

# Parish News

St Mary's, Woodkirk

**November 2016**



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

*This Month:*

**Monks Walk 2016; Rethink  
Remembrance;  
Jacob Part 2; Mirror Mirror;  
Moroccan Adventure.**

## Who's who at Woodkirk

<b>Vicar of St Mary's:</b>	<b>Reverend Sharon Wilkinson.</b> St Mary's Vicarage, Dewsbury Road, Woodkirk, WF12. 7JL 01924 472375
<b>Lay Pastoral Minister:</b>	Gail Townsend 0113 2528710
<b>Churchwardens:</b>	Brian Gledhill 01924 405790 Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001
<b>Deputy churchwardens:</b>	Gary Mortimer Glyn Jennings David Townsend
<b>Verger:</b>	Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
<b>Organist:</b>	Samantha Hawkins
<b>PCC Secretary:</b>	Dawn Tattersfield
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Barbara Tate
<b>Social Chairman:</b>	Brian Gledhill 01924 405790
<b>Parish Centre Hire:</b>	Sally Shaw 01924 475048
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<b>Parish Legacy Officer:</b>	David Townsend
<b>Child Protection Officer:</b>	Dawn Tattersfield 0113 2525963
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<b>Electoral Roll Officer:</b>	Dave Townsend 0113 2528710
<b>Data Protection Officer:</b>	Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001
<b>Magazine Editor &amp; Weekly News Sheet:.</b>	David Townsend 0113 2528710 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.
<b>Deanery Synod reps:</b>	Glyn Jennings & Gary Mortimer
<b>Elected Members of the Parochial Church Council:</b>	
	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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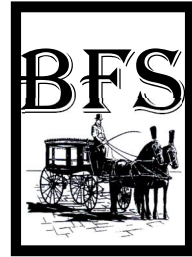
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### **Welcome!**

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.

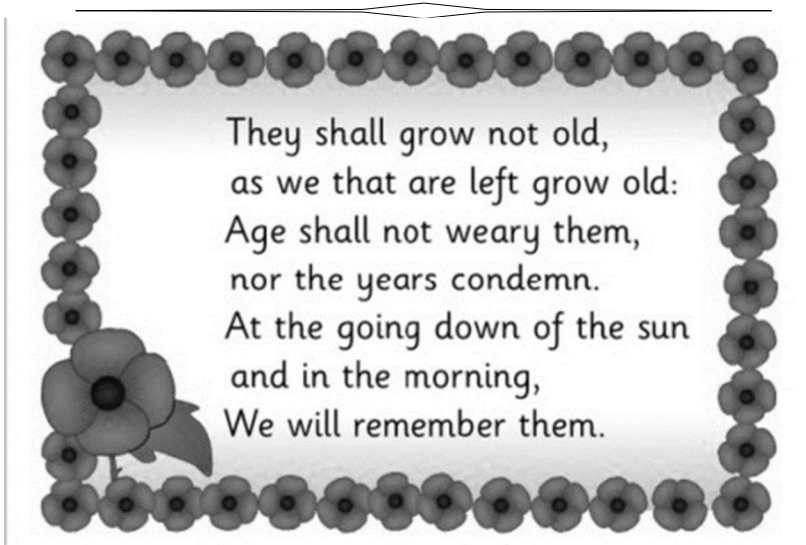
### **Web site & Twitter**

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

Mirror, Mirror on the wall...

How many mirrors do you have up in your house? When I was thinking about this article, I counted how many we had, and we have just 4 and they are all upstairs. One in the bathroom, one full length one inside the wardrobe in the spare bedroom and two in the main bedroom.

Now you may be wondering what I'm asking about mirrors for... well read on and all will be revealed.

I was thinking about mirrors because I was attending a 'Reflective Study Day' led by Rev David Osborne, (a member of the Iona Community), at the Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield, and my first thought was about the reflection of ourselves we see in a mirror. But of course it wasn't really that type of reflection but it was interesting how, after I had attended the study day, using the mirror as an example was helpful.

The thing is, the group of about 25 or so of us gathered for this reflective day were asked two things to start with, one was about what types of social action and social justice we were involved in and the other thing was what energised us and David, the course leader used the image of a tree to show how we need to feed our roots with those things that energise us to produce the fruit of the tree which were the social action and social justice we were involved in, for example the Foodbank, the Christians Against Poverty courses, our support of other outside charities like Christian Aid, the Swan Sanctuary, working in the churchyard, the Hope 20147 project, all these different social action activities that we as a church family are involved in and support.

David stressed that in feeding our roots, our fruit will be better and he referred to Matthew 12: 33 "To have good fruit you must have a healthy tree; if you have a poor tree, you will have bad fruit. A tree is known by the kind of fruit it bears.

We then went on to talk in slightly more theological terms, just briefly and David explained that this area is referred to as 'virtue ethics', it is simply what kind of people do we need to be and what can help us be the type of person we want (or need to be), and he spoke about what 'virtues' we might need and how we develop

them, what can we tap into that will help us to be who God wants us to be.

David was keen to stress that WE are NOT the Messiah, we cannot do everything, but we do need to find what 'bit' of 'saving the world' God wants us to do.

Here I would like to refer to another story in the bible, the story of Mary and Martha in Luke's Gospel Luke 10: 38-42, because I am definitely more a Martha than a Mary. If anyone is coming I want to make sure that they are welcomed and well catered for and the thought of sitting still listening would not enter my head.

David elaborated on this a little further and introduced the fact that 'Contemplation is important', a long loving look at what really is...

Contemplation shows us what is there, not to do something with, but just in itself. We need to develop forms of contemplation that work for us and open us up to the sense of wonder.

When I was at work, a lot of what I did had to be very accurate, I was recognised as having an eye for detail and was quite often asked to 'proof read' documents for errors etc however, whilst knowing that, it was only when I considered 'contemplation' that I realised whilst I do have a good eye for detail, I rarely, if at all, look at what is there, just in itself and I think this was borne out in the lack of mirrors in our house.

You see, I get washed and dressed in a morning, do my hair and then go downstairs, and I would say that that is probably it until I go to get ready for bed. I am not conscious that I really look at myself throughout the day, unless I am going out and just check to make sure that I don't look like I've just been dragged through a hedge backwards!! One of my grandma's was very particular about her looks and carried a compact mirror and lipstick about with her so she could 'freshen up' during the day.

I've just come back from a holiday in the Cotswolds and sadly I got a bad cold and wasn't very well whilst I was away, but one thing that I gained, through being ill was that I couldn't rush about as I usually would have done. Yes we went out and about, and yes we visited lovely little village churches and National Trust Properties etc, but I wandered around at a more leisurely pace and as a consequence was able to actually undertake

'contemplation' walking through a National Trust 'Capability Brown' designed garden in glorious autumn colour, sitting down for a rest for five minutes and seeing the clouds or a squirrel or bird in the leaves.

Whilst my rest was somewhat 'enforced' on looking back I can see that I have been feeding my roots, reenergising myself through looking at the wonder of God's creation, it opened up for me the 'sense of wonder' that we probably quite often take for granted.

Autumn is one of my favourite times of year, but for many I know it is a precursor to the dreaded long dark evenings of winter which reduce our inclination to meet up with friends or venture out, but I would challenge you, whether young or old, this Autumn/Winter...

See if you can undertake some contemplation, don't focus on the dark evenings, if you are nipping to the shops, if the weather is pleasant enough, have a little walk through the town first, look in the shop windows at the displays, window shopping is great and doesn't cost you anything, if you can't get out as much, sit by your window and have a look out in your garden, not just for 30 seconds, but for a longer spell and see what birds pop in and out, if you don't have much of a garden, have a look at some pictures in books you have that you may not have looked for in a while. Open yourself up to a sense of wonder!

Perhaps your contemplation will inspire you to action, perhaps to plan a trip to visit somewhere next year, or help you to plan what you might want to plant in your garden next spring, if you are not as active as you perhaps once were, or would like to be, then your contemplation may just lead you to think of things for which you can then pray and thank God for, how can that be a JUST?

I pray for all of you, that you may find time for contemplation over these coming weeks of darker evenings, may God help us all to feed our roots and reenergise us that we may open up ourselves to the sense of wonder, and perhaps even find 'what BIT of saving the world God may want us to do.

With Love and Prayers

Dawn

# **My Moroccan Adventure!**

Presentation by Charlotte Sykes  
Monday 21st November  
6pm Parish Centre

I invite you all to come along to this presentation evening on the community project I took part in an expedition to Morocco.

Prior to my endeavour I hosted a fundraiser where I received tremendous support from everyone. I can't thank you all enough for the money we raised but in response to your contributions, I would like to share with you what an amazing change you made to those peoples lives.

So come along on Monday 21st November where a light supper will be offered and an experience will be shared.

## Monks Walk - 2016 Style...

On October 8<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon, we gathered at Nostell Priory for the second attempt at the 13 miles back to St. Mary's. In 2012 we were 4 years younger, fitter, leaner, stronger - well some were... Anyway, this time we were doing it different, as they say. The younger ones (Beavers aged 5-7 years) with their parents and helpers were going to walk as far as the historic Sandal Castle. This may well have been a stopping off point for the early Monks - who were around as long ago as the 12<sup>th</sup> Century.

Now there has been some controversy surrounding the distance from Nostell to Sandal Castle - some say it was over 7 miles, whilst others think it was nearer 5 1/2. Whatever the distance - for some it was a very long way and more than enough (I'm talking about the adults here) meanwhile others (in the 5 to 7 year-old range) had more than enough energy to play games on the Castle's grassy banks shortly after arriving.

So there we were 31 strong in total with 8 young Beavers plus 4 dogs. We strode bravely out of the gates of Nostell, with Gareth and the Scouts forging ahead and testing their map-reading skills and along the Doncaster Road for about a mile until we could turn off onto a footpath towards Crofton village.



Suddenly the convoy ground to a halt. We looked back to see a young beaver undergoing treatment. It turned out to be a wasp sting, but he soon recovered and we pressed on for a good 20 yards before spying some blackberries which were very tasty, and so we stopped for a drink and a rest on the edge of Crofton.

Three quarters of a mile into Crofton we were able to make a left turn and join a new footpath taking us towards Walton. The footpath crosses the railway line and so we had to be careful for trains at the crossing point. Safely over, we completed another half mile bringing us to Walton Colliery Nature Park. The Nature Park is a modern creation dating from the 1980s that transformed a disused mine and unsightly slag heaps into pleasant countryside with lakes and plenty of wildlife. Wide footpaths crisscross the Park and it's well worth a visit. We stopped off at one of the lakes and managed to feed a couple of ducks.



So out of the Park we headed the long walk up Walton Lane to the crossing with Barnsley Road - very close to St. Helen's Church, Sandal. Over the main road and we just had one more hill (well, slight incline really) to overcome to bring us to our first objective - Sandal Castle. That last climb tested the reserves of some of the walkers to the limit (Gail and Rebecca were both feeling the miles by now). Threats to 'lay in the road and die' fortunately were averted when the Castle finally hove into view.

We collapsed onto the welcome tables and benches - or grass, for a well-earned lunch break (well it was 3 o'clock by now) and rest those weary limbs. As I mentioned earlier, pretty soon the Beavers recovered and were exploring the grassy knolls of Sandal Castle whilst parents and carers compared aches and pains. The Scouts, fully re-fueled, were itching to get going and seven of them, with Scout Leader Gareth at the helm, set off on leg two. We took a while longer to organise ourselves and then Sylvia, Dan

## *Celebrations at Sandal Castle*



and myself saddled up our rucksacks and set off in pursuit.

The path took us down the hill and to the riverside, in sight of Pugneys reservoir. We followed the river to the main Denby Dale Road which allowed us to cross the river and canal before re-joining the north side of the canal for half a mile or so, before turning north west and crossing City of Wakefield Golf Course (a public right of way exists). As we crossed the Golf Course we spied the Scouts ahead and we caught them up in the Car Park a couple of hundred yards further. Now we were a group of ten and 2 dogs. So we pressed on up Broadway (no, not that one) a mile long steady climb taking us to Junction 40 of the M1. Here a footpath leads us away from the hustle and bustle and down to the tranquility of Low Laithes Golf Course. We crossed our second Golf Course and





climbed back up the hill on the other side, following Park Mill Lane until we can once again go 'off-road' and pick up the ancient footpath towards West Ardsley and the finish line. We made a small diversion across a field when someone (ahem) took a wrong turning, but Gareth soon got us back on track and we crossed Gawthorpe Lane in good time.

Our target was to finish between 6pm and 6:30pm at the Parish Centre because the Harvest Celebrations would be about to start - and filled Yorkshire puddings awaited....enough to keep the pace up I'd say. We crossed the last three fields and as we sped down Hey Beck Lane the Church came into view as light started to fade. We stopped at the church door - touching the door was the symbolic end to the walk and we couldn't resist a quick 'selfie' by the door.

We were surprised and pleased to be applauded through the doors of the parish centre as we finally came to the end at about 6:15pm - bang on time! The Yorkshire Puds and Cakes were great and a big thankyou to Brian and the team for cooking up a marvellous feast. We stayed on for the celebrations, quizzes, bingo and prize draws which all made for a great end to a fantastic day.

The main idea for the walk was to raise funds for a 'Ride-on' mower - and I'm very pleased to say we have raised over £400 so far with still some to come. This means that we will be able to have a mower in place for spring time next year when growing season starts again. Meanwhile Brian Gledhill and I have started 'restoration' of the Sextons Hut (where we will house the Mower), and Brian Walshaw has a sturdy lock for us. Very many thanks to everyone who contributed either as a sponsor, helper or participant. Without your support we could not have achieved so much.

David



## **Malala Yousafzi, Nobel prize winner, to speak at Bradford Cathedral**

Malala Yousafzi is to speak at Bradford Cathedral next month as part of a festival celebrating the achievements of women and girls across the world.

The teenage activist and Nobel Peace Prize winner will be taking part in the first Women of the World Festival to be held in the north of England, a weekend of events taking place in Bradford on Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th of November.

An activist for female education and the world's youngest Nobel Prize laureate, Malala Yousafzi came to the attention of the world when she was shot three times at close range by a Pakistani gunman in an assassination attempt. She has been named by Time magazine as one of the 100 most influential people in the world. In 2014 she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, along with Kailash Satyarthi, for her struggle against the suppression of children and young people and for the right of all children to education.

At Bradford Cathedral, on Saturday November 5 at 6.30pm, Malala will be joined by young women from across Bradford to talk about how they would like to reorganise their community - and the world - and the actions they will take to achieve it.

Welcoming the visit, the Dean of Bradford Cathedral, the Very Revd Jerry Lepine, said, "Malala Yousafzai is without doubt one of the most inspirational people on the planet at the moment. Her courage, humility, wisdom and commitment to the empowering of girls and women through education has challenged leaders of nations and schoolgirls across the world. ... It is more than a privilege to welcome her to Bradford Cathedral. It is a joy."



## The Diocese of Leeds: 'Loving, Living, Learning' together.

As diocesan staff moved into the new offices in Leeds this week, they received a welcome pack printed with the words 'Loving, Living, Learning'.

Bishop Nick explains, "This emerges from our work to provide a simple lens through which people - both inside and beyond the church - can see who we are and what we are about as a church and diocese.

"We launched the diocese with a vision statement: 'to equip confident clergy to enable confident Christians to live and tell the good news of Jesus Christ in the Diocese of Leeds'. That remains true, but we also need a statement that allows those in our communities to catch a glimpse of who we are and what drives our mission.

"So, 'Loving, Living, Learning' are also three words that any parish can use to help explain what we are about and to help prioritise our work - keeping it simple:

**Loving.**  
**Living.**  
**Learning.**

**'Loving'** - because our experience of God's love compels us to love God, the world and our neighbour, showing compassion to all and building outward-looking communities.

**'Living'** - because we celebrate the abundance of life and promote human flourishing, engaging with the world and working for its transformation, challenging injustice, respecting and protecting the environment for this and future generations.

**'Learning'** - because we're confident in God and the good news of Jesus Christ ... but we're always listening - to God, the world and each other, and we're always learning - alert to Jesus Christ's challenge to live differently.

Rev'd. Sharon

## New Archdeacon of Leeds announced

The Revd Canon Paul Ayers has been appointed as the new Archdeacon of Leeds. He will succeed the Venerable Paul Hooper who retires at the end of October.

Paul is currently Vicar of St Lawrence and St Paul's Church in Pudsey, where he has been since 1997.

He was born and brought up in Bradford and after training in Oxford and Bristol, he served in parishes in the former Diocese of Bradford.

The Rt Revd Paul Slater, Bishop of Richmond (who looks after the Episcopal Area of Leeds), says, "I am really pleased that Paul Ayers has been appointed as the next Archdeacon of Leeds. Paul has an incisive mind and a passion to see God's church grow and flourish. I am looking forward to working with him."

It's expected that Paul will take up his new post in February.



## **St. Mary's Harvest Food Collection:-**



**Many thanks from all  
volunteers at Leeds South  
and East Foodbank for  
your amazing donation of  
150.66kg which has been  
gratefully received.**

**Wendy Doyle**

**(Project Manager)**



## **GEORGE & JEMIMA'S HARVEST DRAMA**

**George.** Hi Jemima, how are you today?

**Jemima.** Hi George, great thanks, are you looking forward to the Harvest Service today?

**George.** Well yeh, sort of, but I always find it a funny sort of service.

**Jemima.** Hilarious?

**George.** No, I mean funny, strange.

**Jemima.** How do you mean, funny, strange George?

**George.** Well for starters, there's all that singing about ploughing & sowing. It's not like we do any of that stuff is it?

**Jemima.** No we don't George, but it still has to happen.

**George.** (Uninterested) I suppose. Anyway, I was thinking about this bring & share lunch thingy afterwards, that's always a laugh.

**Jemima.** A laugh? It's no laughing matter George, it's brilliant. Everyone always brings way more than they need to, best grub I get all the year round, but don't tell my Mum.

**George.** So what have you brought for it then Jemima?

**Jemima.** Well, my mum's done me particularly proud this year, with her own sensational salad.

**George.** SALAD! (sigh) yeah - great.

**Jemima.** But this is no ordinary salad George, this one's got lettuce, cucumber, tomatoes, onions, peppers, boiled egg, olives, radish, (pauses for breath) cress, spring onions,

chives, parsley, spinach, rocket and beetroot.

**George.** Are you sure she hasn't forgot anything?

**Jemima.** Well, I would have liked some chips with that, but hey ho!

**George.** (glum again) Fair enough.

**Jemima.** Oh yeah—and potatoes & pasta.

**George.** Gosh!

**Jemima.** And croutons.

**George.** (getting miffed) Is that it?

**Jemima.** Well she didn't have much time, so she said she would keep it simple.

**George.** Oh great, I'm pleased for you.

**Jemima.** Thanks George. So what have you brought?

**George.** I've brought a loaf of bread.

**Jemima.** Pardon?

**George.** I've brought a loaf of bread.

**Jemima.** Oh right.... brilliant.

**George.** Well, I think so.

**Jemima.** So have you brought anything to go with it? Cheese, ham? jam?

**George.** Nope

**Jemima.** Oh well, I suppose it will go well with other things that people have brought.

**George.** I was just going to eat it as it is.

**Jemima.** You don't have to George, that's the point of these lunches, you get to try all the different things people have brought.

**George.** I don't like anything else.

**Jemima.** Look George, just between you & me, I know some of them bring some pretty awful stuff, but as long as you know what to avoid, it's OK.

**George.** No. I mean I don't like any other food except bread.

**Jemima.** What, nothing?

**George.** No.

**Jemima.** Vegetables?

**George.** No.

**Jemima.** Meat?

**George.** Nope.

**Jemima.** Crisps? Sweets? Cake?

**George.** Nothing.

**Jemima.** That's ridiculous.

**George.** No it isn't. It's just how it is.

**Jemima.** But what about all the lovely food you're missing out on.

**George.** I don't see it like that.

**Jemima.** So you don't like the taste of anything else at all?



**George.** Don't know.

**Jemima.** Pardon?

**George.** Never fancied trying anything else.

**Jemima.** Hang on a minute. You mean you haven't actually tried other things?

**George.** Exactly. Why should I? I know what I like. That's that.

**Jemima.** But that's so sad! You're missing out on such great textures, tastes, variety, all the fantastic things that grow, and are made for us. All the harvest of food! Just because you daren't try something new.

**George.** It's not as bad as you're making it sound Jemima, I don't just eat bread.

**Jemima.** Oh right, good. So you do actually have some variety?

**George.** Of course. It's not just bread.

**Jemima.** So what else **do** you eat?

**George.** TOAST.

**Jemima.** Say bye bye George.

**Both.** Bye bye everyone.

## Start Spreading the News...

This Christmas, the Church of England launches a new website and mobile app inviting people across the country to attend local parish services in Christmas week. Parish churches are being invited to upload all their Christmas week services to a central database that will be incorporated into the new website and app enabling people to put in their postcode and find the local church services.

Parishes are invited to visit [achristmasnearyou.org/upload](http://achristmasnearyou.org/upload) from November 1 and complete a simple form no later than December 1 to register their Christmas church services.

The new site and app will be publicized during advent in a series of short films featuring the Rev Rose Hudson Wilkin, Rev Matt Woodcock, Paul Karenza and the Rev Kate Bottley.

Commenting on the new plans, the Rev Arun Arora, Director of Comms for the Archbishops' Council, said: "Christmas day is our showcase as a Church, when we sing hymns that people know, are warm and welcoming and attendances hit an annual high. Using digital apps to publicise these services sits alongside the usual parish work of placing leaflets through people's doors."

This campaign will launch on December 1 using the hashtag **#joytotheworld**.



## Out now: **Morning and Evening Prayer**

A new Book: '**Common Worship: Morning and Evening Prayer**' contains everything an individual or group needs for their personal prayer at each end of the day. Derived from Common Worship: Daily Prayer, short readings, psalms and orders that change through the week and with the Christian year are all included. "A discipline of prayer changes the way that we think about our lives through creating new habits of heart and mind," says Robert Atwell,

Bishop of Exeter and Chair of the Liturgical Commission. "It opens us more deeply to the transforming grace of God. **Common Worship: Morning and Evening Prayer** provides a framework for this enterprise of grace."

**Common Worship: Morning and Evening Prayer** (ISBN 978 0 7151 2315 7) is priced £12.99 and is available from [www.chpublishing.co.uk](http://www.chpublishing.co.uk) and from local Christian booksellers.

## **Rethink Remembrance**

This year the Royal British Legion is asking the nation to Rethink Remembrance by recognising the sacrifices made not just by the armed forces of the past, but by today's generation too.

For many people, Remembrance is associated with the fallen of the First and Second World Wars. While we will always remember them, the Legion wants to raise awareness of a new generation of veterans and Service personnel that need our support.

More recent campaigns in the Falklands, Iraq and Afghanistan for example, have left families, colleagues and friends bereaved of their loved ones, who gave their lives for their country.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning, remember them too.



## Challenging the church – Brian McLaren debates with Bishop Nick

International Christian pastor, activist and public theologian, Brian McLaren was in debate with Bishop Nick Baines last weekend (October 15th) as part of a regional conference in Harrogate around his latest work, 'The Great Spiritual Migration.'

The event attracted an audience from across the north of England, keen to hear Brian McLaren's influential views which include a call to the church to move forward from a religion based on static belief systems to a way of life and love which is organised for the good of society as a whole.

In an interview during the conference, Brian said "I think we are at a moment of challenge to move forward, to not be afraid, to not retract, but to move forward and to continue in our discipleship ..what does it mean to keep following Jesus in the 21st century and a call toward love, a call towards understanding and honouring God as the God of love and reconciliation and liberation and in a call to be engaged in the needs of this world."

He added, "It seems to me that there is something deeper than beliefs that we are called to as Christians and that is to walk the way of love, which is often a way of suffering. If we love we care and if we care we suffer and we have to grow in our virtue and courage". He added, "As for organised religion, I am a big fan of organised religion - I just hope we can get better organised for better purposes."

Bishop Nick "I am very happy to endorse what Brian is saying because in this diocese, which we are only just creating our vision statement is loving, living, learning, so we begin with loving God and loving neighbour - it's exactly what Brian was talking about - and loving your enemy and that has to be communal and social, not just individual.

"The 'living' is about 'how do you create human flourishing for our communities?' because as Anglicans we are committed to territory, to the people who live in our communities. The learning is that we've got to have a bit of humility about this ... lets have the humility not to be an institution that dominates, that domineers but is trying to, as Brian says, be organised about the right things."



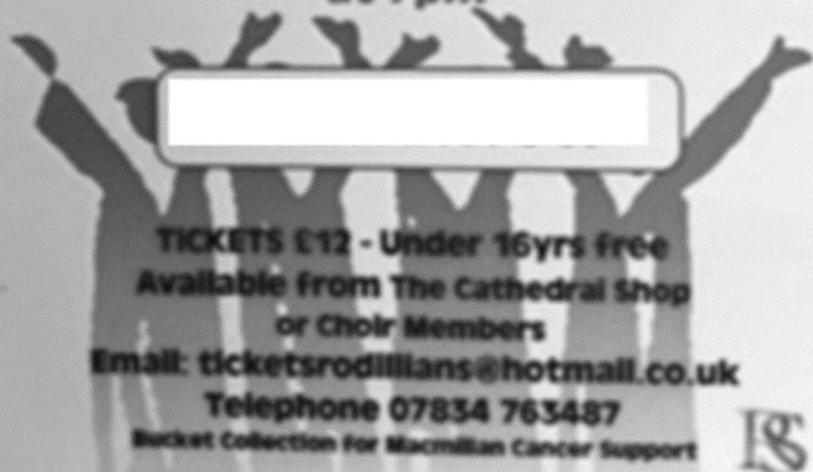
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## Journey back to Canaan

*Following Part 1 in last month's magazine, Gail continues with Part 2 of the story of Jacob...*

As Jacob neared the land of Canaan, he sent messengers ahead to his brother Esau. They returned with news that Esau was coming to meet him with an army of 400 men. With great apprehension, Jacob prepared for the worst. He engaged in earnest prayer to God, then sent on before him a tribute of flocks and herds to Esau, "a present to my Lord Esau from thy servant Jacob".

Jacob then transported his family and flocks across the ford Jabbok by night, then recrossed back to send over his possessions, being left alone with God. There, a mysterious being appeared (A Man or God, Hosea or Angel) and the two wrestled until daybreak. When the being saw that he did not overpower Jacob, he touched Jacob on the sinew of his thigh and as a result, Jacob developed a limp. Because of this to this day the people of Israel do not eat the sinew of the thigh that is on the hip socket.

Jacob then demanded a blessing, and from then on Jacob would be called "Israel". Jacob asked the 'being's' name but he refused to answer. Afterwards, Jacob named the place Peniel meaning "face of God" saying "I have seen God face to face and lived". Because the terminology is ambiguous and inconsistent, and because this 'being' refused to reveal his name, there is varying views as to whether he was a man, an angel, or God. Josephus uses only the terms "angel", "divine angel" and "angel of God", describing the struggle as no small victory.

In the morning Jacob assembled his 4 wives and 11 sons, placing the maidservants and their children in front, Leah and her children next, and Rachel and Joseph in the rear. Some say that placing Rachel and Joseph at the rear Jacob was showing how much he favored them. Jacob himself took the foremost. Esau's spirit of revenge however, was apparently appeased by Jacob's bounteous gifts of camels, goats and flocks. There reunion was an emotional one.

Esau offered to accompany them on their way back to Israel, but Jacob protested that his children were still young and tender. Jacob suggested eventually catching up with Esau at Mount Seri. Jacob actually diverted himself to Succoth and was not recorded as rejoining Esau until, at Machpelah, the two bury

their father Isaac who lived to be 180, and was 60 years older than they were.

Jacob returned to Bethel, where he had another vision of blessing. Jacob made a further move while Rachel was pregnant; near Bethlehem, Rachel went into labour and died as she gave birth to her second son Benjamin (Jacob's twelfth son). Jacob buried her and erected a monument over her grave, "Rachel's Tomb", just outside Bethlehem, this remains a popular site for pilgrimages and prayers to this day. Jacob settled in Migdal Eder. When Isaac died at the age of 180, Jacob and Esau buried him in the Cave of the Patriarchs, which Abraham had purchased as a family burial plot.

### **Jacob in Hebron**

The house of Jacob dwelt in Hebron, in the land of Canaan. His flocks were often fed in the pastures of Shechem as well as Dothan. Of all the children in his household, he loved Rachel's firstborn, Joseph, the most. This made Joseph's half brothers' jealous of him and they ridiculed him often. Joseph even told his father about all of his half brothers misdeeds. When Joseph was seventeen years old, Jacob made him a long coat of many colours, seeing this, the half brothers began to hate Joseph even more. At this time Joseph began to have dreams that implied that his family would bow down to him. When he told his brothers about these dreams, it drove them to conspire against him. When Jacob heard of these dreams, he rebuked his son for proposing the idea that the house of Jacob would even bow down to Joseph. Yet Jacob contemplated his son's words about these dreams.

Sometime afterwards, the sons of Jacob by Leah, Bilhah and Zilpah, were feeding his flocks in Shechern, Jacob wanted to know how things were doing, so he asked Joseph to go down there and return with a report. This was the last time he would ever see his son in Hebron. Later that day, Jacob ended up with a coat covered with blood. Jacob identified the coat as the one he had made for Joseph. The brothers told their father a wild beast had devoured Joseph. Jacob cried and rented his clothes then put on sackcloth around his waist and was in mourning for days. No one from the house of Jacob could comfort him. During this time, the truth came out that his brothers had turned on him and ultimately sold him to a caravan of traders travelling to Egypt into slavery.

## Seven Year Famine

Twenty years later throughout the Middle East a severe famine occurred like none other. It lasted seven years and crippled nations. The word was that the only kingdom not effected was Egypt. In the second year of famine when Israel (Jacob) was about 130 years old he sent ten of his sons to Egypt to buy grain, Benjamin, Rachel's second born, stayed with him in order to keep him safe. Nine of Israel's sons returned, stockpiled with grain on their donkeys. They told their father they had been accused of being spies and their brother Simeon had been taken prisoner. Then Reuben, the eldest, mentioned that they needed to take Benjamin to Egypt to prove that they were honest men. Hearing this, Israel became furious with them. He could not understand how they were put in a position to tell the Egyptians all about their family. When the sons opened the sacks of grain they saw that the money they had taken to buy the grain was also in the sacks, and they became very afraid. It turned out that Joseph had recognised his brothers. When the House of Jacob had consumed all the grain, the sons where sent back to Egypt with Benjamin and the money that had been put into the sacks. When the sons of Israel (Jacob) returned after their second trip, they came back with twenty additional donkeys carrying all sorts of goods and supplies. When their father came to greet them, they told him Joseph was still alive and was governor over all of Egypt, and he wanted the house of Israel to move to Egypt. Jacob could not believe what he was hearing.

So Israel and his entire house of seventy gathered up all their livestock and began their journey to Egypt. Israel stopped at Beersheba for the night to make a sacrificial offering to his God. But God had reassured him not to fear that he would rise again, and God would be with him and he would prosper, and would see his son Joseph who would lay him to rest. The family met up with Joseph and Jacob wept. Joseph took his family to meet the Pharaoh of Egypt. The family were given pastures in the land of Ramses where they lived in the province of Goshen. The house of Israel acquired many possessions and multiplied exceedingly during the course of seventeen years, even through the worst of the seven year famine.



## Final Days

Israel (Jacob) was 147 years old when he called for his favorite son Joseph and pleaded that he not be buried in Egypt. He requested that he be carried to the land of Canaan to be buried with his forefathers. Not long after, Israel became ill, losing his vision. When Joseph came to visit his father, he bought his two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, Israel declared they would be heirs to the inheritance of the house of Israel, then Israel laid his right hand on the younger Ephraim's head and his left hand on the eldest Manasseh's and blessed Joseph.

However, Joseph was displeased that his father's right hand was not on the head of his firstborn, so he switched his father's hands. Israel refused saying, 'but truly his younger brother shall be greater than he'. A declaration he made, just as Israel himself was to his firstborn brother Esau. Then Israel called all of his sons in and prophesized their blessings or curses to all twelve of them in order of their ages.

After Israel died and his family including the Egyptians, mourned him seventy days, Israel was embalmed and a great ceremonial journey to Canaan was prepared by Joseph. Israel was buried in the cave of Machpelah, the property of Abraham he had bought from the Hittites.

Gail



*Jacob wrestles with an Angel*

## Church Mouse Tales

*Misha has visitor...*

The other day I was minding my own business in the vestry when in walked my friend Hubert, the Black Canon and froze where he stood.

'How did you do that?' he asked, looking puzzled.

'Do what?' I replied, pulling the small piece of biscuit I had just found, closer to my chest.

'I'm sure I saw you down by the kitchen as I came in through the Monk's door. Then I opened the vestry door and here you are?' he went on, still puzzled. I released my grip on the biscuit a little.

'I've told you before about using that door—it's permanently closed and you'll end up scaring someone if they see you come in that way...' I chastised.

'Well if they see a 400 year old Monk at Halloween they might be a little agitated', said Hubert smugly, 'anyway this doesn't explain how you have managed to arrive here from over there...'

I realised Hubert must have seen my cousin (twice removed), just arrived from America, the one and only Jethro Wenn. He even looks a bit like me so I could see Hubert's confusion quite clearly. The opportunity for a little fun at Hubert's expense presented itself.

'Perhaps you saw a 'Who'?' I asked innocently.

'A what?' Hubert looked blank.

'No not a 'What' I persisted, 'a 'Who' - like Horton—he heard a 'Who'...'

'Horton?' he looked more puzzled.

'Yes, Horton heard a 'Who'.' I explained. Hubert shook his head.

'Well, I didn't hear anything, I saw you there and then here...'

'I think you saw 'Wenn'. I said casually. Hubert started to turn a funny colour.

'When?' he looked a little exasperated. 'When what?'

You mean Wenn who?'

'When? Who? - What!', said Hubert getting very agitated.

Well you didn't see a 'Who' you saw a 'Wenn' I confirmed.

'When did I see who or what?' He said weakly, looking very pale.

'Did I hear my name?' asked Jethro from the vestry door.

Hubert jumped with surprise and then looked back and forth between the two of us.

'Who are you?' cried Hubert in confusion.

'I'm Wenn', said Jethro.

'Aaarrgh', yelled Hubert and ran from the room.

'Jethro—you're as wicked as me.' I laughed.

Misha

## SANDRA'S SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

The season is not so much drawing to a close but rather it's starting. Now you can start to plant some crops for next season such as Garlic, Peas and Broad beans. Garlic needs a period of cold so try and put some in the ground now in time for the first frosts.

Plant new fruit trees and prune existing wall-trained fruit.

Sow Broad beans and Peas.

Dig heavy soils and leave in clumps for the frost to break down.

Wash pots and seed trays thoroughly in soapy water. Also clean and oil your tools.

Bring in the last of the dried beans such as Runner and French.

Harvest leeks when required. Heel some in horizontally, in a shallow trench by the back door allowing easy access when it's cold!

Plant patio containers for spring colour using hyacinths, daffodils, crocus and grape hyacinths as well as fritillary and Iris reticulata.

Stake any Brussels sprouts that look leggy. Pick off any yellowing leaves. If any are ready for harvesting, pick the largest from the bottom of the stalk.

Lift Chicory and Rhubarb for forcing. Rhubarb crowns should be at least three years old. Remove foliage from Chicory and place in a warm, dark place.

Take a moment to talk to gardening friends, relatives and neighbours to see if there is a way to save money. There are often bulk buying deals for fertilizers, composts and seeds.

**Sandra**

## Albert's 'N' is for November Quiz

1. Which two English football clubs share the nickname 'Magpies'?
2. What is the most abundant gas in the earth's atmosphere?
3. In which magical land is 'The Lion the Witch and The Wardrobe' set?
4. In mythology who fell in love with his own reflection?
5. The Aswan dam is the largest on which river?
6. What was the name of the spaceship in the film 'Alien'?
7. Which country's capital has the same name as a waterproof boot?
8. Which TV series was set in Ramsey Street?
9. How many gallons are there in a firkin?
10. Name the Bond film theme for 'The Spy Who Loved Me' sung by Carly Simon?
11. In 1997 what was All Saints first Number One hit song?
12. Where does Rupert Bear live?
13. Which invention by Wallace Carothers is named after New York and London?
14. In 1992 Abuja replaced Lagos as the capital of which country?
15. Which U.S city is known as the home of Country & Western music?
16. In cricket what term is used for a batsman's score of 111?
17. In the Bible when Cain murdered Abel, to what land was he banished?
18. In the novel '1984', what language are the authorities trying to introduce?
19. What name is given to a collector of coins or medals?
20. Which major desert lies in Sudan?

**Albert**

Answers on P38

## **Brian's Funnies...**

### **Big vs Little**

A little guy gets on a plane and sits next to the window. A few minutes later, a big, heavy, strong mean-looking, hulking guy plops down in the seat next to him and immediately falls asleep.

The little guy starts to feel a little airsick, but he's afraid to wake the big guy up to ask if he can go to the bathroom. He knows he can't climb over him, and so the little guy is sitting there, looking at the big guy, trying to decide what to do.

Suddenly, the plane hits an air pocket and an uncontrollable wave of nausea passes through the little guy. He can't hold it in any longer and he pukes all over the big guy's chest.

About five minutes later the big guy wakes up, looks down, and sees the vomit all over him.

"So," says the little guy, "are you feeling better now?"

### **Judgement Day..**

As the coffin was being lowered into the ground at a Traffic Warden's funeral, a voice from inside declares: "I'm not dead, I'm not dead. Let me out!"

The Vicar smiles, leans forward sucking air through his teeth and mutters: "Too late pal, I've already done the paperwork."

### **Know your Ten Commandments**

Henry, who was very elderly, was unhappy because he had lost his favourite hat. Instead of buying a new one, he decided he would go to church and steal one out of the entrance porch when the worshippers were busy praying.

When Henry arrived at the church an usher intercepted him at the door and took him to a pew where he had to sit and listen to the entire sermon on 'The Ten Commandments.'

After the service, Henry met the vicar in the vestibule doorway, shook his hand vigorously, and told him, 'I want to thank you Father for saving my soul today. I came to church to steal a hat and after hearing your sermon on the 10 Commandments, I decided against it.'

The vicar answered, 'You mean the commandment 'Thou shall not steal' changed your mind?'

'No,' retorted Henry, 'the one about adultery did. As soon as you said that, I remembered where I had left my old hat.'

Brian

## Diary for September and Early October 2016

2nd Nov	10.00am	Holy Communion (Iona)
	7:30pm	All Souls Day Service
5th Nov	9:30am	Church and Churchyard clean up
6th Nov	10:30am	<b>Holy Communion</b>
Sun	12:30pm	<b>Baptisms</b>
9th Nov	10:00am	Holy Communion (Healing)
10th Nov	3:00pm	Wedding
13th Nov	10:30am	<b>All Age Remembrance Service</b>
Sun	12:00pm	<b>Holy Communion</b>
14th Nov	7:30pm	PCC Meeting in Church
16th Nov	10:00am	Holy Communion (God's Goodness)
17th Nov	11:00am	Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge
20th Nov	10:30am	<b>Holy Communion</b>
Sun	12:30pm	<b>Baptisms</b>
23rd Nov	10:00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
27th Nov	10:30am	<b>Holy Communion</b>
Sun	12:30pm	<b>Baptisms</b>
30th Nov	10:00am	Holy Communion (Iona)
	7:00pm	Quiet Hour in Church
3rd Dec	11:00am	Carol Singing at Country Basket
4th Dec	10:30am	<b>Holy Communion</b>
7th Dec	10:00am	Holy Communion (Healing)
	7:00pm	Quiet Hour at Tingley Methodist
10th Dec	10:30am	Christmas Fair in the Parish Centre
11th Dec	10:30am	<b>All Age Nativity Service</b>
	12:00pm	<b>Holy Communion</b>

Morning Prayer will take place at 9.00am Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri.

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**Quiz Answers :** 1. Newcastle United & Notts County 2. Nitrogen 3. Narnia 4. Narcissus 5. Nile 6. Nostromo 7. New Zealand (Wellington) 8. Neighbours 9. Nine 10. Nobody Does It Better 11. Never Ever 12. Nutwood 13. Nylon 14. Nigeria 15. Nashville 16. Nelson 17. Nod 18. Newspeak 19. Numismatist 20. Nubian Desert

**Albert**

# FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

## BAPTISMS

**We welcome into our church family:-**

Sophie Penelope Holdsworth  
Keira Grace Fiedler  
Jack William Dawes

**Also a Thanksgiving Service for:**  
Freddy Luke Allsop



## DEATHS

**We give thanks for the lives of:-**

Moira Holdsworth



## WEDDINGS

**We congratulate:-**

Russell James Pell &  
Kylie Francis Delaney



**An old Irish Prayer:**



May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face;  
the rains fall soft upon your fields  
and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.

**Amen**

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## **Parish Centre Rentals**

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**Contact: Sally Shaw**

**01924 475048 for more information.**

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## What's on

<b>Mothers' Union</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday in the month 2:00 pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
<b>Playgroup</b>	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am 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**

### **1st Sunday of the month:**

10:30am Holy Communion

### **2nd Sunday of the month:**

10:30am All Age Worship for adults and children

12:00pm Holy Communion

### **3rd Sunday of the month**

10:30am Holy Communion

### **4th Sunday of the month:**

10:30am Holy Communion

### **5th Sunday of the month**

10:30am All Age Holy Communion for adults and children

### **Wednesdays:**

10:00am Holy Communion

### **3rd Thursday:**

11:00am Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge

### **Morning Prayer 9.00am—Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**

To arrange for **Baptisms** please contact: Liz Aveyard  
on 07791 324221

### **Baptisms held at 12.30pm on 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays**

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