

# **Parish News**

**St Mary's Church, Woodkirk**

**What are your plans for Summer?**

**July/August 2023**



Articles: - Rainwater Harvesting System  
Environmental Endeavours  
The Certainty of the Resurrection

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

## Who's who at Woodkirk

**Vicar of St Mary's:** **Reverend Sharon Wilkinson.**  
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**PCC Treasurer** Barbara Tate 07792 211095

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Magazine Articles by the 20th of the month.  
Contributions for the Weekly News Sheet  
by Thursday evening please.

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

Gary Mortimer, Neal Pinder-Packard, Dawn Tattersfield, Laura Mortimer,  
Barbara Tate, Gail Townsend, David Townsend, Brian Gledhill, Cath Oakes

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

## **In this Month's Magazine:**

### **Features:**

P9	Vicar's letter plus coffee mornings!
P14	Are we really Sheep
P16	Rainwater Harvesting System
P18	The Certainty of the Resurrection
P24	Carbon Footprint
P32	Environmental Endeavours
P35	Postbox Picnic
P37	Did you have a wild weekend

### **Also this Month:**

P11	Church Mouse Tales
P13	Churchyard Report—APCM
P15	And on the 8th Day
P21	Teddy Bear's Picnic
P26	Puppet Script
P34	Family Fun Day
P39	Albert's quiz
P40	Dates for your Diary
P41	Quiz Answers

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**Do not be afraid to face  
life. This New Year has a  
lot of promises for us.  
Trust God and everything  
will be fine.**

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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.

**“A single sunbeam is enough to  
drive away many shadows.”**

**St. Francis of Assisi**

## Vicar's Letter

Where does the time go? Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost have all happened and we are now in the season of Ordinary Time, at least according to the Church of England. Alongside Ordinary Time, we also have the season of summer. A time when we get chance to relax, maybe take some leave from work and if we are parents or grandparents we gear ourselves up to survive the school holidays when we find ourselves wondering what to do with the children for the next seven weeks.

Summer is an expensive time and many parents will struggle with the extra expense of feeding the kids over the summer and many will not be able to afford the expense of going away on holiday for a week.

Times have changed so much it would seem. I can remember when I was a child playing out for hours. I was a tomboy and so played football and cricket with the lad next door. When my kids were young—we were part of a group of three mums with 8 children between us and we would always bring Sunday lunch and after church we would go to the park. Funny thing was our own kids would never eat what their parents brought for a picnic but everything used to disappear.

Children are used to a fast paced environment with their senses being assaulted from all sides. Many do two or three things at the same time, watch tv, talk on whatsapp with their friends and do their homework.

As adults we are guilty of doing the same thing. We rush about busy. We work. We take care of the kids. We do the washing.. We clean house etc and again we are guilty of doing two or three things at the same time.

The last person we think of is ourselves ad if we did think of ourselves what would we need ? More space, more sleep, more help, more quiet?

PTO

Jesus would spend many hours teaching his disciples and telling parables to entire communities and He would often be exhausted. We read in the bible of Jesus taking himself to pray sometimes up a mountainside, sometimes on a boat, sometimes across the other side of the lake. He knew the importance of taking time and out praying, and spending time with His Father.

And whilst it is important we take time out to be in God's presence and restore our souls it is also important to take time out and be with friends and so throughout the summer we will be opening church on Friday mornings for Coffee and Cake, or Tea and Biscuits if you prefer. This offers us a chance to be together and a chance to visit your local church and have a look round if you if you have never been inside St Mary's. You will receive a warm welcome with no pressure and if you are nervous coming alone bring a friend or give me a call and I will meet you outside the church (Sharon 07539466724).

These coffee mornings will be from 10.00am–12noon every Friday on the following dates:- July 28th, August, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th and September 1st.

# *Coffee Morning*

## *Everyone Welcome*



## Church Mouse Tales.



'I've heard concerning things that are concerning me.' I declared loudly as I scurried up the aisle to where my friend Hubert, the Black Canon sat serenely in the choir stalls.

'Concerning what exactly?' he asked with one large bushy eyebrow raised.

'They have built a Hotel in the churchyard!' I exclaimed with concern.

'A Hotel?' he repeated calmly whilst keeping the eyebrow raised.

'Yes! And without planning permission!' I confirmed.

'How concerning', he agreed, 'and what have they called this Hotel?'

'Well its very strange', I continued still concerned, 'they have called it 'Bug Hotel'.

'Bug Hotel?'

'Yes – it isn't very postmodernist chic', I concluded.

'Well, I'm sure the guests will enjoy it', observed Hubert, seemingly less concerned.

'Enjoy it?' It's not supposed to be there!' I could feel the consternation returning.

'Calm down Misha', said Hubert soothingly. 'A Bug Hotel is a Hotel for Bugs..'

'Bugs?' I was confused now.

'Yes – you know – creepy crawlies, spiders, earwigs, bees and the like...'

PTO

‘Oh!’ I said feeling a lot calmer. ‘So not a real Hotel then?’

‘No.’

‘Oh..’ I said with much less concern.

‘Just for Bugs...’

‘So, nothing to be concerned about?’

‘No need to concern yourself.’ Hubert returned the eyebrow to its normal place.

‘Perhaps I could stay there too?’ I said, thinking out loud.

‘Like a holiday?’

‘Yes! Exactly like a holiday!’ I agreed suddenly realising the possibilities.

‘I’m sure you will get free Web access too’, smiled Hubert.

‘That’s very 21st century of you,’ I agreed.

Hubert raised the eyebrow once again..

Misha.





## **Churchyard Report APCM 2023**

The Payback Team continue to do excellent work in maintaining the overall tidiness of the churchyard with Maureen their regular team leader. They look after the area and know to avoid daffodils and bluebells at certain times of the year. We cannot thank them enough for all their hard work through the seasons.

We have purposely left some old logs for insects to inhabit as part of our environmental program and we will install a 'Bug Hotel' later this year to further help promote wildlife. Once again we carried out an RSPB birdwatch hour this year which is a nationwide effort to catalogue our wild bird species and understand which are thriving and which are struggling in the UK. Our bird boxes are up for a second year and we hope to encourage small birds like blue tits and coal tits to nest. We had to remove a bench from the path-side near the church (as it had become unstable) and we are looking to replace this, plus add another 3 or 4 around other pathways during the course of the year.

The new Cremation plot has been marked out with beech hedge saplings and these should grow to a reasonable size by the time the current cremation plot is full. At the far end we have constructed a base for 2 water butts – which will collect rainwater - and this will be completed this year meaning there will be a supply of water for flowers etc next to the burial plots for families to use.

We continue to consider what additional improvements we can make which are environmentally sound and promote wildlife - including planting additional trees in some areas over the coming years. The commemoration Oak tree, planted for the Queens Jubilee, continues to thrive and is now 11 years old this year. Lastly we would like to thank all those who have donated to the garden fund – which is a special fund set up to help maintain the churchyard – as we have been able to buy equipment and maintain it each year to help keep on top of the weeds! It is much appreciated.

David



## **ARE WE REALLY SHEEP?**

The Bible is filled with images, and those images are filled with meaning and beauty. But what happens when a biblical image may not have the same meaning today?

For example, consider the image of God's people as sheep — livestock. as a metaphor for the people in the pews.

Hey, Gail" you say. "It's biblical.

Indeed, you are correct! Sheep as a metaphor for God's people is, in fact, to be found in the Scriptures.

Sheep were highly valued. Then. Think of Jesus' story of the one lost sheep, and the shepherd who left the 99 to search for that one.

How quaint

Would we view sheep as having much less value today — if we view them at all.

And what of the shepherds? Well, then they were possibly the lowest of the gainfully employed. (Think of Jesse not even considering having his youngest son, David, the shepherd, later to be consecrated by Samuel.)

Shepherds lived with their sheep. They smelled like their sheep. They knew each one by name. A single shepherd tended no more than 100 sheep in New Testament times.

In today's world might it not be expected that a shepherd (Pastor. Vicar, or church leader) with only a 100 sheep or a smaller congregation would be considered a failure. If he/she did not know all their sheep.

I think that we are all Gods sheep.

Jesus called us all to be shepherds and to care for his people, whether

they belong to our church or other surrounding churches, or beliefs, let us remember we are all God's people, and give thanks' that he is the Good Shepherd and the one who knows us all by name.

Amen

Gail x



And on the 8th day God created Seniors. Now most seniors never get enough exercise. In his wisdom God decreed that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys, and other things, thus doing more walking. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God saw there was another need. In his wisdom He made seniors lose co-ordination so they would drop things, requiring them to bend, reach, and stretch. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature, requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more exercise. God looked down and saw that it was good.

So if you find, as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember that's the way God designed us. It's in your best interests, even though you mutter under your breath.

Here are some important facts to remember as we grown older:

#9 Death is the number 1 killer in the world.

#8 Life is sexually transmitted.

#7 Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.

#6 Men just have two motivations: hunger and hanky-panky, and they can't tell them apart. If you see a gleam in his eyes, make him a sandwich.

#5 Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the internet and they won't bother you for weeks, month, maybe years.

#4 Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.

(cont p36)

## **Our New Rainwater Harvesting System**

Here at St Mary's we have a small environmental group who meet every couple of months to discuss how, as a church, we can basically find ways to improve the environment around us.

One suggestion was to manufacture some kind of rainwater collection system and situate it at the far end of our churchyard alongside the new grave plots.

Not only would this save water, it would be beneficial to people who tend graves to obtain water on site, rather than fetch it from the outside tap by the church, thus saving them the long walk to the far end of the churchyard.

Therefore, we took it upon ourselves to design a system to harvest the rainwater, so we drew up a plan which then had to be sent to the Diocese for their approval, or a faculty as they like to call it. Low and behold the Diocese were very impressed with our design and gave the immediate go ahead.

The first thing we had to do was to dig out foundations and put in footings to support the concrete block base. Concrete blocks had to be used to support the weight of two x 200ltr water butts when full. We managed to complete the foundations before the winter of 2022.

In June this year (2023) with the help of fellow PCC member Dave Townsend we set about constructing the timber structure. David is a much better carpenter than I am. He's the brains, and I'm the brawn. This said, we work really well together.

Once the wooden structure was complete the roofing panels were added followed by the pipe work system and the rainwater diversion kit.

As you can see from the photographs, we think the finished product is quite impressive for a couple of amateurs.

We hope it continues to be of use, not only for the environment, but for the people of our community to use for years to come.

Brian Gledhill and Dave Townsend





## **The Certainty of the Resurrection**

Reading about the life of Jesus to me it seems to follow a general pattern of movement from humiliation to exaltation. The birth narrative contains both humility and majesty. His public ministry attracts praise and scorn, welcome and rejection, cries of “Hosanna!” and “Crucify Him!” Nearing the shadow of death, He exhibited the translucent breakthrough of transfiguration.

The transition from the pathos of the cross to the grandeur of the resurrection is not abrupt. There is a rising crescendo that swells to the moment of breaking forth from the grave clothes and the shroud of the tomb. Exaltation begins with the descent from the cross immortalised in classical Christian art by the Pieta. With the disposition of the corpse of Jesus, the rules were broken. Under normal judicial circumstances, the body of a crucified criminal was discarded by the state, being thrown without ceremony into Gehenna, the city garbage dump outside Jerusalem. There the body was incinerated, being subject to a pagan form of cremation, robbed of the dignity of traditional Jewish burial. The fires of Gehenna burned incessantly as a necessary measure of public health to rid the city of its refuse.

Pilate made an exception in the case of Jesus. Perhaps he was bruised by his conscience and was moved by pity to accede to the request for Jesus to be buried. Or perhaps he was moved by a mighty Providence to ensure fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah that Jesus would make

His grave with the rich or of God's promise that He would not let His Holy One see corruption. The body of Christ was anointed with spices and wrapped in fine linen to be laid in the tomb belonging to the patrician, Joseph of Arimathea.

For three days the world was plunged into darkness. The women of Jesus' entourage wept bitterly, taking but small consolation in the permission to perform the tender act of anointing His body. The disciples had fled and were huddled together in hiding, their dreams shattered by the cry, "It is finished."

For three days God was silent. Then with cataclysmic power, God rolled the stone away and unleashed a paroxysm of creative energy of life, infusing it once more into the still body of Christ. Jesus' heart began to beat, pumping glorified blood through glorified arteries, sending glorified power to muscles atrophied by death. The grave clothes could not bind Him as He rose to His feet and quit the crypt. In an instant, the mortal became immortal, and death was swallowed up by victory. In a moment of history, Job's question was answered once and for all: "If a man die, shall he live again?" Here is the watershed moment of human history, where the misery of the race is transformed into grandeur. Here the proclamation of the early church, was born with the cry, "He is risen."

We can view this event as a symbol, a lovely tale of hope. Or we can remember "The meaning of the resurrection is that we can face the dawn of each new day with courage." Courage that is dialectical is a courage in tension. We must be courageous, knowing that even our courage is empty of meaning unless we believe in His promises of hope. However, the New Testament proclaims the resurrection as sober historical fact. The early Christians were not interested in symbols but in concrete realities.

The resurrection sets Jesus apart from every other central figure of world religions. The resurrection of Jesus is radical in the original sense of the word. It touches the radix, the "root" of the Christian faith. Without it, Christianity becomes just another religion. PTO

The Apostle Paul spelled out the clear and irrefutable consequences of a “resurrection less” Christianity. If Christ is not raised, he reasoned, we are left with the following list of conclusions (1 Cor. 15:13–19):

1. Our preaching is futile.
2. Our faith is in vain.
3. We have misrepresented God.
4. We are still in our sins.
5. Our loved ones who have died have perished.
6. We are of all men most to be pitied.

These six consequences sharply reveal the inner connection of the resurrection to the substance of Christianity. The resurrection of Jesus is the basis of the Christian faith. Take away the resurrection and you take away Christianity. The biblical writers do not base their claim of resurrection on its internal consistency to the whole of faith, however. It is not simply a logical deduction drawn from other doctrines of faith. It is not that we must affirm the resurrection because the alternatives to it are grim. Resurrection is not affirmed because life would be hopeless or intolerable without it. The claim is based not on speculation but on empirical data. They saw the risen Christ. They spoke with Him and ate with Him. Neither His death nor His resurrection happened in a hidden corner out of sight. The death of Jesus was a public spectacle and a matter of public record. The resurrected Christ was seen by more than five hundred people at one time. The Bible presents history on this matter.

The New Testament approaches the question of Christ’s resurrection from exactly the opposite direction. In Peter’s speech on Pentecost, he declared: “God raised him up, losing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it” (Acts 2:24). If we stagger with unbelief before the fact of resurrection, we would do well to consider the plight of the two walking to Emmaus that weekend. Luke records the event for us (Luke 24:13–35.). As the two men were walking away from Jerusalem, Jesus joined them incognito. They presumed to inform Jesus about the events of the crucifixion and showed obvious impatience with His apparent ignorance of the



matters. When they related the report of the women concerning the resurrection, Christ rebuked them:

“O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

When the two had their eyes opened and they recognized Jesus that night, they said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?”

Let us remember a Christian is a person with a burning heart, a heart set aflame with certainty of the resurrection. Amen

Gail

### **Teddy Bears Picnic – 1<sup>st</sup> July**

How lovely it was to join with 14 children, lots of teddies and parents/carers on the 1<sup>st</sup> July for our teddy bears picnic which we held in the Parish Centre. We had large toys, small toys, crafty corner and lovely food. The two hours whizzed by in a whirl of activity and children having fun.

Some of the children do attend ABC group, but some were new to us, and it was lovely to see them all. Each child was presented with a photo of them with their teddy as a memento of the day.

Thanks to those who helped on the day, setting up, preparing food and clearing away afterwards. And thank you so much to all those who came and shared in the time together.



## Help available at the Numbers below...

**NEVER ALONE**

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0808 800 5000  
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**Victim Support**  
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**Cruse Bereavement**  
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**ChildLine**  
0800 1111  
(24hrs)

**Action on Elder Abuse**  
0808 808 8141  
(Mon-Fri 9-5)

**Respect - Men's Advice Line**  
0808 801 0327  
(Mon-Fri 9-5 or 8pm)

**Samaritans**  
116 123  
(24hrs free)

**National Centre for Domestic Violence**  
0207 186 8270

## **Pastoral Care**

**Telephone Calls**—We understand times are difficult—please know we are here if you need anything. Gail Townsend is our Pastoral Minister and she regularly telephones those who are unable to leave their homes at this time. If you would like Gail to give you a weekly call then please do not hesitate to contact her on 0113 252 8710.

**Baptisms**—If you wish to make an enquiry or book a Baptism please contact Barbara Tate on 07792 211095 in the first instance. Barbara will then arrange to visit you and book your Baptism into our Diary.

**Weddings, funerals, Ashes, or the reading of banns**—in the first instance please contact our Verger who co-ordinates these events. Our Co-ordinator is Gail Townsend on 0113 252 8710 or email: [gail@stmarywoodkirk.org](mailto:gail@stmarywoodkirk.org).

**Notice Sheets**—If you would like to receive a copy of our weekly Notice Sheet via email—then please drop me an email giving me permission to add you to the list. My email address is [vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org](mailto:vicar@stmarywoodkirk.org)

Please note we are GDPR compliant and take great care of your private information.

## Carbon Footprint

Hello friends

Being a child of the '70's whenever I hear talk about carbon footprint, the image for the opening titles to Monty Python's Flying Circus comes to mind!



I didn't understand the humour, but liked the big foot at the end.

But of course a carbon footprint is much more important.

The thing is, we are on a journey...

The Church of England has set a commitment that it will be Net Zero/Carbon Neutral in emissions (CO<sub>2</sub> produced from directly burning fossil fuels (gas/oil heating and petrol/diesel used for church business travel) by 2030.

But the thing with any journey is that we need to know where we are before we start! Measuring our carbon footprint helps us to identify our starting point.

We have to complete 'Parish Returns' annually, a complicated set of questionnaires to fill in, but when we get to the end, it provides us with net 'footprint'. Well, this year when we completed our returns, we were delighted to see that we had made a big reduction in our net footprint from 16.3 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per square metre to 4.6.

This puts us in the 30-40% bracket across the whole of the Church of England, and when we take into account how many people use our buildings, we shoot up to being in the top 10%.

The energy we use in church is from a green tariff, meaning that it either comes from renewable energy or where it can't be (ie gas), is offset, so we are being as efficient as we can be with the heating systems we have. Also, our buildings are well used which helps spread the 'carbon cost' of heating them.

The environment team are continuing to look at ways we can maintain or reduce even further, our emissions and carbon footprint.

### **Can YOU help? YES!**

You can calculate your own carbon footprint and see how you fair with the national average carbon footprint for the UK which for 2023 is 9.3tonnes.

If you use the internet, then please go to **<https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/>**

This is a really useful carbon footprint calculator which asks you about your lifestyle, and is quite simple to complete (there are others but I have found them quite complicated).

I submitted mine recently and it calculated my footprint to be 10 tonnes which is a little above the UK average.

If you do not use the internet but would be interested/curious to know what your footprint is, please ask me about it, and I will arrange to bring my laptop to church and complete the questionnaire with you.

Many thanks  
Dawn

*"Tread lightly  
upon this earth,  
seeing,  
understanding..."*



## **George & Jemima—What's Love Got to do with it?**

**George (singing)** What's love got to do, got to do with it?  
What's love but a second hand emulsion?

**Jemima** Eh up George, what on earth are you singing?

**George** I've been painting my bedroom, so I'm singing about paint.

**Jemima** What's a famous Tina Turner song to do with paint?

**George** Well it's what she sings about int it! Second hand emulsion.

**Jemima** You silly sausage George, it's emotion not emulsion.

**George** Emulsion, emotion, same thing.

**Jemima** No it's not. Emulsion is matt paint.

**George** Who's he?

**Jemima** Blimey George, how can you be this stupid so soon in the day?

**George** I get up early. Ha ha. Oh hang on Jemima, I've heard of Matt Gloss.

**Jemima** Matt Gloss? Who's Matt Gloss?

**George** Ya know, he sang (singing) When will I be famous? With his brother Luke.

**Jemima** That's Goss not Gloss you idiot, they were Bros.

**George** Gloss, Goss, Bros, you've really got me really confused now, my brain hurts.

**Jemima** Yeh, it might have to come out. Now let's get back to emulsion.

**George** Emotion.

**Jemima** See you've got me at it now George.

**George** I'm sorry, carry on.

**Jemima** Ok, just shut up and listen, I'll explain emotion. Emotion is agitation of the passions or sensibilities often involving physiological changes. Any strong feeling as of joy, sorrow, reverence, hate or love, arising subjectively rather than through conscious mental effort.

**George** **WHAT?**

**Jemima** Well you asked for it.

**George** Aw come on Bamber Gascoigne, say that again in English.

**Jemima** Alright George, I'm only messing with you. Let's start with the best emotion of all. Love. Tell me who you love George.

**George** Nobody, I've had a bad week. I hate everything and everybody.

**Jemima** How come?

**George** Well, where do I start? Let me start with the big one.

**Jemima** What's the big one?

**George** **LEEDS UNITED.**

**Jemima** What's wrong with Leeds United?

**George** They've just been negligated.

**Jemima** I think you mean relegated George.

**George** Yeh that as well.

**Jemima** You can't hate everything George.

**George** I can if I want to. Nowts gone right this week.

**Jemima** Such as?

**George** My sister's been a pratt this week, playing pranks on me.

**Jemima** Why, what's she been up to?

**George** She hid the last piece of my jigsaw I was doing, ya know where I found it?

**Jemima** No where?

**George** In the middle of the gravy on my Yorkshire pudding, how bad is that?

**Jemima** Well, you've got to hand it to her.

**George** It didn't end there. I was playing with my lego, and I was on the last stages of completing a replica of Elland Road Football Stadium, right on the final couple of bricks then wallop, the flaming dog comes bounding in and runs straight through my Elland Road.

**Jemima** I'm sure he didn't mean it George, you can't blame him.

**George** Ya know what the worse thing was though Jemima?

**Jemima** No what?



**George** Leeds were actually winning a game at the time.

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

**George** Anyway, my sister did actually take pity on me, she helped me pick up all the Lego and put it back in the box.

**Jemima** Well there you go then, your sister's not all that bad after all.

**George** You reckon? Well listen to this then. My so called adorable sister had the final laugh.

**Jemima** Why, what's she done now?

**George** I went to bed that night full of forgiveness, well at least until the next morning. That's when I put my slippers on, and let me tell you, them Lego bricks don't half hurt when you stand on em.

**Jemima** No, she didn't did she?

**George** Yeh, she put Lego bricks in my slippers.

**Jemima** It can't be all that bad though George, you must love someone or something.

**George** I suppose I do, but not this week. I mean take my Dad. Please take my Dad! He promised to take me fishing yesterday and look what happened.

**Jemima** What happened?

**George** God ruined it.

**Jemima** How do you mean God ruined it? What's it got to do with God?

**George** He made it rain all day, so we couldn't go fishing, so God doesn't love me either.

**Jemima** I'm sure he does George.

**George** Oh yeh, so why did he let my Dad go golfing then, and leave me at home?

**Jemima** Really?

**George** And, don't get me started on my Mum.

**Jemima** Why, what's your Mum done to you?

**George** She said she'd take me and my sister to the pictures because God had spoiled my fishing and Dad had gone golfing.

**Jemima** AND?

**George** The car broke down.

**Jemima** Couldn't you catch the bus?

**George** Buses were on strike.

**Jemima** So not your week then George. But you don't really hate your family do you?

**George** No not really, my Dad did fetch us all Mackie dees back from golf.

**Jemima** You see then George, you've been through a few emulsions this week, but at the end of the day, you love us all don't you.

**George** I suppose so.

**Jemima** You said George, you didn't like God because he made it rain on a fishing trip, but remember what the Gospel reading said in church. In John's Gospel. John said. This is my command, love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to love. Put your life on the line for your friends. He said you are my friends when you do the things I command you. I've named you friends because I've let you in on everything I've heard from the Father. You didn't choose me, remember I chose you, and put you in the world to bear fruit, fruit that won't spoil. As fruit bearers, whatever you ask the Father in relation to me, he gives you. But remember the root command. Love one another.

So George, you don't hate anyone really do you?

**George** Naaa! I love you all.

**Jemima** Very pleased to hear it George, now say goodbye.

**Both** Goodbye everybody, goodbye.

**Both (singing)** What's love got to do got to do with it?  
What's love but a second hand emulsion?

**George (fading out)** When will I be famous?

With thanks to Brian and Sandra!

## **Environmental Endeavours #2**

Hello friends

It's always lovely to be able to update you on what we are doing in our work supporting the environment.

You may remember from June's magazine, that I had been working with the Rainbows and Brownies to get an insect hotel in place in the churchyard?

Well, have you spotted that we have actually got two bug hotels!

The Rainbows and Brownies were so enthusiastic in their collection of twigs, leaves and other insect friendly items that we decided to put a second bug hotel in the garden of the Parish Centre.

Huge huge thanks to Dave for his amazing woodworking skills, he started with offcuts and a pallet or two and came up with these amazing bug hotels;



Which the Rainbows and Brownies had great fun filling with all the things they had collected.



Hopefully, these two 5\* hotels will be filled with all manner of creatures, and help support the biodiversity in the churchyard.

In other articles we share information about other environmental projects and we have some summer 'homework' for you too!

Many thanks once again for your continued support.

The Environment Team

## Family Fun Day 10th June

Well friends, what a marvellous day we had. The sun shone, the bacon butties, burgers and cake were consumed, and lots of friends, old and new, joined together for this wonderful event.

The Brownies and Rainbows sweetie tombola and traditional tombola stalls were busy, Albert and Sally's marbles game went down a storm as did Brian's Duckshoot.

The plants were lovely, including some fabulous hanging baskets made by Dave, then there were the 'preserves', lots of tasty treats. The jigsaw stall saw brisk sales, and people were so generous with cakes that we had a cake stall in addition to the cafe.

On the front lawn was set out the Crazy Golf, always great fun, and busy throughout the event, and making a welcome return, the Scouts and their 'pot smash' made lots of noise of crashing plates!

All in all, a lovely day, and huge thanks to everyone who helped beforehand, on the day to set up and clear away (a big thank you to the Payback Team for heaving all the tables and chairs back inside), who ran stalls, cooked and served food and refreshments, and of course all those who came and enjoyed the event.

All in all we raised almost £1,700 which was amazing, thanks to everyone for making the event so successful.

*Just a note, a yellow River Island carrier bag was left at the crazy golf stall. It had books and a gruffalo toy from the teddy bear tombola stall. There was also a purse containing quite a lot of change. If this is yours, please contact Dawn on 07840 739239 describing what the purse looks like and she can return it to its rightful owner. Thank you.*

## Postbox Picnic

Hello friends

“Have you been down Batley Road today, you’re in for a good surprise”.

Well, the ladies of the Knit and Natter group have been busy and have produced a fun Summer themed postbox topper.



We decided to start with a teddy bears picnic, we can see them enjoying sandwiches and cake, we then developed our ‘summer holiday’ theme by providing a hammock, a tee pee, an ice cream van and campervan.

I shared the photo on the West Ardsley Community Group Facebook Page and we received 224 likes and lots of lovely comments, including one with a little girl having her picture taken with it and her mums comment was about the postbox becoming a local landmark!

If you can take a detour that way and have a look, you can see how lovely it is.

PTO

My thanks as always to the lovely ladies at Knit and Natter who put up with my requests for all manner of things.

It is also fantastic in that through their weekly donations over the past 20 months or so, the group have donated £1,000 for the East Window Fund, as well as consuming lots of tea and cake!

At time of writing, I am preparing to attend a Community Event celebrating local talent under the Leeds Year of Culture 2023 events being held at Robin Hood Primary School, I'll report back in September on how we got on.

If you would like to join us, you would be very welcome.  
We meet on Wednesday afternoons from 1.00pm to 3.00pm.  
You do not have to knit or crochet, you can bring any craft activity, or none! Just come for a natter and cake! Weekly charge £2.00 to cover refreshments.

We now have to get our thinking caps on to decide what we want on our next topper which will be probably in September/October. I'm sure there'll be pumpkins somewhere in it!!

With love and yarns

Dawn and Elaine

(cont from p15)



#3 All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.

#2 In the 60's, people took LSD to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.

#1 Life is like a jar of jalapeno peppers. What you do today may be a burning issue tomorrow.

Provided by Barbara



## **Did you have a wild weekend!**

**24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> June**

Hi there

Did you manage to get out into your garden and take part in the Yorkshire Wildlife Trusts ***The Great Yorkshire Creature Count?***

I was hoping to do a count on both days, but as always happens, other things cropped up, but I did manage to do an early morning count on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June.

What a beautiful morning it was. I was in the churchyard from 7.30. It was lovely and warm, and beautifully sunny and all was calm and tranquil, it really soothed my soul.

However, sitting and relaxing was not my aim, so armed with printed list and binoculars, I settled down to see what I could count.

Well, firstly...I saw lots of things that weren't on the list!

Secondly, I had to look a lot of them up!

Thirdly, thank goodness for my smartphone and the internet, on which I managed to identify what, if I hadn't specifically been looking to count anything, I would have dismissed as merely butterflies and bees.

I was so giddy to discover 14 different creatures whilst pottering around the churchyard for an hour. I saw;

Birds: Pigeons, Blackbird, Robin and Swifts

Insects: Drone Fly, Mason Bee, white tailed bumblebee

Butterflies: Small White, Meadow Brown, Speckled Brown, Small Skipper, Ringlet, Large Heath, Small Heath



It will be interesting to undertake this count again next year, hopefully our new 'bug hotels' will mean that we have more little creatures to count.

PS I didn't see the squirrels that I know we have in the churchyard, I decided they must have had a wild party on Saturday night and were not up early!

Thanks again for your ongoing support of our environment initiatives; it really is very much appreciated.

The Environment Team



## ALBERT'S JULY QUIZ

1. Who starred with Fred Astaire in the musical Easter Parade?
2. As well as July which other month of the year begins with J but only has 30 days?
3. Who played Rachel in the sitcom "Friends"?
4. What name is given to a female ass?
5. What title is shared by a James Mason film and a Jules Verne novel?
6. With which cartoon character did Gene Kelly dance in the film 'Anchors Away'?
7. Whose TV programme is called "The Repair Shop"?
8. In which film did Neil Diamond sing 'Love on the Rocks'?
9. The song 'Diamonds are Forever' was featured in which film group?
10. What connects John, Jack & Jim (where one is a pedestrian, one a lion tamer and the third on a ship)?
11. What type of fruit is a Jonathan?
12. Kingston is the capital of which island?
13. The Roman God of Sky and Thunder?
14. A person in this profession must take care?
15. The ingredient that gives mother's ruin a distinctive taste?
16. Which airline is based in Leeds?
17. A forename and a surname that connect the number 5, Pollock and the seventh US President?
18. This woman's first name could be associated with a biblical boat or large stretches of water.
19. A name that could be a Christian name or a Surname of a goalkeeper, and an Irish novelist and a 'Carry On' film actor?
20. Who presides over a court of law?

Answers on page 41

## Dates for Your Diary

### July

Weds 5th	Holy Communion	10.00am
Sunday 9th	All Age Worship	10.30am
Weds 12th	Holy Communion	10.00am
Sunday 16th	Holy Communion	10.30am
Weds 19th	Holy Communion	10.00am
Sunday 23rd	Holy Communion	10.30am
Weds 26th	Holy Communion	10.00am
Friday 28th	Coffee Morning	10.00am (in church)
Sunday 30th	Holy Communion	10.30am

### August

Weds 2nd	Holy Communion	10.00am
Friday 4th	Coffee Morning	10.00am (in church)
Sunday 6th	Holy Communion	10.30am
Weds 9th	Holy Communion	10.00am
Friday 11th	Coffee Morning	10.00 (in church)
Sunday 13th	Holy Communion	10.30am
Weds 16th	Holy Communion	10.00am
Fri 18th	Coffee Morning	10.00am (in church)
Sun 20th	Holy Communion	10.30am
Weds 23rd	Holy Communion	10.00am
Fri 25th	Coffee Morning	10.00am (in church)
Sunday 27th	Holy Communion	10.30am
Weds 30th	Holy Communion	10.00am

### Sept

Friday 1st	Coffee Morning	10.00am (in church)
Sunday 3rd	Holy Communion	10.30am
Weds 6th	Holy Communion	10.00am
Sat 9th	HERITAGE OPEN DAY	10.00am-2.00pm
Sunday 10th	Holy Communion	10.30am
Weds 13th	Holy Communion	10.00am
Sunday 17th	Holy Communion	10.30am

## 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 on the Diary page. You can also view previous services from the same location.**

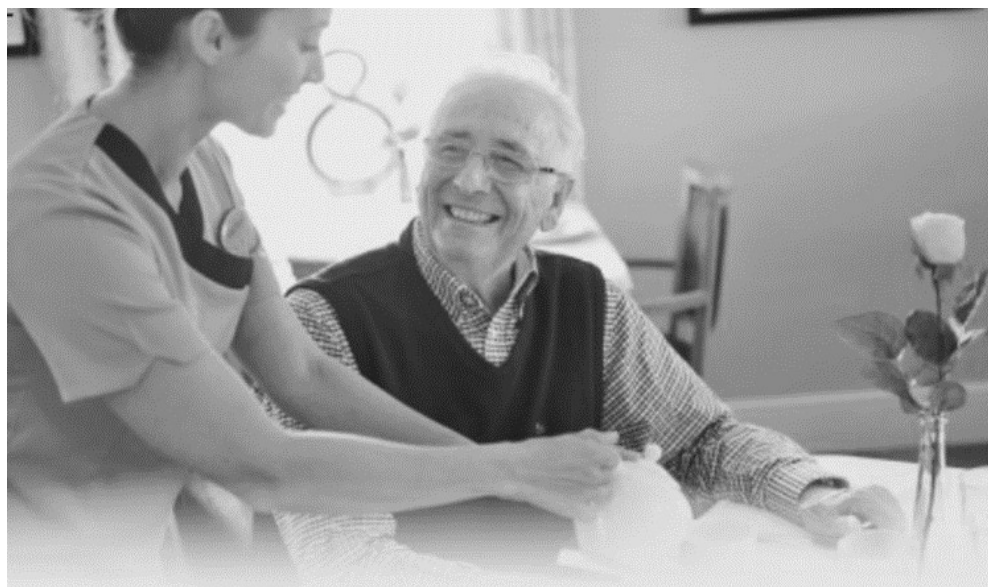


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## QUIZ ANSWERS for Albert's July Quiz

1) Judy Garland 2) June 3) Jennifer Aniston 4) Jenny 5) Journey to the Centre of the Earth 6) Jerry from Tom and Jerry 7) Jay Blades 8) The Jazz Singer 9) James Bond 10) Whisky 11) Apple 12) Jamaica 13) Jupiter 14) Janitor 15) Juniper Berry 16) Jet 2 17) Jackson (Jackson 5, Jackson Pollock and Andrew Jackson) 18) Joan (Joan of Arc, Joan Rivers) 19) James (David James, James Joyce, Sid James) 20) Judge

**A very big thank you to Albert!**



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

*"Lydgate Lodge  
is a lovely environment  
for residents and relatives  
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Son of Resident at  
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[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  
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☕ ————— *Passing by? Pop in for a cuppa ...* ————— ☕

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

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lydgate.lodge@idealcarehomes.co.uk

01924 355 020

**ideal** carehomes

idealcarehomes.co.uk

## FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

### BAPTISMS—

Darcey-Mai Wardman



### DEATHS



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

Daryl Scales  
Mary Robinson

### WEDDINGS

We pray for all who are preparing for marriage in the coming months



**Tumble Bees**



Pre-School Gymnastics

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**Woodkirk Valley Country Club**

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Toddler Classes**



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

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

**Annual Fee for Advertising:**

**Quarter Page £35.00**

**Half Page £70.00**

**Full Page £110.00**



## **Shirl's Curls**

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Specialising in cutting/styling, foils, colouring and perming.



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 £60 for 3 hours. Regular long term bookings negotiable.**

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

**Loving.  
Living.  
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 **THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**  
**Diocese of Leeds**

# BENNETT OF MORLEY

## FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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### CONSULTANTS

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

RESIDENCE  
3 HOLLY COURT  
TINGLEY

What's on (please contact the leaders for further information)

**ABC Group** Adults, Babies and Children  
Wednesday 9:30-11:00am (Term time)  
Nikki Esberger 07932026419  
Thursday 9.30-11.00am (Term time)  
Charlotte 07972217528

**Line Dancing** 1.00-3.30pm Tuesday  
Contact Helena 07719946917

**Knit and Natter**—come and enjoy help with crafts or just chat  
Wednesday 1.00-3.00pm

**Pilates** Wednesday 7.00- 8.00pm  
Contact Erin Blake

**Young at Heart** 1st & 3rd Thursdays 2:00pm  
Sally Shaw 07963610708

**Rainbows** Thursday 5.30 - 6.30pm  
Ruth Osenton-Brown 01924 607393

**Brownies** Thursday 6.30 - 7.45pm  
Hannah Tombling 01924 501892

**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

## Diary and Services this Month

### Sunday Services.

Each Sunday there will be a Holy Communion Service at 10.30am in Church as well as Online.

### Weekday Services

Mondays 9am	Morning Prayer	On Line
Tuesdays 6pm	Evening Prayer	On Line
Wednesdays 10am	Holy Communion	
	in Church & On-line.	
Thursdays 9pm	Night Prayer	On Line
Fridays 9am	Morning Prayer	On Line

### Special Services in July & August:

Sunday 9th July—All Age Worship 10.30  
Sunday 13th August—All Age Worship 10.30

Please see Page 41 for details of how to join a  
streamed service