

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine for May 2015

www.stmarysecclesfield.com

Price 60p

First Words...

- **Ecclesfield in Bloom Coffee Morning** – Do come along to support our hard working village volunteers who so enhance our environment. Besides the hard work, as always, funds are needed and the coffee morning will take place on Saturday 16th May 10am to 12 Noon in Church. There will be coffee, cake and plants and so much more on sale, besides a warm welcome and time to share as a community.
- **Ascension Day Service** – We are hosting a joint service in church on Thursday 14th May at 7.30pm. This will include the churches from Grenoside, High Green and Chapeltown. Do come and join us for this service of celebration. Parking will be difficult as Ascension Day is on the same night as the May Queen in the Gatty Hall, so do be aware of that.
- **Ten Days of Prayer** - The service above starts the Diocesan wide ten days of prayer and is followed by a half hour of prayer in church every day, with the exception of the Sunday, from Friday 15th May to Friday 22nd May 12.30pm to 1.00pm each day. The ten days culminates on Saturday 23rd May with a Prayer Breakfast in church beginning at 9am and ending with either prayers in church or a prayer walk in the village whichever is most suitable for each individual.
- **Pentecost / Whit Sunday** – People bemoan the loss of the old Whit Sings, and yet here in Ecclesfield we do our best to uphold the tradition. We will meet as usual at the Co-op at 9.30am to walk along to church together with our Girl Guide May Queens and uniformed organisations. Hopefully we will be singing and celebrating in the Church grounds from 10am dependent upon the weather. This is always a joyful occasion so we do hope you can join us – and swell the numbers even further.
- **Living Stones Service** – The next Living Stones Service will be at 4pm on 17th May. This is such a lovely occasion when children have the opportunity to hear stories, sing, play, chat and feel very at home in church and the adults present enjoy it so much too. Do come along and enjoy it with us.

Jeni Fryer

Front Cover – Norma Priest and David Banham with their Maundy Money - See Page 13
Back Cover – VE Day 70th Anniversary

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Mrs Ann Hackett (0114) 246 7159

Thought for the Month

And so the goodbyes happened... Daniel is now Priest in charge of the Aune Valley Benefice and we pray God's loving hand upon him and his family in their new situation. Some of our members were able to support him in his new endeavour at his Induction in Devon on 26th April and were delighted to see him settled into his new role. Our time of saying goodbye on 12th April was both full of laughter and some teasing but need I say that there was a deep sadness and quite a few damp eyes too as we said goodbye. And this is quite right on such occasions. It is hard to say goodbye to someone who has served God so well in their time with us. It is hard to let go of the past when the future seems like an unknown quantity. But is that true? Is the future of our church so unknown?

It is certainly true that we do not yet know, and will not know for a few months in all probability, who our next vicar is to be. But this is no cause for alarm. The church is rallying round. Services are still happening as usual, baptisms, weddings and funerals are still being conducted. Our usual weekly services are taking place with the commitment of local people and others coming in to help. We even had the Bishop of Sheffield for one service! And how wonderful that was, what a shame for you if you missed it. The main thing to remember is that it is not just in our own hands. The God who has made provision for our church down the centuries is a God we can trust and he is providing still. He knows our needs and will bring the right way forward for Ecclesfield. Jesus own disciples knew the pain of losing their leader – but out of that loss came a new beginning and the making of the church.

Imagine the disciples in the time of Jesus, when they had seen him crucified with all the loss and grief and even terror for their own lives which that event brought with it. And then –amazingly - Jesus rose from the dead. What elation! What a roller coaster of emotion! We can only imagine their joy at this turn of events. But the time came just a few short weeks later when they had to say goodbye to him again – which we remember and celebrate on Ascension Day. This was a very different goodbye. The disciples were told to go and wait for the Holy Spirit to come to them and this they did, joyfully praising God as they waited. Their new leader, the Holy Spirit of God, has never left. The disciples of Jesus grew in number and the excitement which they shared carried them through many changes, trials and tribulations, but they always knew that God was with them through his Spirit. At Pentecost we too will experience together that remembering, that joy of the Holy Spirit as we gather together to worship. In time God will send us another vicar, but in the mean time we will flourish under God's care and guidance as we face new challenges and opportunities. Come and worship with us as we wait - don't miss any more of it – change can be exciting for us too!

Jeni Fryer

On why people should ALWAYS sit in the same pew

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I have to say that the couple who complained that you never noticed they had been missing from church for a month had a point. There is a simple way of noticing when someone is absent: everyone sits in the same pew. Every Sunday. Always.

Little Miss Margison sits in the pew after the third pillar on the right here at St. James the Least. As she walks up the aisle, you can sense her counting the pillars until she reaches the right one, which then allows her to sit in front of it. I have speculated that if I ever had that pillar removed, then the following Sunday, she would have a complete mental collapse.

One Sunday a visiting family arrived early and sat down; three people in an empty church seating 200. Colonel Wainwright and his wife were the first of our regulars to arrive and froze in horror. The Colonel said in a deafening whisper to his wife: "There's someone sitting in our pew."

At least they had the grace – no matter how reluctant – for one week, to sit somewhere else. Unlike the Prentice family of husband, wife and three children, who arrived to discover that a visiting family of husband, wife and four children were sitting in their pew; six people in a pew that held eight. Or, it normally holds eight. That Sunday, it held thirteen.

We at least have one iconoclast in Miss Pemberton, who makes a point of sitting in a different place every week. This thoroughly unsettles the rest of the congregation, who fear she may sit in their seats during her nomadic wanderings. I sometimes wonder if she has a chart at home with all the pew spaces marked on it and she strikes one off each week as she returns home after Mattins.

Occasionally the unexpected can happen. Mrs Cholmondeley arrived one week in good time, settled herself in her accustomed place, but half-way through the Service suddenly ran out of the building. Ten minutes later, she was back and in her usual place once again. It was only when the church filled with the smell of burned bacon that we understood.

That is why replacing pews with chairs in your church was a mistake. Pews can never be moved. You know where everybody is – or should be!

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

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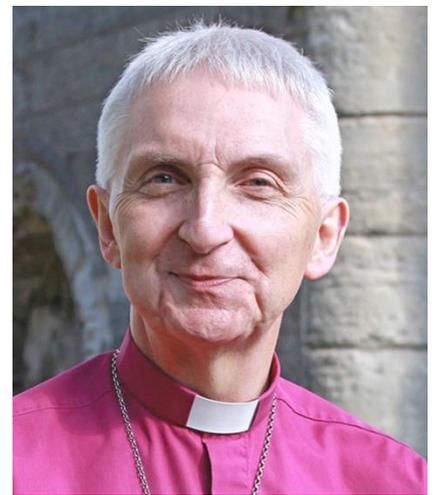
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Bishop's Letter - May 2015

Forgiveness

During Lent I ran a course at Doncaster Minster based on characters from Les Miserables and a Lent Course written by Jonathan Meyer “Another Story Must Begin”. Looking at the characters enabled us to ask serious questions about ourselves, our culture and most importantly about God within our own context.



One of the themes picked up by studying Fantine’s character, was that of judgement and how easily we fall into the trap of making value and moral judgements before engaging and understanding a person’s circumstances. Following a summer of joy and happiness, Fantine is left with a child – Cosette - who is subsequently left in the care of an innkeeper and his wife. Fantine goes to work in the factory of Monsieur Madalaine (Jean Valjean) making jewellery and trinkets. After losing her job because the other women and foreman took against her, she turns to prostitution. After being wrongly accused by one of her clients she’s arrested by Javert and comes to the attention of the Mayor, and given support. She’s ill and placed in the factory infirmary where - under the impression that the Mayor will return with Cosette - she finally dies.

Fantine’s life had been torn apart; she’d been badly treated, made an outcast by those who prejudged her and didn’t want to hear her story. Thankfully, most of us don’t experience life at that extreme but we only have to look to the streets in our own towns and cities to know that isn’t true for everyone. Fantine ended up living her life on the street and we see many like that, people for whom life has taken a cruel turn. I once had a colleague who’d often use the well-known saying “There by the grace of God go I”. Although we may be tempted to dismiss it as an empty phrase, there’s an element of truth in it. If our lives had taken a different turn, had circumstances dealt us a different hand - it could be us or our loved ones on the street facing a life of hardship, shame, shunned by others and left in a pit of despair and hopelessness. So perhaps there isn’t such a distance between us and others whom life has dealt with harshly. When we see people on the street, before we judge and condemn them, we should understand that there is behind the person a human story just as there was for the fictional character of Fantine. When we know that, we will see them differently. As we’re reminded in the bible in St Luke’s Gospel “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back”.

+Peter Doncaster

VE Evening

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE day

Saturday 16th May from 6pm until 9 pm at the library

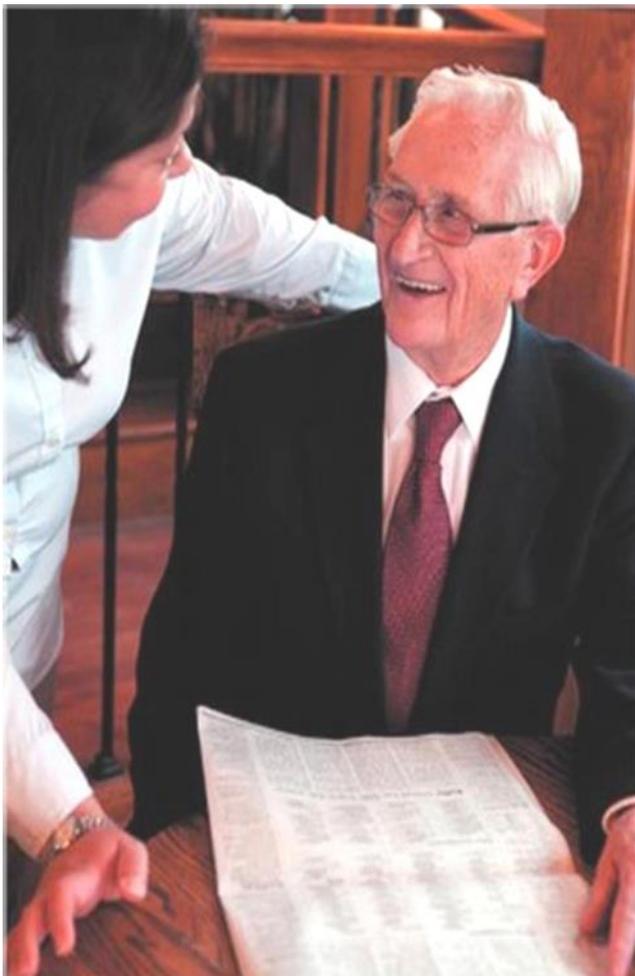
Includes:

A 40's display, Sketches, A Demonstration of the Jive, 40's Music and Songs. A Raffle, Cake Stall, Refreshments and a Quiz for which there is a prize for the winner.

Tickets are **£ 5.00** which includes refreshments and a quiz sheet

Tickets are available from:
Ecclesfield Library - Marie's Tea Shop, Chapeltown.

Or by calling Julie Wood, on 0114 2466327 - Friends of Ecclesfield Library



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Will You Remember Them? - Syria - May 2015

29 Syrian Christians killed in Aleppo during violent onslaught after threat from Turkey in approach to anniversary of Armenian genocide.

Armenian and other solidly Christian neighbourhoods of Aleppo are reeling from a deadly rebel attack that peaked on Friday night (10 April) with rockets killing some 29 people, many of them children. At least 56 Christians were injured and seven Christian homes totally collapsed. It was “a hell” said one Christian leader in Aleppo, describing the five hours from 9pm until 2am at least ten or eleven children were killed as they slept.

Christians in Aleppo are in danger from attacks like these by forces within Syria but they are also aware of a chilling threat emanating from Turkey. 24th April is the centenary of the worst year of the Armenian and Assyrian Genocide, which peaked in 1915 when some 800,000 Armenians were killed. Armenians focus their genocide remembrance on 24th April. The whole genocide lasted three decades during which up to 3.75 million Armenians, Assyrians and other Christians were killed by the Ottoman Turks.

To make it even worse, the day of the attack was Good Friday for many of the Armenian Christians and by the time they came to Easter Sunday 12th April, many families were mourning their dead relatives and the whole community was in shock.

Christians in Aleppo cannot see what the future holds for them. Many of them are descended from Armenians who fled the genocide in Turkey and found a safe refuge in and around Aleppo. But Aleppo may never be safe for them again. Escape from Aleppo could be possible, but escape from Syria has become very difficult with Turkey closing the border and Lebanon now requiring visas. A Christian population of 400,000 in Aleppo had already been reduced to an estimated 85,000 by the end of March, as so many had fled. Syrian and Iraqi Christians fear that a new genocide, a hundred years after the first one, may soon become a reality.

Please pray the words of this hymn to reflect both our faith and those in Aleppo.

*Through all the changing scenes of life,
In trouble and in joy,
The praises of my God shall still
My heart and tongue employ.*

JD

Ode to Spell Checkers

I have a spelling checker
I disk covered four my PC.
It plane lee marks four my revue
Miss steaks aye can knot see.

Eye ran this poem threw it.
Your sure real glad two no.
Its very polished in its weigh,
My checker tolled me sew.

A checker is a blessing.
It freeze yew lodes of thyme.
It helps me right awl stiles two reed,
And aides me when aye rime.

Each frays comes posed up on my screen
Eye trussed too bee a joule.
The checker pours o'er every word
To cheque sum spelling rule.

Bee fore wee rote with checkers
Hour spelling was inn deck line,
Butt now when wee dew have a laps,
Wee are not maid too wine.

And now bee cause my spelling
Is checked with such grate flare,
There are know faults in awl this peace,
Of nun eye am a wear.

To rite with care is quite a feet
Of witch won should be proud,
And wee mussed dew the best wee can,
Sew flaws are knot aloud.

That's why eye brake in two averse
Cuz Eye dew want too please.
Sow glad eye yam that aye did bye
This soft wear four pea seas.



Midweek More Popular Than Sunday?

Peter Brierley shares a statistic for the month...

Mid-week attendance in Cathedrals in 2013 was greater than Sunday attendance for the first time since records began in 2000. Sunday attendance across England's 42 Anglican Cathedrals in 2013 dropped slightly compared with 2012, -4%, but midweek services attracted almost a third, 31%, more. Increasing Cathedral midweek attendance has been one of the success stories in the Church of England over the last few years, more or less steadily increasing year on year.

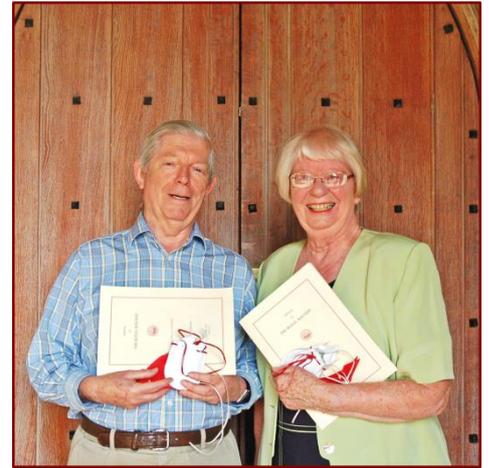
Why the surge in Cathedral midweek attendance? The reason is not readily apparent, but is surely helped by various ancillary facilities such as choral performances, guided tours, book/gift shops, café / tea rooms, open accessibility and perhaps even shorter, more readily understood liturgy! The increase in visitor numbers is also quite substantial for many Cathedrals, some of these perhaps staying for a service.

The day we met the Queen

It all began in January with a letter from Buckingham Palace. We were being recommended to receive the Maundy Money from the Queen, were we happy for this to happen!

After replying 'Yes' more instructions arrived and would we write a few words about ourselves.

The day dawned sunny after days of wind and rain. We arrived at Meadowhall where special parking was arranged and a special tram was waiting.



On arriving at the Cathedral our companions left us to go in the Cathedral and we were taken to the Cutlers Hall to be checked in and to be met by the Yeoman of the Guard in their splendid uniforms. After coffee we were escorted across to the Cathedral and shown to our seats with our companions sitting behind us. Then the processions began. There were three, the Cathedral and Chapel Royal choirs, the Yeoman and other dignitaries, the Queen and Duke were met at the door and processed to new chairs made of English oak and given by the Cutlers Company.

The service began – it was a beautiful service which the Cathedral does well. The singing of the choirs and congregation, the organ swelling with wonderful music and during all this at suitable moments we were presented with our purses by the Queen. The Lord High Almoner followed by the Yeoman carrying the brass plates filled with white and red purses which the Queen gave to 89 men and 89 women. She smiled at each person as she gave the purses. We were invited to bow or curtsy and say thank you on receiving them.

At the end of the service we stood as the three processions left the Cathedral to fanfares on the organ. Soon the Cathedral was filled with so much chatter as recipients had chance to greet those who had come to support them.

After the Queen had left for her lunch at the Town Hall we made our way to the Cutlers Hall for our lunch of chicken and leek pie and vegetables followed by trifle. Again we had chance to greet many friends. Then it was time to go home back to the tram and Meadowhall, there we were greeted by staff from M & S who gave everyone a white Yorkshire rose. What a wonderful gesture and a lovely end to a memorable day.

David Banham and Norma Priest

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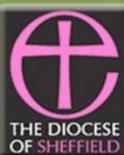
Early Summer Concert

Grenoside Singers

Friday June 12th 7.15pm

St Mary's Church, Ecclesfield

Tickets £5 includes refreshments



Welcome to St Mary's Parish Church, Ecclesfield

Diary for the Month of May

Tuesday 1st 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)

Sunday 3rd The Fifth Sunday of Easter

10.00 am Parish Communion

12 noon Baptism Service

6.30 pm Evening Service

Tuesday 5th 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice

Wednesday 6th 10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House

1.00 pm Mothers' Union in the Gatty Hall /
Jean Kidner - Refuge

Thursday 7th 7.30 pm PCC – Section 12 Meeting

9.30 am Holy Communion

7.30 pm Ladies' Group in the Gatty Hall/ Coffee
Evening

Friday 8th 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)

Saturday 9th 7.00 pm Emley Band Concert in Church

Sunday 10th The Sixth Sunday of Easter

8.30 am Holy Communion

10.00 am Service of the Word

6.30 pm Holy Communion

Tuesday 12th 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice

7.30 pm Prayer Meeting in Church

Wednesday 13th 10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House

Thursday 14th 9.30 am Holy Communion

2.00 pm Service at Hartwell House

7.30 pm Ascension Day Service

Friday 15th 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)

Saturday 16th 10.00 am Ecclesfield in Bloom Coffee Morning

Sunday 17th The Seventh Sunday of Easter

10.00 am Parish Communion

4.00 pm Living Stones Service

6.30 pm Evening Service

Tuesday 19th 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice

Wednesday 20th 10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House

Thursday 21st 9.30 am Holy Communion

7.30 pm Ladies' Group in the Gatty Hall/
Simon Anderson – History of the Gramophone

Friday 22nd 7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)

Saturday 23rd 9.00 am Prayer Breakfast

Sunday 24th**The Day of Pentecost**

8.30 am Holy Communion
 10.00 am Pentecost Praise Service – We gather at the Co-op at 9.30am for the procession

Monday 25th

6.30 pm Prayer and Praise Service

Tuesday 26th

7.30 pm Ignatian Prayer in Church

Wednesday 27th

7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice

10.30 am Service at Eva Ratcliffe House

Thursday 28th

7.30 pm Fabric Team Meeting

Friday 29th

9.30 am Holy Communion

7.30 pm Bell Ringing Practice (Silent Ringing)

Sunday 31st**Trinity Sunday**

10.00 am Parish Communion

6.30 pm Evening Service

From the Registers**Baptisms**

12th April Billy Chryst Cherrill-Dalton

12th April Emily Cathryn Bradley

12th April Ted Daniel Stocks

26th April Mollie Issabelle Futter

*May they know the love of God in their lives and may all things
 of the Spirit live and grow in them.*

Weddings

10th April Oliver Whittaker and Rebecca Denial

24th April David Waddell and Laura burrows

*May each be to the other strength in need a comfort in sorrow
 and a companion in joy.*

Funerals

23rd February Carol McCambridge 72

16th March Ronald Humberston

18th March Phyllis Wild 93

29th March Maureen Greaves 75

Grant them, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace

Flower Rota May 2015

3rd P. Hawley & J. Hawksworth

17th A. Briddock & I. Proctor

10th W. Brunt & V. Brunt

24th S. Johns & S. Dale

31st Vacant

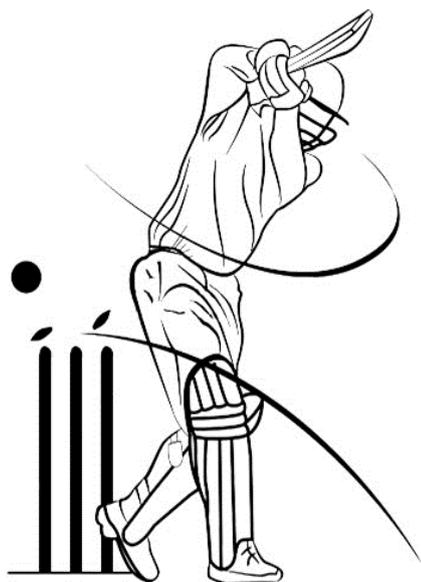
The Gardening Year May 2015

Herbs Continued – Chives – The fine tubular leaves of this hardy perennial herb are used to impart a delicate onion flavour to a wide range of dishes. It is extremely versatile, as omelettes, salads, soups, stews and several sauces can be improved by its addition; delicious herb bread can be made by mashing chopped chives into butter, inserting the mixture into a French loaf and baking it in the oven. Chives need little attention and are certainly among the easiest of all garden plants to grow. Fresh clumps can be created every few years by lifting and dividing existing ones. Chives are in season out doors from March until autumn and a winter supply can be obtained by growing them indoors in pots on the kitchen window sill. **Coriander** – this hardy annual herb a native of south-east Europe that now also occurs in Britain is grown mainly for its seeds. Before ripening these have an unpleasant smell but as the small fruits mature this gives way to spicy aroma – a sure indication that harvesting is due. The seeds are ground to a powder which is used in curries and soups and for flavouring gin, fish, meats, cakes, biscuits and bread. The plant is easy to grow and requires little attention. Coriander needs a sunny position it will grow satisfactory in any well drained soil, but does best in one enriched with well-rotted manure or compost. Coriander plants grow to about 18in. high and there is only one species. **Dill** – fresh or dried leaves of dill, a hardy annual herb, adds an aniseed flavour to fish, poultry, soups and stews. This pungently aromatic herb combines particularly well with both hot and cold fish dishes and it also useful for salads cold sauces and dressings. Both the leaves fresh and dried and the dried seeds are used in cooking. They are also used to flavour vinegar and as a pickling ingredient with Gherkins and cucumbers. **Fennel** – There are two distinct varieties of Fennel, the tall perennial herb that grow wild on waste ground and is cultivated for the fine flavour of its leaves, seeds and stems and the usually smaller Florence Fennel a biennial that is grown mainly for its swollen stem base and is used as a vegetable. The leaves of both plants dried or fresh impart a delicate aniseed flavour to fish, cheese dishes, sauces, pickles, and chutneys. The young stems or leaf stalks of common fennel may be braised like celery or chopped into salads. The seeds whose aniseed taste is particularly pronounced may be used us soups, bread and cakes.

A Summary of the Month's Work – Fruit – watch for pests and control as necessary. Water fruit trees and bushes in dry weather while fruit is swelling. **Lawns** – Now, especially if the spring fertiliser dressing was given in April, apply sulphate of ammonia at ½ oz. per sq. yd. barked with sand, and water immediately after application. **Roses** – for greenfly, use a systemic rose insecticide. This kills initially by contact and is then absorbed through the leaves and stems into the sap stream of the rose killing any greenflies that suck the sap during the next few weeks. **Vegetables** – sow main crop potatoes, sow runner beans during second half of the month, plant with the eyes on the bean down to about 2 in.

Colin Williams

Whitley Hall Cricket Club



2015 is a critical season for the cricket club with the top three teams in the current Premier League gaining a starting place in next year's new Yorkshire Premier League system.

The first XI has made a good start by winning their first two matches and standing in 2nd place in the league at the end of April. The team also had an easy win in the 1st round of the National knock-out. The 2nd XI has lost one, won one so are currently in mid-table.

Forthcoming Senior Games at Cinder Hill Lane

2 nd May	2 nd XI	v	Kexborough
3 rd May	Whitley Sixes competition 1pm start		
9 th May	1 st XI	v	Conisbrough
16 th May	1 st XI	v	Darfield
23 rd May	2 nd XI	v	Barnsley
30 th May	1 st XI	v	Aston Hall
6 th June	2 nd XI	v	Shiregreen

Please come and support your local club – youm are all welcome. 1st XI Saturday matches commence 1.00pm.

For the full list of games including Colts and Juniors, please call in for a fixture card

Contacts:

Joe Webster, Secretary: 0114 245 2518

Steve Fletcher, Director of Cricket: 0114 245 2406

Andrew Robinson, Publicity and Fundraising: 0114 246 3646

Website: <http://www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk>

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Hotpoint

Mothers' Union

We met on the 1st of April in the Gatty Hall, and we started with the usual notices and prayers and a hymn. Congratulations were offered to Norma Priest, who along with David Banham, was to be honoured the following day, Maundy Thursday, with a presentation of Maundy Money, by the Queen at Sheffield Cathedral.

Rev Jeni Fryer then led us in some thoughts and meditations about 'Washday'. The Bishop had apparently suggested that on Maundy Thursday we have a personal washday. 'Spring Cleaning for the Soul'.

We started by listening to some music which reminded us of a windy washday. We were encouraged to share memories of washdays in times gone by. We remembered wet washdays, the smell of clothes being boiled, hand washing, clothes lines strung across the street; and then having to be hastily gathered in when the coal man came to deliver!

Washdays were usually Mondays, but as women started to go back out to work, washday could be any day of the week, including Sundays! We remembered twin tubs, nappies blowing in the fresh air, and how good it all smelt.

Jeni then played us some more music and we moved on to thinking about Jesus washing the feet of the disciples. Stephanie read a passage reminding us of the story.

We were each given a dirty pebble to meditate on. The need to cleanse ourselves. There is nothing that cannot be forgiven. We should always look forward and not back with regret, we cannot undo the past. We were encouraged to wash clean bad memories and ask for God's forgiveness.

We then listened to music again and each in turn then washed their pebble and asked for absolution. Jeni finished by reading the comfortable words from the communion service.

Thank you Jeni for your memories, thoughts and prayers.



Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

S	T	O	P		C	A	L	L	U	P	O	N
T		R		C		B		L		U		O
R	E	G	U	L	A	R		O	C	T	E	T
A		A		E		A		Y		E		E
I	N	N	E	R		H	U	D	S	O	N	
G				I		A				L		I
H	O	L	Y	C	O	M	M	U	N	I	O	N
T		A				S		S				N
	M	Y	S	E	L	F		S	E	E	T	O
B		D		N		A		H		N		C
A	B	O	U	T		I	T	E	R	A	T	E
L		W		E		T		R		C		N
M	O	N	A	R	C	H	Y		S	T	E	T

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Day of Pentecost – Whit Sunday May 24th

Pentecost took place on the well-established Jewish festival of First fruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told His apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles – but He knew they could not do the work themselves – they would need His help.

And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues – to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian Church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

Of course Pentecost was not the first time the Holy Spirit had acted in this world. All through the Old Testament there are accounts of how God's Spirit guided people and strengthened them. But now, because of Christ's death and resurrection, he could Indwell them. From now on, every Christian could have the confidence that Jesus was with them constantly, through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Indwell – verb. To be permanently present in (someone's soul or mind); possess spiritually.



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Crossword Puzzle (Solution is on page 21)

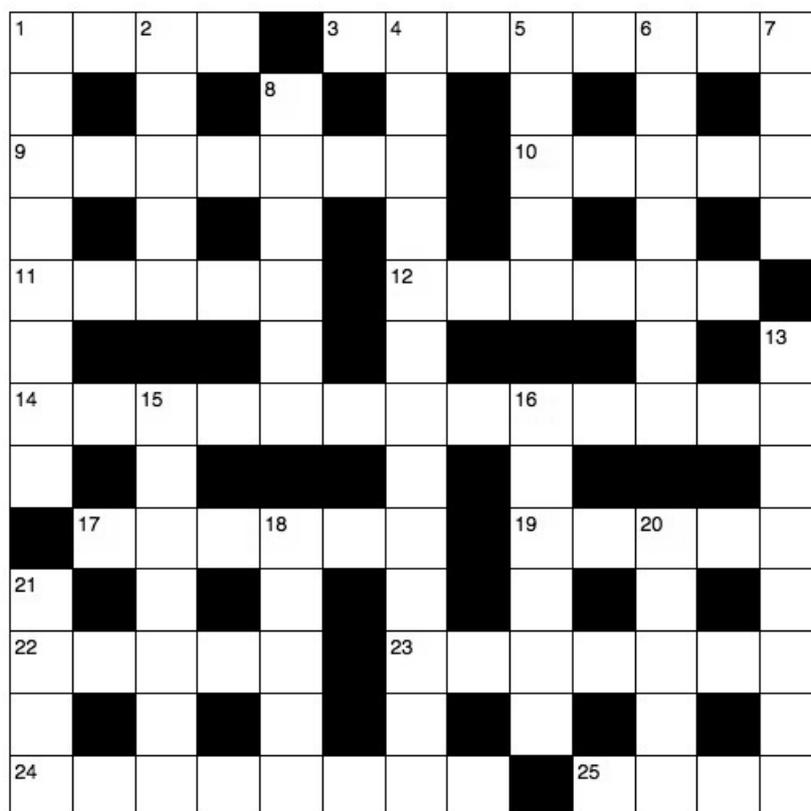
Clues Across

- 1 'Therefore let us — passing judgment on one another' (Romans 14:13) (4)
- 3 'I — — these persons here present' (Marriage service) (4,4)
- 9 According to a prearranged timetable (Numbers 28:3) (7)
- 10 Group of eight (5)
- 11 The cell into which the Philippian jailer put Paul and Silas (Acts 16:24) (5)
- 12 — Taylor, pioneer missionary to China (6)
- 14 Otherwise known as the Eucharist, Breaking of Bread, the Lord's Table (4, 9)
- 17 'So that after I have preached to others, I — will not be disqualified for the prize' (1 Corinthians 9:27) (6)
- 19 Attend to (3,2)
- 22 Approximately (Acts 4:4) (5)
- 23 Tea rite (anag.) (7)
- 24 Rule of sovereign (8)
- 25 Test (anag.) (4)

Clues Down

- 1 The name of the street where Judas lived in Damascus and where Saul of Tarsus stayed (Acts 9:11) (8)
- 2 'The playing of the merry —, sweet singing in the choir' (5)
- 4 'We have been saying that — — was credited to him as righteous' (Romans 4:9) (8, 5)
- 5 Dr Martyn — Jones, famous for his ministry at Westminster Chapel (5)
- 6 Port at which Paul landed on his way to Rome (Acts 28:13) (7)
- 7 Observe (Ruth 3:4) (4)
- 8 Minister of religion (6)
- 13 'I am — of this man's blood. It is your responsibility' (Matthew 27:24) (8)
- 15 'Greater love has no one than this, that he — — his life for his friends' (John 15:13) (3, 4)
- 16 Archbishop who calculated that the world began in 4004BC (6)

- 18 'No one can — the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit' (John 3:5) (5)
- 20 Establish by law (5)
- 21 Product of Gilead noted for its healing properties (Jeremiah 46:11) (4)



Ecclesfield Guide May Queen

Ecclesfield Guides, Brownies & Rainbows are busy practicing hard for their 71st Annual May Queen concert which will take place on 14th, 15th, 16th May. This year nearly 100 Guides, Brownies & Rainbows will be taking part in the show where they will be singing, dancing & acting throughout the evening.

During the second half of the show our New May Queen will be crowned. This year we are pleased to announce that India Buckley will be crowned as Queen Periwinkle. India has chosen Rachael Hibbert, Samantha March, Ruby Emmett, Tia Jackson, Izzy Touhey & Georgie-Leigh Waldron to be her attendants.

**Tickets for the show are now available from any of the Leaders
Or by phoning Claire on 2461289**

Come & join in the fun

Prayers and Poems Page

The Guarding of the God of Life

The God of life with guarding hold you,
The loving Christ with guarding fold you,
The Holy Spirit, guarding, mould you,
Each night of life to aid, enfold you,
Each day and night of life uphold you.

Ancient Celtic poem

The Tale of Gideon: Part 1 – The Fleece

Gideon was a fighting man
A man of God was he,
He liked to have a robust plan
And fight with certainty.

The men of Midian declared war
Amalekites as well
A fearsome army Gideon saw-
His knees shook, truth to tell

He came to God upon his knees
“How can we win this war?
“I’ll lay out this fine woolly fleece
“Upon the threshing floor.”

“If you’ll put vict’ry in our hands
“Then soak the fleece with dew
“But if dry ground I find around
“I’ll truly believe you!”

Well, he found favour in God’s sight
(God’s patient with such men)
Wet fleece, dry floor – ‘twas safe to fight,
But Gideon came again.

“It might be just a fluke,” he said
“God, don’t be mad at me!
“If You could dry the fleece instead,
“And wet the floor, we’ll see!”

So God, He heard His servant’s voice
And did as He was asked
Then Gideon had no other choice –
And set about his task!

By Nigel Beeton

Prayer at Election Time

Heavenly Father,
We need your wisdom at this Election
time. There are so many issues, so many
voices clamouring for attention,
clamouring for votes, clamouring for
power. Thank you that you give your
people a different sort of power, the power
of your Holy Spirit, who leads into all
truth. Help us Lord to receive your Spirit,
to listen to him, so that we make good
decisions on Election Day - and every day
of our lives. Thank you for the wonderful
gift of your Spirit,
In Jesus name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

John the Baptist

He came as a prophet of the Most High,
Four hundred years and no word had come
God had been silent until the day
Zacharias was told he would have a son.

He named him John, a wilderness man,
Baptising in Jordan awaiting the day
For the Lamb of God to appear on earth,
John had been sent to prepare the way.

The moment came when Jesus appeared
A voice from heaven, a descending dove,
‘This is My Son in whom I’m well pleased’
As John baptised the King of Love.

Miracle of miracles, He came as a man,
Leaving the Godhead, embracing the cross
Jesus our Saviour bearing our sin
Redeeming us back to a Paradise lost.

By Megan Carter

Saint of the Month – St. Dunstan - Day May 19th

The abbot who restored monastic life in England

In this month of Vocation Sunday, Dunstan (909-988 AD) stands out as an example of what just one person can achieve when they follow the call of God on their life.

Dunstan was born near Glastonbury, of a noble family with royal connections and church connections; his uncle was archbishop of Canterbury. But in 935, at the age of 26, he was accused of ‘studying the vain poems of the pagans’ – and expelled from court. He nearly married, but instead made private monastic vows and was ordained a priest by Elphege, bishop of Winchester. Dunstan felt God’s call on his life, and responded. That decision was to shape English history.

Not at first, however. For Dunstan began his priestly life by simply returning to Glastonbury and living as a hermit. He painted, embroidered and did metalwork. But when in 939 Edmund became king of Wessex, he recalled Dunstan and made him abbot of Glastonbury. The monastic life of the country was all but dead: the Danish invasions and the hostility of local magnates had seen to that. Dunstan set out to change all this, and went on to restore monastic life in England, under the Rule of St Benedict.

Down the years, Dunstan saw kings come and go: Edmund, Edred, Edgar, Edward. Under King Edgar Dunstan was made bishop of Worcester in 957, bishop of London in 959, and archbishop of Canterbury in 960. Thus was born a fruitful collaboration between King and Archbishop which was to reform the Church in England. Monastic orders began to thrive once more. After the Conquest, the days of Dunstan would be looked back on as the ‘golden age’.

Dunstan was zealous for the faith. He taught, prayed, fasted, repaired churches, acted as judge, inspired national laws of the land, made sure taxes were paid, and encouraged his monks in their manuscripts and prayers. He remained active right to the end of his life: he preached three times on Ascension Day 988, and died two days later, on 19 May, aged nearly 80.

They wrote of him: he was without doubt “chief of all the saints who rest at Christ Church’ (Canterbury). It has been well said that the 10th century gave shape to English history, and Dunstan gave shape to the 10th century.

Contact Numbers for Local Groups ☎

Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 4.45 pm to 6.00 pm
Leader - Mrs B Travis
Tel: TBA

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Monday 5.30 pm to 6.45 pm
Leader - Mrs J Hutchinson
Tel: 0114 257 8609

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 6.15 pm to 7.45 pm
Leader - Mrs A. Kendall
Tel: 0114 246 8866

Ecclesfield Guides

Gatty Hall
Thursday 6.30 pm to 8.30 pm
Leader - Mrs C Topham
Tel: 0114 246 1289

Ecclesfield Priory Players

EPPIC Theatre
Monday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm
Wednesday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm
Secretary –Carol Travis
Theatre Tel No. 0114 240 2624

Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Park - Located between
Ladycroft bridge/stream and Bowling
greens. Open Wednesday + Saturday
10 am to 12 noon
Tel : Angela 0114 2461095

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Tel: 0114 245 0200
email: ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com

Ecclesfield Cubs

Scout Hut (off Yew lane)
Wednesday 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm
2nd Pack 6.30 pm to 8.0 pm
Leader - Mrs A Hancock
Tel: 0114 245 2780

Ecclesfield Beavers

Scout Hut (off Yew lane)
Monday 6.00 pm to 7.15 pm
Leader - Mrs J Steel
0114 246 0218
Thursday 6.00 -7.15 pm
Rachael Otter 0114 246 1752

Ecclesfield Scouts

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)
Tuesday 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Leader - Mr E. Buttimer
Tel: 0114 258 6935
Group Scout Leader
John Otter Tel. 0114 246 1752

The Grenoside Singers

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Church Hall at 7:30 pm
Secretary: Garry Leigh
Tel: 0114 246 4714
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Secretary – Joe Webster 245 2518
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If you would like your local group
advertised please contact:
Mrs P Blackburn ☎ 0114 246 8453



Useful Contacts



Vicar Vacancy – we are currently in Interregnum'

<u>Churchwardens:</u>	Mrs Katharine Lonsborough	286 4332
	Mrs Irene Proctor	246 0373
	Mr Andrew Robinson	246 3646
	Mr Michael Waldron	246 3091
<u>Readers:</u>	Mrs Pat Clarke	257 7191
	Mrs Stephanie Dale	245 2392

<u>Pastoral Workers:</u>	Mrs Pat Wood	246 5086
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Church Office:

Tuesday - Wednesday 9:30 am to 11:30 am	
Thursday 9.00 am to 12.00 pm	245 0106

Church Choir Practice in Church	
Friday 7:30 pm - Contact: Don Knott	246 8430

Music Group Practice in Church	
Thursday 7:30 pm - Contact: Andrea Whittaker	246 0746

Mother's Union in Gatty Hall	
1st Wednesday of month 1:00 pm	
Contact: Maureen Lambert	246 9690

Ecclesfield Ladies Group in Gatty Hall	
Thursday 7.30 pm - Contact: Anne Rostron	245 5492

Bell Ringers meet in Church Belfry	
Tuesday 7:30 pm Contact: Mr Phil Hirst	286 2766

Gatty Hall Bookings,	
Contact: Mrs Margaret Roberts	246 3993

Baptisms: Contact – Mrs Pat Clarke	257 7191
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Weddings: Contact – The Church Office	245 0106
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“ Or email: ecclesfield.weddings@gmail.com

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