

Parish News

St Mary's, Woodkirk

October 2016



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This Month:
**Remembering Harry Gough.
Monks Walk revisited.
It's a new Dawn.
Reflections.**

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

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Welcome!

Enjoy reading this Parish magazine and, if you wish to know more about Church Groups, please get in touch with the Movers and Shakers - their names are on the inside front & inside back covers.

Service times are on the back page. You'd be most welcome to join us. May God bless you and all whom you love.

Parish News by Post

This magazine can be delivered monthly by sending a minimum donation of £12 a year to cover magazine costs including post and packaging to: Margaret Longden, 64 Woodkirk Gardens, Dewsbury WF12 7JA. Call Margaret on 01924 473064. It's a brilliant gift for friends or family living near or far. Cheque's to Woodkirk PCC please.

Web site & Twitter

Further news and pictures of what is happening at St Mary's can be found on our web site located at: www.stmarywoodkirk.org
Copies of the magazine can be downloaded from the web site from the middle of the month of publication.

We are on Twitter: twitter.com/stmarywoodkirk

Wheelchair Access

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

I believe in Christianity as I believe that
the sun has risen: not only because I
see it, but because by it I see
everything else.
C.S. Lewis

Reflecting over the last 3 months....

Reverend Sharon takes a look at the first quarter results....

I have just had an email conversation with Dawn and we were talking about how sometimes it was good to reflect in the moment but that it was also a good thing to reflect again in three months time.

As I have now been at St Mary's for nearly three months I felt it would be good to look back and to review these first three months.

I was a new Vicar and there was no doubt that I was very nervous initially, if not obvious to you, it was certainly something I felt. Every other question I could not answer and everything seemed to take me twice as long to deal with. The step up from Curate to Vicar is a huge one and it is difficult to explain to you why that is. There is so much email and correspondence and you have to quickly learn that the paperwork is never ending and you have to find a balance between that and all the other things you have to do.

The most important thing to me when I came was to build positive and strong relationships with you the people of God at St Mary's, and to work with the PCC to build a cohesive team, and to serve this community.

What surprised me was just how quickly I became part of not just the church community but how much this felt like home. When I returned to Lancaster it feels like I am visiting a well known and loved place but it doesn't feel like going home. I see this settling as a gift from God, that He has placed me in just the place He wants me to be.

This first three months is what they call the honeymoon period.

I feel I have tried to lead by example both in prayer and in my work, and I have tried to be genuine and authentic in my relationships. With the PCC I have been open and transparent in my leadership style.

When I arrived it was my intention to change very little but things have changed.

Our Baptism Services are modern, friendly and welcoming. The Baptism Team, Liz and Gill, along with myself make this possible and the upside of this is that families feel more comfortable and stay in church after the service and take pictures. Donations have increased and families generally come back to church to

collect their Baptism Certificates and receive their bibles or prayer books.

Our Funeral Services are personal and meet the needs of the families who are now being supported before, during and after the loss of their loved ones.

Our Wedding Services have gone well and again are personalised to meet the needs of the bride and groom who are seen at least three times before their wedding day.

Working closely with Gail in her role as Pastoral Assistant has allowed a greater flexibility in pastoral care, funeral ministry and meeting wedding couples.

The work in the Graveyard has perhaps been the most obvious change especially to those in the community who do not come to church and we now have several helpers who come regularly because of contact they have had with me. We received £400.00 from Cllr Judith Elliott with which we bought a petrol strimmer, safety visor, loppers, secateurs, gloves, specialist petrol for the strimmer. I am hopeful we will get a further grant of £500.00 towards a new mower in due course.

I have worked closely with Dawn, who has preached now on a couple of occasions and will be doing so six-weekly in future and it is Dawn who will be helping to develop our ministry to the schools in the area. I have been invited to be a Governor at Hill Top Primary Academy and as such I have been given Year 4 as a class to work with on a regular basis. We will be taking worship there every two weeks and they will be visiting church for Harvest, Christmas and Easter. We will be visiting Westerton Primary Academy every two weeks and they will come into church at Christmas. My next step will be to make contact with Woodkirk Academy to see if we can be involved in their school.

Dawn's Reader Ministry will be developed further as she gains experience and will involve leading services in future.

We worship together on Sundays and Wednesdays with those services remaining largely unchanged and we have introduced Morning Prayer on four mornings a week. Everything we do should be centred on prayer.

A big change has been in our All Age Worship - and the mentoring of the All Age Worship Team. They have responded well and have undertaken roles that are individually challenging to them and the changes appear to have been well received by both adults and children.

I have briefly met with most of the uniformed organisations now and I hope to be more involved on a regular basis each term time.

Then there is all the myriad of little things, the conversations that matter, the thank you's, the talking through things over coffee, the visiting and the caring for those in need.

Bishop Paul at my Licensing gave a very good sermon. He talked about the qualities and gifts that I brought with me from my previous work and that there was much work to be done and difficult decisions to be made and that I would not be afraid of making those decisions when the time was right - now this needs to be God's time and not my time.

But the challenge for us as a church community is twofold, we need to continue to develop our own spirituality and our own biblical study whilst at the same time we need to be an invitational church. We are asked to go out into our communities and meet people just where they are and so the next six months will be spent developing those relationships, posting prayer leaflets, knocking on doors and creating events where families and children will be welcomed.

None of the above I have done alone, and none of the plans for the future can I do alone. It can only be done with God's grace and in God's time and with the full weight and authority that God has given us as Disciples to go out in His name. We can only do it together, in teams, in twos and threes, as we meet, pray, confess, worship, break bread, and are sent out in peace to love and serve the Lord.

As I said in Dawn's Service of Thanksgiving today, discipleship is costly, it puts us out of our comfort zone into the realms of the unknown but it is also exciting and holds tremendous possibilities. We are called to be fishers of men, we are called to spread the Gospel, we are called to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for being supportive and encouraging, and may we continue to pray together for the mission and ministry of those who worship at St Mary's.

Reverend Sharon

More Translations of the Lord's Prayer

New Zealand Prayer Book

Eternal Spirit

Earth-maker, pain bearer, life giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be

Father and Mother of us all

Loving God, in whom is heaven

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe

The way of your justice be followed by the people of the earth

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and time on earth

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In times of temptation and test, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love

Now and forever. Amen.

Egalitarian Bible

Abba God

Hallowed be your name

May your reign come

Give us today tomorrow's bread

Forgive us our sins

For we too forgive everyone

Who sins against us.

And don't let us be subjected to the test.

Glyn Jennings

Dawn takes the plunge...

On Saturday 24th September Dawn was Licensed as a Lay Reader for St. Mary's. On Sunday 25th we held a Thanksgiving Service at Church.

I am pleased to be able to share Dawn's very first address at St. Mary's as a Lay Reader here.

Congratulations from everyone at St. Mary's.

David.

Are you waiting for a call?

At the Thanksgiving Service on the 25th September, we shared the story of Samuel being called by God, the well known and much loved story of poor Samuel running back and forth to Eli when in actual fact it is God calling Samuel. If you want to take a look at it you can find it in a bible in 1 Samuel Chapter 3 verses 1 to 10. My reflection on this passage went something like this...

Telephone starts ringing, Dawn answers...

Hello...

Yes Dawn speaking...

Who is it, I can't hear you very clearly, your voice is really feint, who did you say it was again?...

Oh God...

Well, hello there, I didn't recognise your voice...

Well I thought it would be louder.

What do I mean, well more booming a bit like "HELLO DAWN IT'S GOD SPEAKING!"

No, I don't suppose you always have to speak loudly, it's just how I thought you might sound.

What was that, you want me to do something for you, what would you like me to do?

Hmm...yes, What! You want me to go and stand in front of people and talk about you.

Oh no God, no, no really, I don't think I could do that.

I mean I'm not that good at speaking in front of people, and I get really nervous.

Isn't there someone else, you must have lots of people, much more important than me, I mean we've got lots of Bishops and

Clergy, and surely if the Archbishops of Canterbury or York are available they would be much better at it than me.

Oh...you still think it is something I could do for you?

Well...can I think about it?

Yes I'll get back to you after I've thought about it for a bit. Thank you.

Oh before you go, how do I get a hold of you.....

Oh yes of course, silly me, I'll let you know in my prayers, that's when you'll listen out for me.

Here we have two examples of God calling, we have the calling of Samuel from the Old Testament times, and a more modern interpretation of how a telephone call might go if God rang us up.

The thing is, as I have discovered over the last three years of study, leading up to today, that although Samuel did receive a very clear call, if God is calling us, it is likely to be much more subtle than that.

One similarity in both Samuel's and my case was that we both have had help from others.

Samuel had Eli to help him to know that God was calling him, and I have had lots of help along the way to arriving to today, and you have all played a part in that help.

You have been there as friends old and new encouraging me, lecturers, vicars, all putting up with my queries and questions in order to get me to this point.

But it doesn't end here.

What our bible reading, stopping where it does, doesn't tell us is that God kept on speaking to Samuel giving him important jobs to do, and Samuel continued to say "Speak Lord, your servant is listening"

This of course is important for me too.

I haven't had a booming voice in the night calling my name, and I haven't (as yet anyhow) received a personal telephone call from God!

But one thing I must remember, and I would like to think you may remember too, is to be ready for when God does call us, in whatever shape or form, and that we will be able to say "Speak Lord, your servant is listening" what is it you would like me to do.

You do not have to go through three years of study in order for God to speak to you, and you don't have to be in church like Samuel was in the temple.

God will be in your heart when you next forgive someone for upsetting you or hurting you.

God will be smiling when you clear a patch of wasteland and make it look tidy.

God will see you helping that person at the foodbank, or smiling and talking to a stranger, or in raising your family to care for each other.

The thing I have learned is that you don't have to have a lightning bolt moment or to hear your name being called like Samuel did.

My journey to today has just been a progression along a path, I have got to certain points and have made decisions, and they have led me to be here today.

I do not know everything, in fact I still know very little, and will keep on learning as I develop into this new role.

I just pray that God will continue to be with me, and with all of you too, as we journey on beyond today.

Amen

With a very sincere and heartfelt thanks to all those who supported me on the day, and to all of you for being such a lovely supportive church family.

Dawn



Remembering Harry Gough.

As you may know, sadly Harry died in September and his funeral was held at St. Mary's. Very kindly, his son, Victor, has given us permission to print his Eulogy— delivered by Victor himself on the day:

It has often occurred to me, that at times like this, we make the mistake of resorting to exaggeration and hyperbole when we struggle to adequately describe people, events and feelings and how they affect us. In doing so, we risk losing the power of our words and, unwittingly, do a disservice to those of whom we speak.

So I'm going to speak simply and, I hope, clearly.

I'm proud to say that Dad was an ordinary man; an ordinary man who lived an ordinary life with ordinary hopes, wishes and dreams.

He lived, though, through extraordinary times and performed some extraordinary deeds.

Born of a generation scarred by the horrors of The Great War (in which both his father and mother lost brothers), his childhood was spent against the backdrop of the Great Depression when, with no welfare state to rely on, families survived on their wits, resilience and resolve and with the mutual support of those immediately around them. He knew sorrow, losing a brother and a sister at young ages, but I'm sure he knew much happiness as well. Living, as the song would have it, in the love of the common people.

Little more than twenty years after the ending of The Great War, Europe was plunged into conflict once more and Dad and his generation, in their youth and early adulthood, grew up quickly to face the challenge.

At the age of just nineteen, this ordinary man, stood up to be counted, joined the RAF as an air gunner and went to war.

Along with thousands of other young men, he displayed the most extraordinary courage, time and again flying off in aircraft laden with high explosives and incendiaries, isolated in a cramped and freezing gun turret, flying over hundreds of miles of occupied Europe and Germany to deal a blow to an enemy ferocious in its own resolve to defend its homeland.

Thankfully, he always returned. Over 55,000 other brave souls were less fortunate.

Quite what strength of character it took to endure this burden is, truly, beyond my comprehension.

And, many years later, what did Dad have to say about this time? Simply "We had a job to do so we got on and did it". How many of us can say that we have had our mettle tested to the same extent and how many would be so dismissive of our own endeavours?

So Dad returned to civilian life; to a Britain almost bankrupt and facing many years of austerity. Times were changing. There was a Labour government, breaking new ground with its vision of state-funded health and welfare; following the premature demise of King George, there was a new monarch, heralding a new Elizabethan age and, most significantly, Dad married his sweetheart, Clarice. They celebrated their 68th anniversary earlier this year.

In due course, Stephen and I arrived.

We were not by any stretch of the imagination a grand or well-to-do family but from a child's perspective, growing up in the fifties and sixties, life was good, carefree and happy; testament to the love, care and devotion that was heaped upon us constantly but in a very natural and un-showy way. Not once do I recall any mention of, still less any complaint about, what must have been a constant struggle to make ends meet.

Our pleasures were simple, so new consumer items like a stereo record player or TV, even a fridge were greeted with something approaching awe.

The greatest excitement was reserved for our first car, a sit-up-and-beg Ford Popular (bought with Uncle David, I think) which opened the way for very many happy trips out to the coast or countryside, with a picnic stowed in the boot and me invariably being car-sick at some point (the remedies that were tried out to cure this were many and futile).

But if I was ever, by some super-natural means, allowed to live part of my life again, this period would take some beating.

As we all grew, life moved on. I moved away and both Stephen and I married and made homes of our own, secure in the knowledge that, should hard times come, we had the unquestioning support of our parents,

Suddenly, it seemed, Mum and Dad were empty-nesters and, with retirement on the horizon, so began a quieter period of life. That's not to say that life was dull. I suspect that, as many couples find, they became more busy after retirement than they were before. There were many holidays, with Staithes being a favourite, and they must be one of the few couples that can say they have experienced snow in Majorca. Their Golden Wedding in '98 was spent in Paris and their Diamond, shared with the family, in the Lake District.

Mum and Dad became active in many social groups including the Church and in Dad's case the RAFA, where his caring nature came to the fore again when he took up the role of Welfare Officer for a number of years, and latterly the British Legion. Dad's latent sense of adventure also surfaced again, when his nephew, John, offered him the chance to take to the skies once more. Not in some leviathan of the air this time but something a little smaller, powered, Dad suspected, by no more than a motorbike engine. His trepidation proved groundless and (as those of you who are regular

readers of the Church Magazine will know) he thoroughly enjoyed himself.

And so into old age with all its trials and tribulations that he bore with such grace. Until as little as a year ago Dad was quite active but in the last few months, to our collective dismay, his health deteriorated all too rapidly. I'm grateful to be able to say that at the end he was in a place of such care and devotion and at peace.

I had written down a long list of Dad's virtues:

Brave - beyond doubt

Loving and caring

Honest, trustworthy

Self-effacing - in fact, modest to a fault

He had an innate sense of fairness and justice and was formidable in their defence

Protective and supportive and ...

...well I could go on for a long time but in the end I'd like to quote a simple expression that I have heard time and again in recent days as perhaps the one that sums up Dad most eloquently "He was a lovely man".

Perhaps he wasn't so ordinary after all.

Dad, I'm sure I speak for Stephen as well as myself, when I say that, if you are even half as proud of us as we are of you, then we're doing pretty well.

Victor.



Monks Walk revisited

It was back on June 16th 2012 that we first completed the 'Monk's Walk' from Nostell Priory back to St. Mary's. We will again be setting out some 4 years later (like an Olympic event) on 8th October for the second attempt at the 13-mile course. We desperately need some 'heavy metal' for the Churchyard to keep the newly cleared areas under control and funds raised from the walk will help towards a 'ride-on' mower. This time we are also delighted to be joined for the first leg of the journey by the Beavers (5 to 7-year-olds) who will walk the first 5 miles to the historic Sandal Castle.

From there we continue around the west side of Wakefield, through Lupset and across ancient footpaths back to St. Mary's where we are to be wined and dined at the Harvest Celebration evening, including events such as a quiz, falling asleep in the corner and complaining about blisters. These are optional, but the food (Yorkshire puddings) will be much appreciated.

There were seventeen of us who completed the walk last time and we hope to have a similar group this time. If you can support us along the way with sponsorship or lifts to Nostell that would be great, or if you'd like to join us you will be most welcome. We will, of course, report back on how we all did.

David.



The target: A ride on mower

Five ordinary chairs tell 174,000 extraordinary stories of war

Five ordinary chairs telling 174,000 extraordinary stories from the battlefields of Belgium have gone on display in Wakefield Cathedral.

Called 'Assembly' the memorial chairs represent one of the five years of 1914 to 1918 and on each is the number of casualties that died during that particular year. Alongside the chairs is a book which has the name of everyone from the UK and Ireland who died during those years in Belgium - which includes the Battle of Passchendaele.

The Dean of Wakefield, the Very Revd Jonathan Greener said the simplicity and the ordinariness of this exhibition was very moving.

"And it will touch hearts," he said.

On the first day it opened, a visitor from Dorset found a relative of hers named in the book. He was the first pilot to be shot down in Belgium.

The installation will return to Ypres in the summer of 2018 where they will be joined for one day by a grand 'assembly' with thousands of empty chairs from all over Belgium and abroad. The chairs will then be presented back to the church in Passchendaele and the book will remain in the museum.

'Assembly' is on display in Wakefield Cathedral until 30 November. Pop in for a look if you have the chance.



The Life and times of Jacob: Part 1.

Jacob was one of the great patriarchs of the Old Testament, but at times he was also a schemer, liar and manipulator.

Jacob and his twin brother, Esau, were born to Isaac and Rebecca after 20 years of marriage, when Isaac was 60 years of age.

Rebecca was uncomfortable during her pregnancy and went to inquire of God why she was suffering. She received a prophecy the twins were fighting in her womb and would continue to fight all their lives, even after they became two separate nations. The prophecy also said that "one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger."

When the time came for Rebecca to give birth, the firstborn, Esau, came out covered with red hair, and his heel was grasped by the hand of Jacob, the second born.

The boys displayed very different natures as they matured. Esau was a cunning hunter, a man of the field; but Jacob was a simple man, dwelling in tents. Moreover, the attitudes of their parents toward them also differed: "And Isaac loved Esau, and Rebecca loved Jacob".

Acquiring Birth-Right

In Genesis we are told that Esau, returning famished from the field, begged Jacob to give him some of the stew Jacob had just made. Jacob offered to give Esau a bowl of stew in exchange for his birthright, to which Esau agreed.

As Isaac aged, he became blind and was uncertain when he would die, so he decided to bestow Esau's birthright upon him. He requested that Esau go out to the fields with his weapons (quiver and bow) to kill some venison. Isaac then requested that

Esau make 'savory meat" for him according to the way he enjoyed it the most, so he could eat it and bless Esau.

Rebecca overheard the conversation, it is suggested that she realised prophetically that Isaac's blessing would go to Jacob, since she was told before the twins' birth that the older son would serve the younger. She quickly ordered Jacob to bring two kid goats from their flock so he could take Esau's place in serving Isaac and receiving his blessing.

Rebecca made the savory meat that Isaac loved. Before she sent Jacob to his father, she dressed him in Esau's garments and laid goatskins on his arms and neck to simulate hairy skin like Esau's. Disguised as Esau, Jacob entered Isaac's room. Surprised that Esau was back so soon, Isaac asked how it could be that the hunt went so quickly. Jacob responded, 'Because the Lord your God brought it to me.' Isaac was suspicious, and demanded that Jacob

came close so he could feel him. The goatskins felt just like Esau's hairy skin. Isaac asked him "Art thou my very son Esau and Jacob answered simply: 'I am'. Isaac asked Jacob to come forward and kiss him, as Jacob kissed him Isaac smelled the clothes which belonged to Esau, Isaac finally accepted the person in front of him was Esau. Isaac then gave Jacob his blessing.

When Esau returned, Isaac was shocked that he had been deceived, yet he acknowledged that Jacob had received the blessing. Esau was heartbroken by the deception and begged Isaac for his own blessing. Having made Jacob a ruler over his brother, Isaac could only promise 'By your sword you shall live, but your brother you shall serve, yet it shall be that you are aggrieved, you may cast off his yoke from upon your neck'.

Although Esau sold Jacob his birthright which was his blessing, Esau still hated Jacob for receiving the blessing that his father Isaac had unknowingly had given him. He vowed to kill Jacob as soon as Isaac died, Rebecca heard about Esau's plan, so she ordered Jacob to travel to her brother Laban house in Haran.

Jacob's Ladder

Near Luz en-route to Haran, Jacob experienced a vision of a ladder, reaching into heaven with angels going up and down it. He heard the voice of God, who repeated many blessings upon him, coming from the top of the ladder. It is said that the ladder represented the exiles that the Jewish people would suffer before the coming of the Messiah. The angels represented the exiles of Babylonia, Persia and Greece. Each climbed up a certain number of steps, paralleling the years of the exile, before they "fell down" but the angel, representing the last exile, that of Edom, kept climbing higher and higher into the clouds. Jacob feared that his descendants would never be free of Esau's domination, but God assured him that at the End of Days, Edom too would come falling down. In the morning Jacob awakened and continued on his way to Haran.

Jacobs's Marriage

Arriving in Haran, Jacob saw a Well where shepherds were gathering their flocks to water them and met Laban's younger daughter Rachel, Jacobs first Cousin; she was working as a shepherdess. He loved her immediately, and after spending a month with his relatives, asked for her hand in marriage in return for working seven years for Laban.

Laban agreed to the arrangement. These seven years seemed to Jacob "but a few days". when they were completed he asked for

his wife, but Laban deceived Jacob by switching Rachel's older sister Leah as the veiled bride. In the morning when the truth became known, Laban justified his action, saying that in his country it was unheard of to give a younger daughter before the older. However, he agreed to give Rachel in marriage as well if Jacob would work another seven years. After the week of wedding celebrations with Leah, Jacob married Rachel, and continued to work for Laban for another seven years. Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah, God opened Leah's womb and she gave birth to four sons rapidly: Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah. Rachel, however, remained barren. Rachel gave Jacob her handmaid named Bilhah, in marriage so that Rachel could raise children through her. Bilhah gave birth to Dan and Naphtali. Leah then gave her handmaid Zilpah to Jacob in marriage, Zilpah gave birth to Gad and Asher. After this Leah gave birth to Issachar, Zebulun and Dinah, Jacob's first and only daughter. Then God remembered Rachel, who gave birth to Joseph and Benjamin.

After Joseph was born Jacob decided to return home to his parents. Laban was reluctant to release him, as God has blessed his flocks on account of Jacob. Laban asked what he could pay Jacob, and Jacob suggested all the spotted, speckled, and brown goats and sheep of Laban's flock would be his wages.

Jacob placed peeled rods of poplar, hazel, and chestnut within the flocks watering holes or troughs, an action he later attributes to a dream. As time passed, Laban's sons noticed that Jacob was taking the better part of their flocks, and so Laban's friendly attitude towards Jacob began to change.

God told Jacob that he should leave, which he and his wives and children did without informing Laban. Before they left, Rachel sold the teraphim, considered to be household idols, from Laban's house. In a rage Laban pursued Jacob for seven days. When he caught up with him God appeared to Laban in a dream and warned him not to say anything good or bad to Jacob. Laban told Jacob he had come to claim the teraphim back, not knowing of the theft Jacob told Laban to search the tents, when Laban arrived at Rachel's tent, she hid it by sitting on it, she told them she could not get up as it was her time of the month.

Jacob and Laban parted with a pact to preserve the peace between them.

Gail

Look out for Part 2 in next month's magazine....

Golden Days.

1st October 1966, not perhaps a special date to you, but a very special day to two people who were married at 3.00pm at St Mary's on that date.

Brian and Wendy both lived on Haigh Moor Road, they attended Hill Top School and Westerton School, but then Wendy went to Morley Grammar School whereas Brian went to Woodkirk High School, although his first year was not in the school as it wasn't ready in time!

As was often the case, although they had known each other since primary school, it was through Brian being best friends with Wendy's brother that led to them keeping friends and eventually getting together.

Brian and Wendy were engaged in August 1965 and were married on 1st October 1966, sometime after they were married, Brian bought a milk round and he continued to be a milkman until he retired in 2011. Many of you will remember Brian on his rounds.

Brian and Wendy keep in touch with events at St Mary's through the Parish Magazine.

It is lovely to hear from friends of St Mary's and their connections with the church, and we wish Brian and Wendy Butterfield many congratulations on celebrating their Golden Wedding Anniversary, and wish them many more happy years together.

Here are 'Then and Now' photographs of this lovely couple. Dawn.



Brian & Wendy Butterfield

(Outside the main door of church)

One pioneering church's amazing story

Twelve years ago, a Church Army evangelist started a new church, 'Sorted', with a small group of Bradford skateboarders. Since then, this 'church for young people, run by young people' has grown and grown, and now Captain Andy Milne has written a book about the experience - **The DNA of Pioneering Ministry** - to be launched in Leeds on **8 November**.

Andy says, "I wanted to show that anyone can get involved in pioneer ministry. And I wanted to help people learn lessons from our story so that they might be inspired to get together with others and have a go.

"Over the years we've seen some amazing young people come to Sorted. They are sometimes quite rough and ready when they arrive, not knowing where their life is going and being quite tough nuts. And then they start to trust us, and then open up to Jesus where they have a life-changing experience. That's been the best thing."

Sorted is now three separate youth churches with a focus on teenagers and young adults from non-church backgrounds. It's also received a Bishop's Mission Order which has given it official Anglican recognition.

The Bishop of Leeds, the Rt Revd Nick Baines says, "**The DNA of Pioneer Ministry** is an excellent book which draws on long and earthed experience. Andy Milne writes with immense practical application from remarkable leadership of Sorted in Bradford. This book demonstrates how vision is useless without strategic adaptability, personal resilience, creative energy and Christ-filled commitment to young people where they are. I strongly commend it."

At the launch you can meet young people and adults who feature in the stories. Everyone is welcome - those passionate about mission, those exploring new ways to do church and those who simply want to know more.

Andy will be available to sign copies of the book at Holy Trinity, Boar Lane, Leeds LS1 6HW (5 min walk from Leeds train station) on **Tuesday 8 November**. (6pm for refreshments, 7pm start.)

Friends of Woodkirk Churchyard

Soon we will be launching a Facebook page where you will be able to donate towards the churchyard upkeep and keep involved in the work going on to improve the churchyard for visitors and parishioners alike.

Watch out for the new logo. The tree is also in the shape of a cross and represents the churchyard. Now turn over for more on the latest developments...



Friends of
Woodkirk Churchyard

David

Reclaiming our Churchyard

The arrival of the Community Payback Team on a regular basis is really starting to have an effect in the Churchyard. Thanks to Revd Sharon they are now coming once or sometimes twice a week. This means that areas of the churchyard which have been buried in the brambles for years have been cleared.



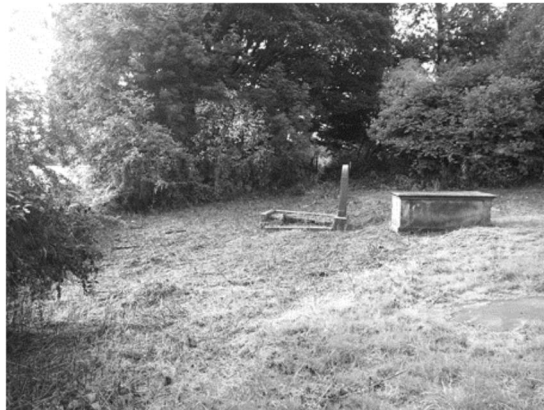
In the above picture you can see the wall beside the dual carriageway—not seen from this side for many a year. Below is looking back towards the Cremation Plot which is now also all clear.



Meanwhile at the lower side, the team have been busy moving the undergrowth back, exposing Graves which have been buried under 6 feet high weeds.



Below the vegetation has been cleared back to the wall on the lower side too. These newly cleared areas will, of course, grow back again fairly quickly if we cant keep mowing them....



...so to do this we are planning to purchase a Ride-on Mower. We have already generously received some funds from Alice Kelly for this and to top up the amount we are recreating the Monks Walk—from Nostell priory back to Church—13 miles in total. This historic walk would have been done by the Black Canons of St. Marys many times and we will be following their footsteps on 8th October.

So you can help by sponsoring us on our walk—and helping to keep the churchyard looking good. Many thanks. David

Prayerful Thoughts of a Lay Reader...

Dawn's insight into her new Ministry...

Well, that's it then...

The end of my period of three years of theological study, a formal licensing service with the Bishop of Huddersfield, and a wonderful welcome from my church family at services on the 25th September, and then further sharing with family and friends at a service of thanksgiving.

I had met with Sharon as well as Diocesan officers to plan for that weekend and all preparation had gone well.

However, it was only on the Friday evening, as I was ironing my new cassock, surplice and scarf, that the enormity of what was the culmination of all this preparation hit me. Whilst I knew what was going on and had been involved in all the preparation, it suddenly became scarily real.

In front of the Bishop of Huddersfield, other Diocesan Lay Officers, Sharon and a congregation including close family, I had to make declarations, and respond to questions to satisfy the Bishop that I was ready to begin my ministry as Reader.

Then on Sunday morning, during the morning Eucharist I was formally welcomed by St Mary's Church as a Licensed Reader.

My promise to St Mary's is...

"That I, newly licensed to exercise the Office of Reader in the Diocese of Leeds, do hereby promise to endeavour, as far as in me lies, to promote peace and unity, and to conduct myself as becomes a worker for Christ, for the good of his church and for the spiritual welfare of all people. I will give due obedience to the Bishop of Leeds and to his successors and the minister in whose cure I may serve (Rev Sharon), in all things lawful and honest.

Whilst the end of September was the ending of my theological studies, it is of course only the beginning of my service to church as a Reader. I have been greatly humbled by all your messages of support and goodwill and encouragement that I have received and I pray that God will guide me and strengthen me in making me worthy of those wishes.

But I also wanted to stress to you that whilst I have followed a

particular and somewhat formal path in becoming a reader, I am no different to any of you.

I love my church, I love sharing worship with others, I love singing and I love meeting together and sharing time together with like minded people. The only different step I took was to want to learn more about the bible, about the stories of God and Jesus, and this developed into my call to licensed Reader.

But God may be calling you, He may be calling you to pursue a path something like mine, but I think it would be far more likely that He is calling you to your own path.

I was looking through the UCB 'Word for Today' booklet, and for Monday 26th September it told the story of Esther.

Do you know the story of Esther?

Basically she was born into slavery but was very beautiful and was favoured by the pagan King Ahasuerus who made her one of his wives, I'm sure she felt very out of her comfort zone, and very out of place. But God was able to use Esther and she was able to save her people (the Jews). Her Uncle Mordecai told her she had 'come to the kingdom for such a time as this' (Esther 4:14). Esther was not out of place; she was in the place God wanted her to be.

There are three things we can learn from Esther, and they can easily apply to all of us.

When you first start out, God won't give you all the details.

I can relate to this, I've often talked to people who asked about my journey to readership that I had had no 'lightning bolt' moment, but just made decisions along the way to get to where I am, I'm sure some of you who are involved in areas of service to church also, if you look back, feel similarly.

But what God does is encourage us, he makes us want to know more, and in thinking about what God's plan might be for us, we are able to draw on His strength to do what He wants us to do.

Knowledge is power.

This is not our own knowledge, we should never keep our knowledge of God to ourselves, as Christians we are all commissioned by God to 'go and make disciples' but what this means is that when we recognise God has called us we have power in that knowledge which enables us to overcome obstacles.

Knowing God is guiding us and has a plan for us enables us to be bold.

When we put our trust in God we can be confident.

I am by nature a bubbly and friendly person, but it is God that has given me the confidence to take the path that I have which will, as we go forward, lead me to preach to you and be involved in services, it is not in my strength that I can do this, but in God's strength.

This reminds me of a favourite verse from Paul's letter to the Philippians (Ch4 v 13)

'I can do all things through him who strengthens me'.

I also found a lovely reference in Proverbs (3:25a and 26)

'Do not be afraid of sudden panic...for the Lord will be your confidence and will keep your foot from being caught'.

I am nothing special, just someone who is blessed to know the love of God and wants to share that love with others.

The thanksgiving Service 'Service Sheet' ended with this prayer, and I share it with you now, should you doubt that God has a plan for you too.

Father, Son and Holy Spirit, accept our thanks

For those who honour you without knowing it:

Who collaborate with you in upholding creation -

Building and repairing houses and roads,

Driving road, rail and air transport, serving in shops and offices,

Tending animals and crops, rearing children,

Sustaining the fabric of the world for one more day at a time;

And for those who hearten others by the cheerful way they face up to Life,

Lightening loads, seeing the funny side, ready with sympathy;

Who at the last, may be taken aback to hear Christ's 'Well done',

For they had not realised that what was done for others was done for him.

Amen.

In God's Love with grateful thanks.

Dawn x



St. Mary's Harvest Celebration

An Evening of Entertainment:

**First: Welcome back the walking team—
who will be arriving from Nostell Priory on
the historic Monks Walk.**

**Then Food will be served around 6:30pm followed
by a Quiz.**

SATURDAY 8th OCTOBER 2016 at 6.00pm

Tickets: Adults £5.00

Children Under 12: £3.00

Hot Supper Included

Tickets available from

Brian Gledhill

And Reverend Sharon

For information Tel: 01924 405790



More Walking Opportunities

Would you like to share in a **Pilgrimage round Leeds**, walking the Leeds Country Way, in sections each month for a year?

Join the [Leeds Church Institute](#) to walk, reflect and pray for Leeds - for justice for its people and the environment.

The next pilgrimage will be on Wednesday 19 October followed by Wednesday 23 November.

The pilgrimage starts at 11am and involves a four mile walk and a time to reflect together. Expected end time is about 2pm. Each start and finish will be accessible on public transport.

We'll gather for our opening reflection on the top edge of Hungerhill Woods (11am). This is the highest point on the Leeds Country Way, with panoramic views across Leeds, so a good place to both start and finish our year-long pilgrimage.

If you'd like to be part of the pilgrimage, please let LCI know by phoning 0113 345 7928.

TRANSPORT DETAILS

The 97 (Guiselley Morrisons) bus goes right past the front of Leeds Trinity University. The best bus for an 11am start (at Hungerhill Woods) leaves Leeds City bus station at 10.13am (Albion St at 10.19am, the Arndale Centre Headingley at 10.31am). It should get to Leeds Trinity University at around 10.45am.

We'll set off from Hungerhill Woods at 11.15am arriving at Golden Acre Park at around 1pm. The X84 Bus from Golden Acre Park into Leeds runs every 20 minutes during the day at 13, 33 and 53 minutes past the hour. The 1.53pm bus gets into Leeds City bus station at 2.25pm

SANDRA'S SEASONAL SUGGESTIONS

October is a time for tidying up. Leave some seed heads and rose hips for the birds. If you have spare earth in the vegetable plot , plant some green manure. Some herbs can be potted up now to take you over the winter. Try parsley, chives and mint. Here are some of this month's jobs.

1. Sow some more winter lettuce such as Arctic King in the greenhouse or cold frame.
2. Plant more tulip bulbs for next spring.
3. Sow outdoor broad beans and peas.
4. Lift carrots, beetroot and any remaining potatoes now. Leave parsnips and Jerusalem artichokes in as they'll taste sweeter after a frost.
5. Before storing your garden furniture clean it off and treat with a wood stain or similar. Store in a dry, frost free place such as a shed or garage in a way which ensures moisture won't sit on it causing rotting.
6. Reduce the watering of house plants. Lift a pot to judge whether it feels heavy (wet) or light (dry)
7. Feed Brussels and winter cabbage now to encourage them on for Christmas.
8. Don't forget to put the compost heap to bed. Cover with an organic duvet, black polythene or pieces of wood.
9. Scrub bird feeders and birdbaths with a mild detergent. Put out nuts, seeds, stale cake and fruit. Don't forget clean water too.
10. Leave some runner beans and French beans on the plant to dry so that you have some for next year.

Sandra

Albert's 'O' is for October' Quiz

1. What is the Japanese art of paper folding called?
2. In the game of Monopoly what is London's cheapest property?
3. What city is the Capital of Norway?
4. Who shot John F Kennedy and was shot by Jack Ruby?
5. What is the aniseed flavoured national drink of Greece called ?
6. Which musical includes the song 'Oh what a beautiful morning'?
7. What code-name was used for the WW2 operation on D-Day?
8. Desdemona is the wife of which Shakespeare title character?
9. Which creatures are central to the plot of the novel 'Ring of Bright Water'?
10. What was the only song that could be played by 'Tom, Tom the piper's son'?
11. Which Bill played Compo in TV's 'Last of the Summer Wine'?
12. Which Gary played Dracula in the 1992 film 'Bram Stoker's Dracula'?
13. In mythology who went down to Hades to try to rescue Eurydice?
14. Which Irish protestant organisation marches annually to commemorate the Battle of the Boyne?
15. What was the first name of Germany's 'Iron Chancellor' Von Bismarck?
16. What does the abbreviation OED stand for?
17. Who invented the atomic bomb?
18. What is the world's largest species of bird?
19. In which city did Roger Bannister run the first sub 4 minute mile?
20. In which 1966 film did Raquel Welch play a cave woman?

Albert

Answers on P38

Gift Aid Reminder

HMRC in their wisdom has changed the wording required on gift aid donations.

The main change is a statement that if the total Gift Aid amount in a year exceeds the amount of individual tax paid, it will have to be refunded to the Revenue.

I have printed off the new declaration required (they are on the Hymn book desk) and will need a new declaration from everybody who has Gift Aid Planned Giving envelopes, or standing orders.

If anybody needs me to post out a new Declaration please contact me on **barbara-tate@talktalk.net**

Thank you for co-operation. If we get an inspection by the Revenue and we don't have the relevant forms, we'll be in trouble!!!

The Treasurer (or the one who is to be obeyed!)

Children's Society

Will all box holders please let me have your boxes for emptying. If anyone would like a Children's Society collection box please see me (Susan Walshaw) in church or call me on 01924 479380.

Your loose change will bring change to the most vulnerable young people this year.

Thank you.

Susan

Diary for September and Early October 2016

2nd Oct	10.30am	Holy Communion
	12.30pm	Holy Baptism
3rd Oct	7:30pm	PCC Meeting in church
5th Oct	10.00am	Holy Communion (Healing)
7th Oct	9:15am	Hill Top School Harvest in Church
8th Oct	12 Noon	The Monks Walk (Nostell to Woodkirk)
	6:00pm	Harvest Festival & Quiz
9th Oct	10.30am	All Age Worship for adults and children
	12.00pm	Holy Communion
	6:00pm	Churches Together Harvest at St. Marys
12th Oct	10.00am	Morning Praise with Gail
16th Oct	10.30am	Holy Communion with Revd Rosemary
19th Oct	10.00am	Holy Communion with Revd Glenn
20th Oct	11.00am	Holy Communion at Lydgate Lodge
23rd Oct	10.30am	Holy Communion with Revd John P-Packard
26th Oct	10.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
28th Oct	1.00pm	Wedding
30th	Oct 10:30am	Holy Communion All Saints Day
	12:30pm	Baptism
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	Holy Communion
	12:30pm	Baptisms

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

Quiz Answers : 1. Origami 2. Old Kent Road 3. Oslo 4. Lee Harvey Oswald 5. Ouzo 6. Oklahoma 7. Overlord 8. Othello 9. Otters 10. Over the hills and far away 11. Bill Owen 12. Gary Oldman 13. Orpheus 14. The Orange Order 15. Otto 16. Oxford English Dictionary 17. J. Robert Oppenheimer 18. Ostrich 19. Oxford 20. One Million Years BC

Albert

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

We welcome into our church family:-

Theodore Stuart Willis-Leigh

Reuben Matthew Tyas

Harvey Jack Howley



DEATHS

We give thanks for the lives of:-

Harry Gough

Edwin Tune

Lancelot Gibson McCourt



WEDDINGS

We congratulate:-

Natalie Sweeney & Gary Overend



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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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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What's on

Mothers' Union	3 rd Monday in the month 2:00 pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
Playgroup	Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am to 12:00pm Becky Schofield 07811 146958
Girl Guides	Tuesday 7:30pm Vikki Springett 07841 513530
Toddler Group	Wednesday 9:15-11:00am Sally Shaw 01924 475048
Rainbows	Thursday 5.30 - 6.30pm Ruth Osenton-Brown 01924 607393
Brownies	Thursday 6.30 - 7.45pm Hannah Tombling 01924 501892
Keep Fit Class	Thursday 8:00pm Margaret Hampshire 01924 476721
Young at Heart	1 st & 3 rd Thursdays 2:00pm Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078
Beavers	Friday 5:00pm to 6:15 pm Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710
Cubs	Friday 6:30pm to 7:45 pm Marianne Ingham 07778 542302
Scouts	Friday 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm Trevor Holdsworth 0113 253 0927
Explorer Scouts	Friday 7:45 pm to 9:30 pm Chris Ingham 07816 517838

Services

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