

# Parish News

*St Mary's, Woodkirk*

**Still Waters Run Deep**

**May 2013**



**This Month:**

**The Wall; Northern Saints;  
Churchwardens; Female Choirs and  
Boyhood.**

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

## Who's who at Woodkirk

**Vicar of St Mary's:** The Rev Amanda Barraclough,  
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Gail Townsend 0113 2528710

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

**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 252 8935

**Social Chairman:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

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

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

**Parish Legacy Officer:** To be advised

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

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

**Electoral Roll Officer:** Dave Townsend 0113 2528710

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

**Magazine Editor &** David Townsend 0113 2528710

**Weekly News Sheet.** Email: dave2408.townsend@gmail.com  
Magazine Articles by the 20th of the month.

Mobile: 07745 301746

Contributions for the Weekly Sheet  
by Thursday evening please.

**Deanery Synod rep:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

### **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.

If you enjoy the magazine- a donation of 50p really helps to keep it going!

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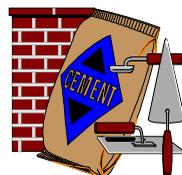
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on

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Have a look at

the **Daily Newspaper** on  
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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. Call Margaret on 01924 473064. 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](http://www.stmarywoodkirk.org)

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

We are on Twitter: [twitter.com/stmarywoodkirk](https://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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## **A Year through the eyes of the Vicar...**

Leading a church is more like a marathon than a sprint, and, though I have never attempted a marathon, I am told that there is something called 'the wall'. There is that point when you feel that you have nothing left to give, no resources, no energy, and you wonder whether you can manage to keep on going. You simply have to battle on through, and find in doing so that a new surge of energy is awakened. More than any other year of my time here that has been my experience.

I have had to depend more upon God and upon the much-needed support and encouragement of others who make up the life of St. Mary's than ever. Those who have taken the time to offer this to me have been more important to my well-being than I think they realise. I thank God for you and your ministry to me - because that's what it is - ministry is a two-way thing. The encouraging thing is that I believe it is increasingly the case at St. Mary's. Not too many years ago, ministry was regarded as something the vicar did to you and for you. All the laity had to do was sit in the pew and receive the ministry given. Not any more - or at least less so than it was.

### **Growing in Confidence**

At St. Mary's there is a growing sense of confidence amongst the laity to attempt new things which should hearten us. The Core Group were encouraged one evening almost a year ago to consider whether the church should have a sermon series with a different focus over August. I was expecting them to guide me on what it might be helpful for me to preach on - but before I knew it they had assigned themselves a 'hero of faith' who had inspired them to talk about!

In a culture gripped by Olympic fever, with the words 'Inspire a Generation' it seemed the right way to go. I was not the only one who found these talks inspiring and encouraging. It's all a reminder that we all have something to learn from one another. That same trend is evident in the planning of many of the All-Age Worship services now, as a team which includes as many as 9 people taking turns to help plan and deliver these creative services, from the inception and idea, through the creation and sourcing of props and materials, to the delivery itself.

Many of these have stepped well outside their comfort zone to do so, and they have grown as people in the process. Often these small 'first steps' into doing something new lead to a desire to learn more. For both Derek and Dawn this had led them both to undertake a course

provided by the Diocese – ‘Studying Theology for the First Time’. I think both would say it has been a steep learning curve, but one which has led them to consider pursuing training for authorised ministries through the Common Exploratory Year.

## **Our Training Ministry**

Speaking of training for authorised ministries, we are being looked to more and more frequently as a suitable placement base for students. We were fortunate to have Evelyne Barrow with us from Advent Sunday until Palm Sunday, in her first year of training for ordination, and Gill Robertson from the new year to Palm Sunday prior to her licensing as a Lay Reader in October of this year. What is it which makes St. Mary’s an attractive placement opportunity?

The ability to be both traditional in style and yet experimental in engaging with new ideas and ways of doing things is, I think, part of the reason. Both have found the experience an enriching one, and I believe they have enriched St. Mary’s too. They serve to remind us that people training for licensed ministries are ordinary lay people, not unlike us, who are on a journey of growth and discovery.

## **Joy of Confirmation**

It is seeing that growth and discovery happen which is the greatest joy of ministry for me. It nourishes me as nothing else. One of the most profound joys was sharing the journey of our four confirmation candidates through a 10 week course which I think all of them would say was life-changing. They not only learnt about Christian faith, but met with Jesus themselves, experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit and made a commitment to follow him.

Beyond Ourselves.

The Epiphany Sunday Confirmation service was a great way to begin the New Year and to renew our own commitment to a continued discipleship. This confirmation group was using material called ‘Beyond Ourselves’ – newly produced, and new to us. It was felt that there was a mine of rich teaching in the course which enabled even established Christians to understand their faith better. If there was a demand for it, I would be happy to use it with other people. It has been a deep sadness to me to find that the sustainability of our Home Group has, over the year, been questioned, and there does not seem to be enough of an appetite for this to continue.

I remain passionately committed to a conviction that growth happens in small groups more effectively than anywhere else, and I long to find ways to encourage this. Lent Groups are a short-term, focused solution and have been engaged in with enthusiasm by those who attend. They deepen relationships and deepen faith. This year the Core Group branched out in leading an evening group without me present – another sign of growing confidence, but sadly not one which was well supported. Perhaps similar short-term courses at various points in the year might be a solution? If you have reflections on what you would value please let me know!

### **Special Sunday for 2013**

With four confirmation candidates with an average age of around 30, I am heartened that the age profile of St. Mary's is healthier than it once was, though of course we still have a long way to go. Our new Electoral roll includes 28 new names, many of whom are members of our All-Age Worship congregation and who will bring the average age of electoral roll membership down significantly.

Aware of this congregation as vital to the on-going ministry and outreach of the church, we invited them to complete a questionnaire last year. This showed high levels of satisfaction with the ministry we offer them, and though some would be interested in increasing the frequency of this service from its monthly pattern there was felt to be insufficient mandate for this at present. Through the questionnaires we have identified a need to get to know this group better, and give them opportunities to get to know one another better.

This has been a challenge to respond to, as this would most effectively happen straight after the service, but we have the competing commitment to the traditional Communion congregation. With this in mind, we are planning a '**Special Sunday**' on **14th July** where things will be a little different, as a trial. The All-Age congregation will be invited to bring food for a shared meal, and crafts to consolidate the theme that Sunday will be offered in the Parish Centre.

The Communion Service will be at 4pm followed by a sandwich tea in the Parish Centre, so that there is something special – and social – for both congregations. I encourage you to support this venture and give your feedback after the event. That way we can gauge whether this might be attempted more regularly, especially whilst nights are light.

## **Social Events**

This weaving of the social and spiritual life of St. Mary's is important for building a strong sense of belonging. We all enjoyed the 'Last Night of the Proms' event and the Big Sunday Lunch which made the Queen's Diamond Jubilee weekend such a memorable one. I want to recognise and honour all those whose hard work makes these events happen – the kitchen ladies and events co-ordinators. As Gary steps down from chairing the Social Committee I want again to thank him for his hard work and keenness to see this aspect of St. Mary's thrive. Heavy demands on his time have led to Brian Gledhill stepping in to take over as chair – please support his efforts. Thank you Brian for your energy and enthusiasm – it can be hard work but don't lose that vigour for enriching the life of this church!

Energy and enthusiasm are wonderful to see, aren't they? I have found those qualities by the bucket load in Dave Townsend as he has taken on the editorship of the Parish News, putting his own stamp on it, and working tirelessly to make it a magazine we can offer to others confidently. A huge thank you to Julie for having squeezed the task into her very full and demanding life for the last five years – it has been very much appreciated. Dave has more time and opportunity to invest in it – if you see him walking towards you with his black book and a pen you know he's going to interview you about something! My experience is that the black book can appear when least expected, as some passing comment becomes an opportunity to harvest more magazine fodder at the most unlikely point. I applaud the initiative and enthusiasm Dave has shown – long may it live! (*I'm blushing now – Editor*).

I ask all of us to feed that enthusiasm (wherever you see it) with encouragement and affirmation. We all love to see such enthusiasm but it needs feeding to sustain it – like stoking a fire. No-one can stay enthusiastic for long without encouragement.

## **St. Mary's Heritage**

There was also great enthusiasm in the PCC and Core Group as we discussed the possibility of creating a more focussed Heritage base at St. Mary's. There is much history contained in the building – some we know and some deserves further research and exploration. There is potential to create educational packs for different educational Key Stages, and utilise technology to create interactive guided tours, create more attractive and user-friendly guide materials, and maybe even deliver scenes from the Wakefield Mystery Plays in their original setting.

## **Our Heritage...continued**

Many visitors come to our church in their attempts to locate ancestors in the vast graveyard – and their experience could be enriched by enabling them to visualise the community in which their forebears lived. If Phase I of the MY WOODKIRK project has been the mosaics on the car-park banking completed last year, this would be Phase II, and would draw on the expertise and resources of local historians and archivists to realise the latent potential in our building.

This, I must emphasize, is not an exercise in ‘looking backwards’ in itself, but in looking backwards in order that we may move forwards more effectively and with a greater appreciation of our journey. We are currently seeking support from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Progress on securing grants has been frustratingly slow and disappointing. Two lengthy and complex bids to landfill bodies have been turned down.

One grant-aiding body has expressed a willingness to support us – but not to put the first large chunk into the pot. So we grind on with depressing pace on a project which, because of VAT liability will in all likelihood cost around £150,000, of which we currently have around £35,000 in place. This includes around £8,000 by way of pledges (and the Gift Aid accruing).

Of that total cost, we should be able to reclaim some £20,000 afterwards (the VAT) but there is no guarantee of this. Over a third of the cost is for toilet facilities – the outside works means this is not cheap – and it is not possible to install a toilet without installing a suitable ramp for disabled access, so a phased completion is not be possible. However, faculty permissions are all in place – including permission to dispose of the old organ – but only when the project is under way. We press on....

## **Pastoral Care**

The lack of toilet facilities prohibits a number of people from attending church, and with a congregation which has a large number of the ‘more mature’, there are more and more who are struggling to attend worship. More than ever before, people need visiting in their homes, and pastoral care is stretched to the limit in the way it has never been before. I am deeply aware that my visits to the housebound must seem spasmodic, and I depend on Gail to visit when I cannot, but we are both heavily in demand.

I am deeply grateful to those of you who notice folk who are missing and who make a point of visiting them yourself. We all know how thankful we would be to see a friendly face on the doorstep or even a phone call with someone from church. For any who are struggling because of the need of a lift, just let me know. I am aware of folk who are prepared to help if lifts are needed.

## **The Africa Experience**

My trip to Tanzania earlier this year left others in charge for a few weeks – and you coped! I think it was a hugely enriching experience for me, and I hope you feel it has had some positive impact upon us here. It certainly encouraged me to be more outward looking - it is easy to get so embroiled in the demands of the parish and the church that I can lose perspective of the bigger picture. I am aware that as a church we need to retain that outward focus – looking beyond ourselves, both with events like Christian Aid Week (thanks to Sally for all her energies in this!); the Big Brew Fairtrade event (thanks to Dawn) and the opportunity to send Kiswahili Bibles to Tanzanian leaders, as well as doing things which seek to serve our own community.

We currently do this by inviting them to our premises, maybe for Mums and Tots, and Playgroup; welcoming them to use our facilities – and the Parish Centre is more heavily in demand than ever (thanks to Brian and Susan for their bookings management service!); but it is important we find ways to engage with the parish beyond our premises.

## **Outreach in the Community**

The plan to train up volunteers to work ecumenically with others to deliver CAP Money is in progress. Naomi spoke to us as a church with great enthusiasm last June about the ministry of Christians Against Poverty. We thereafter identified 2 people who were keen to follow this up with training. Michael Broadway and Liz Aveyard will undergo training, Michael in May and Liz later, and will work with folk from other churches to deliver a 3 week course of money management skills. With the new benefits changes coming into play, I have been hearing how this will affect children and families in this community.

The Cluster of extended Services which works across local schools to enable well-being for children is keen to listen to us explaining how this course might help some very hard-pressed families. This is the church going to where people are, listening to their needs and offering what we can to reach out to them, fulfilling the on-going ministry of Jesus today. In order to ready ourselves for this, once trained, the team will want to run a pilot course amongst church members to prepare them. So please give them your support when this comes up – even if you feel you have no need of budgeting skills!

## **Love your Neighbour**

This is all part of the church being here to serve the community. Another aspect of this is the Welcome Pack – part of our Transformational Plan and now ready for use. We are printing the very attractive and (we believe) user-friendly pack in small quantities so that it can be up-dated regularly. But if you are aware of folk moving into homes near you please take one of these and use it as a reason to introduce yourself. A friendly neighbour is always welcome when you are new to an area and is a great witness to the welcome God has offered us in Christ. It all helps people to have a positive view of St. Mary's, and therefore of the Lord we serve.

That's a vital aspect of our ministry when so many have a jaded view of the church, fed by the media and sometimes by the church itself, nationally and locally! The on-going greenbelt development issues raise their heads from time to time and will continue to do so for years to come. We continue to seek God's wisdom as we face the challenges this presents. Every Christian can make a difference to the view others have of the church, and of Jesus.

## **And Thank you to You...**

Leadership is only good leadership when it recognises its limitations. I have to keep telling myself that even the most gifted and able vicar, working 24/7, would never end up with more than a mediocre church if they reckoned it all depended on them. The route to a truly healthy, vibrant, attractive church is for every person in it to play their part, large or small, church-based or workplace-based or community-based, to enable the love of Jesus to be shared. What happens in the church building is just a small part of that. Services are just that – services. Our cars need services – and so do we. But the real point of the service is to make the running smoother and more efficient for the rest of the time, more in tune with the Maker's specification.

A huge thank you to everyone who in their own way enriches the life of St. Mary's. For those whose work goes un-noticed – the hours of cleaning and tending and clearing paths of snow and mowing grass.

The flower arranging –thank you Averille for all you do. For the practical assistance of folk like Allan Kelly, of Ian Marchant, of Sally, of Margaret Longden who sends out magazines and baptism cards, of Susan with her loyal work at Christingle season. For Peter, who continues to create the rota for us – it's harder than it looks!

To Neal and Gail, who give what they can unstintingly and willingly. For everyone who picks up the phone to offer support, or encouragement, or thanks. You don't know how much difference it makes.

To all the people who do so much in so many ways it's impossible to name them all. To Derek without whose support none of this would be possible, and who keeps on believing in me when I start to doubt myself, and finally to the God who works through all of us to bring his love to our community..

Revd. Amanda



*Sometimes Amanda needs someone to lean on. Can you help?*

## **All-Age Worship @ St. Mary's**

*Churchwarden Gail was left to her own devices...*

On Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April, Revd. Amanda was on holiday and so the 'B team' led the All-Age Worship, named: 'Sunday Breakfast Club'. The team consisted of Brian, Gill, Sally, Dawn and myself. We had a very lively time our theme was:

### **The Breakfast at the Sea Shore.**

First we had a fun quiz on how well do you know your cereals, and a prize of chocolate eggs were given to the winning pew. We then ask them to name their best breakfast, just one person said kippers! ! Most grown-ups liked their big fry-up, but we did have some healthy ones. We then went on to our Bible story acted out by Sally, Brian and some children.

Jesus had been crucified and the disciples were now left on their own. One day some of them decided to go fishing - among them were Peter and John. We had a make-shift boat in the aisle (an up-turned table with a sheet for a sail) with Sally as Peter and two youngsters helping with the net (only a small boat).

All night they fished on one side of the Boat but did not catch anything. As the light came up and they were deciding what to do, a stranger on the Shore called out to them to try casting their nets on the other side of the boat.

On the right side of the church, in the pews, were hidden paper fish and children had to go and find all 153 of them and put them into the nets! This was great fun. It was then John recognised the stranger as Jesus (Brian's big part) and told Peter. Peter jumped from the boat and swam to Jesus who had a fire going (not a real one we didn't want to burn the Church down with the Vicar being away) and bread warming. He told them to bring in the fish and Jesus cooked them all breakfast. We shared the fish with the congregation - each person was given a fish to write a thank-you note to God for all the wonderful things he has given us in our lives. Everyone was invited to take the fish home.

We then welcomed the newly baptised and they were given their Baptism certificates and a toddler Bible each. The Scouts lead us in prayers. Birthdays were celebrated, Banns read and notices given out. We then had our final Hymn and the blessing.

I would like to thank everyone who took part and everyone who attend for their support and the lovely comments we received after the service.

God Bless, Gail

## **We speak the same language**

### **- Shared Service for Pentecost.**

There was once a time when Christians of different denominations struggled to relate to each other. "It's as if we speak different languages." Thank goodness, those days have gone. Worshipping together broadens our horizons and enriches us, and those who have supported ecumenical services in this area recently would, I think, endorse that.

Pentecost seems the perfect time to share together in an ecumenical celebration. The coming of the Holy Spirit broke down the language barriers between people and enabled them to share an experience which would unite those who had been divided from one another. The Holy Spirit enabled them to 'speak the same language', to recognise in one another the family likeness of God's children.

Why not come along and join in the celebrations at The Church of the Nazarene on Thirlmere Drive at 6pm on Sunday 19th May. After all, if you've enjoyed the Whit lunch at St. Mary's earlier in the day, you won't need to spend time in the kitchen that Sunday, so what better way to use it than in celebrating the original 'gift that keeps on giving' – the Holy Spirit?

Revd. Amanda

## **Like Father, Like Son..**

While walking along a path in front of his church, a Minister heard the unusual intoning of a prayer that made him smile. Apparently, his five year old son and his playmates had found a dead Robin, and feeling that a proper burial was needed, they had found a small box and some cotton wool and dug a hole to bury the deceased.

The Minister's son was elected to say the prayers and they gathered around in silence. Little Michael thought carefully for a moment, then spoke seriously:

'Glory to the Father, and to the Son and into the hole he goes...'

Harry

## Five years as Churchwarden

*Neal Pinder-Packard steps down and explains about life in the hot seat.*

It was at the APCM in 2008 that I first became Churchwarden at St Mary's. I'd joined St Mary's congregation in 2006 after moving into the area in 2005 after we were married. After a year I went onto the PCC and became more involved with the life of St Mary's from then on.

The role of Churchwarden is an ancient one, and one with very firm responsibilities in the laws of England. Even though it seems like they are, Churchwardens are not appointed by the church, but by the Parish. At the Annual Vestry meeting, all the people in the Parish can turn up to vote for Churchwarden. I'm not sure how all the people would fit in our vestry though!! Once this has taken place, only members of the Electoral Roll of the church can be present and vote for the rest of the meeting.

I'd imagine in a lot of 'grand' churches with loads of staff and volunteers, the position of Churchwarden is very much sought after as a position of 'being noticed' and of status, but in most churches this is definitely not the case! The legal responsibility of a Churchwarden boils down to making sure the church, its fixtures and fittings and churchyard are kept in good maintenance, and supporting the Vicar. The other main responsibility is to 'maintain order during divine worship'. I wonder if that's why there are Churchwardens' wands; to bop noisy congregations over the head!

When anything is done in the church or churchyard, we either need the Archdeacon's permission (for very minor, or emergency things) or a Faculty from Diocese which is like a more stringent planning permission to make sure congregations don't do something to a listed building which would not be in keeping with the age of the building. The Churchwardens are responsible for putting these together and going through the legal process with the Diocesan Registrar. Since my starting I remember having to put together Faculties for the lightning conductor, laying down of dangerous tombstones and the installation of the new organ. The final Faculty, which due to it's detail was completed by our architect, was for the plans for the back of the church. The successful application for this confirms that the plans are approved to be in keeping with the building and will enhance it's use for the church and community.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my role on a Sunday morning. It does mean appearing at the 8am service on a rota, but this is a quiet, peaceful and enjoyable service. An arrival for the 10.30 service at around 9.45am to help the team put the boiler on, do the hymn boards, change lightbulbs, and arrange the elements for communion is an essential part of the Sunday morning jobs.

The one 'new' service I started attending was the All-Age service. Before becoming Churchwarden, I usually turned up for the 12 noon Communion service feeling that the All-Age was probably not for me, but after being appointed, I felt rather obliged to attend the All-Age.

I found a wonderfully enthusiastic and joyful service which I have enjoyed ever since, and will continue to attend. If you haven't been for a while, give it a try, it is full of life and joy! (see the article by Gail on PXX). With the addition of the special Christmas and Easter services, the Sunday services are just a part of following Christ's journey throughout the year.

As I write this on the evening of the APCM, I feel disappointed that Gail is to be left as sole Churchwarden. The partnership between two Churchwardens is what makes it a successful role together with a close relationship with the Vicar, and I have been absolutely privileged to have worked with Gary and Gail as Churchwarden. However, having one Churchwarden is an opportunity presented to us for more people to start taking a lead in the affairs of St Mary's both during the week and on a Sunday morning. I have learnt so much by doing this role, from the people I've worked closely with and from others in the wider church, and in a number of occasions have been brought out of my 'comfort zone'.

At a time when work and family commitments have meant that the amount of time I could give to the role has dwindled to a minimal level, I felt it time to step down. This was not an easy decision with just one year left of my allowed six left. I do hope that a second Churchwarden is found soon, and at some time in the future, would love to take on the responsibility again.

I would like to thank everybody, in particular Amanda and Gail, for their fellowship and support over the past 5 years, always with the central vision of bringing God and Jesus' teaching further in the church and community. God bless, Neal



*Gail was thrilled to hear Neal is stepping down...*

## **The Deanery Synod - A wider view of Church.**

There have been only two Deanery Synod meetings since our 2012 annual general meeting. This has been due to the General Synod's time being taken up on the two main issues of The Boundaries Commission and The Women Bishops Debate.

### **The first Deanery Synod meeting was held at St James' Church in Heckmondwike on the 27th June 2012.**

The main talk of the evening was given by Sister Pat Byrne on the subject of Human Trafficking. Sister Byrne is a Catholic Nun, who works with safe houses for trafficked women. She spoke of her experiences, especially one girl's story of how she was trafficked from India into forced labour in England by a family friend based in the UK.

She was terrorised for four years. She was expected to do housework for him as well as cook every day. If she made mistakes she was beaten. Before long she was being raped and if she tried to fight back he would threaten to kill her and chop her up and send the pieces to her family. Letters were sent to the Home Secretary explaining our concerns both as individuals and as a Church.

### **The 2nd meeting was held on the 24th October 2012 at St Peters Birstall.**

The main talk of the evening was given by Sally Ben from C.A.P (Christians against Poverty) on setting people free from debt. She told of the way CAP was set up by one man's vision, John Kirby. John worked in the financial sector and on the outside things were looking good for him. He had a large beautiful home and was soon to be married and had a potentially lucrative future. He was due to become debt free within a couple of years.

However in March 1996 John realised that the whole mortgage market would change and there would be a down turn. To cut a long story short, John's department was shut down and he was made redundant in April 1996.

Encouraged by his first act of faith John decided to take a step towards starting a Christian Building Society, Finance Company or Bank. On 22nd August 1996 Christians against Poverty began.

CAP is now helping people become free from debt by helping them control their finances and arranging better deals with companies who are owed money. CAP provides this service free of charge, so they rely on donations. After the talks we were all given a copy of John Kirby's book called Nevertheless.

Brian

## **Celebrating Our Heritage: Foot Prints of the Northern Saints.**

*Dawn Tattersfield discovers the beginnings of Christianity in Northern England...*

I've heard of St Cuthbert and Saint Wilfrid, but didn't really know too much about them. Then I came across a lovely little book by Cardinal Basil Hume, which he had written to accompany a television series he presented called "Return of the Saints" and this provided a little bit of information on these and other Saints who settled in Northumberland.

Christianity had been introduced into Scotland via Iona, when the monks were invited by the king to come and establish a monastery in Northumbria. The monks chose 'Lindisfarne', now known as Holy Island, and indeed who can blame them! The monks liked Lindisfarne because twice a day it was cut off from the mainland, which gave them solitude.

The first Christian missionary was **Saint Paulinus**, who came to Edwin, King of Northumbria. Paulinus was chaplain to Ethelburga, daughter of Ethelbert of Kent, who was betrothed to Edwin and she brought Paulinus with her when she left her father in Kent to join Edwin in 625. Four years later Paulinus converted Edwin to Christianity. Saint Paulinus returned to Kent with Queen Ethelburga when she returned to her father after the death of her husband, King Edwin in 633.

**Saint Aidan** was Bishop to Oswald (King of Northumbria). The King travelled widely with Aidan, translating and interpreting Aidan's preaching. Aidan died in 651 near Bamburgh, he had spent 16 years working for the conversion of Northumbria to Christianity, and during this time Lindisfarne was firmly established as a monastery from which monks were sent out to convert the Anglo Saxons to Christianity.

**Saint Hilda** was a descendent of King Edwin of Northumbria. Hilda had founded the double monastery (both men and women – living separately but coming together for prayer) in Whitby, the ruins of the Abbey we can still see today. Hilda didn't work directly with Kings as her predecessors had done, but she was a well known adviser on spiritual matters, something her royal background no doubt helped with. People came from all over the land to seek her counsel.

One of the most important things that Hilda did was to recognise the significance of Anglo Saxon language in poetry and song, and how by putting scriptural passages to music and poetry made them much more accessible to the people. Hilda is credited with discovering Caedmon, who although only a cow herder, had a gift for putting scriptural teachings to music.

Hilda, along with other holy men and women of her day, left a strong legacy of learning and education, and it was in the Monasteries of England where that culture and heritage were preserved.

**Saint Wilfrid** defended the Roman tradition, and must have had quite a controversial style of preaching, as he managed to insult the memory of St Columba and his followers, which led some of the monks of Lindisfarne, including the Abbott, to resign and return to Iona where they could continue in their Celtic tradition.

Wilfrid became a subsequent Abbott of Lindisfarne, and, a while later, became Bishop of York. Despite much unrest between Wilfrid and the other Bishops and rulers around at the time, what was never questioned was Wilfrid's sincerity and personal holiness. At one time he was in prison, and he prayed constantly, singing psalms from memory.

Wilfrid lived what might seem to be a flamboyant lifestyle when compared to St Aidan, who lived a very simple life. However, it was St Wilfrid, more than any other, who advanced the Roman tradition of Christianity in England.

St Wilfrid died in 709 aged 75 and he was buried in the Cathedral he had built in Ripon. The story is told, that as his body was carried through the Abbey of Ripon, the monks heard the sound of birds and the rustling of wings which they thought to be choirs of angels leading Wilfrid into heaven.

Finally, **Saint Cuthbert** started out as a young man in Scotland and was fondly remembered for his visits to the neighbouring hamlets and cottages of the poor, where he would gather people around him,



*St. Cuthbert as depicted in Durham Cathedral*

preaching, hearing confessions, and doing whatever he could to alleviate their suffering.

St Cuthbert was asked to become prior of Holy Island, however, he wanted to be nearer to God and his solution was to become a hermit on Inner Farne. A small cell and chapel were built for him, a spring supplied him with fresh water, and a small plot of land enabled him to grow barley for food. Cuthbert was persuaded by King Egfrid to become Bishop of Lindisfarne, a role he undertook very successfully.

St Cuthbert was a charming person and by combining his natural gifts with his great love of the scriptures, and the word of God, he was a very effective speaker. Despite this, he yearned to return to his simple life, and after two years he resigned and returned to his cell on Inner Lindisfarne. Although he lived there alone, the monks would come to visit him and seek his counsel. Cuthbert died in 687. The monks who were with him lit torches to signal to the monks of Lindisfarne that this holy man had gone to God. He is buried in Durham Cathedral.

Can we perhaps, take a leaf out of the books of these early Christian leaders, and by not being afraid to share our love of God with others, bring people to know the love of God in their lives today.

Dawn

## **Gail: The truth about Neal as a Churchwarden..**

Over the last 4 years it has been an honour, pleasure and privilege to work alongside Neal as Churchwarden. It has helped that we both seem to be on the same wavelength and have the same sense of humour (an essential trait). We seem to have complementary skills – the things I can't do so well, Neal has been able to do really well.

Undoubtedly, Neal has been my strength when things have been tough. I'm really pleased to know that Neal will still be around to fall back on if I need his support.

Thank you Neal for keeping me sane!

Gail

## Everyone's a Winner...

*Our PCC Secretary, Julie Hyde is also part of the Rodillian Singers - an all female Choir, who have performed at St.Mary's. They are quite good...*

Every Thursday evening I rehearse with Rodillian Singers. We compete in festivals and sing at weddings and concerts. On Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> April, the Rodillian Singers competed at the Eskdale Festival in Whitby.

The festival is attended by choirs from the region; this year 7 choirs competed in a variety of classes. We entered 4 classes; The Ladies, Sacred Music, A Song from the Shows and the Choir Recital. There has been a traditional warm rivalry between York Male Voice choir and Rodillians over the last few years and this year was to be no exception.

We were attending having won 3 trophies last year and therefore under pressure (self-inflicted!) to retain our titles. The day started at 8.30 with a coach trip to Whitby. A coach full of Rodillians made their way east to Whitby! Music and rehearsal recordings aplenty as we travelled! 11.00 was our rehearsal time – 11.30 the first performance in the Ladies section with “Da Doo Ron Ron” as the set piece, and “Will ye Go lassie go” as the contrasting piece. We were competing against Penistone Ladies and after a nail biting wait for the adjudication by Angela Rowley we won 1<sup>st</sup> place with distinction. The ‘Sacred Music’ followed. We were one of 5 choirs competing in this class. We sang 2<sup>nd</sup> in this class and performed Psalm 23 and "Going up a yonder".

The waiting commenced – we had followed York Philharmonic and both choirs waited and listened to brilliant performances by Penistone Ladies, Louth Male Voice and Driffield Male Voice Choirs. Finally the adjudication – 1 mark between the 1<sup>st</sup> and joint 2<sup>nd</sup> places – we couldn't believe it – we had retained our title and won the ‘Sacred’ with distinction.

Songs from the Shows followed. This was a new class for us and we were performing “Seasons of love”. 5 choirs had entered and we were singing 4<sup>th</sup>, York 5<sup>th</sup>. How was it going to go – the adjudication followed – 3<sup>rd</sup> place Driffield, a hairs breath between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> place Rodillians with 87 marks – 1<sup>st</sup> place York with 87+ - so close, but a well-deserved win by York.

Finally the Choir Recital. This is a programme no longer than 12 minutes long and with a prize of £500.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> place! We were singing 4<sup>th</sup> out of 5 choirs and were performing a contrasting programme of 3 pieces – "The Gift to be Simple", "Fix you" and "Joshua fight de' battle of Jericho". We were the only female voice choir competing.

We watched Driffield, then York, and then Skelmanthorpe – then it was us! Louth performed their pieces as the final choir of the day. The adjudication was nail-biting. Angela Rowley praised all the choirs, Musical

Directors and Accompanists for their brilliant performances and the final decision was a hard one for her to make.

At that moment we had no idea who was going to win. 3<sup>rd</sup> place was announced – Skelmanthorpe and then a pause. She didn't know how to split the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> between us and York, so her final decision was based on the pieces that had moved her emotionally.

1st place with 90+ points was **Rodillian Singers**. We were elated – how fantastic. We had retained our title. This was an exceptional result as the male voice choirs had been outstanding. York had scored 90!

We all gave standing ovations. York and Rodillians had won 3 trophies each throughout the day and there had been a wonderful friendly rivalry.

We ended the day with a 2nd place in a new class for Rodillians and retaining all 3 titles. All the hard work and camaraderie had paid off. Being a part of a choir is like being a part of a congregation. We all work together to get the best outcome for everyone. We all play our part.

Next year is our 50th year and we will be having an anniversary concert in Wakefield Cathedral. Please don't hesitate to ask me if you would like any further information or visit our website [www.rodilliansingers.co.uk](http://www.rodilliansingers.co.uk)

Julie



*The Rodillian Singers with trophies.....where is Julie?*

## Fair Trade - What happened to your Money?

You may have heard the saying “curiosity killed the cat” well how about “generosity gets the goat!” Well thanks to your very generous support of my Fair Trade Coffee Morning in March generosity not only got the goat, but an Ox Plough too (no kidding!!)



With our £136 raised we bought an Ox Plough for a community in Uganda, this is a huge asset to the whole community and will enable them to grow crops, more efficiently, over a bigger area.



Our little kid goat in South Sudan will provide milk and cheese, and even perhaps some income if the family can sell excess produce.

Who knows, if I can organise a couple of extra coffee mornings, with Fair Trade goodies, then perhaps, you “fair “ and very generous folk of Woodkirk might aspire, to raise the £270 needed to

provide an Ox to go with the plough. Thank you so much for supporting Fair Trade and World Vision.

Dawn Tattersfield

## Friends re-united....

*A chance article in the magazine and a chance meeting on a street in Bedfordshire has given old friends the chance to catch up....*

Stan Thompson used to come regularly to St. Mary’s, but in later life he moved away to Sleaford in Lincolnshire. Unknown to us, he received a copy of the magazine sent by Alice, (whose husband Alan used to go cycling with Stan) and read that Kath and Martin (long time church goers) had also moved away to Bedfordshire.

Stan’s wife Mary has a cousin in Ampthill, very close to where Kath and Martin now live. As they were visiting their cousin at Easter, Stan armed himself with a magazine and went off to Clophill village in search of the Church on Easter Saturday. In the village he met a man on the street and asked about the church. The man was visited by Carolyn, President of the Flower Club who had baked a cake for him. When he mentioned Kath and Martin, she knew instantly it was indeed Kath.

When Kath and Martin turned up on Easter Sunday, the Churchwarden told them they had a visitor. There, sitting in the pew was Stan, who they hadn’t seen for over 6 years, when they all used to come to our Church.

David

## Wakefield 125 versus the Eggheads...

*Last month a Team from Wakefield Cathedral took on the 'Eggheads' - a quiz show on BBC2: £18,000 was on the table...*

The Eggheads are five of the best 'quizzers' in the country, so how would a team from our Cathedral fair against the fearsome five?

Pamela Greener (ex-St. Mary's and wife of Jonathan, Dean of Wakefield Cathedral) takes us behind the scenes. 'We had to progress through two elimination rounds in Leeds first', she explained. 'Once we were accepted onto the show, we had to travel to Glasgow to take on the Eggheads'.

The team of five were: Pamela and Jonathan, Terry, Roz and Tony Macpherson. Four of them were pitted individually against one of the Eggheads in subject rounds, with only the winning player going forward to the final.

Tony and Pamela won their rounds joining Roz (the captain) in the final. At 2-2 in the final, they were faced with a tricky question: In which Jane Austen novel does Maria Bertram marry Mr. Rushworth? The possible answers were 'Mansfield Park', 'Persuasion' or 'Northanger Abbey'? After much deliberation, they plumped for 'Northanger Abbey', but the correct answer was 'Mansfield Park'. It wasn't quite over because the Eggheads weren't sure of their question either - but guessed right!

Sadly they lost but Pamela was still upbeat. 'They made us very welcome', she said, 'it wasn't as daunting as we thought and it meant the Cathedral had a bit of extra publicity.'

As a consolation, two of the Eggheads came to the Cathedral and held a quiz night to help raise funds. They managed to raise £1000 from this event and the Eggheads gave their time for free! David

## Calling All Churches.

The 'Back to Church Sunday' office is encouraging churches participating in this year's event, on 29th September, to register online now at [backtochurch.co.uk](http://backtochurch.co.uk). "Back to Church Sunday is simple," says the Rt Revd Paul Bayes, the Bishop of Hertford. "It's about inviting someone you know to something you love. I encourage even more churches to register in 2013 and host a special welcoming service. It's a fantastic initiative that really does work."

This year's resource packs feature two A4 posters and an A3 poster, along with 50 invitations, and a Best Bits of BTCS DVD, featuring exclusive footage from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby. Costing £25 including p&p, they will be available to order from Traidcraft around mid-May.

## **That was the Snail Race that was..**

*Brian's great Snail Race night took place last month - was it a success?*

Over seventy people packed into the Parish Centre to witness the great Snail Race. Brian even arranged a liquor licence so that we could all enjoy a drink! The racing was great fun with the snails having to avoid swooping Eagles, giant Gardeners, Tornadoes and other grisly ambushes. The noise was incredible as we all cheered on our 'steed'. Fantastic entertainment and we raised £700 for St. Mary's.

This month it's the Whit Lunch - so get your tickets for a great feast. See opposite page for details.

David.

## **St Mary's Playgroup Update.**

The children all seem to be happy to be back after the Easter break. This term our topic is 'transport' and the children have especially enjoyed washing the cars and bikes, getting very wet! We will also be making number plates and towards the end of term, we will be making a very large train for the children to sit in.

If you have any large boxes, we will be glad to use them!

We are still collecting Sainsbury's Active Vouchers so please pass them our way so that we can buy some lovely new resources.

Playgroup are always looking for an extra pair of hands so if you have a couple of hours spare and would like to help out, please call in and see us.

Debbie

## **100 club**

The 100 club has been running since June 1981. So far £10,763 had been raised for the Church funds. This is fantastic for just 50p per week. We have never reached 100 members and at the moment we are at our lowest, just 58 members. Please if you could spare 50p per week with a chance of winning £5 see me or call on 0113 253 4078.

Many thanks to those who have been members since 1981.

Brenda Dixon



# **Whit Lunch**

**Sunday 19th May at 1.pm**

**The Parish Centre**

**Adults: £6**

**Children Under 12: £4**

## **Poetry Corner: A Birthday Celebration.**

Last month Mother's Union Branch Leader Brenda Dixon celebrated a special birthday. Family and friends gathered at Heals Hall in Liversedge on April 20th for a birthday celebration to remember. This was the poem she was serenaded with on the day:

### **I Love to Live.**

Today, dear Lord I'm 80, and there's much I haven't done.  
I hope, dear Lord, you'll let me live until I'm 81,  
But then, if I haven't finished all I want to do,  
Would you please let me stay awhile until I'm 82,  
So many places I want to go, so much I want to see,  
Do you think that you could manage to make it 83?  
The world is changing very fast, there is much in store,  
I'd like very much to live until I'm 84,  
And if by then I'm still alive, I'd like to stay till 85.

More planes will be up in the air, so I'd really like to stick,  
And see what happens to the world when I turn 86,  
I know dear Lord, it's much to ask, (and it must be nice in heaven)  
But I'd really like to stay until I'm 87,  
I know by then I won't be fast, and sometimes will be late,  
But it would be so pleasant to be around at 88,  
I will have seen so many things, and had a wonderful time,  
So, I'm sure that I'll be willing to leave at 89 .....maybe,  
Just one thing more I'd like to say, dear Lord, I thank you kindly,  
But if it's okay with you, I'd love to live past 90!

We wish Brenda many happy returns and congratulations on her 'significant' birthday.

David

## Sandra's Seasonal Suggestions.

Well, here we are a year later. I hope my hints, tips and suggestions have been helpful. As we start another year of growing, weeding and nurturing let's hope that the weather is a little more favourable than last year!!

**Sandra's Top Tip:** Don't throw away any broken pottery or pots. Break them up and use them as crocks. These provide great drainage for containers and don't cost any extra. Be sure to wear protective gloves and glasses to avoid any injuries!!

1. Keep on top of weeds as warmer weather approaches. (Hopefully!)
2. Sow runner beans in cold frame or direct into a prepared trench.
3. Keep onions and shallots free from weeds.
4. If the soil is warm enough, sow French beans directly into the ground.
5. Net strawberries against bird attacks and put straw around them to protect from mud splashes and slugs.
6. Pinch out tips of sweet peas. Pinch out to a leaf bud where two new shoots will form.
7. Harvest rhubarb. You will need to stop pulling this year's stalks over the next week or so.
8. Sow spring bedding seeds for next years display. Sow plants such as wallflowers, pansies and Bellis perennis.
9. Check planted pots for weeds. Also don't forget to water and feed them regularly.
10. Divide primroses after they have finished flowering. Lift, split and re-plant them ready for next years display.

Sandra.



## Malcolm's Wartime Boyhood.

*The differences in the lives enjoyed by today's youngsters and those from about 65 to 70 years ago were investigated at a recent meeting of St Mary's cub pack. Leading the exploration was historian and former journalist Malcolm Haigh who divulged some of the activities of his young life to intrigue and amaze his much younger listeners. Malcolm continues..*

I discovered that many of today's cubs got £3 to £5 a week pocket money – and, indeed, one lucky youngster enjoyed something like £2 or £3 a day! – whilst I had to earn whatever I could back in the 1940s.

My income came mainly from helping my millworker dad look after the local allotment where flowers, fruit and vegetables were grown. When they were harvested I went around local streets selling the surplus and receiving as much as one penny in the shilling for myself. Of course there wasn't a great deal that I could have spent my money on, seeing that just about everything was rationed in wartime. I brought along some ration books to explain what I meant.

In doing so I was able to pass on stories about the gruesome events of wartime telling of the nights when German bombers used to create widespread fear as they flew over the Heavy Woollen District and how sometimes they would ramp up the fear factor by actually dropping bombs.

I explained about air raid shelters and told of an 'ack-ack' battery sited at the top of Calums Wood in Hanging Heaton, manned by a group of soldiers who would fire at the incoming bombers as they flew up the valley dropping bombs, setting fire to mills and warehouses and blasting huge holes outside Batley Grammar School.

As a boy I was justly annoyed at the bombers for doing such damage as crippling mills, homes and wasting a warehouse in Bradford Road but having such poor aims they left Park Road School opposite – where I went as a schoolboy – completely untouched!

But I, too, had been in the cubs and later the scouts and I related some of the stories of its activities and especially its leader, George Corner who used to run a shoe shop in Commercial Street Batley.

George, or Skip Corner as he was better known, became nationally famous when, on retiring at 70, he repeated his youthful practice of leapfrogging over three post boxes between the meeting hall at Hanover Street Church and his home. I had found this astonishing and reported the feat in the local newspapers. The favourable publicity encouraged Skip to raise funds for charity by leapfrogging over every

postbox on the coastline between Berwick on Tweed and Lands End.

While carrying out this challenge his story and pictures appeared in lots of newspapers and he was regularly interviewed both in BBC news bulletins and in children's television programmes such as Blue Peter.

Skip also enabled cubs to follow in his footsteps – literally - by devising a similar practice which he called 'Wogglehopping'. This meant that youngsters could achieve similar status by leapfrogging over any object which was as tall as the woggle they wore around their necks. (A woggle being the name for the device they wore for keeping their neckerchief in place).

The evening finished off in style when Cub Leader Jonathan Reece provided suitable refreshments in the shape of 'mucky fat' sandwiches. Not all the Cubs thought it was such a good idea..

Malcolm

*Following Malcolm's stories about being a boy in the war, the Cubs also wrote stories about some of their 'scary/exciting' experiences. See Page 37 to read more...*

*Editor.*



Mother's Union Summer Outing to the Lake District. Fancy a coach trip to the beautiful Lake District? Well you now you can go courtesy of the Mother's Union outing this June 17th. This all inclusive trip includes morning tea/coffee at the Coniston Hall Hotel at 10:30am and then onward into the Lakes, followed by a fish and chip supper at Skipton. All for just £30 inclusive. If you would like to go contact Betty Aveyard or Brenda Dixon (0113 253 4078). A £10 deposit is payable to book your place.



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

### **This Month: Badges, Oblivion and Swimming Galas.**

**The Beavers** (Age 6 to 8) : Austin explains what it's like to be a Beaver:

I joined Beavers when I was 5 and made my Beaver promise on 18th June 2010. I am now 8 and have enjoyed being a Beaver.

During a Beaver meeting, Akela takes the register and then we do show and tell about our hobbies, you might even get a badge to sew on your jumper.

After show and tell we either play a game like number games, tig football or pop pip (pip pop) or we do some work to get a badge. At the end of the meeting we sit together on the floor to hear about future activities, get any letters and also have our tuck. Once a month there is Church Parade which I enjoy going to because sometimes you get to carry the flag down to the front of church-and you get to sing fun songs.

Beavers get the chance to have a party and sleepover (or just party if you don't want to sleepover) in the Parish Centre which is fun because you get to stay away from home. Sometimes we do fund raising for charities, this year we walked round Ardsley reservoir to raise money for Comic Relief.

Since becoming a Beaver, I have made lots of new friends and have learnt lots of new skills like; what to do if there is a fire (get out of the building calmly), how to cross a road safely (look and listen for cars then wait until there aren't any), how to have a healthy diet (eat lots of fruit and vegetables) and how to look after your pet (feed them and play with them). I have lots of badges which show how many different skills I have learnt.

I am now looking forward to moving to Cubs and getting even more badges.

Austin Widdows Aged 8

## **Cubs (Age 8 to 10 ½)**

This Month the Cubs wrote about their Scary experiences.

Here are two of their stories:

### **Jacob Milner:**

When I was 8 I went to Robin Wood. I went with my class. At Robin Wood I went on a giant swing. It was fun, exciting and a bit scary all at the same time. My team mates had to pull a rope to get me higher. When I was high enough I had to karate chop a yellow rubber tube to set me off swinging. The whole thing was great.

### **Bethany Lodge**

I was 7 and I was on my way to Alton Towers in my car with my Mum. I kept on asking her how scary 'Oblivion' was because she had been on it before. She replied: 'It's not that bad but it makes your tummy drop a little.' I felt better about it after that.

When we arrived at the gates of Alton Towers, I started to feel lots of excitement inside. The first ride we went on was 'Air'. On this ride it felt like you were flying. After a few more rides it was 'Oblivion' time!

My tummy was full of butterflies. As we were lining up I started to feel a bit sick! We got on the ride and I got strapped in properly before the 'Oblivion' set off. Then with a quick flick of a switch, we were off! Up, up, up we go, until I was high in the air, hanging off the edge of the drop! You did not know when you were going to drop, but suddenly, we did.

'AAAAHHHHHHH', I screamed till it finally stopped.

When me and my Mum got off the ride and started walking to the car I was begging her to go again next week, but the answer was 'No!' I loved the 'Oblivion' that much I didn't know what I was frightened about. When we got home I had a good nights' sleep and was dreaming about what I did that day!

## **Swimming Gala.**

The delayed District Swimming Gala finally took place at the John Charles Centre for Sport on 26th April. Zak, Izzy and Joey finished in second place so well done to those three.

## **Meerkat Explorers (14 ½ to 18)**

The Meerkats have been learning the art of tracking and following signs left by nature - as well as Man! As part of their tracking Badge, the Meerkats laid trail over by the quarry and Howley Hall ruins. Later that same evening the Scouts had to follow the trail.

## **The Scouts (10½ to 14½)**

Scouts have finished their Photography and I.T. badges. This month they are starting their Outdoor Challenge Skills - including using a Saw and Axe to make a Camp Gate, how to set up a Camp, where to pitch tents, store food, cook on open fires and the very necessary hygiene skills that go with these. This includes a weekend camp starting on 17th May.

Next is a local History evening on 24th May and then Community Week starts on 7th June. The Scouts are collecting clothes for the St. George Crypt, for homeless people.

With thanks to Skip, Gail, Jonathan and Chris, as well as the Beavers and Cubs who have written their own stories.

**It's all Go!!!**

## **Young At Heart...**

Clarice and Harry Gough retired from organising the Y at H Club in July 2012. We say a big thank-you to them and Harry we do miss your organising skills. We do a wide range of things, quizzes, games, poetry reading music and the occasional lunch outing. We even went to the pantomime in Bradford, thanks to John for the transport. There are 18 of us now, do feel free to join us; it only costs a £1 for tea and biscuits and a raffle prize.

Brenda Dixon

## Albert's May Quiz:

1. Which famous building was opened in New York on the 1st May 1931?
2. What shops first appeared on British streets on the 1st May 1961?
3. In which decade was Britain's first May Day Bank Holiday  
1910's /40's/70's?
4. Which ship was sunk by British forces on the 2nd May 1982?
5. Which major event was opened in London on the 3rd May 1951?
6. Which horse race took place for the first time on the 4th May 1780?
7. Who became Britain's Prime Minister on the 4th May 1979?
8. Which famous military leader died in exile on the 5th May 1821?
9. Which British monarch died on the 6th May 1910?
10. On the 6th May 1954 who was the first man to run a sub four minute  
mile?
11. Which welcome event took place at Rheims on the 7th May 1945?
12. On the 11th May 1812, which British Prime Minister was  
assassinated?
13. On the 11th May 1985, where were 40 people killed by a football  
ground fire?
14. On the 12th May of which decade was Britain's voting age lowered to  
18 years?
15. In America, what was presented for the first time on the 16th May  
1929?
16. Which famous air raid did the RAF undertake on the 16th May 1943?
17. On the 21st May 1927, who completed the first solo flight across the  
Atlantic?
18. On the 22nd May 1972, who was the first U.S. President to visit  
Russia?
19. Which passenger liner made her maiden voyage on the 30th May  
1936?
20. Why did Hilary and Tenzing feel on top of the world on the 29th May  
1953?

Answers on page 43

Albert Shaw

## Diary for May 2013.

- Wed 1st 9.15am Church open for prayer  
10am Holy Communion (Common Worship)  
& refreshments
- Sat 4th 9.30-12.30pm Church & Churchyard clean-up
- Sun 5th 8am Holy Communion (said)**  
**10.30am Holy Communion (sung)**  
**12.30pm Baptism service**
- Wed 8th 9.15am Church open for prayer  
10am Holy Communion (Iona setting) & refreshments
- Thurs 9th 7.30pm Deanery Service for Ascension Day  
– St. Saviour’s Brownhill
- Sun 12th 10.30am All-Age Worship**  
**12 noon Holy Communion**
- Mon 13th 12 noon First Steps Toddler Service: ‘Henry’s Grandad moves house’ (in the Parish Centre).
- Wed 15th 9.15am Church open for prayer  
10:00am Holy Communion (1662 setting) & refreshments
- Thurs 16th 11:00am Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge
- Sun 19th 10.30am Holy Communion for Pentecost**  
**followed by Whit Lunch – see P31 for details**  
**6:00pm Ecumenical Pentecost service**  
**- Church of the Nazarene, Thirlmere Drive.**  
**Preacher: Paul Martin. See page 19 for details**
- Mon 20th 2:00pm Mothers’ Union – Parish Centre
- Wed 22nd 9.15am Church open for prayer  
10:00am Holy Communion (with prayer for healing)  
& refreshments
- Sun 26th 10.30am Holy Communion (sung)**  
**1:00pm Wedding**
- Wed 29th 9.15am Church open for prayer  
10:00am Holy Communion (One World setting)  
& refreshments

## Early June

Sat 1st	9.30am	Church & churchyard clean-up to 12.30 pm
Sun 2nd	8:00am	<b>Holy Communion (said)</b>
	10.30am	<b>Holy Communion (sung)</b>
	12.30pm	<b>Baptism Service</b>
Wed 5th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (Common Worship setting) & refreshments
Sun 9th	10.30am	<b>All-Age Worship</b>
	12 noon	<b>Holy Communion.</b>



**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 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 local history—especially about St. Mary's. You can write your own story—or see me for a chat if you like. 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.

## **Many Thanks**

It's great to get articles, big or small from you. When someone comes to me and says 'I wonder if this is something you could use', I get a real thrill to find out what it might be!

David

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

### Registers for MAY:

In April we welcomed 4 new members to our church in Baptism:

Fynn Crawford-Longstaff son of Tim and Kelly from Tingley.  
Arrissa Carvell-Humphries daughter of Jason and Gemmah from Morley.

Maya Rose Chrystal Smith daughter of Kyle and Nicola from Dewsbury.

Isaac Per Francis Milner son of Martin and Anna

### Weddings:-

Elizabeth Catherine Reid and Gary Gordon Chambers from Leeds were married at St. Mary's on April 6th congratulations from our Church Family.

### Funerals:-

Margaret Hunt, beloved Wife of Peter from Tingley.

Robert Henry Woollin, beloved Father from Pinders Heath

Agnas Thomas, beloved Mother of Tony.

**QUIZ ANSWERS:** 1. Empire State Building. 2. Betting Shops. 3. 1970's (1978). 4. General Belgrano. 5. The Festival of Britain. 6. The Derby. 7. Margaret Thatcher. 8. Napoleon Bonaparte. 9. King Edward VII. 10. Roger Bannister. 11. German surrender. 12. Spencer Perceval. 13. Bradford. 14. The 1960's (1969). 15. Academy Awards. 16. The Dambusters' raid. 17. Charles Lindbergh. 18. Richard Nixon. 19. The Queen Mary. 20. They were the first to reach the summit of Mount Everest  
Albert.

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## **What's on**

<b>Mothers' Union</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday in the month 2:00 pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
<b>Playgroup</b>	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:45am to 12:15pm Debbie Nelson 07896 56188
<b>Girl Guides</b>	Tuesday 7:30pm Vikki Springett 07841 513530
<b>Toddler Group</b>	Wednesday 9:15-11:00am Sally Shaw 01924 475048
<b>Rainbows</b>	Thursday 5.30 - 6.30pm Ruth Osenton-Brown 01924 689992
<b>Brownies</b>	Thursday 6.30 - 7.45pm 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 Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
<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 07816 517838
<b>Jam Club</b>	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 All Age (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

Tel: 01924 472375

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

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

Townsend on 0113 2528710 Email: [weddings@stmarywoodkirk.org](mailto:weddings@stmarywoodkirk.org)