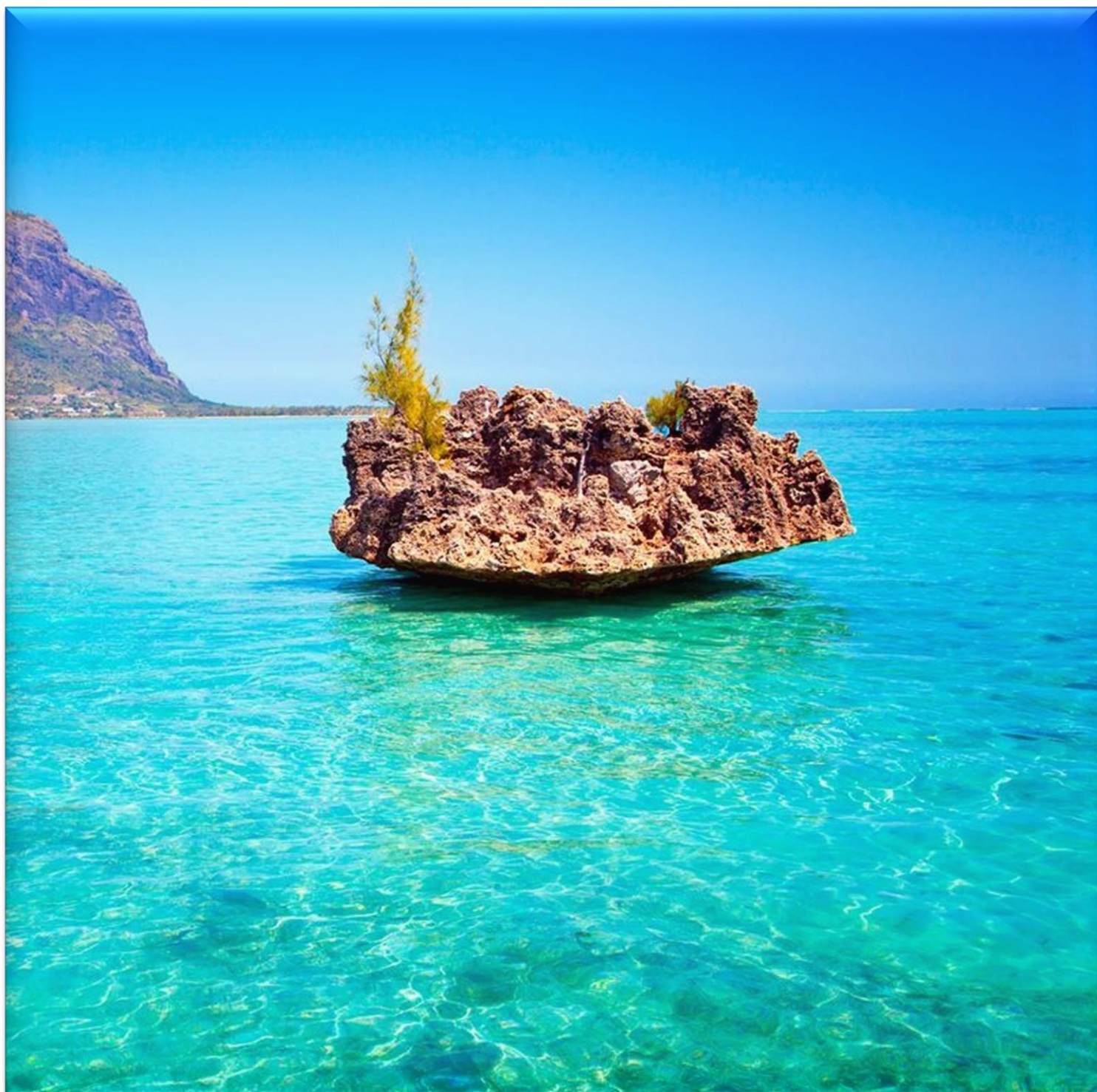


News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine July 2023

stmarysecclesfield.org.uk

Price 60p

First Words

July begins on **Saturday 1st** with a **wedding in Church at 1pm** and Sam's **ordination** as Priest at **4pm in the Cathedral**. On **Sunday 2nd July** Sam will celebrate Communion for the first time and we will have a '**Bring and Share**' lunch after the **10am service**.

On **Monday 3rd July** Tim will visit **Fox Hill Primary School** and, in the evening, at **7.30pm** the **PCC** will meet in Church.

Thursday 6th July, **Sheffield Burgesses Reception at 7pm**.

On **Saturday 8th July** **Prayer Breakfast is at 9am**.

Our monthly **All Age Celebration is on Sunday 9th July 10am**.

Monday 10th July 7pm **Baptism Preparation** in Church.

Wednesday 12th July we meet at **3pm** to choose **hymns and plan services** for August & September.

On **Sunday 16th July at 12 noon** we have **Baptisms** in Church.

On **Sunday 23rd July 6.30pm** it is our monthly **Prayer and Praise** service.

On **Monday 24th July 3pm** in Church **Wedding Blessing**, and at **7pm** the **Fabric Team** are meeting in Church.

Sunday 30th July is a 'Fifth Sunday' and at **10am** we have our more **informal All Age Eucharist**.

Another busy month with lots to celebrate!

God bless,
Tim

God's Garden a poem for the gardener in you

Plant three rows of peas:

Peas of mind
Peas of heart
Peas of soul

Plant three rows of lettuce:

Lettuce be faithful
Lettuce be obedient
Lettuce love one another

Plant three rows of thyme:

Thyme for God
Thyme for Bible study
Thyme for prayer.

Plant three rows of squash:

Squash gossip
Squash grumbling
Squash selfishness

Plant three rows of turnips:

Turnip for services
Turnip for meetings
Turnip to help one another

Finally –

Water freely with patience,
Cultivate with love,
And remember – you will
only reap what you sow

~~~~~

Front Cover – A floating Island brings dreams of holidays in the sun  
Back Cover – Architectural Sketch of St Marys

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# MOTHERS' UNION

On Wednesday 7 June we had a talk given by Tim from The Archer Project based in Sheffield.

The Archer Project works (as many of you will know) with the homeless by providing a place where they can come and feel safe, off the streets for a while. The facilities allow the charity to provide rooms for healthcare and counselling. They also provide shower facilities and a laundry room and somewhere safe to serve food and drink.

Tim explained how most homelessness can be traced back to a childhood trauma. Then spiralling into drink and drugs to numb the pain. Then that in turn can lead to addiction, and so the downward spiral continues.

The Archer Project tries to work with people in whatever situation they find themselves. It has ways to help those who are willing to move forward with positive actions. For example: screen printing and selling items in a shop in Orchard Square and online. They can also cater for your business needs. All the skills required to run the enterprise are managed by people who were once homeless themselves.

Tim brought with him a young man, named Richard, who the project is helping. He gave us an insight into how he had ended up homeless. His life went downhill after his mother died, when he was aged 4, and his father remarried, and he was then only tolerated in the family home by his stepmother. I think most of us would find that a difficult concept to understand.

The Archer Project is one of the charities we support at St Mary's by donating our harvest gifts to them. Usually tinned food and toiletries and items of clothing such as socks, gloves and hats. To find out more or make a donation The Archer Project can be found on line.

Our next meeting is on 5 July when we shall hear from an Ex Lord-Mayor. I will also be collecting £10.00 local subscriptions from all members. This pays for the room in the Gatty Hall and all our refreshments. £10.00 in an envelope with your name on the front please.

In August our monthly meeting will be replaced by afternoon tea, to which everyone is invited. All proceeds going to The Summer of Hope Appeal, to help women and families in this country and abroad live and provide better lives for themselves and their children. Tickets will be available soon.

***Jennifer Armeson***  
***Treasurer***

---

## The nervous nun

“People get nervous when they think that they have to call me ‘my Lord’, said an Irish bishop. “Especially the poor nuns. One was giving me a cup of coffee. As she pushed the sugar bowl towards me, she said, ‘How many lords, my lump?’”



# The Archer Project – a reminder that for some summer can be just as hard as winter

Mother's Union - St Mary's Ecclesfield

Dear Maureen and members,

Thank you so much for your generous donation, received from the talk that Tim Renshaw gave.

It is often assumed that winter is the worst period for homeless people, but summer brings just as many challenges and health risks.

When you are caught in a sudden summer shower or storm, you are able to change into dry clothes and shelter from the rain. Paul\* who uses our project said in the summer 'when I'm wet, - I stay wet'. \*Name changed to protect identity

In the hot weather simple things like cold water and sun cream can be difficult for homeless people to access leading to dehydration, heat exhaustion and sun stroke.

Self-esteem during the summer is especially low for people without a home. Personal hygiene and clean clothing are a constant struggle with no access to showers and a limited amount of spare clothes, which will often be unsuitable for the hot weather. People are homeless and vulnerable all year round and need help throughout the year, not just in winter. Your support is more vital than ever.

We offer our support all year. Together, with your help, we are making this a possibility for more and more people. [www.archerproject.org.uk](http://www.archerproject.org.uk)

Anne McGolrick  
anne@archerproject.org.uk

## Refugees in the UK – some stories

How are the refugees who have come to the UK getting along? This month we continue our short series, with another story from the Revd Stephen Crofts in Cheriton:

Aziz came to us in the shadow of a friend, Habib, who was looking for a church to go to. They had fled Iran, because they dared support the unrest against the government in the days before the news broke about Mahsa Amini – the young woman who died in prison after her arrest for wearing her hijab improperly.

They had both left families behind. One day Aziz told us his family had arrived elsewhere in the UK but the migration system didn't seem to want to reunite them. We leaned on a charity who knew what to do. It took some weeks, but they managed to reunite the family. The day he showed me the letter authorising his move, the last day we would see him, I spotted him turn to the altar, head bowed, tears flowing.

A week later, he sent us photos of himself with his family, a smile on his face I had never seen in his time with us. He has now found a church and is encouraging others join him.

## The Rise of Sourdough

We seem to love bread. In Britain we buy 11 million loaves of the stuff every day. For years it was just the base for our breakfast marmalade or lunchtime sandwiches, until sourdough arrived.

Sourdough has exploded in popularity. Global sales are forecast to grow \$2.36bn (£1.92bn) during 2022-2026. UK craft bakers point to its flavour and perceived health benefits.

Sourdough is a seemingly simple mix of just flour, water and salt. But it isn't made with traditional bread yeast. Instead, it's fermented by lactic acid bacteria and naturally occurring wild yeasts. A single teaspoon of sourdough starter can contain 50 million yeasts and 5 billion lactobacilli (lactic acid bacteria) that originated in the environment, made a home in it while the starter was fermenting and growing. And a lot of scientists think that that is good for us.

## Holiday soothies

For dealing with motion sickness, ginger capsules are your new friend. Available from any health store, they do a wonderful job in calming upset tummies.

And for fever or frayed tempers, take some camomile tea bags with you. Camomile tea doesn't just calm your nerves; cooled down, the tea also soothes sunburn.

For discouraging mosquitoes & insomnia, take some essential oil of lavender. Mosquitoes hate the smell, so if you put a few drops around your pillow, you may keep them at bay - and help yourself drift off to sleep.

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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 'Herdsman with Cows by a River' by Albert Cuyp or going to <http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/paintings/aelbert-cuyp-a-herdsman-with-five-cows-by-a-river>. This low-res image is offered by the National Gallery under a Creative Commons Agreement, for use in non-profit publications.*

## **'He gave us eyes to see them': 'Herdsman with Cows by a River' by Albert Cuyp**

'What is this life, if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare?'

Those words of W H Davies provide the theme for this year. The paintings chosen celebrate creation in all its wonder and diversity, and we are encouraged to take time to look anew and so become aware of the author of that creation. But this month it is the other way around as we sense the animals looking at us in 'Herdsman with Cows by a River' painted in 1650 by the Dutch artist, Albert Cuyp.



It is a very ordinary scene of nature. Yet there is a radiance and a tranquillity that strike us as we see the herd of cows standing in the still waters. Around them there is a lot of movement: birds fly in the sky, boats are sailing off into the sunset and two fishermen are busy at their work to the left of the canvas. But the cows and their herdsman are quiet and contented, relishing this moment of the day closing, and contemplating the world going by. And two of those cows seem to be looking out into our own world. In many of Albert Cuyp's paintings the sun bathes each scene in a golden light. Here the clouds are gathering in the sky as the sun sinks down in the west, but there is still a glowing calmness brought by the light of the sky above.

In this month of July we are probably planning holidays. Some holidays can be a frenetic rush, others are those occasions when we simply sit back and relax, letting what we see around us bring refreshment and renewal. It is the way we are encouraged to savour the joy and delight of Scripture in what is called *lectio divina*. Monastic teachers compared it to cows grazing in the field. They pointed to four stages: *Lectio* – we take a bite of scripture; *Meditatio* – we chew on that word; *Oratio* – we savour its flavour and nourishment; and *Contemplatio* – we digest its goodness to feed body and soul.

The herd of cows in Albert Cuyp's painting have spent the day doing just that – grazing and ruminating in the fields nearby. The herdsman has brought them to the river to relax in the water. Soon they will take the journey home to the farm and the safety of the cowshed. Tomorrow will bring them the opportunity to graze anew in the gift of another day. Walt Whitman wrote in one of his poems, 'I think I could turn and live with animals, they are so placid and self-contain'd, I stand and look at them long and long.' As we stand and look at the cows in this painting, perhaps we may realise that whether at work or on holiday, in Sunday worship or Bible reading at home, God can feed us through His world around and in His word in Scripture. As long as we take the time and the care to savour the delights that He offers us.

# St James the Least of All

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

## On why we don't bother to lock the church

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

Since I happened to be in your area last week, I tried to call in at your church, and was sorry to find it was locked and bolted, with surveillance cameras watching me.

We tend to be a little more relaxed about matters of security. The key to the medieval lock was lost some time during Queen Victoria's reign and never replaced. How someone managed to misplace a foot long piece of cast iron, weighing about 10 pounds is a mystery. If it had fallen out of someone's pocket, it would certainly have broken their foot. Ever since, no one has bothered with locking the door – which makes me wish our burglars last year had thought of trying it, before wasting so much energy smashing a stained-glass window when they visited in the early hours one morning. On the other hand, were the key still in use, I should probably be arrested these days for carrying an offensive weapon.

As with most rural churches, keys which open just about everything in the village are hidden in various parts of the church. The vestry key is under my seat cushion, the organ key under a vase on the altar, the church hall key on top of the hymn book cupboard, and Miss Simpson's spare front door key inside the font. I have never been certain whether the latter is there for safety, or as a general invitation. I am sure someone could usefully produce a book suggesting the many places that keys are likely to be found secreted in churches for the use of vergers, flower arrangers, cleaners – and thieves wanting to save themselves time and effort.

I suspect that the burdened look that many urban clergy wear is not because they are weighed down with parish troubles, but because they are obliged to carry with them a superfluity of keys needed to negotiate every door in church, hall, school, and vicarage. And why is there always one for which no one has any idea what it opens?

The only occasion I have ever thought it would be useful to be able to lock a church is when you have a party of visitors inside. So often, on hearing the words "let us pray" or the start of an appeal for funds, they bolt for the door.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

---

**Editor:** It is a sad reflection that many churches remain locked up when not open for services. Some church insurance companies suggest it may be better to have churches open so that they can be visited or used as a focus for the community. That way people are around in the church and that is seen as a good deterrent to bad behaviour and acts of petty theft by those with a mind to do it. So, consider spending some time in the week in church to encourage others to come in and seek a time of peace and a chance to pray.



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## Thought for the Month

For a while now I have sensed a general weariness in Britain today. People seem tired and, more crucially, seem to have little hope. One of the results of this is a noticeable decline in attendance at events such as weddings and baptisms and funerals. I have not heard if there is a similar drop in those going to sports or music events, theatre or cinema attendance.

There has though, since lockdown, been a marked decline in Church attendance. This is true across all denominations and all Church traditions. Many people still connect with worship 'remotely' using Facebook or Zoom; others seem to have lost the habit of going to Church. When we look around on Sunday mornings, we know that there are friends who are not there and we miss them.

I think that I can sense the same weariness and lack of hope in Church and among Christians as in the general population, and I wonder how much this is reflected in the decline in those coming together to worship on Sunday mornings?

I do not know what the answer is to the general malaise in Church and society, but I think that at least part of the answer will be found in re-engaging, not with Church, but with God.

In part it is raising our expectations. If we come to Church open to meeting with the Holy Spirit, expecting to meet with Christ in the worship, then we are prepared for what God might do.

During Lent we had a very successful Lent course, based upon the ancient practice of *Lectio Divina*. We followed a course by Peter Greig called "How to hear God." It is a way of reading the Bible prayerfully; learning to listen for the voice of God speaking to us through the Scriptures.

I will soon be announcing a follow-up to the Lent Course. "Open to God" will be an opportunity to gather with others to prayerfully read the Bible and listen for what God might be saying to us. The plan is to meet once a month in Church. The start date will be announced soon on the Notice sheet, Facebook page and website. If you didn't manage to get along during Lent you can still come along.

Another way to engage with God is through our monthly "Prayer and Praise" on the fourth Sunday of the month at 6.30pm. Before lockdown this was a very popular service with a good number attending, since lock-down the numbers have been small, but the worship has been joyful and very moving.

If you are longing for a deeper experience of worship and prayer; if you want to engage with the Holy Spirit in worship, why not come along to either Prayer and Praise or "Open to God" - or both?

As a Church we are living through a time when the tide of faith is at a very low ebb in Britain. It is not easy to follow Jesus today, and what I am sensing God saying to the Church today is that we do not have to do it alone or in our own strength.

God is with us. Christ is with us. The answer to this spiritual malaise is to re-connect with Jesus, as individual disciples and as a Church. So please pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our Church today.

God bless you,  
Tim

---

## Reflecting faith – the Pulpit

The pulpit is one of the four most obvious pieces of 'furniture' in a church; the others being the lectern, altar and the font. Today the pulpit is generally the place where the preacher stands to give the sermon during a service. It is generally raised higher than the chairs or pews, so the preacher can be seen more easily by the congregation. Pulpits often have a 'sounding' board canopy above them, so that the words may 'resound' more audibly.

The pulpit may be simple or heavily ornamented; engraved with pictures and/or words in a creative manner. There are examples of some pulpits which require the preacher to climb up over a dozen steps to reach the preaching platform, while others have only five or six steps. In Anglican churches they are likely to be situated between the nave, where the congregation sits, and the chancel, where the choir or church leaders sit. In Methodist chapels, pulpits are normally centrally placed, often above the altar.

Today pulpits are generally used just for preaching, but in bygone generations, it was used for all sorts of announcements. Without any microphones, it was better to use a raised area from which to address people. So the pulpits were used not only by priests for preaching, but also by the churchwardens for notices. The pulpit was also where Marriage Banns were called, excommunications were pronounced, and indulgences were advertised.

In fact, pulpits were not much used for sermons before the Reformation! This is because the clergy in those days were required to preach a mere four times a year. Most commonly, the pulpit was used for the bidding prayers. These, partly in English, were said for the leaders of the Church, the King, the governing orders, the people, special needs, and, finally, for those parishioners who had paid to have their names read out.



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# From the Registers

## Baptisms

Sunday 4th June

Winnie Rose Danks & Rory Alan

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

## Marriages

Friday 2nd June

Brandon McCarthy & Amy Sanderson

Saturday 3rd June

Lewis Goudge & Hannah Knowles

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

## Spiritual Disciplines: Solitude

*'Solitude is a time when we withdraw from the company of others in order to give God our undivided attention' (John Ortberg).*

The spiritual discipline of *solitude* is about spending time alone with God, to grow in relationship with Him and hear Him more clearly. This practice was a priority in Jesus' life and ministry, especially at crucial moments e.g., *'Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where He prayed'* (Mark 1:35).

Solitude is not so much about what we *do* as what we *don't* do! If we want to hear God, we need to consciously shut out the external noise in our lives and focus on the quiet inside us. If we are honest, this can be a real struggle. We want to do it, but other things can so easily get in the way: distractions, tiredness, jobs that need doing, wandering thoughts etc. Solitude gives us an opportunity to enjoy God's presence, as somebody who we really want to spend time with.

Richard Foster (*'Celebration of Discipline'*) suggests some ways in which we might grow in this discipline:

**'Little solitudes'**: small everyday moments to seek inner silence e.g., coffee times, travelling to work and time spent outside.

**Quiet place**: having specific places where we go be quiet, e.g., a room or special chair in our home.

**Retreat**: organising a retreat where we can have time in silence and solitude.

We need to plan carefully how we use our time with God, including silent listening, meditating on Scripture, prayer, journaling, taking a meditative walk, or listening to a worship CD.

*'If we possess inward solitude we do not fear being alone, for we know that we are not alone.'* (Richard Foster)

# 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.

## **A Scientist Reflects: Suffering and the Image of God**

During the cost-of-living crisis, Food Banks have become a necessity for many desperate families. When they are given food, people reveal a variety of emotions: from relief, happiness, and hope, to quiet sadness, resignation, and desperation. Most often they display a mixture of several of these feelings at the same time.

I believe that our cries for answers at times like this, and our deep longing for things to be better, kinder, more just, less painful and chaotic, are a sign that we are made in the image of God. The Bible describes God creating men and women, instructing them to rule over the earth, and giving them the freedom to choose what they will do. The world God made was described as “very good”, but human wrongdoing caused a rift between people and God, and also between us and the rest of creation.

From a scientist’s perspective, it seems that the potential for accidents, disease and death – for both animals and humans – may have been part of God’s very good creation, and there was a real threat of famine, albeit far rarer than in our current mismanaged version of creation? How would we have managed life in what Genesis describes as an un-subdued world if our relationship with God hadn’t broken down, and evil hadn’t been unleashed? Maybe painful experiences would have been experienced as challenges that brought us closer to each other and to God, rather than bringing us the experience of suffering (which I would define more particularly as involving distress, isolation and fear)? Of course, these are theoretical questions that no one can answer, but perhaps they are worth exploring.

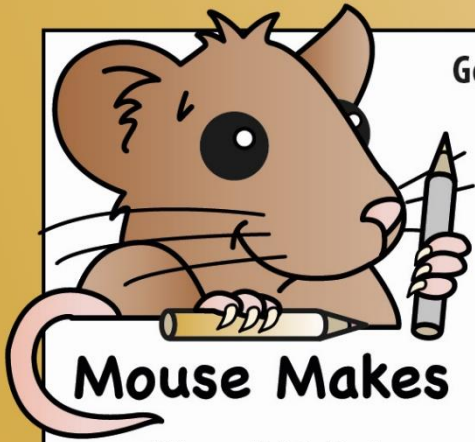
God has already responded to suffering at a root level by taking it on Himself. Through His death and resurrection, Jesus broke the power of sin and death. We do not yet see the final results of those decisive actions – the end of suffering for all those who trust Him – but we can already feel their impact. For example, many people have experienced the wonderful effect, either in their own lives or by receiving kindness from others, which is described by these words: “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh” (Ezekiel 36:26).

Some of the people who receive food are, in the words of one community leader, “really desperate”, but yet they still trust God to meet their needs. My hope is that the worldwide Church will, with God’s help, be part of the answer to their prayers – demonstrating our true status as people made in the image of God.

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## Observations on our Christian faith...

Dame Edith Sitwell, when asked why she had come to faith, said she had looked at the pattern of a frosted flower on a windowpane, she had studied shells, feathers, petals and grasses; and she knew without a doubt there must be a cause... “I have come to believe that the cause is God.”



## Mouse Makes

Where did Goliath come from?



\_\_\_\_\_   
 1 Samuel 17:4

How tall was Goliath?



\_\_\_\_\_ cubits.   
 1 Samuel 17:4

What was Goliath's armour made of?

\_\_\_\_\_   
 1 Samuel 17:5,6

What weapons did Goliath carry?

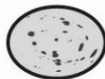


a JAVELIN,   
 a \_\_\_\_\_   
 and a \_\_\_\_\_   
 1 Samuel 17:45

How many stones did David take from the stream?



\_\_\_\_\_   
 1 Samuel 17:40



Where did David's stone hit Goliath? On his

\_\_\_\_\_   
 1 Samuel 17:49

**Goliath**, the champion of the Philistine army, taunted the Israelites.

*"Choose a man to fight with me and if he kills me then we will be your servants!"*



The Israelites were afraid, but **David**, a shepherd boy who had come to bring food to his brothers on the battlefield said:

*"The **Lord** who delivered me from the lion and bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."*



So David went out to face Goliath on his own...

Read the story of how David defeated Goliath in 1 Samuel 17 verses 1-58



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# Editor's Humour & Philosophy Page

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

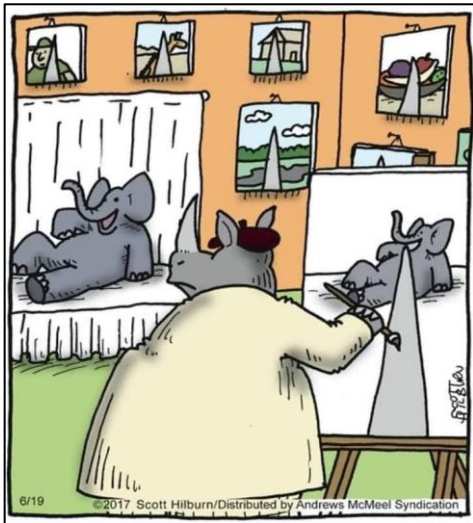
**Water H<sub>2</sub>O** - My friend was working at an amusement park when a couple stopped him. "Excuse me," said the woman, pointing to a pond. "What is that water made out of?" Bemused, my friend replied, "Two parts hydrogen and one part oxygen." "See?" she said to her boyfriend. "I told you it wasn't real."

**Heavy Water (Deuterium oxide, <sup>2</sup>H<sub>2</sub>O, D<sub>2</sub>O)** – Really is heavier than water by about 10.6% so a litre of heavy water would weigh in at 1.106 Kg not 1 Kg – it also freezes at 3.82°C and not 0°C like normal water.

**Virtual Water** - The [Virtual Water Trade](#) (also known as embedded or embodied water) is the hidden flow of water in food or other commodities that are traded from one place to another. Water used to manufacture goods, grow food etc. For example:

Car = 52,000–83,000 litres  
Leather Shoes = 8,000 litres  
Smartphone = 12,760 litres  
Jeans (cotton) = 10,850 litres

Bed Sheet (cotton) = 9,750 litres  
T-shirt (cotton) = 2,720 litres  
Paper (1 piece; A4) = 5.1 litres  
A loaf of bread = 675 litres



This pasta is overcooked, it's too Chewy



# Prayer for the Month

## **The Te Deum**

*We praise you, O God,  
we acclaim you as the Lord;  
all creation worships you,  
the Father everlasting.*

*To you all angels, all the powers of heaven,  
the cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise:  
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
The glorious company of apostles praise you.  
The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.  
The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.  
Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you:  
Father, of majesty unbounded,  
your true and only Son, worthy of all praise,  
the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.  
You, Christ, are the King of glory,  
the eternal Son of the Father.  
When you took our flesh to set us free  
you humbly chose the Virgin's womb.  
You overcame the sting of death  
and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.  
You are seated at God's right hand in glory.  
We believe that you will come and be our judge.*

*Come then, Lord, and help your people,  
bought with the price of your own blood,  
and bring us with your saints  
to glory everlasting.*

*Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance.  
Govern and uphold them now and always.  
Day by day we bless you.  
We praise your name for ever.  
Keep us today, Lord, from all sin.  
Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.  
Lord, show us your love and mercy,  
for we have put our trust in you.  
In you, Lord, is our hope:  
let us never be put to shame.*

This ancient prayer, the *Te Deum*, has long been one of my favourites. It is a very ancient prayer, often attributed to St Augustine, Bishop of Hippo in Africa. It became widely used in the Church of England as one of the prayers appointed for Matins in the 1662 Book of Common Prayer.



# Prayer for the Month

It is a prayer of worship and thanksgiving to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. It sets our worship as the Church here on earth in the context of the eternal worship of heaven.

When I pray the *Te Deum* it reminds me of the countless past generations who have also offered prayer and worship to God; I am just one voice among so many, many others. It also reminds me that the Church on earth, in its prayer and worship and life, are part of the worship of all creation. This prayer connects us with all things and all people, past, present and future; in heaven and on earth.

There is another reason why I love this prayer so much: my favourite window in St Mary's, the West Window above the new level access, depicts this prayer. When I stand behind the Nave Altar I see a beautiful representation of the *Te Deum*, and I see the whole creation pictured there, all worshipping the Crucified, Risen and ascended Christ.



Do pray the *Te Deum* and do have a closer look at the West Window.

God bless,  
Tim

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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



It seems quite amazing that so many matches were cancelled or abandoned in April and May and that we now have such dry weather that the cricket field is straw coloured, probably as early as can be remembered, including 2022!

The season has been quite inconsistent with some unexpected results for the 1st XI with victories away to Wakefield and Cleethorpes but home defeats against Barnsley and Elsecar. On 17th June, a well deserved and hoped for victory at home against Aston Hall steadied things. The following week on 24th June at Treeton, Whitley won the toss and elected to field with Treeton achieving 215 for 7. However, Whitley were unable to beat this with their innings of 193 all out. The 2nd XI started the season with 4 matches cancelled or abandoned followed by 2 defeats. Victories over Oughtibridge, Upper Haugh and Green Moor steadied things although the team had a disappointing defeats at Aston Hall on 17th June and at home against Rotherham on 24th June. The 3rd XI has had a great start to the season with just 2 games lost to the weather and a string of victories, spoilt on 17th June by their first defeat to Mexborough and followed by further defeat on 24th June against Bradfield 2nd XI - the team remains in 1st place in the Division with real hopes of promotion. The junior teams and ladies are all having a successful season – more details available on the website.

A reminder that Whitley is involved again in the ECB junior formats for boys and girls and a cricket sports week in the summer holidays and various other junior initiatives will be organised – if you are interested, please contact us.

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

|                        |                    |   |                                     |
|------------------------|--------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> July   | 1 <sup>st</sup> XI | v | Collegiate 1 <sup>st</sup> XI       |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> July   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI | v | Sheffield United 1 <sup>st</sup> XI |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> July  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI | v | Coal Aston 1 <sup>st</sup> XI       |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> July  | 1 <sup>st</sup> XI | v | Cleethorpes 1 <sup>st</sup> XI      |
| 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        |

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 – July

**Edible flowers**, if you want a pretty garden, growing edible flowers is the perfect way to achieve this, not only do they look nice, but they attract beneficial insect too. Pot marigolds, known as poor man's saffron calendula petals are used to add a beautiful colour to dishes such as cooked rice and pasta. Some people also use the petals in milk recipes to add a deep golden colour. Roses both rose petals and rose hips can be used in the kitchen, you must remove the white part of the petals because they are bitter, but the main part can be eaten or could be made into rose petal jam. Rose hips are very high in vitamin C and can be used in syrups or tea.

Other flowers, there are many other flowers that are edible including the following: Violet leaves and flowers - Chrysanthemum flowers - Citrus blossom flowers - Pansy petals - Corn flowers - Lavender flowers

**Fruit** Check list, remember to consider the following for successful fruit crops.

- Space how much space do you have to grow fruit .
- Containers, do you have enough large containers for fruit trees? If you are growing on a balcony or roof top is the surface strong enough to support large container's full of soil.
- Harvesting, are you generally around during harvest time.
- Indoor plants, are you growing fruit in doors? If so, a citrus tree is ideal.
- Shade, if your plot is shady, try gooseberries along with some shade tolerant herbs such as mint.

Growing herbs, take a look at your kitchen shelves, which herbs do you regularly buy ? Perhaps you could grow your own this year.

Did you know, there are enough different types of lettuce to grow them all year round.

**Colin Williams**

# Eat the Seasons – July

**Vegetables** - Artichoke, Aubergine, Beetroot, Broad Beans, Broccoli, Carrots, Chillies, Courgettes, Fennel, French Beans, Garlic, Jersey Royal New Potatoes, Kohlrabi, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, Mangetout, New Potatoes, Onions, Pak Choi, Peas, Radishes, Rocket, Runner Beans, Samphire, Spinach, Spring Onions, Tomatoes, Turnips, Watercress, Wild Nettles

**Fruit** - Apricots, Bilberries, Blueberries, Cherries, Gooseberries, Greengages, Kiwi Fruit, Melons, Peaches, Strawberries

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

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

**Fish** - Cod, Coley, Crab, Dover Sole, Haddock, Halibut, Herring, Langoustine, Mackerel, Plaice, Pollack, Prawns, Salmon, Sardines, Scallops (Queen), Sea Bream, Sea Trout, Shrimp, Squid, Whelks, Whitebait

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

# Mary Magdalene

By Canon Paul Hardingham

Six Marys are mentioned in the New Testament, including Mary Magdalene, who is remembered this month in the church's calendar. What can we learn from Mary's story?

*We don't have to be defined by our past:*

When Jesus encountered Mary, He cast seven demons out of her (Luke 8:2). As a result, her life was transformed and she became a follower of Jesus. Her life as a disciple was no longer defined by the person she had been before. Like Mary, we don't have to let our past without Christ dictate how we see ourselves today.

*Put Jesus at the centre of our world:*

Along with some of the women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases (Luke 8:1-3), Mary followed Jesus and His disciples and supported them in ministry. She was there at the cross (Matthew 27:55-56) and one of the first to the tomb on the Sunday (Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1 and John 20:1-18). Like Mary, we are called to serve Jesus as dedicated disciples.

*Jesus uses the weakest in the world:*

Mary is a great example of Paul's words: 'But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.' (1 Corinthians 1:27). At a time when women were regarded as second-class citizens with no real autonomy, Jesus had a special compassion and care for women. Alongside Mary, the women's witness to the resurrection was taken seriously.

We should be careful not to dismiss the things that don't follow our expectations, because Jesus doesn't always do what we expect! He delights in working out His plans through unlikely people and in surprising ways. He did this through Mary, and if we let Him, He can do it through us!

---

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here





# ERIC EYRE

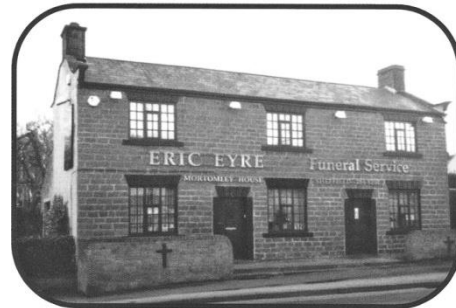
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# It is time to eat Mackerel

With its sparkling, silvery belly and iridescent blue-grey stripes, the mackerel is an eye-catching fish, almost showy. It's bound to be the subject of enviously dismissive gossip amongst shoals of less flashy sardine and cod. The mackerel isn't a delicately flavoured fish and its richness doesn't always lend itself well to a simple 'lemon and herbs' pairing. But given the right treatment it is a fantastically moist, flavoursome fish that makes an inexpensive and very healthy meal. Health experts recommend eating at least one serving of oily fish, such as mackerel, each week. Mackerel is an excellent source of omega-3 fatty acids, selenium, and vitamin B12.



The mackerel has been a consistently popular fish throughout European history. The Romans used mackerel to make garum, a fermented fish sauce similar to those essential to Thai and Vietnamese cooking today. Records show that the mackerel has been widely eaten in the UK for hundreds of years. According to his diary, Samuel Pepys breakfasted on mackerel on 30th May 1660. Mrs Beeton's Book of Household Management (1861) features the recipe Fennel Sauce for Mackerel.

Look for mackerel with shiny bodies and bright eyes. They should be firm-feeling and rigid; fresh mackerel won't droop if held horizontally by the head. The freshest specimens are likely to be found in good fishmongers or markets. After buying mackerel be sure to keep it cool until you get home. Oily fish spoil faster than white fish and mackerel is best eaten on the day of purchase or within 24 hours if kept chilled. It can also be frozen successfully. Ask your fishmonger to gut the fish. At home, wash under cold running water and pat dry before cooking. Baking, grilling, barbecuing, or pan-frying are excellent cooking methods. To check if mackerel is cooked, slit the fish at the thickest part with a small knife: the flesh should appear just opaque but still moist.

Due to mackerel's richness, cream or butter-based sauces are best avoided. A spicy treatment works well, as does matching with something sharp. Gooseberry or rhubarb sauces are traditional accompaniments or try experimenting with citrus flavours such as ortanique or pomelo.

**Smoked Mackerel** is also a good choice and is often eaten as a starter with Horseradish Sauce or in a simple salad, but it is also very versatile:

Smoked Mackerel, Apple & Beetroot Salad

<https://www.olivemagazine.com/recipes/fish-and-seafood/smoked-mackerel-salad/>

Smoked Mackerel Carbonara

<https://www.jamieoliver.com/recipes/pasta-recipes/carbonara-of-smoked-mackerel/>

Smoked Mackerel Kedgeree

<https://www.sainsburysmagazine.co.uk/recipes/mains/mackerel-kedgeree>

Smoked Mackerel Curry

<https://www.olivemagazine.com/recipes/fish-and-seafood/mackerel-curry/>



# Crossword Puzzle

## Clues Across

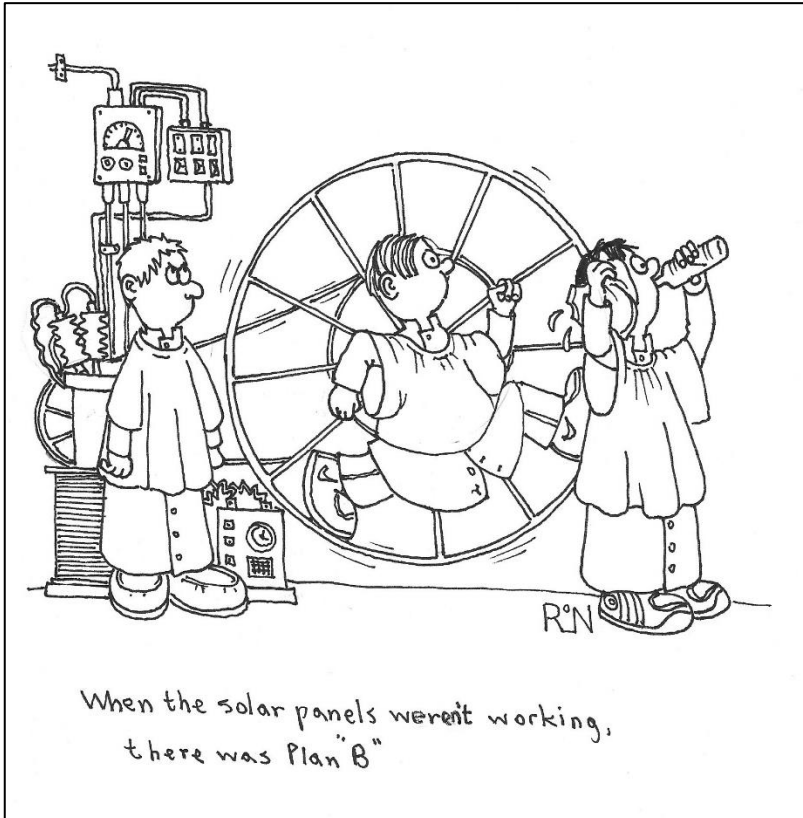
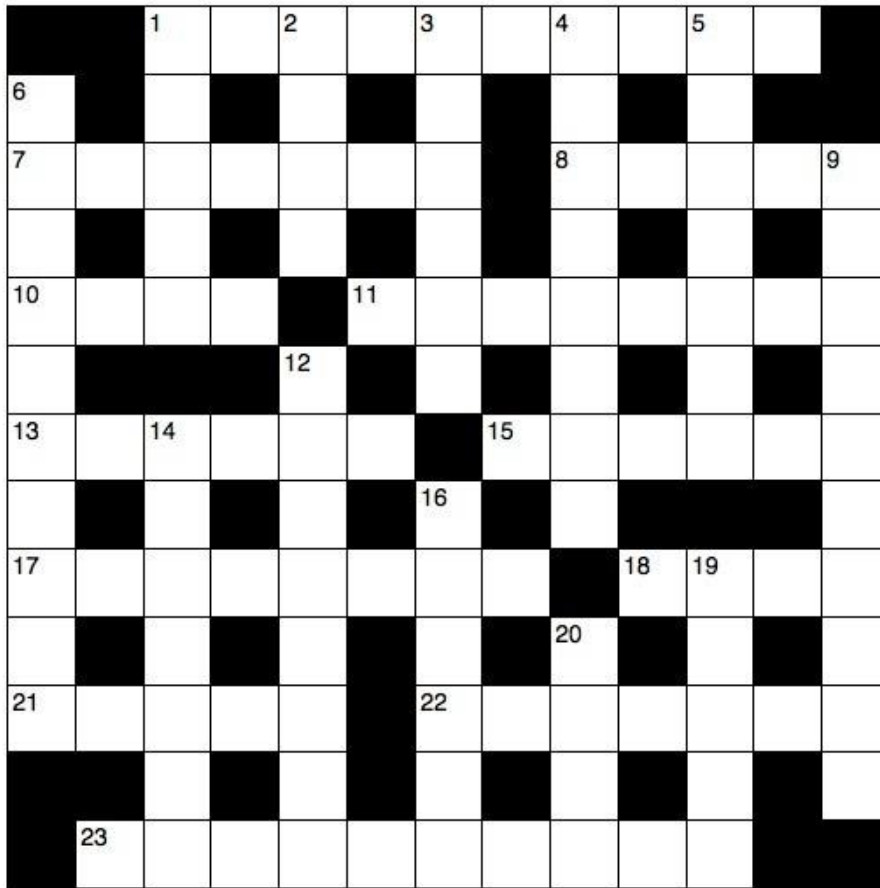
- 1 Relating to the Jewish day of rest (10)
- 7 Point of view (Matthew 22:17) (7)
- 8 20th-century Brethren philanthropist whose construction company became one of the UK's biggest, Sir John — (5)
- 10 Girl's name (4)
- 11 Peter was accused of being one in the courtyard of the high priest's house (Luke 22:59) (8)
- 13 The fifth of the 'seven churches' (Revelation 3:1–6) (6)
- 15 'Now the famine was — in Samaria' (1 Kings 18:2) (6)
- 17 Banned by the seventh Commandment (Exodus 20:14) (8)
- 18 Insect most closely associated with itching (1 Samuel 24:14) (4)
- 21 Bantu tribe which gives its name to tiny landlocked country in southern Africa (5)
- 22 Familiar material in churches that use an overhead projector (7)
- 23 Last book of the Bible (10)

## Clues Down

- 1 The young David's favourite weapon (1 Samuel 17:40) (5)
- 2 'Your vats will — over with new wine' (Proverbs 3:10) (4)
- 3 Once yearly (Exodus 30:10) (6)
- 4 Milled it (anag.) (3-5)
- 5 Region north of Damascus of which Lysanias was tetrarch (Luke 3:1) (7)
- 6 Comes between Philippians and 1 Thessalonians (10)
- 9 Lake where the first disciples were called (Luke 5:1–11) (10)
- 12 Abusive outburst (8)
- 14 Are loud (anag.) (7)
- 16 Printing errors (6)
- 19 'Take my yoke upon you and — from me' (Matthew 11:29) (5)
- 20 Jacob's third son (Genesis 29:34) (4)



Solution is on Page 23



# Chapeltown & District Probus Club



We welcomed the return of John Hope in May. Entitled "If At First You Don't Succeed", John summarised his professional life with the many turns and changes and unexpected ends and new beginnings. An absolutely fascinating story of many different careers and ongoing success for someone who is still working in his 80's. After the meeting, lunch was enjoyed at Wortley Hall.

A very successful visit took place to Abbeydale Industrial Hamlet in May, and a visit to Wentworth Woodhouse will take place in September, family members and visitors are all most welcome.

Next year, in May, there will be a visit to Highgrove House with an overnight stay in a hotel near Cheltenham.

In July, we welcome local policeman Alan Hancock who will tell the stories of when he was seconded to the police force in Bosnia.

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

12th July – Alan Hancock – "Bobby in Bosnia"

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

13th September – David Bell – "Hygiene is a Dirty Word"

Our next events will be a visit to Wentworth Woodhouse in September - family members and visitors are all most welcome.

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).

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

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

**Andrew Robinson**

## The sweet smell of rain

Have you ever noticed the sweet, fresh smell after a downpour of rain? That 'smell of rain' is called petrichor, and it fascinates scientists. It was back in 1965 that scientists first named it. Petrichor comes from the Greek for stone, 'petra', and the golden fluid flowing through the veins of the immortals, 'ichor'.

Petrichor is produced when raindrops form air pockets on the rocks and soil, and softly force the release of aromatic chemicals trapped there. The petrichor-scented compounds drift upwards into the atmosphere as a gas, like a glass of champagne. The odour itself comes mainly from a chemical called geosmin, which is made by bacteria in soil. Geosmin is made by soil microbes, to fend off hungry worms. Geosmin is highly pungent, and even just five parts per trillion can be picked up by the human nose.

# Prayers and Poems Page

## Prayer for July 2023- *By Daphne Kitching*

Loving Father,

July brings long days and summer pleasures, for many, but not for all. Lord, we pray for those who are finding life to be a struggle; for families with no hope of a holiday this year; for parents who don't know how they will feed their children during the upcoming long school break; for those who are lonely, or discouraged, or isolated, or afraid.

Lord, we pray for justice and compassion from those in positions of power and responsibility. And please Lord, show us how to help, how to be part of the solution. May we, as your children, reflect your loving kindness wherever we can. May your Kingdom come on earth, through us.  
In Jesus' name.

Amen

---

## The hairs upon your head - *By Nigel Beeton*

God cares for His creation  
He knows each sparrow well  
None from the sky are falling  
But God can fully tell;  
You're worth more than a sparrow!  
You have no need to dread  
He even knows the number  
Of hairs upon your head.

Fear not men who can kill you –  
For they can't touch your soul.  
They ought to fear our Father  
Who loves us as a whole.  
He sees not just the body  
He sees the soul as well;  
He can punish the sinner  
In fires of burning hell.

For death's the wage for sinning  
But Jesus paid the price!  
New life God gives so freely  
Through His Son, Jesus Christ.  
And we from sin are freed now  
For us there's no more strife!  
Through faith in Christ our Saviour  
We have eternal life.

---

## Confidence in God

Alone with none but Thee, my God,  
I journey on my way.  
What need I fear, when Thou art near  
O King of night and day?  
More safe I am within Thy hand  
Than if a host did round me stand.

*By St Columba*

## Alfresco - *By Nigel Beeton*

We love to dine alfresco  
(We love to eat outside)  
Roast chicken on the patio  
With salad on the side!

For in the warmth of summer  
You really cannot beat  
A meal in the open air  
It is the place to eat!

A barbie or a salad  
Or a fresh takeaway  
A picnic in the countryside  
Just makes a summer day!

The birds a-singing in the trees  
Bright flowers feast our eyes  
The only thing that's not to like  
Is beating off the flies!

---

## There

There, in that other world, what waits for me?  
What shall I find after that other birth?  
No stormy, tossing, foaming, smiling sea,  
But a new earth.

No sun to mark the changing of the days,  
No slow, soft falling of the alternate night,  
No moon, no star, no light upon my ways,  
Only the Light.

No grey cathedral, wide and wondrous fair,  
That I may tread where all my fathers trod.  
Nay, nay, my soul, no house of God is there,  
But only God.

*Mary Coleridge (1861-1907)*



## 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.  
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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 - Mrs J Steel  
0114 246 0218  
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><br>Revd. Tim Gill                                           | <b>E-mail:</b><br>ttingill@aol.com                                                                 | <b>Phone:</b><br>257 0002 |
| <b>'Assistant Curate:</b><br>Revd. Sam Ellmore                                   | revsamellmore@outlook.com                                                                          | 0747 9985 199             |
| <b>Churchwardens:</b><br>Ann Hackett<br>Jo Hawksworth                            |                                                                                                    | 246 7159<br>246 2852      |
| <b>Readers:</b>                                                                  |                                                                                                    |                           |
| <b>Pastoral Workers:</b>                                                         |                                                                                                    |                           |
| <b>Church Office</b><br>Tuesday 9:00am to 1:00 pm<br>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><br>Contact: Lynda Pearce                         | 7 pm on Friday Practice in Church                                                                  | 246 3935                  |
| <b>Music Group</b><br>Contact: Andrea Whittaker                                  | 7:30 pm Thursday Practice in Church                                                                | 246 0746                  |
| <b>Mother's Union in Gatty Hall</b><br>Contact: Maureen Lambert                  | 1 pm 1st Wednesday of the month                                                                    | 246 9690                  |
| <b>Ecclesfield Ladies Group</b><br>Contact: Anne Rostron                         | 2.00pm Thursday in Gatty Hall                                                                      | 245 5492                  |
| <b>Bell Ringers</b><br>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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