

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.

Church Magazine November 2024

stmarysecclesfield.org.uk

Price 60p



St Mary's Ecclesfield

Christmas Fayre

Saturday

23rd November

10am to 2pm

Free Admission

There will be a range of Stalls
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First Words

In Church in November the theme is about kingdoms - the kingdom of God, anticipated in our celebrations of All saints and of Christ the King; and also the kingdoms of the world as we celebrate Remembrance Sunday.

On **Sunday 3rd November** we celebrate **All Saints at 10am**, followed by **Baptisms at 12noon** and then at **4pm** we have our annual **All Souls Memorial Service**.

The **PCC** will meet in in Church on **Monday 4th November at 7.30pm**.

On **Saturday 9th November Prayer Breakfast is at 9am** followed by the **Bereavement Cafe at 10am** (please note the earlier than usual time), and there is a **Wedding in Church at 12 noon**.

Sunday 10th November is Remembrance Sunday. The Service of Remembrance is at Church at **10am** and we will gather at the **Cenotaph for 11am**. There will be a celebration of Communion at 6.30pm.

There is a **Funeral** in Church on **Monday 11th November at 12.15pm**.

The Bell-Ringers' AGM is on **Tuesday 12th November** - we will meet in the choir vestry at **7.30pm**.

On **Thursday 14th November** at **11am** there is a **Funeral** in Church.

This month's **Prayer and Praise** will be at **10am on Sunday 17th November**.

The **Christmas Fayre** will be in Church on **Saturday 23rd November 10am to 2pm**.

On **Wednesday 27th November at 2.30pm** we meet in Church to plan services and choose hymns for January & February.

On **Thursday 28th November**, after the mid-week Communion, there will be a service in the **nightingale Nursing Home at 11am**.

And on **Saturday 30th November at 12noon** there is a **Wedding** in Church.

Finally on **Sunday 1st December** we celebrate **Advent Sunday** with a special **Advent Carols at 4pm**.

Another busy month at St Mary's!
God bless, Tim.

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Front Cover – Field of poppies in the morning mist - from the web
Inside front and back pages – Christmas Fayre and Hand Bell Ringers posters
Back Cover – EIB Christmas Fayre Poster

Saints Alive!

Look out for information about the up-coming Saints Alive course.

It is a Spirit-centred introduction or refresher course on the Christian Faith. The course is practical and experiential, not just ideas and books! The course will begin on Monday 13th January at 4pm.

For more information see Tim.

Advent Reading

Advent is almost upon us (Advent Sunday falls on Sunday 1st December). It is very easy, once December arrives, to get so caught up in the preparations for the Christmas celebration that we lose sight of the meaning of Christmas.

One way of keeping a spiritual focus is to take up some extra reading and reflection during Advent.

Two books published this year come highly recommended and should prove helpful in our preparations for our celebration of the birth of Christ.

The Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF) have published *Embracing Humanity*, and Advent book by Isabelle Hamley. The book looks at what it means for God to become human and asks what it means to be truly human.

Church House Publishing have released *Women of the Nativity: An Advent and Christmas Journey* by Paula Gooder with illustrations by Ally Barrett. The book engages our imaginations as we follow the familiar story through the experiences of some of the women involved.

Happy reading!

O come, o come Emmanuel!

On Advent Sunday we have a very special service to mark the beginning of our journey to Christmas.

The choir and music group will lead us in a service of Advent Carols on Sunday 1st December

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UH7asSGxAxA>

Letter from the Editor:

This month's magazine is quite colourful, with lots of seasonal posters filling the pages.

Sadly, we have lost a page and a half of adverts since August, probably due to the downturn in the economy. What this means is that we need to find a page and a half of local interest items or community articles, and very few are forthcoming. The long-term implication is that we may need to reduce the total number of pages by 4 because of the printing process.

It would be great to get a significant number of articles, large or small, each month to help fill this space, if you feel you can contribute, please get in touch.

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God in The Arts - Music

Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series looking at great works of music.

‘Glorious the song when God’s the theme’: ‘Valiant-for-Truth’

“What a composer has to do is to find out the real message he has to convey to the community and say it directly and without equivocation...if the roots of your art are firmly planted in your own soil, and that soil has anything individual to give you, you may still gain the whole world and not lose your own souls.” Those are words of the composer, Ralph Vaughan Williams, from a lecture of 1932.

Over 90 years later, we rejoice that the message of his music still speaks to us from those deep roots, which included folksong, poetry and the heritage of Tudor composers, that nourished his own compositions. It is difficult to imagine church life and worship without his glowing hymn tunes of Down Ampney (‘Come down, O Love divine) and Sine Nomine (‘For all the saints’), without his rapturous settings of George Herbert and the mass, and without the Oxford Book of Carols, Songs of Praise and the English Hymnal of which he was the musical editor.

Vaughan Williams was born in 1872, the son of Margaret and Arthur, the vicar of Down Ampney in Gloucestershire. He began collecting folk songs and composing after studying in London. Although he made such an important contribution to Christian music, he remained an agnostic throughout his life, albeit an agnostic of great visionary fervour. Poetry and prose were powerful sources of inspiration, and he set Shakespeare, J M Synge, Edmund Spenser, Walt Whitman, and, for this month’s article, John Bunyan.

Bunyan was imprisoned in Bedford gaol in 1660 for his preaching. Confined to a cell for 12 years, he wrote a powerful allegory on the Christian journey, *The Pilgrim’s Progress*. It prompted several works by Vaughan Williams: a cantata, a large opera, and a short, but intense choral work, *Valiant-for-Truth*. The opera took more than 40 years to complete, and Vaughan Williams used the name Pilgrim for the hero, rather than Bunyan’s Christian, for he wanted the work to speak to people of all beliefs. Within that long period of germination, he focussed on one particular pilgrim, Mr Valiant-for-Truth, in a motet composed in 1940 on the death of a friend, Dorothy Longman.

The motet is certainly not as well-known and well-loved as one of his more popular works, *The Lark Ascending* of 1914. There the music traces the journey of the bird as its flight weaves ever higher and higher, dissolving into the shimmering skies above. The motet is a much surer pilgrimage that arrives at the Eternal City. It is a glorious piece of word painting. We hear the hero telling his friends that the final stage of the journey has arrived. He gives away his sword, his courage and his skill, but he keeps the scars of life to witness to his discipleship. As he crosses the river of death, the music moves magically from major to minor. The trumpets begin to sound, quietly and distantly to begin with, but growing louder and louder, as they welcome him to the other side, when the fanfares in Bb major move triumphantly to the final G major.

In this month of All Souls, we remember with thanksgiving all those who like Mr Valiant-for-Truth, have crossed that river to reach the heavenly Jerusalem. We pray for that quality of valour for truth in our own pilgrimage, and we give thanks for the remarkable vision of truth, and its companions, beauty and goodness, that we find in the music of Vaughan Williams.

Mothers Union 3 October Meeting

Our speaker today was the Rev. Katharine Lonsborough curate at St Paul's Church. She began by telling us about her journey over many years as a member of St Mary's church to being ordained earlier this year.

Katharine is still a regular member at our evening service but is committed to the work she feels God has called her to at St Paul's. Along with others she heads up a weekly Foodbank. The need for foodbanks has increased dramatically over the last few years as the cost of living continues to rise.

As a church family they can offer more than food including help and advice and a listening ear over a cup of tea or coffee. Listening to Katharine's enthusiasm and compassion for the work she is involved in enabled us to more fully appreciate the support the foodbanks need by way of donations.

Many thanks to Katharine for a very interesting and informative talk.

The foodbank is very grateful for all the generous support received through St Mary's, other groups and individuals which really helps people who find themselves in great need. Katharine's prayer is that there will come a time when people are not struggling to feed themselves and their families and the foodbank will no longer need to exist.

We look forward to our carols and mince pies on December 4th at 2pm which Jeni will be leading. If anyone still has money for the President's Challenge please let Norma or Jennifer have it as soon as possible, thanks.

Sent from my iPad

Elaine Holland



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Reflecting Faith: Wall paintings

Editor: The Revd Dr Jo White considers the stones and mortar...

Prior to the Reformation, English churches were highly decorated with interior wall paintings. As one author wrote, 'They were aglow with colour and images covering every flat surface.'

Painting pictures seems to be a basic part of people. We see that in newly discovered caves where people from the distant past have made sketches and created art works.

Pictures are more than just communicating a 'flat' story.

Just as we all have our preferred ways of learning – listening, watching, reading, practising – so I suspect we also have for explaining. How much more so, then, when we want to get across really important information; and it doesn't get much more serious than telling others about God.

Of course, we know the Early Church, at the very beginning, followed the Jewish tradition of not drawing a likeness of God and hence they used signs and symbols. But that didn't stop them from drawing pictures about everything else: stories from the Bible, lives of the saints, and so on. There was no shortage of pictures to be drawn.

There are not many English churches which still have wall paintings, but if you visit an Orthodox church in the UK or if you get the opportunity to enter one when on the Continent, you will see that every inch (centimetre) of the inside plaster is likely to be covered in wall paintings. Quite literally, painting on the wall!

Today, instead of painting on the wall in the UK, we seem to be increasing the number of banners that hang on them, and changing them often, to match the church calendar.

This month: Have a look at the wall paintings or banners in your own or a different church. What do you think the designers were trying to say? What message do they give you that words alone could not have accomplished?

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St James the Least of All

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

On why the C of E should never combine parishes

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

I suppose it had to come, but combining parishes is now firmly on the agenda for our villages.

I had always wondered what the first Earl of Stowe was trying to prove, building a church here in 1347 to accommodate 800 people when the total population has never exceeded 250. In the short term – which in this village is measured in centuries - it seems to have been to house the tombs of his 13 successors. I now realise it was to make uniting with adjoining parishes in the 21st century more difficult. Clearly the first Earl had formidable foresight. None of our neighbouring churches seem too keen to share their reserves to help maintain our cathedral-sized building.

The threat of the closure of St Herve the Bard has, inevitably, caused outrage – not so much from its regular congregation of three, but from all those in the village who would never think of attending. People do so like to have a church not to go to.

The church of St Bregowine, built by a wealthy parishioner in the 19th century because she did not like the high church practices of the parish church of St Iwig, is refusing to re-unite, even though the two churches stand only 100 yards apart, in a village with a diameter of 300 yards. If only they could get over the trauma of seeing the incumbent putting water in the wine on Easter Day in 1894.

(Although it must be conceded that the Bregowinians were equally affronted that when the daughter church opened in 1895, they found that the Iwigers had provided no brass troughs at the end of the pews for umbrellas. That they have subsequently refused to install them has only compounded the offence.)

Meanwhile St Plegmund is in discussions with the Church of South India as a way of avoiding uniting with anyone. Should it happen, I will be interested to see what travelling expenses the new incumbent claims. It will be difficult to tell when the present incumbent resigns, as he has not been seen at a clerical meeting for the last 30 years. Some of my colleagues suspect he is mythical, that a bloodless coup took place in the 1980s and that the church is now entirely run by the Mothers' Union.

The church of St Maximus of Constantinople in our nearest town has rather grandly offered to take all of our churches under its wing, but as a parishioner has pointed out: how could we possibly consider joining with a parish that fought on the other side at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485.

In the meantime, we will serenely carry on, as we seem to have done for the past six centuries; parish mergers and reductions in numbers of clergy seem to be of less interest than debating the suggestion that we change the brand of coffee served after Services.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

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Thought for the Month

If I was to try to sum up what November means to me in one word it would be 'Remembering.' This is the key-note of these weeks leading up to December and our Advent preparations for Christmas.

The remembering begins at the start of the month when on Sunday 3rd November we celebrate All Saints in the morning and All souls in the evening.

All Saints is not just about special holy people from the past; it is a reminder that we are called to be God's saints in the world, not perfect, but a people who live out Baptism as lights shining in the world with the love of Christ.

Then as we celebrate All Souls, we remember those people whom we love but who have died. We remember all that we shared with them and all that they continue to mean to us. We remember that those we love are a gift to us from God. And at All Souls we remember and celebrate God's defeat of death in Christ; and so we find hope in our sorrow and loss.

This year Remembrance Sunday falls on 10th November. Our annual time to remember those who have given their lives in war. We remember not only their loss, but we also remember the future that they were denied, we mourn all that might have been, all that they might have contributed to our world. In a time when war is escalating throughout the world it is important that we do not forget, and as we remember we pledge ourselves to build a better world and to be a people of peace.

Finally, on then last Sunday before Advent (24th November) we celebrate the feast of Christ the King. It is a celebration that draws together many of the threads of the Gospel story and on this day we remember that we are a people of hope - hope and not optimism! We hope because in Jesus the love of God has proven to be stronger than violence and death.

We are the people of Christ the king, and every Sunday when we gather in Church to worship, we remember Him.

God bless you this November,
Tim.

Miscellaneous observations on life...

Cricket is the game which the English, not being a spiritual people, have invented to give themselves some concept of eternity. - *Lord Mancroft*

There is no more lovely, friendly or charming relationship, communion or company, than a good marriage. - *Martin Luther*

A low capacity for getting along with those near to us often goes hand in hand with a high receptivity to the idea of the brotherhood of man. - *Eric Hoffer*

Cathedrals – luxury liners laden with souls, Holding to the east their hulls of stone. - *W H Auden*

You can learn more about human nature by reading the Bible than by living in New York. - *William Lyon Phelps*

Thomas Hardy and 'The Madding Crowd'

Editor: Tim Lenton considers the author's first major success

Some 150 years ago, on 23rd November 1874, Thomas Hardy's novel *Far from the Madding Crowd* was published. It was his first major success.

Set in Wessex, an imagined area encompassing the counties around Hardy's place of birth in Dorset, it was his fourth published novel and had appeared originally – and anonymously – as a popular serial in the *Cornhill Magazine*. Following its publication in book form the text was revised in 1895 and again in 1901.

A complex love story, the book has as its backdrop the beautiful but harsh life of a farming community in Victorian England. Its title was taken, with some irony, from Thomas Gray's 1751 poem, *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*, which contains the line "Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife".

Hardy in fact regarded himself primarily as a poet. He produced many top-quality poems, though his first collection was not published until 1898. His novels contain strong elements of the poetic.

Far from the Madding Crowd has had much staying power. It has been dramatised several times, adapted as a ballet and a musical, and in 1967 became an Oscar-nominated film directed by John Schlesinger. In 2003 it was listed at number 48 in the BBC's survey, *The Big Read*, and in 2007 it was ranked tenth on *The Guardian's* list of greatest love stories.

Hardy's formal education ended at the age of 16, when he was apprenticed to an architect, and he won prizes for his work, which was often on churches such as All Saints in Windsor, where he may have designed a reredos discovered in 2016. But while retaining an emotional attachment to the Church of England, he was unmistakeably agnostic.

The war of the cafés and the laptops

How do you regard your local café? As a place to meet your friends and catch up on the local news? Or as your office, where you do emails, hold Zoom meetings and work for hours – all for the price of a cappuccino? It seems that across the country, local cafés are being invaded by laptop holding freeloaders who want to use their premises as free office space.

One café owner tells the story of a project manager who spends his morning in her café holding Zoom meetings in a very loud voice, and then paces the length of her café to discuss weekly sales targets on the phone, oblivious of other customers. "He is really focused on his meetings – he got furious when I finally said something."

Another café owner tells of several laptop workers who move into her café for the entire day, taking up tables for hours and hours, all for the price of one cup of coffee. "But we are a small independent business, so we need to keep those tables busy and turned around!" Still another has been told to keep her café quiet during the laptop users' Zoom meetings, and even to stop other customers from talking at all.

The café owners are united in saying that they welcome laptop workers as long as they spend money appropriate to the time they spend at the tables, and who do not stay for more than two hours. "Otherwise, there is no warm, bustling atmosphere. The place becomes silent like an office, with people intent over their computers. It is the kiss of death to our business."



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What's the Big Idea? An Introduction to the gospel of Luke

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham begins a new series which will run for the next two years.

Luke is the third of the synoptic gospels. The gospel and Acts were both written for Theophilus, a Roman official, who acted as Luke's patron to ensure that his gospel was copied and distributed. It was intended for a wider audience, to help both Gentile believers and unbelievers understand who Jesus is and that the gospel is intended for the whole world.

Luke's account of Jesus' life and ministry can be divided into 4 main sections: the coming and early life of Jesus (1:1-4:13); Jesus' ministry in and around Galilee (4:14-9:50); His ministry (mainly teaching) on the road to Jerusalem (9:51-24:53) and His final week in Jerusalem (19:28-24:53).

For Luke, the key focus is how God's plan of salvation for the world is fulfilled in Jesus. Therefore, he writes an orderly account ranging from the birth of Jesus to His ascension. He is a strong champion of the outsider. As an outsider himself (a Gentile writer in the NT) he shows how Jesus includes those who are typically seen as outsiders by the religious establishment of His day. This includes women, the poor and sinners (incl. tax collectors, prostitutes and shepherds!), as well as showing how Gentiles, Samaritans and Jews are all included in God's plan of salvation. Luke also emphasises the importance of prayer in Jesus' ministry and the role of the Holy Spirit.

A key verse which reflects this perspective is found when Jesus encounters the tax collector Zacchaeus, 'For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost' (19:10). Whenever we find ourselves on the outside of God's life and love, as Zacchaeus, Jesus comes to find us and welcome us afresh into His kingdom.

The remarkable usefulness of Allen keys

Editor: David Pickup, a solicitor, considers how things work.

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17

We all need practical skills, and they are not always easily gained.

I seem to spend a lot of time assembling flat pack furniture of one type or another. The trick is to look and sound as though you know what you are doing, even though any skills are gained through trial and error. It is surprising how many household projects require an Allen key, which if you have not seen one, is an L shaped rod with a hexagon end which fits into an identical sized recess in the top of a screw. You can use the longer or shorter arm depending on the job needs extra force or speed.

The idea of a hexagon socket screw was probably thought of as early as the 1860s to 1890s, but such screws were not widely manufactured until around 1910. In 1909–1910, William G. Allen also patented a method of screw heads which had a hexagonal recessed die. The key that he lent his name to fits nicely into the head of the screw, is cheap and easy to use. When you are called on to do some DIY, especially after someone has had a go, the best thing is to refer to the instructions and keep all your Allen keys together in one place so you can easily find them. They come in different sizes.

Bibles come in different sizes, languages, modern and old. They also fit into the hand nicely, are easy to use and contain life-saving instructions on how any and all of us should live.

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.

Should We Have Faith in Science?

How do you feel about science after all the grief of the recent pandemic? Are you tired or interested, impressed or cynical – or a bit of everything? The response to COVID-19 over the past few years has demonstrated how ideology or worldview are hugely influential in our interpretation and use of scientific data – and at times in the process of experimentation itself. Should we trial a vaccine in Spain or South Africa? Is this treatment safe enough to administer to the general public? Should vaccination be made compulsory? The data doesn't tell us what to do.

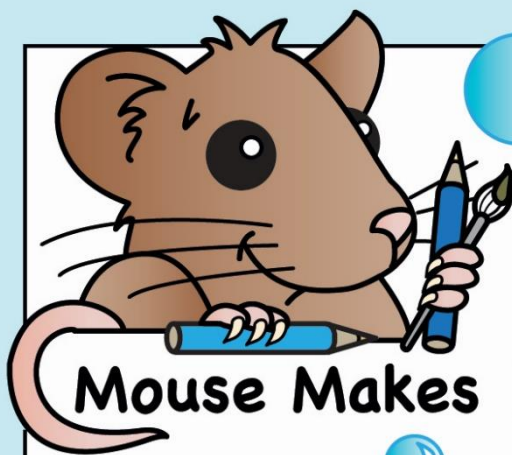
So, when we are encouraged to 'trust the science' in our ongoing response to the pandemic, or in our response to climate change, how can the Church respond? The whole biblical story affirms that God is the only one in whom we can have complete faith. On the other hand, I do put a certain amount of trust in other things. I can have faith in a plane, a body of knowledge, or a person. This trust is within limits because I know that air travel involves hazards, a body of knowledge will contain some mistakes, and every ordinary human is fallible.

I trust science to some extent because it involves careful observation and measurement, collecting different kinds of evidence. Data is interpreted, and competing interpretations are tried out. We summarise our findings in general principles or mathematical equations. Scientists keep each other accountable by looking critically at each other's work. Our knowledge is always provisional. You can't prove anything scientifically because we only deal in evidence, not proof.

On the other hand, there must always be the potential to disprove a theory or it's not science. Our aim is to keep getting nearer to the truth about the way the world is. Overall, I believe this method is reliable and worth supporting, but that only God is completely trustworthy.

Psalm 8 reminds us both of the splendour of God's creation, and that He has placed us in a position of responsibility over it. Scientific knowledge can be part of what helps us to rule well. The process of doing science can be a bit like a blurry image coming into focus. The more we learn, the better we can usually see what's going on, and hopefully the easier it is to decide on a course of action. So, in answer to the question 'Should we have faith in science?' I would say yes, when used wisely and within its proper limits.

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- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! | 5. Yet you have made them a little lower than God, and crowned them with glory and honour. |
| 2. You have set your glory above the heavens. Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger. | 6. You have given them dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet, |
| 3. When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; | 7. all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, |
| 4. what are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them? | 8. the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. |
| | 9. Lord, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth! |



Mouse Makes



READ
the story in
John 13:1-17

"DO AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU."

The disciples had met with Jesus in an upper room to share a meal together, but there were no servants to wash their dusty feet. Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer clothing, wrapped a towel around his waist and began to wash the disciples' feet just like a servant would do.

Then Jesus said:

*"Do you understand what I have done for you?
Now that I, your Lord and Teacher have washed
your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.
I have set you an example, that you should
do as I have done for you."*



By washing his disciples' feet, Jesus showed that as God's people we are never too important to serve and care for others.

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Prayer for the Month

***Father of light,
in whom is no change or shadow of turning,
you give us every good and perfect gift
and have brought us to birth by your word of truth:
may we be a living sign of that kingdom
where your whole creation will be made perfect
in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

This beautiful prayer is from Common Worship and is set as the prayer after communion on the 21st Sunday after Trinity. We are about to enter the 'Kingdom Season' which takes us up to Advent and the new Church year. This prayer reminds us about God and about our own calling. It is above all a very hopeful prayer set for this time of year.

Firstly it reminds us that in God there is no changing. As the writer of Hebrews says "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). When life is uncertain, when others let us down, God is eternal and constant, and God is as God is in Jesus. In Christ we see the eternal truth of God.

In Christ God has called us to be a part of His kingdom, we are born anew into eternity, and through the Holy Spirit God has given us the gifts that we need to be a sign of His kingdom.

This is the vocation of the Church and of every Christian. To be a living sign of God's kingdom, a sign of God's presence in this world. In a world of divisions we are called to bring healing; in a world of violence we are called to be peace-makers; in a world of despair we are to bring hope to those who have no hope; and in a world where so many feel isolated we are called to build a community where all are welcome.

The final part of this prayer expresses our hope that "your whole creation will be made perfect." God has not abandoned His world and God will not abandon it. This world is God's creation created for God's glory and God has a purpose for it. As the Church of Christ we long for the healing and perfection of creation and as a people filled with the Holy Spirit we work towards this healing of the creation.

As we draw toward the end of the year and the nights grow longer, this prayer reminds us to keep our hope in Christ shining in the darkness of the world. **Amen.**

From the Registers

Baptisms

Sunday 6th October Millie Grace Hedley & Erin Kathleen Hedley
Jade Bishop & Ryder Rae Bishop

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

Marriages

Saturday 12th October Thomas Mulgrew & Hannah Forster
Saturday 12th October Liam Dean Ibbotson & Lauren Jade Worthy

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

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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.

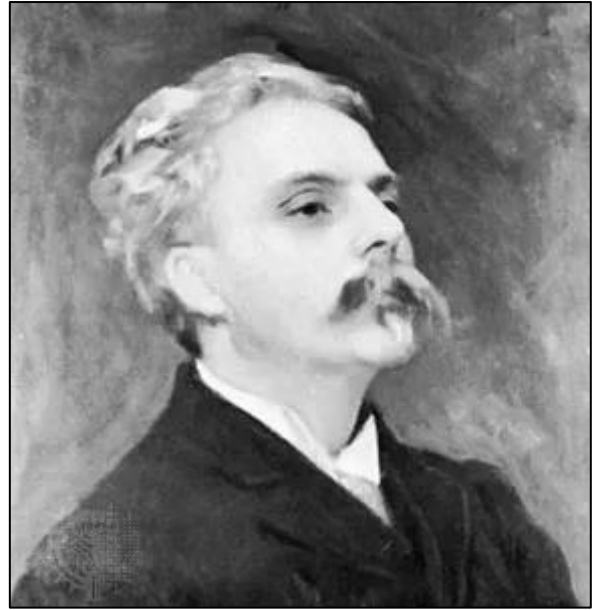
Any help most welcome. Thank you. Pat Wood

Remembering the musical genius of Fauré

100 years ago, on 4th November 1924, Gabriel Fauré, the French composer, died in Paris.

As well as a composer, he was an organist, pianist and teacher, much admired and loved not only in his own country but also abroad. He was without doubt one of the most prominent composers of his generation, and his style influenced many who came after him.

Born at Pamiers in the south of France in 1845, he came from an old-established but not especially musical family. Clearly talented, he was sent at the age of nine to music college in Paris, where he trained to be a church organist and choirmaster. One of his teachers was Camille Saint-Saëns.



His main problem throughout his life was finding time to compose while holding such important posts as organist of the Église de la Madeleine and (rather radical) director of the Paris Conservatoire. Nevertheless, he produced a wide variety of work, even when he began to go deaf in the last 20 years of his life.

One of his most famous compositions, his Requiem, reflects not only his own musical innovations but what he called an underlining of his faith in God's mercy, depicting death as a "happy deliverance, an aspiration towards happiness above, rather than as a painful experience". He said it was "dominated from beginning to end by a very human feeling of faith in eternal rest".

Fauré often visited England and was invited to play at Buckingham Palace in 1908. He was also in London for the premiere of Elgar's First Symphony in 1908 and dined with the composer, who admired him as "the highest kind of Frenchman". In 1920 he received the Grand-Croix of the Légion d'Honneur – a tribute rare for a musician.

Gabriel Fauré - Sicilienne, for cello & piano, Op. 78

<https://youtu.be/U5Y0uQLgriA>

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The Gardening Year – November

Still on the subject of compost, did you know English Heritage estimates that 75 %of all peat land archaeology has been destroyed. Horticultural grit is a natural material derived from rock. It creates spaces within compost to allow good drainage and aeration .it is also useful for top heavy plants because it adds weight to the compost, improves plant and encourage and does not alter the ph. of the compost .herbs that come from a mediterranean climate and enjoy stony, well-drained soil will benefit from horticultural grit. Mix three parts grit with seven parts of multipurpose compost by volume to lighten the growing medium .

Perlite - Perlite is a manufactured product produced from glass which is a lightweight alternative to grit for opening up compost. Mixing perlite into compost. Is ideal for plants that might get waterlogged during heavy rainfall in the winter .combine 70% multipurpose compost with 30% perlite by volume. Remember that plants will now be more prone to drought, so keep watering during dry spells

Vermiculite - Vermiculite is manufactured and produced from clay. Vermiculite improves the drainage and water retaining properties of compost and contains nutrients. Vermiculite helps to inhibit damping off (rotting) of seedlings fine vermiculite makes good cover for germinating seedlings as it creates a humid warm and aerated environment, ideal for germination.

Sand - Sand is a natural materiel in a variety of particle sizes. Coarse sand improves drainage whereas fine sand improves the wettability of potting mixes .you should never use builders' sand as it raises the ph. of the soil. Always buy horticultural sharp sand which improves drainage and adds weight. A weighty issue where weight of soil-based compost would be an issue, such as on a balcony or in hanging baskets and window boxes, you can either buy a soilless compost or mix equal parts John Innes No2 with soilless multipurpose compost and add 15% by volume of perlite or vermiculite.

Storing Compost - compost, regardless of types can deuterate or change rapidly if stored incorrectly. The most serious changes are the ph. of the product, it is normal for compost to increase in ph., followed by a gradual decrease as organic nitrogen is mineralized. This is normal and natural, but it's advisable to ensure these changes accrue as slowly as possible to give plants time to acclimatise

Colin Williams

Eat the Seasons – November

Vegetables - Artichoke, Beetroot, Butternut Squash, Cauliflower, Celeriac, Celery, Chicory, Horseradish, Jerusalem Artichoke, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Parsnips, Potatoes (Maincrop), Pumpkin, Salsify, Shallots, Swede, Truffles (Black), Truffles (White), Turnips, Watercress, Wild Mushrooms

Fruit - Apples, Clementines, Cranberries, Passion Fruit, Pears, Pomegranate, Quince, Satsumas

Herbs & Nuts - Almonds, Brazil Nuts, Chestnuts, Cob Nuts, Hazelnuts, Rosemary, Sage, 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, Gurnard, Haddock, Halibut, Hake, Lemon Sole, Lobster, Mackerel, Monkfish, Mussels, Oysters, Plaice, Pollack, Red Mullet, Sea Bass (Wild), Sea Bream, Skate, Squid, Turbot, Winkles

Visit - www.eattheseasons.co.uk

Editor's Humour & Philosophy Page

Links and some images in this magazine are clickable - enjoy

Robert James Smith - English musician, singer, songwriter, record producer, and the co-founder, lead vocalist, guitarist, primary songwriter, and only continuous member of the Cure, a British post punk rock band formed in 1978. <https://youtu.be/Rses5n60JIM?si=THSTtssJLxHmM1n2>

Real Northern Lights: Orate - Naa then thee - Ey up - 'Ow do? - Ta – Ta-ra - 'Ow's it goin'? - Nowt - Scrان – Brew

I hate when I'm talking to myself and suddenly realise I wasn't listening and have to start all over

Is it crazy how saying sentences backwards creates backwards sentences saying how crazy it is

Dear optimist, pessimist, and realist – while you guys were busy arguing about the glass of wine, I drank it! Sincerely, the opportunist

We should be able to call in healthy... “I'm not coming to the office today. I feel really good and I don't want to waste it on being at work”



<https://youtu.be/-tHyRQOdqf0>

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



<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plural>

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punctuation>



ERIC EYRE

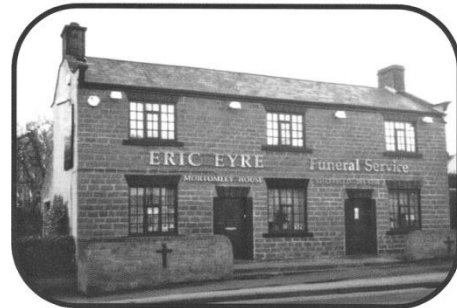
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Eric Eyre National President
1989 - 1990





Ecclesfield's Local Carol Sings start on Thursday 14 November 2024

The local carols are quite different from the usual well-known carols and mostly pre-date them. The local carol tradition is fairly unique to the Sheffield area and has been kept alive through the generations by families and local musicians, by house to house singing and by singing in pubs. Repertoires and versions vary from village to village.

The dates of the pub sings are as usual – the six Thursdays before Christmas. However, we will alternate the sings this year between The Greyhound and The Black Bull.

We will also have the popular sing in the Churchyard and the Church on Monday 16th December.

Come along just to listen and soak up the atmosphere, or to join in if you wish. They are a special part of Ecclesfield's history and give a unique local flavour to Christmas.

Thursday 14 November – 8:00 at The Greyhound

Thursday 21 November – 8:00 at The Black Bull

Thursday 28 November – 8:00 at The Greyhound

Thursday 5 December – 8:00 at The Black Bull

Thursday 12 December – 8:00 at The Greyhound

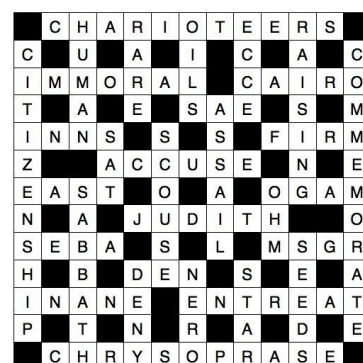
Monday 16 December – 7:00 around the Christmas tree in St Mary's Churchyard

Monday 16 December – 7:45 inside St Mary's Church

Thursday 19 December – 8:00 at The Black Bull

David Robinson

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here



It is time to eat Leeks

Leeks are related to garlic and onions but have a much subtler, sweeter and more sophisticated flavour. They can be used to enrich soups or stews and they partner brilliantly with potato and with cheese to form tasty side-dishes and suppers that comfort and satisfy throughout the autumn and winter.

Leeks have been cultivated at least since the time of the Ancient Egyptians and are depicted in surviving tomb paintings from that period. The Romans considered the leek a superior vegetable and Emperor Nero got through so many he gained the nickname Porrophagus (leek eater); he is reported to have thought that eating leeks would improve his singing voice.

Today the leek is grown widely across northern Europe and Asia - from Ireland to northern China - and delicious regional dishes such as cock-a-leekie and vichyssoise have spread across the globe. Allium porrum - the version of the leek cultivated in Europe - is a member of the onion family. It thrives in cooler climes and is tolerant of frost, hence its great popularity as a winter vegetable. Leeks are an excellent source of vitamin C as well as iron and fibre. They provide many of the health-giving benefits associated with garlic and onions, such as promoting the functioning of the blood and the heart

Buying - Storing - Preparing

Go for small or medium size leeks; large leeks (more than about an inch in diameter) are likely to be tough and woody. Leaf tops should be fresh and green, the root end should be unblemished and yield very slightly to pressure. Buy more than needed (around double by weight) to allow for losses due to trimming.

Stored loosely wrapped in plastic (to keep them from drying out and to contain their smell) they will keep in the fridge for a week.

Remove any tired or damaged outer leaves. Trim the rootlets at the base and cut off around a half to two thirds of the dark green tops. Partially cut the leeks in half lengthwise, starting at the middle and running the knife up to the green tops. Make a second lengthwise cut perpendicular to the first, allowing you to fan out the leaves. Give them a good rinse to remove the dirt that can get trapped inside as the leek grows. If you're not cooking the leeks whole then give them another wash after chopping them.

Undercooked leeks are tough and chewy and overcooked leeks can take on an undesirable squidgy texture. Cook until just tender, testing by piercing the base with a knife. Braising in a moderate oven will take anything from 10 to 30 minutes depending on size. They can also be boiled or steamed.

Legend has it that the Welsh adopted the vegetable as a national emblem in the seventh century when a Welsh army triumphed against the Saxons after wearing leeks in their hats to distinguish them from their enemy.

Leeks with three mustard and cheese sauce

https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/leekswiththreemustar_8917

Chickpea & Leek Soup

<https://marmaladeandme.com/chickpea-leek-soup/>

Christmas lunch: sautéed leeks with walnuts, pear and

bacon <https://www.telegraph.co.uk/foodanddrink/seasonal-food-and-drink/8965367/Christmas-lunch-sauteed-leeks-with-walnuts-pear-and-bacon.html>

Chapeltown & District Probus Club



On Wednesday October 9th some 32 Probus members assembled to hear Paul Adey give a talk on "Engineering Oddities". Paul's presentations are always interesting and this one was highly anticipated. Unfortunately, due to illness, Paul had to cancel his talk at short notice. No doubt he will be rescheduled for next year.

Nevertheless, we had an enjoyable get together, and we learned about the visits planned for the next few months, including a canal trip with lunch at Skipton, a visit to the South Yorkshire Police Mounted Division, and Jodrell Bank radiotelescope. After the meeting 21 members enjoyed lunch at Wortley Hall Hotel.

In November, we welcome Stuart Atkins - Stuart has joined the likes of Tom Jones and Shirley Bassey whilst enjoying a multi-decade career performing at theatres and halls all over the world.

Probus Club meets every month in the Community Centre in Grenoside. The club is about providing a relaxing social environment to welcome retired and semi-retired men including those still working but with time on their hands. You can visit a meeting as a guest or choose to become a member. Please make contact with the Secretary, Trevor Winslow (see below).

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

13th November – Stuart Atkins – "My Life in Music"

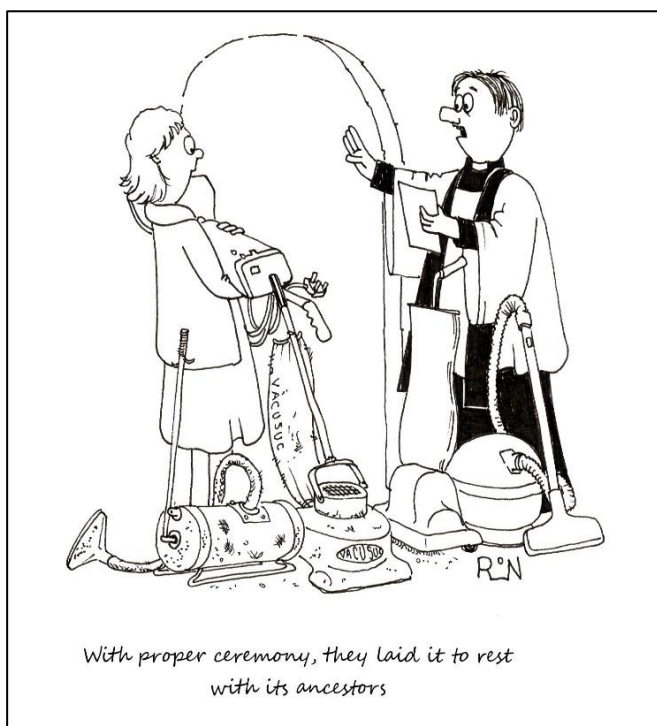
11th December – Mike Higginbotham – Waterways and Railways in the Peak District
(followed by optional Christmas lunch at Wortley Hall)

10th January - David Templeman - Ancient Suburbs of Sheffield Pt 2

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

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

Andrew Robinson



Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

- 1 In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)
- 9 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)
- 10 City on the banks of the River Nile (5)
- 11 Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)
- 13 Taverns (4)
- 16 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)
- 17 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)
- 18 and 27 Down Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1–2) (4,4)
- 20 Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)
- 21 She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)
- 22 A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)
- 23 Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)
- 25 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)
- 28 Annie (anag.) (5)
- 29 Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)
- 30 Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

Clues Down

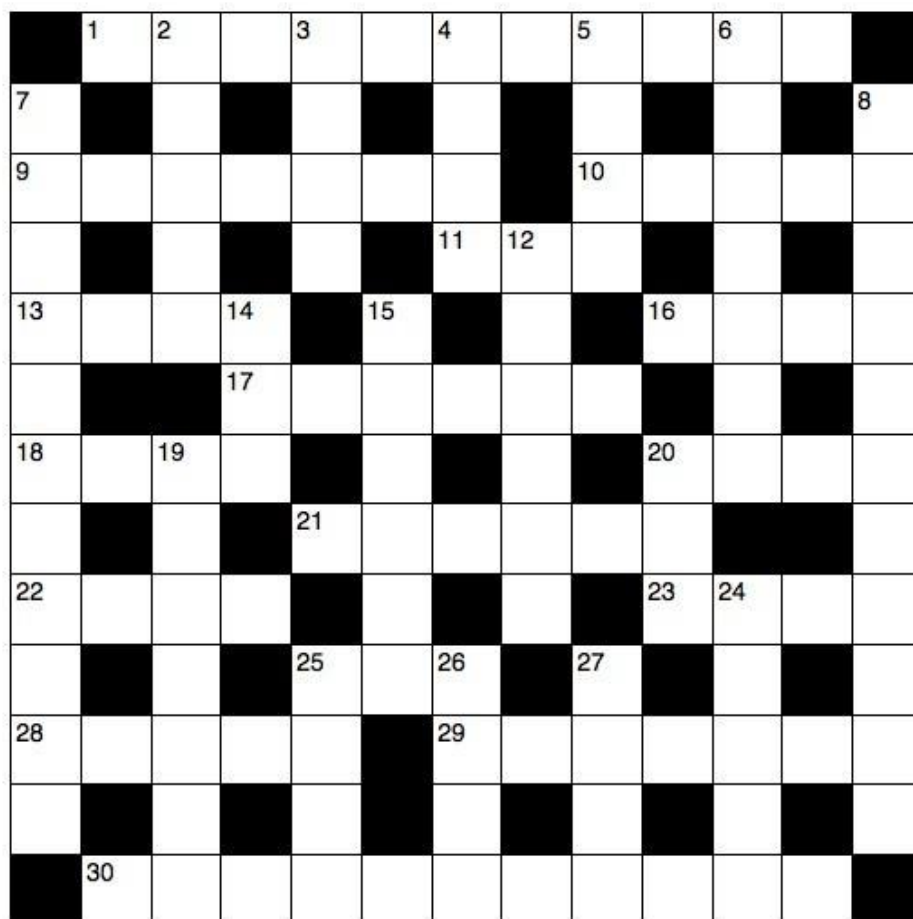
- 2 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)
- 3 Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)
- 4 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)
- 5 — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)
- 6 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)
- 7 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)
- 8 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)
- 12 Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)
- 14 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)
- 15 Liverpool dialect (6)
- 19 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)
- 20 Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)
- 24 Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)

25 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)

26 Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)

27 See **18** Across

Solution is on Page 23



Prayer for November 2024

Dear Lord,

November can be a dreary month. Even the first syllable is negative and reminds us of all the things we are missing; the long light days, summer breaks, blossom and fresh green leaves.

As we walk through the dark days, help us to remember that You brought light into this dark world. You sent Jesus, who is that light in person, Your positive who overcame all negatives by His death on the cross.

November leads us closer to the time of celebration of His coming. Lord, thank you for Jesus. Thank you for November!
In Jesus' name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Talk to Jesus - *By Colin Hammacott*

When all hope is disappearing
And your spirit is so low
When your days are full of fearing
And you suffer blow on blow
There's a tried and trusted method
Which will ease all sense of loss
Just kneel and talk to Jesus
The one who died upon the cross

When deep shadows overcome you
And your heart's full of despair
When your life seems torn and tattered
And appears beyond repair
When you suffer great misfortune
And need lifting from a fall
Just kneel and talk to Jesus
Who died to save us all

For when you talk to Jesus
You'll not even have to ask
Because He knows your every need
And gives courage for each task
With Him life's long hard journey
Becomes easier every day
For He's the sturdy footwear
That helps you travel life's highway

So let us join with heaven and earth
To praise our Risen Lord.

In Flanders Fields

In Flanders' fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place: and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders' fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high,
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders' Fields.

by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae.

Peace - *By Henry Vaughan 1623-95*

My soul, there is a country
Far beyond the stars,
Where stands a winged sentry
All skilful in the wars:

There, above noise and danger,
Sweet Peace sits crowned with smiles,
And one born in a manger
Commands the beauteous files,

He is thy gracious Friend,
And – O my soul, awake! –
Did in pure love descend
To die here for thy sake.

If thou canst get but thither,
There grows the flower of Peace,
The Rose that cannot wither,
Thy fortress and thy ease.

Leave then thy foolish ranges;
For none can thee secure
But one who never changes –
Thy God, thy life, thy cure.

Making melody unto the Lord - *By Megan Carter*

Miriam plays her tambourine
In tribute to her Lord,
The harpists play their melodies
Their sound is heard abroad.

The trumpets and the cymbals too
Ring out throughout the earth,
Extolling God our Saviour
And telling of His worth.

So let there be a paean of praise
To Him who set us free,
Forgiveness and His gift of life
He gives to you and me.

This gift was bought by Christ's own blood,
A cost none could afford, So let us join with
heaven and earth
To praise our Risen Lord.

Contact Details for Local Groups

Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall
Thursday 5.00 pm to 6.15 pm
Contact - Girl Guiding Website / To
Register Interest

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 6:15 pm to 7:45 pm
Leader - Mrs A. Kendall
Tel: 0114 246 8866

Ecclesfield Guides

Gatty Hall
Thursday 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Leader - Mrs C Topham
Tel: 0114 246 1289

Ecclesfield Priory Players

EPPIC Theatre
Monday 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm
Wednesday 7:30 pm to 10:00 pm
Secretary - Emma Addy
Theatre Tel No. 0114 240 2624

Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Park - Located between
Ladycroft bridge/stream and Bowling
greens. Open Wednesday + Saturday
10 am to 12 noon
Tel: Robert 0114 246 1095

Friends of Ecclesfield Library

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

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)
Thursday - 5:45 - 7:00 pm
Contact Shane Porteous
shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk

Ecclesfield Scouts

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)
Thursday 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm
Leader - Bryony Hemming
25thecclesfieldscouts@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@yicspl.co.uk
Website:
whitleyhall.play-cricket.com

Chapeltown 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
chapeltown.probus@gmail.com
We are now face to face see
www.chapeltown-probus.org.uk

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



<u>Vicar:</u>	E-mail:	Phone:
Revd. Tim Gill	ttimgill@aol.com	257 0002
Church Office		
Tuesday 9:00am to 1:00 pm	office.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com	245 0106
Thursday 9:00am to 12:00 pm		
Website	https://stmarysecclesfield.org.uk/	
Groups:	Times and Days:	Phone:
Choir Practice in Church	7 pm on Friday Practice in Church	
Contact: Lynda Pearce		208 3500
Music Group	7:30 pm Thursday Practice in Church	
Contact: Andrea Whittaker		246 0746
Mother's Union in Gatty Hall	1.00 pm 1st Wednesday of the month	
Contact: Maureen Lambert		246 9690
Ecclesfield Ladies Group	2.00 pm Thursday in Gatty Hall	
Contact: Anne Rostron		245 5492
Bell Ringers	7:30 pm Tuesday in Church Belfry	
Contact: Phil Hirst		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	

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

Date	Day	Colour
Sunday 3rd November	4th Sunday before Advent	Green
Sunday 10th November	3rd Sunday before Advent – Remembrance Sunday	Red
Saturday 17th November	2nd Sunday before Advent	Green
Sunday 24th November	Christ the King – Sunday next before Advent	White
Sunday 1st December	The First Sunday of Advent	Purple



Ecclesfield Handbell Ringers

Christmas Concert

Saturday 7th December

3.00 pm

Gatty Hall, Ecclesfield

Come and sing along to your favourite carols

with

The Ecclesfield Carollers

and

Chapeltown Silver Prize Band

Tickets: £7.00

Please ring: 07963 091121 or 07714 763370

or email : ecclesfieldhr@gmail.com



ECCLESFIELD IN BLOOM

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between 10am and 12 noon
on Saturday

16th November 2024

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Raffle, Cards,
Gifts, Toys, Books &
Jewellery