

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine October 2020

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First Words

In October, as Autumn draws in and the nights lengthen we think of Harvest Thanksgiving. As will all other events and festivals in 2020 it will be a very different Harvest Thanksgiving this year!

The AGM postponed from March will be held at the end of the month. We are looking to fill 2 Churchwarden vacancies, please pray about this.

The Calendar of events may face disruption so please keep an eye on the Website and the weekly notice sheet.

Sunday 4th October 10am. Parish Eucharist.

Monday 5th October 7.30pm PCC Meeting in Church.

Tuesday 6th October 2pm Wardens & Readers Meeting.

Wednesday 7th October 9.30am Diocesan Development Day (via Zoom!)

Thursday 8th October 9.30am Morning Worship.

Sunday 11th October 10am Harvest Thanksgiving in Church donations of tinned goods for the Foodbank, and cash donations for The Archer Project please.

Sunday 18th October 10am Parish Eucharist.

Wednesday 21st October 1pm Finance Committee meeting in Church.

Thursday 21st October 9.30am Morning Worship

Sunday 25th September 10am Parish Eucharist, followed at 11.15am by the Annual General Meeting, Election of wardens and PCC.

Thursday 29th October 9.30am Morning Worship.

Work on the disabled access starts week commencing the 12th October, there may be minor disruption to services affecting the organ and chairs for seating at the back of the church.

God bless you,

Tim



Clicking on images and links in the online magazine may tell you more...

Front Cover – Mist and Mellow Fruitfulness

[To Autumn](#) a poem by John Keats - 1795-1821

Back Cover – View through St. Mary's lych gate
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Thought for the Month

(Inspired by the writing of John Wyatt, emeritus professor of neo-natal paediatrics at University College, London)

During this very strange year we have been afflicted by not one but two pandemics. The first and most obvious is, of course, Covid 19; the second is fear. We shrink away from people on the streets, we avoid crowds; the hugs of family or friends, once one of the great joys of life, now seem reckless in the extreme. The government saw the deliberate fuelling of fear about infection as an essential way of reducing the spread of the Covid virus.

Family relationships are in crisis and unemployment is rocketing. Mental and emotional health conditions have risen to levels that we would never have imagined possible.

You might have thought that Christians would be immune to these fears, but the evidence shows that this is not the case. We struggle with the same fears and anxieties as everyone else.

A proper level of fear is healthy, but when our minds are filled with worries all of the time then it becomes life and soul-destroying. Worrying about the future is a way of trying to exert control over it. The Pastor Tim Keller says that, "Worriers are visionaries minus the optimism."

The uncomfortable truth, a truth that we have ignored for many years, is that we are not in control of the world or the future, and we never were! For thousands of years God's people have faced famine and plague, war and natural disaster. This is simply what life is in this world. The Bible encourages us to face this uncertain reality, not with fear, but with hope.

One of my favourite passages in the Bible is from the Prophet Isaiah. Writing to a people who have been defeated in war and taken into exile by a very hostile empire, God, through the prophet says:

"Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour."
(Isaiah 43:1-3)

When we are stressed and afraid, counsellors and therapists remind us that:
"You cannot change the past; you do not know the future, but you can change the way that you think about the present."

In difficult and fearful times we are not helpless, we can choose what we focus our thoughts on. As Christians we are a people characterised by faith, hope and love (1 Corinthian 13), and hope is the antidote to fear.

As Christians we have hope for today - it is a daily discipline of choosing where and on what our minds will dwell. A good practice is to start each day with gratitude.

Each day recall every blessing and every person that God has brought into our lives. It is impossible to be filled with gratitude and fear at the same time. Gratitude reminds us of the goodness and trustworthiness of God.

As Christians we have hope for the future. Psalm 23 reminds us that God is with us, "even in the valley of the shadow of death." God is with us and with those we love. Whatever happens God is with us in and through it all.

Finally as Christians we have eternal hope. The Bible speaks of a renewed heavens and earth, in which every tear is wiped away and death is defeated forever. Paul in Romans 8 speaks of the struggles and pains of life in the world as being like the pains of childbirth, soon forgotten when overtaken by the joy of new life.

As Christians we are not immune from the pains and storms of life in this world. but we do not have to face them alone and afraid. We can face them with Christ in hope.

God bless,
Tim

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God and The Arts

The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on animals and birds as seen in art and scripture... this month he considers 'St Francis of Assisi preaching to the fish' by Luc-Olivier Merson

He gave us eyes to see them: 'St Francis of Assisi preaching to the fish'

On 4th October we give thanks for one of the most loved saints in the church - Francis of Assisi. He died in 1226, but his example and witness have lived on to inspire Christians through the centuries.

His was a life focused on the crib and the cross, Lady Poverty and the stigmata, suffering and transfiguration. But also, it was a life marked by a deep love of creation: St Francis had a special nearness to all creatures great and small. As we read the stories of Thomas of Celano, we learn how he tamed a wolf in Gubbio, how swallows would chirp and fly around his head, how lambs would come close and gaze with delight, how his faithful donkey wept as the saint approached death, and in this month's painting, how fish would come to the shore to hear him preach.



Thomas relates how Francis returned some fish that had been caught to the water, telling them not to be caught again. They lingered near the boat, listening to the saint until he gave them permission to leave.

The sermon to the fish is portrayed in this work by Luc-Olivier Merson, a French artist who lived from 1846 to 1920. He is better known for his work with designs for banknotes, postage stamps, and the basilica of Sacré - Coeur in Montmartre. Here in this canvas, we see St Francis with followers young and old, a faithful dog and the fish at the water's edge.

What was the saint telling them? I think that they were loved and valued as part of the rich tapestry of God's creation, and they must return that love. It is the mood of the Benedicite where all things that move in the earth, the skies and the seas are exhorted to praise the Lord and magnify him forever. St Francis captures that mood in his own Canticle of the Sun.

In the weeks and months of lockdown many of us have had the time to look afresh at our relationship with the world of nature as we have journeyed through the seasons of spring and summer. We have learnt to wonder at the richness and variety of creation. We need to take that lesson into the 'new normal' as restrictions are gradually relaxed. The clock and the complexity of life may easily take over again, but St Francis is inviting us to journey with him in simplicity and joy as we praise God with all His creatures:

*'Let all things their Creator bless
and worship Him in humbleness.'*

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CHAPLETOWN & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

The club is continuing to meet using Zoom as the method of having virtual meetings. Although Grenoside Community Centre has re-opened, it is unlikely that face to face meetings will resume until sometime in 2021. Until then, we will be continuing with virtual meetings which have proved to be successful and easy to use, even for those who are not very technical.

The September meeting had local historian, David Templeman, talking about the unusually large Sheffield Deer Park. His talk included the history of Sheffield back to the days of its great castle and showed where the deer park was using modern maps. A fascinating look back at how important Sheffield was in those days.

Although there will be no lunch, the next meetings, will be: -

Wednesday 14th October – Tim Kniebel “Ladybower House”

Wednesday 11th November – Ian Morgan “Footpads, Kings and Highwaymen”

Guests and potential new members are very welcome and until normal meetings resume, you can join for the special price of £10 with no further membership charges until normal meetings resume. If you are interested, please contact the secretary, Trevor Winslow on 07966 317258 or trevor.winslow@outlook.com

ACR

St James the Least of All

Beware what lurks in the church vestry...

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

I am unsurprised that the cleaning lady took exception to you dismantling your motorbike in the church vestry. Clergy vestries are the final repositories of rotting hymn books, ancient cassocks with a certain aroma, buckets with holes in, which are kept “just in case” and dead animals in various states of decomposition; but they are no place for bike chains, disc brakes and inner tubes.

I will concede that vestries seem to attract all those objects no one quite knows what to do with, but which parishioners can't bear to throw away. Flower arrangers creep into my vestry, looking for space for boxes of twine. Decorators arrive with cribs and Easter gardens they are hoping to store. And even the choirmaster occasionally sidles in, trying to slip some anthems past me. I repel them all with vigour, and a firm broom.

One thing I can't keep out of the vestry are the portraits of all my predecessors, who stare down at me reproachfully. The most recent, in colour, stare smugly, knowing that I am still being compared to them, and falling short. Earlier incumbents, in black and white, look mildly reproachful, reminding me that they all held doctorates from Oxford. The hand-drawn portraits from pre-1870 are the worst – they all look as if they drank vinegar for breakfast and argued Pelagianism over lunch, just for fun. I am already rehearsing my own look of pained forgiveness for my leaving photo that will stare down on my own successor, and perpetually irritate him

It also seems to be a tradition that retiring clergy donate their robes for their successors, probably because it spares them a walk to the dustbin. So, a five-foot, 18 stone incumbent will leave a cassock for his six-foot, ten stone successor. There will also be a spare 1960s nylon surplice hanging on the back of the vestry door, to remind you that should you ever forget your own, then this is the horror you will be obliged to wear throughout Evensong.

Notices on the walls will tell you that marriage fees in the 1920s were seven shillings and sixpence, that Communion wine can be obtained from a shop that closed down a generation ago and there will be a copy of the prayer of thanksgiving to be used on the Relief of Mafeking.

My only advice is to remove your bike before it gets bundled up with the Scouts' tents – and lost forever in the churchwarden's shed.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace

Help needed in the church garden

If you can, mow, weed, strim, sweep, pickup sticks, rake leaves or drive a sit on mower, we need you. If you can spare just one or two hours a week it would be a great help. Not only will the church look good, but you might even feel your spiritual and physical well-being improve and in our small way help the environment. We come to the churchyard every Tuesday and Friday afternoon (weather permitting) followed by a drinks and biscuits, sometimes even a cake.
Any help most welcome. Thank you. Pat Wood

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To Autumn - John Keats

Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run;
To bend with apples the moss'd cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For summer has o'er-brimm'd their clammy cells.

Who hath not seen thee oft amid thy store?
Sometimes whoever seeks abroad may find
Thee sitting careless on a granary floor,
Thy hair soft-lifted by the winnowing wind;
Or on a half-reap'd furrow sound asleep,
Drowsed with the fume of poppies, while thy hook
Spares the next swath and all its twined flowers:
And sometimes like a gleaner thou dost keep
Steady thy laden head across a brook;
Or by a cider-press, with patient look,
Thou watchest the last oozings, hours by hours.

Where are the songs of Spring? Ay, where are they?
Think not of them, thou hast thy music too,--
While barred clouds bloom the soft-dying day,
And touch the stubble-plains with rosy hue;
Then in a wailful choir the small gnats mourn
Among the river shallows, borne aloft
Or sinking as the light wind lives or dies;
And full-grown lambs loud bleat from hilly bourn;
Hedge-cricket sing; and now with treble soft
The redbreast whistles from a garden-croft,
And gathering swallows twitter in the skies.



John Keats - 31 October 1795 – 23 February 1821 an English Romantic poet. He was one of the main figures of the second generation of Romantic poets, along with Lord Byron and Percy Bysshe Shelley, despite his works having been in publication for only four years before his death from tuberculosis at the age of 25.

Although his poems were not generally well received by critics during his lifetime, his reputation grew after his death, and by the end of the 19th century, he had become one of the most beloved of all English poets. He had a significant influence on a diverse range of poets and writers. Jorge Luis Borges stated that his first encounter with Keats' work was a great experience that he felt all of his life.

Put it this way...

- A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
- A pessimist's blood type is always b-negative.
- My wife really likes to make pottery, but to me it's just kiln time.
- A Freudian slip is when you say one thing but mean your mother.
- I used to work in a blanket factory, but it folded.
- Marriage is the mourning after the knot before.
- Sea captains don't like crew cuts.
- A gossip is someone with a great sense of rumour.

Prayer for the Month

***Eternal God,
you crown the year with your goodness
and you give us the fruits of the earth in their due season:
grant that we may use them to your glory,
for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being;
through Jesus Christ our lord. Amen.***

For me October means Harvest. Churches filled with tinned goods and home-grown potatoes and carrots - but not this year!

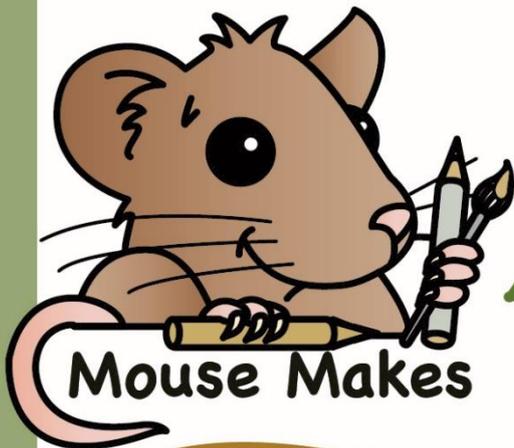
The annual celebration of Harvest is firstly a Thanksgiving. We celebrate the fruitfulness and variety of the produce of the earth, we remember with gratitude those whose work on the land, in transport or retail, ensures that we are fed.

Harvest is also a timely reminder that, as it says in Psalm 24 "The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof." The earth and it's bounty are a gift and we are not owners of the creation but stewards of what is Another's. We depend upon God's creation and yet we treat it as a disposable resource. We pollute the air and the waters; we treat God's world as a rubbish tip.

This year at St Mary's there will be a celebration of Harvest, on Sunday 11th October at 10am, but it will be very different. Yet we will still remember that the good things that we too often take for granted are God's gift to us, to be received with joy and gratitude. We will remember those whose work ensures that we have food on our tables - this year so many of us were involved in delivering food to those who were sheltering. We will also remember those who struggle to feed themselves and their families, and not only in the two-thirds world, but even in the UK today!

Finally, we will thank the God of creation who has given us skills and gifts to use for God's glory and in the service of our neighbours. The God who calls us to be good stewards of His beautiful and fruitful creation.

God bless,
Tim



Jesus said:
 "The kingdom of heaven is like a _____ **seed** that a man took and sowed in his **field**. It is the _____ of all the seeds, but when it has grown it becomes a tree, so that the wild _____ come and nest in its branches."

Read
 Matthew
 13:31-32

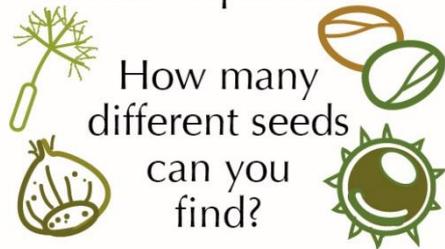
"**GOD** is the **one** who gives seed to those who **plant**, and He gives **bread** for **food**. And **GOD** will give you spiritual seed and make that seed grow. He will **produce** a great **harvest** from your goodness."

2 Corinthians 9:10

Jesus said:
 "You do not need more **faith**. There is no 'more' or 'less' in faith. If you have a bare kernel of faith, say the size of a poppy seed, you could say to this sycamore tree
 "Go jump into the lake" and it would do it."
 Luke 17:6

So the one who plants is not important, and the one who **waters** is not important. Only **GOD** is important because He is the one who makes things grow."
 1 Corinthians 3:7

Look out for seeds in the park and garden and in your kitchen store cupboard.



How many different seeds can you find?

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

Find the words in **bold** on this page in the word search



Editor's Lockdown Humour

A man who has trained his dog to play the trumpet on the London Underground said, "He went from Barking to Tooting in just over an hour"

If anyone gets an email from me about canned meat, don't open it. It's [Spam](#).

You can't control everything – your [hair](#) was put on your head to remind you of that - In my case 'hair today gone tomorrow'...

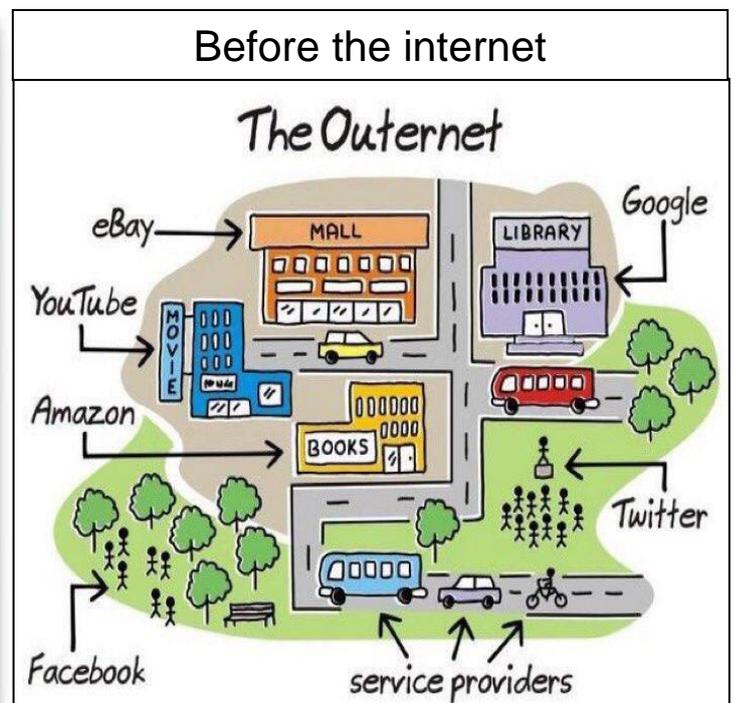
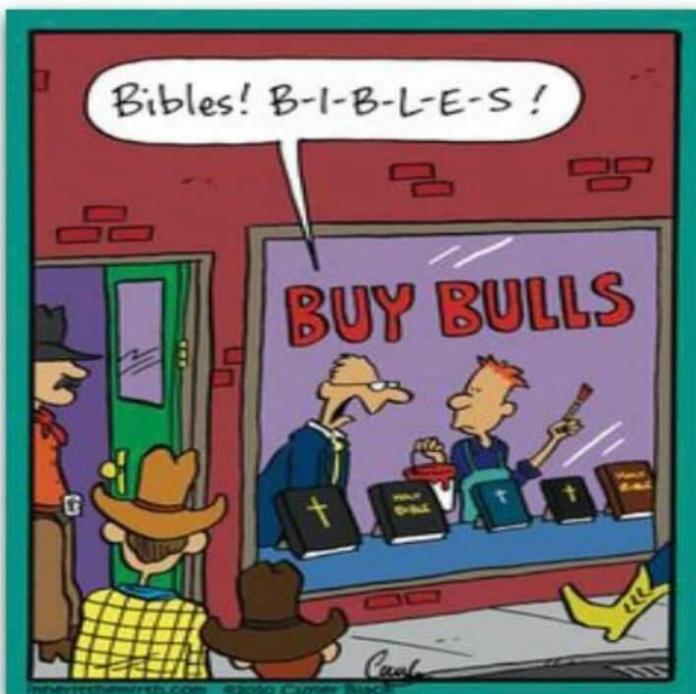
Some people won't admit their faults. I would, if I had any...

Search Google for - or click on the links

[Askew](#) [Do a barrel roll](#) [Google in 1998](#) [Breathing exercise](#) [Flip a coin](#) [Calculator](#)

A 4-year old has been learning Spanish for a year and still can't say the word please, which I think is poor for four.

I don't care who your dad is, this is an illegal gathering



From the Registers

Baptisms

Sunday 27th September

Connie Pearson

*May she know the love of God in her life and may all things
of the Spirit live and grow in her*

Weddings

Saturday 26th September

James Gowers & Terri-Anne Ellis

Saturday 26th September

Leo Dawson & Sophie Smith

Sunday 27th September

Daniel Hogg & Danielle Stones

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

Funerals

Wednesday 16th September

Anthony Scarlett

Thursday 17th September

Michael Thomas Breen

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

Children's Society Letter 16 September 2020

Your change makes a big difference. Thank you!

Dear Mrs Blackburn

Thank you so much to you and the box holders of **St Mary the Virgin's Church, Ecclesfield** for collectively raising a final total of **£1,048.82** in 2019 for The Children's Society.

I appreciate that counting and banking all those coins is not always an easy task, so I want you to know how grateful we are for your dedication and commitment. You and your box holders are helping improve the lives of children who feel scared, unloved and like they simply don't matter.

Once again, on behalf of all the young people your gift supports, thank you so much for caring and making this life-changing work possible.

To show our gratitude and to celebrate your achievements, I have enclosed a thank you poster that can be completed and displayed with your fundraising total. Please do display this so your network can also receive our heartfelt thanks.

If you have any queries please call our friendly Supporter Care Team on **0300 303 7000**. You can also visit our website at **childrenssociety.org.uk** for more information on how you're changing children's lives and other ways you can get involved.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Moran
Head of Supporter Relations

God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M. Bancewicz, Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion, Cambridge, and a member of Christians in Science. See www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/churches and <http://www.cis.org.uk>

Do the Bible and Science contradict each other?

For the Christian, the Bible is God's word to us; it tells us about His character and creative purposes, how He has related to people in the past, and His promises for the future. Science is a specific way of studying the world, exploring the physical properties of things – a wonderful way to explore God's creation. So, the question to ask if the Bible and Science seem to be contradicting each other is, have we made a mistake in interpreting one or the other?

Science is very good at answering certain types of questions: 'What size is it?', 'How fast does it travel?', 'What is it made of?', and so on. Questions like 'What's it for?', 'What should I do with it?', and 'What's it worth?' can't be answered using scientific methods. Some of the misunderstanding in discussions of science and religion come from not recognising the limits of science.

It's also important to recognise what the Bible is, and what sorts of questions it can answer. The Bible was written well before people began to investigate the world in ways we would recognise as scientific. Of course, people in the Ancient Near East were studying the world around them, observing the movements of the stars, the processes of life and death that happened all around them, the seasons, the behaviour of physical objects, and so on. But they did not study the mechanisms underlying these things systematically using the tools of science, and they did not see or describe the world in scientific terms – not because they weren't intelligent, but because science as we know it wasn't happening at that time.

Instead, the biblical writers used words that were commonly used in their own cultures to record events, share truth and wisdom, and tell stories that convey deep truth about God's character. If we want to understand God's intention in inspiring these words, we need to do some careful work to connect with those ancient writers and find out what they meant, before we can discover what those words mean to us today.

These principles can help us have far more fruitful conversations about science and Christian faith. If we allow any apparent conflict between Science and the Bible to fuel our search for understanding, not only will we learn as individuals, but we will be able to draw others into a conversation that is relevant to wider society today.

Saint of the month - Edith Cavell, nurse 12th October

Edith Cavell is a good saint for NHS workers this year: she cared for the sick despite the danger to her own safety.

Edith was a vicar's daughter from Swardston in Norfolk, where she was born in 1865. She became a governess, but her heart was for nursing, so she went on to train at the London Hospital, before nursing in various hospitals such as St Pancras and Manchester.

When Edith was 42, she decided to go abroad, and was appointed matron of a large training centre for nurses in Brussels. She was still there seven years later, when the First World War broke out and German troops invaded Belgium on their way to Paris and the Channel Ports.

Edith's nursing school became a Red Cross hospital, and she turned down the opportunity to return to the safety of England. Instead, her nurses tended wounded soldiers from both German and Allied armies.

Sadly, in 1915, when the Germans began their occupation of Brussels, they took a dim view of Edith's work. But they would have been even more unhappy had they known she was helping to smuggle 200 British soldiers across the border into the Netherlands!

Finally, the Germans arrested Edith in August 1915, and put her into solitary confinement. They tricked her into confessing to a charge which carried the death penalty. But Edith refused to show either regret at what she had done, or any fear or bitterness towards her captors.

On 11th October 1915, the night before her execution, Edith was visited by the Anglican chaplain to Brussels, the Revd Stirling Gahan. Together they said the words of *Abide with Me*, and Edith received her last Holy Communion.

She told Gahan: "I am thankful to have had these ten weeks of quiet to get ready. Now I have had them and have been kindly treated here. I expected my sentence and I believe it was just. Standing, as I do, in view of God and eternity, I realise that patriotism is not enough. I must have no hatred or bitterness to anyone."

Edith was shot by a firing squad next day, on 12th October 1915.

After the war her body was exhumed and buried in Norwich Cathedral. Her memorial service in Westminster Abbey attracted thousands. A commemorative statue of her stands near Trafalgar Square.

Quotations for October

With Harvest in mind...

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving. - [Psalm 95:2](#)

'Tis the season for kindling the fire of hospitality in the hall, the genial fire of charity in the heart. - [Washington Irving](#)

How worthy it is to remember former benefits when we come to beg for new. - Stephen Charnock

It is only with gratitude that life becomes rich. - [Dietrich Bonhoeffer](#)

Don't grumble because you don't get what you want; be grateful you don't get what you deserve. - *Anon*

There is nothing so stirring in the matter of moving us to pray as being thankful to God for what He has done for us and with us. - *E F Hallock*

Some miscellaneous observations on daily life and other people...

He is not only dull himself, he is the cause of dullness in others. - *Samuel Johnson*

He is simply a shiver looking for a spine to run up. - *Paul Keating*

The easiest way to find more time to do all the things you want to do is to turn off the TV. - *O A Battista*

Following the lines of least resistance is what makes men and river crooked. – *Napoleon Hill*

If you can hold your tongue, you can hold anything. [E Stanley Jones](#)

Simplicity - of *all* things, is the hardest to be copied. - [Richard Steele](#)

Justice is the handmaiden of truth, and when truth dies, justice is buried with it. - [Ravi Zacharias](#)

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The Gardening Year – October 2020

A Summary of the Months' Work - New lawns mow when 3 in. high. Roll to firm seedlings if loose. Established lawns. Remedy defective drainage, aerate, scarify hollow tine and treat with autumn fertiliser. Roses – Prepare new rose beds for planting, digging well and mixing in plenty of fertilising material. Continue to spray against greenfly and fungus diseases. Hardy Herbaceous Plants – Begin planting herbaceous perennials. Transplant plants needing moving.

Tidy beds and borders - remove deadheads and jeep down seedling weeds. Divide old clumps of perennials and replant the vigorous outer shoots. Dahlias – Cut down the top growth of dahlias as soon as it is blackened by frost, then lift dahlias carefully with a fork. Stand tuber upside down in a frost free place to dry out, Then place them in boxes and cover them with slightly damp peat after dusting the crowns with flowers of sulphur store in a frost free greenhouse or shed for the winter. Chrysanthemums – Over winter plants by leaving them in the garden, or lift them, bedding them in a cold frame or housing them in the greenhouse.

Gladioli - Lift corms before the winter frosts, cutting off all but ½ in. of stem and placing in a dry airy place when dry. Store the clean corms in trays or shallow boxes. Irises – Tidy bearded iris bed before winter. Remove dead leaves and weeds and trim longer leaves by a quarter. Lilies – plant as many of your lilies as possible. Allow lily stems to die down naturally. Lift some Lily bulbs from the garden and pot up to grow as pot plants. Sweet Peas – Sow sweet peas in the open ground if desired, under glass. Sow sweet peas under glass or in pots or boxes, treating them with a proprietary fungicide dressing. Place the pots or boxes in a cold frame and remove the lights when the seedlings appear.

Colin Williams

Eat the Seasons – 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

Visit - www.eattheseasons.co.uk

When Oxford accepted women

A century ago, on 7th October 1920, Oxford University allowed women to become full members and study for full degrees for the first time, and the first 100 women were admitted.

Women had been attending lectures, taking examinations and gaining honours since the 1870s. Four women's colleges were established in those years – but no woman had been allowed to graduate and receive a degree although between 1904 and 1907 the so-called “steamboat ladies” travelled to the more liberal University of Dublin to graduate.

The 1920 decision was retrospective, and so at the first ceremony at which women were able to graduate more than 40 women did so. The first was Annie Rogers, who had achieved first class honours in Latin and Greek in 1877, and first-class honours in Ancient History in 1879. She graduated on 26th October 1920.

Despite this leap forward, a quota limiting the number of female Oxford students to fewer than a quarter of the men was not removed until 1957, when the Warden of Wadham College, Sir Maurice Bowra, described it as “foolish and finicky” and declared that women were a “civilising influence”.

Cambridge University did not give women equal status until 1947.

Discovering the vital route from Atlantic to Pacific

It was 500 years ago, on 21st October 1520, that Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan's Spanish expedition to the East Indies discovered the Strait of Magellan at the southern tip of Chile.

His ships, backed by King Charles I of Spain (soon to become Charles V of the Holy Roman Empire) were seeking shelter in a bay after a foiled mutiny when they unexpectedly found that they could continue sailing west – though the route among many islands and channels was tortuous, with mainland South America to the north and Tierra del Fuego to the south.

Until the creation of the Panama Canal in 1914, this was a vital passage between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, though it has a cold, foggy climate and is prone to fierce storms. Wrecks of ships can be seen along its banks.

Magellan and his men took over a month to get through the strait (or straits). During that time the master of one of the remaining ships mutinied and sailed home.

The surviving ships continued on what became the first circumnavigation of the globe, though Magellan himself was killed in a fight with natives in the Philippines, and Spaniard Juan Sabastian Elcano took command.

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Mothers' Union

Dear Members

It almost goes without saying that we have been unable to meet over the last few months. The Committee have decided that we will try and resume our monthly meetings with the AGM in January 2021. But who knows what the winter months may hold in store for the pandemic.

Annual subscriptions are due again in January 2021 and have risen to £23.00. The £23.00 will now include a twice-yearly magazine that will replace Families First, which until now has always been an additional subscription, which Norma Priest has kindly organised for some of us. The Families Worldwide Magazine which includes the Prayer Diary will also be included for all members and will be published towards the end of each year.

I shall be collecting the £23.00 in January 2021. Unfortunately with the closure of most of the banks in the area I am unable to accept cash. So, it is cheques only please, made payable to St Mary's Ecclesfield Mothers' Union. All monies must be in by the middle of February please. If you wish to pay in instalments, that is fine, just have a word with Stephanie Hartshorne or myself.

Best wishes to everyone for a safe winter.

Jennifer Armeson

Treasurer

Tele: 0114 245 6065

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

D	E	A	C	O	N		A	P	P	E	A	R	
A		F			E		G		R		L		
W	I	T	S			H	E	A	V	E	N	L	Y
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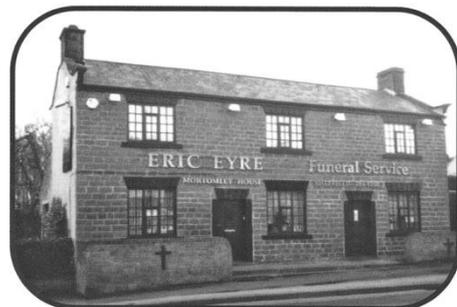
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1989 - 1990



It is time to eat Venison

Much of the venison produced in the UK is from deer that roam freely, rather than being intensively farmed, resulting in superior meat. Good quality venison is tender, tasty and close textured, which means it's easy to produce great results using simple recipes.



Meat from deer has been important in the human diet since prehistoric times. The term venison (from the Latin *venari* - to hunt) originally referred to meat from any wild animal. For centuries, deer parks (Sheffield was once one of the biggest) owned by kings and aristocrats have been used as a source of sport and high-quality food.

This concentration of valuable meat with access restricted to the elite few has long been a source of conflict between poacher and gamekeeper.

Deer are ruminant animals belonging to the family [Cervidae](#). They are characterised by having antlers, rather than horns, and small, unspecialised stomachs. Instead of grazing on vast quantities of grass, deer tend to select easily digestible shoots, young leaves, fruit, fungi and lichens. Three species are commonly used for food in Britain: the red deer (largely from the Scottish Highlands); the fallow; and the roe - the smallest and considered the best by many cooks.

Buying and Storing - Go for park (free-range) or wild venison over farmed. The strength of flavour and fat content in venison can vary quite a bit between sources so buying from a farmers' market or trusted butcher will enable you to ask what to expect and pick up cooking tips. Store for a few days in the fridge (or longer if vacuum packed).

Cooking - Venison can be cooked in all the ways you would cook beef. It is a good idea to compensate for the lower fat content, for example by using moist-cooking methods, by barding or by marinating before cooking. Good quality steaks and tenderloin can be pan-fried but try to avoid overcooking. Serving with a sauce is recommended. To maintain maximum succulence, Mrs Beeton (in her *Book of Household Management*) recommends serving venison on very hot plates as venison fat has a high melting point. This seems like sensible advice as cold venison is certainly much less appetising than, say, cold beef. Excellent partnering flavours for venison include juniper, gin, red wine, port, rosemary and redcurrant.

Nutrition - venison has higher iron levels than any other red meat, contains omega 3 fats and less fat than a skinned breast of chicken.

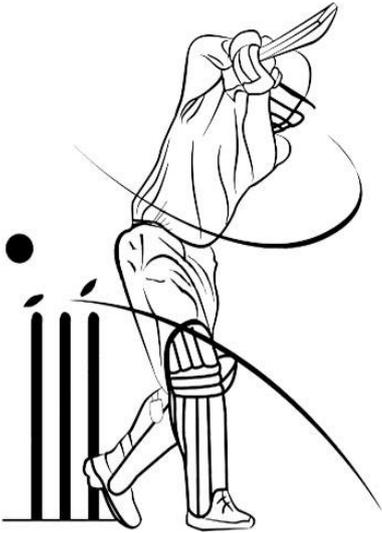
In his diaries, [Samuel Pepys](#) makes a number of references to venison, including:

At the Clerk's chamber I met with Simons and Luellin, and went with them to Mr. Mount's chamber at the Cock Pit, where we had some rare pot venison, and ale to abundance till almost twelve at night, and after a song round we went home.

...and...

Mr. Moore and I and several others being invited to-day by Mr. Goodman, a friend of his, we dined at the Bullhead upon the best venison pasty that ever I eat of in my life, and with one dish more, it was the best dinner I ever was at.

Whitley Hall Cricket Club



2020 has been an extremely strange year for everyone and most of our activities. Cricket followed this pattern with the sport given the go-ahead, with some clear precautions, from 18th July.

The senior teams had mini-leagues set-up with a final at the end of the season although there would be no promotion or relegation. The first XI played in the West half of the normal ECB Premier League and had had some good matches with the defeats surprisingly coming at home.

As an example, on 1st August there was an exciting match against Sheffield Collegiate and it went down to the line. Whitley scored 181 all out and with one ball left, Collegiate were also on 181 and scored a single run to edge the match.

The final game of the season was a postponed match at Wakefield where Whitley chased a target of 165 and won in the final over by 6 wickets. So Whitley topped the Western section and played the winners of the Eastern section, Doncaster, in the final at Treeton on 19th September. Doncaster batted first and achieved 167 for 9 with all overs used. In a brilliant reply, Whitley achieved 168 for 6 with 7 full overs remaining. Captain James Moorhouse proudly lifted the Jack Bland Trophy and Neil Longhurst was awarded man of the match for his batting.

The 2nd XI did not have the same success as the 1st team, with some players choosing not to play this year and all the junior teams were able to have some limited games with mixed success. The club also ran a week long summer cricket camp for young players in August which was well attended.

I am sure that you are all hoping for a more normal year in 2021 and we look forward to seeing you when cricket commences again next April.

Contact: Joe Webster, Secretary: 0796 901 4592

Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

- 1 He must be 'the husband of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well' (1 Timothy 3:12) (6)
- 4 'For we must all — before the judgement seat of Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:10) (6)
- 7 'They reeled and staggered like drunken men; they were at their — end' (Psalm 107:27) (4)
- 8 See 19 Across
- 9 It concerned who among the disciples would be the greatest (Luke 9:46) (8)
- 13 Formed by the Jews in Thessalonica to root out Paul and Silas (Acts 17:5) (3)
- 16 'He has sent me to bind up the — ' (Isaiah 61:1) (6-7)
- 17 Moved rapidly on foot (Matthew 28:8) (3)
- 19 and 8 ' — a great company of the — host appeared with the angel' (Luke 2:13) (8,8)
- 24 Hindrance (Romans 14:13) (8)
- 25 Comes between Luke and Acts (4)
- 26 Empower (Acts 4:29) (6)
- 27 'Get these out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a — !' (John 2:16) (6)

Clues Down

- 1 Sunrise (Psalm 119:147) (4)
- 2 The part of the day when Cornelius the Caesarean centurion had a vision of an angel of God (Acts 10:3) (9)
- 3 He was one of those who returned with Zerubbabel from exile in Babylon to Jerusalem (Nehemiah 7:7) (5)
- 4 'No one can see the kingdom of God unless he is born — ' (John 3:3) (5)
- 5 Animal hunted or killed as food (Ezekiel 22:25) (4)
- 6 'He encouraged them — — remain true to the Lord' (Acts 11:23) (3,2)
- 10 Ruses (anag.) (5)
- 11 Jewish priestly vestment (Exodus 28:6) (5)
- 12 Visible sign of what had been there (Daniel 2:35) (5)
- 13 This was the trade of Alexander, who did Paul 'a great deal of harm' (2 Timothy 4:14) (9)
- 14 'This is my — , which is for you; do this in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:24) (4)
- 15 One of Noah's great-great-grandsons (Genesis 10:24) (4)
- 18 Traditionally the first British Christian martyr (5)

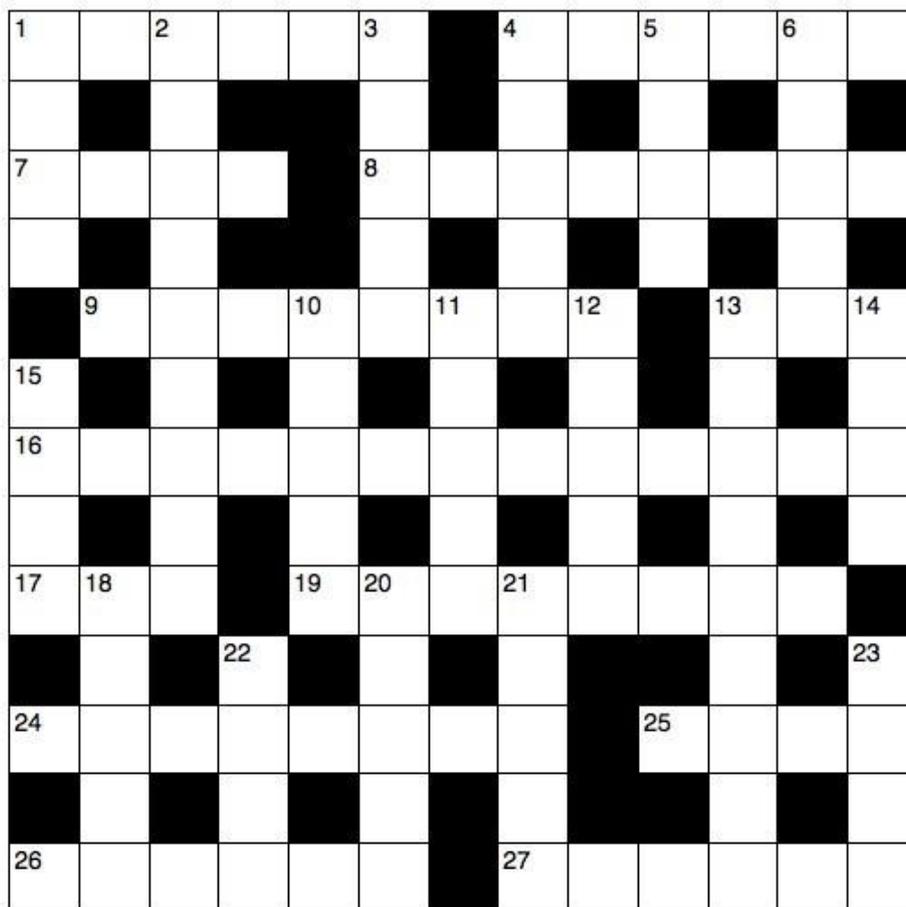
20 Relationship of Ner to Saul (1 Samuel 14:50) (5)

21 Jacob had one at a place he named Bethel while on his way to Haran, fleeing from Esau (Genesis 28:12) (5)

22 Bats (anag.) (4)

23 'You strain out a — but swallow a camel' (Matthew 23:24) (4)

Solution is on Page 21



Prayers and Poems Page

Jericho

Jericho had mighty walls –
A well-defended fort,
'A year long siege before it falls',
Or so the soldiers thought.

The gates, of solid oaken wood
Were closed and barred so tight,
No-one went in for no-one could,
And Joshua took fright!

But then he did what wise men do
And fell down on his knees
And sought the Lord, in answer who
Then uttered words like these:

"The city's yours – it's troops and king
"I'll place them in your hand
"If you'll just do this simple thing –
"And do as I have planned."

"For just six days you all must walk
"Around those walls so strong,
"The priests and troops, but do not talk –
"And bring the ark along!"

"On day seven – seven times around
"Those mighty walls you go
"And shout this time – make lots of sound!
"And seven trumpets blow!"

"And you will see, if you do that
"The city's walls, so tall
"Will start to crack, and fall down flat
"And Jericho shall fall!"

The people did as God had said
(It is the only way)
And we must follow where they led
And really learn to pray!

By Nigel Beeton

Nigel writes: 'Followers of the Morning Prayer service on the Church of England website will be aware that we have recently been following the book of Judges. Some of the stories in there make difficult reading in these enlightened times – what, for example, can we possibly learn from the near-total destruction of a city and its inhabitants? Except that, sometimes, our own problems and challenges seem to be just as insurmountable as those city walls.'

Ode to Job

What mysteries this book unfurls
Of a God who works His grand design
As a curtain is drawn in the heavenly realm
And plans are unveiled for all mankind.

Who can fathom His intricate workings
And the purposes that He has planned,
Or know the moving of His ways,
How could Job ever understand?

They came from afar to offer advice
Why all of this pain and woe should descend,
They wrestled with all that had happened to Job
Alas, no comfort could they give their friend.

God speaks to Job, who then makes reply,
'These are things too wonderful to understand'
Our knowledge like Job's is only in part
The bigger picture is held in Deity's hands.

By Megan Carter

A Helping Hand

There is much we can do just to brighten
This world of all take and no give,
There's a great deal that we can contribute
Through the everyday lives that we live.

By supporting one's elderly neighbours
Or through lending a hand in some way
It's by taking a bunch of spring flowers
To someone to brighten their day.

It's by sparing a few precious hours
In the service of those most in need
It's all about setting a standard
And trying to give others a lead

It's the way that we tend to treat others
And help and aid folks in distress
In the care and assistance we offer
That will set us apart from the rest.

The choice that we face is quite simple
The rewards plain for all men to see
As you did all of this to my brother
Then said Jesus, you did it to me.

By Colin Hammacott

Noah and the Ark – 2020 version

In the year 2020, Noah was living in England when the Lord came unto him and said, "Once again, the earth has become too wicked to continue. Build another Ark and save two of every living thing. You have six months before I will start the unending rain for 40 days and 40 nights."

Six months later, the Lord looked down and saw Noah weeping in his garden, but no Ark. "Noah", He roared, "I'm about to start the rain! Where is the Ark?"

"Forgive me Lord", begged Noah "but things have been difficult. I needed Building Regulations approval because the Ark was over 30 square metres. I've been arguing with the Fire Brigade about the need for a sprinkler system. My neighbours claim that I should have obtained planning permission for building the Ark in my garden because it is a development of the site even though in my opinion it is a temporary structure, but the roof is too high.

"The Local Area Access Group complained that my ramp was going to be too steep and the inside of the Ark wasn't fully accessible. Getting the wood has been another problem. All the decent trees have Tree Preservation Orders on them, and we live in a Site of Special Scientific Interest set up in order to preserve the Spotted Owl. I tried to convince them that I needed the wood to save the owls - but no go!

"When I started gathering the animals the RSPCA sued me for intending to confine wild animals without the proper paperwork. The County Council, the Environment Agency and the Rivers Authority have ruled that I can't build the Ark until they've conducted an Environmental Impact Study on your proposed flood. The Trade Unions insist that I can't use my sons to build the Ark; I can only employ members of the Shipbuilding and Allied Trades union. Finally, Customs and Excise have seized all my assets, claiming I am going to attempt to leave the country illegally with endangered species.

"So, forgive me Lord, but it will take me at least another ten years to finish this Ark."

Suddenly the skies cleared, the sun began to shine, and a rainbow stretched across the sky. "No need for me to destroy the world after all," observed God.

"The government has the matter already in hand."

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
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greens. Open Wednesday + Saturday
10 am to 12 noon
Tel: Robert 0114 2461095

Friends of Ecclesfield Library

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Tel: 0114 246 3651
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 - 5.45 - 7.00 pm
Shane Porteous
shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk

Ecclesfield Scouts

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)
Thursday 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm
Leader - Bryony Hemming
Tel. 07983 719155

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

Whitley Hall Cricket Club

Matches every Saturday and some
Sundays and weekdays.
Please make contact if you wish to play or
learn.
Secretary: Joe Webster, 0796 901 4592
jwebster@horburygroup.com

Chapeltown and District PROBUS Club

Meets every 2nd Wednesday in the month
in Grenoside Community Centre
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Secretary Trevor Winslow 07966 317258
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If you would like your local group advertised, please contact:
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