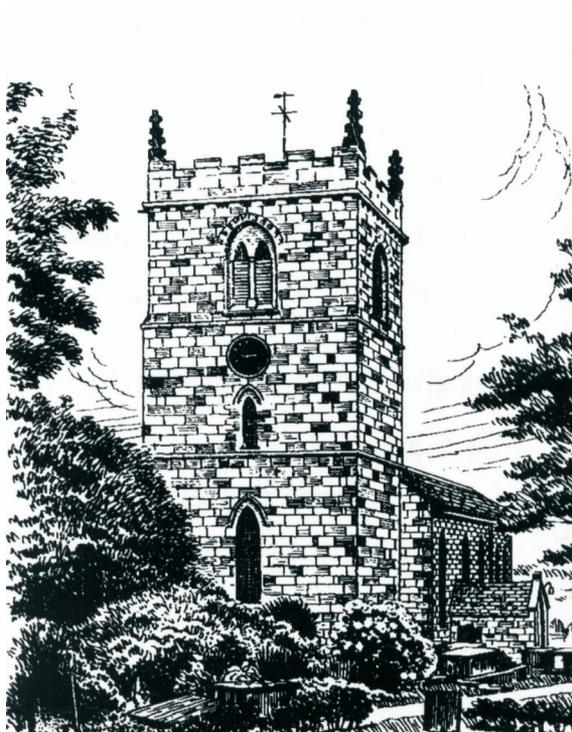


# **Parish News**

## **February 2012**



**The Church of  
St Mary the Virgin, Woodkirk**

**[www.stmarywoodkirk.org](http://www.stmarywoodkirk.org)**

## **Who's who at Woodkirk**

**Vicar of St Mary's:** The Rev Amanda Barraclough, St Mary's Vicarage,  
Dewsbury Road, Woodkirk, WF12 7JL 01924 472375  
Email: vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org

**Lay Pastoral Minister:** Derek Barraclough 01924 472375  
Gail Townsend 0113 2528710

**Churchwardens:** Gail Townsend 0113 2528710  
Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

**Deputy churchwardens:** Derek Barraclough 01924 472375  
Glyn Jennings 01924 470272

**Organist:** John Hardcastle . 0113 258 7451

**PCC Secretary:** Julie Hyde 0113 2521339

**PCC Treasurer:** Gary Mortimer 0113 2528935

**Social Chairperson:** Gary Mortimer 0113 252 8935

**Parish Centre Hire:** Brian Walshaw 01924 479380

**Parish Centre Manager:** Glyn Jennings 01924 470272

**Parish Legacy Officer:** Henry Gill 0113 253 0585

**Child Protection Officer:** Dawn Tattersfield 0113 2525963

**Health & Safety Officer:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

**Data Protection Officer:** Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 2524001

**Magazine editor:** Julie Hyde 0113 2521339  
Email: julie@hyde3030.fsnet.co.uk  
Contributions by the 15th of the month

**Weekly News Sheet:** Peter Crookes 01924 476721  
Email: peter.crookes@talktalk.net  
Contributions by Thursday evening

**Deanery Synod reps:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790  
Derek Barraclough 01924 472375

### **Elected Members of the Parochial Church Council:**

,Derek Barraclough, , Audrey Bourne,, Brian Gledhill John Hardcastle, Julie Hyde,  
Glyn Jennings, Gill Mahoney, Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Kath Randall,  
Sally Shaw, Dawn Tattersfield, Gail Townsend

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### **January Registers**

#### **Baptisms:**

Evelyn Alexina Ottilie Castonguay

Quebec Canada

#### **Funerals:**

Michael Mortimer

Winifred Dobson

Geoffrey Saddington

Reginald Wainwright

Ethel Barras

Alma Farr

Tingley

Kirkhamgate

Morley

Woodkirk

Morley

Tingley



## Welcome!

Enjoy reading this parish magazine. If you wish to know more about church groups, please get in touch with the contacts - their names are on the inside front & inside back covers.

You'd be most welcome to join us for worship. Service times are on the back page. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Meanwhile may God bless you and all whom you love.

## Parish News by post

This magazine can be delivered monthly by sending at least £9 a year to cover magazine costs, post and packaging to: Margaret Longden 64 Woodkirk Gardens, Dewsbury WF12 7JA. Telephone 01924 473064

It's a brilliant gift for friends or family living near or far.

Cheque's to Woodkirk PCC please.

## Web site

Further news and pictures of what is happening at St Mary's can be found on our web site located at:

[www.stmarywoodkirk.org](http://www.stmarywoodkirk.org)

Copies of the magazine (from Jan 2011 issue only) can be downloaded from the web site.

## Twitter

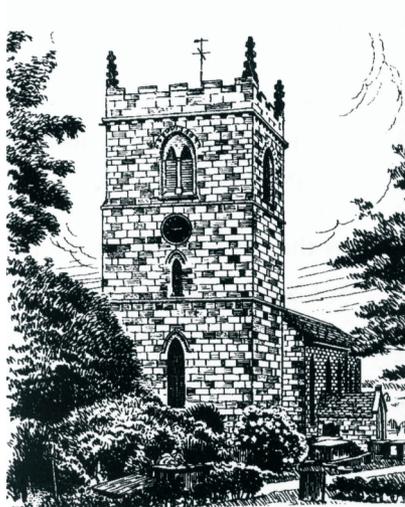
[twitter.com/stmarywoodkirk](https://twitter.com/stmarywoodkirk)

## Wheelchair

A wheelchair is available to help people move easily between the church and Dewsbury Road. Just ask.

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## **Austerity measures.**

### **But what DOES austerity measure?**

We've heard a lot about Austerity Measures. There's no escaping them. Sainsbury's apparently said that households are really feeling the pinch. What is their measure of that? The average shopping basket has reduced from 44 items to 43. No chocolate biscuits this week, then? Given the obesity levels, it probably won't hurt us too much. In fact, it might even prove to be a good thing.

When folk have faced austerity measures in the past, they probably never dreamed of a shopping basket that size. Austerity is a relative thing – it simply means less than we have had before. If our great-grandparents could see what we call austerity, they would laugh.

Time after time, as I visit bereaved families to talk about their loved ones, they remember more fondly than anything else the 'simple pleasures' of country walks, sharing a cuppa together, a day at the coast. The simple things, they longingly reflect, that get overlooked in today's money-driven world. Maybe we'll learn to find simple pleasures again when we don't have the money for the more exotic pleasures of the past. And maybe we'll find we're the richer for it.

Lent is an annual point of self-imposed 'austerity measures' – an inbuilt pattern in the church year to help us to curb our excesses, and remember that much of what we enjoy is 'optional extras' rather than essential to our well-being. I hope it extends to more than not putting those chocolate biscuits in our shopping basket! It gives the space to do many things – to give something to those who do not enjoy the affluence we have; to reflect on the conscious and deliberate choice of Jesus to choose the difficult path in life rather than the easy one.

Lent has often been seen as a season of denial, which is indeed one way of looking at it – perhaps the more negative way. It might also, more positively, be seen as a season of living more simply, being more intentional about what we do, seeing with fresh eyes. It changes you – or it should – for the better. Austerity is only a bad thing when you don't have the essentials. Or if your only measure of what is good is about acquiring more. Lent is a great annual self-corrective process. We probably don't see the effect it has on us, year on year, but if we had never followed a Lenten discipline we would undoubtedly be different today – its effects are cumulative.

A world which has seen no need for this self-imposed restraint, which the church practices during Lent, is now facing that restraint anyway. Maybe if we won't undergo a *self*-corrective process, we are faced with that corrective process against our will. That suggests a very big question. Is God in this very uncomfortable journey through austerity measures? Will we look back and see, as the years unfold, that we are the better for it? I believe the answer to both these questions may be 'Yes'.

Austerity measures. But WHAT does it measure? The inner person, the strength of our relationships, the things in our lives which cannot be measured in pounds and pence – kindness, compassion, honesty, commitment.

Perhaps the great corrective we need to our perception this year, in this time of economic challenge, is to see that God is generous. Our Lent course, far from being somber and heavy, is about cheerfulness, laughter and generosity. If you ask me, a church that can offer that at the moment is exactly what is needed! 'Hilarious Living' is coming this way soon – see the article, sign up and get on board.

God bless you

*Amanda*



## **Christingle Thanks**

On Christmas Eve we held our two Christingle services, raising £334. This will help to support the Childrens' Society in their work with vulnerable children whose Christmas might otherwise have nothing magical about it.

This amount included £89.80 from the collecting candles some people filled and brought them along to the service.

Thank you to everyone who came along to help make the 300 Christingles.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the pupils and staff of Westerton school who kindly donated £80 to the Childrens' Society from their Carol Service. Thank you to everyone for your support.

*Susan Walshaw.*

## **Many Thanks**

May I thank all the people who sent get-well-cards or who sent good wishes via David during my recent stay in hospital and to all the people who have continued to make enquiries since my discharge. It is very comforting to know that so many people care about my well being .

A special thanks to Derek who has quietly supported me both before my admission and since by discharge. I am deeply touched by everyone's care and friendship.. Now I am steeling myself for Round 2, some time this year!!!

Many thanks

*Pat Wass*

## **Goodbye, Martin & Kath**

On Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January we said goodbye to Martin and Kath Randall, who are leaving the parish to relocate closer to their daughter Nicky and her family in Bedfordshire. We've known it was 'on the cards' for years. In fact, it had become something of a standing joke at each Annual General Meeting of the church for the Vicar's report to speak of the 'impending departure', only to find, 12 months later, it was still impending. It had become almost like the Second Coming – something we talk about every year thinking it will never happen this year – again! Then, all of a sudden, a whirlwind of activity when least expected means they're leaving much quicker than we expected.

It has all come as a shock and it will take some time to get used to their absence. Their ministry over the last 25 years has been faithful, encouraging and visionary. It is almost impossible to quantify their contribution to the life of St. Mary's. I know that Martin, licensed as Lay Reader in 1995, has preached, with a few breaks, about once a month – that's around 200 sermons! Each has been prepared with thought and care, and has been insightful and clearly delivered.

My path first crossed Martin's when we were both training for Lay Readership in the early 1990s. When he was one of the Parish Representatives who welcomed me for interview, it was heart-warming to discover to my surprise I was being interviewed by someone who knew me! He had kept stability in the parish, at that point, during two interregnums in quick succession, and was clearly trusted and regarded as a capable leader by the congregation.

That was immensely important to me. A new vicar, taking up a post of this nature for the first time – and a woman to boot – can be viewed for a while with caution. The fact that Martin and I trusted one another and knew we could work fruitfully together opened the door to my acceptance amongst the wider congregation. In little ways, we built up a way of leading services together which included the light-hearted touches which can draw others in and make it a more fully shared experience. It became a bit of a double act! We have both said we believe that started to change the feel of the place, making it more accessible, welcoming – something we both had a vision for St. Mary's being. Having no-one to be alongside at the front will be a huge loss to me, and to all of us. It's like Wise without Morecambe – it just doesn't feel the same.

His preaching has freed me to spend time with the children in the church family once a month – something which is important but will again be lost to us. I will miss that enormously. I know his style of preaching has been enormously helpful to many, who often comment about something Martin said in my absence. Not only that, it provided variety from the vicar – and sadly that variety of style is also lost to us. Please pray that God will raise up people in St. Mary's who might be called to preach! We do need a varied diet to keep things fresh! You're going to

get very tired of my voice unless God gives someone that nudge! And if He's nudging you, have the courage Martin had to follow it up.

Everything that Martin has done has been made possible because of the support of Kath, who has also had a considerable ministry in her own right, beautifying the church with floral displays. It is clear these have not been done to awaken praise for her, but praise for the God she loves. Each display has been an act of worship for her, and has enriched ours. Kath's gentle spirit is always soothing, and I know I have drawn on her gentle care and Martin's wisdom many times when I have needed it over the last almost 8 years. Often as I try to formulate my thoughts into words, it is Kath & Martin who have helped to support that, and our vision for St. Mary's has grown in the process. We have fired each other to fresh vision, fresh faith, and fresh energies to press forward.

We must trust God for the future as they do, stepping out and believing that God has good things for us. We thank God for the gift they have been to us, and pray that each of us may serve God with similar faithfulness. Whichever church becomes the new spiritual home of the Randall family will be blessed indeed. May that church be a blessing to them too. Thank you, Kath and Martin. God bless you.

*Amanda*



## **“Hilarious living” – or how to live more cheerfully.**

What’s that all about then? Lent is meant to be serious stuff, somber, reflective, isn’t it? We are, after all, walking the path of the cross with Jesus, learning to live in its shadow.

But that path to the cross was not exclusively one of deep depression for Jesus – those who shared it enjoyed his company, laughed with him, were fascinated with engaging stories and found being around him irresistible. Where Jesus was, laughter often abounded. He was not a depressive, but loved life. The hallmarks of his ministry were cheerfulness, laughter and generosity. Are they the hallmarks of our lives? Churches which have room for laughter are churches which tend to grow.

This course is based around the phrase, “God loves a cheerful (literally ‘hilarious’) giver” (2 Corinthians 9:7). It encourages us to fast from frowning and grow in generosity. In the Bible, the word ‘Blessed’ means ‘happy, smiling’.

The five week course has been prepared by the Diocese of York, and in the absence of a home-grown one from our own Diocese, we have decided to use this material.

The Bishop of Selby, the Rt Rev d. Martin Wallace, writes, *“While we hope you will find here some thought-provoking material, there are also lots of good reasons to smile and take ourselves a little less seriously. So, as you travel through these weeks of Lent as a Group, we trust you will emerge feeling encouraged and uplifted by the sheer generosity of God. So, as you enjoy this course:*

*May God bless you and smile on you,*

*My you bless and smile on each other,*

*And may your church bless and smile on those around. Amen”*

The Lent course will be led by members of our Core Group, each Tuesday. There is an afternoon session at 2.00-3.30pm, which will be repeated for those who prefer an evening meeting, at 7.30-9.00pm. The meetings will be at the Vicarage, and will start on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, running until Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March. Why not put a toe in the water, come along to the first session, and make up your mind about session 2 after that?

There will be a sign-up sheet in the porch during February so that we can ensure we obtain enough course materials. The booklet we will be using is just £1. I will order copies for all those who sign up, but if you would like a copy anyway, please let me know.

*Amanda*

## **15<sup>th</sup> Morley Cubs and Beavers**

Well we are back in the swing of things, both Beavers and Cubs are now busy with badge work and looking forward to the year ahead.

Coming up we have our joint visit to the Panto at Morley Town Hall which is always good fun, the Cubs have a swimming gala to look forward to and other visits we hope to plan with the Beavers.

We have had Beavers moving up into Cubs, and new Beavers joining our pack, also we have had a new Cub starting, we are unable at the present time to take on more Cubs or Beavers as our pack is now full with new ones starting and those due to start at Easter.

We are pleased we have growing Beaver and Cub packs, and Cubs going on to Scouts.

We are thankful for all that St. Mary's Church does to help us in so many ways.

We are all looking forward to this new year with excitement and enthusiasm.

*Akela*



## **Albert's Songs & Singers Quiz**

Can you pair the following singers with their UK Hit Records of the years shown? What links all these songs?

### Songs

1. (There's) Always Something There To Remind Me (1964)
2. Anyone Who Had a Heart (1964)
3. (They Long To Be) Close To You (1970)
4. Do You Know The Way To San Jose? (1968)
5. I Just Don't Know What To Do With Myself (1964)
6. I'll Never Fall In Love Again (1969)
7. Magic Moments (1958)
8. Make It Easy On Yourself (1965)
9. Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head (1970)
10. Twenty-four Hours From Tulsa (1963)
11. What's New Pussycat? (1965)
12. What The World Needs Now Is Love (1965)

### Singers

Cilla Black. B. The Carpenters. C. Perry Como. D. Jackie DeShannon. E. Sacha Distel. F. Bobbie Gentry. G. Tom Jones. H. Gene Pitney. I. Sandie Shaw. J. Dustie Springfield. K. Dionne Warwick. L. Walker Brothers.

## **Dorothy Bear Park Hurst Part Two + 1**

In a previous edition of the kinsman I wrote about my research into the life of a little girl, Dorothy Bearpark Hurst who died aged six years in 1877 and is remembered with a stained glass window in St Mary the Virgin Church, Woodkirk.

Whilst I was at The York Family History fair I met a lady who gave me different aspect to the story. She had a great aunt named Alice and this is what she told her. Her father was Richard Cragg employed as a labourer or carter, and according to Alice had once worked for Doctor Hurst of Morley as a coachman, and her mother worked as a cook for them.

At that time it cost a penny a day to attend school, but having other siblings meant that she didn't attend very often, that and looking after her younger siblings. According to Alice the Doctor had a little girl, but I think she must have meant Dorothy as she was his niece; she died of Scarlet fever, and because of this Alice was no longer allowed to visit the house with her mother, as Dorothy's mother blamed her death on her mixing and playing with the "dirty children".

On the day of the funeral, Alice walked from Morley to Woodkirk behind the cortege, the line of carriages plodding slow Dorothy Bear Park Hurst Part Two +1

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On the day of the funeral, Alice walked from Morley to Woodkirk behind the cortege, the line of carriages plodding slowly to Dorothy's final resting place. All the way from Morley Bottom to the church. You can imagine that it was a long way for a little girl to walk by herself. The lady also told me that she was not allowed in the church for the service.

When the service ended, the carriages sped off at a faster pace back home, and little Alice could not keep up with them and was soon left behind. She soon found herself sat at the roadside, lost and crying. Presently a carriage came past

and stopped and a gentleman who had been at the funeral talked to her, and he and his wife took her into their carriage and drove her back to Morley with them. During the journey they asked why she had gone to the funeral and she said that Dorothy was her friend, about school and she explained that as they didn't have a penny she could not go. They told her to go to school the next day, he would speak to the teacher and the penny would be paid. And so it was, from that day Alice had a proper education. Who was the benefactor? Possibly Doctor Hurst? Or another gentleman of means.

So when you look at the window in Woodkirk Church, remember not only Dorothy's short life, but Alice and the good that came out of that day. Derek Barracloughly to Dorothy's final resting place. All the way from Morley Bottom to the church. You can imagine that it was a long way for a little girl to walk by herself. The lady also told me that she was not allowed in the church for the service..

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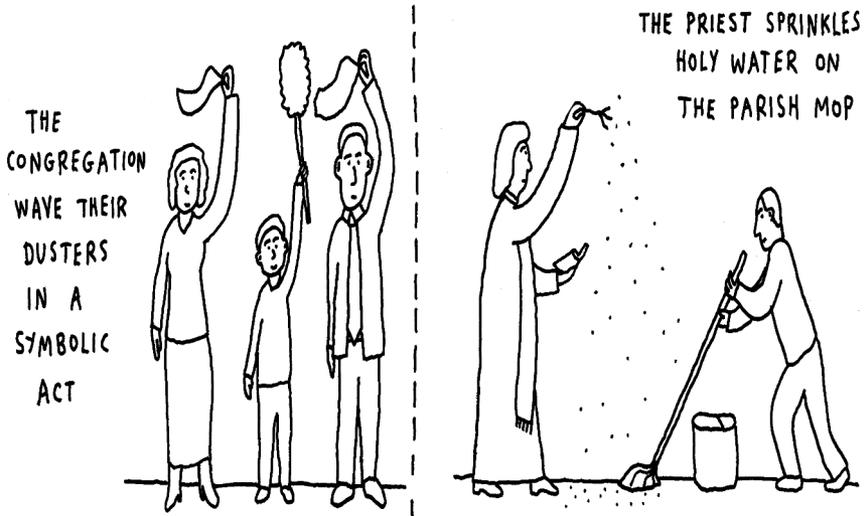
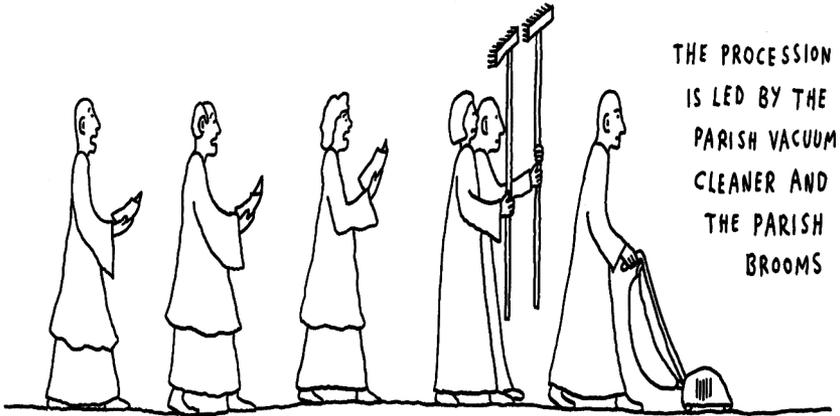
*Derek Barraclough*

## **Redevelopment latest...**

A public meeting was held on 15<sup>th</sup> January to update the congregation on the plans for the redevelopment of the rear of the church, to answer any questions and to take on board comments which might need some consideration. Thank you to everyone who came and to those who voiced some helpful and insightful suggestions. All these will be considered by the Fabric Committee and the Church Council as they make final decisions about where we go from here. Nothing is 'set in stone' and there is no 'fait accompli' in the matter. Whatever decision is reached by the PCC, no work will be started until the funding is secure - and with a total of £129,000 to raise, (of which we currently have £30,000) we will have our work cut out!

# CLEANING SUNDAY

ON THIS SPECIAL SUNDAY WE RECOGNISE THOSE WHO CLEAN, AND BLESS THEIR IMPLEMENTS



CartoonChurch.com

*This CartoonChurch.com cartoon by Dave Walker originally appeared in the Church Times. Reproduced with permission.*



*Michael dismissed St Valentine's Day  
as mere commercialism.*

## Diary for February & early March 2012

Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	9.15am 10am	Church open for prayer Holy Communion (Common Worship) & refreshments
	8pm	Home Group at 12, Woollin Crescent – (Home of Gail & Dave Townsend)
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	2.00pm	Holy Communion at Soothill Manor
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am-11.30am	Church cleaning/Churchyard session
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Holy Communion (said)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung) & JAM Club
	12.30pm	Baptism Service
Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	'First Steps' Toddler Service – Henry cares for others' – in church
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am 10am	Church open for prayer Holy Communion (Iona setting) & refreshments
Sun 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am 12 noon	All-Age Service Holy Communion
Mon 13 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	PCC meeting in Parish Centre
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am 10am	Church open for prayer Holy Communion (1662 setting) & refreshments
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge Care Home
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung) & JAM Club
Mon 20 <sup>th</sup>	2pm	Mothers' Union in Parish Centre
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.30pm	Joint Ash Wednesday Service at St. Michael's East Ardsley

ASH WEDNESDAY LENT BEGINS

*NO WEDNESDAY SERVICE AT ST. MARY'S TODAY*

Sun 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung) & Gro-Zone
LENT 1		<i>GIVING IN GRACE' BEGINS</i>
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup>	2-3.30pm 7.30-9pm	'Hilarious living' Lent meeting 1 – the Vicarage 'Hilarious living' Lent meeting 1 – the Vicarage <i>See article in magazine</i>
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am 10am	Church open for prayer Holy Communion (One world setting) & refreshments



## March

Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup>	2pm	Holy Communion at Soothill Manor
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9.30-11.30am	Church cleaning and churchyard morning
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Holy Communion (said)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung) & JAM Club
	12.30pm	Baptism service
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	2-3.30pm	'Hilarious living' Lent meeting 2 – the Vicarage
	7.30-9pm	'Hilarious living' Lent meeting 2 – the Vicarage
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (Common Worship) & refreshments
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	All-Age Service
	12 noon	Holy Communion

## Albert's Quiz Answers

1) I. 2)A. 3) B. 4)K. 5) J. 6) F. 7) C. 8) L. 9) E. 10) H. 11) G. 12) D.

LINK: Burt Bacharach composed them all, along with many more hit songs, most of which had lyrics written by Hal David. If you got them all right you must be older than me and have a better memory (or a computer!).

*Albert Shaw*



## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2012

What's so special about that Sunday I hear you ask?

Well.....it's the end of Fairtrade Fortnight, and here at St Mary's we want to help raise funds to promote Fair Trade and through holding a Traidcraft Big Brew event we will help families to flourish by highlighting the way that Traidcrafts work can bring hope to many thousands of poor producers.

So, when you come to Church on the 11<sup>th</sup> March, there will be some Fairtrade goodies and some cakes and biscuits made with Fairtrade ingredients, along with more information about Fairtrade, what it means and what it does.

See you then.

*Dawn*



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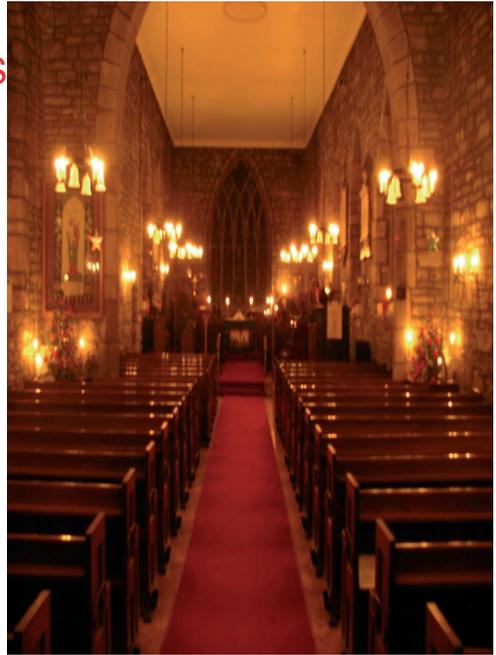
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TINGLEY

## **What's on**

<b>Mothers' Union</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday in the month 7:30pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
<b>Playgroup</b>	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:45am-12:15pm Lisa Fyffe 0776 1762661
<b>Girl Guides</b>	Tuesday 7:30pm Vikki Springett 07841 513530
<b>Toddler Group</b>	Wednesday 9:15-11:00am Jenny Willert 07950 278268
<b>Prayer Group</b>	2nd, 4th & 5th Wednesdays 7:15pm Derek Barraclough 01924 473375
<b>Rainbows</b>	Thursday 6.15pm - 7.15pm Ruth Osenton-Brown 01924 689992
<b>Brownies</b>	Thursday 7.00pm - 8.00pm Hannah Tombling 01924 501892
<b>Keep Fit Class</b>	Thursday 8:00pm Margaret Hampshire 01924 476721
<b>Young at Heart</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursdays 2:00pm Clarice Gough 0113 252 7436
<b>Beavers</b>	Friday 5:00pm Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
<b>Cubs</b>	Friday 6:30pm Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
<b>Scouts</b>	Friday 7:45pm Trevor Holdsworth 0113 253 0927
<b>Explorer Scouts</b>	Friday 7:45pm Chris Ingham 0113 252 9976
<b>Jam Club</b>	First and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month 10.30am Derek Barraclough 01924 472375

# Services

Sundays, except the 2nd Sunday of each month

10:30 am Parish Communion & Jam Club

1st Sunday of the month

8:00am Holy Communion

12.30pm Baptism Service

2nd Sunday of the month

10:30 am Family Service

12:00 Holy Communion

4th Sunday of the month

10:30 am The Grog-Zone interactive worship in the Parish Centre

12:30pm Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child

Wednesdays

10:00am Holy Communion

1st Thursday

11:00am Holy Communion at Soothill Manor

Monday to Friday

8:45am Morning Prayer

To arrange for baptisms, confirmations, funerals, the reading of banns or any general matter, please contact the vicar;

Amanda Barraclough St Mary's Vicarage, Dewsbury Road, Woodkirk, WF12 7JL 01924 472375

Email: [vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org](mailto:vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org)

To book weddings please contact the Wedding Coordinator, Gail Townsend, 0113 2528710

Email: [weddings@stmarywoodkirk.org](mailto:weddings@stmarywoodkirk.org)