

# News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine August 2023

[stmarysecclesfield.org.uk](http://stmarysecclesfield.org.uk)

**Price 60p**

# First Words

Churches in August are traditionally 'quieter.' Clergy with school-aged children tend to take annual leave, and those whose children are older or younger tend to make the most of a month with fewer meetings and funerals (but usually more weddings). I intend to use some of the time to do some overdue tidying in my study!

On Wednesday 2nd August there will be the Funeral of Alan Walton from the Grenoside Singers in Church at 12.30pm.

During August our mid-week Communion services will continue as usual at 9.30am every Thursday morning.

On Thursday 3rd August there is a Wedding rehearsal in Church at 4.30pm, and the Wedding is in Church on Saturday 5th August at 1pm.

On Sunday 6th August we will be celebrating the Feast of the Transfiguration at 10am, this is followed at 12 noon by Baptisms.

On Monday 7th August at 5pm we have a Wedding rehearsal in Church.

We will be meeting to plan our Christmas Open Day on Tuesday 8th August at 4pm in Church.

On Saturday 12th August we have a Prayer Breakfast at 9am and a Wedding at 2pm.

There is a Burial of Ashes in the Churchyard on Monday 14th August at 11.30am. At 7pm the Fabric Team will be meeting in the Choir Vestry, and in Church at 7.30pm there will be a Chapelton Wedding Rehearsal. The wedding is on Saturday 19th August at 1pm.

On Monday 21st August at 5pm there is a Wedding rehearsal in Church, and another on Tuesday 22nd August at 3pm. The Weddings are on Saturday 26th August at 12 noon and 2pm.

Monday 28th August is a Bank Holiday.

Please pray for the couples being married at St Mary's during the summer.

God bless,

Tim.



Front Cover – Swallowtail butterfly on buddleia bush

Back Cover – Architectural Sketch of St Marys © Alan T Adams

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## Grenoside Singers – Sad News



A few days after singing in the Grenoside Gala, we received the dreadful news that our much-loved Chairman, Alan Walton, had died suddenly from a heart attack. To say that all the choir members were shocked and stunned would be a huge understatement. Alan had been a member of the choir when it was the Male Voice Choir and had been the Chairman of the mixed choir for many years.

Many of you will know Alan from our concerts when he would sometimes act as MC and introduce our pieces in his own inimitable style! He also, with his wife Lynn and daughter Alex, often joined Ecclesfield Church Choir for events such as the Christmas Eve Service.

He was such a larger-than-life character and a man of genuine warmth. He always made a point of greeting new members to the choir and making them feel welcomed into our number. It is very difficult to imagine the choir without him, but we know that he would want us to carry on singing together and making music as a warm and supportive group. His wife Lynn and daughter Alex are also long-standing choir members, and they also want to carry on as Alan would have wished; our thoughts and prayers are with them at this sad time.

A memorial service for Alan, with the choir and the church choir, will take place in Ecclesfield Church on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August at 12.30.

As ever, we will be taking part in wedding ceremonies this year and helping to boost congregational numbers as well as singing pieces from our extensive wedding repertoire chosen by the couple. If you are to be married this year and you would like to book the choir to enhance your happy day, then please contact us.

The choir will take a summer break in August with rehearsals starting again on Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in joining the choir, you would be very welcome to come along to any of our rehearsals which are held in St Mark's Church Hall on Monday evenings at 7.30pm, or contact the Secretary, Judith Gill for more information. (Details on the inside back page of this edition.)

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## Not late

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!"

## Mothers' Union - July

Our speaker could not come due a to special meeting she had to attend so it was decided that we would have a talk about our own organisation.

The MU began in 1876 when a vicar's wife decided young mothers might need help in bringing up their children. She invited a small group to the vicarage and with help from her husband explained how she felt about the enormous task of caring for children. Soon she was being invited to speak about her ideals and the organisation was being taken out to many countries by the clergy and their wives. The family was the most important part of their project caring for children and marriage as the basis for all their work.

This is still the aim of the organisation and many schemes have been set up to ensure the work continues. Helping families to live and work together through education via reading programmes and business knowledge many have been taken out of poverty. At home we help families have holidays, help with crèches in prisons for families visiting, collect clothing for the homeless and refugees, provide starter baskets for women and children moving on from Refuges, knit for prem. babies and others where mums find it difficult. We are encouraged to be aware of almost any need that we may be able to help with .

Our organisation can be found in over 84 countries helping where there is a need regardless of sex, creed or colour.

We have recently welcomed 10 new members to our meetings and hope they know a little more about us now.

## Being bored is good for you

This will cheer you up this summer, when your children mope around the house saying that they are bored: apparently a bit of boredom is good for them.

So says a senior educationalist, Julia Robinson, who has encouraged parents NOT to force their children into too many activities. Instead, they must be allowed to become bored, so that they can have time to be reflective and calm. Too many pursuits such as music lessons, sport and online learning could result in a generation of manic, anxiety-ridden adults, she warns. She points out that happiness does not come from a "regime of unrealistic multitasking, running oneself ragged with an exhausting programme of endless...activities."

Another educationalist urged that children need "downtime.... They have the right to be bored, to give them the stimulus to be inventive, resourceful and self-reliant – all important life skills."

## Read a book!

This summer, why not encourage your children to read a book? A recent study has found that children who read for pleasure carry the benefits with them far into adulthood. And the most avid childhood readers score far higher on vocabulary tests, even 30 years later. As Marcel Proust the author once said, there are "no days of our childhood lived so fully as those spent with a favourite book."

## Be still and know...

*Editor: Norma Murrain describes the joy of stillness...*

### "Be still and know that I am God" Psalm 46:10

Have you ever thought of taking some time out of daily life, to simply 'be still' with God? To hear His voice, enjoy His presence, and perhaps receive His direction for your future? When one lady was told that her friend was "taking some time out to 'be still' and listen to God", she responded with curiosity: "What does His voice sound like?"

For many Christians, the response would be this: "His voice for me is always calming, always reassuring, it always makes me feel overwhelmingly loved. It always gives me a sense of peace, which is deeper than any pain and stronger than any fear. No wonder the Scriptures talk of a 'peace that passes all understanding!'"

God speaks to us individually, through His Word, the Bible. And sometimes, when we are outside, He can also speak to us through His beautiful world.

The blue sky says; "Always Look Up", the Sun says; "Shine," the birds say; "Sing", the trees say; "be fruitful", the flowers say; "consider the Lilies", The open road ahead says; "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel". The gentle rustle of the wind in the trees says; "Though you can't see My face, you can hear Me, see reflections of Me, feel Me, touch Me and know me through all I create, if you just take the time to be still!"

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# God in The Arts

Editor: Michael Burgess continues his look at great works of Christian art. You can see the image described by googling 'The Golden Fish' by Paul Klee or going to <http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/aelbert-cuyp-a-herdsman-with-five-cows-by-a-river>

## 'He gave us eyes to see them': The Golden Fish by Paul Klee

A few years ago, I was sponsored by the Mothers' Union in my diocese to go 'swimming with sharks' at the Blue Planet Aquarium near Chester. The prospect seemed daunting, but it proved to be a magical, memorable experience. When I went down into the water, it was like entering a new world – somehow both alien and attractive at the same time. Manta rays swam lazily by, and small fish gathered at my feet, inquisitive and waiting to be massaged by falling stones from my hand. The magic of that water-world is caught vividly in this month's painting, 'The Golden Fish' by Paul Klee.

Paul Klee was a Swiss painter who lived in Germany until he was expelled in 1933. He died seven years later, but in his lifetime produced some 9000 works of art, each one displaying inventiveness and versatility. 'The Golden Fish,' painted in 1925, portrays a unique creature gliding serenely through its underwater kingdom. The gold scales, the red fins and the powerful eye provide a sharp contrast to the deep blue sea where other smaller fish are swimming to the edges of the canvas.

Is the artist showing us that secret, mysterious world that lies beneath the surface of the water, or is it simply an aquarium in his own house? Whichever it is, he is introducing us to a world that we, who live on the solid land beneath our feet, take for granted. Seven-tenths of our world is water, and our planet is really one gigantic aquarium. We can travel to the coasts of our island and see the great sea stretching out before us. It may bring to mind sandcastles and summer holidays, or a boat trip when the choppy waves made us feel queasy, or the memory of pirate stories about galleons and treasure, or the squawk of seagulls over our heads. Here in this painting, Paul Klee is telling us something of the nobility and wonder of this primeval element.

The opening pages of Scripture introduce us to the great waters of Creation, when the wind of God swept over the face of the deep, and separated the seas from the dry land. On the fifth day God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures,' and God saw that it was good. Rupert Brooke in his poem, 'Heaven,' imagines that world of fishes and sea creatures pondering what is beyond this element of water, just as we on land ponder the future of our world.

'Somewhere, beyond Space and Time,  
Is wetter water, slimier slime!  
And there (they trust) there swimmeth  
One Who swam ere rivers were begun,  
Immense, of fishy form and mind,  
Squamous, omnipotent and kind.  
And under that Almighty Fin  
The littlest fish may enter in...  
And in that Heaven of all their wish,  
There shall be no more land, say fish.'



Poet and painter invite us to ponder the majestic glory of this element of sea and ocean which is part of God's good creation. In 'The Golden Fish' we glimpse something of the wonder of life it contains and find ourselves echoing the psalmist in Psalm 104: 'Here is the immeasurable sea in which move creatures beyond number. Countless are the things thou hast made, O Lord. Thou hast made all by thy wisdom.'

# St James the Least of All

*Editor: The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...*

## On why it is so hard to read

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

Your suggestion that every month at clergy meetings, someone should review a book of theology they have been reading, was bound to be greeted with uneasy resistance. It would mean that the majority would have to start opening books, rather than just occasionally dusting them. Possessing books does not necessarily imply that they are ever read.

Your high church colleagues will only read the Racing News, low church members the Railway Review, liberals the Knitting Weekly and those with tendencies towards non-conformism, the Vegetarian Times. Clerical studies may be lined with books, but they are largely for effect – and to hide damp patches on the wallpaper. Anything with hard covers will have been bought with the best of intentions - but somehow the vicarage lawn or the church hall drains will have taken precedence. And from what I know of your colleague over at St Crispin's, the only books he will buy will be to colour in.

I do try to keep up with my reading, but sleep mercifully intervenes after the first 10 minutes. On those days when I sit by my study window, so passers-by can see me deeply occupied in intellectual activity, it is most useful that my large tome on the letters of Eusebius can easily conceal an Agatha Christie inside it.

I confess that I was once gloriously put down when I tried to impress one of our blue stockings by mentioning a new edition of a Dostoevsky novel. She replied: "I have never read Dostoevsky in translation." It only confirmed my suspicions that she had worked as a Russian spy in earlier years.

I was hugely impressed when, during the bitter cold of last winter, the Earl of Stowe, whose library would comfortably contain one of our cathedrals, told me he was slowly getting through its contents of tens of thousands of volumes. It was only some time later that I discovered he meant he threw the occasional one on the fire, when he was running low on wood.

No, my dear Darren, the only literary activities that will spark interest will be crosswords for the majority, or diocesan reports for the truly dedicated – with weighty tomes being used as door stops.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

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**Editor** – it is often said that smart phones and techy devices mean young people read less. That isn't strictly true, many young people now read more, much more, not in the form of books but on social media and news services on their smart devices. In reality "smart devices" can make people smarter by not burdening their memories with unwanted or trivial information.



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## Thought for the Month

I took a week's holiday in July, thinking I would use the time to catch up on some gardening. However the almost constant rain meant that I spent very little time in the garden. Like most British people I love to complain about the weather, but on that very wet week I didn't complain about the rain. Instead I was thankful that we didn't have the extreme heat that mainland Europe, North America and China suffered.

I heard a report from Italy where the temperatures were at 35degrees during the night! I can hardly cope when the thermometer goes above 21 degrees!

I read a very disturbing statistic - that this July the earth had seen the hottest 20-day period for 10,000 years! As I sat at home reading and avoiding the rain, I worried about the world that we are leaving to the next generation, when extreme weather events that used to occur every 50 or 100 years come around every 2 to 5 years.

I wondered why the main political parties, both here and in other countries, are not coming forward with serious plans to prevent a catastrophe and to alleviate the plight of those who are suffering the worst effects.

The Bible teaches that creation is God's gift, it is something that we are given to steward, to care for and not to exploit, certainly not to treat as a rubbish tip! We meet God in our neighbour certainly, but we also encounter the creator in the good creation. It seems to me that the way that we have exploited God's creation is an act of desecration.

I do not have the answer to the crisis that the world is facing, but I do know that I am responsible for my share in the exploitation of creation. I believe that just as God will hold me responsible for the way that I have treated my neighbour, so I will also have to answer for how I have lived on this beautiful and bountiful earth that God has entrusted to us.

Tim.

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## Allotments come of age

Allotments come of age as 2023 marks the 21st year of National Allotments Week

Much beloved by gardeners across the UK, allotments are cherished for the space they provide to grow one's own fresh vegetables, among other things.

This year the theme is Soil Health. As National Allotments Week explains: "Good soil health is widely accepted as way to improve yield when growing edibles, but also contributes positively to biodiversity and the environment as the world faces more climate challenges. The NAS hope that this National Allotments Week will inform and educate gardeners old and new about the benefit of caring for the soil and the creatures that inhabit it."

More info at: <https://www.nsalg.org.uk>

## Reflecting faith – the Pulpit pt. 2

When you last heard a sermon given from a pulpit, what was your reaction? Whilst pulpits can of themselves be beautiful and stately, intricately carved and decorated, they can also be places of separateness. Rather than ending up helping the congregation to hear and see the preacher better, they can sometimes become a block to doing just that.

And it is not just pulpits. There are other things that can diminish our paying attention to the sermon. For one thing, in some churches the individual appearance of the minister may be distracting. This is one reason why robes and vestments are worn - to keep 'personality' out of worship; to enable people to concentrate on God, not the person up front.

Then again, there is the increased use of electronic devices in worship. Seeing the preacher preach from an 'electronic' tablet can take some getting used to.



Or what about flower arrangements at the pulpit? Some may be so spectacular that people hardly see or hear the preacher, in the midst of all those blooms.

But the good news is that the dominance of the pulpit can give authority to what is said from it. And as the preacher climbs into it, they can feel a renewed assurance and confidence that they are about to speak God's words and He is with them.

This month - See if you can hear a sermon preached not from a pulpit. Does it feel more or less important, connected and/or personal? What other things distract you from hearing and taking on board what the preacher is saying?



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# From the Registers

## Baptisms

Sunday 16th July

Belle Fothergill

Sunday 23rd July

Esmee Rebecca Swallow & Hannah Lee Swallow

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

## Marriages

Saturday 1st July

Samuel Waistnidge & Jodie Simpson

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

## Funerals

Monday 10th July

George Maximillian Green & Herbert Everatt Green

Tuesday 11th July

Doreen Glave

Wednesday 26th July

John Trevor Roper

Monday 31st July

Darren Lee-Farr

*Grant them, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace.*

## Spiritual Disciplines: Rest *(Canon Paul Hardingham)*

*'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.'* (Matthew 11:28).

Today, the spiritual discipline of *rest* is a challenging one. We are pressured to cram more and more activities into fewer hours. This has been described as *'hurry sickness'* and is an enemy of our spiritual life. August is a month for resting, and so is a good time to look at this discipline.

God instituted the discipline of rest in the creation of the world. He created everything in six days and rested on the seventh (Gen 2:3). He instituted the Sabbath, a weekly day of rest (Lev 23:3). However, it is helpful to draw a distinction between *busyness* and being *hurried*. Busyness is an outward condition, while hurry is about our inner state, resulting from too many competing priorities. Jesus was often busy but never hurried! What questions should we be asking about getting more rest?

### *Balancing Rest and Work:*

What is a helpful rhythm of work and rest in our lives? How can we take seriously the Sabbath principle of having one day a week to rest and not work? How might we use our time differently e.g. taking a long walk or having an unhurried conversation with a friend?

### *Using Our Leisure Time Creatively:*

When we actually take a break we often end up simply watching TV, surfing the net, shopping unnecessarily or eating when we are not hungry! Can we choose leisure activities that really refresh us? It's not a case of more leisure time, but using the time we have more creatively.

*'The solution to an over busy life is not more time. It's to slow down and simplify our lives around what really matters.'* (*The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry: John Mark Comer*).

# God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M. Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

## Parable: The Strength of a Seed

At this time of year, we enjoy the fruits of our gardens, fields and hedgerows: vegetables ripen, crops are harvested, and berries begin to show bright among the leaves. Much of this growth started with a few seeds in spring: the miracle of life coming from small dead-looking things. There is a league table of long-lived seeds. The winners so far are from the narrow-leaved campion, buried by squirrels in the Siberian permafrost over 30,000 years ago. When those seeds finally germinated, they became healthy plants that flowered and produced seeds of their own.

The Bible contains many links between seeds and spiritual growth, and the parable of the Sower is the most famous (in Matthew 13). A person may hear or experience something of God which has the potential to germinate into a life of following Him, resulting in the fruit of others coming to know God too. But things can happen that snatch that seed away, killing it before it has finished germinating, or choking its growth.

What about the knowledge of God that gets trampled, churned too deep in the mire of life to receive the warmth and light it needs to develop into faith? Buried seeds don't always die, but they can lie dormant, remaining alive but inactive until the earth is turned over. The possibility of that moment of connecting with something divine, scrap of knowledge, or snatch of conversation resulting in a changed life may seem infinitesimally small, but it's not zero. The seed may be incredibly tough, just waiting for a chance to grow.

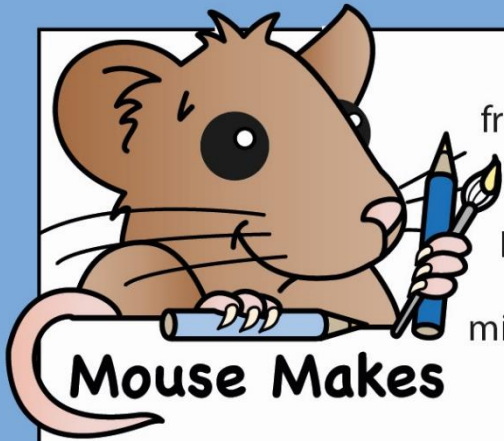
The Gospel narrative plays on the fact that it took a long time for the disciples to understand the full implications of Jesus' teaching: a germination process that took many of them three or more years. They could have been discouraged, but Jesus was not. I don't think it's too much of a stretch to draw out of the parable of the Sower to include the observation that it can take a long time, sometimes decades, for people to work their way through the various barriers, sticking points, and phases of forgetfulness that may keep them from following through on their spiritual experience. When we finally receive – or are open to – the encouragement, challenge, or experience that helps our faith in Christ grow, we can experience the rich fruit of a transformed life.

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# Mouse Makes

After Jesus miraculously fed 5,000+ people from two fish and five loaves, he sent his disciples off in a boat across the Sea of Galilee before going up a mountain by himself. Later in the night, as the boat was being blown and buffeted by the wind, Jesus came miraculously walking on the water towards them...

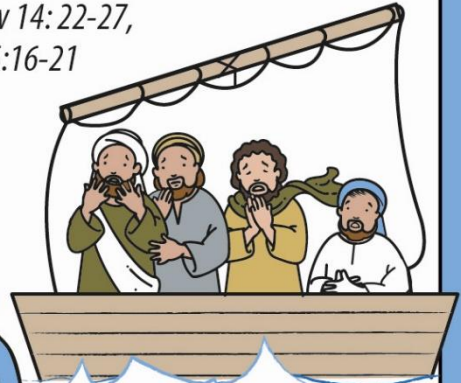
Read the story in: *Matthew 14: 22-27,*  
*Mark 6:45-56 or John 6:16-21*

**What did Jesus do when he went up on the mountain?**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 14:23*

**What was the boat struggling against?**

The \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 14:24*



**What did Jesus say to his disciples?**  
Do not be \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 14:27*



**What did the disciples think Jesus was when they saw him walking on the sea?**

A \_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 14:26*

**Who walked out on the water to Jesus?**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 14:29*

**What did Jesus say to Peter?**

Oh you of little \_\_\_\_\_ why do you \_\_\_\_\_ *Matthew 14:31*

W	F	W	A	F	R	A	I	D	Y	C	K	O	C	S				
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# Editor's Humour & Philosophy Page

Online readers - don't forget to click on the pictures and links to learn more!

People with siblings have better survival skills because they've had experience in physical combat, psychological warfare, and sensing suspicious activity.

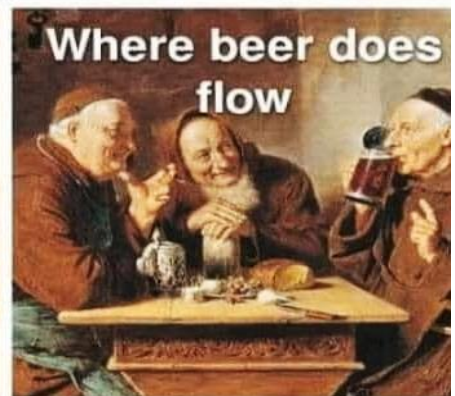
How to write "I changed a [Lightbulb](#)" on your resume: "Single-handedly upgrade and deployed a new environmental illumination system with zero cost overruns and no safety incidents."

I've just bought a [Humpty Dumpty](#) toy from [Aldi](#), it's brilliant, it comes with Aldi King's horses and Aldi King's men.

"It was only a sunny smile, and little it cost in the giving, but like morning light it scattered the night and made the day worth living." – [F. Scott Fitzgerald](#)

"**Down Under**" is a song recorded by Australian rock band [Men at Work](#). It was originally released in 1980 as the B-side to their first local single, "Keypunch Operator". In the UK, the song topped the charts in January and February 1983: the only Men at Work song to make the UK top 20. "Down Under" is perceived as a patriotic song in Australia; it remains popular and is often played at sporting events.

<https://youtu.be/EeeBH294v6I>



# Prayer for the Month

**Keep watch, dear Lord,  
with those who wake, or watch, or weep this night,  
and give your angels charge over those who sleep.  
Tend the sick,  
give rest to the weary,  
sustain the dying,  
calm the suffering,  
and pity the distressed;  
all for your love's sake,  
O Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

This month's prayer comes from the service of Compline or Night Prayer which is prayed at the end of the day before going to bed. The name of this service, *compline*, means that which completes - it completes the day that we have lived.

In this prayer we put the things on our hearts and minds into God's hands. We put those who need God's love and care into God's hands for the night. As we seek rest in sleep this prayer reminds us of those who, because of their situation will not be able to rest this night. It also reminds us that even though we sleep, God does not.

This prayer helps us to end the day trusting in the love of God for all who need it, whether they are known to us or not. It reminds us that this world and all who live in it are held in the embrace of the God who is love; the God who has revealed his face of compassion in Jesus.

As we slip from conscious engagement with the world into the peace of sleep we entrust ourselves, those we love and those who are in distress to God's care. We can let go because God does not; we can rest because God never rests.

God bless,  
Tim



**Chapelton Forum Presents the 8th  
Chapelton Village Show**

at Newton Hall, Chapelton  
Saturday 9th September 2023

From 1.00 pm to 4.30 pm  
Admission 50p per adult (children free)

Refreshments served between 1.00 pm and 3.30 pm  
Presentation of Awards and Raffle Draw @ 3.00 pm  
Schedule and Entry forms available from Chapelton Library  
and Burncross Nurseries  
[Chapeltonforum@gmail.com](mailto:Chapeltonforum@gmail.com)  
[www.chapeltonforum.co.uk](http://www.chapeltonforum.co.uk)

# Nigeria – the attacks continue

Release International partner, Archbishop Ben Kwashi, says: “We have come to another season of constant attacks on Christian villages and Christian people in central Nigeria.

“The consistency with which these attacks have gone for nearly 20 years is a sad commentary on the leadership of Nigeria, who do not care about the poor and vulnerable, especially farmers in the villages.

“We as Christians in the Middle Belt in northern Nigeria are asking for concerted prayer because the devastation is beyond human ability to bear.”

Paul Robinson, CEO of Release International, says: “This violence is often characterised in the media as clashes between herders and farmers. This ignores the religious dimension behind many of the Fulani attacks, which together have the characteristic of an Islamist jihad.”

According to Nigerian NGO Intersociety, 1,080 Christians have been killed in attacks in the first quarter of 2023 alone. In the previous year, 5100 were killed in attacks by Boko Haram, Islamic State West Africa, and Fulani militants.

Release International partners Stefanos Foundation have been conducting trauma healing workshops and providing basic food supplies and toiletries to internally displaced people. According to the UN, more than 3 million Nigerians have been driven from their homes by the violence, into camps for the displaced.

To find out more: <https://releaseinternational.org/nigeria-campaign-2023/>

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## Help needed in the church garden

If you can, mow, weed, strim, sweep, pickup sticks, rake leaves or drive a sit on mower, we need you. If you can spare just one or two hours a week it would be a great help. Not only will the church look good, but you might even feel your spiritual and physical well-being improve and in our small way help the environment. We come to the churchyard every Tuesday and Friday afternoon (weather permitting) followed by a drinks and biscuits, sometimes even a cake.

Any help most welcome. Thank you. Pat Wood

# Whitley Hall Cricket Club

The weather has been pretty erratic this season and had a major effect on the cricket. The season started with heavy rain and several of the first games were cancelled or abandoned. Towards the end of May there was a dry spell with the grounds around Yorkshire turning straw coloured followed by the last few weeks in July when the wet weather has taken over again. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI has lost 5 games due to the weather and achieved some good victories against top teams but has also had some extremely disappointing defeats. In the past four games up to 8<sup>th</sup> July, the team has beaten Aston Hall at home and Appleby Frodingham away but has been defeated by Treeton away and Collegiate at home. With the lost games it has proved to be a tough season. The team is in 8<sup>th</sup> place in the league needing some victories to head up the table.

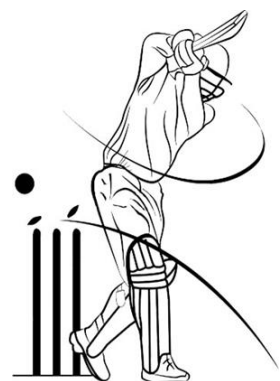
The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI has lost 6 matches to the weather but has had a reasonable season so far with 2 wins and 2 defeats in the past 4 games and stand in 6<sup>th</sup> place in the league. After an amazing start to the season which gained the 3<sup>rd</sup> XI top spot in the league, recent results have been disappointing with the team now in 5<sup>th</sup> position although only 14 points off the top and still with a good opportunity for promotion.

A reminder that a Cricket Summer Camp is organised from 21<sup>st</sup> August to 25<sup>th</sup> August for boys and girls aged 5-11. Please contact either Kathryn on 07792 888606 or Alex on 07811 949536 for registration forms.

Spectators are welcome to use all the facilities in the pavilion where drinks and snacks are available.

## Senior Fixtures at Baxter Field, Cinder Hill Lane (12 noon start)

29 <sup>th</sup> July	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Ackworth 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
5 <sup>th</sup> August	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Wakefield 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
12 <sup>th</sup> August	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Doncaster 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
19 <sup>th</sup> August	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Upper Haugh 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
26 <sup>th</sup> August	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Tickhill 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
28 <sup>th</sup> August	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Treeton 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
2 <sup>nd</sup> September	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Aston Hall 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI



Contact: Joe Webster, Secretary: 07969 014592

Email: [whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk](mailto:whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk)

*Andrew Robinson*

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# The Gardening Year – August

Container gardening a popular choice, growing vegetables in pots is becoming increasingly popular. Many people have small gardens or none at all and are juggling careers, family schedules and other commitments. Contrary to popular beliefs, you can feed yourself well from crops grown solely from containers. Most crops will survive in pots as long as the container is big enough, and they get enough light, water and nutrients. Benefits, there are many benefits from growing your own food in containers. You will be able to reduce food miles, reduced packaging and food waste, enjoy fresh, seasonal produce and get gentle exercise while tending to your plants. In addition, you will spend time outdoors in the fresh air sowing seeds, watering and harvesting your crops. Going green, by growing some of your own food, you can use specially selected pest control and fertilisers, or try your hand at organic or bio dynamic gardening. This has huge benefits for the environment such as attracting useful insects to your garden, reducing chemical run off into the land, and rivers and minimalizing harm to wildlife. Reducing waste, by growing your food in containers, you'll be able to step outside your door and pick your own lunch.

There are so many advantages - there will be no packaging to dispose of afterwards, you will be able to eat fresh food for a few pence and, because you'll pick the exact amount you need, waste is automatically be reduced. Healthy lifestyle, eating fresh, seasonal food is one of the keys to good health and wellbeing and growing your own is one way to achieve this. You will be able to

1. eat fresh, seasonal food on a daily basis
2. increase your intake of organic food for less money
3. increase the amount of time you spend in the fresh air
4. reduce stress and tension by tending to your plants
5. achieve the recommended five a day portions of fruit and vegetables
6. get maximum nutrition, vitamins and minerals from your food

Exercise, there are numerous health benefits to getting outdoors every day. Many people work long hours in offices, when they get home there are chores to do, gyms to go to, children to be taxied around and most people just want to collapse in front of the television. By taking care of a few containers of crops you will be more tempted to get outside each day and enjoy some fresh air.

**Colin Williams**

## Eat the Seasons – August

**Vegetables** - Artichoke, Aubergine, Beetroot, Broad Beans, Broccoli, Carrots, Chillies, Courgettes, Cucumber, Fennel, French Beans, Garlic, Kohlrabi, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, Mangetout, Marrow, Onions, Pak Choi, Peas, Peppers, Potatoes (Maincrop), Radishes, Rocket, Runner Beans, Spring Onions, Sweetcorn, Tomatoes, Turnips, Watercress, Wild Mushrooms

**Fruit** - Apricots, Bilberries, Blueberries, Cherries, Damsons, Figs, Greengages, Loganberries, Melons, Nectarines, Peaches, Plums, Raspberries, Redcurrants, Strawberries

**Herbs** - Basil, Chives, Coriander, Oregano, Mint, Parsley (Curly), Parsley (Flat-Leafed), Rosemary, Sage, Sorrel, Tarragon, Thyme

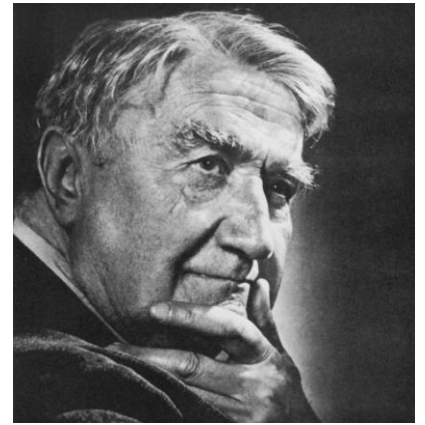
**Meat** - Beef, Lamb, Rabbit, Venison, Wood Pigeon

**Fish** - Cod, Coley, Crab, Dab, Dover Sole, Grey Mullet, Haddock, Halibut, Herring, Langoustine, Lemon Sole, Mackerel, Monkfish, Pilchard, Plaice, Pollack, Prawns, Red Mullet, Salmon, Sardines, Scallops (Queen), Sea Bass (Wild), Sea Bream, Sea Trout, Shrimp, Squid, Whelks

Visit - [www.eattheseasons.co.uk](http://www.eattheseasons.co.uk)

# Remembering Ralph Vaughan Williams

It was 65 years ago, on 26th August 1958, that the British composer Ralph Vaughan Williams died. Among his most famous compositions are The Lark Ascending, Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis and A Sea Symphony.



Despite increasing deafness, brought on by exposure to gunfire when he served in the Second World War, Vaughan Williams was still composing into his 80s. He died, aged 85, the night before recording sessions began on his Ninth Symphony.

The son of a vicar, the composer – himself an agnostic, although he edited the English Hymnal in 1904 and wrote several hymn tunes – was born in Down Ampney, Gloucestershire, and was related to Charles Darwin and to the potter Josiah Wedgwood. He played violin and piano and was a keen collector of folk songs, the tunes of which he included in many of his compositions.

Vaughan Williams was married twice: first to Adeline Fisher and after her death in 1951 to the poet Ursula Wood, who was an occasional collaborator on his compositions. He was also a lifelong friend of the composer Gustav Holst.

[The Lark Ascending](#) – probably Vaughan Williams' most famous piece – was written in 1914, but its premiere was delayed by the First World War. It was eventually given in 1921 by the violinist Marie Hall – for whom Vaughan Williams had written it.

His ashes are interred in Westminster Abbey. His work was almost unique in the variety of music types he employed. It included nine symphonies, concertos for piano, violin, oboe and tuba, five operas, chamber, ballet and film music and songs and song cycles – among other things.

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

J	O	H	N		A	N	D	J	A	M	E	S	
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# ERIC EYRE

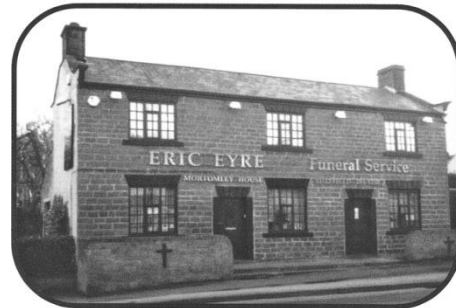
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# It is time to eat Figs

Winner of the best-shaped fruit award (runner up: bananas), figs also score highly on taste, texture and colour. They make very attractive starters (e.g., served with Parma or Serrano ham) and delicious desserts. Try them drizzled with honey and your choice of cinnamon, thyme and pistachios, then roasted and served with a dollop of mascarpone or crème fraiche. And they're a great addition to an after-dinner cheese board.



Thought to be indigenous to western Asia, the selection and cultivation of figs began in remote antiquity. Stone tablets dating back over 4,000 years record the use of figs in southern Iraq and the harvesting of figs is depicted in an Egyptian tomb painting from around 1,900 B.C. Figs were grown in Greece by the eighth century B.C. and taken to Turkey, Spain, Portugal and North Africa with Arab conquests. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fig>

Technically a single fig is a syconium containing over 1,000 tiny fruits (what are thought of as the seeds). There are hundreds of varieties of the common fig ([Ficus carica](#)) ranging in colour from purple-black to yellowish-green. Fig trees can grow to 15m tall and many types are dependent on fig wasps for their reproduction; the wasps pollinate the fig as they move between seed pods laying eggs.

Figs do not ripen after picking and so unripe figs are to be avoided. Choose figs that are richly coloured, plump and soft but with unbroken skins. At peak ripeness they may be covered with a light, fuzzy bloom. A sour smell indicates figs that are past their best.

Due to the difficulty of transporting ripe figs undamaged, the very best figs are only found in the countries where they grow. If you are fortunate enough to be in a Mediterranean country during the season, be sure to try a local, freshly picked fig to experience how they should **really** taste.

After harvesting, figs have a short life. Keep in the refrigerator and use within a day or two. Figs are rich in minerals and a good source of potassium, manganese and iron. They also contain vitamins A, B and C and a decent amount of fibre.

Wipe with a damp kitchen towel. If the stem end is hard, cut it off. To show figs at their best, halve them or cut a cross in the top and press your finger in to splay them out.

When the last of the fresh figs have disappeared for the year, get some dried figs and make Figgy Pudding...



Roasted figs wrapped in Parma ham with blue cheese and rocket  
[https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/roasted\\_figs\\_wrapped\\_in\\_44423](https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/roasted_figs_wrapped_in_44423)

Skye Gyngell's chicken with figs and honey  
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/you/article-1052157/Skye-Gyngells-chicken-figs-honey.html>

Baked ricotta with figs and lavender honey  
<https://ottolenghi.co.uk/recipes/baked-ricotta-with-figs-and-lavender-honey>

# Crossword Puzzle

## Clues Across

- 1 and 3 Two of the disciples who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus (Luke 9:28)  
(4,3,5)
- 3 See 1 Across
- 8 'Let us draw — to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith' (Hebrews 10:22)  
(4)
- 9 O Simon is (anag.) (8)
- 11 Form of government under the direct rule of God or his agents (10)
- 14 How Jesus found his disciples when he returned to them after praying in Gethsemane (Luke 22:45) (6)
- 15 In The Pilgrim's Progress, the name of the meadow into which Christian strayed, which led to Doubting Castle (2-4)
- 17 Glad sin rat (anag.) (10)
- 20 Spinal column (Leviticus 3:9) (8)
- 21 Valley of the Balsam Tree with a reputation of being a waterless place (Psalm 84:6)  
(4)
- 22 'The oracle of Balaam son of Beor, the oracle of one — — sees clearly' (Numbers 24:3) (5,3)
- 23 Adam and Eve's third son (Genesis 4:25) (4)

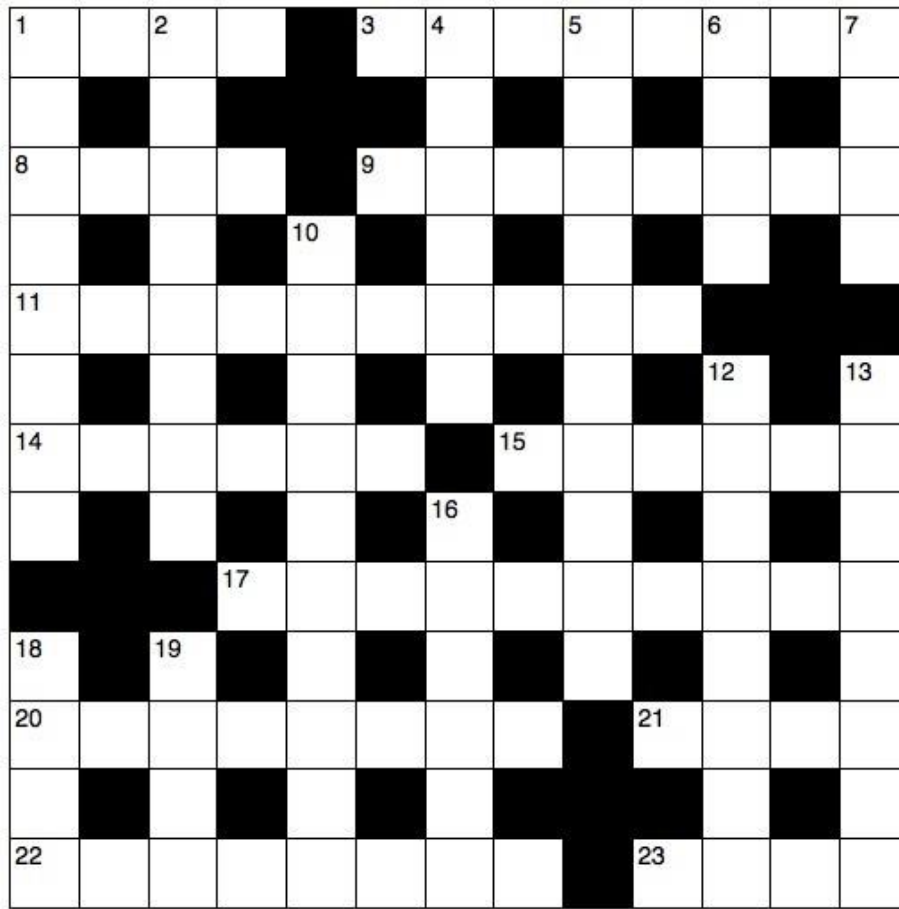
## Clues Down

- 1 David's great friend (1 Samuel 20:17) (8)
- 2 'The Lord... will bring me safely to his — kingdom' (2 Timothy 4:18) (8)
- 4 'I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; — — or wine touched my lips' (Daniel 10:3) (2,4)
- 5 Seeking to vindicate (Job 32:2) (10)
- 6 Female servant (Isaiah 24:2) (4)
- 7 'For Christ died for — once for all' (1 Peter 3:18) (4)
- 10 'Offering spiritual sacrifices — to God through Jesus Christ' (1 Peter 2:5) (10)
- 12 Jesus said that some people had renounced this 'because of the kingdom of heaven' (Matthew 19:12) (8)
- 13 One of the three men thrown into the furnace for refusing to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden image (Daniel 3:20) (8)
- 16 'You have — of good things laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry' (Luke 12:19) (6)

18 'There before me was a white horse! Its rider held — — , and he was given a crown' (Revelation 6:2) (1,3)

19 Equipment to Charity Hospitals Overseas (1,1,1,1)

Solution is on Page 23



# Chapelton & District Probus Club



On 11<sup>th</sup> July we welcomed retired South Yorkshire policeman Alan Hancock who told of the amazing time when he was seconded to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to work for the UN in Bosnia Hertsegovina. His task was to work with the local police after the conflict but when shootings, bombs and mines were still commonplace. An amazing story where he was made the local commander and focused on getting children in schools to work together in school councils which was so successful that the country adopted his pilot as the national standard. Some of the brutality he experienced was quite difficult to comprehend and he was given no

welcome on his return to the police in Sheffield in spite of the medals he was awarded. After the meeting, lunch was enjoyed at Wortley Hall.

The next visit will be to Wentworth Woodhouse in September which is already fully booked and then next year, a trip to Highgrove House with an overnight stay in a hotel near Cheltenham, also currently fully booked although there may be a chance if you put your name on the "waiting list".

Next month the speaker will be Paul Adey who will return to continue his history of cars with the first of two presentations on cars made on the European mainland.

The club is focussed on providing a place for retired and semi-retired men to meet in a convivial atmosphere. We welcome new members and if you are interested, why not come along as a guest to see what happens? Please make contact with the Secretary, Trevor Winslow (see below).

## **Upcoming meetings at 10.00 in Grenoside Community Centre (followed by optional lunch at Wortley Hall):-**

9<sup>th</sup> August – Paul Adey – "History of the European Motor Industry Pt. 1"

15<sup>th</sup> August – Annual Dinner at Wortley Hall 6.30pm

13<sup>th</sup> September – David Bell – "Hygiene is a Dirty Word"

11<sup>th</sup> October – John Hope – "Do Not Be Alarmed"

Contact details: E-Mail [chapeltown.probus@gmail.com](mailto:chapeltown.probus@gmail.com),

Website <https://chapeltown-probus.org.uk/> .

***Andrew Robinson***

## Prayer request

On a tour of New York City, a family visited St Patrick's Cathedral, and were awed by the soaring beauty of the place.

The children were especially curious about the votive candles. Their mother explained that people generally say a prayer when they light a candle - usually a prayer of petition or thanks. She asked if they'd each like to light one - which they did. As they left, the five-year-old said: "If there's a pony outside, it's mine."

# Prayers and Poems Page

**Teach us to pray-** *By Peter Marshall (a former chaplain to the US Senate, lived 1902 – 1949)*

Lord, teach us to pray. Some of us are not skilled in the art of prayer. As we draw near to thee in thought, our spirits long for thy Spirit, and reach out for thee, longing to feel thee near. We know not how to express the deepest emotions that lie hidden in our hearts. ...We know that we are closest to thee when we have left behind the things that have held us captive so long. ....we pray that thou wilt give unto us only what we really need. ....give us the vision, the courage, that shall enlarge our horizons and stretch our faith to the adventure of seeking thy loving will for our lives.

## **The Ancient Lanes of England**

*- By Nigel Beeton*

The ancient lanes of England  
May wend their winding way  
From who knows where to Goodness knows  
To 'where are we today?'  
Twixt walls of ancient stonework  
O'er hills and valleys steep  
The ancient lanes of England  
Their grassy way they keep.

The ramblers now of England  
May walk each stony street,  
And think, as they are rambling  
Of all those ancient feet  
That trod those lanes of England  
On each succeeding day  
From where they lived to where they worked  
They trod their working way.

Those ancient lanes of England  
As vital, in their day  
As rail tracks or aircraft routes  
Or any motorway!  
From farms they brought their produce  
Their cereals and grains  
Their cattle, milk, and butter too  
Along those grassy lanes.

## **The Water of Life - By Megan Carter**

She came to the well around midday,  
To avoid all the gossip she came alone,  
She met a Man there who told her all things  
Five husbands she had and one not her own.

He asked for a drink and they started to talk,  
A Samaritan woman there with a Jew  
Breaking all barriers to meet her need  
He told her how she could be made new.

The water of life that He would give  
Would mean that she never would thirst again  
This transforming draught He offers to all  
Once tasted you never will be the same.

At Cana He turned the water to wine  
A miracle no-one but He could do  
Just as the water was wondrously changed  
If you drink from this Fount it can happen to you.

**No money** - *By Paul Geres (a nom de plume of a French priest who was in charge of a parish in an industrial city. This poem comes from his collection 'Prayers for Impossible Days')*

Lord, I have just balanced my cheque book.  
And now I must turn to you to find calm and peace.  
And dignity as well.  
This dignity which has been eroded for twenty years  
because of the awful worry about 'making ends meet'.  
This peace which I'm deprived of,  
for fear of not getting through another month.  
This calm which I lose when my small income disappears  
and I never have a penny left.  
What I fear, Lord, is not really poverty.... what I'm afraid of is degradation.  
Afraid of no longer thinking of anything but money,  
just because I don't have any....

## Contact Details for Local Groups

### **Ecclesfield Rainbows**

Gatty Hall  
Tuesday 5:00 pm to 6:15 pm  
Leader - Debbie  
Tel: 0786 047 1793

### **Ecclesfield Brownies**

Gatty Hall  
Monday 5:30 pm to 6:45 pm  
Leader - Mrs J Hutchinson  
Tel: 0798 344 2742

### **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 - Emma Addy  
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: Robert 0114 246 1095

### **Friends of Ecclesfield Library**

Run by the community for the community.  
Volunteer helpers always needed.  
Tel: 0114 246 3651  
email: [ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com](mailto:ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com)

### **Ecclesfield Cubs**

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)  
Wednesday 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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 - Joanna Steel  
0797 263 7908  
Thursday - 5:45 - 7:00 pm  
Shane Porteous  
[shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk](mailto:shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk)

### **Ecclesfield Scouts**

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)  
Thursday 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm  
Leader - Bryony Hemming  
[25theecclesfieldscouts@gmail.com](mailto:25theecclesfieldscouts@gmail.com)

### **The Grenoside Singers**

Practice Monday in St Mark's  
Church Hall at 7:30 pm  
Secretary: Judith Gill Tel: 0782 411 2584  
[www.grenosidesingers.co.uk](http://www.grenosidesingers.co.uk)

### **Whitley Hall Cricket Club**

Matches every Saturday and some  
Sundays and weekdays.  
Please make contact if you wish to play or  
learn. Secretary: Joe Webster:  
[whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk](mailto:whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk)  
Website:  
[whitleyhall.play-cricket.com](http://whitleyhall.play-cricket.com)

### **Chapelton and District PROBUS Club**

Meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in the month  
in Grenoside Community Centre  
All retired and semi-retired gentlemen welcome  
Contact the Secretary: Trevor Winslow  
[chapelton.probus@gmail.com](mailto:chapelton.probus@gmail.com)  
We are now on face to face see  
[www.chapelton-probus.org.uk](http://www.chapelton-probus.org.uk)

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

# Useful Contacts



<b><u>Vicar:</u></b> Revd. Tim Gill	<b>E-mail:</b> ttingill@aol.com	<b>Phone:</b> 257 0002
<b>'Assistant Curate:</b> Revd. Sam Ellmore	revsamellmore@outlook.com	0747 9985 199
<b>Churchwardens:</b> Ann Hackett Jo Hawksworth		246 7159 246 2852
<b>Readers:</b>		
<b>Pastoral Workers:</b>		
<b>Church Office</b> Tuesday 9:00am to 1:00 pm Thursday 9:00am to 12:00 pm		245 0106
<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://stmarysecclesfield.org.uk/">https://stmarysecclesfield.org.uk/</a>	
<b>Groups:</b>	<b>Times and Days:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>
<b>Choir Practice in Church</b> Contact: Lynda Pearce	7 pm on Friday Practice in Church	246 3935
<b>Music Group</b> Contact: Andrea Whittaker	7:30 pm Thursday Practice in Church	246 0746
<b>Mother's Union in Gatty Hall</b> Contact: Maureen Lambert	1 pm 1st Wednesday of the month	246 9690
<b>Ecclesfield Ladies Group</b> Contact: Anne Rostron	2.00pm Thursday in Gatty Hall	245 5492
<b>Bell Ringers</b> Contact: Phil Hirst	7:30 pm Tuesday in Church Belfry	286 2766
<b>Gatty Hall Bookings</b>		0780 307 8223
<b>For Baptisms or Weddings Enquiries please contact the Vicar</b>		
<b>Magazine e-mail:</b>	<a href="mailto:stmarys.magazine.ecclesfield@gmail.com">stmarys.magazine.ecclesfield@gmail.com</a>	



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