

Parish News

St Mary's, Woodkirk

EPIPHANY

January 2013



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

This Month:

New Year; New Creed; New Diocese;

New Faces; Old Faces;

New Lent Course.

www.stmarywoodkirk.org

Who's who at Woodkirk

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Weekly News Sheet. Email: dave2408.townsend@gmail.com
Magazine Articles by the 15th of the month.
Mobile: 07745 301746
Contributions for the Weekly Sheet
by Thursday evening please.

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Elected Members of the Parochial Church Council:

Elizabeth Aveyard, Derek Barraclough, Brian Gledhill, John Hardcastle,
Julie Hyde, Glyn Jennings, Gill Mahoney, Ian Marchant, Averille Milburn,
Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Dawn Tattersfield, Dave Townsend,
Gail Townsend.

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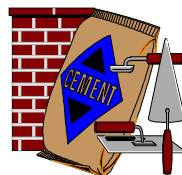
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Welcome!

Enjoy reading this Parish magazine and, if you wish to know more about Church Groups, please get in touch with the Movers and Shakers - 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 a minimum donation of £9 a year to cover magazine costs, post and packaging to: Margaret Longden, 64 Woodkirk Gardens, Dewsbury WF12 7JA. It's a brilliant gift for friends or family living near or far. Cheque's to Woodkirk PCC please.

Web site & Twitter

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

www.stmarywoodkirk.org

Copies of the magazine can be downloaded from the web site.

We are on Twitter: twitter.com/stmarywoodkirk

Wheelchair Access

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

Just ask.

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It's a New Dawn...

Welcome to 2013. I can't think of a better way to start the new year than with this beautiful piece by Gill Mahoney.

She writes:-

People come to church in times of need sometimes desperation. I wanted to write a creed relevant to the present circumstances we find ourselves in. I wanted a creed which gives comfort to people whose lives and minds are in turmoil. I hope to convey a creed of plain language one which could be instantly understood. Not one of riddles which can only be understood after months of attending church; listening to the sermons and reading the Bible. I wanted a creed for everyone regardless of religion. A God that everyone could relate to, especially people searching for God's love and grace. Therefore I have entitled this 'The People's Creed'.

The People's Creed

I believe in a God who stills turbulent waters and calms stormy seas
I believe in a God who will accept my sorrows - be a passionate presence when I reach a state of despair.

I believe that when I reach out for His love he will wrap me in a blanket of peace and give a mind in turmoil a break.

I believe in a God who will walk beside me not in front or behind me, but with me, accompanying me on the rocky paths as well as the smooth ones.

I believe in a God who will bring hope to the destitute, a God who is a friend for the outcast, the alien and the infirm.

I believe in a God who has powerful yet gentle compassionate healing hands, whose hands are warm, supportive and strong.

I believe in a uniting God, not an exclusive God, but one who regards all as his children, regardless of race, creed or colour. A God for the human race with no prejudice, but a God of unconditional love for everyone.

I believe in a God with transcending powers turning darkness into light. Freeing the oppressed, offering shelter to the homeless, feeding the hungry and clothing the poor.

I believe in a merciful God giving new life to those who repent from their sins freeing the yoke around their necks with generous liberation.

Gill

Amanda's Letter: Why are the wedding bookings down this year?

I was surprised to find so few weddings had been booked for 2013. Of course, there's always time for more to come in – and they often do. Experience tells me that the big question is often popped at Christmas! (I hope that's more to do with the magic in the air than to save the expense of both an engagement ring AND a Christmas present!). We can hardly blame the recession – though you might expect people to put off the expense of a wedding when budgets are tight. We had a bumper year for weddings in 2012, and belts were being tightened then too.

The only explanation I have been able to put my finger on is the year: 2013 ends in that number which is regarded as 'unlucky' and may, for some couples, ring more alarm bells than wedding bells! Thirteen is a number which does that for some – to such an extent that many developers miss it out when numbering houses they build, because they know this number makes a particular home more difficult to sell. We can't do that with the calendar - skip over to 2014, though some would wish we could – perhaps some wedding couples in particular! Sadly, there will be some folk who enter this particular New Year with additional fears and anxieties simply because it is 2013 – as if the anxieties they already carry are not enough to bear without that additional burden.

Too often such fears disable and inhibit us, and I do not believe that is what God intends for us. Starting a new year with a heightened sense of fear, on high alert for things to go wrong. You can be sure if we start the year like that, we will find plenty of things to point the finger at and say, "See, I told you so! It's going to be a dreadful year!" If we start the year full of a sense of the promise of a new beginning, new opportunities, and hope, we will be quick to recognise those things which confirm our hopes.

A traveler, walking along the road to a village in which he intends to settle, meets a man leaving the village. "Is this the road to Smallham?" "Yes," says the man. "But don't go there. The people are unkind, rude and selfish. You will hate it. I knew I wouldn't like it! I'm glad to leave!" The traveler is disconcerted, but continues. He meets another man, carrying a pack on his back. "Excuse me, have you just come from Smallham?" "Yes!" the man responds. "What is it like?" the traveler asked cautiously, deciding that he would not settle there if the first man's report was confirmed. "What a wonderful place!" the second man replied. "The folk are warm and friendly. It is the best place to live in the whole world!"

Our fears and expectations colour our perspective on life. If we anticipate things going wrong, and expect them to be difficult, they will feel more burdensome when they do go wrong. If we believe God has good things for us in the future, it enables us to see the future more positively. Things will undoubtedly still go wrong, but we will cope with them more healthily when they do. Superstitions that feed fear are not words which Christians should pay attention to.

The Christmas message we have so recently celebrated shows us that our world is not ruled by luck and superstition. Instead, it is ruled by a God who loves us so much he gave the most precious thing of all to show us the extent of that love. There was much that Mary & Joseph could have feared as they escaped to Egypt with the infant Jesus to protect him from Herod. We are told that Mary pondered not the fear, but the words which had been spoken about her child.

So, as 2013 begins, expect God to bless you and give you opportunities to flourish and grow into the person he wants you to be. Head into the year full of hope and expectation, and you will find God will bless 2013 for you. It might even be a good year to get married!

Rev. Amanda

Are the Ash trees in the Churchyard going to die?

The short answer is probably – yes. Chalara Fraxinea is the name of the fungus currently affecting many Ash Trees across Europe. The disease causes leaf loss and crown dieback and usually leads to tree death.

Almost a year ago, in February 2012, it was found in a consignment of infected trees sent from a nursery in the Netherlands to a nursery in Buckinghamshire. Ash tree stocks in Europe have been devastated by the disease, with 95% of Ash trees in Denmark already infected. There is currently no known way of stopping it, however around 2% of trees seem to be naturally resistant to the fungus. Seeds are being collected from these trees in the hope that new saplings can be grown with in-built resistance. The fungus is airborne and so spreads easily, with discovery of the disease in at least eight nurseries in Yorkshire already, it seems likely to spread further.

Chalara Fraxinea is being mapped across the UK by DNA testing but with spores spread by the wind, rain and insects it seems that the same fate awaits our Ash trees as those in Denmark and much of Europe. Once a tree is infected it can't be saved – and eventually has to be cut down.

David

Amanda's Africa Experience - Part 2.

After my last article about Tanzania, I was asked about the inspiring stories I had hinted at . There were many inspiring people – here are two such examples....

Robert is a young man with a genuine desire to serve God. As we prayed, he felt a hand on his head – but no-one was there – a clear sign to us of God's hand of blessing upon him. This was a great encouragement to him, as he shared his story. His father is a witchdoctor, and had been grooming Robert to follow in his footsteps. Robert, however, heard the message of the gospel and made a Christian commitment. He spent four days in the mountains working out how this would impact his life and seeking God's help. When he returned, home life became difficult, but Robert (who has only a very basic education) started talking to others about God and as a result over 50 people were baptised. The church recognised Robert was being used by God and trained him as a Catechist (the equivalent of a Lay Reader). He is effectively running that church of 50 in his own village, and since then another 50 have joined it!

He was hungry to learn everything he was taught – the problem was that he only had a King James' Bible. We bought him a Hibari Njema (Good News Bible) he could understand more easily. What an amazing young man! How many of us would see all the problems in his situation and be paralysed into doing nothing if we lived in his shoes? God can use anyone to grow new Christians. We're just very good at telling ourselves he can't use us!



Robert is
presented with
his New Bible

Joseph is an older man who has faithfully served as a priest in his village. He is nearing retirement from ministry, and is trying to build a house which will give him a home after retirement. He does this in evenings after a full day in the parish, as do most priests in that position. He will have no pension from his years in ministry, as he is not a canon of the Cathedral and so must find a way to make a living once parish ministry is over.

He wants to train in law so he can assist the diocese with legal support as it currently has no expertise in this area. But he must pray and see if that is possible – he still has children whose education he has to support financially, so funding such training will be a challenge. Yet he is so thankful and content with his lot. We clergy in Britain are so quick to grumble – along with most British folk. People like this made me feel very humble.

Lent 2013: A good year for bearing fruit?

No, this is not Mrs. Thrower speaking! I'm speaking of the fruit God wants to grow in our lives – love, joy, peace....

2012 was not a good year for growing things. The tomatoes, and the potatoes and onions in the vicarage garden failed miserably. The fruit we normally manage to gather for the home-made wine was considerably reduced. Not as much alcohol in the Vicarage this year! Fruit is a good thing – and was heavily relied upon in Tanzania. But what about the fruit in our lives? Lent is the time to look at that.

Our Lent Course this year is called “Growing in Christ: bearing fruit by our life together.” It has been prepared by the diocese, and will include reflections upon the life of Jesus inspired by works of art and stained glass from around the diocese – maybe even some of our own stained glass from St. Mary's. Why not come along and be inspired? The five weekly sessions will begin on Tuesday 19th February, at 2pm and 7.30pm, (depending on whether you prefer an afternoon or an evening meeting) concluding on 19th March. Course booklets will be available from the beginning of February.

If you are unable to get to the meetings, (or indeed, in addition to them) there are also Daily Bible Reading Notes for Lent which will be available to run alongside the course. That way, we can all deepen our roots in the faith and bear good fruit this Lent.

Both the course booklet and the Daily Bible notes will cost £1.50 each. Watch this space, and prepare to grow!

Revd. Amanda

Meet our two new Trainees at St. Mary's:

Last month, Evelyne Barrow came to St. Mary's at the start of her journey to become an Ordained Minister. She will be with us until Palm Sunday as part of her 'on the job' training.

Evelyne is the Head Teacher at Skelmanthorpe Church of England First School. She has been Head there for 7 years and sees her role as a type of Ministry of Christian values – living the gospel. She has held various teaching roles, starting at Goldthorpe in Barnsley with her first teaching post in 1991.

Evelyne had no intention of becoming a Head teacher, or latterly an Ordained Minister, but it seems God's intentions and Evelyne's intentions don't always agree. She believes in 'not asking a question you don't want to hear the answer to', but somehow they seem to get asked anyway...

She had heard of the Head Teacher's post but had decided not to apply. One day before the closing date, a colleague suggested she apply. Then her own Head Teacher rang her to say she should apply. In fact, the Head told her not to come to School the next day, but to apply for the post. Two weeks later she became Head.

Evelyne remembers singing loudly as a child at Honley Church and she was confirmed at 12 years old at St. Michael's, Emley. She was encouraged by Revd. Chris Bullimore and then by Revd. John Marsh at Emley to do more 'front of Church' activities. Eventually Revd. John said he wanted to speak to her – she assumed about Lay reading, but he proposed she should go for Ordination. Typically, Evelyne wasn't sure but her Husband, Ian, was supportive. So Evelyne agreed to 'explore the possibilities' ...

Evelyne was born in Bath, Somerset and has two children, Samuel, 12 and Katy, 16. Ian, her husband is an Agricultural Engineer. Evelyne will keep her role as Head Teacher - for now - and become a 'non-stipendiary' Minister, but she says she's not asking the question about full time Ministry – just like the other questions she 'didn't ask' before....



Evelyne (right) with Amanda.

Gill Robertson is a teacher by training, spending a couple of years abroad teaching English as a Foreign Language and music in Lebanon - and got evacuated in 1982! She was evacuated in the summer of that year because the Israelis had invaded and were moving swiftly up the country towards Beirut - there was a lot of shelling and it was very unsafe, and the British government eventually decided it would send a ship to evacuate British nationals.



Her family at the time owned a fish and chip *restaurant* in the Lakes. Gill explains: 'We referred to our Fish and chip shop as a restaurant because it seated 70 - it wasn't just a take-away or a greasy spoon type of place! I worked there on and off between Lebanon and then getting a teaching post on the Wirral.'

Through that she met someone who was involved with Scripture Union holidays, so got involved too, and in 1990 became an SU schools worker. Gill met her husband, (David Robertson, now Vicar of Christ Church, South Ossett) and got married in 2004. Gill worked in Halifax as a Teaching Assistant until moving to Ossett last year. She started Reader training the year before they moved.

Gill continues: 'I've been involved with leading worship and all-age services for a long time in the churches I belonged to prior to becoming an Anglican - which was when I was married. I got involved with leading the worship in the church in Halifax, and spoke at one or two services.'

Various people kept telling me I ought to think about training for lay ministry, so eventually I decided to explore that idea. I have really enjoyed the course so far - and am very much looking forward to spending time at St. Mary's.'

We look forward to welcoming Gill into our Church too.

David

Our New Man has form...Brian Gledhill's musical past.

I am about to take on the mantle of being the new Social Chairman and before I start my role in the new year, I thought it would be a good idea if I told you a little about my time spent in the entertainment and music industry.

In the beginning..

I was interested in music from a very early age. My father was a very good pianist and there was always a piano in our house. From being around four years old my Dad would sit me on his knee when he played the piano. Before long I started to pick up a few tunes. At the age of ten I was sent for piano lessons on Corporation Street in Morley. I was there for about three years during which time I sat a number of music exams at Leeds Academy of Music.

However, when I was about twelve my parents went to visit my Uncle in Manchester. My cousin had a guitar which my Uncle had bought him, but my cousin Karl could never get the hang of it. My Uncle asked my Dad if I would like it, as it was unused. My Dad brought home the guitar. It was a red Hoffner Verathin electric guitar and came with a 5 watt Selmer amplifier. You can imagine my excitement when I was presented with this superb looking machine. From that day forth my piano lessons took a back seat as I was far more interested in the guitar.

Dancing in the City.

I became quite proficient at knocking out a few tunes on the guitar and singing along to the hit tunes of the Sixties. I remember how I got into my first pop group. I was sixteen years old and started attending the Morley Town Hall Saturday Dance which used to have many of the top groups of the time playing live there. I had gone with a pal and started chatting to some other guys who were talking about forming a pop group.

'The AZTEX' were formed. I can even remember the line-up: Michael Wheeler on rhythm guitar, Michael Auty on bass guitar, David Coomber on drums and yours truly on lead guitar and vocals.

Money, Money, Money.

We practised regularly in my dad's garage until we had around a dozen songs. Then we got our first gig. The Woolworths staff Christmas Party at Morley Co-op Hall on Albion Street. We had to play two spots, so we just played the twelve songs again for the second spot in a different order. I don't think anyone noticed as they were all slightly inebriated. We received £15 for that gig. After that things were going quite well, getting plenty of work through theatrical agencies and the 'Club and Pub' circuit, playing such venues as the Star & Garter, Kirkstall; Ackroyd Street Working Men's Club; Bell Isle etc. (prestigious ok!).

Three Steps to Heaven.

This went on for a couple of years and then things were beginning to stagnate. Not meaning to sound big headed, but I seemed to be improving faster than the rest of the group, so I decided to look for more accomplished musicians. After a few auditions, a new line up was formed in the name of **Sunset Boulevard**. This is when we went up-market into the cabaret circuit, playing venues like Batley Variety Club, Wakefield Theatre Club, and Sheffield Fiesta etc. We also played as support act for the likes of Gerry and the Pacemakers, Billy J Kramer, The Searchers and the like. We even supported Showaddywaddy at Bolton. The only difference between them and us, is that we played live - they seemed to mime a lot.



Which one is
Brian?

Going to the Chapel.

By now things were going quite well and this was when I met my lovely wife Sandra. We met at Morley Labour exchange, and no I wasn't signing on! Sandra worked there and I worked for a man whose wife also worked there. A bit of match-making took place. Sandra and I were married at St Mary's Woodkirk on 14th July 1973 and in April 1977 our son Simon was born. This is when I decided to hang up my guitar and retire from the music scene.

Fat Chance.

After a couple of years in retirement I was asked if I would like to form a comedy duo. So I went along to meet a really funny guy at the Asda depot in Wakefield and immediately saw the potential in him. His name was Mick Goodall, and boy was he funny. Mick played, or should I say attempted to play bass guitar and after a few months working on a routine 'Fat Chance' comedy duo came into existence.

Opportunity Knocks..

We made a great name for ourselves on the northern club circuit and before we knew where we were, we were auditioning for Opportunity Knocks and New Faces. We reached the short list on Opportunity Knocks and travelled to London to audition in front of Bob Monkhouse, at the Hammersmith Riverside Studios. We were put on the reserve list, but no one dropped out so we never made the live shows.

'Fat Chance' went on for a couple of years mainly concentrating on the comedy side with music thrown in for good measure. We then decided that we would benefit from becoming a comedy showband. We recruited two fantastic musicians from two well know groups of the era. Rod Owen from a group called 'Wishful Thinking' on keyboards and John Hawley from 'The Casuals' on guitar. I then moved onto bass and second lead guitar and purchased a twin neck guitar.

Neat 'n' Tidy..

We kept the name of 'Fat Chance' and went from strength to strength. Fat Chance lasted around five years, until Rod and John wanted to get back to their musical roots. Fat Chance split up as a comedy show-band and Mick and I went back to being a comedy duo. We went out under the name of 'Neat 'n' Tidy', did really well and carried on for another ten years playing northern clubs etc. We used to play weeks away from home normally down in Wales or up in the North East. We even travelled to Germany on a couple of occasions to play the Army and Air force bases.

Encore.

So that's my life story to date. 'Neat 'n' Tidy' called it a day in July 1996. I still see some of my musical colleagues now and again and we reminisce about the good times we had.

As I now take on my new role as Social Chairman I trust I can rely on your support.

Brian



Christmas Nativity Service. December 9th 2012.

Over two hundred adults and 100 children crammed themselves into St. Mary's for the Sunday morning 'interactive' Nativity Service. The younger children - many from the Playgroup - were dressed as little Angels (and they were - for the most part), as well as Joseph, Mary, an Innkeeper and the Angel Gabriel. As the story unfolded Mary and Joseph went down the aisle to the tune of the Wedding March and Mary returned on a Donkey towed by Joseph (played by Cub Scout Joey) to arrive at the Inn.

As the narrators read the story, the congregation responded every time they heard Good News with 'Pass it on, Pass it on!', and with 'Oh Dear, Oh Dear!', every time the news was bad. The service was punctuated with Carols and the highlight was after the 'birth' of Jesus when all the little Angels gathered and sang 'Twinkle, Twinkle Christmas Star'. Surely one of the most heart-warming acts of Christmas at St. Mary's. We ended with the Carol 'Come and Join the Celebration.'

Christmas Fair

We held our Christmas Fair early – at the end of November last year, but still it was well attended with nearly 120 adults and 30 to 40 children coming through the doors. We had a range of stalls including Perfumes and Toiletries, Toys and Games, Sweets and Keyrings, Pickles and Jams, Chocolates and Cakes, Books and DVD's and Christmas Gifts and Decorations, a Tombola and various raffles and our very own Santa's Grotto. Not forgetting, of course, the ever popular range of snacks, meals, cakes, tea and coffee. Our takings from the Fair was £1265. Gary Mortimer, our treasurer, thanking everyone, said this was a really good effort, especially in the current economic climate. He urged anyone with ideas for stalls – and, more importantly, the ability to arrange and man the stall, for this year to come forward.

We had a 'Guest' Stall of Charity Bags made by women in Uganda. The Stall was 'manned' by retired Vicar Ed and his wife Chris Mitchell. The bags proved to be popular and they raised £190 for the Staff and families of Kisiizi Hospital and Primary School in South West Uganda. All the monies received from the sale of the Bags, Aprons, Purses and Waistcoats goes directly to Uganda. Ed and Chris take no commission or expenses from the sales, despite travelling from Skipton, North Yorkshire to be with us on the day. Next month there will be more on this Charity and how you can help.

David.

Towards a new diocese for West Yorkshire and the Dales

Dioceses Commission announces details of draft scheme. 29.10.12

Last October, the Dioceses Commission released details of its draft scheme to reorganise Church of England structures in West Yorkshire and the Dales. The overall proposal, approved last month, is to replace the existing three dioceses and create a new single one. The draft scheme was drawn up after consultation across the three dioceses; Bradford, Ripon & Leeds and Wakefield. The Commission concluded from this that a new single diocese would be the best way to meet the challenges and opportunities of the region. The scheme, to be voted on by each diocesan synod in March, provides a legal framework which would enable the following to happen:

1. Create one new diocese of Leeds, also to be known as the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales.
2. Appoint the Bishop of Leeds in overall charge of the new diocese
3. Have bishops in each of the five areas: Bradford, Huddersfield, Leeds, Ripon and Wakefield
4. Retain the Cathedrals on a co-equal basis.
5. Ensure that the new Bishop of Leeds has permission if needed, to designate Leeds Parish Church (known as Leeds Minster) as a pro-cathedral.
6. Provide a framework for the new diocese to decide its own organisational structure and ways of working.

The Commission anticipates that this will allow the new diocese to make savings that it can reinvest in mission. If approved, the Commission recognises the importance of having a Bishop of Leeds in place as soon as possible (which is a matter for the Crown Nominations Commission chaired by the Archbishop of York), to provide the necessary leadership for the new diocese. Once overall timings are approved by Archbishop of York, detailed matters will be for the new diocese itself to resolve. A few parishes will come under neighbouring dioceses and therefore be outside the new diocese, but the day to day life and worship of those churches will not be affected.

The Bishop of Bradford, the Rt Revd Nick Baines, said: "This is an unprecedented and imaginative move on the part of the Church of England and we have the opportunity locally to create and shape the detail in order that the church can serve the region in the best way possible."

The Bishop of Ripon & Leeds, the Rt Revd John Packer said: "I very much welcome the way the Commission has emphasised the mission opportunities which the new diocese will present."

The Bishop of Wakefield the Rt Revd Stephen Platten said: "The publication of this report ends the uncertainty about the precise recommendations of the Commission and we are very grateful for that. "

A Penny for your thoughts ...

Last month the PCC approved a plan to support a Charity by giving one penny out of each pound donated to the church. So much of our giving ends up paying the bills or mending a leaky roof, we forget that there are many out there much less fortunate than ourselves, who would benefit directly from our help. It is, as Revd. Amanda explained, part of what a Christian church is all about.

Over the course of the year we would hope to raise about £500 to donate to a charity of our choice. The question is which one? There are many worthy causes out there.

This is where you may be able to help. Do you have a charity in mind -local, national or international who would benefit directly from our donation? If you do, please let Revd. Amanda or one of the PCC know. Alternatively you can e-mail me directly using the address on the inside front page. Once we have some feedback we can make an informed choice. We will, of course, announce the final choice in a later edition.

David

Inspirational Christians.

In this, our fourth in the Series of five, Gill Mahoney writes about an inspirational Scotsman.

Part 4: Eric Liddell - Athlete or Missionary?

I wonder what first springs to mind when I say these words "The Flying Scotsman?" Maybe you are thinking of the most famous steam locomotive in the world? Well, "The Flying Scotsman" I am going to focus on wasn't a steam locomotive but an athlete nicknamed "The Flying Scotsman" by a journalist. His name was Eric Liddell.

Eric Liddell was both a sporting hero and a Christian hero. He was born in 1902 in China to Scottish Missionary parents. Eric spent his first 6 years in China before he was sent to England to begin his education. He excelled in sports - in particular rugby and athletics. His athletic skills were recognized later when he attended Edinburgh University where he was invited to run in the University Athletics sports competition.

Eric competed in the 100 yards and 220 yards' races. He did not think he could win. He was up against Scotland's best: Innes Stewart. Eric won the 100 yard sprint and came second by 1 second in the 220yd race. The crowd went wild! Eric soon had a group of supporters following him from venue to venue to witness this great athlete in action.

However, the tide was to turn later in his career. His faithful supporters turned against him. Eric was such an exceptional athlete that he was chosen to run in the 1924 Olympics in Paris. Three months before the Olympics Eric learnt that the qualifying heat for the 100m sprint (which was the one Eric had been entered for) was going to take place on a Sunday, the Sabbath. He had been taught from an early age that Sunday was a special day, reserved for God.

All his life Eric had honored that teaching. He wasn't going to go against the grain now. Not even for an Olympic medal. Quite simply Eric's duty to God came before his duty to King and country. Eric was a man of great principles. The message from the bible that meant a lot to him was "He who honours Me, I will honour".



Eric was entered for the 400 metre race instead of the 100 metre race. How was that going to work? After all, the 400 metre race was an entirely different kettle of fish. The pace of the race was different: The 400 metre race ended with a sprint whereas the 100m race was sprinting from start to finish. Everyone knew that longer legs were an advantage in the 400m race. People thought Eric had no chance!

The preparation for both races was different. The 400m athletes would train to build up their stamina in order that they could maintain their strength over the longer distance. 100m athletes trained for a short burst of speed. Eric was also the smallest runner in the race. People thought Eric had no chance !

On the day of the race, the atmosphere in the stadium was electric with everyone expecting the American Horatio Fitch to win. Eric did his usual thing and shook every competitors hand before the race, wishing them success. He did not believe in luck because he thought that hard work and talent had got them where they were - not luck.

They all lined up, adrenaline flowing - waiting for the crack of the starters pistol. CRACK and they were off! But hang on! What's happening here? Who is this man who started this race with a sprint, this man with the odd running style? Surely he could not maintain this pace? He would bum himself out? The crowd was stunned into silence. They couldn't believe their eyes. Eric not only maintained this pace but flung his head further back in his unorthodox running style and turned it up a notch. The more bizarre his running style became the faster he became. He was the first to cross the line and break the tape. He couldn't stop running and ran until he collapsed into the arms of his coach. The crowd erupted. It was reported that the cheers could be heard all over Paris.

With God's grace Eric Liddell had achieved the impossible. The crowd had witnessed history in the making. Eric won Gold for Great Britain. He had not let his supporters down after all.

"He who honours Me, I will honour" - Wow! Powerful stuff. After his glorious victory Eric Liddell returned to Scotland and turned his back on athletics. He decided to follow his calling in his parents footsteps - and return to China as a missionary.

Before returning to China Eric was to spend a year studying Theology in Edinburgh. He taught Chemistry in the Anglo-Chinese college in Tientsin where he was born. He returned to a China in turmoil. There was great unrest with different factions fighting for supremacy. Then the Japanese invaded China.

The Japanese had promised that before the end of 1942 they would permit foreigners to return to their home country. Eric decided to join his wife and children in Canada. However, after the invasion of Pearl Harbour, the Japanese had a change of heart. They became hostile to foreigners especially the British and the Americans.

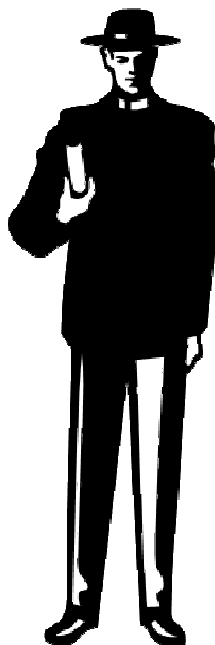
All enemies were to report to an internment camp. The Japanese rounded up about 300 foreigners and marched them to the railway station, where they would start their 400 mile journey to the internment camp. On arriving at the camp Eric soon established that the internees would have to run the camp themselves. He quickly put a plan into place. Everyone would have jobs/roles to keep the camp running. The first thing to be done was to set up a hospital wing. There were many sick people who became ill as a result of the long journey. There were various clubs set up to attend after work too. Eric taught during the day and run various sports clubs after work.

There were 97 parentless children in the camp. Uncle Eric soon became the children's favourite adult, much to the annoyance of his roommates. Eric became ill and ended up a patient himself on the hospital wing he helped set up. Nothing could be done for him. He died of a brain tumour aged 43.

Six months after Eric's death the Americans liberated the prisoners in the internment camp. After 2 years 1 month of incarceration you would think those people would be desperate to leave. However, before they claimed their freedom, many of the internees visited Eric Liddell's grave to pay their last respects to this special man: Uncle Eric. Just like the Olympic torch Eric Liddell was a beacon of light but he was a beacon of God's light here on earth.

I have found this challenge to be a very humbling experience and I wonder whether God's light shines through me in my life? What about you? May we also be a beacon of God's light here on earth? Amen.

Gill.



The Bible on your Phone...

Busy days? Want to read more of the Bible as your New Year's Resolution? Have your little Bible fix with your phone! A lot of people find it difficult on a day-to-day basis to put much time into reading or reflection on the Bible. We do have the Word for a Day booklets at the back of church, but if they aren't for you, there are lots of other offerings. However, where there's a problem, somebody has thought of a solution, and these are a couple of ideas for busy people with a smartphone.

Church of England "Reflections for Daily Prayer"

This is the 'official' Church of England app which is designed to give the daily Bible readings for each day (apart from Sunday) and a short reflection on the key reading of the day. These are written using easy to understand language and are relevant to daily life.

The app is available for iPhone and iPad by following this link: <https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/reflections-for-daily-prayer/id458039066?mt=8>
The app is free download and you get a few days free. After that you can subscribe for £1.99 for 1 week, £3.99 for a month and £11.99 for a whole year.

Pray-as-you-go

This is a daily 'podcast' of reflections and thoughts which can be downloaded to any phone or mp3 player (like an iPod). A new prayer session is produced every day. It is not a 'Thought for the Day', a sermon or a bible-study, but rather a framework for your own prayer. Lasting between ten and thirteen minutes, it combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection.

The aim is to help you to:

- become more aware of God's presence in your life
- listen to and reflect on God's word
- grow in your relationship with God.

It is produced by Jesuit Media Initiatives, with material written by a number of British Jesuits and other experts in the spirituality of St Ignatius of Loyola. Although the content is different every day, it keeps to the same basic format.

Neal



The Wanderers Return.

It was almost a year ago when Kath and Martin Randall moved south to be closer to their daughter, Nicki, Craig their Son in Law, and their two grandchildren Theo and Millie. Both of them were very active in our Church, with Martin being our resident Lay Reader and Kath looking after Church flowers as well as Wedding co-ordination and a host of other activities.

On Sunday 9th December they came for a visit. Many of you may have seen Kath in Church for the Nativity Service. Martin unfortunately was ill and couldn't come, but it was lovely to see them both.

Since moving, Kath and Martin have been busy with their new home, especially the kitchen, as well as looking after the Grandchildren regularly and settling in to their new environment 'down south' in Bedfordshire.

Over the months, they have looked for another Church to go to. First they went to Malden Church on Palm Sunday but never went inside. It just didn't give out the right signals from the outside. Then they went to a church at Great Barford, but no-one spoke to them, even though they went with Nicki and the Grandchildren. It was Easter and Easter Eggs were being handed out, none were offered to their grandchildren - and still no-one spoke.

A little dissuaded, they stopped looking for a church for a while, until Remembrance Sunday came around and they decided to try Clophill Church. Inside they felt welcomed - one of the Church wardens told Martin that both Lay readers were 'getting on a bit' and may need some help (there are three churches in the benefice), and another woman asked Kath if she could help with the flowers. How strange that their professional skills were discussed within five minutes of arriving, without any prompting.

The new church is also called St. Mary's. Mysterious ways indeed. They have been twice more since then including to a Christingle Service with Nicki and Millie. Theo was left behind in case he 'made a scene' but the Lay Reader said they could have brought him anyway. In another twist, the new church is in fact nearest to where they live, but somehow they never considered it until November, after they had 'settled in' a bit. Interestingly their new St. Mary's has just had the back of Church re-ordered with pews removed and toilets added. ('Lovely!' says Kath).

I know we miss them at St. Mary's, but it is also nice to see them making a good life for themselves in another part of the country. Gail and I went down to see them over the New Year and gave our best wishes from the St. Mary's 'up north'.

David.



Kath and Martin outside their new home in Bedfordshire.

A Big Thankyou to Gary.

Gary Mortimer has been Social Chairman for at least the last five years and is handing over the Social baton to Brian (see P18). Over the years Gary, along with his team, has organised many Christmas Fairs, Garden Parties, Barn Dances, Concerts and other Social engagements and has been an excellent 'front man' at many of these occasions. The 'Gang Show' of a couple of years ago, which involved members of the congregation (and vicars) performing – often for the first time – their own particular act in their own particular style, was a great success and was the best attended event Gary can remember. A very big Thankyou to Gary for all his effort and enthusiasm. He says he will still be on the scene to help where he can.

He has thoroughly enjoyed his time as Chairman and wishes Brian every success. He extends his own thanks to all those who have helped, attended and cleared up afterwards – especially the extraction and replacement of the 25 feet long trestle tables – his own personal favourite (nightmare).

David



Mothers' Union is working tirelessly to help families affected by HIV/AIDS

December 1st was World AIDS Day, a chance for people to unite in the fight against HIV. We remember and give thanks to Mothers' Union members across the world who support families and individuals affected by HIV/AIDS.

East London, South Africa:

Holy Cross Anglican Church, East London, is in the midst of the second largest township after Soweto in South Africa, in an area of high unemployment and poverty, Mothers' Union members have a special heart for families affected by HIV/AIDS.

For nearly 10 years Mothers' Union members here have been running the Vena Vetu programme for vulnerable children affected with HIV/AIDS. A group of 14 young people meet regularly in a support group facilitated by Mothers' Union. In the group meetings they learn how to live well, prevent further infection and how to take treatment. Crucially they learn that there is still life with HIV.

Fourteen year old Sibulele has been coming to the support group since it started. Once a month he is joined by his Aunt Yolisa who has learnt how to care for Sibulele through the group, and who values the food parcels Mothers' Union provide to her and Sibulele.

"The support group is good for Sibulele. It is good for him to meet with other children like him – not to always talk about HIV but to talk about normal things. The project is making a big difference to us. We really need help. This church is doing something we didn't have or deserve. God came and did a miracle to us."

Sandra's Seasonal Suggestions.

January is a month for taking stock, preparing for Spring and trying to keep warm! It won't be long before spring is here and things start to take off. This is the time to check that your tools are in good order, that your soil is as well prepared as possible and to check your supply of seeds is ready.

Sandra's Top Tip: Next month kick starts the sowing season so make sure you pick up plenty of pots, trays, labels, pens and most importantly - **seed compost and seeds** at the garden centre.

Now is the time to....

1. If not already done and the ground is not too hard, dig in some manure into your beds.
2. Harvest root vegetables such as leeks, parsnips, turnips and celeriac. Also harvest Brussels sprouts and any other crops remaining.
3. Feeding wildlife? Fat balls for robins and great and blue tits. (Remove the nets first) No milk or bread for hedgehogs – please buy specialist food. Watch out for foxes. Ensure your bin bags and lids are secure.
4. Sow early carrots and garlic in situ under cloches.
5. Did we dig a trench for runner beans? If so, keep adding kitchen waste.
6. Mid winter could possibly be the best time to wash out old pots and trays. Use warm soapy water and rinse with a solution of diluted disinfectant.
7. If planning on growing potatoes then save egg boxes as they will come in handy to help 'chit' your potatoes in the next few months.
8. If you grow tomatoes in your greenhouse border then this is a good time to change the soil to avoid pest and disease problems.
9. Trim back sage to give it a new lease of life.
10. Order seed potatoes.

Sandra.



Comments on the General Synod vote on Women Bishops

No-one can have missed the media spotlight falling again on the Church of England as the General Synod failed to reach a resolution to appoint women bishops. Many have asked me why it is so complicated. Certainly, unlike other churches in the Anglican Communion around the world, the vote is not a simple 'yes' or 'no'.

It has tried to accommodate those who are members of the Church of England but find they cannot accept the ministry of women in any form of ordained leadership. The provisions would allow such congregations to have a male bishop delegated to their oversight who they could accept. The problem has come because of how the delegation of that authority would come about – if it had been given by a woman it would still be regarded by them as invalid.

Because this vote was coming up, these churches who feel very strongly about this have been very proactive in getting members to stand on General Synod. Those who are happy to see the vote go through have to face the uncomfortable truth that their more laid-back feelings about being represented on General Synod has left the House of Laity unbalanced by the strength of views against. This does not accurately reflect the wider views of the people in the pew.

This is where the problem lies. It has made the Church of England appear more and more out of touch with the culture in which we seek to minister. This issue, together with that looming of same-sex marriage, threatens the unity of the church more than ever. There are cries within the church since the vote to stop trying to accommodate those who don't accept the ministry of women at all, which would inevitably fracture the Church of England. Perhaps a Week of Prayer for Christian Unity has never been more timely. "What does God require of us?"

Revd. Amanda

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

The question, “What does God require of us?” comes from the book of Micah in the Old Testament. It is the theme of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, which runs from 18th -25th January. As in other years, there will be a shared service, gathering folk from all local churches in the parish. This is to be on **Sunday 20th January at 6pm** at West Ardsley Methodist Church on Haigh Moor Road. The speaker will be Glenn Coggins from St. Michael’s East Ardsley.

Perhaps this year we are aware that issues of disunity are not between differing denominations in the church, but embedded within them. We find ourselves asking what would the ‘Unity’ we pray for look like? Certainly it cannot mean we agree on everything – that is not what real unity looks like.

At every wedding, the bride and groom are ‘made one’ in the eyes of God – they are ‘united’. You can be sure that does not mean they will never disagree! If any couple tells me they have never had a cross word in 50 years of marriage, I am left wondering whether one or the other is unable to express their true reactions in the interests of ‘a quiet life’. No - unity means having disagreements but forging a way through them together. That means a willingness to compromise. Even when there is no intent, problems occur. That is the situation the church finds itself in today. It is a painful place to be.

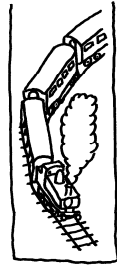
Whether or not you are able to attend the service, I encourage you to pray for the ability of Christians of differing views to work together with grace and generosity. Only then will the church be a good advert for God’s kingdom.

Revd. Amanda

STOLES

THE VICAR USES THESE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE CONGREGATION

PATTERN →



WHAT
THE
VICAR
INTENDS
IT TO
MEAN



CHRISTIANITY
BRINGS
NEW
GROWTH

THE
SPIRIT
IS AT
WORK

THE
BIBLE
IS VERY
IMPORTANT

WE ARE ALL
ON A
JOURNEY
OF FAITH

WHAT
THE
CONGREGATION
THINKS
IT
MEANS



WE COULD
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WITH THE
OVERGROWN
CHURCHYARD

ONE DAY
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IN SOME
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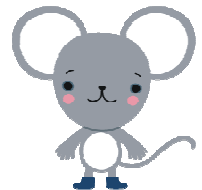
I
LIKE
TRAINS

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The Church Mouse.....sssshhh!

Hypochondriac drama queen—me? Surely not.

I love Wednesdays! The Church heating is on early for the morning service -and sometimes there are biscuit crumbs! Lovely. This month I'm waiting for my Valentine. Someone to write me a love song. My friend Hubert, the Black Canon, says it sounds good too. It'll be a nice change from all those incantations he keeps singing. Then, just when it seemed peaceful, the Christmas Fair cake was almost eaten by the wrong person! Oh dear! I think I'm going to have one of my 'moments' again. By the way, I raced a snail the other day—beat it hands down. Easy. Got some slimy stuff on my paws though. Yuck! More next month. (I hope).



Misha.

Stable 'n' Stars Activity Day at St. Mary's:

Pass the Glue...

Nineteen youngsters signed up for another manic Saturday morning of crafts and activities. Brian and Dawn showed them how to make personalised Christmas decorations, Gail and Derek, meanwhile, produced home made Christmas Stockings—complete with chocolate. Dave and Kate made Nativity Stables, Susan cooked up some Snowman Cakes and Sally and Albert made Nativity finger puppets. Phew! In between we played games and Charlie and Alice showed up for a puppet show with a Christmas message —along with a very smelly Camel. The kids went home with all their hard work tucked under their arms, and we collapsed in the nearest chair! Great fun though.

Watch this space for details of the next All Action Activity Day.

What's he driving at?

A teenage boy had just passed his driving test and asked his father when they could discuss his use of the car. His father said he'd make a deal: 'You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your Bible a little, and get your hair cut! Then we'll talk about the car.'

The boy thought about that for a moment, decided he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it. After about six weeks his father said: 'Son, you've brought your grades up and I've observed that you have been studying your Bible, but I'm disappointed you haven't had your hair cut.'

The boy said, 'You know, Dad, I've been thinking about that, and I've noticed in my studies of the Bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair...and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair.'

'Yes', his father replied, 'but did you also notice they walked everywhere they went?'

Harry

Poetry Corner.

Do you write Poetry? Or do you have a friend who writes? If you have an original work and you'd like it published please see me—or send it to me. If its not your work you'll need the author's permission, otherwise copyright law only allows free publication 70 years after the Author's death. Never written before? Why not have a go!

Bring me Sunshine.

(ode to a Yorkshireman).

Everyone is so cheerful,
It really isn't fair.
They smile and laugh and buzz around,
Just getting in my hair.

This life's a serious business.
An important job to do.
You won't get far in this old world,
Just smiling like you do.

Now learn to be more serious,
I've told you once before.
This laughing's got to stop right now,
Can't stand it anymore !

I know how to make life better,
To get you in the zone.
Get rid of all that happiness -
And have a right good moan!

With apologies to all the cheerful Yorkshiremen.

David T.

Albert's January Quiz:

1. January is named after the Roman god Janus.
What was he the god of?
2. Which political body came into being on the 1st January 1958?
3. Who came into power in Cuba on the 1st January 1959?
4. What did Howard Carter discover on the 3rd January 1924?
5. What became the 49th US State on the 3rd January 1959?
6. Which English King died on the 5th January 1066?
7. On the 5th January 1981 the Yorkshire Ripper was arrested.
What is his name?
8. Who first demonstrated his electric telegraph system on the 6th January 1838?
9. Which British Prime Minister resigned on the 9th January 1957?
10. On 9th January 1972 where did the liner Queen Elizabeth sink?
11. Which communications service was introduced on the 10th January 1863?
12. Which railway system was opened on the 10th January 1863?
13. In London on the 10th January 1946, which political body met for the first time?
14. Who first demonstrated his electric telephone system on the 14th January 1878?
15. On the 17th January 1778 Captain James Cook discovered and named the Sandwich Islands.
By what name are the islands now known?
16. On the 22nd January 1902 who made the first radio transmission?
17. Which political body was founded on the 25th January 1919?
18. In which city was General Gordon murdered on 26th January 1885?
19. Who first demonstrated television on the 27th January 1926?
20. Which political figure was assassinated on the 30th January 1948?

Answers on Page 43.

Albert Shaw



15th Morley (Woodkirk St. Mary's) Scout Group.

**This Month: Night Hikes, Christmas decorations,
Winter Camps (brrrrr..) and Pantomimes..**

The Beavers (Age 6 to 8) The Beavers were really busy during December - gluing and sticking for Christmas. We made Father Christmas door hangers, Christmas cards and bobbles for their Christmas trees. We had our Christmas Party on the Friday before. Another fun evening with games and a special visitor (Santa!) and lots of good food.

The Cubs (Age 8 to 10 ½) A Great Night. By Joey Clough aged 10.

On Friday 16th November the 15th Morley Cubs were having a night hike and sleep over. Everyone met at the church hall before making our way to Calder Island to begin the torch-light hike. All wrapped up and torches lit, we followed Dan along the canal path.

The ground was muddy with lots of puddles and it was a cold winter evening. We travelled over a railway bridge which was fun. After the walk we returned to the warm, cosy church hall where we were occupied by making doughballs and playing dominoes – pair against pair. We enjoyed this.

On the agenda next was hot dogs for supper SCRUMPTIOUS! It was now time for bed so we rolled out them sleeping bags and snuggled in, ready to watch National Lampoons Christmas Vacation which was hilarious. After hardly any sleep, we woke up to breakfast of either hotdogs, cereal or toast whilst watching another fab, funny film. A good time spent by all.

Joey

Scouts (age 10 ½ to 14 ½) and

Meer Kat Explorers (age 14 ½ -18). Simple Scouting.

2012 has been a great year for the explorer scout section. We have increased our number from 5 at the start of the year to 18 young people. We have had several camps, both with the scout section and by ourselves, with a great summer camp and several of the explorers going to Normandy with the district. Our first camp next year will be the winter camp held at Hawkhurst campsite at Kielder Water in Northumberland (in January!). There the explorers will be able to partake in numerous activities including zorbing, laser clay shooting and 4x4 off-roading with many more besides. We'll keep you posted in 2013

Chris. Explorer Scout Leader

The Scout Group Pantomime.

The Panto season is upon us already. We have booked Morley Town Hall for the 8th February for all the Cubs, Beavers and Scouts. The Panto this time is Babes in the Wood and we are really looking forward to it. Tickets are primarily for the Scout Group and their families. Any remaining tickets may be available but numbers are limited. Please see me about tickets.

Akela (Gail)

With thanks to Jonathan, Joanne, Skip, Chris and Gail.

It's all Go...!!!!

Did You Know...

The fattest Knight of King Arthur's Round Table was Sir Cumference.
- his trouble was eating too much Pi.

How come if you push an envelope—it's still stationery?

Atheism is a 'non-prophet' organisation.

A catapult was confiscated from an algebra class—because it was a weapon of Maths disruption.

Trevor Sykes.

Diary for January 2013

Wed 2nd	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (Common Worship) & refreshments
Thurs 3rd	2pm	Holy Communion at Soothill Manor
Sat 5th	9.30am-1pm	Church cleaning
Sun 6th	8.00am	Holy Communion (said)
EPIPHANY	10.30am	Confirmation Service with Bishop Stephen (Followed by faith lunch in church)
Tues 8th	7.30pm	'Beyond Ourselves' course – Vicarage
Wed 9th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (Iona setting) & refreshments
Sat 12th	4pm	Wedding
Sun 13th	10.30am	All-Age Service
	12 noon	Holy Communion
Mon 14th	12 noon	First Steps service in Parish Centre
		'Henry searches for treasure'
	7.30pm	PCC meeting in Parish Centre
Tues 15th	7.30pm	'Beyond Ourselves' course – Vicarage
Wed 16th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (1662 setting) & refreshments
Thurs 17th	11am	Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge
Sun 20th	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung)
	6pm	Churches Together 'Week of Prayer for Christian Unity' at West Ardsley Methodist church
Tues 22nd	7.30pm	'Beyond Ourselves' Course – Vicarage
Wed 23rd	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (with prayer for healing) & refreshments
Sun 27th	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung)
Wed 30th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (One World)

Diary for early February 2013

Fri 1st	7pm	'New Wine' Worship celebration – Gildersome
Sat 2nd	9.30am-1pm	Church and churchyard clean-up
		Training Day with Russ Parker – Gildersome
		'Healing Wounded Communities'
Sun 3rd	8am	Holy Communion (said)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung)
	12.30pm	Baptism Service
Wed 6th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (Common Worship) & refreshments
Thurs 7th	2pm	Holy Communion at Soothill Manor
Sun 10th	10.30am	All-Age Service
	12 noon	Holy Communion

Ash Wednesday 2013

The beginning of Lent, some 40 days before Easter Sunday (31st March 2013) is on **Wednesday 13th February**. This year we will be hosting the service at St. Mary's at 7.30pm, and we are inviting those at St. Michael's East Ardsley and other local congregations to join us.

There will be no 10am service on this particular Wednesday. The service will include the traditional 'ashing' on the forehead and communion. It is a helpful start to this season of preparation for the Easter celebration. Join us if you can!



Kids: Don't forget Jam Club !

Sunday Morning 10.30 - 11.30

Jesus - And - Me

Learning & Doing in Faith.

What's Your Story?

Do you have a story or Article for the magazine? Maybe you have a religious relative or you have experienced something unusual in your Christian life? Do you work with charities or other religious groups, helping in our community? What do you know about the local history – especially about St. Mary's? You can write your own story – or see me for a chat if you like. My contact details are at the front of the magazine. Don't be shy.

Church Organisations:

Why not have your own space in the magazine? Keep everyone up to date and let them know what's coming up. One e-mail a month is all it takes. Get in touch with me for more info.

Thankyou.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this month's magazine. It's great to get articles - big or small - for inclusion in our very own publication.

The Editor.

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St Mary's Registers of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

On the 2nd December we welcomed 5 children into the church family at their **BAPTISM's**:-

Laila Florence Myers daughter of Jonathan and Krystle of Tingley

Joshua Matthew Smith son of Neil and Nicola of Tingley

Charlie Oliver Rowland son of Michael and Rebecca of Wrenthorpe

And it was a family occasion as the children of Patrick and Lisa Else of Tingley were baptised together

Elizabeth Freya and Seth Mason

WEDDINGS:

On December 24th we celebrated the marriage of Max Steele and Kelly Louise Tame

FUNERALS:

Pat Robinson, beloved Wife of Peter from Woodkirk.

Keith Dickinson, beloved cousin of Sheila Walker from Sunnyside Nursing Home

Also during November we held a Memorial Service for:-

David Hardwick who had been living in France.

QUIZ ANSWERS: 1. Gates. 2. European Economic Community. 3. Fidel Castro. 4. Tutankhamun's Sarcophagus. 5. Alaska. 6. Edward the Confessor. 7. Peter Sutcliffe. 8. Samuel Morse. 9. Anthony Eden. 10. Hong Kong. 11. The Penny Post. 12. London Underground. 13. U.N.General Assembly. 14. Alexander Graham Bell. 15. Hawaii. 16. Guglielmo Marconi. 17. The League of Nations. 18. Khartoum. 19. John Logie Baird. 20. Mahatma Ghandi.

Albert Shaw

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What's on

Mothers' Union	3 rd Monday in the month 7:30pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
Playgroup	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:45am to 12:15pm Lisa Fyffe 0776 1762661
Girl Guides	Tuesday 7:30pm Vikki Springett 07841 513530
Toddler Group	Wednesday 9:15-11:00am Sally Shaw 01924 475048
Rainbows	Thursday 5.30 - 6.30pm Ruth Osenton-Brown 01924 689992
Brownies	Thursday 6.30 - 7.45pm Hannah Tombling 01924 501892
Keep Fit Class	Thursday 8:00pm Margaret Hampshire 01924 476721
Young at Heart	1 st & 3 rd Thursdays 2:00pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
Beavers	Friday 5:00pm Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
Cubs	Friday 6:30pm Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
Scouts	Friday 7:45pm Trevor Holdsworth 0113 253 0927
Explorer Scouts	Friday 7:45pm Chris Ingham 07816 517838
Jam Club	1st and 3rd Sunday of the month - 10.30am Derek Barraclough 01924 472375

Services

Main Sunday Service: (except the 2nd Sunday of each month)

10:30am Parish Communion & Jam Club

Additional Services:

1st Sunday of the month:

8:00am Holy Communion

12.30pm Baptism Service

2nd Sunday of the month:

10:30am Family Service

12:00 Holy Communion

4th Sunday of the month:

10:30am Gro-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

To **book weddings** please contact the Wedding Coordinator, Gail

Townsend on 0113 2528710 Email: weddings@stmarywoodkirk.org