

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield

Summer Calling



Church Magazine July

stmarysecclesfield.org.uk

Price 60p

First Words

Every Thursday morning at 9.30am there is a service of Holy Communion in Church.

On **Thursday 3rd July at 10.30am**, there is a service at **Nightingale Care Home**.

Saturday 12th July, 9am. Prayer Breakfast, 10.30am Bereavement Cafe; 4pm Wedding in Church.

Sunday 13th July 10am Prayer & Praise, 12noon Baptisms, 5pm Wedding Rehearsal, 6.30pm Eucharist.

Monday 14th July at 3.30pm Saints Alive in Church.

Saturday 19th July 4pm Wedding in Church.

Monday 21st July 3.30pm Saints Alive in Church.

Wednesday 23rd July 2pm Finance Team meet in Church. **6.30pm *The Seeking Heart***, Contemplative Prayer for all.

Sunday 27th July 11.30am Baptism in Church.

Monday 28th July 3.30pm Saints Alive in Church.

Wednesday 30th July, 2pm, meeting to **plan services and hymns** for September & October.

I usually open Church (the new West Doors) for Morning Prayer Monday to Thursday between 8.20am & 8.30am; after a time of silent prayer I say Morning Prayer - anyone is welcome to join in.

You are very welcome at all of these events in July. Do especially think about *The Seeking Heart*.

God bless,

Tim

The Steel City Choristers

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St Mary's Ecclesfield

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More info at: <https://steelcitychoristers.org.uk/>

Kate Guest

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Counselling is a talking therapy where you can discuss your problems and emotions in a safe, confidential space.

Counselling can help improve your mental health, teach you better ways to handle stress and anxiety, and increase your self-awareness and emotional resilience.

Maybe you are suffering a sudden life crisis such as bereavement, job loss, or lack of direction, or that you feel that life is just getting on top of you, and you need someone to help with your thoughts and feelings.

Areas of counselling I deal with include abuse, anxiety, anger management, bereavement and loss, career support, work related stress, depression, low confidence and low self-esteem, loneliness, relationship problems, family problems, sex and sexuality and personal issues.

Counselling is not about judging; it is about giving someone the freedom to examine their own issues and so empower them to find their own resolution. Counselling can be a powerful way of examining ourselves and so bring about change within our lives.

I work with individuals and also provide couples and relationship counselling.

Contact me via email or telephone to book an appointment.

bacp
collective mark



Email: kate-guest@talktalk.net

Mobile: 07914 357839

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Prayer for the Month

***We pray for wicked and cruel men,
whose arrogance reveals to us
what the sin of our own heart is like
when it is conceived
and brought forth to its final fruit.
Amen.***

(Reinhold Niebuhr, 1892 - 1971)

We live in one of the most judgmental times in human history. If you don't believe me just express 'the wrong opinion' on social media and watch the hatred pile up!

And yet, despite our judgmental times, no one wants to be thought of as judgmental; it is one of the harshest criticisms that we can level at another. We like to see ourselves as open and tolerant people.

However, as Christians, we know that there is such a thing as right and wrong. There is such a thing as evil. So how do we express right judgement without being judgmental?

This, for me is the beauty and the genius of Niebuhr's prayer. He can see the reality of evil in this world and of the actions of men and women; and he is not afraid to speak words of judgement. His prayer speaks of wickedness, cruelty and arrogance. And yet, in his proper judgement, he does not become judgmental because he can see within the reality of the evils of our world, the reality of the potential to evil in his own heart.

He is able to see, in the actions and the person of 'wicked and cruel men' where his own selfishness and arrogance might well lead if he allows it to grow and flourish.

Niebuhr's prayer is not 'tolerant' - he is not afraid to judge; and yet the deep humility that comes from self-understanding stops him being judgmental. When he points the finger at another, he knows only too well that he has much in common with the person he points to.

May we have wisdom and insight to see the reality of our world and the courage to speak against it; but also the humility and self-knowledge to know that we too are sinners, as much in need of God's mercy and grace as those whose actions we condemn. Amen.

The Seeking Heart

Meditation and Contemplative Prayer for all.

Meeting in St Mary's on the first and third Wednesday every month
(4pm 1st Wednesday & 6pm 3rd Wednesday).

Starting on Wednesday 23rd July at 6pm.

For more information see Tim. All welcome.

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God in The Arts

Editor: For 2025, the Revd Michael Burgess surveys works of sacred art that can be found in various museums...you can see the image by googling the title of the painting and the artist.

'He gave us eyes to see them': John Martin's 'Manfred on the Jungfrau'

In July we start looking with eager longing to holidays, a chance to get away from it all - to rest and recharge the batteries of life. Holidays are also a time to explore and visit new places. It might be the wild splendour of the Northumberland coast or the serenity of the Italian lakes, the vastness of the Grand Canyon or the magnificence of the Lake District.



This month's artist had a gift for creating paintings that expressed this epic quality of landscapes. John Martin was born in 1789, and as an artist was drawn to religious and historical scenes on the grand scale. He illustrated the Bible and Milton, and his final works were on the theme of the Last Judgement. These are in the Tate Gallery in London, but for this July we visit the Art Gallery in Birmingham with its amazing collection of over half a million items, including many Pre-Raphaelite treasures. The entrance to this Victorian building is beneath the clock tower known as Old Brum.

The Art Gallery is home to John Martin's watercolour of 1837, 'Manfred on the Jungfrau.' It is a large work, almost 5 feet by 3 feet, capturing the rugged, imposing glory of the Jungfrau. Now a railway takes tourists to the summit in the Bernese Alps in Switzerland. In the 19th century climbers had to navigate glaciers, high passes and steep precipices. John Martin captures the grandeur of all this in his painting of snow and sky, crags and torrents, mountains and pine trees. Against that immensity we see two characters: Manfred, tortured by guilt and about to throw himself off the edge, and the mysterious hunter who leads him to safety.

Byron's poem 'Manfred' inspired the music of Tchaikovsky and Schumann, as it inspired John Martin. They were each attracted by the romanticism of man and nature in the poem. Like Manfred and the hunter in the watercolour, we look at this grace and nobility and feel humble and insignificant. Byron wrote:

'How beautiful is all this visible world!
How glorious in its action and itself!'

Manfred seeks redemption, but, sadly, finds only the solace of death. As we look at this painting, we see reflections of the landscapes we shall visit on our holidays. Such beauty, such glory, evoke for us those feelings of wonder and awe that inspired John Martin.

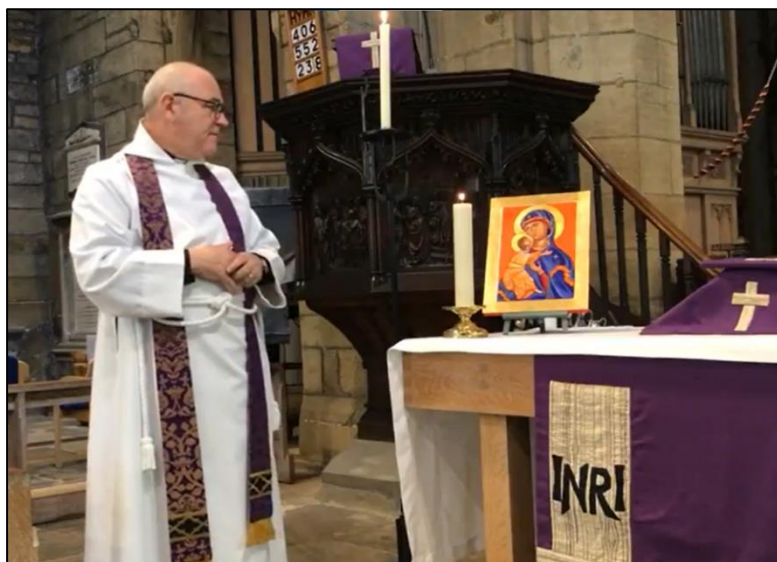
Manfred sees life in its true perspective as he gazes on the majestic scenery of the Bernese Alps. Holidays help us to put life into perspective. Away from the pressure of responsibility and duty, we often realise what is essential in our lives and with those around. We behold the majesty and glory of creation; we see this world as the handiwork of God; and we ask ourselves how we might make our way through it and be always alert to its mystery and its beauty.

Mothers' Union – June Meeting

We welcomed Richard Walton Associate Priest from the Cathedral to our June meeting. Richard is familiar to us as he is married to Ann who was our curate for three years when 'Tricia Impey was Vicar of Ecclesfield. Also, anyone who ventures into the Cathedral at any time could well see Richard there volunteering his time, leading worship and caring for those who drop in. During their spell with us in Ecclesfield Richard, a Reader at that time, became interested in religious icons, their history, meaning, and use in worship. So interested that he began to write icons as a spiritual discipline of his own with oversight from his Spiritual Director.

Icons – the Greek word for pictures - are painted but described as written as they are in fact the prayer of the one who writes them. Prayers in paint. Richard describes icons as leading us to look beyond the image to heaven. An inspiration to aid prayer and understanding. Not to be worshipped of itself but leading us ever onward in our relationship with God. In simple terms icons are lifelike images painted on wooden boards that can be to us a window into heaven. The background is often gold depicting God's glory. An icon can't represent God the Father but it can represent Jesus, who is the image of the invisible God. Jesus, Mary and all the many various saints represented in icons are always depicted with halos suggesting the presence and inner light of God.

Richard has kindly written an icon for our church which is displayed on the recently renewed medieval altar in church. In this icon, The Virgin Elousa – The Virgin of Tenderness – the infant Jesus is embracing his mother as she gazes. There was a time for me, right at the beginning of my ministry, when this particular image was very precious to me in my daily life and worship so seeing it represented in our church and then hearing Richard give such an interesting, detailed and profound explanation of Iconography with all the different signs and messages contained within each one will draw us all back to this subject time and again I feel sure.



Richard Walton and the Icon of The Virgin Elousa when the Icon was dedicated at St Mary's

Richard will be taking part in an open day at the Cathedral on 26th July when we can learn so much about Iconography and other types of prayer for ourselves. I would encourage you to visit the link below.

Jeni Fryer

<https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/event/pause-to-pray-retreat-day/>

**Crossword
Puzzle
Solution is
here**

R	I	C	H	E	S		A	B	N	E	R	S	
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Reflecting Faith: Saying 'Hello'

The Revd Dr Jo White considers...

Last month we considered how, when we are invited by the priest to come and receive Holy Communion, our immediate response is one of being overwhelmed with the enormity of what we are being offered. We recognise how unworthy we are, to even be in God's presence, never mind taking Him in our hands and making Him part of ourselves.

Now, for the next few months, let's consider some other key moments in our church services. Let's start at the very beginning.... Just saying hello! How do you say 'hello' to the people you meet? We don't use the same words, gestures and tone to each person, nor on each occasion.

When we meet a very senior person in our workplace; we tend to be deferential and formal. By the time we have worked together for some months, we will still hold them in high regard and with respect, but we are probably more relaxed in their presence.

As for members of our close family, there's a time for huge hugs and explosions of laughter, such as at the arrivals desk of the airport, but such a greeting is probably not so appropriate when we meet them in a formal restaurant for lunch.

So it is on a Sunday morning, when we meet with the members of our church in the setting of a church service. By meeting together for worship, we have come deliberately into a consciousness of God's presence. It's not that He hasn't been with us on the way there, but this is a specific and intentional thing.

So, when the person leading the service says 'hello' at the start of the service, they are not just welcoming you as an individual but rather acknowledging that we are meeting together in the presence of God, to worship Him.

This is special. This is amazing. This is huge.

This month: When you next go to a church service take note of the leader's opening words and your expected response to them. What is your acceptance to that wonderful invitation?

From the Registers

Baptisms

Sunday 1st June	Theo Joe Taylor
Sunday 22nd June	Leo James Scothern-Hunt, Charlotte Gillian Lowe, & Kerry Easson

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

Marriages

Saturday 14th June	Daniel Leary & Rebecca Jubb
Saturday 21st June	Richard Coles and Abbie Thomas
Saturday 28th June	Daniel Leversidge & Elizabeth King

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

Funerals

Thursday 19th June	Alexander Patrick McAuley
Wednesday 25th June	Peter George Eastwood

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

St James the Least of All

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

On why people complain to the vicar – and how to ignore them

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

So, you have received your first letter of complaint. I am not wholly unsympathetic with your complainant, as attempting to marry the bride to the best man would have created havoc with the seating arrangements at the reception. However, you must learn that receiving letters of complaint is an integral part of the ordained ministry. After 50 years of parish life, the number of such letters I have received are now held in bound volumes.

The anonymous ones you will receive, invariably written in green ink on lined notepaper, can be safely consigned to your wastepaper basket, along with all mail, from whatever source, labelled 'Urgent'. You will receive letters complaining that you did not pray for someone who was in hospital, regardless of the fact that you knew nothing of it. Probably by the next post, you will receive a letter complaining that you did pray for someone in hospital – when they had wanted to keep their cosmetic surgery secret.

Those who regard themselves as guardians of doctrinal purity will write complaining of the heresies contained in the previous Sunday's sermon. These can be filed with those letters that complain that your sermons are too short, along with those who complain that they are too long.

The hourly striking of the church clock is a perennial favourite for complaints. I usually reply by saying that we are currently exploring the possibility of getting it to strike the quarters too.

Letters of complaint will arrive in November, complaining that the church is too cold, so making prayer impossible. Others will drop on the doormat in April saying that it is too hot, so making prayer impossible. In Spring, some will write that the churchyard should be mown more often, while others will complain that it is mown too often and ruins it as a habitat for wildlife. The annual Summer 'Procession of Witness' generates complaints that the brass band ruined the slumbers of parishioners having a Sunday lie-in. Then come Harvest, there will be the letters complaining that they did not receive a Harvest gift, which was particularly unforgivable, as their grandmother had once sung in the choir. Thus, the annual round is accompanied by reams of notepaper.

The only letter of complaint I have really treasured came from the bishop, rebuking me for never having attended any meeting when he was present. I have had it framed and hung on the study wall.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



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Meet the Next Bishop of Doncaster

Leah Vasey-Saunders became vicar of Lancaster Priory in 2021 and is the first female Vicar of Lancaster. Lancaster Priory is part of the major churches network and in this season of God's mission and ministry in Lancaster, amongst other things, Leah has supported a significant growth in lay ministry, and in exploration of vocation to ordained ministry. The highlight of the last four years was chairing the 'Facing the Past' project – a city-wide project addressing Lancaster's historic legacy of transatlantic slavery. This project ended with a sculpture exhibition, co-created with children in West Africa, addressing the Priory's own legacy in this area.



Photo credit: Ginny Koppenhol

Leah came to Lancaster from Wakefield Cathedral in the Diocese of Leeds, where she served as Canon Precentor from 2016. Previously she had served in the parish of Harworth and Bircotes in the Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham – being vicar at the time of the demolition of the pit tower. Leah served her first incumbency in the Diocese of Lichfield, as Team Vicar (and later Vicar) of St John's, Heath Hayes and, prior to that, served in curacies at St John's, Whorlton and St George's, Jesmond in the Diocese of Newcastle.

Leah is married to Rev Dr Mark Vasey-Saunders, Centre Head for the Sheffield Teaching Centre of St Hild Theological College. Together they have four children: Reuben, aged 21, a music student at Manchester University; Jude, 18; who is a commissioned Royal Air Force Air Cadet Officer and School Support Instructor, Elias, 17; and Miriam, 14, both of whom attend Chetham's School of Music.

Music was Leah's first love as a child born in Grimsby where she joined the Grimsby and Cleethorpes District Youth Orchestra. Leah was invited by a friend to join a church choir in Huddersfield, where she studied music at the University. It was there that she became a committed Christian – bellringing, teaching in the Sunday School and playing flute in the worship band. Her journey to faith and calling into ministry were simultaneous.

Following University Leah undertook two gap years in the Diocese of St Alban's. One in a parish and another at the Cathedral. Three years of training and studying at Cranmer Hall, Durham followed until she was ordained Deacon in 2003, aged 25.

Leah is passionate about renewal in the Church of England and since 2015 has been a trustee of On Fire Mission, a charity promoting Charismatic renewal blended with the riches of Catholic spirituality. She became chair in 2021, steering it through its Covid 19 recovery, the move to a more central venue (in Staffordshire) and through a season of increased diversity and growth in capacity, governance and community.

Leah is a singer with an eclectic taste in music from Bach to Kate Rusby to Florence and the Machine, she especially enjoys singing choral music with her children. She is growing a significant collection of collaborative board games for her competitive family (!) and enjoys fibre crafts (Sewing, spinning, weaving). The family have two cats – a hairless Sphynx called Dora and a hairy Tortie called Ebbe.

<https://www.sheffield.anglican.org/meet-the-next-bishop-of-doncaster/>



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Chairobics	Thursdays 11:45 – 12:30pm

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What's the Big Idea?

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham continues his series on the books of the Bible, which will run until the end of 2025.

An Introduction to the Books of the New Testament: Romans

'Paul's letter to Rome is the high peak of Scripture...all roads in the Bible led to Romans, and all views afforded by the Bible are seen most clearly from Romans' (J I Packer)

Paul probably wrote his letter to the Christians in Rome around AD 57 at Corinth, on his third missionary journey. The original recipients of the letter were predominantly Gentile, although Jews would have constituted a substantial minority of the congregation.

Paul set out to explain the relationship between Jew and Gentile in God's plan of salvation, as the Jewish Christians were being rejected by the larger Gentile group in the church. Paul begins by showing that both Jews and Gentiles are sinners in need of salvation. He shows how the life, death and resurrection of Jesus eternally affects both world history and every person.

This salvation, secured by Jesus, must be received *by faith*, as the example of Abraham shows. As salvation is not just about starting the Christian journey, Paul goes on to show how believers are freed from sin, law and death. This is made possible both through their union with Christ in His death and resurrection and by the indwelling presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

The theme of the book centres on the Gospel of Christ, which brings us into a right standing with God through faith: *'I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."*' (Rom. 1:16,17).

Why you should drink coffee

When you drink your morning cup of coffee, you are not the only one who is enjoying it.

Recent studies have found that the billions of friendly microbes living in your gut are also given a cheering boost. And that means better overall health for you – and even a longer life.

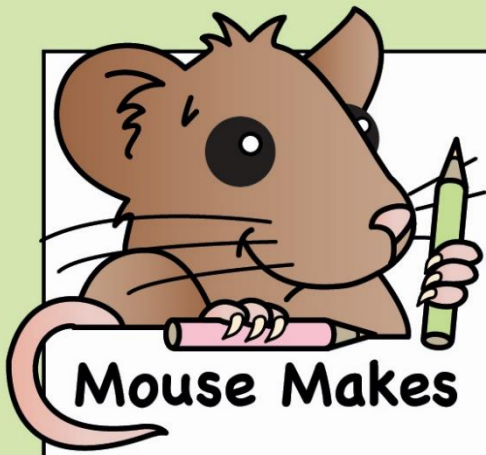
It seems that coffee not only contains compounds that nourish our probiotic beneficial bacteria, but the caffeine even helps them to increase in number.

Coffee also contains polyphenols, plant compounds which acts as anti-inflammatory antioxidants.

But is there a best way to prepare and serve your coffee? Scientists believe that black coffee is the best for you, while coffee with cream and sugar is the worst.

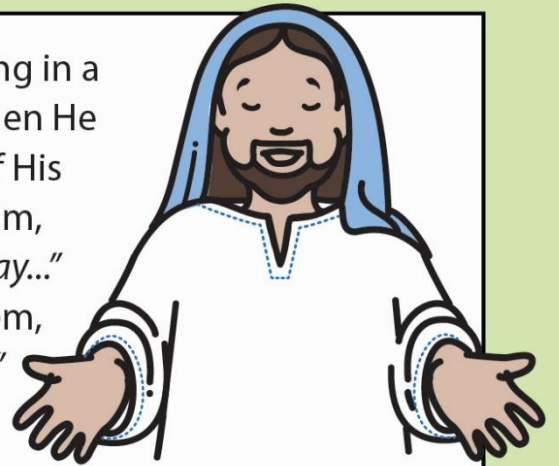
The study appeared in the journal *Nutrients*.





Mouse Makes

"Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray..." And He said to them, "When you pray, say..."



Our _____
 in _____,
 hallowed be your
 _____, your
 _____ come,
 your _____ be done,
 on _____ as it is in
 _____.

Give us today our daily
 _____.
 _____ us our
S _____ as we forgive
 those who sin against us.
 Lead us not into

_____ but _____
 us from _____.

For the kingdom,
 the _____ and
 the _____ are
 yours now and forever.
 Amen

D T E O P R G O D
 F E E B R E A D I
 O M G T O P P G S
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 I D E L I V E R E
 F O R G I V E V E
 A M E N W O R L D
 I L F L J E S U S



Fill in the missing words of the Lord's Prayer then find them and these extra words in the word search:
LORD'S PRAYER
DISCIPLES
JESUS
GOD
WORLD
NEEDS
FORGIVENESS
TRESPASSES
PROTECTION
REPENTANCE



The versions of **The Lord's Prayer** we say today come from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Which version do you use in your church?



Read Matthew 6:9-15 and Luke 11:1-4



God in the Sciences

Editor: Dr Ruth Bancewicz, who is based at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge, writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith

Wonder and Worship: Reflections in a Scottish Rainforest

It can be easier to notice things away from home, when we are relaxed and surrounded by unfamiliar sights in an exotic location. But sometimes the same wonders are there in our own back yard. GK Chesterton was a great advocate of intensive observation, and he invited his readers to take a fresh look at things that might be taken for granted. The rewards for this mental adjustment are great, and can feed into our worship in new ways.

I first learned to appreciate old growth forests on the West coast of Canada: the centuries-old tangle of logs and underbrush, and thick layers of moss and lichen, that provide rich resources for countless organisms. Several years later, in Scotland, I stumbled over a few acres of birch and hazel, lush with moss and ferns, and humming with insect and bird life. Fallen logs lay everywhere, vegetation grew up the trees, creepers hung down, and sunlight slanted through clearings.

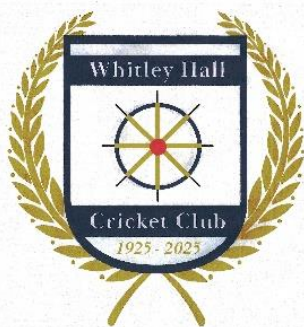
I later discovered that this patch of woodland is one of the few remaining areas of old growth Atlantic rainforest, so I visited one sunny morning when I had more time to linger. The wood is home to 140 species of lichen and 100 of moss, so I found myself looking very closely at tree trunks and boulders. Each lichen is a unique relationship between a fungus and a particular collection of single-celled algae – an example of the collaboration that is so essential to every ecosystem.

Places like this are worth preserving, respecting, and appreciating as much as a work of art or a historic city. I'm so grateful to the community that chose to preserve it, and the Creator who used such intricate and patient processes to create it. As the animals and plants around me did what comes to them naturally, I did what I was made for - thanking God for everything I saw. I found myself praising God alongside all those species of lichen, moss and trees. "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord" (Psalm 150).

There is a growing call to take both our personal devotions and our church services outside from time to time, and there are a growing number of resources to help us do this. As you go through your week, can you find one new way to appreciate your surroundings, and praise God alongside the rest of Creation?



Whitley Hall Cricket Club



On 10th May, we visited Collegiate who, on a dry ground managed a superb score of 305 with no wickets. Whitley did their best but, following 3 dropped catches, could only manage a total of 177 with Collegiate winning by 128 runs. League performance was restored on 17th May when a good win was achieved at Appleby Frodingham, winning by 7 wickets with a similar performance the following week at home to Tickhill where the opposition total of 200 was beaten by Whitley with 6 wickets remaining. On 6th June we had an amazing evening with many previous players present, a BBQ and around 200 people present with a 20/20 game with Whitley Legends facing Elsecar

Legends which was finally won by Whitley. The home match against League leaders Wakefield Thornes on 7th June was rain affected with the start delayed by 105 minutes and with the overs reduced to 40. Whitley lost the toss and were put in to bat on a really difficult pitch with the team 170 for 9 after 40 overs and Wakefield beat this with 172 runs with 3 wickets and 2 overs remaining. 14th June saw Cawthorne visit Baxter Field and they put us in to bat on a tricky surface. Our total of 231 all-out was good but the Cawthorne innings always had a slight edge ahead until a magnificent end with 3 catches by Matt Cartwright, Biswick Kapala and James Brown resulted in a victory. The following Saturday at Doncaster, Whitley achieved a total of 205 in a rain affected game with Doncaster only able to achieve 105 all-out. The 1st XI sits in 4th position in the Premier League, The 2nd XI has had a challenging start to the season with 4 wins out of 9 and the 3rd XI has also had a difficult start with 4 wins out of 10 matches.

Senior Matches at Cinder Hill Lane (12 noon) (see website for other home games for juniors and ladies)

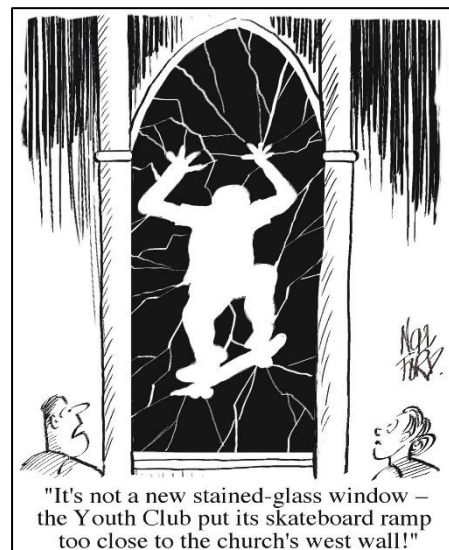
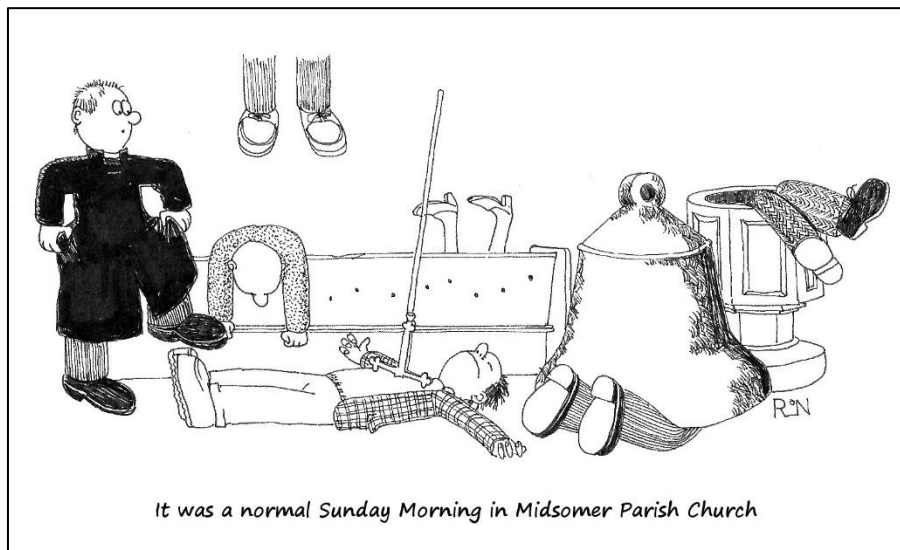


Sunday 29th June		Billy Oates Cup Quarter Final
Friday 4 th July 6pm		Its OK to talk 20/20
5 th July	2 nd XI v	Houghton Main 1 st XI
Sunday 6 th July tbc		Whitworth Cup Quarter Finals
12 th July	1 st XI v	Cleethorpes 1 st XI
19 th July	2 nd XI v	Wickersley 2 nd XI
Sunday 20 th July tbc		Billy Oates Cup Semi-final
26 th July	1 st XI v	Collegiate 1 st XI
2 nd August	1 st XI v	Appleby Frodingham 1 st XI

All visitors welcome to use the facilities in the pavilion where snacks and drinks are available.

Contact: Joe Webster, Secretary: 07969 014592 or Andrew Robinson, President: 07793 595238

www.whitleyhall.play-cricket.com



Thought for the Month

I don't know about you, but I find watching the news increasingly difficult at the moment. The world seems to be getting steadily more unstable and dangerous. It feels like a new conflict or outbreak of violence is happening every week. I see news reports of ordinary people who have lost everything and who are denied the basics of life. The world seems to be going insane; and those who are supposed to be leading and guiding the nations of the world are leading the madness!

It also seems as if conflict and instability are a lot closer to home than they have been for many years. Not only is there war in Ukraine, but there is constant speculation that Russia's aggressive ambitions may soon involve other European lands. It feels as if the UK is being slowly drawn into the chaos that is enveloping our world.

One of the reasons that I find it hard to watch the news is that I don't know what to do; I don't know how to respond. In practical terms there seems to be very little that I can do. My life and my efforts seem so tiny and inadequate compared to the vast problems of the world.

One thing that has helped me is the realisation that for most of the people of the world for most of history life has always been unstable and uncertain; the feelings of confusion and powerlessness that I feel are actually 'life as usual' for most of the people of the world.

In the West in recent decades since the end of the Second World War we have enjoyed a peace and stability that are actually unusual; they are the exception to life for the majority.

The majority of the people of our world have always lived and worked, loved and prayed in the face of instability and threat and chaos. They have had no other choice.

And so the answer to my question of how to respond to the chaos that threatens us is to live - to live in the face of it. Despite our fears and uncertainty we work, we love our families, we celebrate the joy of life, we pray and we worship; we entrust ourselves and our world and those we love to the God who is with us in the chaos and fear and confusion.

At times it will feel as if we are dancing on the edge of a volcano! But it seems to me that if our times are forcing us to the realisation that life is fragile, then we should find all of the joy and all of the love and all of the peace that we can as we live our lives!

A further answer to the question of how to respond to the world as it is comes from the poet John Keats. He called our world a 'vale of soul-making.' This world is not and was never meant to be paradise, nor were we ever meant for this world for eternity. Our lives in this world are a preparation for eternity. How we respond to the challenges and the difficulties of life in this world are what shape us. They prepare us for eternity, for our true and eternal home.

So we are called to be the best that we can, and to do the best that we can in difficult and challenging days. If we are able to help others caught in the chaos, then we do, we must. If we can do nothing else we are called to pray for those who suffer in the wars and the conflicts that we see unfolding on our TV screens.

By the lives we live, by our response to the challenges of the world, by our love of others, by our faith and our faithfulness we become a small beacon of light and hope in the chaos of the world. And, I believe, as Christians, as people who follow Jesus, that is exactly what we are supposed to do. It is what Christ calls us to do. Amen.

St Ignatius Loyola - 31st July

founder of the Society of Jesus

Ignatius came from a noble Basque family in north-east Spain. Born in 1491 in his family's castle near Loyala, he was sent to serve as a page at the court of King Ferdinand V of Castile. Ignatius entered military service, but was wounded in 1521, at the French siege of Pamplona. While convalescing, he read the life of Christ, as well as the biographies of various saints.

Like those saints, Ignatius felt the call of Christ on his life, and responded. He made a pilgrimage to Montserrat (near Barcelona) where he firmly hung up his sword over the altar. He exchanged his clothes with a beggar, and settled in nearby Manresa, where he helped care for the sick in the hospital there. Then he spent some time as a hermit in a local cave, praying and studying Thomas a Kempis's book '*The Imitation of Christ*'. It was probably during this time that Ignatius wrote his famous '*Spiritual Exercises*' on Christian prayer and meditation. It has been valued by Christians of many traditions for centuries.



Ignatius then went on pilgrimage to Rome and Jerusalem, studied at the universities of Barcelona, Alcala and Salamanca, and ended up in Paris to continue studies. It was there, in 1534 that Ignatius and a group of six students (including Francis Xavier) vowed to go as missionaries to Islamic Palestine.

They were prevented from travel by a war in Europe, and so, in 1537, the group, now ten in number, offered their services to the Pope. By 1540 they had been ordained, and with papal approval, formed the Society of Jesus, with a vow of personal obedience to the Pope, in addition to the traditional three monastic vows.

Ignatius became the first general of the order, and in the following 15 years the order grew hundred-fold, to become the vanguard of both the Counter Reformation and the missionary work of the Roman Catholic Church.

Ignatius died on 31st July 1556, but even today his famous prayer is treasured by Christians of all traditions:

Teach us, good Lord, to serve You as You deserve.
To give and not to count the cost.
To fight and not to heed the wounds;
To toil and not to seek for rest;
To labour and not to ask for any reward;
Save that of knowing that we do Your will;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Saint Ignatius of Loyola's Vision of Christ and God the Father at La Storta

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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

The 'father' of modern British policing

Editor: by Tim Lenton

The 'father' of modern British policing

It was 175 years ago, on 2nd July 1850, that Robert Peel, who was Prime Minister from 1834 to 35 and from 1841 to 46, died. He founded the Metropolitan Police Service and is seen as the father of modern British policing.

Peel, born in Bury, was one of 11 children of the first Sir Robert Peel, who as well as being a textile manufacturer was also an MP and moved his family down to London. He had his son educated at Harrow and Oxford, where he got a double first; he then entered Parliament and married Julia Floyd: they had seven children.



Home Secretary twice in the 1820s, Peel founded the Metropolitan Police in 1829, reforming criminal law to emphasise rehabilitation and creating a new kind of police officer, nicknamed a 'bobby' or a 'peeler' for obvious reasons.

A committed Christian and member of the Church of England, Peel became involved with the dispute about employment of Roman Catholics (and non-conformists) in public office – initially supporting the status quo but later changing his views and backing legislation such as the Roman Catholic Relief Act of 1829, partly in order to avoid what he called “civil strife”.

He is also known for – in 1846 – repealing the Corn Laws, which had imposed high tariffs on imported grain; and for being one of the founders of the modern Conservative Party. He held old-fashioned views, however, on the function of ministers of the crown, who he regarded as primarily servants of the state.

Peel was an outstanding debater, but rather shy and could be autocratic, which may have been why Queen Victoria allegedly found him difficult. Having survived a failed assassination attempt by a paranoid stalker in 1843 (his personal secretary was killed by mistake), Peel died at the age of 62 after injuring himself when falling from his horse.

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

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The Gardening Year – July

Raised beds - you can buy pre-made beds which you slot together or you can make your own from a variety of materials. Raised bed gardening is very popular, even for people who have large gardens, as there are several advantages to them over an open plot e.g. you can control the environment of the raised beds, weeding is much easier and you can extend the growing season. You can make them from anything from 6 inch deep to waist high, which is perfectly for people who find it hard to bend or kneel. Raised beds lend themselves to perma-culture principles because you tend to pack plants in more densely to create a micro-climate where moisture is conserved and weeds are suppressed by plant growth.

Materials - Raised beds are usually made from wood, you need to choose the source carefully and ensure it hasn't been treated with anything that could leach into the soil and contaminate your food.

Advantages of raised beds - Raised bed gardening is a popular choice for many reasons. Some of using of raised beds are:

The ability to control the soil quality - crops are planted closer together resulting in natural weed suppression and moisture control – they can be built to any height, making them ideal for people with physical limitations.

Raised beds can be one of the more expensive options. And by the time you have bought compost to fill them (and don't forget it will need to be re-plenished every 2 or 3 years) the on-going cost can be significant. Raised beds are heavy so not suitable for some plots such as balconies.

Raised beds have some draw backs as follows.

Can be expensive to buy if you are not able to make your own - filling with compost can be costly - impossible to move once filled - not suitable where weight limit is an issue.

Hardy Herbaceous Plants - Continue cutting back early flowering kinds and dead heading where flowering is incomplete. Do not cut back paeonies that has flowered, simply remove the dead flower heads. The foliage is ornamental, and paeonies need to die back naturally, as part of the ripening process.

Herbs - Make further sowings of chervil, dill and parsley in open ground. To retain the flavour and aroma, Herbs must be harvested at the right time and in the right conditions, weather flower, seed, leaf or stem is being used. Generally the perfect time is just before the plant comes into full bloom, and when it is dry.

Colin William

Eat the Seasons – July

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

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

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

Meat - Lamb, Wood Pigeon, Rabbit

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

Visit - www.eattheseasons.co.uk

Editor's Humour & Philosophy Page

Links and some images in this magazine are clickable - enjoy

It's cool - I was at summer scout camp where the final service was to be taken by a bishop. It was a very hot, humid day and the clergy from local churches were slowly melting in their various heavy robes. Finally, one snapped: "When is that flipping bishop going to turn up?"

Whereupon a man close by, dressed in Scouts shirt, tie and short trousers, said mildly: "I'm already here."

Open wide - A lady was very nervous about her appointment at the dentist. She sought courage from her Bible. The verse her finger landed on was Psalm 81:10: 'Open thy mouth wide and I will fill it.'

Day trip? - A Sheffield choirmaster was rehearsing the hymns for Sunday, telling the choir the hymns they were to sing, and the tunes to which they were to sing them. He concluded the list and said, "Now then, 'Come ye that love the Lord', to Southport!"

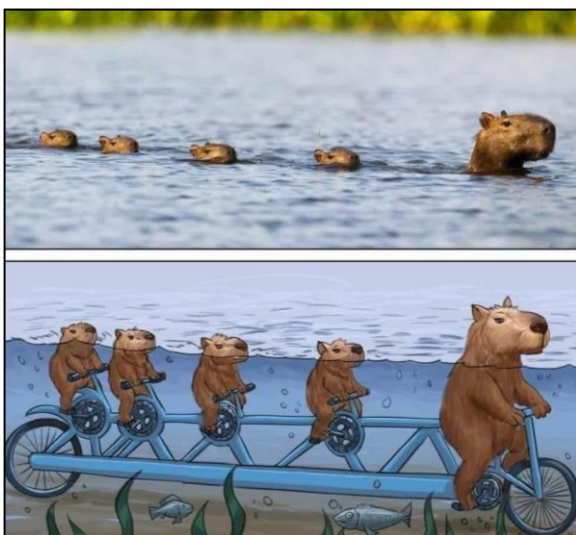
A moment later a voice called out, "Wier tha tekking t'rest of us then?"

Preaching hazards - Showing your new parish that you are a forceful preacher may not always be a good idea, as the Revd Sydney Smith found out when he first arrived at All Saints Church in Foston in 1806. "When I began to thump the pulpit cushion on my first coming to Foston, the accumulated dust of 150 years made such a cloud that for some minutes I lost sight of the congregation."



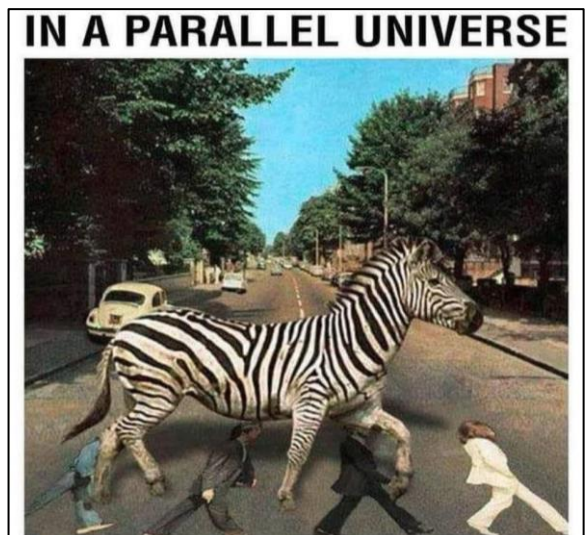
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earthworm>

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



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

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



ERIC EYRE

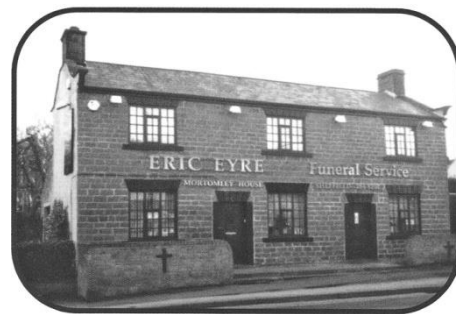
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Time to Eat - Beetroot

Many people are averse to beetroot having only experienced crinkle-cut slices steeped in overpowering vinegar. This is a shame because fresh beetroot has much to commend it in terms of flavour (sweet, slightly earthy), texture (smooth and velvety) and colour (dark red/purple, or an appealingly lurid pink when combined with cream or yoghurt). These attributes make it a key ingredient in many fabulous salads and if you haven't tried fresh beetroot juice you may be pleasantly surprised at how subtle it is.



Beetroot evolved from wild seaboot which is a native of coastlines from India to Britain. Two thousand years ago, prior to being modified by cultivation techniques, beetroot had a carrot-shaped root and only the leaves were eaten (the small root was used for medicinal purposes by ancient Greeks and Romans). The familiar rounded root variety was developed around the sixteenth century and gained widespread popularity in Europe a couple of hundred years later. Today beetroot is common throughout much of Europe, and is used extensively in

The beetroot plant, *Beta vulgaris*, has deep tap roots and can grow in a variety of soil conditions. Other members of the genus include chard, sugar beet, spinach and samphire.

Nutrition - Beetroot is high in beta-carotene and folic acid. Excellent for those wanting to stay healthy as eating it regularly helps cleanse the liver and can assist in lowering incidences of heart disease.

Using - Beetroot should be firm with a smooth, undamaged surface. Smaller roots are more tender - avoid any larger than about 6cm in diameter as they may have tough, woody cores. If you want to use the leaves they should be crisp, fresh looking and not too long or thick (if you don't, it doesn't matter too much if they're a bit limp as they deteriorate much more quickly than the root). Cut off the leaves and store in an unsealed plastic bag in the fridge. The leaves should be used within a day or two but the root will keep for a couple of weeks.

Tender baby roots can be grated raw in salads. Mature beetroot can be boiled (better for smaller, younger beetroot) or wrapped in foil and baked (better for larger, older roots).

Cooking - To preserve the beetroot's colour and nutrients, rinse and brush clean but do not remove the skin or root until after cooking. Cook until a skewer easily penetrates to the core (anything from 30 minutes to 2 hours boiling or 1½ to 2½ hours baking at 180°C). You may want to wear rubber gloves when cutting and handling beetroot as the pigmentation leaves a pretty stubborn stain.

The leaves can be cooked like spinach - steam uncovered in a pan with a small amount of boiling water (around 1cm depth).

Miscellany - Favours in the Beetroot Fields is one of the tracks on the great album The Decline of British Sea Power, by British Sea Power. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LTQtzmlpstg>

RHS grow your own beetroot - <https://www.rhs.org.uk/vegetables/beetroot/grow-your-own>
Recipes at the BBC - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/beetroot>

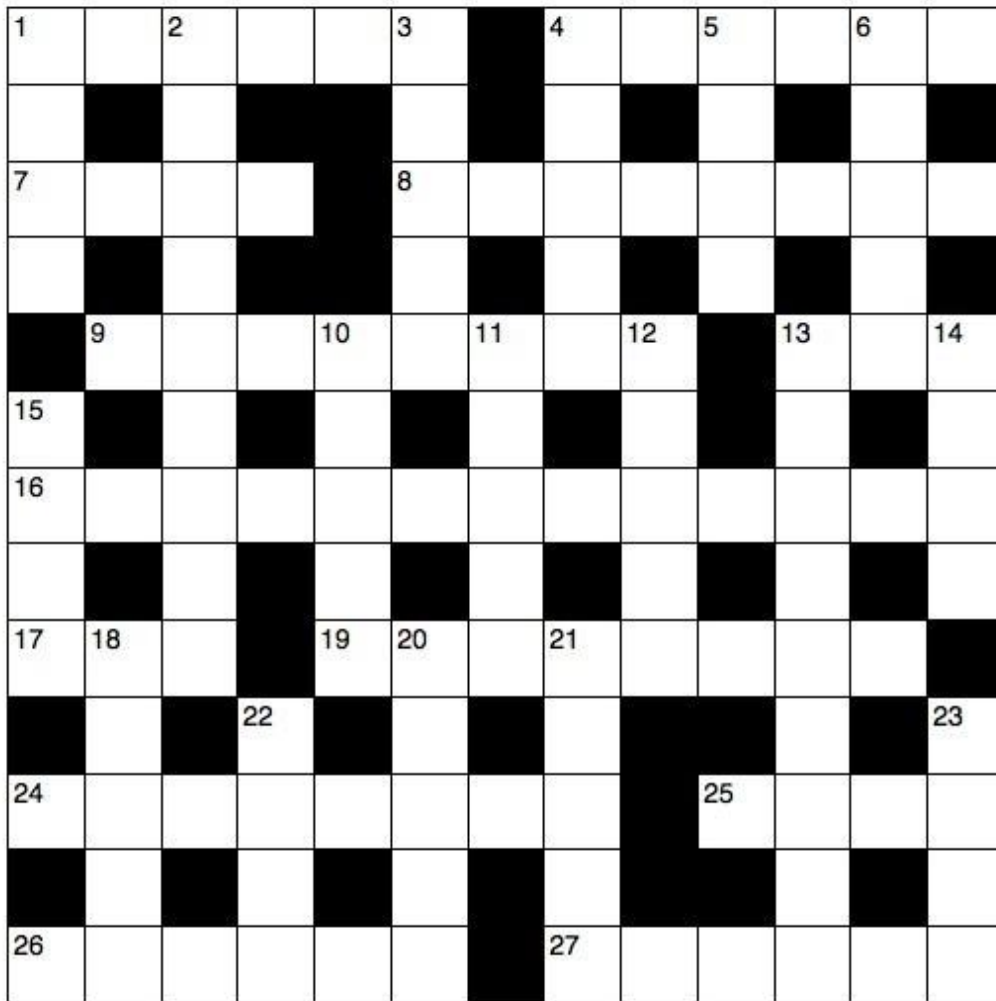
Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

- 1 'I pray that out of his glorious — he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being' (Ephesians 3:16) (6)
- 4 'Saul's father Kish and — father Ner were sons of Abiel' (1 Samuel 14:51) (6)
- 7 'Praise the Lord, O my — ' (Psalm 103:1) (4)
- 8 See 5 Down
- 9 Laws (1 Kings 11:33) (8)
- 13 'Who of you by worrying can — a single hour to his life?' (Luke 12:25) (3)
- 16 Artistry (Exodus 31:5) (13)
- 17 'Your young men will see visions, your — men will dream dreams' (Acts 2:17) (3)
- 19 How David described his Lord (Psalm 19:14) (8)
- 24 'If this city is built and its — — restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates' (Ezra 4:16) (5,3)
- 25 'The holy Scriptures, which are able to make you — for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:15) (4)
- 26 Intended destination of arrows (Lamentations 3:12) (6)
- 27 Eve hit (anag.) (6)

Clues Down

- 1 'For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find — for your souls' (Matthew 11:29) (4)
- 2 Where Peter was when he denied Christ three times (Luke 22:55) (9)
- 3 Remarkable early 20th-century Indian evangelist, a convert from Hinduism, — Sundar Singh (5)
- 4 'Now the king had put the officer on whose — — leaned in charge of the gate' (2 Kings 7:17) (3,2)
- 5 and 8 Across The Lover describes this facial feature of the Beloved thus: 'Your — is like the tower of Lebanon looking towards — ' (Song of Songs 7:4) (4,8)
- 6 'Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled — your waist' (Ephesians 6:14) (5)
- 10 Trout (anag.) (5)
- 11 Easily frightened (1 Thessalonians 5:14) (5)
- 12 The ability to perceive (Ecclesiastes 10:3) (5)
- 13 One of the clans descended from Benjamin (Numbers 26:38) (9)
- 14 "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who — bread into the bowl with me" (Mark 14:20) (4)
- 15 Resound (Zephaniah 2:14) (4)
- 18 Traditional seat of the Dalai Lama (5)
- 20 Precise (John 4:53) (5)
- 21 Build (Ezekiel 4:2) (5)
- 22 Beat harshly (Acts 22:25) (4)
- 23 Darius, who succeeded Belshazzar as king of the Babylonians, was one (Daniel 5:31) (4)



Prayer for July 2025

Lord, in this month, we, your church, remember Thomas.

Thomas, who asked questions and doubted when he didn't see You with his own eyes. And Lord, You walked through those locked doors of his questions and doubts specifically to meet his needs.

Help us to come to you, honestly, with our questions and doubts, knowing that You understand and will meet our needs too.

Help us to recognize You with eyes of faith - the only One who can help us.

May we declare, with Thomas, in humility, devotion and thankfulness, 'My Lord and my God!'. We pray in your powerful name, Lord Jesus. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Chapelton & District Probus Club



The June meeting welcomed back Mike Higginbottom who gave an illustrated presentation on Sheffield's Cinemas. Many of the buildings have now been demolished and Mike showed photographs of many just before they were demolished with examples of the luxury and splendor which had been incorporated into the cinemas so that people could go out for an evening in some luxury and experience a warm and enjoyable film. Only a few of the original picture houses are still left, two or three now listed buildings now under renovation.

Our final trip in 2025 will be the Royal Armouries Museum in Leeds, likely to be on Wednesday 24th September, and we are taking numbers of people interested so the necessary transport can be organised. Guests will be welcome so please make contact if you are interested. Visits to the AVRO Aviation Museum in Manchester and also Jodrell Bank are now scheduled for 2026 – watch this space.

Our next speaker on 9th July will be the return of Paul Adey who will cover part 2 of his history of the motor car in the USA.

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):-

9th July	Paul Adey	History of the US Motor Industry, part 2
13th August	George Clark	Richard III, Villain or Hero?
10th September	Mike Ogden	Zeppelins, Hotels in The Sky?

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

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

Andrew Robinson

With our world leaders in mind...

- Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power. - *Abraham Lincoln*
- Only those who do not desire power are fit to hold it. – *Plato*
- Power intoxicates men. - *James F Byrnes*
- It is easier to look wise than to talk wisely. – *Ambrose*
- Truth needs no flowers of speech. - *Alexander Pope*
- Nothing recedes like success. - *W Winchell*

An Equestrian Tale

He came to Jerusalem on a donkey
Jesus of Nazareth, God's own Word,
They threw down palms crying 'hosanna'
To Him who came in the Name of the Lord.

The Jews rebuked the people's welcome,
Disliking the honour and fuss that was made.
The Lord replied that if no-one responded
The stones themselves would cry out in praise.

Could they not see that the events unfolding
Were prophesied by the saints of old?
That the Lord would come as it was written
To shepherd His flock into the fold.

He comes again, now riding a white horse,
Emblazed on His thigh Faithful and True
To gather His bride from every nation
As all of creation will be made new.

By Megan Carter

It's that Wimbledon time of the year

The 'pop' of a ball on a racket
The voice of the Umpire so clear
There is nothing in quite the same bracket
As that Wimbledon time of the year!

'Fault!' cries the line judge, eyes beady,
The ball boys and girls on their toes;
For more of these matches we're greedy:
The bug for this game grows and grows!

The weather may shine, or be raining
The temperature warm, mild or chill;
Our appetites won't be restraining
For strawberries on Henman Hill.

The queues may be long, but endure them
You'll get to the court – have no fear
Just settle and watch, and be sure then –
It's that Wimbledon time of the year!

By Nigel Beeton

A Prayer for Unity

John 17: 20-23; Ps 133:1

O Christ, Thy intercessions
That we be one, like You –
Forsaking our transgressions
Uniting our confessions
As Thou wouldst have us do.

Thy Church, divided, gather up
From our conflicting ways;
O may we join as one, and sup
Communion from a single cup
Our voices joined in praise!

It is both good and pleasant
That brethren dwell as one;
The wealthy and the peasant
Together will be present
In worship of the Son!

The Unity of Trinity
The Oneness of the Three
The Union of Divinity
One Holy Triune entity
O make Thy Church like Thee!

By Nigel Beeton

(In the end I used the tune 'Repton' to set the metre, in which the last line of each verse is repeated, as in 'Dear Lord and Father of Mankind'.)

Lo, I am with you always

Wide fields of corn along the valleys spread;
The rain and dew mature the swelling vine;
I see the Lord in multiplying bread;
I see Him turning water into wine;
I see Him working all the works divine

He wrought when Salem-ward His steps were led;
The self-same miracles around Him shine;
He feeds the famished; He revives the dead;
He pours the flood of light on darkened eyes;
He chases tears, diseases, fiends away;
His throne is raised upon these orient skies;
His footstool is the pave whereon we pray....

From a poem by John Charles Earle (1749 – 1818)

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
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Tel: Robert 0771 481 3503

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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)
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
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@yicspl.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 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



	E-mail:	Phone:
Vicar: Revd. Tim Gill	ttimgill@aol.com	257 0002
Church Wardens Ann Hackett Michael Waldron		
Church Office Tuesday 9:00am to 1:00 pm Thursday 9:00am to 12:00 pm	office.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com	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	208 3500
Music Group Contact: Andrea Whittaker	7:30 pm Thursday Practice in Church	246 0746
Mother's Union in Gatty Hall Contact: Maureen Lambert	1.00 pm 1st Wednesday of the month	246 9690
Ecclesfield Ladies Group Contact: Anne Rostron	2.00 pm 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	

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

Date	Day	Colour
6 th July	Third Sunday after Trinity	Green
13 th July	Fourth Sunday after Trinity	Green
20 th July	Fifth Sunday after Trinity	Green
27 th July	Sixth Sunday after Trinity	Green



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Ecclesfield Church does not get any funding from the government or local authority. All its income comes from the generosity of people like yourself who give to support its services and help maintain the building for future generations.

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