his mother on the journey. Mary felt such a weight of sadness that she could do nothing to help her beloved son. She could only watch and pray.

Station 5 – On the way they met a man from Cyrene, Simon by name. Simon was probably in Jerusalem on a visit and he was enlisted to carry Jesus' cross.

Station 6 – Veronica wipes the face of Jesus. She saw the need, she acted and received the imprint of Christ on her life.

Station 7 – Jesus falls for a second time. We take for granted Jesus trust in his heavenly Father, but this was genuine perseverance – surely Jesus had difficulty in the way of the cross. The cross was heavy and he had been beaten and abused before the journey.

Station 8 – The women of Jerusalem mourn for Jesus. Large numbers of people followed him and lamented for him. Jesus said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me; weep rather for yourselves and for your children.'

Station 9 – Jesus falls for the third time. He had not done anything wrong, he was insulted and did not retaliate, when tortured he made no threats but put his trust in the righteous judge. Who could blame the onlookers if they failed to see this as a triumphal journey.

Station 10 – Jesus is stripped of his garments. They took his clothing and divided it into four shares, one for each soldier. His undergarment was seamless – so they decided to throw dice to see which soldier would get that garment. By way of humiliation this was the last straw.

Station 11 – Jesus is nailed to the cross – two criminals also, one on the right and one on the left. Jesus said, 'Father forgive them; they do not know what they are doing.'

Continues on Page 11



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Will You Remember Them – Month May 2017 Ethiopia

“Bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes”

Isaiah 61:3

A Home Turned To Ashes

Tutu, a widow and her son Biruk are facing immense hostility from their neighbours after converting from Islam to Christ. Last month, their house and crops were set alight and turned to ashes, only one room survived the flames. Biruk was assaulted by a villager, who told him he would continue to cause trouble until Biruk and his mother returned to Islam.

After Tutu’s husband died around 18 months ago, local Muslims displayed their anger by exhuming his body and dumping it by the road. Local authorities did step in at this point, but it has taken a long time for Tutu and her son to recover from the shock of the villagers’ actions.

When visiting Tutu and Biruk, Tutu told Open Doors workers, “I thank the Lord for sparing our lives. We cannot complain about the loss of material things.” Open Doors is providing financial and food aid to the family, and will continue to help them and others regain their livelihood.

Please Pray...

- That the Lord will bless Tutu and Biruk and comfort them in their suffering.
- Thank God for their continued faithfulness to Him.
- For Open Doors partners supporting Christians with essential aid in sub-Saharan Africa.

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Mothers Union – 6th April 2017 - *continued*

Station 12 – Jesus’ mother Mary was standing near to the cross and when Jesus saw his mother and the disciple he loved standing near her he said, ‘Mother this is your son’. To the disciple he said, ‘This is your mother’. From that moment on the disciple made a place for Mary in his home.

Station 13 – Jesus is taken down from the cross. Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate to let him remove the body of Jesus. With Pilate’s permission they came and took the body away.

Station 14 – Jesus is laid in the tomb.

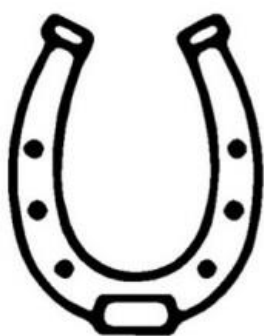
We had been led very movingly through the stations.



St DUNSTAN

Dunstan (909 - 988) was the most popular saint in England for nearly two centuries, being famous for many stories about defeating the devil.

A story tells how as a monk Dunstan nailed a horseshoe to the Devil's hoof when he was asked to re-shoe the Devil's horse. This caused such pain, and Dunstan only agreed to remove the shoe and release the Devil after he promised never to enter a place where a horseshoe is over the door.



They say that is why people still hang horse shoes over doorways.

St Dunstan is the patron saint of blacksmiths and bell ringers as well as goldsmiths and silversmiths. His Feast Day is 19 May, which is why the date year on the hallmarks on gold and silver runs from 19 to 18 May, not the calendar year.

NOT JUST ON YOUR FEET....

The answers to these are all something you could wear on your feet, but the word also means...

1. A sure-footed pack animal
2. A thin sharp knife
3. A wobbly dessert
4. A poisonous snake
5. Isn't safe on ice
6. A gymnastic move
7. Equipment used to move water
8. An Irish accent
9. Part of a car used for storage
10. A sports coach



What do you call a shoe that looks like a banana?

A slipper.

Who always goes to bed with his shoes on?

A horse.



Answers: 1 Mule 2 Stiletto 3 Jelly
4 Moccasin 5 Slipper 6 Flip flop
7 Pump 8 Brogue 9 Boot 10 Trainer

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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 May 2017

Day and Date	Time	Item
Sunday 7 th	12 noon	Baptism Service
Wednesday 3 rd	1.00 pm	Mothers' Union meet in the Gatty Hall /
Thursday 4 th	10.30 am	Prayer Meeting in Church
Monday 8 th	7.30 pm	PCC meets in Church
Saturday 13 th	9.00 am	Prayer Breakfast in Church
Monday 15 th	7.30 pm	Fabric Team meet in Church
Wednesday 17 th	7.30 pm	Evening Meeting of Mothers' Union
Sunday 21 st	4.00 pm	Living Stones Service in Church
Monday 22 nd	7.30 pm	Ignatian Prayer in Church
Sunday 28 th	6.30 pm	Prayer and Praise Service

From the Registers

Baptisms

2nd April	Lyla Grace Marsh
2nd April	Adam Stephen Bell
2nd April	Louie George Whelan

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

Weddings

8th April	Mark Gillott & Faye Housley
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May each be to the other strength in need a comfort in sorrow and a companion in joy

Funerals

29th March	Sidney Thompson	69
6th April	Carol Kay Horner	74
11th April	Diane Parkin	69
9th April	Cynthia Mary Lister	77

Grant them, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace

Flower Rota May 2017

7th May	N. Priest & J. Rodber
14th May	Vacant
21st May	A. Briddock & I. Proctor
28th May	J. Adam & G. Loxley

Remembering Arthur Sullivan of the Savoy Operas...

And Onward Christian Soldiers

Sir Arthur Sullivan, best known for the brilliant comic operas he wrote with W S Gilbert, was born 175 years ago this month, on 13th May 1842.

Ironically, he never wanted to be remembered for the operas, such as *The Mikado* and *The Pirates of Penzance*. Instead, he wrote: “My sacred music is that on which I base my reputation as a composer.” But although he wrote striking oratorios such as *The Prodigal Son* and *The Light of the World*, by far his most popular sacred music remains the tune for *Onward, Christian Soldiers*.



The young Arthur Seymour Sullivan – his father an Irish musician and his mother of Italian descent – was a Child (choirboy) of the Chapel Royal and the first winner of the Mendelssohn Scholarship, which enabled him to study at the Royal Academy of Music and the Leipzig Conservatory. He became organist of St. Michael’s, London, in 1861, and the following year a performance in London of his incidental music to Shakespeare’s *The Tempest* made him an overnight celebrity.

He then became a professional musician, teaching, playing the organ, editing and conducting, as well as composing various classical works, including a ballet, a cello concerto, a symphony, choral works, several overtures and a series of chamber pieces and hymns. His first successful comic opera (without Gilbert) was *Box and Cox*, but Richard D’Oyly Carte brought the two men together for the immensely popular *Trial by Jury*.

The rest is history. The G&S collaborations are now known as the Savoy Operas, after the theatre where they were performed from 1882.

Sir Arthur’s relationship with Gilbert – portrayed in the brilliant Mike Leigh film *Topsy-Turvy* – was not always calm, but Gilbert’s satire and verbal ingenuity were matched beautifully by Sullivan’s technically brilliant tunefulness.

Sir Arthur died at his flat in London on 22 November 1900. His unfinished opera, *The Emerald Isle*, was completed by Edward German and produced in 1901. His *Te Deum Laudamus*, written to commemorate the end of the Boer War, was performed posthumously.

The Gardening Year – May 2017

In the sunny dry days of May Rhododendrons and Azaleas reach perfection and the garden makes up for the checks of a cold spring. In the British Isles during May the gardener can expect all kinds of weather on average the second week of May is one of the driest five weeks of the year.

Flowers, Hardy herbaceous plants – continue hoeing between plants to kill the weeds while they are still small. Continue to stake and support tall plants such as Delphiniums, which are liable to suffer from damage from wind and rain when near flowering time, do not stake dwarf or those that are naturally a little floppy near the front of the bed or border; these plants look more attractive if unregimented.

Dahlias – plant out young dahlias either your own rooted cuttings or bought plants, when drought or frost is past – from about the end of May.

Gladioli – continue routine hoeing to check weed growth and conserve soil moisture taking care not to damage the stems. Give the plant a thorough watering if prolonged dry weather occurs.

Irises – intermediate irises should flower this month followed by the tall ones. Remove dead flower stems from dwarf irises and also dead flowers from intermediates. In the dry weather give an occasional watering to keep the plants growing well.

Trees and Shrubs - During showery weather complete the planting of evergreens, although pot-grown plants may be planted at almost any time. Keep the newly planted shrubs moist at the roots and spray the foliage with water in the evenings during dry or windy weather.

Fruit apple, pear and sweet cherry, if fruit set appears good apply 1oz of sulphate of ammonia or nitro chalk per sq. yd. this will help to swell the fruit and form fruit bud for next year. Food and moisture shortage at this time causes reduced fruit size; if the shortage is severe fruit and bud formation (which takes place up to mid-July) will also be affected and next year's crop reduced. Do not feed if the trees are not fruiting or they will make too much growth. Young trees should not carry too much fruit so limit the crop by rubbing out flowers clusters or removing the fruit lets by hand, leaving the leaf clusters to build up the tree.

Vegetables – during the second week of May runner beans can be planted, plant the beans with the eyes on the concave side of the bean down into the soil as this is where the roots emerge from. Early in the month prepare the site for outdoor tomatoes spacing the holes 18in. apart. Stop the plants at 3 or 4 trusses. French beans can be planted this month, set the seed 2-3 in. deep and 6in. apart.

Colin Williams.

The quick way to get rid of mice

Three churches in town were overrun with mice. The minister of the first church trapped them, thereby starting a bitter row among his congregation about showing compassion towards God's creation.

The minister of the second church humanely trapped the mice and then set them free outside. Three days later the mice were back.

The minister of the third church humanely trapped the mice and then carefully baptised them. They have not been seen since.

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Windy

Three elderly ministers, all hard of hearing, were playing golf one sunny spring morning. The Methodist minister observed, 'Windy, isn't it?' 'No', the Baptist pastor said, 'It's Thursday.' The Anglican vicar agreed: 'So am I! Let's go and get a pint.'

Morning Prayer

Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, 'Good morning, Lord,' and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, 'Good Lord, it's morning.'

When technology goes wrong

The father of a family - who was a big-time techie - got his oldest daughter an iPhone for her birthday. He also got an iPad for his son. Later he bought an iPod for the youngest daughter. Then, when his wedding anniversary rolled around, he got his wife an iRon. That's when the fight began.

Breakable

There was a very gracious lady who was posting an old family Bible to her brother in another part of the country... 'Is there anything breakable in here?' asked the postal clerk.

'Only the Ten Commandments,' answered the lady.



Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

B	A	B	Y		S	T	I	M	U	L	A	S	
E		E				R		U		I		E	
L	I	A	R		F	O	R	S	A	K	E	N	
I		T		A		O		I		E		T	
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V		N		C		S		O		P		D	
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A		B		A		N		Y		I		G	
H	O	L	I	N	E	S	S		O	B	E	D	
A		O		C		E				I		A	
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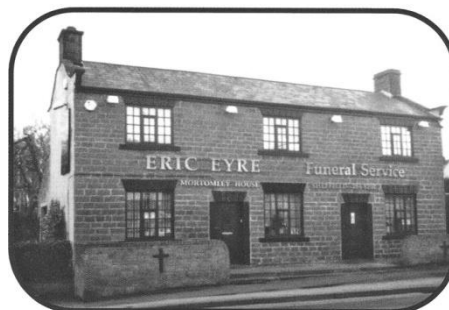
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British Institute of Funeral Directors Eric Eyre National President
1989 - 1990



High Days and Holy Days 1st May

May Day – unbridled merriment

May is the month when the ancient pagans used to get up to ‘all sorts’! The Romans held their festival to honour the mother-goddess Maia, goddess of nature and growth. (May is named after her.) The early Celts celebrated the feast of Beltane, in honour of the sun god, Beli.

For centuries in ‘Olde England’ the people went mad in May. After the hardship of winter, and hunger of early Spring, May was a time of indulgence and unbridled merriment. One Philip Stubbes, writing in 1583, was scandalised: “for what kissing and bussing, what smooching and slabbering one of another, is not practised?”

Henry VIII went ‘maying’ on many occasions. Then folk would stay out all night in the dark rain-warm thickets, and return in the morning for dancing on the green around the May pole, archery, vaulting, wrestling, and that evening, bonfires.

The Protestant reformers took a strong stand against May Day - and in 1644 May Day was abolished altogether. Many May poles came down - only to go up again at the Restoration, when the first May Day of King Charles’s reign was “the happiest Mayday that hath been many a year in England”, according to Pepys.

May Day to most people today brings vague folk memories of a young Queen of the May decorated with garlands and streamers and flowers, a May Pole to weave, Morris dancing, and the intricacies of well dressing at Tissington in Derbyshire.

May Day is a medley of natural themes such as sunrise, the advent of summer, growth in nature, and - since 1833 - Robert Owen’s vision of a millennium in the future, beginning on May Day, when there would be no more poverty, injustice or cruelty, but harmony and friendship. This is why, in modern times, May Day has become Labour Day, which honours the dignity of workers. And until recently, in communist countries May Day processions were in honour of the achievement of Marxism.

There has never been a Christian content to May Day, but nevertheless there is the well-known 6am service on the top of Magdalen Tower at Oxford where a choir sings in the dawn of May Day.

An old May carol includes the lines:

*The life of man is but a span, it flourishes like a flower
We are here today, and gone tomorrow - we are dead within an hour.*

There is something of a sadness about it, both in words and tune, as there is about all purely sensuous joy. For May Day is not Easter, and the joys it represents have always been earth-bound and fleeting.

Park - Springtime Fun

Meet at bottom end of Park opposite Morrisons.
(Note - only limited parking in the Park car park)

Wednesday 31 May

1pm to 4pm Multi Sport Activities - 1pm to 3pm Cricket Coaching

Ages 3 to 14 year olds

Under 8's must be accompanied by an adult for duration of attendance

Bring a drink/bottle of water

Free Event

Saturday 3 June - 1pm to 4pm

Family Fun with our Inflatable activities

Zorb Balls, Bouncy Castle, Crazy Golf & more

Some activities are subject to height/age/weight restrictions

Free Event

Small charge may apply to some activities

Ecclesfield Guide May Queen



Thursday	11 th May 2017
Friday	12 th May 2017
Saturday	13 th May 2017



The Gatty Hall, Priory Road, Ecclesfield at 7pm

Tickets £4.50 Adults - £3.00 Children

Tickets are now available from Guides, Brownies, Rainbows
or by calling: 0114 2461289

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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

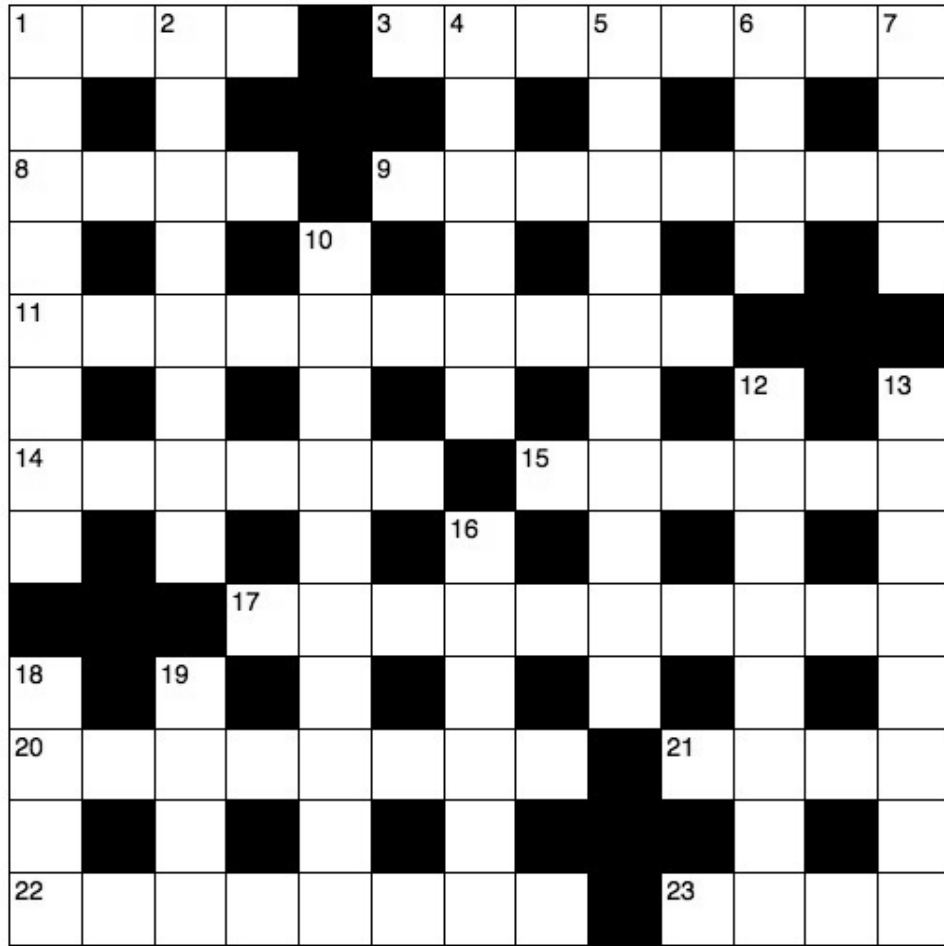
Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

- 1** Infant (Luke 2:12) (4)
- 3** Luis must (anag.) (8)
- 8** What Jesus called the devil (John 8:44) (4)
- 9** 'My God, my God, why have you — me?' (Matthew 27:46) (8)
- 11** Anglican form of church government (10)
- 14** 'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like — ' (Isaiah 40:31) (6)
- 15** Ministers of religion (6)
- 17** Make stronger (1 Thessalonians 3:13) (10)
- 20** Devoutness (1 Timothy 2:2) (8)
- 21** The father of Jesse (Ruth 4:22) (4)
- 22** Pool where Jesus healed a man who had been an invalid for 38 years (John 5:2) (8)
- 23** '[Jesus] said to them, " — here and keep watch"' (Mark 14:34) (4)

Clues Down

- 1** Follower of Christ (Acts 16:1) (8)
- 2** One of the punishments endured by Paul (2 Corinthians 6:5) (8)
- 4** Soldiers (Exodus 14:9) (6)
- 5** Scholarly study of melody, harmony and rhythm (10)
- 6** 'I am God, and there is none — me' (Isaiah 46:9) (4)
- 7** 'And how can they preach unless they are — ?' (Romans 10:15) (4)
- 10** Favourable reception (1 Timothy 1:15) (10)
- 12** Hip orbit (anag.) (8)
- 13** End of life (Isaiah 22:14) (5,3)
- 16** 'About midnight the sailors — they were approaching land' (Acts 27:27) (6)
- 18** He married Jezebel (1 Kings 16:30–31) (4)
- 19** 'According to your great compassion — out my transgressions' (Psalm 51:1) (4)



Prayers and Poems Page

Presence Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Parting from our loved ones is difficult. We long to be together, but sometimes it isn't possible and we don't always understand. The disciples must have wanted Jesus to stay with them, after the joy of the resurrection and those wonderful reunions. And yet you knew that it was better for them - and for us - that Jesus returned to you so that He could send His Spirit to live in us, to comfort and strengthen us and to work through us. Thank you that even though human parting is inevitable, because of Jesus eternal life is freely offered to those who trust in Him. And while we are here on earth you promise never to leave us or forsake us. Thank you, Father, for your love - and your bigger picture!

In Jesus name.

Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Samson and Delilah

Now Samson, incredibly strong
Cos his hair was incredibly long!
 He could tie knots in iron
 And wrestle a lion
But his choice of a woman was wrong.

For the woman he chose, named 'Delilah'
Was a charming, enticing, young smiler
 She wheedled and wormed
 She seductively squirmed
Delilah, the lethal beguiler!

Her charms they were deadly and sure
Till his secret was secret no more
 While he was asleep
 The scissors bit deep
And his hair fell in heaps on the floor.

Take heed, if the love bug has bitten
And with some sweet other you're smitten
 Like Samson, beware
 That you don't lose your hair
And end up as weak as a kitten!

By Nigel Beeton

It's just not cricket!

It's really just not cricket
How hard a mother works
To get her kids to the wicket
A job that lacks in perks!

Rising, driving, and making
The sandwiches and teas;
Cleaning, ironing, baking
The cakes which greatly please!

Mum's taxi covers the miles
So they can score those fours.
She claps and broadly smiles,
But *she* should get applause!

By Nigel Beeton

Whitley Hall Cricket Club



The club made an excellent start to the season on 22nd April with the 1st XI beating Aston Hall at home, the 2nd XI beating Coal Aston away and the 3rd XI beating Thorncliffe. On Sunday 23rd April, the 1st XI continued the winning theme by beating Ossett with ease in the Heavy Woollen knockout cup. Everyone is invited to the club to spectate and use the facilities in the pavilion. Remember that Whitley is the nearest club for nearly 10 miles where cricket in the ECB Premier League, immediately below County level, can be watched. In May, 1st XI matches start at noon and 2nd XI matches at 1.00. Call in and pick up a full fixture card.

Forthcoming Senior Home Games at Cinder Hill Lane

29 th April	2 nd XI	v	Sprotbrough
6 th May	1 st XI	v	Tickhill
13 th May	2 nd XI	v	Aston Hall
20 th May	1 st XI	v	Treeton
27 th May	1 st XI	v	Cleethorpes
3 rd June	2 nd XI	v	Barnsley
4 th June	1 st XI	v	Appleby Frodingham Yorkshire League Cup

Contacts

Joe Webster, Secretary: 0114 245 2518

Steve Fletcher, Director of Cricket: 0114 245 2406

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

ACR

ACR

A Good Reason to Get Out

In a country town match, the batsman was out with the first ball. 'Not like last week,' said the wicket-keeper.

'No,' said the batsman. 'Last week I stayed in and got forty and when I got back all the beer was gone!'

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

Friends of Ecclesfield Library

Run by the community for the
community.
Volunteer helpers always needed.
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

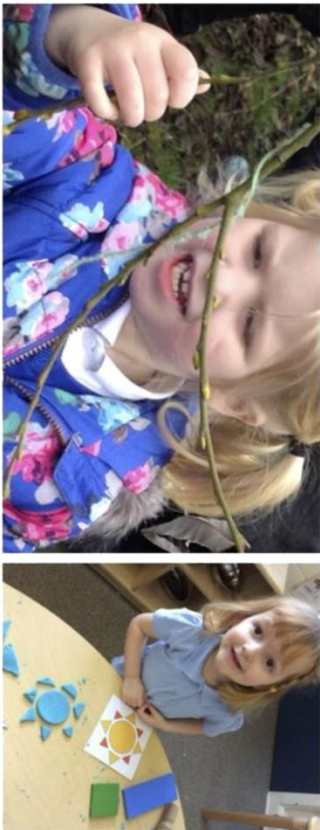
The Grenoside Singers

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

Whitley Hall Cricket Club

Matches every Saturday and some
Sundays and weekdays.
Please contact Steve Fletcher if you wish
to play or learn.
Manager – Steve Fletcher 245 2406
Secretary – Joe Webster 245 2518
www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk

If you would like your local group
advertised please contact:
Mrs P Blackburn ☎ 0114 246 8453



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