

# Parish News

St Mary's, Woodkirk

Happy Easter !

**March 2016**



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

This Month:

**The Road to Calvary; The Road Ahead; Palm Sunday Battles; Green Doctors; Money Solutions.**

## Who's who at Woodkirk

**Vicar of St Mary's:** Currently Vacant .  
St Mary's Vicarage, Dewsbury Road,  
Woodkirk, WF12. 7JL

**Lay Pastoral Minister:** Gail Townsend 0113 2528710  
**Churchwardens:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790  
Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

**Deputy churchwardens:** Gary Mortimer  
Glyn Jennings  
David Townsend

**Verger:** Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710

**Organist:** Samantha Hawkins

**PCC Secretary:** Dawn Tattersfield

**PCC Treasurer** Barbara Tate

**Social Chairman:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

**Parish Centre Hire:** Sally Shaw 01924 475048

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

**Parish Legacy Officer:** David Townsend

**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 252 4001

**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 News Sheet  
by Thursday evening please.

**Deanery Synod rep:** Glyn Jennings

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

Brian Gledhill, Julie Hyde, Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Dawn Tattersfield, Dave Townsend, Barbara Tate, Liz Aveyard, Gail Townsend, Glyn Jennings.

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.

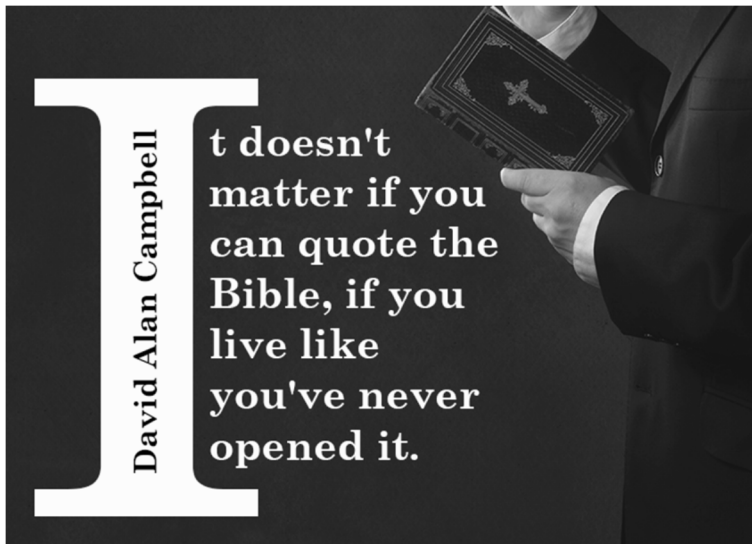
### **Web site & Twitter**

Further news and pictures of what is happening at St Mary's can be found on our web site located at: [www.stmarywoodkirk.org](http://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](https://twitter.com/stmarywoodkirk)

### **Wheelchair Access**

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





## **Prayerful Thought. Have you decided?**

*Put on the whole armour of God: Ephesians 6:11*

Hi there

Now I'm writing this article in the middle of February and by the time you read it we will be into March. Winter will 'hopefully' be receding and spring will be ready to spring! Or perhaps not!

I wanted this month to talk to you about my experiences lately during my placement and my studies where I have been more or less 'bombarded' with 'stuff' and wanted to share this with you. The experiences brought to mind two biblical characters and also the above bible verse.

Are you sitting comfortably? Well I'll begin...

I know some of you will have heard of Jacob and Jonah, some of you may not, well these were the two biblical characters brought to mind recently following a number of instances that occurred with me.

Specifically I remembered that Jacob fought with God, if you aren't familiar with the story look up Genesis chapter 32 the specific bit is at verse 22.

Prior to meeting his brother Esau, Jacob sends his family across the river Jabbok and he is left alone, there he encounters a stranger and they 'wrestle' until daybreak, and as he had not managed to overpower Jacob, the stranger touched Jacob's hip causing him discomfort and asks Jacob to let him go, but Jacob will not let him go until he gives Jacob his blessing. The stranger of course is God and He not only gives Jacob His blessing but gives him a new name 'Israel' because he has struggled with God and prevailed.

Jonah's tale is told in the Old Testament book of that name, and tells us about the prophet Jonah who was asked by God to go to Ninevah (which is in modern day Northern Iraq) and preach against it because it was a 'wicked' place. But Jonah didn't want to do that and was willing to board a boat and sail far away, even though this was a dangerous thing to do. Now as we know, you cannot hide from God, and so Jonah gets thrown into the sea, swallowed by a big fish but then during his three days and nights inside the belly of the fish, he prays to God (look up Jonah Chapter 2) where he prays

"In my distress I called to the Lord, and He answered me..."

So why did these two stories come to my mind, and what have they to do with the 'armour of God'?

Well as you know, I talk quite a lot about prayer, and about how we should try to pray to God about 'stuff', but also about how hard it is to pray, and despite all my studies and talking and worship and everything, I still find it difficult to pray, well things that I have been involved in recently have highlighted this as an ongoing issue for me.

I have been going to my placement churches in Gildersome and Drighlington, I have attended 'prayer groups' and other events where there has been a focus on prayer, and then our February study day not only focussed on our future ministry as Lay Readers or Lay Pastoral Ministers or even those exploring ordination, but also talked about being a 'reflective practitioner' and about making 'prayer a priority' and this really hit home.

Our tutor talked about us 'being in Christ' He is not 'out there', He is around us now, prayer is something we are in now, we don't opt in and out of it. It is a difficult thing to get our heads around, God is around us, it doesn't matter where we are, we are always in prayer as we are always in Christ.

This resonated with me because I know people are praying for me, I know you, my church family at St Mary's, are continuing to pray for me during my absence, I know that my placement church families are praying for me during my placement with them, and this has been very humbling.

This then led to me thinking about the whole armour of God.

I think I have had on the whole armour of Dawn, not God, I have been like Jacob and Jonah, I have been fighting God, I have worn my armour to protect me, from what I don't know, but the thing with armour is, yes it will stop things from getting at you, but it also stops 'stuff' getting out. I think subconsciously I have been trying to keep God at arm's length throughout my studies, not fully letting Him in, keeping some protection around myself, but the feeling of prayer from my church families are finding the 'chinks' in my armour.

How do I know this? Well there isn't such a thing as coincidence with God, is there? It is Him surrounding me with those who pray for me and support me, and it feels like I am being bombarded.

I mentioned about your prayers for me, then the topics of some of the prayer meetings and bible study I have done built on this. Then our lecturer encouraged us to develop 'being in Christ'. Just 'being' is so so difficult for a 'doer' like me, then during our worship time at college in February everything seemed to resonate with me. We sang a hymn entitled 'Jesus calls us here to meet him', the words of this include;

Jesus calls us here to meet him, as through word and song and

prayer, we affirm God's promised presence where His people live and care...

Jesus calls us to confess him word of life and Lord of all...

Tell his holy human story, tell his tales that all may hear, tell the world that Christ in glory came to earth to meet us here.

Jesus calls us to each other, vastly different though we are, race and colour, class and gender neither limit nor debar.

Join the hand of friend and stranger, join the hands of age and youth, join the faithful and the doubter in their common search for truth.

We also sang 'Be still for the presence of the Lord, the Holy one is here, one of my favourite songs.

Then our final hymn, which I thought I didn't know, but in fact was sung to a familiar tune, included the words...

Hope of our calling: hope through courage won, by those who dared to share all Christ had done...

Hope of our calling: hope with strength empowered, inspired by all that we have seen and heard; this call is ours for we are chosen too...

Hope of our calling: hope of grace outpoured...Hope of our calling: hope by faith made bold...bring peace from conflict, fruitfulness from weeds...

Hope of our calling: Spirit filled, unbound, old joys remembered and new purpose found, our call refreshed by sacrament and word, we go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

I've often talked about not having had a 'lightning bolt' moment leading me on my path to becoming a lay reader, but what all this highlights to me are several key things;

Perhaps God is slowly drip drip dripping understanding and guidance to me through all these different aspects, after all, the steady drip of water over time will make a hole in stone!

God has chosen me, with all my faults, the fact that I am a doer, caught up in the busyness of life, constantly 'fighting' just being with God, taking quiet time to just 'be'

There really is power in prayer, I know that I am in people's prayers and that makes a huge difference, to know that you are being prayed for, that people are holding you before God and asking Him to be with you, how awesome is that?

I can wrestle with God like Jacob did, but even though I may

wrestle I will be changed by that wrestling, hopefully not with a dodgy hip like Jacob, but changed nonetheless

I can try and hide from God like Jonah did. I may not get swallowed by a big fish, but like Jonah it is time for me to call to the Lord, and give Him a chance to answer me.

Finally if proof were needed, I have been asked to preach at Gildersome next week and the theme is based on the Lent course we are doing which is entitled 'The Grace Course' and I opened the course book to see what it says for next week and the opening comment says;

Which road sign would best describe where you are on your journey with God right now?

My answer...

I feel I have been driving through foggy patches but the fog is clearing.

I have to recognise that the road is not always straight.



If I take time to 'be' with God,



He will walk my journey with me.

And that's not at all bad is it?

What road sign would best describe where you

Many many thanks for your continued prayers, they are very much appreciated.

Love and prayers. Dawn x



are?

# **CAP Money Course—Are you Money fit?**

*You are invited to.....*

A course where you can answer these questions:

- Do you know how much money comes into your household?
- Do you know where it all goes?
- Would you like to save more?
- Would you like to be able to bless others and give more?  
(We are not asking you for money!!)
- Are you prepared for the future?

If so, please come and join us for an informal evening, starting with a free meal with your local CAP Money team on Wednesday 20th April at 7:00pm at West Ardsley Methodist Church (bottom of Haigh Moor Road). For catering purposes please contact Liz Aveyard 07791 324221 by 10th April. Many thanks.

Liz

## **Swans Alive!**

A big thank you from the Yorkshire Swan Rescue Hospital (and Liz) for all the bedding / towels that you have generously donated. They are always gratefully received and put to good use within our intensive care units for the seriously injured & young wildlife. Thank you : )



## **Sammi Hawkins – My Way.**

I'm sure everyone who has been to Church in the last 3 months has seen and - more importantly heard - Sammi playing the Organ quite beautifully. Well, if you haven't had the chance for a chat, here is the official inside story:

Samantha Hawkins started playing the piano at the tender age of four - coached by her piano teaching Mum. Samantha – or Sammi as she likes to be known, has two older brothers Tim, 27 and Jason 25. Both brothers are getting married – Tim this year. Meanwhile Sammi herself is engaged to Dan (who played a stunning duet with Sammi on the piano on Christmas day), and they will be married next year, in August. They met at the Manchester Cheetham School of Music, so they have been together for 10 years now.

Sammi learnt the piano at home up to the age of 10 and then continued learning both the piano and flute at school up to 16. She learnt both Classical and Jazz piano, but she says, preferred Classical. After turning 16, Sammi went to the Blue Coat School in Oldham for her A levels. This was more of a science school, she explained, but she still took Music A level as well as Biology and Chemistry. It was whilst she studied at Bluecoats, that Sammi also taught herself to play the Organ. The first time she played the Organ 'in public' was at St. Martin's in Droylsden. Jason, her brother (pay attention), had heard that the church needed an Organist so Sammi turned up and played. She spent a year there playing on Sundays followed by five and a half years at St. George's, Stalybridge - and now prefers the Organ to the Piano.

Sammi took a degree in Pharmacology at Liverpool University, followed by a year at Liverpool Dental Hospital as a trainee dental Nurse. Now she is training to be a Dentist, but there are still four and a half years to go for that! It's a busy time right now for Sammi with exams as well as floods to contend with, but what, I asked, does she like to listen to, when she isn't playing?

Well, she said, I do like a bit of Frank Sinatra!

David



*Sammi*

# Good Friday

Good Friday is probably the day in the year with what, on the surface, has the most inappropriate title. This is the day that Jesus was killed in the most unjust and horrific manner – how can this be good?

The etymology of the term 'good' isn't that certain. Some people say it is an alternative old meaning of 'pious' or 'holy' - so Holy Friday. Others believe it is a corrupted version of 'God' Friday. Alternatively, the word 'good' has been interpreted to mean 'for the good of mankind', 'good triumphed over evil', this day provides the world with the Gospel (which means Good News).

Regardless of how the phrase came about, it is the most solemn of days in church; one where we reflect on the events of the day, what they meant at the time (remembering that of course they were not aware of the resurrection at the time!) and how Jesus' death affects us today.

We hold An Hour at the Cross service at 2-3pm (the time of Jesus' death). It is a quiet service, one to spend time in the Lord's presence and reflect on the words of the Gospel, and with music to help that reflection. During the service the congregation are invited to lay down any confessions which are then burnt beneath the cross outside at the end of the service.

Good Friday and Easter are the most poignant and important dates in the Christian calendar. The services are open to everyone and are accessible to anyone. Please feel to join us at 2pm on Good Friday - 25th March.





The words of When I Survey the Wondrous Cross are sung next to the cross at 3pm and are a suitable reflection leading up to Holy Week:

*When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God!  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.*

*See from His head, His hands,  
His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down!  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*His dying crimson, like a robe,  
Spreads o'er His body on the tree;  
Then I am dead to all the globe,  
And all the globe is dead to me.*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all.*

*To Christ, who won for sinners grace  
By bitter grief and anguish sore,  
Be praise from all the ransomed race  
Forever and forevermore.*

Neal

## **George and Jemima face the Devil.**

George is asleep on top of the wall snoring & talking in his sleep.

George. No, No, go away, uh gerroff, give up tickling me, gerroff.

Jemima. (Pops up & nudges George) Wake up George, Wake up.

George. (Jumps up) What, what, gerroff, give up.

Jemima. George, George, you're having a dream.

George. What, what, oh, oh, oh it's you Jemima. I thought it was Old Nick again.

Jemima. Old Nick? who's Old Nick?

George. Ya know, Old Nick, Beelzebub, Satan, THE DEVIL!

Jemima. You were dreaming about The Devil?

George. Yeh, and he scared the pants off me.

Jemima. Why, what was he doing?

George. I was in bed and he was tickling me and asking me to do naughty things.

Jemima. Naughty things, such as?

George. Well, my Mum had a big bag of marshmallows in the kitchen, which she was saving for the kids at the youth group for tomorrow, and Old Nick was telling me to go down to the kitchen and eat 'em all myself.

Jemima. And did you?

George. Well, in the dream it seemed I was eating marshmallows one after the other until I was stuffed, and when I finally woke up I found out I had eaten half my pillow!

Jemima. You actually ate your pillow?

George. No silly, that was in my dream.

Jemima. So what did Old Nick, I mean The Devil look like George?

George. Oh, he was really scary. He was red and had horns, yeh horns on his head and a big pointy thing like a pitchfork and he kept poking me with it, and he wouldn't stop tickling me.

Jemima. I don't know where you come up with this stuff George.

George. Yeh, and he had a tail, a big looming tail that made me sneeze, cause he kept sticking it under my nose.

Jemima. Blimey George, he sure gave you a rough time, but you don't have to be scared of The Devil.

George. But what about his horns and his tail and that big pitchforky thing?

Jemima. The Devil doesn't look like that.

George. Yes he does, with that tail and that pitchforky thing.

Jemima. All that's just a bad dream George. He just wants you to be scared.

George. Yeh, and he's making a good job of it.

Jemima. Well, The Devil is dangerous, but he doesn't look scary really. He looks like a good guy. He wants to fool us. He wants us to follow him instead of God and he wants us to do bad things.

George. I wouldn't follow that guy with the tail and that pitchforky thing. He's scary.

Jemima. Well, The Devil is a bit scary, but he can't hurt you George, as long as you know how to get rid of him.

George. Ya mean I can get rid of him?

Jemima. Sure, just do what Jesus did when Satan tried to get him to do bad things.

George. OK, what did Jesus do then?

Jemima. Jesus told the truth.

George. But what is the truth? I don't always know. Remember I thought Satan was red with big horns and a tail and a big pointed pitchforky thing.

Jemima. God is truth, and God's word The Bible, is truth. If I tell you a Bible story George will you go to sleep again?

George. What's it about?

Jemima. It's about Satan trying to turn Jesus away from God, and how Jesus got rid of him.

George. Yeh, that's what I want to know, how to get rid of Satan.

Jemima. Then pay attention George. The spirit of God led Jesus into a very lonely place and Jesus didn't eat for forty days.

George. Blimey, he must have been starving.

Jemima. Yes George he was very hungry and Satan came to Jesus and said " turn those stones into bread". But Jesus used The Bible and told Satan the truth. Jesus said " The Bible says bread is not the only food man needs to live, every word of God gives us food for life".

George. Wow! That makes me hungry just to think about it

Jemima. You see George, we can be hungry for God's word too. You need to settle down now George so you can go back to sleep.

George. (lying down again on the wall ) OK go on Jemima.

Jemima. OK. Then Satan took Jesus up on to the top of a tall, tall building and said "If you are the Son of God, prove it, throw yourself down to the ground. I want to see angels come and save you like the Bible says".

George. Did Jesus have a parachute?  
 Jemima. No he didn't have a parachute.  
 George. A hang glider, an umbrella?  
 Jemima. No George, Jesus told Satan the truth. The Bible says you must not do dangerous things just to see if God will protect you.  
 George. Yeh! Jesus is our man, if he can't do it no one can.  
 Jemima. Hang on George. Finally Satan took Jesus to a high mountain and said "I will give you everything you can see if you will bow down and worship me"  
 George. Don't do it Jesus, its a trick, Satan is lying.  
 Jemima. Just settle down George. Everything is OK, Jesus used The Bible and told Satan the truth. Jesus said "go away Satan". The Bible says "worship only the Lord your God and serve only him" and then Satan left.  
 George. I know what to do now, just use The Bible and tell the truth, and then Satan can't hurt me.  
 (rolls over and lays on the wall)  
 Jemima. No he can't George (George begins to snore) as long as we follow the truth. Satan cant turn us away from God, and there isn't anything in The Bible about horns or a tail or a big pitchforky thing. Now say goodbye George.  
 George. (still snoring) rolls over and falls off the back of the wall says "OUCH" as he lands  
 Jemima. Bye bye everybody. Bye bye.

Brian



## **The Wars of the Roses—The Palm Sunday Battle.**

The Act of Settlement signed by King Henry VI in October 1460 transferred the right of succession to Richard, Duke of York and his heirs. Queen Margaret was, not surprisingly, unwilling to accept that her son should be disinherited. The Lancastrians once more attempted to resolve the matter through force of arms and three battles followed:

Wakefield, Sandal Castle, 30 December 1460, at which the Yorkists were defeated and Richard, Duke of York, killed;

Mortimer's Cross, 2 February 1461, at which Edward, Richard's son, defeated a Lancastrian army;

St. Albans, 17 February 1461, where the Yorkists were defeated and Henry VI released from captivity.

Despite this latter setback, the Earl of Warwick, 'The Kingmaker', saw to it that Edward became king in March 1461. England now had two kings, a matter that could only be resolved on the battlefield. After St. Albans, Henry's forces had retreated into the north and so, soon after his coronation, Yorkist Edward set off to confront him.

Edward was able to muster a large army as he marched north. The Lancastrian army was of at least equal number to that of the Yorkists. The Lancastrians sent a vanguard forward to Ferrybridge and on the 28th March they contested Edward's attempt to cross the river Aire. But the Yorkist vanguard was dispatched north westward to cross at Castleford and so outflank the Lancastrian detachment. The Lancastrians had to retreat back towards their own army, leaving the main route open at Ferrybridge for the rest of Edward's army.

It seems that the Yorkist vanguard caught and defeated the retreating Lancastrians on the main road from Ferrybridge to York at Dintingdale, just to the east of Saxton village. The scene was now set for what may have been the largest battle of the Wars of the Roses. On 29th March 1461, Palm Sunday, the two armies met in the open field between the villages of Towton and Saxton. According to chroniclers, more than 50,000 soldiers from the Houses of York and Lancaster fought for hours amidst a snowstorm on that day, Palm Sunday. A

newsletter circulated a week after the battle reported that 28,000 died on the battlefield.

The Battle of Towton was to affirm the victor's right to rule over England through force of arms.

On reaching the battlefield, the Yorkists found themselves heavily outnumbered. Part of their force under the Duke of Norfolk had yet to arrive. The Yorkist leader, Lord Fauconberg, turned the tables by ordering his archers to take advantage of the strong wind to outrange their enemies. The one-sided missile exchange, with Lancastrian arrows falling short of the Yorkist ranks, provoked the Lancastrians into abandoning their defensive positions. The ensuing hand-to-hand combat lasted hours, exhausting the combatants. The arrival of Norfolk's men reinvigorated the Yorkists and, encouraged by Edward, they routed their foes. Many Lancastrians were killed while fleeing; some trampled each other and others drowned in the rivers, which are said to have made them run red with blood for several days.

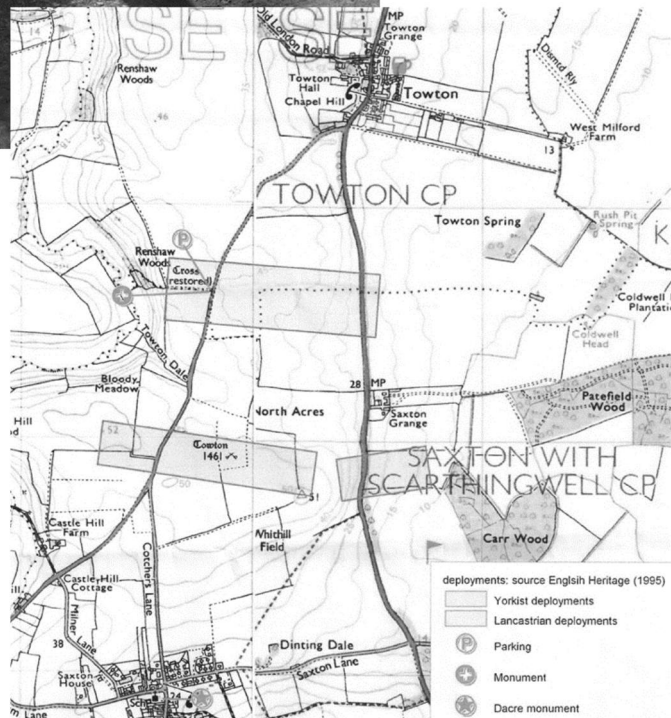
The power of the House of Lancaster was severely reduced after this battle. Henry fled the country, and many of his most powerful followers were dead or in exile after the engagement, letting Edward rule England uninterrupted for nine years, before a brief restoration of Henry to the throne. Later generations remembered the battle as depicted in William Shakespeare's dramatic adaptation of Henry's life—Henry VI, Part 3, Act 2, Scene 5.

In 1929, the Towton Cross was erected on the battlefield to commemorate the event. Today, you can park next to this Cross and follow a circular walking route around the battlefield location. With story boards and information along the way, it makes for an interesting day out.

David



*Towton Cross*



## The Road to Calvary

*Gail explores the crucifixion through the eyes of a witness...*

What heavy luggage she had worked hard to “unpack” in her continuing journey through life. Each day was lived sometimes in failure but more often succeeding in the Lord's strength. Daily struggles were no picnic, to say the least. But now she had found a resting place, a point of “staying” in her life where she had settled and was at relative peace. Oh yes, the bills still arrived with predictable regularity. The needs of family and work changed and fluctuated like the turning seasons and the years seemed to fling themselves around to calendar's end with alarming speed. A strong hook behind the front door held her knapsack and hiking boots very well. No need to take them down again.

Then why was this happening? Why now and why her? The advertisements lay on her table on a plain white postcard. It bore no postmark and no stamp was attached. She read it for the tenth time “Come to Calvary”. The visual image of these words transfixed her mind even after she had thrown the card casually into the bin.

That night her dreams were shot through with the plain black lettering which were on the card. She half woke imagining herself taking the old knapsack off the hook and polishing the boots. No, she thought, my traveling days are over. Calvary would be such a steep climb. She turned over in bed and tried to sleep again. Suddenly a thought jolted her fully awake.

“Walk with me” it insisted.

Could it be him, she thought – the Lord? Surely not - after all, he had been walking alongside her now for longer than she cared to calculate, so it made no sense to imagine that he needed to ask her to walk with him.

By morning she had convinced herself that she should travel again – leave the relative comfort of home and walk beside her Master to Calvary. He had called her, so she left, trusting all to his care.

The first thing she saw a man following Jesus as they took him to the High Priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. She recognized the man following - it was Peter, one of Jesus' followers.

As Peter walked into the courtyard of the high priest; the guard spoke to him. She smiled as she watched him run away. At least he had shown the bravery to continue alone in Christ's footsteps as the Lord was led from the garden. Had he intended to come so close to



being assisted? Did he, with bravado, dream of sharing the danger with Christ all the way to Calvary? Did he imagine that he could glean enough information 'under cover' to report back to the others? Or was he blinded to the danger.

But as she turned around she saw Peter there again. There was sadness in his eyes. Was he still smarting from Jesus' rebuke and command to put up his sword, yet still following wherever his discipleship would lead, right into the lions' den?

No wonder the Lord entrusted the leadership of the Church into this man's hands. But first, Peter had to learn an important lesson. First, this strong man, this big fisherman, well used to physical labour and winning through by the power of his muscles, had to feel what it was like to be in the ultimate 'odds against' situation, without redress to his sword.

How was this man now feeling knowing that a mere stone's throw from him, across the courtyard, the divine power that helped to create a universe, stood in chains awaiting trial. And all Peter could feel was fear. She decided she wanted to stay with Peter, she had no desire to hear the falsehood spoken by witness after witness at the mockery of a trial that was now getting under way.

As Peter warmed himself by the fire someone asked him if he was one of the followers. He got angry and denied the challenge, pulling his cloak more closely around himself. Again someone came and challenged him. Denial and flight seemed the only form of self-defence open to him. As he fled, a maid followed him and asked again:

'Are you not one of his followers?'

Once again he denied this challenge and fled. It was then she heard the cock crow a third time. She watched Peter. He was weeping and trembling, she did not know whom to feel for the most at that moment – a failed disciple, broken and weeping tears of deep repentance as he fled to the safety of home, or an innocent prisoner in chains being roughly pulled to his cell, the spit of scoundrels running down his face and the echo of his chief follower's voice, in denial of their acquaintance, ringing in his ears.

As she stood in the courtyard she could hear the crowd shouting 'Crucify him, crucify him.'

It rang around the courtyard. At the side stood a soldier. In his hand he had a twisted circle of sticks and thorns woven together.

'It's for him, isn't it?' she wept. The soldier nodded.

Well no one can remove his dying agony, even though Simon of Cyrene was able to carry the weight of the wood for a little way, only Jesus could grace the cross of Calvary.

As she watched she could not take her eyes off the bent figure of Jesus kneeling on the ground as they roughly tore the crossbar off his shoulders. A pool of blood had already formed on the dirt in which he knelt, his wounds still dripping after the soldiers' treatment in the courtyard, the hair covering his forehead matted with blood seeping from under the thorn-pricks of the crown.

It was the look in his eyes she would never forget.

She knew what was happening. The sound of the nails being cut into his hands and feet. She could not look - could not stop the weeping.

'He is dying,' she sobbed. 'How could this be that her savior should have to take such pain?' she whispered, 'it's too much. Nobody could pay for the world's sin unless....' Then she heard a voice say: 'Unless they were the Son of GOD.'

She hated her sin then, hated every tiny molecule of it. Suddenly that which once seemed so small to her was brought into clear focus by the instrument of the cross. Like a microscope, what was happening just a short distance from where she crouched brought magnification to the events and actions of her past life, and her sin seemed to take a form that was tangible in the stench of the blood and excrement discharged from other prisoners undergoing execution.

She saw sin for what it really was, a cancer to be slashed from her life as a surgeon wields his knife without compromise. Feeling naked upon the dirt ground, she felt the trembling bodies of the three women as she huddled closer against their backs. What could they see that she was too frightened to look upon? Was he looking down at them?

This time a traveller from another century in a dream had carried so much pain to CALVARY and watched her Master die without looking deep into his face. Now she missed him-or thought she had. Missed the glorious moment when the broken earth shuddered its last death claim of Masterson and bowed at last to the supremacy of him who conquers all. Lord Jesus Christ.

'The dream now lives', a voice whispered in her ear. 'The one that always was too big, the one the Father and the Son dreamt with the spirit before the earth was new.

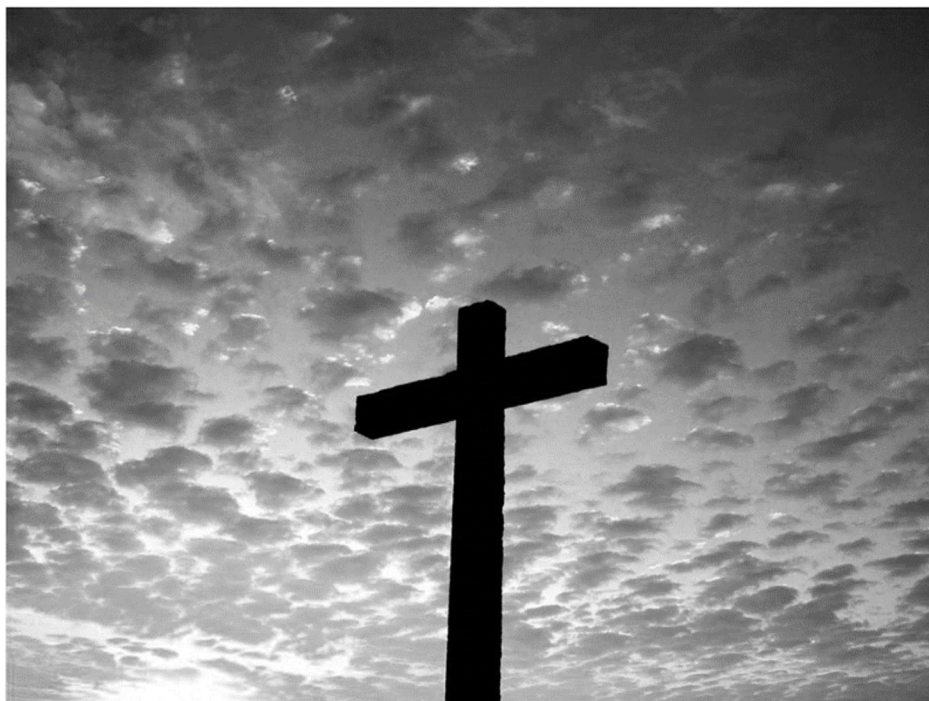
There are many out there who are longing to hear the healing news of Calvary.

Go home dear traveller for he waits there for you—arisen Saviour holding out forgiveness, love and joy—but you will never rise with him until you die the death to self and pride and sin.

Then, walking though from tomb to word, broken as it is, you'll feel his hand upon your life and know that it was his idea that you should come, and walk for ever in his footsteps till he safely leads you home.'

Happy Easter

Gail



## Poetry Corner.

*From the musical Les Miserables, the very beautiful:-*

### **I Dreamed A Dream**

I dreamed a dream in time gone by  
When hope was high and life worth living  
I dreamed that love would never die  
I prayed that God would be forgiving

Then I was young and unafraid  
And dreams were made and used and wasted  
There was no ransom to be paid  
No song unsung, no wine untasted

But the tigers come at night  
With their voices soft as thunder  
As they tear your hopes apart  
And they turn your dreams to shame

Still I dream he'd come to me  
And we would live the years together  
But there are dreams that cannot be  
And there are storms we cannot weather

I had a dream my life would be  
So different from this hell I'm living  
So different now from what it seemed  
Now life has killed the dream I dreamed

David

### **How to win friends and influence....**

Currently, I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook whilst applying the same principles.

Therefore, every day I go down on the street and tell a passer-by what I have eaten, how I feel, what I have done the night before, and what I will do afterwards, I give them pictures of : my meals, my husband/wife, family, friends, my cat, my garden, and 'selfies' of when I am pursuing my hobbies such as walking on the beach. I also listen to their conversations, and I tell them that I love them. And wow, it really works.

Already I have 3 people following me: 2 police officers and a psychiatrist.

Brian.

## **SANDRA'S SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS**

Things should be on the go now. Plenty to do in the potting shed (I should be so lucky!) I pot up in the greenhouse or I sit outside if it's warm enough. Oh! for a garden large enough for a greenhouse AND a potting shed! Here are some jobs to be getting on with this month.

Sandra's Top Tip: Put grow bags and sacks/bags of compost in the greenhouse or conservatory, so they have time to warm up before being put to good use.

1. Try growing on plug plants in your greenhouse. They are a cheaper alternative to larger plants and there will be more of them!!
2. Plant some more onion sets and also some shallots.
3. Plant first early potatoes if it is mild and if your soil is workable.
4. Sow some sweet peas to grow alongside your runner beans.
5. Spring prune fruit trees like peaches and nectarines.
6. Cover prepared seedbeds with fleece, cloches or clear plastic sheeting to help warm up the soil in readiness for spring sowings.
7. Prepare trenches for planting soon. Celery requires good water retention and drainage so incorporate plenty of well rotted manure or compost.
8. Sow peas in guttering or old toilet roll holders at two week intervals.
9. Now is the time to make sowings of broad beans, carrots, beetroot, lettuce, spinach, leeks, herbs, basil, coriander, summer cabbage and cauliflower either in the coldframe or greenhouse.
10. Mice can be a problem at this time so place controls near crops in the ground, new sowings and near to any stored vegetables.

Sandra

## **Les Miserables—A great night out.**

Last month, Brian arranged a showing of the 25 year anniversary concert of Les Miserables in the parish centre. Starring Alfie Boe and Matt Lucas, the show became the longest running musical in the world in October 2010, celebrating its 25th anniversary. The O2 show is based on the classic novel, Les Misérables, by Victor Hugo and is the story of Jean Valjean, a prisoner who breaks parole, and the police inspector, Javert, who tries to hunt him down for breaking parole.

Valjean tries to help a poor factory worker, Fantine, by saving her child, Cosette, from innkeepers who are holding her captive as a slave. Marius, a war veteran during the battles of post-French Revolution, falls for Cosette, but their lives change forever when the war turns more gruesome than expected.

We are lead to the barricades of a revolutionary group whose valiant efforts end in disaster, but Marius is saved from the muskets by Valjean and is ultimately re-united with Cosette.

This fantastic concert went down a storm and we are all hungry for more of the same. We even had an intermission with tea and sandwiches. How very civilised. What would you like to see next?

David.

## **The Green Doctor**

*A helping hand is available....*

At the Food Bank we are often contacted by other agencies offering help in fields that they think may be useful for our Clients. The following leaflet describes the services of the Green Doctor, they are based in Morley and supported by Leeds City Council and the NHS. I thought that maybe their services might be useful for our readers. Please see page opposite for more information.

I will also leave a supply of leaflets at the back of church if anyone is interested.

Barbara Tate

## The service offers:

- **Free** repairs to existing heating and hot water systems / servicing of heating appliances / carbon monoxide monitors / emergency heating / further assistance may be available for central heating and replacement boilers
- **Free** independent support, information and advice on:  
Switching tariffs and energy suppliers / grants and discounts / using heating controls and equipment / dealing with energy debt
- Installation of **free** simple energy-saving devices including:  
Energy-efficient light bulbs / draught proofing / reflective radiator panels / pipe lagging / water saving devices

## Do you qualify for this FREE service?

To qualify for the Warmth for Wellbeing service you must pay council tax to Leeds City Council and be able to tick at least one from each box below.

**If you are unsure about your eligibility, please give us a ring.**

- Are you aged over 60
- Pregnant or have children under 16 living with you
- Have a disability or cold-related long-term health condition

**AND**

- Is your household income less than £21,000 per year
- Do you receive any income-related benefits



The Warmth for Wellbeing Service is offered by the Green Doctors at Groundwork in partnership with Care & Repair Leeds.



## A little about the Church

*Thanks to Brian Walshaw for providing these details...*

### Inscriptions on the Communion Set:

**Flagon:** 'Ex Dono Parochiali.' (Meaning: A gift from the Parish).

**Chalice:** Deo et Ecclesiae donum nobilissimi vin

Donmi Donmi Georgni comitis de Cardigan 1750

(Rough translation: Given by George, Earl of Cardigan 1750)

**Salver:** Gratisme Datum Ann 1751

(Given by the most grateful people of Woodkirk 1751).

### Inscriptions on 2 of the three Bells:

Deo Gloria (Glory to God) and Deo Laudamus (Praise God).

### Christopher Saxton, Cartographer:

In the time of Elizabeth I produced the first maps of Britain by actual survey (nine years in the making!) and his first atlas was issued in 1579. He was born in Sowood (nr. Ossett) but lived at Dunningley. He was a Trustee of the Almshouses in West Ardsley (recorded in 1593). He was also a signatory of Woodkirk Parish Register returns in 1605. He is believed to have died in 1611, but evidence is lacking as to where he was buried—maybe Woodkirk?

Brian

## Befriender Volunteers

Pinderfields Hospital is looking for sociable, committed and compassionate volunteers to befriend those patients who rarely - if ever - get visitors.

The Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust wants people to come into their elderly care wards in Wakefield and spend a few hours per week getting to know patients living with conditions such as dementia. By doing so, volunteers could enable their new friends to get better, quicker. A recent study by Age UK revealed that a million older people have not spoken to a family member, friend or neighbour in at least a month. Scientific research has also suggested that isolation and associated low mood can suppress the immune system and lower life expectancy. To become Befriender or a volunteer in any other capacity at The Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust, email:-  
**volunteer@midyorks.nhs.uk**



## **Albert's 'M is for March' Quiz**

1. Which Shakespeare play features a trio of witches?
2. Which model/singer played 'Mayday' in the James Bond film 'A View to a Kill'?
3. What was the name of the whale that swallowed Pinocchio and his father?
4. Which plant is associated with kissing at Christmas?
5. 'Kissing her was like kissing Hitler.' To whom was Tony Curtis allegedly referring?
6. 'Time for bed, said Zebedee' always ended which Children's TV programme?
7. Which Parisian nightclub was famous for its performances of the cancan?
8. In which city was a connection made in the film 'The French Connection'?
9. What was the name of the detective in the novel & film 'The Big Sleep'?
10. The Chilean pine tree is better known by what name?
11. Which brothers were the stars of the 1931 film 'Monkey Business'?
12. What is the birthstone for the month of March?
13. Which word links 'Circle, lantern, marker and roundabout'?
14. What was tennis star Billy Jean King's surname before she married?
15. How many normal bottles of champagne are there in a 'Magnum'?

Answers on P35

Albert

## Diary for March and Early April 2016.

### MARCH 2016

Wed 2nd	10:00am	Holy Communion with Revd. Glenn
Sat 5th	9:30am	Church & Churchyard clean up
Sun 6th	10:30am	Holy Communion with Revd John Pinder-Packard
	12 Noon	Baptism Service
Wed 9th	10:00am	Morning Praise with Gail
Sun 13th	10:30am	All-Age Service
	12 noon	Holy Communion with Graham Greene
Mon 14th	7:30pm	PCC Meeting in Church
Wed 16th	10:00am	Holy Communion with Revd. Glenn
Thurs 17th	11:00am	Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge
Sun 20th	10:30am	Holy Communion with Revd Chris Johnson
Mon 21st	7:30pm	Compline
Tues 22nd	7:30pm	Compline
Wed 23rd	7:30pm	Compline
Thurs 24th	7:30pm	Feet Washing Service with Revd Graham Greene
Fri 25th	2:00pm	Good Friday Foot of the Cross Service
Sat 26th	1:00pm	Wedding
	8:30pm	Easter Vigil. The lighting of the Candle.
Sun 27th	10:30am	Easter Holy Communion with Revd John Pinder-Packard
Wed 30th	10:00am	Holy Communion with Revd. Glenn

### Early April

Sat 2nd	9:30am	Church and Churchyard cleanup
	2:30pm	Wedding
Sun 3rd	10:30am	Holy Communion with Revd. Rosemary
Wed 6th	10:00am	Holy Communion with Revd. Glenn
Sun 10th	10:30am	All Age Service
	12 noon	Holy Communion with Revd. Chris Johnson
Mon 11th	7:30pm	PCC Meeting in Church

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

## **Baptisms:-**

In February we welcomed 2 new members to our church in Baptism:

Sebastian James Dilworth. Son of Christopher and Nikki, from Morley.

And:

Flynn Thomas Ramsden. Son of Lee and Rochelle from Morley

## **Funeral:-**

Kate Gray from Tingley. Loving wife of Richard and mother sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Quiz Answers. : 1. Macbeth. 2. Grace Jones. 3. Monstro.  
4. Mistletoe. 5. Marilyn Monroe. 6. The Magic Roundabout.  
7. Moulin Rouge. 8. Marseilles. 9. Philip Marlowe.  
10. Monkey Puzzle tree. 11. Marx Brothers. 12. Aquamarine.  
13. Magic. 14. Moffit. 15. Two.

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**Contact: The Editor (see page 2)**

**Annual Fee for Advertising 2015:**

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## **Shirl's Curls**

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**To Contact Shirley Tel : 07805 804 015**

## **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: Sally Shaw**

**01924 475048 for more information.**

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### CONSULTANTS

**CHRISTINE BENNETT**  
**RACHEL STONES**

RESIDENCE  
3 HOLLY COURT  
TINGLEY

## 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 9:30am to 12:00pm Becky Schofield 07811 146958
<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 607393
<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 to 6:15 pm Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
<b>Cubs</b>	Friday 6:30pm to 7:45 pm Marianne Ingham 07778 542302
<b>Scouts</b>	Friday 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm Trevor Holdsworth 0113 253 0927
<b>Explorer Scouts</b>	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:**

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

To arrange for **Baptisms** please contact: Gill Mahoney  
Tel: 07771 533871

To **book weddings, funerals, or the reading of banns** please  
contact our Coordinator, Gail Townsend (0113 2528710) email:  
Gail.Townsend12@gmail.com