

# News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine October 2018

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*Price 60p*

# First Words

Most of this month's events are harvest related. We begin with the **Harvest Supper** at the Gatty Hall on **Friday 12th October**, tickets are available now. This is a time to get together informally as a church family, to share food and fun. On **Sunday 14th October** at 10am we have our **Harvest Festival**, with offerings of goods and money for our harvest charities: The Archer Project and Farm Aid. Finally, on **Friday 26th October** at 1pm we are pleased to welcome Ecclesfield Primary School into Church for their **Harvest Service**.

On **Saturday 20th October** we welcome the return of the **Emley Brass Band** for a concert in Church. Tickets are still available if you haven't bought yours yet.

On **Saturday 6th October** we welcome Daniel and Lisa to celebrate the last wedding of the year.

Other regular events in October include the **Alpha Course** on **Thursday Mornings at 10.30am** in Church. This follows our weekly celebration of the Eucharist. All are welcome. If you want more information please speak to someone who has already done Alpha, or have a word with Tim.

Please also remember that on the **Third Sunday** of every month at our 10am Parish Communion we welcome into Church those who have recently been bereaved. This quiet ministry is greatly appreciated by the families and is an important part of our Church life.

During October we will also be preparing for the special services in November to mark the centenary of the end of the First World War. In preparation we pray for the veterans and victims of conflicts and we pray for peace in our world.

God bless you,

Tim



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**Front Cover – Marigold** – Birth Flower of October - The marigold was regarded as the flower of the dead in pre-Hispanic Mexico and is still widely used in the Day of the Dead celebrations. The marigold is also widely cultivated in India and Thailand and vast quantities of marigolds are used in garlands and decoration for weddings, festivals, and religious events.

**Back Cover – EBC Poster**

## Thought for the Month

In 2018 we have spent a great deal of time on our buildings. Thanks to the hard work, time and commitment of a small number of people we have been able to carry out urgent repairs on the Church roof. Without their work we would not be able to do all of the things that we want to do here at St Mary's in and through our beautiful building. I was amazed at how little disruption the repairs brought to our Church life. We were able to carry out this work without having to raise any funds ourselves thanks to the generosity of the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Ecclesfield Feoffees.

Now that the urgent work on the roof has been completed we can begin the work of improving the building, starting with providing disabled access. We will have to do some fundraising for this during 2019.

Our building is a real gift that we hold in trust for the wider community and for the future. Our Church attracts many visitors every year. People come for the history of the Church and its beautiful architecture. They come looking for their own family history, to find a place where they feel that they belong, a place that links them to their ancestors. We were able to welcome many such people during the recent Heritage weekend, again this very successful event was the result of the work of a small group of Church members.

St Mary's also attracts many people every year who come to be quiet and pray, and people who come at important times in their lives. We hold a large number of Baptisms, weddings and Funerals throughout the year. It is our duty and privilege to show our guests something of God's welcome and we pray that when they visit they are touched by the presence of the Risen Christ.

As I have been thinking and praying about the future of our Church it struck me that we are here so that, in the course of their lives, people can connect with God. Our primary purpose is worship and prayer. It may be the annual visit to a Carol Service, it may be to attend a funeral or christening, it may be simply to light a candle in the prayer corner in memory of someone loved and deeply missed; but people come into St Mary's.

We, the Church entrusted with the care of the building, are also entrusted with the care of those who come, whoever they may be; whatever draws them here.

Our care for this wonderful building is an important part of our ministry, of our care for those who come into St Mary's. We who know the grace and generosity of God in Christ are called by the Risen Lord who walks among us to share His love and grace by the warmth of our welcome.

*Continues on page 16*

# God and The Arts

*Editor: For 2018, the Rev Michael Burgess is exploring symbols of the Christian faith as found in works of art.*

## **‘He gave us eyes to see them’ – Duccio’s Wedding at Cana**

‘The conscious water saw its God and blushed’ – in those words, the poet Richard Crashaw describes the first miracle of Jesus at the wedding feast in Cana.

This sign at the beginning of our Lord’s ministry points ahead to that other meal when a cup of wine will be poured out for many. The cup is a rich image of life in scripture: from the cup found in Benjamin’s sack in Genesis to the cup of blessing in Paul’s letters.



Image: Courtesy of Parish Pump

The cup may be filled with bitter wine to reflect life’s sorrow, while the cup of Psalm 23 overflows with goodness. It is as rich an image as the bunch of grapes we often see in a church window or carved on a screen – a sign of the goodness of Creation that brings us the gift of wine.

The wedding at Cana speaks to us of the generosity and gift of our Lord who transforms the feast. Duccio di Buoninsegna portrayed it in the panel he provided for the Maesta, the glorious altarpiece for Siena Cathedral in 1311. We see the table lavishly spread, while Jesus, sat by the side of His mother, blesses the water pots. The servants are busy pouring what is now wine into the jugs and cups. It is the new wine of the kingdom.

Everywhere that Jesus went, the old was made new. For the widow of Nain he changed tears into joy, for Zacchaeus selfishness into love, for the thief on the cross despair into hope, for Mary Magdalene the end of the road into a new journey. What our Lord did at Cana, He went on doing in His ministry, changing not just water, but transforming human lives. And we share in that transforming love at every eucharist as we drink of the cup of blessing. These are some words of the poet Elizabeth Jennings:

‘Those grapes, ready for picking, are the sign  
Of harvest and of Sacrament.’

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# St James the Least of All

## On the perils of the Harvest Supper

The Rectory,  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

Plans for our Harvest Supper always start several months in advance, with the annual argument about whether we dare increase the price of tickets by 20p to £1.50. After endless wrangling we compromise on 15p, with several warning that this will sound the death knell of Harvest. That every member of the committee cheerfully pays £50 a head to dine out elsewhere seems irrelevant.

Hotpots are provided by the ladies of the parish. It is always interesting to speculate on who has made which: some are robust and meaty, while others are wan and watery. Having sampled these dishes for the past 30 years, I can match each offering with the personalities of their creators. It is also amusing to watch how the cooks manoeuvre to make sure the correct people receive their own dishes. Mrs French positively chases Lady Masterson with her hotpot.

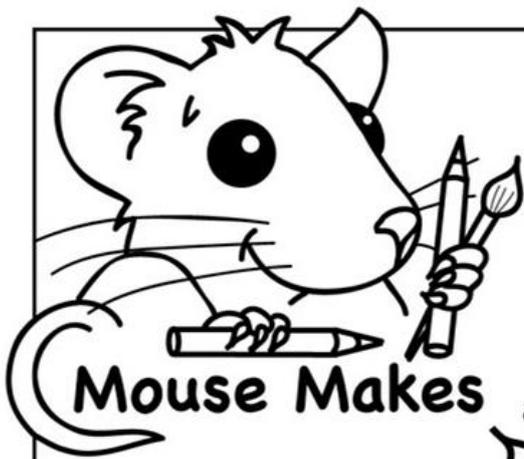
After the meal, we proceed to what parishioners optimistically call the entertainment. I settle myself on the back row, smile, applaud - and think of the large gin awaiting me back at the Rectory.

Colonel Hetherington imagines that the consumption of a bottle of claret over the meal improves his intonation as he gives his annual rendition of “The Lost Chord”. I can only assume the lost chords he refers to are the vocal ones he once possessed. Miss Simpson’s jokes have been repeated so often that the audience enthusiastically joins in with every punch line. Miss Sprocker makes her annual (failed) attempt to hand around paper and pencils and hold ‘a nice little quiz’ – she was a primary teacher.

Meanwhile the ladies in the kitchen provide a musical accompaniment of crashing crockery and cutlery, which sadly drowns out all but the most tantalising snippets of their gossip about the rest of us.

The evening always ends with the Major’s recitation of “The boy stood on the burning deck”. Before he can commence an un-requested encore, I surge up to the stage, thank all the performers, and wish everyone a safe journey home. The Major is left looking like a boy who had just had his lollipop stolen by the school bully. On reflection, that is quite an accurate analogy.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace



## Mouse Makes

READ the whole story  
in 1 Kings 18:16-40

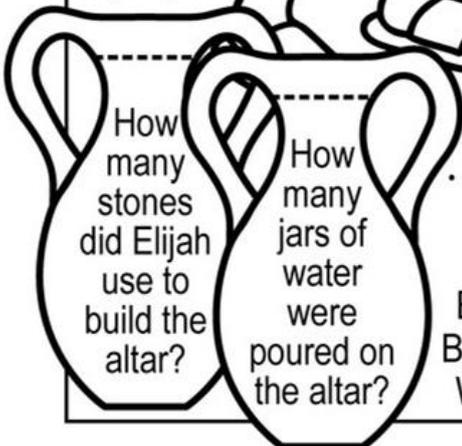
God's prophet **Elijah** built a big bonfire and had the prophets of the god **Baal** build one too. Elijah said "Call on Baal to light the fire and burn the sacrifice" ... but Baal did not answer because he was just an idol made of stone. Elijah had his bonfire drenched in water then he called on the Lord God. The fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the water around it. All the people saw

this and cried:

"The Lord -  
He is God!"



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



How many stones did Elijah use to build the altar?

How many jars of water were poured on the altar?

Can you find these words from the story in the word search?  
ELIJAH • ISRAEL • PROPHETS • BAAL • CARMEL • GOD  
BULL • WOOD • LORD • TEST • ALTAR • SHOUT • STONES  
WATER • POUR • FILL • FIRE • SKY • CONSUMED • DIRT

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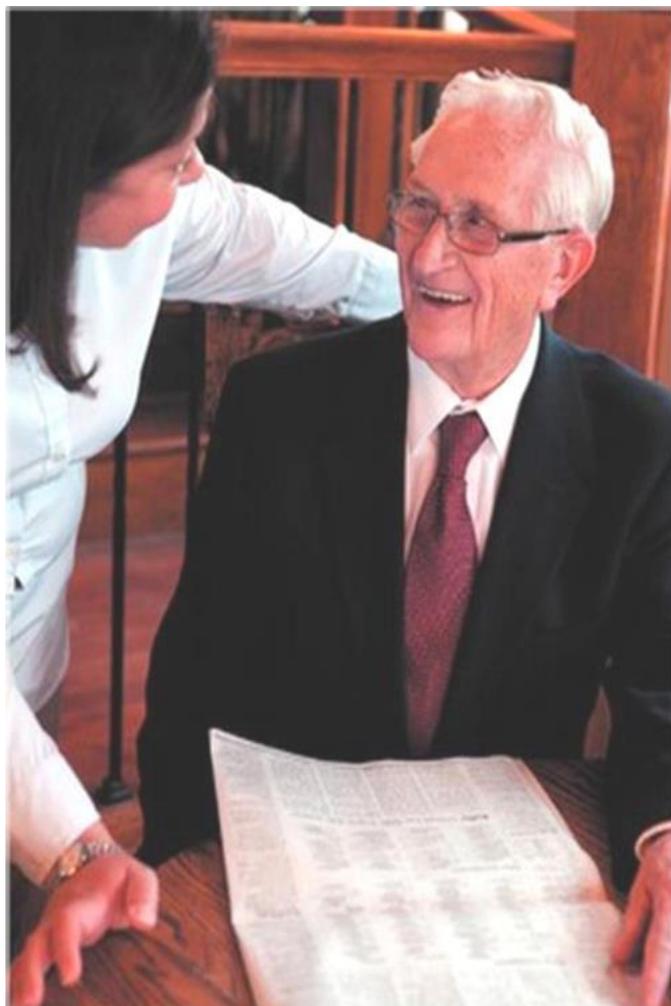
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# Will You Remember Them – October 2018

## China - Christian Persecution - Chinese Authorities Shut Down One of Beijing's Largest House Churches - September 2018

Although unregistered, the church has been permitted to operate for years with relative freedom, but since church leaders refused a request from authorities to install CCTV cameras inside the building in April the church has come under growing pressure. District officials announced on September 9<sup>th</sup> the church had been banned because it had “not registered and had carried out activities in the name of social organisations without authorisation.” The government introduced new religion regulations governing church registration in February.

As many as 1,500 people attend the church's five weekly services. Police officers are now guarding the building. Prior to the church being shut down the congregation had been threatened with eviction.

In June 34 “house churches” (unregistered church groups) issued a statement calling on Chinese authorities to respect freedom of religion and not view religious believers as a “dissenting force”. They stated, “House churches have a strong desire to contribute to a necessary dialogue to achieve better relations with the government in the new era.”

China's Communist government only recognises state-registered churches, which are closely monitored.

### **Please Pray:**

- Give thanks for the quiet courage of 279 Christian Church pastors, who are taking a great risk by publicly declaring their faith to Christ and the gospel and calling for full religious freedom.
- Pray that the Lord will keep them safe from those who would seek to do them harm.

*JD*

**Editor** - Freedom of religion is guaranteed by China's constitution, although religious organizations that lack official approval can be subject to state persecution. The government of the People's Republic of China is officially atheist. Religious affairs and issues in the country are overseen by the State Administration for Religious Affairs. Over the millennia, Chinese civilization has been influenced by various religious movements. The "three teachings", including Confucianism, Taoism, and Buddhism (Chinese Buddhism), historically have a significant role in shaping Chinese culture, enriching a theological and spiritual framework which harkens back to the early Shang and Zhou dynasty. Chinese popular or folk religion, which is framed by the three teachings and other traditions, consists in allegiance to the shen (神), a character that signifies the "energies of generation", who can be deities of the environment or ancestral principles of human groups, concepts of civility, culture heroes, many of whom feature in Chinese mythology and history. Among the most popular cults are those of Mazu (goddess of the seas), Huangdi (one of the two divine patriarchs of the Chinese race), Guandi (god of war and business), Caishen (god of prosperity and richness), Pangu and many others. China is home to many of the world's tallest religious statues, including the tallest of all, the Spring Temple Buddha in Henan. Only 2% of the population is Christian.

# Mothers Union

## Sponsored Walk – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018

All over the country MU members were doing a sponsored walk for funds on this special day in September. The Ecclesfield Church branch walked round Ecclesfield Park on a lovely sunny afternoon, in the middle of the ‘Macmillan Gala’ passing the Vintage Cars the stalls and amusements.

Pauline Reynolds our Sheffield Diocese President walked with us accompanied by her husband and two grandchildren. Afterwards we enjoyed Tea and Cakes in the Church.

At the time of going to press we had raised over £200.00p a wonderful effort from everyone. Thank You.

*PB*



## Prayer for the Month

*Almighty God,  
you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you:  
pour your love into our hearts and draw us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen*

This month's prayer is set as the Collect for the 17th Sunday after Trinity in Common worship. It was written for the Alternative Service Book in 1980, but its origins are far older than this.

The prayer is based upon the writings of St Augustine, the fourth century theologian and Bishop of Hippo in North Africa. In his spiritual autobiography, *The Confessions*, Augustine writes, "You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you."

We are all made by God and for God. That is who we are as humans. We are bearers of God's image, and it is relationship with God that we become our true selves. Without this relationship we are 'restless' souls. Seeking peace in our inner being in ways and places which were never meant to fill that particular 'space' within us.

We are all God's children. Whether we know it or not; whether we acknowledge it or not does not change the basic fact of who we are. There is a longing for eternity in the depths of our souls, and nothing other than God can satisfy us.

It is for this reason that many Christians have come to know that if we have the world but do not have God, we are paupers; conversely, if we have God and little else we have all that we truly need.

We all know people who have much in material terms and yet are never satisfied; we also know those who have little but who have an inner peace.

May we all come to know that we are God's precious and beloved children; may we all come to know the peace that comes from the risen Christ. Amen.

# St Mary's – Regular Services

**8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)** - On 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

## **10.00 am Services**

1st Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ and choir

2nd Sunday of the month - Service of the Word with music group

3rd Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ, choir and music group

4th Sunday of the month - Parish Communion with organ, choir and music group

5th Sunday of the month - Sunday Celebration Services

## **12:00 pm Baptism Service**

Baptism Service 1st Sunday of the month – (Except: August no baptisms)

## **6.30 pm Evening Service**

Except: 2nd Sunday of the month Holy Communion and 4th Sunday of the month Prayer and Praise

**Midweek Holy Communion** – Thursdays at 9.30 am

## **Time for God – Wednesday at 7.30pm**

Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday during school term time

A time for worship, teaching and prayer

# St Mary's - Activities & Groups

## **Church Office Opening times**

Tuesday 9:00 am to 1.00 pm

Thursday 9.00 am to 12.00 pm

## **Coffee Shop**

Tuesday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

Friday 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

## **Bell Ringers**

Tuesday 7.30 pm Bell ringing practice

Friday 7.30 pm Silent Bell ringing practice

## **Choir Practice**

Friday 7.30 pm Choir practice in choir vestry

## **Music Group Practice**

Thursday 7:30 pm Music group practice in church

# Church Diary Items to Note - October 2018

Day and Date	Time	Item
Thursday 4th	10:30	Alpha Course
Saturday 6th	14:00	Wedding
Sunday 7th	13:00	Bellringers
Wednesday 10th	19:30	Finance Committee
Thursday 11th	10:30	Alpha Course
Friday 12th	19:00	Harvest Supper
Saturday 13th	09:00	Prayer Breakfast
Sunday 14th	10:00	Harvest Festival
Tuesday 16th	19:30	Prayer Session
Wednesday 17th	19:30	Finance Committee
Thursday 18th	10:30	Alpha Course
Saturday 20th	18:00	Emley Band Concert
Thursday 25th	10:30	Alpha Course
Friday 26th	13:00	Ecclesfield Primary
Sunday 28th	18:30	Prayer and Praise

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

9 <sup>th</sup> September	Oliver Steven Joseph Orsi
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Harrison Booker
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Scarlett Rebecca Monfredi
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Ada Grace Webster

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

### Weddings

1 <sup>st</sup> September	Matthew Kenneth Lambert and Rebacca Louise Chapman
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Adam Nicholas Mark Oakes and Jade Emily Beaver
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Alexander William Rann and Sara Bell

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

### Funerals

10 <sup>th</sup> September	Margaret Shore	86
25 <sup>th</sup> September	May Whitham	92

*Grant them, O Lord, refreshment, light and peace.*

### Flower Rota October 2018

7th October	A. Hackett	21st October	J. Cooper & R. Nutbrown
14th October	Harvest Flowers	28th October	S. Johns & Jeanne Sutton



# Remembrance 2018

## A Waterfall of Poppies

Remembrance Sunday on 11<sup>th</sup> November marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WW1

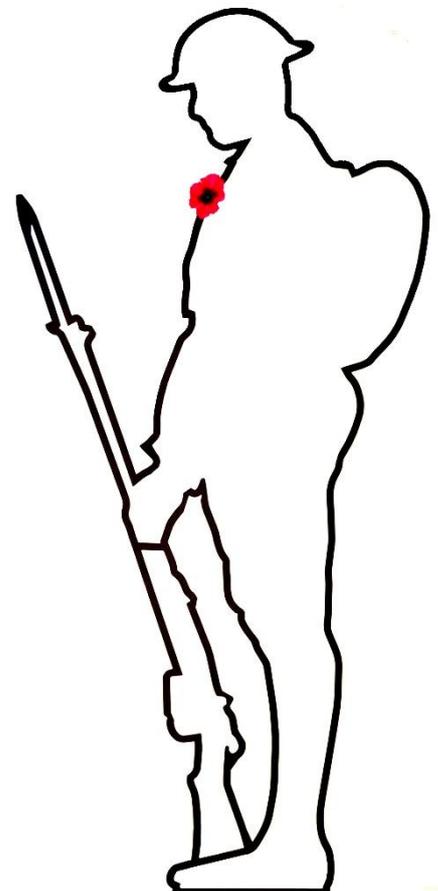
As part of the commemorations, we will be making a large display of poppies in the church in memory of all the local people who fought, died or were affected by the 1914 – 1918 war, as well as all subsequent conflicts.

You can help by making poppies – knitted, crocheted or paper.  
Further details are available in church with knitting kits for sale at £1.  
All proceeds will go to the British Legion poppy collection.

### The Soldier

If I should die, think only this of me:  
That there's some corner of a foreign field  
That is forever England. There shall be  
In that rich earth a richer dust concealed;  
A dust whom England bore, shaped, made aware,  
Gave, once, her flowers to love, her ways to roam,  
A body of England's, breathing English air,  
Washed by the rivers, blest by the suns of home.  
And think, this heart, all evil shed away,  
A pulse in the eternal mind, no less  
Gives somewhere back the thoughts by England given;  
Her sights and sounds; dreams happy as her day;  
And laughter, learnt of friends; and gentleness,  
In hearts at peace, under an English heaven.

*By Rupert Brooke*



## Thought for the Month - continued

We may be the only contact with God's people that many who come to St Mary's have. God will work through our words and actions to reach them.

Every one of us is called by Christ to be witnesses of His love. A large part of this will be simply in the way that we receive those who come. As we prepare for the big events that come at the end of the year, Harvest and Remembrance, Advent and Christmas, many people will visit St Mary's. May we receive them as Jesus would; this is in part what it means for us to be Christ's Body here in Ecclesfield.

For me who and what we are called to be as Christ's Church is summed up in the vision statement that we have begun to use:

St Mary's Ecclesfield: "Following Jesus: Celebrating Life; Welcoming All."

God bless you,  
Tim



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# The Gardening Year – October

This is the first of the Autumn Months – although after the occasional outstanding Summer it can still provide spells of warm dry weather.

## **A Summary of the Month's Work**

**Hardy herbaceous plants** – continue dead heading and cutting back. Finish preparing new beds and hoe beds already prepared. Flowers from seed – remove fading annuals to make way for spring bedding. Sow the hardiest annuals to over winter outdoors. Plant hardy biannual.

**House Plants** – slightly reduce watering and feeding. Keep tender plants away from windows on cold nights. Transfer plants liking plenty of light from a west to a south window. Reduce the amount of water given to Cacti. Complete re-potting and pruning. Examine plants for signs of over-watering or of pest attacks. Control red spider mites with insecticides. As these pests are encouraged by a dry atmosphere, try to increase atmospheric humidity round the plants.

**Vegetables** – plant spring cabbages. Apply bone meal at about 4oz per sq. yd. before planting. Set the plants with their bottom leaves at soil level.

**Pests** – fruit tree red spider mite, microscopic mites that feed on the sap of apple, pear and plum leaves. Symptoms older leaves turn yellow-bronze wither and fall. Danger period May to September, treatment, spray in winter with insecticide to kill eggs or spray immediately after flowering with insecticide. Mealy Bugs – a serious greenhouse pest, especially on grape vines. Symptoms stunted foliage covered with patches of mealy wax threads, beneath which are colonies of bugs of yellow egg clusters. Danger period any time particularly late summer and autumn. Treatment, spray with insecticide before the fruit swells, and apply tar oil on dormant vines.

*Colin Williams*

## Eat the Seasons - Seasonal food for October

**Vegetables** - Artichoke, Beetroot, Broccoli, Butternut Squash, Celeriac, Celery, Chicory, Chillies, Fennel, Garlic, Horseradish, Jerusalem Artichoke, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, Marrow, Parsnips, Potatoes (Maincrop), Pumpkin, Radishes, Rocket, Runner Beans, Salsify, Shallots, Swede, Sweetcorn, Tomatoes, Truffles (Black), Truffles (White), Turnips, Watercress, Wild Mushrooms

**Fruit** - Apples, Bilberries, Blackberries, Elderberries, Figs, Grapes, Medlar, Pears, Quince

**Herbs** - Almonds, Brazil Nuts, Chestnuts, Chives, Cob Nuts, Hazelnuts, Parsley (Curly), Rosemary, Sage, Sorrel, Thyme, Walnuts

**Meat** - Beef, Duck, Goose, Grouse, Guinea Fowl, Hare, Lamb, Mallard, Partridge, Pheasant, Rabbit, Turkey, Venison, Wood Pigeon

**Fish** - Clams, Cod, Coley, Crab, Dab, Dover Sole, Grey Mullet, Gurnard, Haddock, Halibut, Hake, Herring, Lemon Sole, Lobster, Mackerel, Monkfish, Mussels, Oysters, Pilchard, Plaice, Pollack, Prawns, Red Mullet, Sea Bass (Wild), Sea Bream, Skate, Squid, Turbot, Winkles



# Retired Gentlemen Wanted!

Chapelton & District Probus Club is actively seeking new members

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# News and Events from your Local Ecclesfield Library

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and Saturday 9.30 to 12.30

**New library books** are arriving weekly so why not come along and browse around our books and DVDs and maybe have a coffee or tea in a relaxed and friendly environment

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[www.smile.amazon.co.uk](http://www.smile.amazon.co.uk) and choose Friends of Ecclesfield Library and Amazon will donate

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For more information about our library or any of our weekly and monthly events please call in, phone us, email us at [ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com](mailto:ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com) or follow us on Facebook and Twitter

Ecclesfield Library is run entirely by volunteers. It is not-for-profit charity which relies on donations and grants to keep it open, so if you can help then please visit our Facebook or Web site and click on the DONATE button

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## Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

L	A	W	Y	E	R		B	A	L	S	A	M	
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# ERIC EYRE

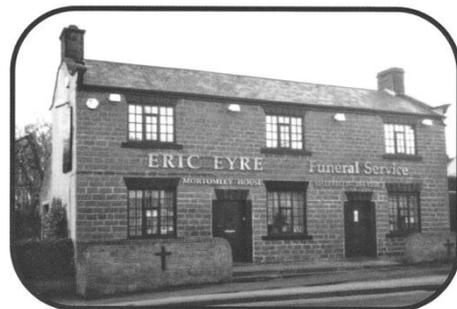
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# Saint of the Month – 1<sup>st</sup> October

## Anthony Ashley-Cooper, 7th Earl of Shaftesbury - the Poor Man's Earl

Think of Piccadilly Circus, and that small stature of the angel poised with bow and arrow. Most people think it stands for Eros. It does not. It stands for Anteros, his brother, the god of selfless love. It is a memorial to the greatest Christian Victorian philanthropist, politician and social reformer of his generation – Lord Shaftesbury.

Anthony Ashley Cooper, the 7th Earl of Shaftesbury (1801 – 1885) was a devout Christian who spent his life fighting to help ease the plight of lunatics, chimney sweeps, children in factories, women and children in the mines, opium addicts, and children without any education.

His own early life was loveless and bleak – his parents formal and frightening, his early schooldays a ‘horror’ of ‘cruelty and starvation’. The only love came from the family’s housekeeper, Maria Millis. A biographer wrote: ‘She provided for Ashley a model of Christian love that would form the basis for much of his later social activism and philanthropic work.’ The reality and homely practicality of her Christian love were a beacon for the young Ashley. She told him Bible stories, she taught him a prayer. After Christ Church Oxford, where he proved an outstanding scholar, Ashley turned to politics. In 1826, aged 25, he was elected as Tory MP for Woodstock. He was eager to serve on parliamentary committees that got things done; his great life’s work had begun.

Lunatics: In 1827 lunatics were kept chained naked in straw, forced to sleep in their excrement. They were washed in freezing cold water, with one towel for 160 people and no soap. There was gross over-crowding and inedible food: asylums were places to die in. Shaftesbury’s maiden speech in Parliament was in support of a Bill to improve conditions. He wrote: ‘By God’s blessing, my first effort has been for the advance of human happiness.’ It took years: from 1827 to 1884 he fought for a succession of Lunacy Acts, writing later of ‘the years of toil and care that, under God, I have bestowed on this melancholy and awful question.’

Child Labour and Factory Reform. Again, reform took years. Shaftesbury fighting for the Ten Hours Act from 1833, 1842, 1844, 1846 and 1847 – when it finally got through Parliament. No child under the age of 9 should work in the cotton or woollen industries below the age of 9, and no one under 18 must work more than ten hours a day.

Miners. In 1842 he fought to outlaw the employment of women and children in coal mines.

Climbing boys. Thousands of young boys were dying in terrible pain – scorched, blinded and suffocated by soot, or with cancer of the scrotum. Ashley fought for Bills in 1840, 1851, 1853, 1855, 1864 until finally the Chimney Sweepers Act 1875 closed the practise down.

Education reform: 1844 Ashley became president of the Ragged School Union that promoted education for poor children. He wrote that if it were to fail, ‘I should die of a broken heart’.

Religion. Lord Shaftesbury was a devout Christian who became a leading figure in 19th century evangelical Anglicanism. He was President of British and Foreign Bible Society for nearly 30 years. He was very sympathetic to the Jews and advocated their return to the Holy Land.

Lord Shaftesbury’s funeral service at Westminster Abbey on the morning of 8th October 1885 drew thousands of people. The streets along the route were thronged with the poor: costermongers, flower-girls, boot-blacks, crossing sweepers, factory hands and many more. They waited for hours just to see his coffin go by. He was dearly loved by them as the ‘Poor Man’s Earl’. One biographer wrote: ‘No man has in fact ever done more to lessen the extent of human misery, or to add to the sum total of human happiness.’

The great preacher Charles Spurgeon called him ‘the best man of the age’. He ‘lived for the oppressed’, he was a ‘moral anchor in a drifting generation’, ‘friend of every living thing’, ‘he had a ‘fervent love to God, and hearty love to man.’

# Mothers Union Meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Stephanie thanked everyone for coming and for their good wishes after her recent illness abroad.

## “Bring on the Clowns!”



Our speaker today was Sheila Beatson, better known as the half of Beato and Uncle Fred, Clowns, the other half being her other half her husband Harry. Sheila and Harry have been married for 61 years; they have four children, nine grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren. Both met when they worked for Bass Charrington Brewery. She was asked to help out at a children's Christmas Party and as Sheila had her Uncle Fred's Clown costume complete with Bowler Hat and large nose with a moustache she agreed, this time she was partnered with Maureen Crossland, to their amazement there were 150 children at the party. Later husband Harry joined Sheila and together they became 'Beato and Uncle Fred', and the rest as they say is History.

They started to do magic tricks and joined the Magic Circle travelling all over the country with their caravan entertaining at children's Parties. They joined Clowns International in 1986. One of the most inspirational events was the 'Special Service' of Clowns, where the Vicar is actually a clown himself and could do Juggling, Tight Rope walking and many more tricks and Clowns came from all over to join in the Service.

At another event Ron Moody was present and brought his daughter in a pram onto the stage dressed as a clown, Sheila and Harry's Grandson Dom would also dress as a clown and appear with them too. The most engaging addition to the Clowns was their dog Bess who also took part and had lots of patience with the children who loved her. In the 1980's they did events for South Yorkshire Transport Al Fresco, the Charity Mencap and also in the USA for Halloween in 1992. They appeared at 'EXPO 98'.

They met a clown called Pezinho in the Azores and he asked them to come and entertain the children out there and this they did from 1994 until 2016. This was a wonderful, scary and exhilarating time especially in the small aircraft they had to use to travel from island to island.

One of the greatest events they took part in was the opening of Super Tram. This was closely followed by meeting Her Majesty the Queen and presenting a bouquet of balloon flowers and speaking to her and receiving a reply.

The afternoon proved to be pure entertainment, thank you Sheila for making our day.

*God bless PB*

# *Yorke Salon*

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# Crossword Puzzle

## Clues Across

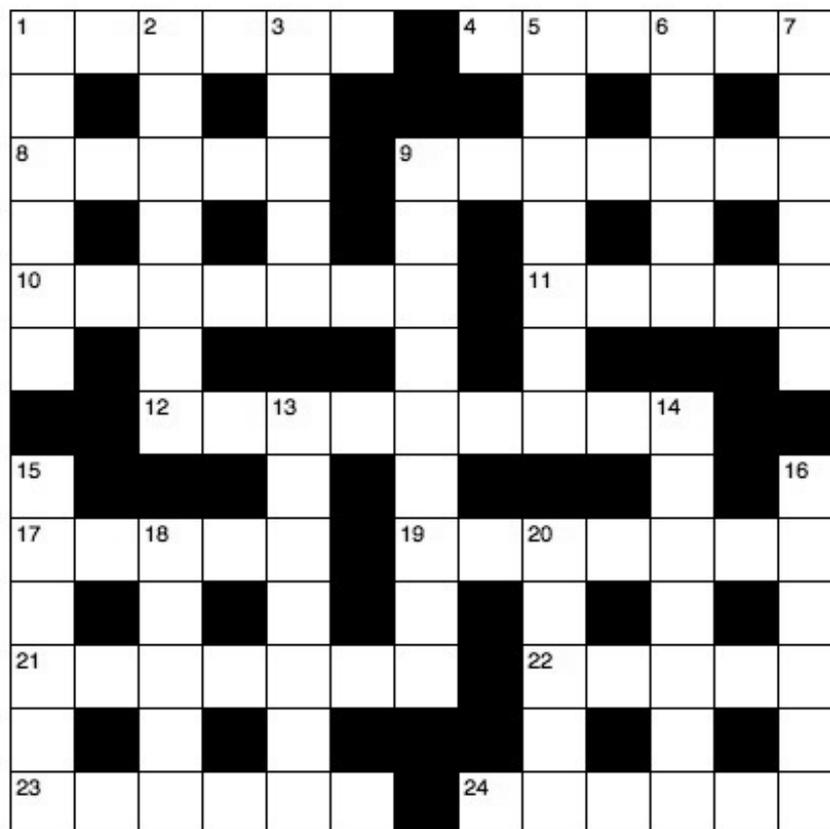
- 1** Tertullus, who presented the high priest's case against Paul in his trial before Felix, was one (Acts 24:1) (6)
- 4** As balm (anag.) (6)
- 8** Having explored Canaan, he and Joshua urged the Israelites to take possession of it (Numbers 13:30) (5)
- 9** On becoming king of Judah, he had all six of his brothers killed (2 Chronicles 21:4) (7)
- 10** 'Even the — has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself' (Psalm 84:3) (7)
- 11** Banishment (Jeremiah29:1) (5)
- 12** 'And now I will show you the most — way'(1Corinthians12:31) (9)
- 17** 'Titus did not exploit you, did he? Did we not —— the same spirit and follow the same course?' (2 Corinthians 12:18) (3,2)
- 19** Mice den(anag.) (7)
- 21** How Egypt is often described in the Old Testament: 'the land of — ' (Exodus 13:3) (7)
- 22** One of the first Levites to resettle in Jerusalem after the exile in Babylon (1 Chronicles 9:15) (5)
- 23** 'As a sheep before her shearers is —, so he did not open his mouth' (Isaiah 53:7) (6)
- 24** Paul's birthplace (Acts22:3) (6)

## Clues Down

- 1** Ravenous insect inflicted on Egypt in vast numbers as the eighth plague (Exodus 10:14) (6)
- 2** Well-being (Philippians 2:20) (7)
- 3** Small piece of live coal or wood in a dying fire (Psalm 102:3) (5)
- 5** Sportsman or woman (2 Timothy 2:5) (7)
- 6** The original name of Abraham's wife (Genesis 17:15) (5)
- 7** 'So in Christ we who are many form one body, and each — belongs to all the others' (Romans 12:5) (6)

- 9** According to Peter, a wife's beauty should not come from wearing this (1 Peter 3:3) (9)
- 13** 'For God did not send his Son into the world to — the world' (John 3:17) (7)
- 14** 'The Lord of heaven and earth...does not live in — built by hands' (Acts 17:24) (7)
- 15** 'If your hand — you to sin, cut it off'(Mark9:43)(6)
- 16** Something like these fell from Saul's eyes as soon as Ananias placed his hands on him (Acts 9:18) (6)
- 18** Track (Job41:30) (5)
- 20** Religious doctrine (5)

Solution is on Page 20



## Of mice and men

A minister went into his local pet shop to ask for some help. 'I need at least 50 mice, 2,000 ants and as many of those little silverfish as you can get.'

The pet shop owner was startled. 'We can probably do that, but it might take some time. Mind if I ask why you are placing such an unusual order?'

The minister shrugged. 'It's simple. I've accepted a call to another church, and the church council told me to leave the parsonage the way I found it.'

# Prayers and Poems Page

## Prayer for changing seasons

Faithful Father,

As the leaves change colour and fall we are reminded of life's changing seasons. We become aware that time passes more quickly than we expect or plan for. Help us to make the most of each day You give us - and to be thankful. Thank you that through all the changing seasons You are unchanging. Your love goes on reaching out. Thank you for sending Jesus who died to make it possible for us to know You and come to You when our days on earth are completed. Help us to trust Him, to receive Him and to live in the power of His Spirit, now and forever.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

---

## The Pianists and Musicians

A long row of black and white keys  
You'd think you could master with ease!  
But blood, sweat, and tears  
And practice for years  
Are needed before one can please!

Yes, singers must be in no doubt  
Musicians don't simply come out  
To support all we singers  
With those skilful fingers –  
If they did, you know you'd soon shout!

I'm afraid that there's only one way  
That these people can skilfully play  
In order to wow us  
They practice for hours  
They practice by night and by day!

Next Sunday, when they have played well  
Their music entranced, like a spell  
Set aside what you've planned  
And go – shake their hand!  
They won't know you're glad 'less you tell!

*By Nigel Beeton*

## 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.

*From Poems of the Western Highlanders*

---

## Our Friend

You're the Alpha and Omega  
The beginning and the end.  
The God in whom we place our trust  
And utterly depend.  
You're the One who's all forgiving  
And kind and just and true,  
So merciful and powerful –  
Who can compare with You?

You are mighty and majestic  
Yet gentle as a dove,  
Delighting in Your children  
Enfolding us in love.  
Compassionate and full of grace  
And faithful to the end,  
We come with hearts of joy to serve  
Our Saviour and our Friend.

*By Kathleen Gillum*

# Whitley Hall Cricket Club



The end of the season for the 1st XI on 8th September turned out to be something of a non-event with all games either cancelled or abandoned because of rain. Whitley Hall had already secured Premier League status for 2019 and Wakefield had already won the title and the result of the game would not have changed that. So the season ended with Whitley and three other teams on 118 points, just above the relegation places. On 15th September, the 2nd XI were facing a home game against Hallam 2nd XI with an outside chance of achieving promotion to the South Yorkshire Championship. The team batted first and achieved a stunning score of 285 for 8 wickets and

declared, a great team effort with everyone playing their part. However Hallam then batted extremely well, going into the final over with 275 for 8 on the board. Abhishek Kulkarni, who already had 3 wickets, took a magnificent 3 in the final over giving Whitley all 7 points. But it was not to be as rivals Aston Hall beat Warmsworth and took the second promotion place. So a great season with much to look forward to.

Contact: Steve Fletcher, Secretary: 0114 245 2406



## Whose fault is it, anyway?

In a small town a businessman put in planning permission to build a nightclub complete with dancing girls. The local church started a vigorous campaign to block it from opening. The church launched a petition and held prayers in public. Work progressed, however, right up until the week before opening. Then one night a bolt of lightning strike hit the nightclub and it burned to the ground.

The church members were rather smug after that, until the nightclub owner sued them all -on the grounds that they were responsible for the fire. Loudly protesting their total non-involvement and innocence, the church members were all taken to court.

As the case began, the judge looked over the paperwork and observed: 'I don't know how I'm going to decide this. It appears that we have a nightclub owner who believes in the power of prayer, and an entire church congregation that doesn't!'

## Contact Numbers for Local Groups ☎

### Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall  
Tuesday 5.00 pm to 6.15 pm  
Leader - Debbie  
Tel: 07860 471793

### 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

### Friends of Ecclesfield Library

Run by the community for the community.  
Volunteer helpers always needed.  
Tel: 0114 246 3651  
email: ecclesfieldlib@gmail.com

### Ecclesfield Cubs

Scout Hut (off Yew lane)  
Wednesday 4:45 pm to 6:15 pm  
2<sup>nd</sup> 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 - Bryony Hemming  
Tel. 07983 719155  
Group Scout Leader  
John Otter Tel. 0114 246 1752

### The Grenoside Singers

Practice Monday in St Mark's  
Church Hall at 7:30 pm  
Secretary: Judith Gill Tel: 07824 112584  
[www.grenosidesingers.co.uk](http://www.grenosidesingers.co.uk)

### Whitley Hall Cricket Club

Matches every Saturday and some  
Sundays and weekdays.  
Please contact Steve Fletcher if you wish  
to play or learn.  
Secretary – Steve Fletcher 245 2406  
e-mail – [fletcher177@hotmail.com](mailto:fletcher177@hotmail.com)  
[www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk](http://www.whitleyhallcricketclub.co.uk)

If you would like your local group  
advertised, please contact:  
Mrs P Blackburn ☎ 0114 246 8453





# Emley Brass Band

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On Stage at 7.00 pm

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Melanie Sidy ☎ 0114 246 9411

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[www.stmarysecclesfield.com](http://www.stmarysecclesfield.com)



Welcome to St Mary's Parish Church, Ecclesfield