

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine October 2023

stmarysecclesfield.org.uk

Price 60p

First Words

October begins with our **Harvest Festival on Sunday 1st October at 10am**. Goods collected will be donated to The Archer project and the cash collection will be shared between Christian Aid and Water Aid.

On **Tuesday 3rd October** from **11am** there is a **Major Churches Meeting** at Rotherham Minster.

Saturday 7th October 9am to 4pm is the **Diocesan Development Day** at St Thomas Crookes.

On **Sunday 8th October at 10am** we have our monthly All Age Service - this month it will take the form of a **Prayer & Praise** service led by the Music Group.

On **Saturday 14th October at 9am** we have our monthly **Prayer Breakfast** and at **2pm** there is a **wedding** in Church.

On **Monday 16th October from 6pm** we have the local **Beavers** visiting Church.

And on **Tuesday 17th October at 1.30pm Ecclesfield Primary School** will be visiting Church for their **Harvest Service**.

On **Thursday 19th from 2pm** the **North Sheffield History Group** will be visiting Church. And at **5.45pm** a second local **Beavers** Group will be in Church.

On **Friday 20th October at 2.15pm** I will be visiting Ecclesfield Primary School for a second Harvest Celebration.

On **Saturday 21st October** there is a **Chapelton wedding** in Church at **12 noon**.

Lots to do in October here at St Mary's,

God bless,
Tim

Advisory - Work is underway to update the lighting in the whole of the church. Please be aware that this work will take several weeks to complete and that temporary work towers may be in place during this time.

The existing luminaires are being replaced with LED fittings that will save a significant amount of energy in the long term.

If you have any concerns during the works please talk to a church warden.

Thank you – the Fabric Team

Front Cover – Basket of Plenty – from the web origin unknown

Back Cover – EPPiC Poster – Key for Two and EIB Poster for their Christmas Fayre

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Mothers' Union – September

The meeting this month was based on the festival of Holy Cross Day. Our speaker was the Diocesan Co-ordination for Prayer and Spirituality. The talk gave us a great deal of background of why we should and do hold it so special. We heard about how cruel the death was especially when the victim is innocent, the sadistic way the victim is treated before being crucified and the continued torment when on the cross.

It seems a shame that we no longer seem to venerate the cross and will often wear it as part of our jewellery, many came away with a greater understanding of how our Lord suffered for us. Hopefully we will be more aware when we put the cross round our necks.

We were very fortunate to be able to celebrate the date on the following Thursday when the Curate celebrated communion with visual aids.

We look forward to our next meeting when Claire will return to give us an update on the project she runs in Doncaster called Pause which helps young women when their children have been taken into care.

She would appreciate any gifts of crayons and felt tips, colouring books and bath aids. Thank you.

The next meeting is Wednesday 4 th October at 1.30pm

NP

Editor: The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross is celebrated every year on the 14th September and recalls three events:

1. The finding of the True Cross by Saint Helena.
2. The dedication of churches built by Emperor Constantine on the site of the Holy Sepulchre and Mount Calvary.
3. The restoration of the True Cross to Jerusalem in AD 629 by the Byzantine emperor Heraclius, after it had fallen into the hands of the Persian Emperor Chosroes II in the AD 614 Sasanian conquest of Jerusalem.

Thank you from Joan Fisher and family

I would like to thank all my friends at Church, Ladies Group and Mothers Union for the condolence cards and support I have received after Simon passed away. It is these friends that have supported me after Pete's death.

God bless you all.

Joan, Andrew and all my family

As Halloween approaches...

Have you ever wondered what a Christian is to make of the unseen world of evil and the occult? Where do evil spirits come from, anyway?

The Bible takes the unseen world of evil spirits very seriously indeed. It tells us clearly that evil spirits were once part of the created angelic order (Genesis 6). They were not created as evil beings, for all of God's original creation was good (Genesis 3:1). The Bible relates how a number of angels, headed by Satan, or Lucifer, rebelled against God's authority and fell (Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:11-19).

Satan, who disguised himself as the serpent in Eden, is leader of the fallen angels, and opposes himself to God. But evil and good are not co-equal! Thus, the idea of 'dualism' (belief in the equal and permanent existence of evil alongside the good) has no place in the Bible. Unlike goodness, evil has a beginning and an end. Satan's final destruction is already assured (Revelation 12:12; 20:10).

So, what is the world of the occult, then? The word 'occult' comes from the Latin: occultus, 'secret', 'hidden', and is our intrusion into the forbidden territory of superstition, fortune telling, magic and spiritism. Its downfall one day is promised us through Jesus. His early ministry established a bridgehead against the evil unseen world: no wonder the hostile, and sometimes violent, reaction of the demons! (Mark 1:23-27; 32-34).

But Jesus had no fear of demons, and neither should you, if you are a Christian. Further, it is important not to become obsessed with the unseen world – don't let it intimidate or fascinate you. Occult films can have deeply disturbing after-effects on people. Avoid them. A Christian has better things to think about.

While the occult world is certainly there, we are wise not to imagine, as some do, that every sin we commit, every bad habit, illness or misfortune we meet is due directly to an attack on us by Satan himself, and that therefore we need to be 'exorcised'. Terrible damage has been done in this regard by Christians who mean well but who are uninformed.

The kingdom of spirits is real, but so too is Christ's authority. Before Christ, the spirits shrink and retreat. Magic spells and charms have no power over the true Christian (provided we do not open ourselves to their influence) for "the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world." (1 John 4:4)

If ever you are frightened by anything occult, remember some sound biblical advice: resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7). But remember, a Christian has no business dealing in anything occult. All occultism is to be ruthlessly shunned (e.g. Leviticus 19:31;20:6; 1 Samuel 28; 1 Chronicles 10:13; Isaiah 8:19,20; Acts 19:18-20.)

The demonic world is very real, very powerful, but it is also already doomed and defeated. (Colossians 2:15; Hebrews 2:14,15). Why? Because the death of Jesus Christ has achieved this victory.

So – be confident in Christ, but not complacent in your everyday life. Satan's kingdom is alive and well in this present world, and it will still not admit its defeat at the Cross. The final destruction of all things occult will not come until the return of Christ.

SAD people need our help and understanding

The nights are getting darker, and many people are getting SAD, as the autumn closes in around us. SAD is properly called 'Seasonal Affective Disorder', and it is a kind of seasonal depression.

How can you tell if someone has SAD? The symptoms include: a persistent low mood, a loss of pleasure in everyday things, irritability, despair, guilt, lethargy, sleepiness, a craving for carbohydrates, difficulty in concentrating, and decreased sex drive.

No one knows exactly the cause of SAD, but it is often linked to reduced exposure to sunlight during the short autumn and winter days. Lack of sunlight may affect the part of the brain called the hypothalamus, which then affects the production of melatonin, the production of serotonin, and the body's own internal clock.

If you suspect that you may be getting SAD, contact your doctor. Doctors can offer tips on lifestyle changes, light therapy from a light box, talking therapies, and antidepressant medicine.

Understanding Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) a type of depression that comes and goes in a seasonal pattern. Some people with SAD may have symptoms during the summer and feel better during the winter.

You can read more on this disorder at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/conditions/seasonal-affective-disorder-sad/overview/>

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'Let our family look after yours'

God in The Arts

Editor: Michael Burgess continues his look at great works of Christian art. You can see the image described by googling 'Still Life with Lemons, Oranges and a Rose' by Francisco Zurbarán.

'He gave us eyes to see them': 'Still Life with Lemons, Oranges and a Rose'

The weekday eucharist in a parish church, with only a handful of worshippers present, can be a great contrast to the bustle and liveliness of Sunday services. It can offer you a quiet time to focus on the gifts of bread and wine offered on the altar. This month's painting of 1633 is an opportunity to focus on the gifts that have been offered at the altar of this table, in 'Still Life with Lemons, Oranges and a Rose' by Francisco Zurbarán. He was a contemporary of the more famous Velázquez and worked in Seville until his death in 1664.



There is something quite special and evocative in the arrangement of fruits and flowers – two highly polished plates, one bearing the citrons (not lemons as the title tells us), the other a cup of water and a rose. In the centre there is a basket with oranges and orange blossom. Against the dark background we sense the cool tones of the plates and cup, and the warmth of fruits and flowers.

There is a curious balance and poise here, and some critics have suggested a Trinitarian allusion in the three groups so deliberately placed on the table. Others have pointed to the rose and water as symbols of our Lady, and the fruit and blossom as signs of the new life of Easter. A devout Spanish Catholic in the 17th century would have noticed these allusions, but they may be too fanciful, as X-rays have shown that Zurbarán painted out another plate which simply contained sweet, candied potatoes.

What he has portrayed is an allegory of the senses. We can almost smell the fragrance of orange blossom and the tanginess of the fruits. We want to reach out to touch and taste. But no, we must look and ponder the offering of these gifts for our delight, and simply give thanks for the artist who has shown us something of the sacramental beauty of creation in them.

Francisco de Zurbarán was born in 1598 in Fuente de Cantos, Extremadura; he was baptized on 7 November of that year. His parents were Luis de Zurbarán, a haberdasher, and his wife, Isabel Márquez. In childhood he set about imitating objects with charcoal. In 1614 his father sent him to Seville to apprentice for three years with Pedro Díaz de Villanueva, an artist of whom very little is known. Francisco was the father of the painter Juan de Zurbarán (1620–1649), a Spanish Baroque painter.

St James the Least of All

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

On the perils of Harvest

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

In the unlikely event of ever being put in charge of designing the course for those being trained for ordination, I would make a few significant changes. Modules on doctrine, Church history and Greek would all be dropped as unnecessary. In their place, I would add courses on how to run a tight jumble sale, ways to keep your church council in order – and especially close to my heart at present, how to negotiate Harvest.

The first skirmish starts in early Summer when it becomes clear that the flower arrangers' plans mean that the choir would disappear behind a huge array of chrysanthemums. The choir then retaliate by announcing that their Harvest anthem must take place just when the Sunday School intended to re-enact the parable of the Good Samaritan. They, in turn, raise the stakes by insisting that a stage will be needed for their performance, thus ensuring that I will be separated from the congregation by an impenetrable barricade.

In September, therefore, there is the traditional meeting to iron out all these little difficulties. This inevitably results with the annual act of the verger handing in his resignation, of the bell ringers threatening a mass walk-out, and those who organise coffee afterwards demanding that my sermon lasts no more than three minutes, so there will be plenty of time for socialising after the Service.

I greet all suggestions with a spontaneous burst of indifference, smile, agree with it all – and do nothing (this, incidentally, is a good policy for all decision-making). Inevitably, everything goes ahead exactly as it has always done for the last century.

Come the day, there will be the usual arrangement of eggs round the font, with the strategically placed card saying 'Given anonymously by Elsie Jones' and the pyramid of apples temptingly near the choirboys, so designed that when someone tries to pinch one during the sermon, the whole pile disintegrates as they roll all over the chancel.

On the following Friday, all will leave after the Harvest Supper saying that the entertainment was worse than the previous year and that the absence of red cabbage had quite ruined the hot pot. Everyone therefore has had an enjoyable evening.

My Harvest training course would be compulsory and a pass mark of 90% would be needed before ordination could be considered.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



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Thought for the Month

Worship, along with prayer, is perhaps the most important thing that we do as Christians. When we pray and worship we turn our minds and our hearts to God. We remind ourselves that we are not here by accident - we are created; we are God's creatures and our world is God's creation.

What we worship, what we give ultimate value to in our lives; what we focus our hearts and minds on; what we desire, shapes us. It shapes our minds, how we think, and it shapes how we live. As Saint Augustine said, we are what we love.

In October we think especially of God the Creator and God the giver of all that is good. We celebrate Harvest, reminding ourselves that we rely on other people and on the creation for our life. Harvest also reminds us that we are part of the good creation of a good and generous God. We remember that God has provided enough - enough for all if only we will take what we need rather than what we want!

At Harvest services, when the gifts are offered, I often say something about the gifts of skills and character that God has also generously given and I invite the Church to give thanks for those gifts as well as the gifts of the earth.

Remembering creation and our creator is a reminder to us of the God who is present in all things, in all places and in all people. Harvest reminds us to seek the God who is always with us, it reminds us that when we sing God's praise we are the voice of creation. We are the part of creation that can respond to the love and the grace of our Maker.

This October I invite you to come to Church, to bring your prayers and your worship to the creator and sustainer of all creation. On the 1st of October at 10am we have our Harvest Thanksgiving, and on the 9th of October we have a simple service of Prayer and Praise, also at 10am.

As Augustine wrote, God has made us for Himself, and our hearts are restless until, they find their rest in Him.

God bless you and all those that you pray for this October,
Tim.

Thoughts on our Christian pilgrimage...

Whatever we part with for God's sake shall be made up to us in kind or kindness. -
Matthew Henry

God works in us and with us, not against us or without us. - *John Owen*

We are saved not by our deeds but by Christ's sacrifice for our misdeeds. - *Fred Catherwood*

The need of the world is to listen to God. - *Albert Einstein*

If Christians praised God more, the world would doubt Him less. - *C E Jefferson*

The Bible has a great deal to say about suffering and most of it is encouraging. - *A W Tozer*

Henry Martyn, translator & missionary in India and Persia

Day 19th October - If you love languages, then Henry Martyn is the saint for you.

Born in 1781, and schooled in Truro, he went on to St John's College in Cambridge, where he proved a brilliant student. He planned on becoming a lawyer, but at Cambridge he met Charles Simeon, the Vicar of Holy Trinity Cambridge, and a leading evangelical of his day. Through him, Henry was converted to Christianity, and offered himself for ordination. In 1803 he was appointed a curate under Charles Simeon at the village of Lolworth.

At Lolworth, Henry taught himself Oriental languages as a way of relaxing, and read the biography of William Carey, who had been a missionary to India. Henry was inspired by his example, and soon felt God's call to go to India as well.

And so, with Simeon's help, Henry Martyn was appointed an East India Company chaplain. He arrived in India in April 1806, and served near Serampore, and then in Danapur. Three years later, in 1809, Henry was transferred to Cawnpore.

Henry Martyn ministered faithfully as a chaplain, but his genius was in his gift for languages. In his six short years in India, he not only became fluent in Urdu and Persian, but translated the entire New Testament into both Urdu and Persian. He also revised an Arabic translation of the NT, translated the Psalter into Persian, and the whole Book of Common Prayer into Urdu.

By 1810 his health was breaking down, and he nearly died of tuberculosis at Cawnpore. He left India in 1811, to return home via Persia. But he fell ill on route, and on 16th October 1812, he died at Tokat, where he was given an honoured burial by the Armenian Christians.

Henry Martyn had been heard to say, "Let me burn out for God", and his prayer was answered.

His life's work won him much admiration in Great Britain. Thomas Macaulay composed an epitaph for him which says it all:

'Here Martyn lies. In Manhood's early bloom
The Christian Hero finds a Pagan tomb.
Religion, sorrowing o'er her favourite son,
Points to the glorious trophies that he won.
Eternal trophies! not with carnage red,
Not stained with tears by hapless captives shed,
But trophies of the Cross! for that dear name,
Through every form of danger, death, and shame,
Onward he journeyed to a happier shore,
Where danger, death, and shame assault no more.'



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Martyn

We thought you might find it helpful to know what the Sundays of each month are called

1st October	Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity
8th October	Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
15th October	Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity
22nd October	Last Sunday after Trinity
29th October	Fourth Sunday before Advent



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From the Registers

Baptisms

Sunday 3rd September

George Arthur Sheedy

Sunday 17th September

Clarke James Webster

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

Marriages

Saturday 30th September

Leon Powell & Lisa Spalding

Saturday 30th September

Russell Wilkinson & Amy Taylor

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

Funerals

Thursday 7th September

Iris Muscroft

Wednesday 20th September

Frank Austin

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

Spiritual Disciplines: Worship

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham continues to his year-long series on the Spiritual Disciplines.

'Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks.' (John 4: 23).

The spiritual discipline of worship has both a personal and corporate dimension. It includes worship services as well as day-to-day activities. God is actively seeking worshippers (John 4:23) and worship is a response to our experience of God's love. The main words used of worship in the Bible have the sense of *submission* and *service*. They remind us that our lives need to be shaped by worship *on a daily basis*.

There are different ways into worship: practising stillness, offering praise (cf Psalm 95) and offering the whole of our lives as a living sacrifice (cf Romans 12:1). Worship is an act of the will; we choose to honour and please God. Depending on our circumstances, worshipping God requires effort on our part. However, entering into worship is to be transformed by His presence into the likeness of Jesus (cf 2 Corinthians 3:18).

Richard Foster in *Celebration of Discipline* offers some helpful ways in which to engage with worship on a daily basis:

Learn to practise the presence of God daily by punctuating every moment with praise and adoration.

Have different experiences of worship, both in large and small gatherings (i.e., small group)

Be prepared for gathered worship in heart and mind.

Be willing to let our worship transform our thinking and practice as God meets us.

Cultivate holy dependence on God for everything in our lives, looking forward to all God wants to do.

Learn to offer a sacrifice of worship, however we are feeling!

'Now the worship is over, let the service begin' (Bishop Michael Marshall, closing a service)

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.

Do the Bible and Science contradict each other?

For the Christian, the Bible is God's Word to us; it tells us about His character and creative purposes, how He has related to people in the past, and His promises for the future. Science is a specific way of studying the world, exploring the physical properties of things – a wonderful way to explore God's creation. So, the question to ask if the Bible and Science seem to be contradicting each other is, have we made a mistake in interpreting one or the other?

Science is very good at answering certain types of questions: 'What size is it?', 'How fast does it travel?', 'What is it made of?', and so on. Questions like 'What's it for?', 'What should I do with it?', and 'What's it worth?' can't be answered using scientific methods. Some of the misunderstanding in discussions of Science and Religion come from not recognising the limits of science.

It's also important to recognise what the Bible is, and what sorts of questions it can answer. The Bible was written well before people began to investigate the world in ways we would recognise as scientific. Of course, people in the Ancient Near East were studying the world around them, observing the movements of the stars, the processes of life and death that happened all around them, the seasons, the behaviour of physical objects, and so on. But they did not study the mechanisms underlying these things systematically using the tools of science, and they did not see or describe the world in scientific terms – not because they weren't intelligent, but because Science, as we know it, wasn't happening at that time.

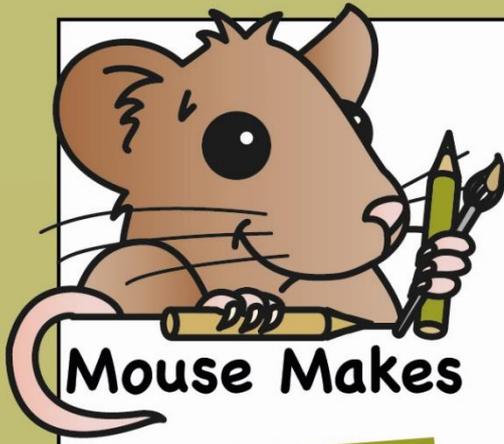
Instead, the biblical writers used words that were commonly used in their own cultures to record events, share truth and wisdom, and tell stories that convey deep truth about God's character. If we want to understand God's intention in inspiring these words, we need to do some careful work to connect with those ancient writers and find out what they meant, before we can discover what those words mean to us today.

These principles can help us have far more fruitful conversations about Science and Christian faith. If we allow any apparent conflict between Science and the Bible to fuel our search for understanding, not only will we learn as individuals, but we will be able to draw others into a conversation that is relevant to wider society today.

Chicken and pig

A chicken and a pig were walking by a church where a gala charity event was taking place. Getting caught up in the spirit of the fun, the chicken suggested to the pig that they each contribute to the meal. "Let's offer them ham and eggs!"

"Not so fast," said the pig. "For you, that's a contribution. For me, it's a total commitment."



Mouse Makes

What food did God supply for his people in the wilderness?

_____ and _____
Numbers 11:7-9 and 31

After Elijah came to visit, what never ran out?

_____ and _____
1 Kings 17:14



What food did the ravens feed Elijah?

_____ and _____
1 Kings 17:6



What food did John the Baptist eat in the wilderness?

_____ and _____
Matthew 3:4

What drink ran out at the wedding?

_____ and what did Jesus use to make more?

_____ John 2:3 and 7

What did the boy give Jesus to feed 5,000 people?

Five _____ and two _____
John 6:9



FIND THE BIBLE VERSE

Change each letter in this bible verse to the letter **before** it in the alphabet.

NBO TIBMM OPU
MJWF PO CSFBE
BMPOF, CVU PO
FWFSZ XPSE UIBU
DPNFT GSPN UIF
NPVUI PG HPE.

NBUUIFX 4:4

CONNECT THE BIBLE FOOD PAIRS

MANNA	HONEY
OIL	WINE
WATER	FISH
LOCUSTS	QUAIL
LOAVES	FLOUR

DID YOU KNOW?

As Lot escaped Sodom with his family an angel told him not to stop or look back, but Lot's wife did look back and became a pillar of salt.

READ Genesis 19 v15-26

E B R E A D H O N E Y Q J S F
L O A V E S G Q W A T E R C I
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E U S H A L A A N O L I V E S
A I I E N O I I E G R A P E S
T L N A N U N L O C U S T S Y
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E V E G E T A B L E S A L T H

Find the words below and the answers to the questions all in the word search

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- FIGS • DATES
- MUSTARD
- RAISINS • WHEAT
- SALT • GRAIN
- FRUIT • GRAPES
- VEGETABLES



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Editor's Humour & Philosophy Page

Those Church Bulletin notes that didn't quite work as intended

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'

The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Ladies, don't forget the jumble sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community.

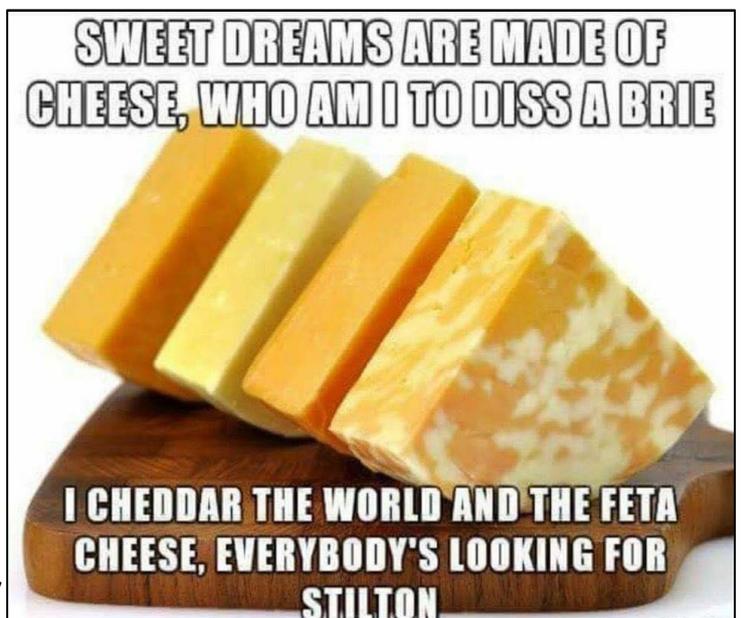
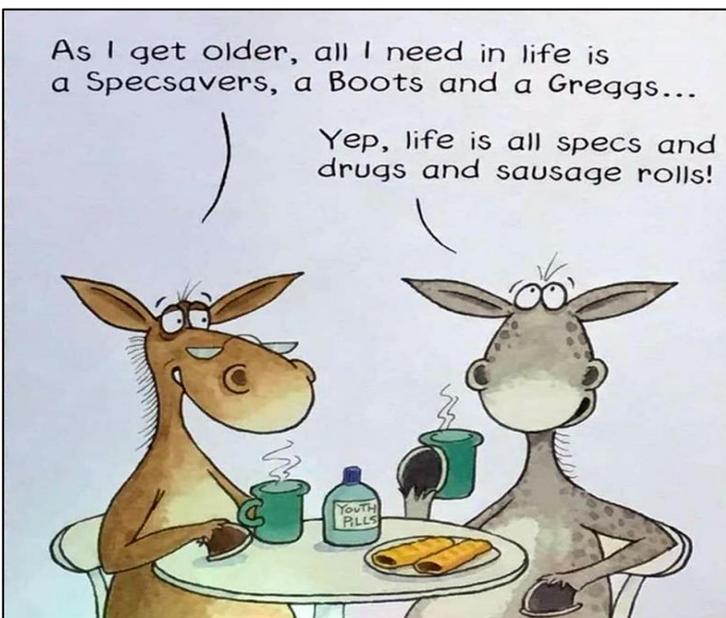
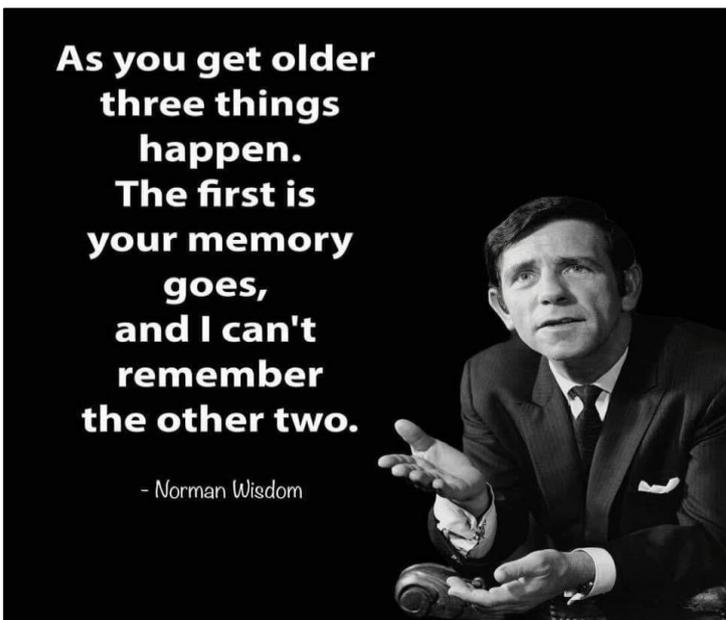
Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed, due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.



Prayer for the Month

**“The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with all of you.”
(2 Corinthians 13:13).**

Paul’s closing blessing from one of his most difficult letters has become one of the most prayed prayers in the past two thousand years. We often pray it at the end of a service or a meeting.

We do not know if Paul himself composed this prayer or if he is simply quoting a prayer that he was familiar with. Either way it is a very early Christian prayer as well as a very important prayer.

If Paul composed it it goes back to within 30 years of the events of the Cross and Resurrection of Jesus. If Paul is quoting a familiar prayer it is even earlier. In any case it goes back to the lifetime of people who knew Jesus, people who followed him. And that is why this prayer is so important, it matters because of its theology and it matters because of what it says to us as we follow Jesus.

Although Paul did not have a doctrine of the Trinity or the Divinity of Christ, we find the building blocks of these ideas in Paul’s writings, and nowhere is this clearer than in the prayer that we call “The Grace.”

As Paul ends what has been a very difficult and controversial letter to the Church in Corinth, he prays for the Christians there. And in this very short and memorable blessing he puts Jesus and the Holy Spirit alongside God (the Father) as the source of blessing and as the one in whom we hope.

In his pastoral care for the Churches, in his prayers and in his worship, Paul, quite naturally places Jesus and the Holy Spirit alongside God. The later doctrines of the Church in the second and third centuries grew out of the experience of Christians like Paul.

The second reason that this is a very important prayer is that it reminds we who pray it that our lives are held by the grace of God. We, along with all people and with the whole of creation, are held by the grace of the God who loves us as a father, the God who reveals His love and His power in the Cross and death of Jesus; the God who is with us and in us, the Holy Spirit.

When I pray this prayer it reminds me that God is with me in all places and that God is present in all things. It reminds me to look for the presence of the God who meets us in Jesus in all people.

I pray that we may all have the insight to find God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, in all things, in all times, in all places and in all people.

Amen.

Christians in Pakistan recovering after mob attack

Christians in Pakistan are considering how to rebuild their homes and churches in the aftermath of recent attacks on townships in Jaranwala, Punjab, following unsubstantiated allegations of blasphemy.

Partners of UK-based Release International held services out of doors after mobs recently set fire to houses, churches and Bibles. Efforts are underway to galvanise emergency relief aid for the thousands of Christians driven from their homes. During the attack, thousands of Muslims descended on Jaranwala. Initial estimates said they burned down five churches, damaged 21 others, torched 40 homes of Christians, and attacked more than 100 others.

But a new report by Human Rights Focus Pakistan estimates the damage was more widespread. They say 19 churches were burned, 89 Christian houses were destroyed, and more than 400 homes damaged.

The rampage against three Christian townships in the area followed claims over mosque loudspeakers that torn pages of the Koran had been found in the Christian district. Thousands of protestors armed with sticks were finally restrained by the army. But first they set fire to churches, including the Salvation Army, United Presbyterian Church, Allied Foundation Church, and Saint Paul Catholic Church.

Release International's partner in Pakistan says, 'Thank God there were no injuries or deaths, because after the announcement on the mosque loudspeakers, every Christian managed to flee. They left everything behind to save their lives.'

Release International's partner, Reverend Waseem Khokhar visited the aftermath of the attack under the protection of the Punjab police. He said, "We don't have words to describe the terrible destruction of church buildings, and everything in them. All we could see were ashes."



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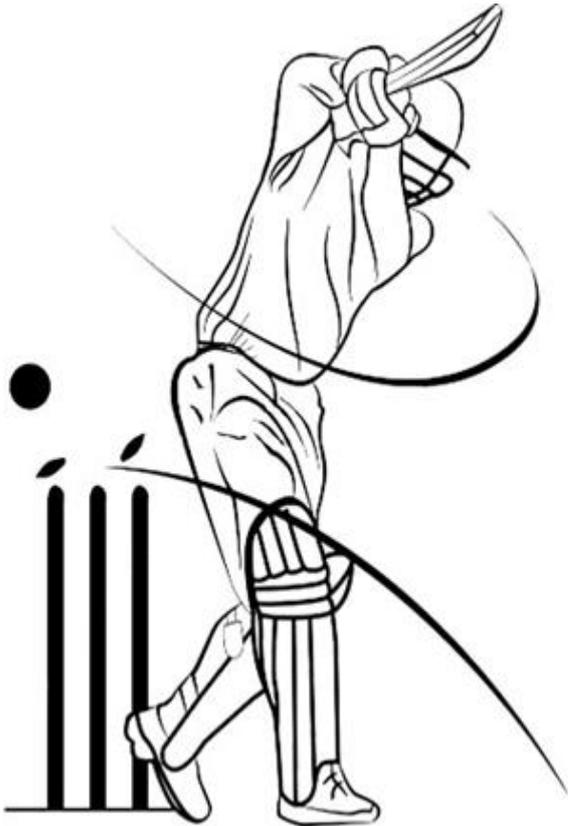
Website: www.lyncham9.co.uk - Email: lyncham9@hotmail.com

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 2023 cricket season has been unusual in many ways, primarily the weather which affected so many matches with 6 or 7 cancelled for each team meaning that only two thirds of matches scheduled were played. With 12 points for a win, 12 clubs in each Division and 11 Divisions, this resulted in many clubs ending extremely close to each other in the strive for promotion and scramble to avoid relegation. An example was that the 2nd XI were fighting in the last 2 games against potential relegation and for a possible promotion at the same time!

At the end, the 1st XI finished in 8th position in the Premier League but in a group of 7 clubs all within 2 victories of each other. The 2nd XI finished 5th in Division 1 but in a similar group of clubs who might have secured promotion or relegation. The 3rd XI were fighting for promotion to the very last day when a victory at Bradfield did not quite get them over the line with the other two clubs in contention winning as well; so they finished in 4th position in Division 6, 4 points behind Ackworth and Wickersley who were both promoted.

The season has seen some extremely good performances from the senior teams but especially the junior teams and the ladies' team which all really made their mark and this bodes very well for the future. We have now said farewell to our overseas visitor Montcin Hodge and look forward to a player from Australia for the 2024 season.

The cricket articles will resume next spring.

Contact: Joe Webster, Secretary: 07969 014592

<https://whitleyhall.play-cricket.com/>

Andrew Robinson

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The Gardening Year – October

Pesticides

Gardeners and farmers use pesticides to kill, prevent or to deter pest. Most are made of synthetic chemicals and are not only toxic to pets but can be toxic to the environment and your health, in addition, pesticides can be expensive and add a concordable amount to your gardening budget.

Natural methods, before the wide spread use of synthetic pesticides, farmers use natural methods such as companion planting and encouraging natural predators to their land. In other words, they pay special attention to the complete eco system.

Companion planting means you plant certain plants in close proximity to one another. These companion plants might be planted for several reasons such as, repelling pest, one of the worst pests for carrots is the carrot fly. These are attracted to the smell of carrot leaves. By masking the scent of the leaves, you can repel the pest from causing trouble. Chives and Garlic are excellent crops for protecting against the Carrot fly.

Sacrificial plants, if you find slugs heading for your Spinach plants you can sow sacrificial crops around them. By sowing cheap lettuce seed the slugs will eat your lettuces and hopefully leave your spinach alone for you to enjoy. Attracting insects, such insects such as bees help pollinate food. Other insects like Ladybirds feed on garden pests. By attracting beneficial insects to your garden you can increase yields and reduce the risk of pest damage. Plant a container with comfrey to attract bees and use as a garden fertiliser.

Plant Dill or Yarrow for Ladybirds. Enhancing flavour some plants are reported to enhance the flavour of others. For example, growing Basil next to Tomatoes make them taste better, Yarrow increases the essential oils in some herbs which gives them more flavour and Chervil can add a peppery taste to Radishes'.

Colin Williams

Eat the Seasons – October

Vegetables - Artichoke, Beetroot, Broccoli, Butternut Squash, Celeriac, Celery, Chicory, Chillies, Fennel, Garlic, Horseradish, Jerusalem Artichoke, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, Marrow, Parsnips, Potatoes (Maincrop), Pumpkin, Radishes, Rocket, Runner Beans, Salsify, Shallots, Swede, Sweetcorn, Tomatoes, Truffles (Black), Truffles (White), Turnips, Watercress, Wild Mushrooms

Fruit - Apples, Bilberries, Blackberries, Elderberries, Figs, Grapes, Medlar, Pears, Quince

Herbs - Almonds, Brazil Nuts, Chestnuts, Chives, Cob Nuts, Hazelnuts, Parsley (Curly), Rosemary, Sage, Sorrel, Thyme, Walnuts

Meat - Beef, Duck, Goose, Grouse, Guinea Fowl, Hare, Lamb, Mallard, Partridge, Pheasant, Rabbit, Turkey, Venison, Wood Pigeon

Fish - Clams, Cod, Coley, Crab, Dab, Dover Sole, Grey Mullet, Gurnard, Haddock, Halibut, Hake, Herring, Lemon Sole, Lobster, Mackerel, Monkfish, Mussels, Oysters, Pilchard, Plaice, Pollack, Prawns, Red Mullet, Sea Bass (Wild), Sea Bream, Skate, Squid, Turbot, Winkles

Visit - www.eattheseasons.co.uk

Remembering the Beatles

Sixty years ago, on 15th October 1963, the term 'Beatlemania' first appeared in the Daily Mirror newspaper in the UK. It described the intense, frenzied reaction of fans of the Beatles and their music.



The group – John Lennon, Paul McCartney, George Harrison, and Ringo Starr – had been attracting wild adulation in the north of England, notably at the Cavern Club in Liverpool, since the start of the 1960s. But from 1964 Beatlemania spread throughout the country, and then the world – particularly the USA, where the Beatles were transported to concerts by armoured car for their own protection.

Commentators were eager to diagnose the cause of the phenomenon – sometimes not convincingly – but it was agreed that the high-pitched screaming by girl fans had similarities with religious fervour and hysterical worship of young men they saw as gods.

As is well known, in 1966 John Lennon remarked that the group had become more popular than Jesus, but this was a step too far for many, leading to a backlash and violence at subsequent concerts worldwide. This and the inability of the group to hear themselves play above the screams led to the Beatles stopping touring altogether. Their 1965 album Rubber Soul already projected a different, more progressive, thoughtful feel.

But a cultural trend had been set, and subsequent boy bands, from the Monkees to One Direction, tended to get the kind of 'worship' from their fans that was undeniably linked to a freedom from authority and convention.

It was not totally new, however. Back in the 1840s, fans of Hungarian pianist and composer Franz Liszt apparently displayed a similar level of fanaticism, which poet Heinrich Heine called 'Lisztomania'..

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

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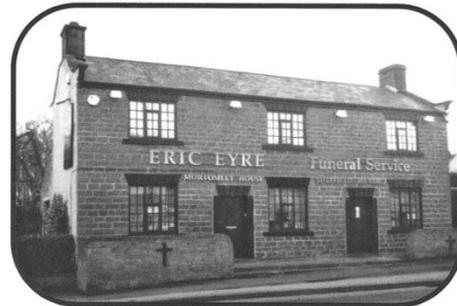
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It is time to eat Lamb

Cheap imported lamb from New Zealand may be available all year round, but in season British lamb is hard to beat. In May and June lamb is at its most tender but as the season progresses the flavour develops. Spring lamb is fantastic for roasting simply with garlic and herbs, autumn lamb is great when given a spicier, more adventurous treatment.

Sheep thrive in a variety of climates and have been the principal meat source across North Africa and Eurasia for centuries. The Industrial Revolution sparked an increased demand for meat and led to the increased breeding of sheep for meat in the UK. We can now reap the reward of several generations of selective breeding for taste and texture; well-reared lamb today is likely to be better than any eaten at any time in the past.

Lambs are the offspring of the domestic sheep, *ovis aries*. Lambs are typically weaned to a diet of grass between the ages of 1 and 3 months and the consumption of grass adds flavour to lamb. The majority of lamb sold in Britain is from animals between four months and a year old. The meat of older animals is properly referred to as hoggett (up to approximately two years old) and then mutton (the categorisation of the meat is often based on the farmer's judgement of its qualities rather than its exact age).

Big supermarkets will source lamb from a number of different farms. Buying lamb from a good butcher's shop or farmers' market will give you the opportunity to ask about the source of the lamb, and then buy the same quality produce again if you like it. Look for firm, pinkish meat with creamy white fat. Lamb is a good source of zinc, iron and B vitamins. It is relatively high in both saturated and unsaturated fats (roughly two to three times that of beef). Lamb can be kept in the fridge for at least a couple of days - the larger the cut the longer the meat will keep. Freezing tends to have a drying effect on meat and so is best used for cuts that will be slow cooked in stews or casseroles, rather than dry-heat methods (grilling, roasting, frying).

The cooking method will be dependent on the cut and recipe. Generally lamb benefits from slightly slower cooking with more moderate heat compared with beef. Trim excess external fat (or ask your butcher to do this) before use. Lamb cooked using dry-heat methods will be more flavourful if served slightly pink. Stews and casseroles will benefit from slow cooking until no pink remains. When roasting larger cuts, allow the meat to stand for at least 15 minutes after cooking.

Recipes online

Roast Leg of Lamb with Tapenade and Garlic

https://www.waitrose.com/home/recipes/recipe_directory/r/roasted_leg_of_lamb_with_tapenade_and_garlic.html

Oven-Baked Lamb Chops with Onion and Rosemary Sauce

<https://www.deliaonline.com/recipes/international/european/british/oven-baked-lamb-chops-with-onion-and-rosemary-sauce>

Butterflied Leg of Lamb with Summer Vegetables

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/foodanddrink/recipes/9461156/Butterflied-leg-of-lamb-with-summer-vegetables-recipe.html>



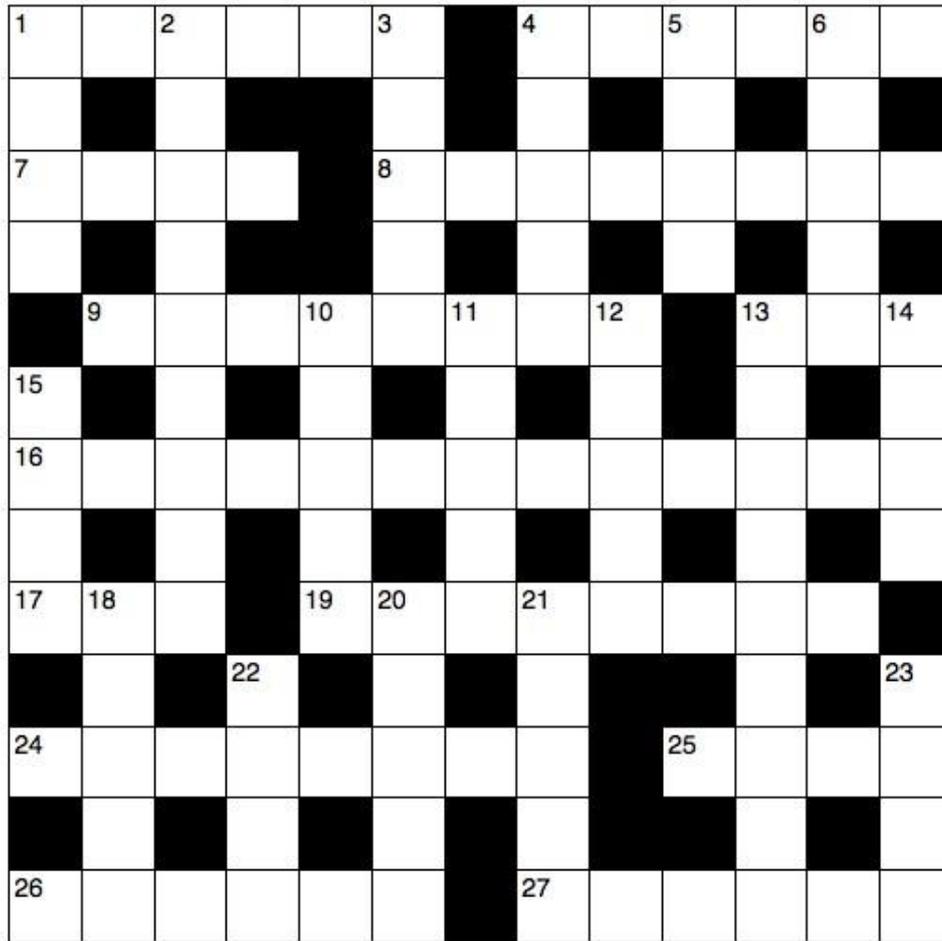
Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

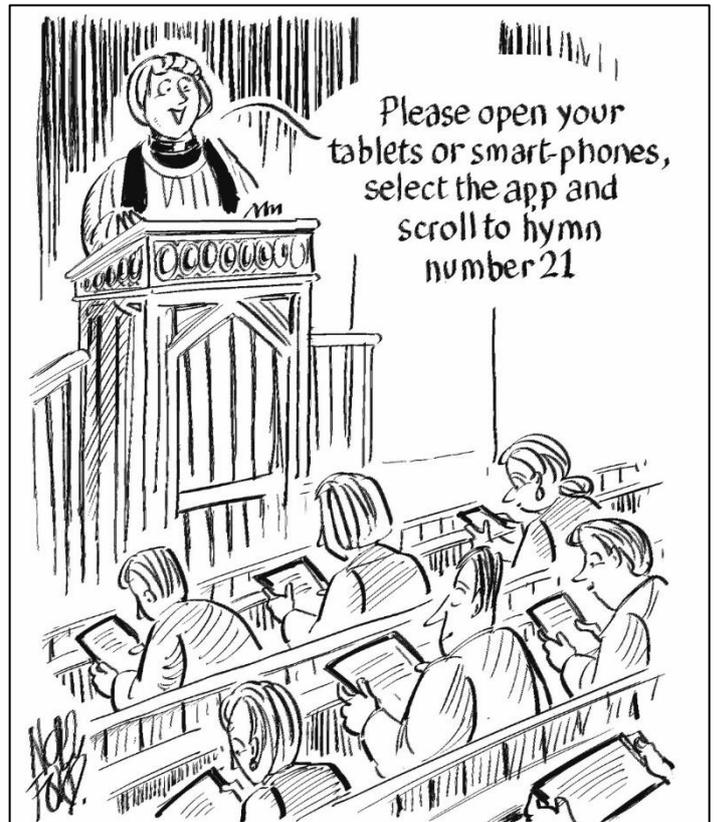
- 1 He must be 'the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well' (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)
- 4 'For we must all — before the judgement seat of Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)
- 7 'They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their — end' (Ps 107:27) (4)
- 8 See 19 Across
- 9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest(Luke 9:46) (8)
- 13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)
- 16 'He has sent me to bind up the — ' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)
- 17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)
- 19 and 8 ' — a great company of the — host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)
- 24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)
- 25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)
- 26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)
- 27 'Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a — !' (John 2:16) (6)

Clues Down

- 1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)
- 2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had a vision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)
- 3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile in Babylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)
- 4 'No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born — '(John 3:3) (5)
- 5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)
- 6 'He encouraged them — — remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23) (3,2)
- 10 Ruses (anag.) (5)
- 11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)
- 12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)
- 13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)
- 14 'This is my — , which is for you; do this in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)
- 15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)
- 18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)
- 20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)
- 21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)
- 22 Bats (anag.) (4)
- 23 'You strain out a — but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)



The harvest produce was taken to the old people's bungalows



Thanks to technology, replacing the worn-out hymn books didn't cost a penny

Chapelton & District Probus Club



On 13th September, we welcomed David Bell who gave an unusual and quite astonishing presentation. Having been born in Newcastle and having spent his whole working life there, he moved with his wife to live in Eyam when he retired and bought a 17th century cottage with land and a waterfall which had an important link with the infamous plague. Researching the details of what had happened, his journey went through the lack of hygiene at the time and the extremely basic medical knowledge and treatment which were available back then. David was a

thoroughly entertaining presenter who spoke without notes or a screen but had a number of props including a dummy of Samuel Pepys. Amazing. After the meeting, lunch was enjoyed at Wortley Hall.

The last visit of 2023 was to Wentworth Woodhouse with the 2024 season highlight being to Highgrove House in May with an overnight stay in a hotel near Cheltenham. The trip is already fully booked but there may be a chance if you put your name on the “waiting list”. A programme for other visits in 2024 is being organised and details will be published when the arrangements are fixed.

Next month we welcome back John Hope with the topic of “Don’t be Alarmed” which features the development of alarms and clocks over the centuries when he will bring some examples from his collection. In November, Mike Higginbottom will talk about some of Sheffield’s significant buildings which have now been destroyed or demolished.

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):-

11th October – John Hope – “Do Not Be Alarmed”

8th November – Mike Higginbottom – “Demolished Sheffield”

13th December – Paul Adey – “European Motor Industry History Part 2”

Contact details: E-Mail chapeltown.probus@gmail.com

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

Andrew Robinson

Miscellaneous thoughts on daily life

One thing all nations have in common is the ability to see each other’s faults. - *Anon*

Over the centuries, people seem to have improved everything - except people. - *Anon*

Don't let the littleness in others bring out the littleness in you. - *Anon*

A clear conscience makes a soft pillow. – *Anon*

Some people are born great, some achieve greatness, and some just grate. - *Anon*

Prayers and Poems Page

A Prayer for October- *By Daphne Kitching*

Dear Lord and Creator of all things,
In this fast-moving and high-tech world, help us to slow down – just occasionally – to notice the rhythms of Your creation; the beauty of the colours of autumn; the annual ritual of falling leaves and darkening evenings. All part of Your cycle of the year that we often take for granted.

And yet Lord, there is evidence of changes in our climate – extremes of temperature, droughts, floods and wildfires. There is evidence that our behaviour might be responsible for damaging Your world.

Lord, we thank You for Your goodness and faithfulness and grace to us. We are sorry when we get things wrong. Thank you for sending Jesus to show us the way to be in a right relationship with You. Help us to put our trust in Him and as part of living Christian lives, to accept our responsibility for caring for the world You created.

In Jesus' name, Amen

Loaves and Fishes - *By Megan Carter*

They came together from far and wide
All wanting to hear what the preacher would say
Hanging onto His every word
Nobody ever taught this way.

The crowd were hungry, so many to feed
As a young lad offered the Master his lunch,
Five barley loaves and two small fish -
For such a crowd it wasn't much.

Who could imagine what He would do
As He blessed the crowd on the mountainside?
And looking up and giving thanks
Bread and fish were multiplied.

Whatever we give the Master to use
Just like the lad with an offering small,
Placed in the hands of the Miracle Worker
He multiplies the gift bringing blessings to all.

God our Help - *Anonymous, 17th century*

With floods and storms thus we be tossed,
Awake, good Lord, to Thee we cry.
Our ship is almost sunk and lost.
Thy mercy help our misery.

Man's strength is weak; man's wit is dull;
Man's reason's blind. These things to amend,
Thy hand, O Lord, of might is full;
Awake betime, and help us send.

In Thee we trust, and in no wight:
Save us as chickens under the hen.
Our crookedness Thou canst make right
Glory to Thee for aye. Amen

Falling Leaves

Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;
Lengthen night and shorten day;
Every leaf speaks bliss to me
Fluttering from the autumn tree.

From a poem by Emily Bronte (1818-48)

The Crumbs beneath the Table

By Nigel Beeton

The crumbs beneath the table
May feed the dogs as well
As golden children able
With those above to dwell.

We see their radiant smiles
We gaze upon each face
But we are lowly gentiles –
Just pleading for God's grace.

He tells us we're not worthy
To eat the children's bread
Our hunger makes us nervy –
We plead the more instead.

Yet Jesus came from Heaven
For Gentile as for Jew;
Persistent faith's like leaven,
We'll rise to life anew!

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

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email: ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com

Ecclesfield Cubs

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)
Wednesday 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm
2nd Pack 6:30 pm to 8:0 pm
Leader - Mrs A Hancock
Tel: 0114 245 2780

Ecclesfield Beavers

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)
Monday 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm
Leader - Joanna Steel
0797 263 7908
Thursday - 5:45 - 7:00 pm
Shane Porteous
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

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

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
Website:
whitleyhall.play-cricket.com

Chapelton and District PROBUS Club

Meets every 2nd Wednesday in the month
in Grenoside Community Centre
All retired and semi-retired gentlemen welcome
Contact the Secretary: Trevor Winslow
chapelton.probus@gmail.com
We are now on face to face see
www.chapelton-probus.org.uk

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

Useful Contacts



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



**ECCLESFIELD PRIORITY
PLAYERS PRESENT**



Key for Two



A comedy

By John Chapman & Dave Freeman

Produced by Angela Platts

By arrangement with Concord Theatricals

Tuesday 10th - Saturday 14th Oct 2023

Curtain at 7.30pm

Tickets £11.00 Concessions £10.00 (Tues only)

**EPPIC Theatre, Well Lane, High Street,
Ecclesfield, Sheffield, S35 9TP**



tickets@ecclesfieldpriorityplayers.co.uk

www.ticketsource.co.uk (Search for EPPIC Theatre)

Tel: (0114) 2402624



Ecclesfield Priority Players Productions



www.ecclesfieldpriorityplayers.co.uk email: info@ecclesfieldpriorityplayers.co.uk

Charity Number 518074

ECCLESFIELD IN BLOOM

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE
at St. Mary's Church
Ecclesfield**

between 10am and 12 noon
on Saturday

18th November 2023

Tea/Coffee, Cakes,
Raffle, Cards,
Gifts, Toys, Books &
Jewellery

