

Parish News

St Mary's, Woodkirk

It's Garden Party Time !

Saturday 6th June

June 2015



This Month:

Lofty ideas; How to bag a Vicar;

Bishop Nick; Time to think;

A worm in the hand..

www.stmarywoodkirk.org

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Contributions for the Weekly Sheet
by Thursday evening please.

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Elected Members of the Parochial Church Council:

Derek Barraclough, Brian Gledhill, Julie Hyde, Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Dawn Tattersfield, Dave Townsend, Barbara Tate.

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

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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. Service times are on the back page. You'd be most welcome to join us. 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 £12 a year to cover magazine costs including 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
Copies of the magazine can be downloaded from the web site from the middle of the month of publication.

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.

Peace is a fruit of the spirit, not a by-product of accumulated wealth.

**Andy Stanely.
Religious Author.**

Reflections on clearing the loft.

With an impending move from St. Mary's to a new home in Sprotbrough, it's time to try and down-size.

I know we're moving into another large family home, despite there being just the two of us, but that brings its own problems. Because, with the two of us rattling around in a large house, we tend to accumulate things without any urgent need to dispose of other things. End result – a large amount of clutter which needs to be sorted out.

One of the key places is the loft. It's the place where the stuff you need annually (the Christmas tree, the lilos and snorkels for holidays) languishes between the redundant pictures, vases and books. You'd be amazed what is in our loft. A large house tends to have a large loft, with a comparatively large loft hatch. So there are mattresses for single beds and rolls of carpet; there have been dining tables and chairs up there until recently. There are boxes of videos gathering dust, and abandoned items from the children's university years.

Somehow, when the children leave home, they tend to leave their clutter behind. (I don't think we're the only ones who experience that!). There is an Afghan coat Derek wore with pride in the 70s, but would probably wear with embarrassment today. And my Womble coat, bright red, but with fur of Womble length – from the 70s. Aah, that brings back memories. I was all of 12 when I got that. It's almost an antique. And I can't get rid of that – it has been used as a sermon illustration before now and it might just be again. I know I'd never wear it under normal circumstances, but..... That's the thing with vicars – you never know when something might be needed as a sermon illustration, or for a school assembly. Now you know why vicars have such big homes. It's for the visual aids.

So, all in all, it's hard to let go of things. But we are making progress. The old slides and slides projector have gone, boxes of pans from my aunt's house clearance, old mirrors and picture frames. And then we found the boxes of old cards, and pictures of mummy and daddy lovingly crafted by the little hands of our offspring, the

stumbling attempts at writing which we can just about decipher, with patience.

There is no question about it – these are coming with us, and I can't imagine a time when I could ever bring myself to part with them. They are worthless to others, but their sentimental value to us is immense. The pictures of us look nothing like the real thing – at least I hope not. There are heads significantly larger than torsos, stick arms and legs, hair which stands up vertically from the orange heads of mummy and daddy, and ears neatly drawn onto shoulders. A long way from a perfect image. And yet to us they are worth far more than the precision accuracy of a photograph, many of which are being thrown away.

Is that how God feels at our stumbling attempts to describe him? Our best and most well-crafted theological reflections about God and his action in our lives are often a far cry from the reality of a glory and goodness beyond our ability to contain in words. They're like a child's picture. Endearing, but a long way from a perfect image.

Maybe God treasures those imperfect pictures we create in the same way as we treasure those which have been in our loft for the last 11 years, and will soon take up residence in a loft in Sprotbrough. And if God has the equivalent of our fridge door, those pictures will adorn it, I'm sure.

The truth is, we forget that. We take ourselves so seriously, and forget that God smiles at our best attempts to describe him in the same way as we smile at our three-year-old's picture of daddy. In the words of G.K. Chesterton, "Angels can fly because they can take themselves lightly."

If we took ourselves more lightly, and took God more seriously, what difference would it make? It would certainly make the impending journey through a period without a vicar a more spiritually fruitful and exciting one.

May God bless you

Revd. Amanda

Have they organised your replacement yet?"

An explanation of Church of England vacancies!

A number of people have asked whether my replacement will be arriving soon, and who it will be? A number of jaws have dropped when I have explained that it is unlikely that there will be a replacement for the next year or so. Let me explain....

'They', whoever 'they' are – presumably the diocesan hierarchy, don't appoint a replacement without an extended period of consultation. No-one is going to be imposed upon St. Mary's as the new Vicar without your say so. But, in order to ensure that I cannot influence the process, and steer the PCC unduly towards the sort of replacement I might choose, nothing will happen officially until after I have left. That way, the congregation can be completely honest about the skills they need a new vicar to have, bearing in mind the direction they believe the church needs to move in for the future.

Soon after I have left, the Archdeacon will spend time with the PCC explaining the process in greater detail. A Parish Profile will need drawing up, a substantial document which allows prospective vicars to get a feel for the church and the community. The Diocese will also need to address the question of whether St. Mary's should have a full-time stipendiary priest allocated to it; although there is a strong argument for this, nothing can be taken for granted. Given the new Diocese, and the need to approach every decision with fresh eyes, some review of this will be inevitable.

Eventually, once all the documentation is in place, and has been approved, the Diocese will make a decision about advertising. Two members of the PCC will be elected as Parish Representatives, and will be involved in the process in a more direct way. They will be the first to meet applicants who have been shortlisted for interview, and will be on the interview panel. That way, what St. Mary's wants can be at the forefront of any appointment. The 'they' who will organise my replacement will, at least in part, be YOU.

So, what will happen in the meantime?

Sunday services will continue as usual, with the exception of the 8am service, which will have to be suspended during the vacancy, since it will not be possible to secure clergy to cover it. It will be the decision of my successor, together with the PCC, whether or not this service should be reinstated at a later date.

A rota of retired clergy, and those able to assist from other parishes, with the occasional visit from the Area Dean and the

Archdeacon, has been organised for Sundays up to about October/November time, and as clergy visit, they will be approached by the Churchwardens to assist in forthcoming months. You will get a great variety of different styles and approaches, which will be enriching and stimulating.

Revd. Glenn Coggins from St. Michael's East Ardsley will conduct a midweek communion service on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, and a lay-led Morning Praise will happen on other weeks.

I encourage you to share the responsibility for this – times when there is no vicar in post can be times of great spiritual growth as people are taken out of their comfort zones and find the need to depend on God rather than the Vicar! A church able to do this will be an attractive option to many clergy looking for a move.

Retired clergy have been booked for this year's weddings, and there are a number on stand-by for funeral ministry. John Pinder-Packard will be kindly covering many of the baptism services, except during the winter months when travel might be problematic for him.

The phone number will remain live and the answerphone will be answered regularly. E-mails have yet to be organised but the vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org will remain and be directed to an inbox where messages can be picked up regularly, if perhaps not quite as promptly as at present.

We hope to be able to sustain our ministry in schools and in Lydgate Lodge, and visits to those enquiring about baptism will be shared between Gill Mahoney and Liz Aveyard.

The practicalities are still being organised, and you will need to support one another with patience, generosity of spirit and the practical help you are so good at.

My final Sunday at St. Mary's will be 28th June, and we will be moving out on 8th July. My collation and induction will be on 23rd July at St. Mary the Virgin, Sprotbrough, near Doncaster.

The congregation of St. Mary's are invited to ensure I am firmly 'put in' and satisfy yourselves that I am off your hands. It also gives you a chance to fore-warn the good people of Sprotbrough what they're letting themselves in for!

Revd. Amanda

Recent media coverage

Following the media coverage of past ministry here at St. Mary's, it may be that there are stories of personal experience which need to be heard. If that is true for you, I hope that you will feel able to contact me, as the current vicar. The Church of England has for a long time encouraged people to come forward and I will certainly make the time to listen with care and to ensure that all that is possible is done to offer appropriate support.

Revd. Amanda

Famous Woodkirkians.

Christopher Saxton, born 1540, was an Elizabethan map-maker and was the first to survey and map the counties of England and Wales. His Atlas was published in 1579 and he was also concerned with the establishment of Almshouses at Westerton in 1593, the deed for which was at one time kept in the Church safe. In 1605 he was Churchwarden at St. Mary's and his grandson was baptised in the church on 5th November 1608. It is not clear if he was buried at Woodkirk, but his son, Robert (also a cartographer) is buried here.

Free training for bereavement support

- starts June.

A free four week training course for people of church to be able to offer support for those grieving is available in Thornhill Parish Church.

The four week course, which runs on four consecutive Monday evenings from June 15 until July 6, will cover:

- Sharing with each other what individuals & churches are doing already and their vision and hopes for the future.
- The needs of the bereaved and current understanding of bereavement theory and training to become a bereavement visitor (not a counsellor).
- Next steps to develop individual, team or church support.

Anyone is welcome for the training which will be run by the Revd Anne Wood in Thornhill Parish Church, Church Lane, Dewsbury WF12 0JZ. For more information or to book a place please contact: Reverend Anne Wood 07929452439 or anne.d.wood@talk21.com Places are limited.

A Sermon by Derek Barraclough

Taken from Acts 1:15-17 and 21-26, Sunday 17th May 2015.

Phew, thank goodness that's over! Perhaps now we can return to proper news and get rid of all of that speculation. After all of the months, weeks, days and hours of hype and media coverage - it's over - it's a girl! Charlotte Elizabeth Diana - but I was sure that they were going to be modern and call her Chardonnay or Princess Tracey?

No, that isn't what I was talking about; it is the news that we have a new or old Government. How will it affect us? We will have to wait and see. But David Cameron has put together his cabinet, knowing that it is important to place the right people with the right skills in the right job. We can see that some from the previous Government have been replaced. This dilemma was faced by the disciples as they struggled to find a replacement for Judas.

But why replace him? We know that through Jesus' teaching he opened the scriptures to them, and we expect that throughout the forty days between the crucifixion and ascension that they were doing just that, using the bible to help them understand what had happened. Maybe that is why Peter uses Old Testament scriptures to guide the group of disciples to replace Judas.

St Mary's is also approaching a time when a replacement will be needed. As I was preparing this sermon I realised that this will probably my last sermon from this old pulpit, unless I am invited after being certified - I mean licensed. I have to say that we will miss this place, and our church family. This has been our home for the last eleven years - not always smooth running, but that is parish life.

But now we both feel the call to move on, leaving will not be easy. When I first started this course I had no intention of training as a Lay Reader, I started the short course because I realised that my spiritual life was not growing. After the first course I realised that I had enjoyed it and actually "Got" what they were teaching. So Dawn and I commenced the exploratory year.

Now let me be honest - I have always been put off by robes so being a Lay Reader was never going to happen. I have failed to acknowledge God's first lesson, and let this be a lesson to you. Never, Never, and thrice I say Never say to God I will **never** do that. He has a sense of humour and one day you may end up doing what you promised not to. The turning point was here in St Mary's, I was asked me serve with Amanda, and I ended up robed. As I stood close to the alter I realised that this was Right and this is what I should be doing.

Why had I kicked against it for so long? I am sure that I heard a voice say "Got you" And so here I am coming to the end of my second year Lay Reader training. But we are now moving on after eleven years.

Of course Amanda and I both feel called to this new parish and look with some excitement, trepidation and sadness as we go. But after we have left, you will start the process of appointing a new vicar. Just like the disciples, you will be filling a gap. You will need to put together a job specification that will bring the qualities needed for the next chapter in the life of this church.

It is important that you don't try to replicate what Amanda has done nor try to replace her with a clone. Take what has been enriching and apply that to your parish profile, but look at what skills are needed for St Mary's today. This church needs to continue moving forward and growing or it will wither and stagnate.

As someone on the P.C.C. reminded us recently an interregnum can be beneficial to a parish as it offers opportunities and tasks that need to be taken up and carried forward. This can be a great growth point for the church and the next incumbent has a firm foundation on which to continue building. It will be no good waiting for the new vicar to arrive without all pulling together. Nor will it be beneficial if after the new vicar is welcomed, everyone sits back, breathes a sigh of relief and lets them get on with it.

One of my favourite phrases comes from a well-respected Christian leader, and it is this:

"Everyone gets to play"

What he means is ministry is for everyone - God gives opportunities to those that are willing, as the verse goes "he has no hands but our hands". All can and are involved in the ongoing ministry and life of Christ's church in this place. You may not realise this, but all are able to contribute to the work of St Mary's. By giving - I know that isn't fashionable to talk of money from the pulpit - but without your generosity, there would be no church here, people or building.

You can give of your time: Some on P.C.C; Deanery Synod; cleaning; St Mary's Guild; reading and studying God's word. The bible exhorts us to pray at all times and in all places, If we feel that we can do nothing else, we can pray.

And that is what the disciples were doing whilst they waited in the upper room; they studied the scriptures and waited as they had been instructed. A word of caution. Please do not find a new vicar by casting lots, like the disciples found Judas replacement. It's perhaps

no accident that the replacement for Judas, chosen by casting lots, is never mentioned again. Was Mathias really the replacement that God had intended?

Many believe that the replacement that God had in mind for that vacant seat in the cabinet room of church leaders was St. Paul. And he won't take his place until his Damascus road experience in chapter 9.

The seat may be vacant for some time - but that doesn't mean that something is wrong - just that God takes his time. So trust God's timing whilst the vicars stall is vacant. God will bring in the right person in his own good time.

Derek

CHARLIE & ALICE: SEEING IS BELIEVING

The ever-popular puppets make a welcome return.

Alice. Good morning Charlie, and how are you today?

Charlie. I'm OK, thanks for asking Alice. I came round for you last night but you were out, where were you?

Alice. Oh my Mum & Dad took me to the theatre to see a Magician called Dynamo.

Charlie. WOW! I've seen him on TV, he's unbelievable.

Alice. You can say that again Charlie.

Charlie. WOW! I've seen him on TV, he's unbelievable.

Alice. I know, you can say that again.

Charlie. WOW! I've seen him on.....

Alice. OK, that's enough Charlie. We get it. What I mean is that although I was there watching and seeing all the things that Dynamo did. I couldn't really believe it. Have you ever seen something you couldn't really believe Charlie?

Charlie. Yeh. In the garden the other day.

Alice. Why, what happened?

Charlie. Well, I was digging with my spade and I accidentally chopped a big worm in half, and believe it or not, both halves of the worm were wriggling about and still alive.

Alice. So what did you do Charlie?

Charlie. I went back in the house to get some glue to stick 'em back together again, but when I got back, they were gone. Unbelievable.

Alice. So what did you think Charlie?

Charlie. Well I thought I did see the worms in the first place, and if I did, did I really believe what I'd just seen?
Weird or what!

Alice. Did you doubt what you had just seen then Charlie?

Charlie. Er yes, er no, er I mean, er, I don't really know.

Alice. You remind me of Thomas, one of Jesus' Disciples.

Charlie. Why, what did he do?

Alice. Blimey Charlie, have you never heard of Doubting Thomas?

Charlie. NO, please do tell

Alice. Are you sitting comfortably?

Charlie. Sat up here? You must be joking.....

Alice. Then I'll begin.
On the evening of the first Sunday after Jesus had been crucified, his disciples were together in a locked room.

Charlie. Why was it locked?

Alice. Because the Disciples thought that the people who had crucified Jesus would also want to harm them.
Suddenly Jesus appeared- there in the locked room with the Disciples.

Charlie. No way.

Alice. I know it's hard to believe Charlie, but they saw him, and Jesus showed them the wounds in his hands and side, then the Disciples knew it was him.

Charlie. Unbelievable.

Alice. Now one of the Disciples who's name was Thomas was not with the others when Jesus appeared to them, and when they told Thomas they had seen Jesus, he did not believe them. Thomas said he had seen Jesus crucified and buried, how could he be alive?

Charlie. Yeh! How could he believe Jesus was alive?

Alice. Well Thomas said that unless he saw the wounds on Jesus and could put his fingers in the holes where the nails were in Jesus' hands, he would not believe.

Charlie. Yeh! like me with them worms.

Alice. No listen. A week later the Disciples were in the locked room again, and this time Thomas was with them. Again Jesus came and stood among them.
Jesus said to Thomas "put your finger here, see my

hands, now stop doubting Thomas and believe".
Now what do you think of that Charlie?
Charlie. So I really did see two worms?
Alice. Course you did Charlie.
Charlie. Right I'm off. Bye. (pops down)
Alice. Where ya going Charlie?
Charlie. Off to make more worms.

Alice. Bye bye everybody.

Brian Gledhill

You can see Charlie and Alice at an All Age Service - come along and see their next adventure.
With thanks to Brian for reproducing the script here.

Hunting for spiritual treasure – together!

Ecumenical service at St. Mary's – 6pm, 14th June,.

There's nothing nicer than a summer Sunday evening together, singing, enjoying the company of others, and all topped off with a cuppa and a biscuit! Even better to do that in the beautiful surroundings of our own church, and to welcome others in to share the experience. So why not put our Churches' Together Evening Service in your diary?
Sunday 14th June at 6pm.

We will be thinking about Treasure, pondering the treasures which are important to us, and celebrating the treasure of our shared faith. It's going to be a great and uplifting evening – and your presence will make it all the more so.

For many of the folk from the other local churches, this will be the first time they have seen our redeveloped building – something which we treasure! Let's give a great St. Mary's welcome – and show that we treasure the opportunity to open our doors to others.

Revd. Amanda

Archbishop of York heads call for more minority ethnic vocations in Church of England...

Guidance on the choice of a new Vicar comes from many places...

In a foreword to a new booklet on minority ethnic vocations, Dr John Sentamu said there has never been a better time for Christians from minority ethnic backgrounds to respond to God's call to ordained ministry in the Church of England.

"There is a greater need than ever for minority ethnic Anglicans to respond to God's call to ministry and servant leadership - we need people who are equipped for cross cultural ministry in our increasingly diverse society," Dr Sentamu said.

"We need more minority ethnic clergy as deacons, priests and bishops. We need ethnic diversity at all levels in the Church's ministry. This booklet shows how crucial it is for our ongoing vocations work in the Church of England."

The book is entitled: *Everyday People, God's gift to the Church of England*, from the Vocations Strategy Group, a working group of the Committee for Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns, and the Ministry Division of the Church of England, features the life stories of seven ordained clergy and one Anglican who is currently exploring her vocation. All are of minority ethnic heritage.

Dr. Elizabeth Henry, the Church of England's national adviser on minority ethnic Anglican concerns, said:

"Working to increase representation and inclusion of minority ethnic Anglicans at all levels in the Church is not about redressing an imbalance, it is essential to church growth,"

Prayerful thought June 2015

This month Dawn has been thinking about time.

I work three days a week, Monday to Wednesday and as usual recently, I ran out of time on a Wednesday for completing all the tasks I intended to do. As a consequence I popped in to work for an hour on the Thursday as some of the tasks were time critical. When a colleague asked me what I was doing there, I said that I'd finally found out why I never get anything completed on a Wednesday - it's because it has a different time zone to the other days of the week and in actual fact a Wednesday is only half as long as Monday or Tuesday! Now I know that's not the case, but it sounded good!

One of my friends at work advised me to start making lists as we were chatting about time one day, as I was as usual, dashing from one deadline to the next - and she told me that it does help!

Now I'm new to this task list business, I've always written out shopping lists and holiday lists (to make sure I don't forget anything) but 'task lists' are something new. I know I'm not quite there yet but I do make an effort at the beginning of a week to write down some things I know I must do. I have a weekly planner pad and do use it, unfortunately not everything on the list gets done, but it does help and it also means that if it doesn't get done, it can be carried on to the following week, hopefully to be done then.

The excellent thing about task lists is the feeling of accomplishment when I can cross something off, particularly something that has been waiting for a while to get done.

It's a funny thing time, when you're busy there is never enough of it, and when you are waiting for something (whether it's welcomed or dreaded) there can be too much of it!

I have a saying on my wall at work “You will never find time for anything, if you want time, then you must make it” and how true is that.

It got me thinking that somehow we do, don't we, we make time for the shopping or the ironing and other domestic chores, and if you are a parent with children somehow you do make time to take them to all the parties and activities they get involved in.

Now some of you may know that there's a book in the Old Testament, where we find a passage about 'Everything has its time. For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven'. It's in a rather small book called Ecclesiastes. The whole book is only 12 short chapters and it is what is referred to in biblical terms as 'wisdom literature' which was a popular form of writing in Near-Eastern countries in Old Testament times, although if you do have a look at it, or have looked at it previously, it seems quite strange to us and somewhat disjointed, but verses 1 to 8 of chapter 3 may be familiar.

If you have two minutes perhaps have a look at your bible, or if you don't have one, find an online version (I use Bible Gateway, but if you just put Ecclesiastes 3 into your search engine it will bring up a variety of locations). It reminds us that yes, there are times when bad things will happen, sorrow, loss and hate, but it is also a reminder that for the negative there is a positive, a time to laugh, a time to dance and a time for peace.

In my studies towards becoming a Lay Reader I am learning to look into bible passages in a little more depth.

The Good News Bible version of Ecclesiastes 3 verse 1 starts 'Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses' and whilst like me, some of you will have wondered sometimes why things happen, we need to trust God and his plans for us.

Those of you who know me know that I tend to dash about from task to task, meeting to meeting, and when I started my studies into becoming a Lay Reader, one of the things I was worried about, and indeed was picked up as part of my interview when I was accepted to go forward with my studies, was my 'work-life balance'. I was already busy, how would I fit everything in? Well, here I am two thirds of the way through year 2 of a three year course, and whilst I have had some times when I really didn't think I could finish everything, and fit everything in, I have done so.

I have met work deadlines, assignment deadlines, meeting time deadlines (although I have been a bit late on occasions!). So it appears the saying on my wall is true, if I want time I must make it, but I don't think it is just me, is it?

God is part of my daily planning and task list, if I make sure I talk to God daily and ask for his guidance, then I know that whatever the day throws at me whether planned or not, somehow with God's help, all will be well.

I remember the saying on a poster I had on my wall at home as a young adult, it said...'Lord help me to remember that nothing's gonna happen today that you and I can't handle together'.

Perhaps when like me you have more tasks in a day than you care to think about, remember Ecclesiastes 3, that there is a time for everything under heaven, and if all else fails, put it on your 'to do' list for tomorrow and ask God's help with it again then.

Just trust that God will have it in his plan for you, the time for it to happen just might not be today.

Dawn.

Bishop Nick Rededicates St. Mary's...

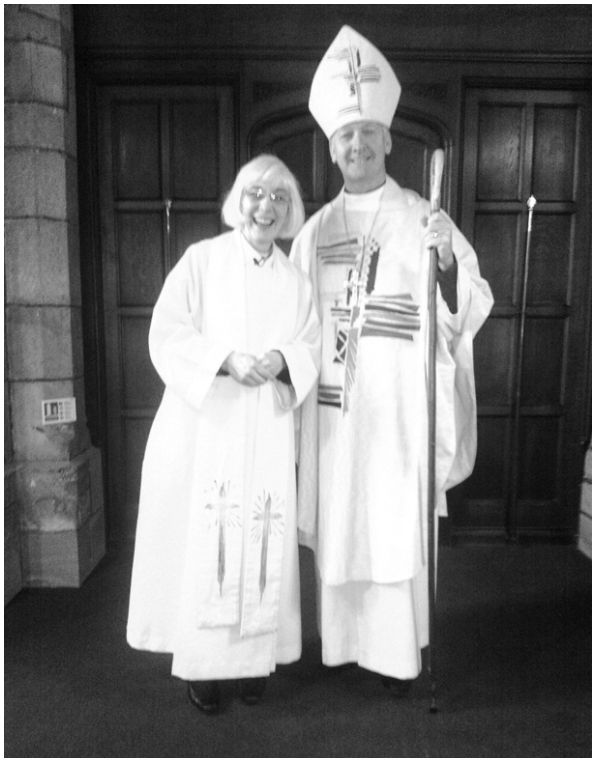
In a Service of Thanksgiving and rededication, Bishop Nick came to see our newly completed 'Back of Church Re-ordering'.

Along with Bishop Nick, we were pleased to welcome to a full church, Robert Brudenell, descended from Lord Cardigan, who is our Patron; Cllr Judith and Mr Terry Elliott; Penny Beaumont WREN and Brian Offord of the Royal British Legion. All assembled on Sunday 3rd May at St. Mary's to see for themselves the transformation designed by Architect Stuart Beaumont and completed by our Contractor Ian Smith – who was also able to attend.

Bishop Nick blessed our new curved pews and kitchen, and we celebrated with bubbly and a cake. It was Robert Brudenell's first visit to St. Mary's and we were hoping to return the compliment with a visit to his home, Deene Park, however the house is closed on the day in question so we will have to think again. Meanwhile, our re-orderings are now officially 'open' and are now 'part of the furnishings and fabric' of the Church to be enjoyed by many for years to come.

David.

*Bishop Nick with Revd.
Amanda*



SANDRA'S SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

Here are a few tips for June. It's getting warmer (?) and things may be putting on a spurt.

Hopefully you will be harvesting lettuces, new potatoes and maybe, early peas.

1. Lift young strawberries off the ground and place straw underneath to prevent rotting.
2. Start feeding tomatoes once the first truss of Flowers has set. Ensure compost and beds are always moist and never left to dry out. This will help prevent blossom end rot.
3. Carrot root fly are active in June so protect car rots, parsley, celery and parsnips with fine mesh.
4. Pinch out tips of broad beans once pods start to form. This helps deter blackfly.
5. Plant out cucurbits (Pumpkins, Courgettes, Squash, Gherkins etc) Keep an eye out for Jack Frost and protect with fleece or newspaper.
6. Weed onions and shallots and snap off any flowers that may appear.
7. Water peas and potatoes.
8. Sow more Lettuce, Radish, Spring onion, Salad leaves and Coriander.
9. Plant out Sweetcorn and sow Fennel where it is to grow
10. Tie in Runner Beans as they grow.

Sandra
(with Runner Beans)



Balancing the Books...

Church Commissioners announce 14.4% return on investments for 2014

The Church Commissioners have announced their 2014 financial results with the publication of their annual report. The Commissioners posted a total return on its investment in 2014 of 14.4 per cent, growing the fund from £2.4bn at the start of 1995 to £6.7bn at the end of 2014. The fund, which provides support across the Church of England, spent £215 million - 16% of the Church's overall mission and ministry costs. Alongside the Commissioners' Annual Report, an Annual Review highlighted funded projects ranging from Children's drop ins and after-school clubs to youth work and food bank hubs, all supported by local churches.

Andrew Brown, Secretary of the Church Commissioners, said: "Through continued strong ethical and sustainable financial performance we help provide for the spiritual and numerical growth of the Church of England. "We continue to identify and help fund the Church's work and mission in communities throughout England." Rachel Hepburn, Community Link Worker on the Cheswick Estate in Bristol is funded by a grant for mission in new housing and other development areas. Through the funding, Rachel is able to live in the local community and make vital links with other residents.

Archbishop Justin becomes Patron of Christians Against Poverty.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has become the first patron of debt charity Christians Against Poverty. The charity runs debt services through local churches with the aim of releasing people from the prison of debt. Around 60 of its 280 debt centres are based in Church of England churches. In a video message the Archbishop said:

"Most of us know people who've been in debt. Many of us, probably most of us, have had moments when either we've been in debt or we've begun to wonder how on earth we're ever going to make ends meet. CAP deals in helping people to get free of the prison of debt and it's something I feel passionately about."



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

Beavers

The Beavers have been busy bug hunting and identifying the bugs we have also had fun keeping fit, and enjoying our games nights. We have now collected all our letters to send to Tanzania and enclosed £40 to buy much needed paper and pencils. Thank you Beavers you did a great job.

We went for a walk with a treat at the end of it - we called into the chip shop on Sykes Road and we all enjoyed our feast.

The Beavers attended the St. Georges Day Parade in Morley; we had a very good turnout, thank-you to all who attended. Some Beavers also attended the re-dedication service in Church lead by the Bishop Nick Baines.

We are now looking forward to a busy time leading up to our BBQ and the Summer holidays.

Gail and Joanne

Lexophilia (that's the love of words to me and you).

You can tune a piano but you cant Tuna Fish.

To write with a broken pencil is pointless

A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.

The batteries were given out free of charge.

A dentist and a manicurist were married - they fought tooth and nail.

When a clock is hungry, it goes back four seconds

He had a photographic memory that was never fully developed.

When she married, she got a new name and a dress.

Police were summoned to a nursery where a 3 year old was resisting a rest.

A boiled egg is hard to beat

Trevor Sykes.

Brian's Humour Page

ADAM'S RIB

In Sunday School, they were teaching how God created everything, including human beings. Little Johnny seemed especially intent when they told him how Eve was created out of one of Adam's ribs.

Later in the week, his mother noticed him lying down as though he were ill, and said, 'Johnny what is the matter?' 'Little Johnny responded, 'I have a pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife.'

SHORT N SWEET

A little boy opened the big and old family Bible with fascination, and looked at the old pages as he turned them. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible, and he picked it up and looked at it closely. It was an old leaf from a tree that had been pressed between the pages.

'Momma, look what I found,' the boy called out.

'What have you got there, dear?' his mother asked.

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered: 'I think it's Adam's suit!'

QUIET PLEASE

Six-year-old Angie and her four-year-old brother Joel were sitting together during church services. Joel giggled, sang, and talked out loud. Finally, his big sister had enough.

'You're not supposed to talk out loud in church.'

'Why? Who's going to stop me?' Joel asked.

Angie pointed to the back of the church and said, 'See those two men standing by the door? They're 'Hushers'.

Brian

First Diocesan meeting for MU

The first event of the Mothers' Union for the Diocese of West Yorkshire & the Dales took place at the Cedar Court Hotel in Harrogate this week.

Over 200 women (plus a few men, including Bishop James Bell), gathered to worship and hear speaker Margaret Sentamu. It was organised by the Joint Diocesan Presidents Cynthia Osborne, Ros Dobbin and Jean Bailey.

The evening was introduced by Barbara Taylor, Provincial President. She said, "While the Mothers' Unions of the former three dioceses have held events to which they invited the other two, this is the first jointly run gathering, so it feels like a very special occasion."

Margaret Sentamu talked about women as agents for change, making reference to her own upbringing in Uganda, her work with many international charities and the work of the Mothers' Union itself. She said, "In the developing world 82% of men are actively employed in the labour market as opposed to only 27% of women. When the economy shrinks it's the girls who are pulled out of education, often ending up in exploitative jobs or being sexually trafficked. But investing in girls makes for smart economics. When you educate a girl, because of their tendency to share information, you educate a whole family and often a whole community. Women really are key agents for change."

She referred to the many influential women in history such as Indira Gandhi, Rosa Parkes, Margaret Thatcher and Aung San Suu Kyi. She said, "There are also many unsung female heroes. And, while the equality battle has not been won, there is a silent revolution going on in India, South America and Africa, where women are transforming their situations through collectives."

She praised the Mothers' Union for the way it shows God's love in action. "God's love compels you to set up such things as holiday schemes, social policy campaigns promoting stable family life and prayer vigils at the UN - where your presence is crucial, because you're the voice of the voiceless".

The new triennium of the Mothers' Union (with newly elected members) will begin in January 2016 when the president elect, Jean Thurman, will take up her role as the new president.

Church Mouse Tales.

Misha has missed a lot...

Well it's been a long winter – I know, I know its June now, but I woke up from my hibernation and peered outside – it was March, I think, anyway it was wet and cold, so I turned over and went back to sleep. Suffice to say I'm feeling quite refreshed now – at least I was until my friend Hubert, the Black Canon, filled me in on what I had missed. Dear oh dear, it looks like we are on our own for a while, rudderless – cast adrift on the sea of Christianity, with no-one at helm. Oh woe! Oh woe! Hubert huffed and puffed and chastised my outburst. Then he spoke seriously.

'First', he declared, 'we shall 'Observe the Hour.'

'Do what?' I asked, unsure of his mental state.

'When a change takes place, and things will not be the same again', he explained, 'we should take a moment to stop and consider this quietly. We should Observe the Hour.'

'Oh', I said non-committally.

'Next!', he declared, 'I have taken action to prevent any cast adriftedness, or helmlessness!'

'Wow! That's great', I cheered, 'what have you done?'

'I have created a rota!' Declared Hubert with satisfaction.

'A rota?' I asked, unsure.

'Yes, yes, all the things that need to be done, will be done, when they need to be done and how they need to be done. It's a solution to all our problems!' He sat back smiling contentedly.

'That sounds great', I agreed, 'can I see?' he handed me a (rather large) sheet of paper.

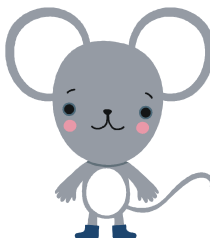
I glanced down the page at the tasks in hand.

'My name seems to be against most of the points?' I observed.

'Yes', he agreed, 'I see myself in more of a supporting role,' and he left before I could say any more.

'Trap testing?' I shouted after him. 'Mouse traps??????'

David



Poetry Corner.

This year is the 71st anniversary of the D-Day landings, with various events at Normandy and other places in the UK.

The target 50-mile (80 km) stretch of the Normandy coast was divided into five sectors: Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno, and Sword Beach. Strong winds blew the landing craft east of their intended positions, particularly at Utah and Omaha.

The men landed under heavy fire from gun emplacements overlooking the beaches, and the shore was mined and covered with obstacles such as wooden stakes, metal tripods, and barbed wire, making the work of the beach clearing teams difficult and dangerous. Casualties were heaviest at Omaha, with its high cliffs. At Gold, Juno, and Sword, several fortified towns were cleared in house-to-house fighting, and two major gun emplacements at Gold were disabled using specialised tanks.

The Allies failed to achieve all of their goals on the first day. Carentan, St. Lô, and Bayeux remained in German hands, and Caen, a major objective, was not captured until 21 July. Only two of the beaches (Juno and Gold) were linked on the first day, and all five bridgeheads were not connected until 12 June. However, the operation gained a foothold that the Allies gradually expanded over the coming months.

German casualties on D-Day were around 1,000 men. Allied casualties were at least 10,000, with 4,414 confirmed dead.

6th June 1944

Side by side without a word
They sleep in peace beneath the ground
Not so on the day they fell
When the air was torn by shot and shell
A noise like ever rolling thunder
As beach and field were torn asunder
Shoulder to shoulder they fought so well
What tales of valour those lips could tell
Now they are quiet with not a sound
As they rest in peace beneath the ground

Author Unknown

Albert's 'Say it with Flowers' Quiz.

1. Which flower was the second name of the Queen's younger sister?
2. In the old song, who 'looked sweet upon the seat of a bicycle made for two'?
3. What is the name of the Red Indian princess in 'Peter Pan'?
4. Which flower shares its name with a part of the eye?
5. Complete the title of the 1960's Foundations hit 'Build me up..'
6. Who wrote the novel 'The name of the Rose'?
7. In mythology, who falls in love with his own reflection?
8. What is the national flower of Japan?
9. According to Shakespeare, what ' by any other name would smell as sweet'?
10. Which part of a flower contains the pollen?
11. Which hit by 'The Move' was the first song to be played on BBC Radio 1?
12. Which flower is sung about in the musical 'The Sound of Music'?
13. Which flower has a name of a colour of the Rainbow?
14. Which song was a 1978 duet hit for Barbara Streisand and Neil Diamond?
15. Which artist painted 'The Sunflowers'?
16. Which margarine has the same name as the Roman Goddess of flowers?
17. What is the name of the cow in the story in the story 'Jack and the Beanstalk'?
18. What is the name of the outer covering or cup of a flower?
19. Who wrote the famous poem 'Daffodils'?
20. What is the name given to the Japanese art of Flower arranging?

Answers on P34

Diary for June and early July 2015,

JUNE

Wed 3rd	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (Common Worship) & refreshments
Thurs 4th	7.30pm	'Being Church' Session 2 – 'What does the Church do?' (Vicarage)
Sat 6th	10.30am-3pm	GARDEN PARTY IN VICARAGE GARDEN
Sun 7th	8am	Holy Communion (said)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung)
	12.30pm	Baptism Service
Mon 8th	7.30pm	PCC meeting in Church
Tues 9th	7.30pm	Armley Deanery Synod hosted by St. Mary's with Bishop Nick
Wed 10th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (Iona setting) & refreshments
Thrs 11th	7.30pm	'Being Church' Session 3 - 'We believe inthe Church' (Vicarage)
Fri 12th	5.30pm	Blessing of a marriage
Sun 14th	10.30am	All-Age Worship Service
	12 noon	Holy Communion
6pm		Ecumenical Service 'Treasure in Clay jars' –St. Mary's
Mon 15th	11.45am	First Steps Toddler Service 'Henry is poorly' – in Church
	2pm	Mothers' Union
Wed 17th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (1662 setting) & refreshments
Thurs 18th	11am	Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge
	7.30pm	'Being Church' Session 4 - 'The body of Christ' (Vicarage)
Sun 21st	10.30am	Holy Communion (sung)
Wed 24th	9.15am	Church open for prayer
	10am	Holy Communion (with healing prayer) & refreshments

Sun 28th 10.30am Holy Communion (sung)
Amanda & Derek's final Sunday service

EARLY JULY

Wed 1st 9.15am Church open for prayer
10am Holy Communion (Common Worship) & refreshments
Sat 4th 9.30-11.30 Church and Churchyard clean-up

Sun 5th NO 8AM COMMUNION SERVICE
10.30am Holy Communion (sung)
12.30pm Baptism Service
Services conducted by Revd. John Pinder-Packard

Wed 8th 9.15am Church open for prayer
10am Morning Praise (Lay-led)

Sun 12th 10.30am All-Age Worship
12 noon Holy Communion
12 noon conducted by Revd. Elizabeth Lee

Help a Swan....

Have you any unwanted sheets, blankets , pillowcases or towels? If so The Swan Sanctuary are in urgent need of them to use in their intensive care unit that help nurse the swans and baby cygnets back to full health.

Please contact me Liz Aveyard on:-

0113 8081033 or 07791 324221

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

Weddings:-

Gemma Hornby and Paul Sciré, From Tingley were married at St. Mary's on the 22nd May. Congratulations from the Church Family.

Funerals:-

Julie Broadbent, from Morley, Beloved Wife, Mother and Daughter, will be sadly missed by all her Family and Friends.

QUIZ ANSWERS 1. Rose 2. Daisy 3. Tiger Lily 4. Iris 5. Buttercup 6. Umberto Eco 7. Narcissus 8. Cherry Blossom 9. A Rose 10. Anther 11. Flowers in the Rain 12. Edelweiss 13. Violet 14. You don't bring me flowers 15. Vincent Van Gogh 16. Flora 17. Buttercup 18. Calyx 19. William Wordsworth 20. Ikebana

Albert.

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Parish Centre Rentals

We have space for Groups who may be interested in using the Parish Centre on a Monday or Wednesday evening.

Nominal Cost is £50 for 3 hours.

**Contact: Brian Walshaw
01924 479380 for more information.**

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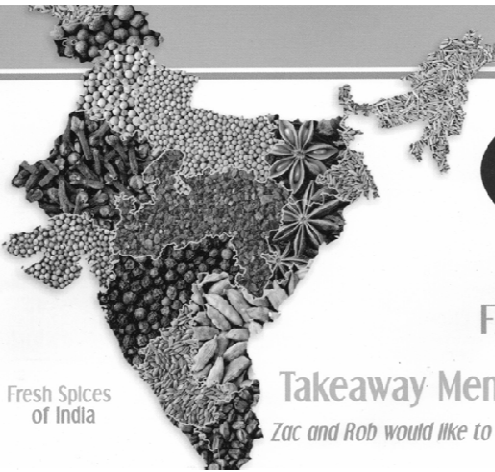
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What's on

Mothers' Union	3 rd Monday in the month 2:00 pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
Playgroup	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am to 12:00pm Becky Schofield 07811 146958
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 to 6:15 pm Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
Cubs	Friday 6:30pm to 7:45 pm Marianne Ingham 07778 542302
Scouts	Friday 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm Trevor Holdsworth 0113 253 0927
Explorer Scouts	Friday 7:45 pm to 9:30 pm Chris Ingham 07816 517838

Services

Every Sunday, the main Service is at 10:30am as follows:-

1st Sunday of the month:

- 8:00am Holy Communion (about 1/2 hour, no Hymns)
- 10:30am Holy Communion (with Hymns, 1 hour approx.)
- 12.30pm Baptism Service

2nd Sunday of the month:

- 10:30am All Age (Family) Service. (Fun Service with theme)
- 12:00pm Holy Communion (Fewer Hymns)

3rd Sunday of the month

- 10:30am Holy Communion (with Hymns, 1 hour approx.)

4th Sunday of the month:

- 10:30am Holy Communion (with Hymns, 1 hour approx.)
- 12:30pm Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child

5th Sunday (4 times per year)

- 10:30 All Age Holy Communion

Wednesdays:

- 10:00am Holy Communion (without Hymns)

3rd Thursday:

- 11:00am Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge

Monday to Friday: 8:45am - 9:00am Morning Prayer.

To arrange for **baptisms, confirmations, funerals, the reading of banns** or any general matter, please contact the Vicar: **Revd. Amanda Barraclough**, St Mary's Vicarage, Dewsbury Road, Woodkirk, WF12 7JL. Tel: 01924 472375
Email: vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org

To **book weddings** please contact the Wedding Coordinator, Gail Townsend (0113 2528710) email: weddings@stmarywoodkirk.org