

# Parish News

St Mary's, Woodkirk



**June 2020**



## ***This Month:***

Messages; Black Lives Matter;  
Ruby Slippers; Mysteries.

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# Who's who at Woodkirk

**Vicar of St Mary's: Reverend Sharon Wilkinson.**

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**Deputy churchwardens:** Gary Mortimer

Pernoe Liburd

**Verger:** Gail Townsend 0113 252 8710

**Organists:** Jason Hawkins

**PCC Secretary:** Dawn Tattersfield

**PCC Treasurer** Barbara Tate

**Social Chairman:** Brian Gledhill 01924 405790

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

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

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

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

**Data Protection** Neal Pinder-Packard 0113 252 4001

**and Legacy Officer**

**Magazine Editor &** David Townsend 0113 2528710

**Weekly News Sheet:** Email: Dave@stmarywoodkirk.org

Magazine Articles by the 20th of the month.

Mobile: 07745 301746

Contributions for the Weekly News Sheet  
by Thursday evening please.

**Deanery Synod reps:** Brian Gledhill & Gary Mortimer

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

Brian Gledhill, Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Dawn Tattersfield,

Laura Mortimer, Barbara Tate, Gail Townsend, Sandra Gledhill, Pernoe Liburd,  
Elizabeth Wilkinson.

If you enjoy the magazine— a donation of 60p really helps to keep it going!

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**If you have recently lost a loved one then come  
and share lunch together on the following dates:**

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For more information please contact Jane on 07969 640396 or visit our Facebook page  
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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.

**STAY ALERT; STAY SAFE;  
PROTECT THE NHS.**

## Vicar's Letter

It is hard to believe that we have now entered into the month of June. We have been incredibly lucky with the weather and as I write this letter it is another glorious day which will suit some people but for others the heat of the day will be too much and they will seek solace in the shade.

We have now experienced 10 weeks of lockdown and for some people this week's lessening of restrictions by the Government will be welcomed and yet for others this will cause more anxiety. It is true we all need to proceed with caution so that our individual actions do not impact on those who are vulnerable in our society.

Many of you will have watched or heard of the appalling events in America which led to the death of George Floyd. There is little hope in a society where life is so needlessly wasted and not valued. It is hardly surprising that rioting is taking place when black voices are not heard by white supremacists and it is not just happening in America – it is world-wide.

In 1967 Martin Luther King Jr gave a speech at Stanford University which contained the following: "I think America must see that riots do not develop out of thin air. Certain conditions continue to exist in our society which must be condemned as vigorously as we condemn riots. But in the final analysis, a riot is the language of the unheard. And what is it that America has failed to hear? It has failed to hear that the plight of the Negro poor has worsened over the last few years. It has failed to hear that the promises of freedom and justice have not been met. And it has failed to hear that large segments of white society are more concerned about tranquillity and the status quo than about justice, equality, and humanity. And so in a real sense our nation's summer riots are caused by our nation's winters of delay. And as long as America postpones justice, we stand in the position of having these

recurrences of violence and riots over and over again. Social Justice and progress are the absolute guarantors of riot prevention.”

It would seem that 50 years on that the world has learnt nothing. The one thing that Jesus taught and exemplified to his disciples was that the Gospel was for all and that we have a duty as Christians, and as present-day disciples to take care of those who have no hope, of those who are trodden down by power, greed and injustice.

Protests took place in London, Cardiff, Manchester and Nottingham on Saturday and Sunday against the killing last week of George Floyd. As well as showing solidarity with demonstrators in the US, Britons have expressed anger and frustration at the increased use of stop and search during the lockdown in areas with large black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) populations.

These British demonstrations were called spontaneously by young black people who are not affiliated with any organisations and said they wanted to shine a spotlight on the impact of institutional racism in the UK and we have all heard of the phrase “Black Lives Matter”.

Of course not all police are bad or racist, the majority I am sure are good decent people. The same can be said of BAME population but in a world that has plenty especially in the UK and in America lessons need to be learned so that in another 50 years we are not simply looking back at Martin Luther King Jnr’s words from 1967 but looking at this time when real changes were made and all people have the opportunities they deserve and where justice for all is equal with no fear for anyone’s lives or livelihoods. I invite you to pray for all concerned.

Sharon  
Vicar

## An Update from Bishop Nick.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This letter comes to you at Pentecost as we celebrate the empowering of the disciples for their mission. On Ascension Day Jesus leaves them to get out of the audience and onto the stage. Yet, there are still a few days before the Holy Spirit comes upon them in power. These days of responsibility without power – and of not knowing exactly what is to come or how we are supposed to do it – will sound very familiar to many of you. So, be encouraged! This is our story ... and we are living it. Like the friends of Jesus, we might be apprehensive about what is going to happen next; but, the Spirit will come and when the time is right we will get on with doing what needs to be done.

### Update

In my last letter I said we would expect further guidance on **church buildings** from the government on Thursday 28 May. You might have noticed that it didn't come. This has been followed up and the government has stated that we cannot open just yet. I assure you that we are being robust in our engagement with them – particularly given some of the obvious (or apparent) inconsistencies. I hate to repeat myself, but I will let you know as soon as I do what we can do. In the meantime, our Emergence Group is working at how to provide clear, concise guidance for you in such a way as to not overburden you.

This leads me to reiterate what I have tried to make clear before now: **permission** to re-open a building – with restrictions – does not mean you must re-open on the day. You and your PCC must be ready for it and feel ready for it. So, please talk to your archdeacon as a timeline becomes clearer and don't worry.

What we must be clear about, however, is that the exceptionalism of some does not give us reason to lose our **discipline** – which is rooted in a sacrificial commitment to the common good. We must hold our nerve as lockdown is eased.

**The Rt. Revd. The Lord Bishop of Leeds.**

## **Comment from Sharon, Vicar:-**

The Diocese are being very helpful and providing guidance on preparing to reopen the building and much is going on behind the scenes so that once permission is given we will be able to re-open in whatever way is possible for us.

I am sure when we do open it will not be as we know it now, and there will be restrictions. At the minute the church building is undergoing a deep clean, and a strict re-opening procedure being followed. A risk assessment will then be undertaken and presented to the PCC.

Once we are given permission to re-open and with what restrictions then I and the PCC will be in a better place to review the situation again.

Sharon.

## **How do I join an on-line Service?**

If you are not so familiar with the on-line world but you would like to join one of the services, here's some good news! It's easy!

**Go to: [facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk](https://facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk)**

**Then select 'Videos' from the side bar.**

**To join a 'Live' service look for the right time in the diary on page 33.**

**You can also view previous services from the same location.**



**St Mary's Church, Woodkirk's video**

3 hours ago · 133 views

## **The Message: 2 Thessalonians 3:5**

*"May the Master take you by the hand and lead you along the path of God's love and Christ's endurance"*

Well hello again

I hope you are all doing OK and coping with the continuing restrictions (although slightly less limiting for some than they were).

The inspiration for this month's article was the above quote I found in a book of thoughts and reflections for every day through the year, and was the quote for 21<sup>st</sup> May.

The thing is, some more small changes to the rules for lockdown will be in effect from the beginning of June with further developments planned towards the middle of June and even more from July, depending on what happens to this 'R' (rate of infection). And I'm sure I'm not the only one who, whilst looking forward to more freedoms being returned to some of us, has a little bit of apprehension about mixing with others after the lockdown. I found this passage gently reassuring.

As people of faith, we know that God knows us, and is there for us, and at these worrying times, we can sometimes forget this.

Yet this passage has a calm reassurance, 'may the Master take you by the hand...'

Those of you who are parents, grandparents, uncles and aunts etc, may be able to remember your little ones first faltering steps and how you may have offered your finger or hand to help support them. Just that bit of reassurance.

Yes we should be cautious, it would be no good suddenly going back to where we were pre lockdown, or we might end up with a second spike of the virus, but as God is with us, he will lead us to where he wants us to go.

I must confess to not knowing much about Thessalonians, so I looked it up in my trusty 'Handbook to the Bible' I'm sure some of you will know some of this, but for those who don't here you go...

1 & 2 Thessalonians were letters written by Paul to the Christians of Thessalonica.

Thessalonica was a free city, capital of the Roman province of Macedonia (Northern Greece). It was a prosperous port on the Aegean Sea, across the bay from Mt Olympus. It was also positioned on the land trade route from the Adriatic to Istanbul known as the Egnatian Way.

The church in Thessalonica was founded in about AD50 after Paul (with Silas and Timothy) left Philippi on their second ministry journey (which you can read about in Acts 17:1-9).

Paul only stayed there for about 3 sabbaths, preaching in the synagogue, until he had to move on as the local Jews started stirring up trouble because Paul was winning converts from them.

Paul and his party travelled on to Beroea (now known as Veria in Macedonia) a small city on the eastern side of the Vermion Mountains north of Mount Olympus. Paul left there to travel to Athens but when Timothy joined him, he sent him almost straight away, back to Thessalonica for news. Paul was anxious to know what had become of this small group of Christians.

1 Thessalonians was written at this time and is full of relief and joy, Paul answers questions and reiterates his teaching on matters where there was weakness in the early church. The letter was meant to be read out amongst the house churches.

2 Thessalonians was sent a few months later, reinforcing the teaching and clearing up misunderstandings that had arisen particularly over Christ's return.

These two letters are the earliest of Paul's surviving writings (with possibly the exception of his letter to the people of Galatia).

They are probably the oldest writings in the New Testament being written only 20 years after the crucifixion of Jesus.

In my New International Version (NIV) of the Bible, the section with the above quoted passage in it, is headed 'Request for Prayer' and goes through a number of things that Paul prays for, the last verse being my quoted one.

So 2 Thessalonians 3:5 is Paul's prayer, and to be honest, if it's good enough for Paul and the people of Thessalonica, then it's good enough for us.

I know many of you will still be classed as 'vulnerable' perhaps because of your age bracket, but I hope that it won't be too long before you are given some freedoms to explore that bit further and my wish, and prayer is that I hope when you do, the master will take you by the hand and keep you safe in your explorations, and that also goes for us who may be feeling a bit nervous about venturing out a bit more.

With love and prayers

Dawn



## Help available at the Numbers below...

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## Faith

There was something about my faith that has carried me through the most difficult times of my life, and I can't imagine what it would be like for someone who didn't have faith.

"There is such a lot of suffering going on right now, and I feel really upset for those people in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

To me ICU must be very traumatic. Just think what it must be like not being able to eat or drink or enjoy the comforts of being a human being, not being able to see your family, your children, and friends and not experience their touch. People who you are close to not touching you, unless they were sticking a needle in your arm.

All of sudden it hit me that when Jesus was suffering on the cross and his mother was looking up at him on that cross, I'm sure that he wanted a hug, he wanted touch, he wanted contact. And so, there's also deprivation and suffering in not being able to have that human interaction that we so desperately need.

I am praying, and I invite all of you to pray for not only an end to this awful pandemic...I ask everyone to pray that God can touch the hearts of the people who are suffering.

We all get caught up in the drudgery of everyday life, and not experiencing the joys of the life God has given us.

Take a moment today to really experience the moments of joy, even when you are cleaning or doing your everyday chores.

Gail

## Monks Walk 2020 style.

We have completed the 'Monks Walk' a couple of times now – in 2012 and 2016 – so it seems like an Olympic event now. We call it the Monks walk as we start at Nostell Priory - which used to be a large monastery of Augustinian Monks – and we finish 13 miles later back at St. Mary's – itself a cell of Augustinian Monks (the so-called Black Canons). So we re-create the journey the Monks would have made between the two, travelling by foot mostly for the best part of 300 years.

This year was a little different due to the 'lockdown'. We were just 2 in number with myself and Simon (our youngest son) the only ones able to take part. Last time we had around 30 in number as the scouts, cubs and beavers were able to join us for some or all of the way. The other big difference was the weather when we had a bit of rain last time compared to very hot sun this time.



The route uses mainly country lanes and footpaths with the minimum of 'road' walking which makes it a much nicer path to tread. We started at Nostell Priory on the Doncaster Road and walked about a mile to Foulby on the main A638 – a noisy affair although we did pass the birthplace of John Harrison – the inventor of the Marine chronometer who died in 1776. We soon turned off and headed across the fields towards Crofton.

Leaving Crofton, we took another footpath which crosses the railway at an official pedestrian crossing point, with styles each side and a wooden footpath constructed between the rails. Unfortunately,

there was also a very long goods train parked right along the tracks. We waited for a while but it didn't look like it was going anywhere. We made the decision to walk to the front of the train, cross the track (a safe distance) in front of the train and walk back down the other side to the crossing point.

Soon we arrived at our first stop off point. Walton Colliery Nature Reserve – made on the old slag heaps of the original mine, it has lakes and paths criss-crossing the reserve and a wealth of wildlife. A lovely place to visit as there is a car park too if you want to drive somewhere for your



daily exercise. Emerging on the outskirts of Walton we turned north-west towards Sandal and climbed the hill to Sandal Castle. The Castle has commanding views across Wakefield and the western vistas and is well looked after with a car park and a small shop/cafe although there isn't much of the castle left to see.

From there we dropped down to the river and canal, following these to Lupset Golf course. We traversed the golf course and followed the A642 until we reached the merciless Broadway – a one-mile uphill trek taking us to the nine-mile mark. Once there we could again join a footpath taking us across Low Laithes golf course and up a short country road to our final footpath. 3 miles to go and all through beautiful countryside. The last hill to church is steep but mercifully short and we arrived just before 3pm tired but elated. It really is an enjoyable walk with lots to see along the way. Hopefully next time we

can have a larger group to tackle this old but scenic way.

Many thanks to everyone who has sponsored us for this walk.

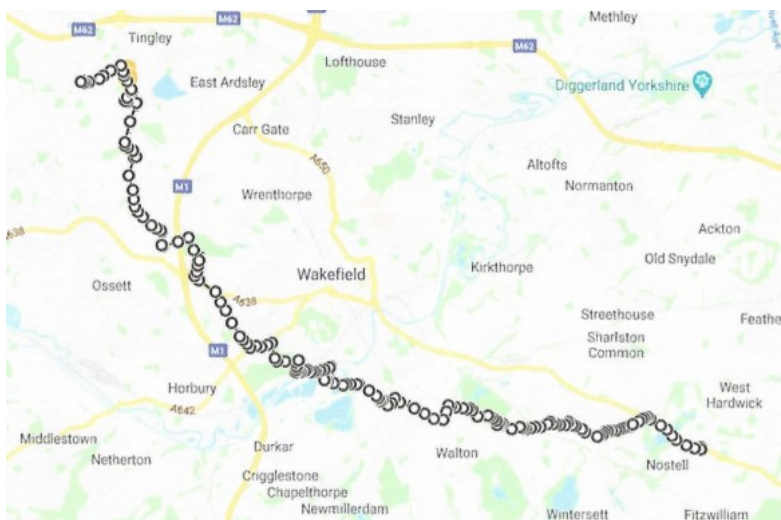
Barbara tells me that we have over £580 now which is fantastic. This will go to good causes connected to St. Mary's and so will be of direct benefit to church goers and their families.

God Bless and thanks again.

Dave (and Simon).



The End !



## George & Jemima in Lockdown

**George.** Hello everybody. Before we start we would like to warn you that we will be rather loud. This is due to us having to be at least two metres apart, so we have to really SHOUT! At each other.

**Jemima.** Ok then, hello everyone, hope you are all coping well and are keeping safe. Are you keeping safe George?

**George.** Shout up I can't hear you.

**Jemima.** Course ya can George, ya two metres away not two miles.

**George.** Sorry, just having a laugh.

**Jemima.** So, come on then George, tell me what you've been up to during lockdown.

**George.** Well I can certainly tell you the best thing that's happened.

**Jemima.** What's that?

**George.** No School. BRILLIANT!

**Jemima.** That's just typical of you George. I really miss school.

**George.** Well you should look where ya going then, ha ha.

**Jemima.** Come on George, be serious, tell me what you've been up to.

**George.** Ok Sorry. One of the best things is that clapping thing on a Thursday evening at 8 o'clock to thank the NHS and everyone that's helping to care for us. But we don't stop there.

**Jemima.** Why, what happens then?

**George.** My Dad gets his guitar out and plays in the road.

**Jemima.** Oh, I've never heard of that one.

**George.** Blimey, Jemima's got a sense of humour. No, he plays his guitar so the neighbours can have a right good sing along.

**Jemima.** Wow that's great, what does he play?

**George.** Well it all started about six weeks ago when our next-door neighbour asked him to play You'll Never Walk Alone for the NHS and it's just gone nuts ever since.

**Jemima.** Ya mean you have to listen to your Dad every Thursday night, ergh!

**George.** Yeh, I know what you mean Jemima, but he's not half bad.

At least he wasn't until some kid asked him to play Old Town Road by Lil Naz.

**Jemima.** Oh, I love that song.

**George.** So you're the one. ...

**Jemima.** So what else have you been doing George?

**George.** Me and my Mum have been doing a jigsaw.

**Jemima.** Well that wouldn't have taken you long would it?

**George.** Nah not really, only 9 weeks.

**Jemima.** 9 weeks? 9 WEEKS? why 9 weeks?

**George.** Because it was GIGANTINORMOUS!

**Jemima.** So it was big then?

**George.** Big? BIG? It was 30 squillion pieces, it was the size of a football pitch.

**Jemima.** I think you're exaggerating George. How big was it really?

**George.** 1,500 pieces.

**Jemima.** Yeh, big enough I reckon.

**George.** Yeh, not half. Anyway Jemima. Enough of me, tell me what you've been up to.

**Jemima.** Oh where do I start?

**George.** The beginning would be good.

**Jemima.** So for a start, not like you George, I like school, so I have been doing my homework which I receive from school on a regular basis.

**George.** Well I've been doing that, but I didn't think it was important enough to mention it like you, Miss Goody Two Shoes.

**Jemima.** Do you want me to start shouting at you again George?

**George.** No thank you, carry on.

**Jemima.** Then of course, I have been keeping in touch with my girlfriends through Zoom on my computer.

**George.** What the heck is Zoom?

**Jemima.** Blimey George, where have you been, you've never heard of Zoom?

**George.** No, please tell.

**Jemima.** Zoom is a computer download where each person can join in a meeting set up by their host person. You can then see



everyone together on the screen and have a chat. Easy peasy.

**George.** So how many of your so called girlfriends are on the screen at one time then?

**Jemima.** Oh, sometime as many as 15.

**George.** WHAT! 15? How do you get a word in?

**Jemima.** Don't be so daft George.

**George.** Ok what else did you do?

**Jemima.** We've had a few family quizzes.

**George.** Oh wow, why didn't I think of that, I just love quizzes, cause I'm so good at em.

Come on Jemima, let's do one now, ask me some questions, anything you like, come on.

**Jemima.** Ok then, just 5 questions 'cause I have to go soon. Are you ready?

**George.** Yep.

**Jemima.** Question 1. Name 6 animals which live specifically in the Arctic?

**George.** 2 Polar Bears & 4 Sea Lions.

**Jemima.** Typical. Question 2. Where was The American Declaration of Independence signed?

**George.** At the bottom.

**Jemima.** (Big sigh). Question 3. Why is there a ring around Saturn?

**George.** Because God loved it so much, he put a ring on it.

**Jemima.** I give up. Thank God there's only two more questions.

Question 4. What is the highest frequency noise a human can register?

**George.** Mariah Carey.

**Jemima.** And the lucky last. What ended in 1945?

**George.** 1944.

**Jemima.** Well done George, you got them all wrong.

**George.** Are we bothered though Jemima? We've had a laugh and that's all that counts, especially as we're stuck in lockdown, but I'll tell you what I miss the most Jemima.

**Jemima.** Go on.

**George.** Our Church. I miss going to our Church. I miss chatting to our



Vicar Sharon and all our Church family, and I hope that in the not so distant future all will be back to normal.

**Jemima.** Blimey George, look at you being serious, I thought you were going to burst into We'll Meet Again.

**George.** Are we off now then Jemima?

**Jemima.** I think so George, I'm getting hoarse with all this distance shouting. So until we meet again folks, we hope you've enjoyed our lockdown exploits. Say Goodbye George.

**George.** Yeh, keep safe and God bless.

**George.** (bursts into song) We'll meet again don't know where don't know when..

**Jemima.** GEORGE!



## **Perseverance in the Strawberry Patch**

Our allotment this year has never looked so good! We have spent much more time than usual digging, weeding, planting and generally keeping things in a good order.

We decided that this year was time to split our strawberry patch, they lose fruitfulness after a few years and it is recommended to split them up and move some, and that was my job whilst David was doing some heavy work sorting out the potatoes.

Now our strawberry bed had been established for a few years, and as often happens with things you don't remove each year, the weeds, and in one particular area, thistles had become very established too. Well, it took me about 4 allotment visits to really get the strawberry bed sorted, and I was really pleased with how the old and the new beds were looking.

We had a week or so when we didn't go to the allotment, and so when we went again, I was somewhat chagrined to discover thistles still growing up in the strawberry bed I had so carefully cleared, so I set to again, digging down and doing my best to get out the thistles and their very deep roots.

We were going fairly regularly to prepare beds and get seeds planted, and it appeared that every time I went yet more thistles came up, I was beginning to get a bit fed up. I was digging so diligently, I was getting out those roots, where on earth were the thistles coming from, it felt like a completely futile exercise.

We'll most likely be going to the allotment today, and I'm already preparing myself to be faced with more thistles coming up in my lovely strawberry patch.

There were two biblical things I thought about with this situation.  
God never gives up on me (us)

When I felt like giving up and letting the thistles win, I thought how lucky I am that God doesn't do that with me.

I don't spend as much time with God as I should, I mentioned in last month's article, that although lockdown meant I wasn't as busy as usual, I had not used the opportunity to spend more time with God, but thankfully He's not giving up on me (or you).

Perseverance

I will persevere with those thistles. I know I can't win, there'll always be a bit of thistle somewhere, but I'll keep digging.

I looked up bible passages to do with perseverance and found this lovely one in the book of James (most likely the brother of Jesus);

*James 1:12*

*Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised*

Now I don't know about you, but I'm not bothered about a crown in reward for my perseverance, I'll settle for a lovely bowl of delicious strawberries!

More cream anyone?

With love.

Dawn

## **The Benjamin Ingham Mystery.**

### **Benjamin Ingham (1712-1772)**

The Inghamite fellowship was founded in 1750 by Benjamin Ingham - an itinerant preacher from Ossett near Leeds.

At Oxford University Ingham became part of a group of earnest young men who became known derisively as 'The Holy Club' or 'Methodists' (because of their methodical approach to religion and the study of scripture). This group also included John Wesley and his brother Charles, and George Whitfield, all of whom were to be highly instrumental in the eighteenth century revival.

He was ordained at age 23. Methodist connections from Oxford led to a colonial mission in America where he developed a keen interest in the Moravian church from German missionaries. Following a 1738 visit to Germany for greater exposure to the Moravian faith, Ingham returned to preaching in Yorkshire for the next four years.

During this time, he built up a following of more societies than he could manage and eventually relinquished control to the Moravian Brethren in 1742. Ingham's Moravian transformation occurred the year following his marriage to Lady Margaret Hastings. While Ingham's bond with his Brethren strengthened, it was a relationship that was to evolve. By the early 1750s Ingham found his views differing from the Oxford Methodists.

When the viewpoints of the Moravian elders clashed with those representing the Church of England, Ingham used this 1753 scandal to distance himself from his Brethren and re-establish his own Inghamite societies. Still insecure as an independent church, Ingham turned to Sandemanianism during the final years of his life as a viable option forward for his followers. While he shared many Sandemanian views he chose independence instead. The majority of his societies splintered and joined with other denominations which included Methodists, Sandemanians and Congregationalists. He died at Aberford in 1772, four years after his wife.

## **Benjamin Ingham of Palermo (1784 - 1861)**

Benjamin Ingham, the youngest of six children, was born into the family of Ossett cloth merchant William Ingham (1730-1806) on the 24th October 1784. It was this same family of Ossett Inghams that had produced the other Benjamin Ingham (1712-1772), who went on to work with the Wesley brothers and form the Inghamite Church (see above).

Probably, the most notable of all Ossett's sons, the life of Benjamin Ingham was more remarkable than that of his religious great-uncle and namesake who had died before he was born. In 1806, at the height of the Napoleonic wars between Britain and France, Ingham moved to Sicily as a representative of the Leeds-based family firm of Ingham Brothers & Co. after being jilted by the mercenary Anne Brook, probably because he lost all his money in a failed business deal.

In Sicily, he soon branched out in his own right to become one of the richest and most powerful men on the island. By today's values, he was a millionaire many times over. Ingham built a huge business dynasty in Sicily with massive investments in the USA, all with the help of five of his Ingham and Whitaker nephews, three of whom died whilst working for him, one by committing suicide. He tamed the Sicilian Mafia, became a Sicilian Baron and moved in the highest circles of Sicilian society, commanding considerable respect by loaning money to some of the nobility.

He learned to speak fluent Italian with a marked Sicilian accent, tinged with a touch of Yorkshire. His story is one of failed romances, family tragedy, business success by sheer ruthlessness and eventually, a putative marriage to a highly-sexed Italian Duchess, Alessandra Spadafora, Duchess di Santa Rosalia who was nearly six years his senior, but whom he plainly adored. Ingham's delightful house in Palermo, Palazzo Ingham, became the city's Grand Hotel et Des Palmes in 1874, and his hugely successful Marsala wine business was eventually nationalised by Mussolini in 1927 and is now owned by the Cinzano Company.

## **Benjamin Ingham (1810 - 1872)**

Another nephew, Benjamin Ingham Jr. as he always signed himself or Ben as he was known in the family, moved to Sicily in 1827 or 1828 to work for the "concern" and despite a few minor issues with his uncle, he became an essential member of the Ingham empire. He was sent to the USA in 1833 after his elder brother Joseph committed suicide and remained there for nearly two years, acting as a sort of roving business ambassador for his uncle. He was very successful in business matters in America, unlike his poor brother Joseph. After his work in America, Ben became the manager at Marsala '*baglio*' from the 30th June 1834. He went back to America and was there in 1839 and 1840.

Ben was a genial looking person and was sturdily built. He was described as having a "mild and conciliatory disposition". It was thought that he would never get married, but at the age of 46 on the 29th March 1856, at the British Legation in Naples, he married 23 year-old Emily Bennett Hinton.

Her stepfather, Mr Wood, the owner of the third largest British '*baglio*' in Marsala lived in the Palazzo Derix in Palermo. Later '*Baglio Wood*' was absorbed by the Ingham-Whitaker firm, probably because of this marriage. A couple of years earlier, Ben took over the Saint Oliva villa in Marsala and from 1848, he was the acting British Vice-Consul in Marsala, protecting the interests of the British wine merchants who were based there.

Sadly, there were no children from his marriage to Emily Hinton and after his uncle's death in 1861, Ben was left the Palazzo Ingham in Palermo as well as a life interest in half of his uncle Benjamin's estate. After Ben's death in 1874, his widow Emily re-married General Medici and sold Palazzo Ingham to the Ragusas who transformed it in 1877 into the Hotel des Palmes, which is still in business today.

By 1846 Ossett cum Gawthorpe was a civil township and the ecclesiastical authorities formed a *District Chapelry* in the southern part of the township. In 1851 South Ossett Christ Church was built there and in 1858 the parochial status was equalised by Holy Trinity being given a *District Chapelry*.

In April 1860, Ben Ingham visited Ossett on his way to the USA with his wife Emily and he subscribed £1,000 towards the construction of a church "*more suited to the needs of a rapidly industrialising community*" in the town of Ossett. This may have been a legacy from his uncle Benjamin, since Ben was born in Hunslet rather than Ossett. In the event, the donation helped with the construction of Holy Trinity Church in Ossett, which was completed in 1865. The Bishop of Ripon was later to call this church "*that miniature cathedral*".

In 1871, he and Joseph Whitaker announced their intention of erecting in Palermo, at their joint expense, a church in which "*Services of the Church of England could be performed for the spiritual benefit of their protestant countrymen, whether resident or visiting*". Ben Ingham donated the land in front of Palazzo Ingham to be used as the site for the new church. However, he died suddenly in Paris in 1872, before the work on the church started, but his widow Emily Ingham continued the good work and later, in 1872, the foundations were laid and building commenced. The church was finished in 1875 and is still there today.

### **Benjamin Ingham, Vicar of St. Mary's 1797-1809.**

This Benjamin Ingham died in 1809 and is buried just by the main path in the graveyard— it was his last year of tenure at Woodkirk - at only 55 years of age. Other than that we know almost nothing about him compared to his more famous (and rich) namesakes above. He is too young to be the Inghamite for whom he shares the religious connection since he died some 37 years later. But he is too old to be either of the Benjamin Ingham's of Palermo, with the elder dying in 1864 and the younger nephew not born until the year after his death in 1809. So our Benjamin Ingham seems to have gone under the radar a little and served his time quietly serving God and attending his flock, leaving all the headlines to other higher profile Benjamin Ingham's who seem to have been very close neighbours about him at some time in their seemingly far more flamboyant and busy lives. Maybe a little more will be found out about our Revd Ingham as time goes by and the mystery of the Benjamin Inghams will be solved?

David

## Gods power and the Ruby Slippers

*Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do He will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. —John 14:12*

*The Wizard of Oz* begins with a house falling on a witch and a little girl named Dorothy going on a journey. Dorothy follows the yellow brick road, reaches the Wizard of Oz, throws the bucket of water at the witch, and grabs the witch's broom. Then Dorothy finds out from Glinda that, the whole time, all she had to do was click her heels.

Maybe you're on a journey and you're all worried about "I have to do this...I have to do that...." No.

All you must do is believe God.

Why? Because you have everything you need to do what God is called you to do. God will never call you to do something that He hasn't prepared you to do.

As Christians, we must come to this realisation so that we may help others within our church and community believe it, too. Ephesians 2:10 says, "God has prepared good works" for us to do, and as Christians, we must help others to find these works and do them.

Many of us may be called to do great things, but we never get to it because we are too busy hunting for the witch's broom. Or maybe we still in the flying monkeys' clutches or lost in the poppy field.

Then we must learn to click their heels, to believe in God. Imagine what we could all achieve if everyone truly believed God.



God has prepared each of us for a specific purpose. There will be pain: you'll hurt today, but you'll be okay tomorrow.

But it is God who empowers us to do something individually and as community. God is the one who works with or refines our passions to help us do something. We are all called to respond, to do something.

We are called to do something, but not Everything.

As Christians, we must lead, but we must remember that we aren't told to do everything. God has called people to specific tasks, and we must encourage each other to pursue these tasks—to put on our ruby red slippers and click their heels.

We all have those ruby red slippers, and we must learn to click our heels.

God Bless

Gail



## Confident Christians!

At the very end of May, we celebrated the feast of Pentecost, this is the occasion when all the disciples were together in Jerusalem, waiting for a sign from Jesus, when the Holy Spirit descends on them. They see tongues of fire resting on each of them and suddenly they can all speak in different languages.

I always find it amusing, that whilst this was such an amazing thing (being able to speak a different language is an excellent skill) some folk who were present just made fun and put these abilities down to the fact that the disciples had had too much wine!

Peter comes right back at them basically saying, don't be daft, it's only nine in the morning (that must have been some party!).

But of course, it's not this at all, God is delivering what Jesus promised the disciples when He appeared to them after His death. You can read about it in John 14:25-26 where Jesus says

*"I have told you this while I am still with you...the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and make you remember all that I have told you".*

Peter goes on to explain what the prophet Joel says, you can look up the 'Pentecost' reading in Acts 2:1-21.

God said to Joel that He [God] would pour out His Spirit on men and women who will prophesy and it is this that we celebrate at Pentecost. But it's not all words.

If you followed the Holy Communion service on the 31<sup>st</sup> May, you would have accepted your 'commission'. (If you were unable to, then go to St Mary's facebook page and look for Rev Sharon's post of the service sheet).

This was 'as part of God's church **here** and **empowered by the Holy Spirit** that we were asked whether we would, in the Spirit's power, undertake to trust God to be our guide, dare to grow together in love, share our riches in common and minister to each other, dare to pray for each other and carry the light of Christ into the world's dark places.

Now it's a fairly significant list of 'dares' and whilst some may feel perhaps a bit more attainable than others, some of them are definitely difficult such as carrying the light of Christ into dark places! There were a couple of things I thought about with this.

Firstly, we are not alone, our commissioning starts with being 'empowered by the Holy Spirit', and then the other thing was that the disciples were just ordinary people that Jesus had chosen. They weren't from regal families, they weren't giants of industry, they were just fishermen, tax collectors, and regular folk, like us?

Now I know some of you are sat there saying 'A disciple...me! ha don't be daft', but this is what Jesus is asking of you. How will people know anything about Jesus and His love for them unless we share His story? What we must remember is that we are not alone, God sends the Holy Spirit to be with us.

I studied Theology and became a Lay Reader and if you'd suggested that's that what I would do then I would have laughed. I started off just wanting to learn a bit more about the characters in the Bible and the life of Jesus, but obviously God had other plans.

I think our current lockdown situation has had a major impact on the way people think and feel.

This may not translate into a mad rush of previously 'unchurched' folk dashing into the church building once they are open again, BUT I know from chats I have had with Rev Sharon, that she has been greatly encouraged by the people who have interacted with her facebook services, some of whom have not been in church at all. Just a quick look at the number of views of videos of the services Sharon has taken over the past couple of weeks, show that the lowest number of views for a service was 54 and the highest 133.

There are people in our community who want to know God and Jesus, and who are we to say that the only way one can do that is by walking into the church building.

One thing lockdown has reminded us is that 'The Church' is the people not the building. I like many of us of course, love our church; it is a wonderful building full of inspiration and solace as well as an atmosphere of calm and prayerfulness. But if you are a new Christian or even haven't taken a step towards faith yet, the people you encounter will be as important as the building.

Thinking of the other aspects of our commissioning, have we not seen our communities growing together in love when we have stood on our doorsteps clapping for the NHS, and key workers?

Have we not ministered to one another by helping where we can?

I think many people have been reminded of the importance of kindness and sharing.

So we, as the church family are tasked with showing our neighbours what our faith means to us.

It might be explaining to a grandchild or other younger relative why you go to church; it might be daring to talk to a friend about your faith and inviting them to ask you questions.

Don't be afraid of not knowing the answer, I may have done some theology studies, but I don't know as much, I bet, as some of you who have been Christians a long time. But I do know who to ask or where to look for an answer, and that is half the battle. Don't shy away from questions, especially from youngsters.

We weren't in the room with the disciples when the wind of the Holy Spirit came through, and we may not feel able to speak in tongues, but talking to people about our faith is 'carrying the light of Christ into the world's dark places'.

Be brave, don't hide your faith, with the power of the Holy Spirit, trust God to guide you, and share your faith with those around you.

I bet you used to play 'Dare you.....' when you were a youngster, and I bet some of you more senior folks got up to some right dares in your youth, before health and safety and other limitations existed!

Well I dare you...

If you already have some faith, to be confident for Christ.

If you aren't sure then not a dare, but a hope that you feel able to contact us here at St Mary's so we can help and support you.

*With Pentecost dawns the age of the Spirit.*

*Now the flame of heaven rests on every believer.*

*Strong and weak, women and men tell out your word;*

*the young receive visions, the old receive dreams.*

With love and praise.

Dawn

## Albert's 'Double Answer' Quiz

*Each of the answers also contains a body part....*

1. Which TV comedy's main characters were named Albert & Harold?
2. In which city is the Grand National race course?
3. Which arm injury is named after a sport with a number in the name?
4. In the 'Magic Roundabout' what was Brian?
5. In which English city did the Beegees and Oasis reside?
6. Baby Elephants, whales and seals are called what?
7. A potter makes jugs and vases using which tool?
8. Which former Liverpool manager said 'Football isn't a matter of life and death - its more serious than that.'
9. Which type of fish might be stood on?
10. A slang term for a party - possibly Mrs Brown's?
11. Name the poem starting 'The curfew tolls the knell of parting day'?
12. A back injury caused by a sudden jolt?
13. Olympia is the capital of which US state?
14. Compere of TV's Room 101?
15. A word that can precede China, Meal and Idle?
16. Biscuit named after the 19th Century Italian hero?
17. A word that precedes Chat, Door and Lash?
18. TV comedy series about WW2's Home Guard?
19. Which Lord was the last Prime Minister to die in office?
20. Performed by Al Martino, which was the first record to top the UK charts?

21. In which Caribbean Dance is a horizontal pole used?
22. Which Welsh snooker player won four 1970's world titles?
23. What was the nickname of the gangster Al Capone?
24. Which word follows Short, Second and Back?
25. The 1946 Peter Lorre film about a disabled hand was called 'The beast with 5.....'
26. The 1954 film starring Eva Gardner was called 'The.....Contessa.'?
27. In Oliver Twist, what is the name of Bill Sykes dog?
28. The Cranefly is more commonly known as...?
29. Which 9 letter James Bond film has Gold in the title?
30. Which 10 letter James Bond film has Gold in the title?

Albert

Answers on P39

**If the Pandemic had happened then....**



Trevor

## **If World War 2 happened today...**

Why didn't we have stockpiles of spitfires at the start of this conflict?

Why isn't the Government preventing these air raids?

Can I have more clarity on the 'Your Country Needs You' slogan?

Does the siren apply to everyone?

There are only male and female toilets in the air raid shelter and I don't identify as either.

This respirator haversack has a leather strap and I'm vegan!

I need to have 'Almond Milk' on my ration card.

The lack of colour options in military uniforms is against my human rights.

Are blackout curtains only for those with an underlying health condition?

## **Small Businesses**

It is with sadness I have to mention the loss of a few local businesses:

The manufacturer of food blenders has gone into liquidation.

The supplier of paper for origami has folded.

The tarmac laying company has reached the end of the road.

The bread company has run out of dough.

The clock manufacturer has been wound up.

The bra manufacturer has gone bust.

The launderette has been taken to the cleaners.

The pet shop has gone to the dogs.

The venetian blind shop has closed, so its curtains for us all.

The butchers had the chop

The wallpaper shops have taken a pasting.

The specialist in submersibles has gone under.

The milkman has lost his bottle.

The dog kennels has had to call in the retrievers.

And to crown all, the fish n chip shop has been battered.

Trevor Sykes



## Church Mouse Tales

In times of crisis I always find it best to consult my friend Hubert the Black Canon. Today was such a day and yet he was nowhere to be seen.

‘HUBERT!’ I shouted one more time as loud as I could manage.

‘Yes?’ he answered from behind me.

‘AAARRRGHH!’ I shouted again. ‘Do you have to creep up on people like that!’

‘It’s habit we Monks have gotten into’, he replied raising an eyebrow, as he does when making a subtle play on words.

‘Oh yes very funny ha ha.’ I said in mock anger.

He allowed himself an indulgent smile.

‘Anyway, now you are here there’s something far more serious I have to talk to you about.’

‘Oh yes - go on?’ Hubert gathered his attention.

‘Since lockdown my weight has ballooned out of control - in fact its nearly 25 grams now!’

‘Outrageous!’ said Hubert without sincerity. ‘Have you been doing your daily exercise?’

‘My daily what?’

‘Exercise. Walking - or running - each day to make sure you stay healthy?’

‘Well no, I didn’t know we were supposed to.’

‘Oh yes - it’s what keeps you healthy and keeps your weight under control. I highly recommend it.’

‘Oh. OK I’ll certainly give it a try. How long have you been doing it for?’

‘Oh - er well, that is, I have a high metabolism so I don’t need it like you do.’ he looked somewhat flustered.

‘I see’, I said suspiciously.

‘So it’s not a habit you have gotten into?’

I asked raising an eyebrow.

Misha x.



## The Spring That Never Was

The market squares and the shopping malls were empty, nobody was there,

There was something odd and eerie not just here but everywhere.  
What seemed like a nothing at first, just an over hyped insignificance  
At which we'd laughed and joked about began to make a difference.  
A difference to our friends, our families, our way of life, our jobs  
Crept then swept into the global society in the spring that never was.

The trees bore their blossom as our humour turned to grief and disbelief,

The daffodils grew and the flowers bloomed and the blossom gave way to leaf.

The sunshine came and the birds returned to nest and sing in newly green trees

Whilst the human race seemed to stop in shock in a dystopian make believe.

A make believe world of confinement, locked pub doors and closed down shops;

A world where the internet ignited like a wild fire in the spring that never was.

For a while divided political loyalties were replaced by coherent coalition

As the capitalist bubble was burst and replaced by new type of socialism.

At first supermarket shelves were emptied in frenzy as people stocked up on their rations

But slowly in the enormity of the situation, greed gave way to compassion.

People began to care and support each other as they clapped and rattled pans and pots.

They rang, messaged and video chatted, caught up in the spring that never was.

As the birds reclaimed the empty sky whilst corporations urged a rapid solution  
 Mother Nature breathed a fresh sigh of relief, for once without any pollution.  
 Fresh air, fresh minds that fuelled by time found new ways to express their creations  
 Will soon give way to be consumed once more by real life's hectic frustrations.  
 When the world returns to the new normal and we assess the loss and count the cost  
 I hope that we remember what was learned and what we have gained in the spring that never was.

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### Quiz Answers:-

1. Steptoe & son 2. Liverpool 3. Tennis Elbow 4. Snail
5. Manchester 6. Calf 7. Potters Wheel 8. Bill Shankley
9. Sole 10. Knees up 11. Grey's Elegy 12. Whiplash
13. Washington 14. Frank Skinner 15. Bone 16. Garibaldi
17. Back 18. Dad's Army 19. Palmerston 20. Here in my Heart.
21. Limbo 22. Ray Reardon 23. Scarface 24. Hand 25. Fingers
26. The Barefoot Contessa 27. Bullseye 28. Daddy Long Legs
29. Goldeneye 30. Goldfinger.

Albert

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

**BAPTISMS**—We welcome into our Church family:-



## DEATHS



We give thanks for the lives of all those who have died within our Parish:

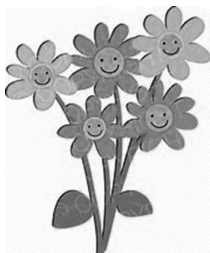
Shirley Fothergill  
Mary Oakland

**WEDDINGS** Please pray for all couples who married at St Mary's, especially:



## FLOWER DONATIONS.

There will be no flowers in church.  
Please watch out for notices and announcements about church opening dates and times.



## Diary for the coming weeks

**All Services ONLINE at [facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk](https://facebook.com/stmarywoodkirk)**

Morning Prayer is 9.00am on Mondays & Fridays plus:

### June

**7th Sun 10.30am Trinity Sunday Holy Communion**

9th Tue 6pm Evening Prayer

10th Wed 10:00am Holy Communion

11th Thur 9pm Night Prayer

12th Fri 8pm Quiz Night Online

13th Sat 10:30am Coffee Morning Online (Zoom)

**14th Sun 10.30am Holy Communion**

15th Mon 8pm PCC Meeting Online

16th Tue 6pm Evening Prayer

17th Wed 10:00am Holy Communion

18th Thur 9pm Night Prayer

20th Sat 10:30am Coffee Morning Online (Zoom)

**21st Sun 10.30am Holy Communion**

23rd Tue 6pm Evening Prayer

24th Wed 10:00am Holy Communion

25th Thur 9pm Night Prayer

26th Fri 8pm Quiz Night Online

27th Sat 10:30am Coffee Morning Online (Zoom)

**28th Sun 10.30am Holy Communion**

30th Tue 6pm Evening Prayer

### July

1st Wed 10:00am Holy Communion

2nd Thur 9pm Night Prayer

4th Sat 10:30am Coffee Morning Online (Zoom)

**5th Sun 10.30am Holy Communion**

See also page 13 for details of how to join on-line.

# ADULT BALLET

COME AND JOIN OUR FUN, FRIENDLY BALLET TECHNIQUE CLASS. THE CLASS IS PERFECT FOR "EXPERIENCED BEGINNERS" BUT ALL ABILITIES ARE WELCOME.



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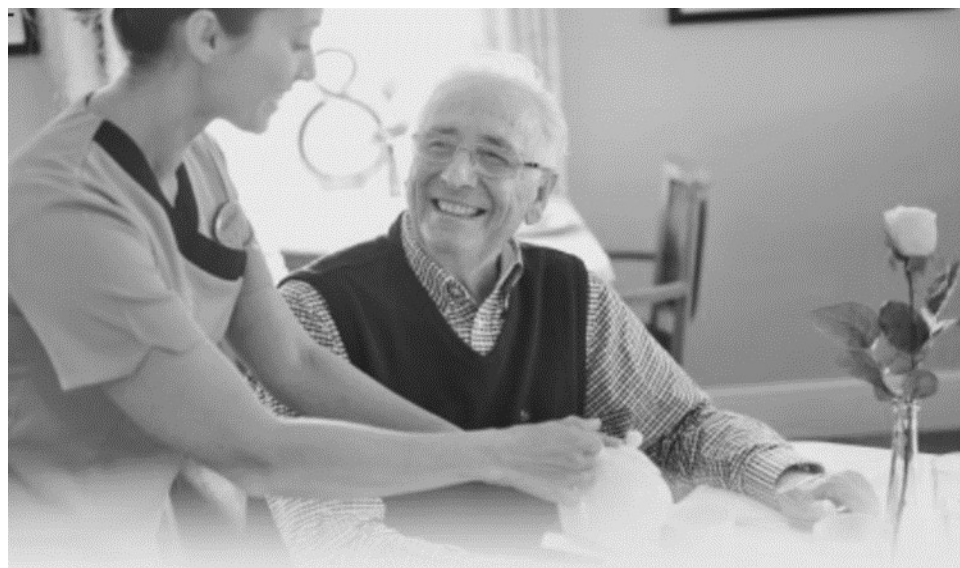
**8PM - 9PM**

**£6 Drop In**

**St Marys Parish Centre, Woodkirk**

**To book your place: [Facebook.com/evhdance](https://www.facebook.com/evhdance)  
[emily@humphreys.dance](mailto:emily@humphreys.dance)**

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## **Lydgate Lodge** *a great place to live*

*"Lydgate Lodge  
is a lovely environment  
for residents and relatives  
alike providing excellent care  
and facilities."*

Son of Resident at  
Lydgate Lodge

([carehome.co.uk](http://carehome.co.uk) review)

Lydgate Lodge makes a real difference to the lives of our residents, offering 24 hour residential and dementia care in luxurious surroundings and with an inclusive fee package.

Lydgate Lodge's caring and highly trained staff cherish our residents, assisting them to remain independent and ensuring they enjoy an active lifestyle.

*A home is more than just bricks and mortar - it is a  
place you feel safe, well cared for and relaxed.*



*Passing by? Pop in for a cuppa ...*



### ***Lydgate Lodge Care Home***

Soothill Lane, Batley, West Yorkshire, WF17 6EZ

[lydgate.lodge@idealcarehomes.co.uk](mailto:lydgate.lodge@idealcarehomes.co.uk)

01924 355 020

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**To advertise in St Mary's Parish Magazine**

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

**Annual Fee for Advertising:**

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**Half Page £70.00**

**Full Page £110.00**



## **Shirl's Curls**

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Get in touch to discuss your needs and to book an appointment.

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

## **Parish Centre Rentals**

**We have space for Groups who may be interested in using the Parish Centre at various times of the week.**

**Nominal Cost is £50 for  
3 hours.**

**Contact: Sally Shaw  
01924 475048 for more  
information.**

**Loving.  
Living.  
Learning.**



 **THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**  
Diocese of Leeds

# BENNETT OF MORLEY

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of the bereaved and offer a complete  
funeral service including a pre-paid  
funeral 'plan'.

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### CONSULTANTS

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

RESIDENCE  
3 HOLLY COURT  
TINGLEY

## What's on

**Playgroup** Monday, Tuesday & Thursday  
9:30am to 11.25am  
Becky Schofield 07811 146958

**ABC Group** Adults, Babies and Children  
Wednesday 9:15-11:00am (Term time)  
Cheryl 07948271688

**Stepping Stones** Sunday Children's Group (3-12 years old)  
4th Sunday of the Month  
10:30am in Church

**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<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays 2:00pm  
Brenda Dixon 0113 253 4078

**Beavers** Friday 5:00pm to 6:15 pm  
Joanne Rutledge 07950 580877

**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 with Holy Communion

A Service for all the family.

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

10:30am Holy Communion

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

10:30am Holy Communion

### **5th Sunday of the month (4 times per year)**

10:30am All Age Worship with Holy Communion

### **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: Barbara Tate on:

0113 253 1266

### **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@stmarywoodkirk.org](mailto:gail@stmarywoodkirk.org)