

News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine July 2021

stmarysecclesfield.org.uk

~~Price 60p~~

First Words

As July approaches we start the month still under Covid 19 restrictions. Our services will continue to be both 'in-person' and available online. Apologies for the technical issues that have interfered with the online streaming in recent weeks - we are working to resolve the problems!

The calendar of events for July will be affected by the government announcement on July 19th. If all restrictions are lifted there may be 'extra' events later in the month, and if things do not lift some planned events may have to be rescheduled!

As you will see from the diary (page 11) there are lots of weddings and blessing planned for July. Many of these couples have had to re-arrange their weddings, some of them several times. Please pray for all the couples who will be married at St Mary's this month.

God bless,
Tim

Pilgrimage routes to explore in the North

A 'Santiago of the North' has been launched, encouraging people to walk ancient pilgrimage routes to Durham dating back more than 1,000 years.

Around 30 churches in the dioceses of Durham and Newcastle are part of four revived pilgrimage routes starting from villages and towns in the region, re-creating the routes taken by pilgrims to Durham Cathedral.

'The Way of Learning, The Way of Life, The Way of Light and The Way of Love,' allows pilgrims to walk from 27 to 45 miles while exploring places of historical and religious significance.

Modern-day pilgrims can visit churches and historical monuments, museums and galleries on the route, including shrines and places associated with Saints Cuthbert, Bede, Hilda, Helen, Wilfrid, Oswald, Aidan and Godric. Further pilgrimage routes *The Angels Way* (30 miles) and the *Way of the Sea* (62 miles) link Lindisfarne and Durham, the two most important pilgrimage centres in the region.

Northern Saints Trail Coordinator David Pott says: "There is a 21st-Century revival in pilgrimage – only 2,500 people walked the Camino to Santiago in 1985, but there were 347,538 pilgrims recorded in 2019."

"Pilgrimages are attracting people who are not necessarily of strong Christian faith but who want to explore more." <https://www.thisisdurham.com/northernsaints>

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

Front Cover – Water Lily – birth flower for July

Back Cover – View through St. Mary's lych gate

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Prayer for the Month

**The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full.
Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen**

The 23rd Psalm is one of the great prayers of the Bible. It is a Psalm of David - commissioned, inspired, or perhaps even written by David himself.

This prayer is one of the passages of Scripture that I have memorised, so that it is always with me, even when I don't have access to a Bible.

The Psalm reflects David's youth when, as the youngest son, he shepherded the family flock. He led the sheep in the wilderness to safe pastures and refreshing streams. He protected them from thieves and wild animals. When the shepherd was with them the sheep were safe.

When I pray this Psalm I am reminded of the prophecies of Jeremiah and Ezekiel in the Old Testament. These prophets condemned the kings and priests of their day as false shepherd who exploited the flock entrusted to them.

Through Jeremiah God promised to send a Shepherd-King who would care for the people, a Messiah who would lead them to safety and defend them from their enemies. Through Ezekiel God said "I myself will shepherd my people."

When Jesus came to our world, calling the lost and broken, healing the sick and leading all who follow Him to the eternal kingdom of God, He called Himself the Good Shepherd. He fulfilled the ancient prophecies and He fulfilled the promise of this Psalm.

When I pray this Psalm, I am reminded that God in Christ is with me in all places and situations; in green pastures and even in the valley of the shadow of death. I am assured that God will never forsake me, but the God will get me through the pilgrimage of life. It also reminds me that Jesus promises every one of us a place in His Father's house for ever.

I always think of this Psalm as a prayer for the journey of life. When we pray it we know that we do not travel alone, that God is with us every step of the way, in good times and in uncertain times.

I have prayed the 23rd Psalm many, many times in the past year. I will continue to pray it as we emerge out of lockdown into what will become our 'new normal' way of living. I know that whatever the future brings the Lord is my shepherd, and He will be with me. - He will be with us - forever.

God bless,

Tim.

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God and The Arts

Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with 'The Peaceable Kingdom' by Edward Hicks. It now hangs in the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC.

You can see a copy of the painting at: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Edward_Hicks_-_Peaceable_Kingdom.jpg

Promise and Fulfilment

When St Peter preached his first sermon on the day of Pentecost, he showed how the life, death and resurrection of Jesus had to be understood in the light of the Old Testament. The promise of the Old was granted fulfilment in the New. This is how we understand the unity of the two Testaments: the messianic hope in one finds full expression in the other. We read of the Suffering Servant in Isaiah and look to the life-giving sacrifice of Jesus. Earlier in that prophet we read of a wondrous Child who is granted the spirit of the Lord to bring Paradise once more to the world:



'The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them...They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.' (Isaiah 11:6,9)

That vision of peace and harmony inspired this month's painting, 'The Peaceable Kingdom' by Edward Hicks. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1780 and worked as a carriage and sign maker. After a rebellious adolescence, he became a Quaker, living as a preacher and minister before taking up his brushes. His fellow Quakers were uneasy with this pursuit of such a worldly profession, and so Edward Hicks tried his hand at farming. His efforts proved unsuccessful, and he returned to painting, creating a whole series of canvases on this single theme. He painted almost a hundred versions of the Peaceable Kingdom of which over 60 still exist. This one is from 1834.

The foreground is occupied by not just one child, but several. They are innocent and free, playing with the animals around – lion, tiger, leopard, bear, wolf, cow and lamb. There is no sign of 'nature red in tooth and claw' here for all is peace and tranquillity. The bear and cow nudge each other in the bottom corner with no fear and no assertion of strength. That vision of peace is being realised in the distant scene, where we see William Penn and his fellow Quakers working on a treaty of co-existence with the Indians. The animals in the foreground symbolise the human traits we see at work in the background: leadership and strength, sensitivity and gentleness.

As he worked on later versions of this painting, Edward Hicks knew that such peace was not an easy and simple achievement. Arguments and misunderstandings divided his own flock, and as a result the animals he painted look tired and anxious with sad eyes and white whiskers.

But here in 1834 there is a freshness and a promise of paradise restored. The cow and the calf, the bear and the bear cub, and the other animals are at one with the children playing. That harmony can be realised in human affairs also, the artist is saying. 'Follow the Inner Light' and Isaiah's prophecy can be fulfilled in our world. It needs both the innocence and strength we see here; it needs action and waiting, it needs wisdom and gentleness as we take counsel one with another. Follow those qualities to be channels of God's peace to make this world the Peaceable Kingdom.

St James the Least of All

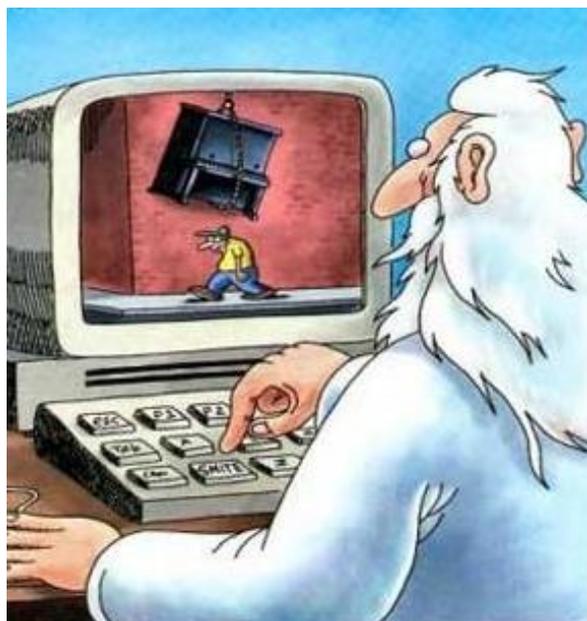
On why the clergy should avoid computers

The Rectory
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

Thank you for the kind offer of your old computer, but I do not want it. I know you find it a fundamental basic of daily life, but I do not, and I intend to keep things that way.

This is despite the fact that our diocesan office now takes it for granted that all of us clergy have a computer. Indeed, the diocesan secretary and I have had several awkward phone calls upon this very subject. He can't believe that I really don't have one, and suspects that I am simply hiding my email address from him so that he cannot send me the daily diocesan briefings, weekly questionnaires, and constant notification of all sorts of meetings and training days. But I remain firm: I have survived in ministry for nearly 50 years without a computer, and I don't intend to change now. When he gets tetchy with me, I take the high moral ground and remind him that St Paul did not have a computer.



Besides, it would not end with just a computer. Next, I would be obliged to get a printer and then ink cartridges and then maybe some sort of virus would attack me. As I have no idea about any of this, I might have to allow someone into the vicarage to sort it out, and even worse, I might even have to pay them. My money can be far more usefully spent on good claret.

Being without a computer also saves me much aggravation. From what I can gather, most computer owners spend significant parts of their lives either trying to get their machine to do something that it refuses to do, or else getting help from someone in a remote part of the world who speaks a jargon only distantly related to English, who assures you that whatever you did, it would have been better if you hadn't.

So I have decided that should I ever REALLY need to use a computer for something, I will visit our local primary school and get a six-year-old to do the job for me, which they do with effortless efficiency, speed and accuracy.

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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Thought for the Month

All of our hopes are fixed on Monday the 19th of July. We long for restrictions to be lifted so that we can see each other's faces again. Grandparents long to hold grandchildren. Families long to meet and hug and be together again. We want to be able to travel; to do something as simple as visiting the supermarket without wondering if we have a mask in the car and making sure that we are two metres away from the person in front.

But of course, after nearly a year and a half of restrictions it will seem strange. Some will be cautious in re-emerging into the wider world, while others cannot wait.

It seems to me that the thing that we have most missed, that we are learning to value perhaps more than we did before the pandemic, is connection and community..

This month I want to look ahead to three things that will help us to connect that are planned for the Summer and early Autumn. I want to invite you to take part and to reconnect - with the wider community, with one another and with God.

Because things are still very provisional, and plans may have to be revised - something that we have all become good at in the past year, the only date is Tuesday 3rd August. On that day, provided that restrictions are lifted on the 19th of July, we are planning to re-open the Coffee Shop, every Tuesday and Friday 10am to 12 noon.

It will be once again a place to meet, a place to chat to old and new friends; a place where together we build community. The Coffee Shop has never been a place just for people who come to Sunday services - it is open to all; a reminder to the Church and the parish, that St Mary's is not 'our' building. We have the privilege of caring for it on behalf of the wider community and also of future generations. That is why any profits raised by the Coffee Shop, do not go into general Church funds, but go towards the care and upkeep of the Church building and grounds.

One way of reconnecting with each other after the lockdown would be meeting in house-groups. Over time, as we pray for each other, worship together and study the Bible, we grow into a deeper relationship with the other members of the Church family. The bonds formed in house-groups mean that we support each other in life's hard times and we celebrate and rejoice together when there is something to celebrate.

I believe that house-groups and the relationships formed in them help us to truly become one family in Christ. Unfortunately, at the moment, there are no house groups at St Mary's.

So in the early Autumn I will be starting a 'house-group' in Church. Over about an hour and a half we will have time for worship and fellowship, for prayer and prayer ministry and for some teaching.

Everyone is welcome to take part, even if you have never been part of such a group in the past. If enough people are interested, we will be holding one group during the daytime and one group on an evening. Look out for more information.

Finally re-connecting with God. Again in the early Autumn I will begin a beginners' meditation group meeting monthly in Church. No previous knowledge or experience is needed. We will learn together the ancient traditions of prayer, using Scripture and silence, music, and our imaginations. Again, all are welcome, even (especially) those who have never experienced meditative or contemplative prayer.

Finally, once lockdown is ended, we hope to re-start the monthly Saturday Prayer Breakfasts, which I know those who used to attend have missed in the past year and a half.

May God bless you,

Tim.

Opening and closing churches in the UK

There were an estimated 45,500 congregations or churches in the UK in 2020: 79%, in England, 8% (3,700 churches) in Wales, 8% (3,500 churches) in Scotland and 5% (2,100 churches) in Northern Ireland.

New congregations are being started or having to close all the time, and in the fifteen years since 2005 it is estimated that collectively some 3,100 new congregations have started while some 5,800 have closed, a net drop of 2,700 across the UK.

Most of the Anglican new congregations are in the Church of England, many of which are planted by the larger churches. A third of all the churches which have closed in the last 15 years have been Methodist, followed by the Anglicans and Roman Catholics (both 15%) and the Presbyterians (9%). The Baptists (7% of all closures) have also seen over 400 churches close in the last 15 years, which is one in eight of their congregations.

From UK Church Statistics Nos 1-4

From the Registers

Funerals

Tuesday	8th June	Alan Goodwin	77
Wednesday	16th June	Andrew Peter Kennington	47
Monday	28th June	Peter Hodkin	84

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

Marriages

Saturday 12th June 12 noon	Darren Jones & Rachel Helen Bower
Saturday 26th June 1pm	Tom Pass & Jodie Cooper

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

Church Diary

Day – Date	Time	Activity
Sunday 4th July	10.00am	Fifth Sunday after Trinity - Parish Eucharist
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Monday 5th July	10.00am	Funeral at Grenoside crematorium
	7.30pm	PCC Meeting in Church
Thursday 8th July	9.30am	Mid-week Eucharist
Sunday 11th July	10.00am	Sixth Sunday after Trinity - Service of the Word
	12 noon	Baptisms
	5.15pm	Wedding Rehearsal in Church
	6.30pm	Eucharist
Monday 12th July	12noon	Funeral in Church
Wednesday 14th July	4.30pm	Wedding Rehearsal in Church
Thursday 15th July	9.30am	Mid-week Eucharist
	4.30pm	Wedding Rehearsal in Church
Saturday 17th July	11.30am	Wedding in Church
Sunday 18th July	10.00am	Seventh Sunday after Trinity Parish - Eucharist
		<i>After the 10am service, Church Picnic. - more details on the Notice Sheet</i>
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
Thursday 22nd July	9.30am	Mid-week Eucharist
	10.15am	Coffee Shop Meeting in Church
	2.00pm	Wedding in Church
	4.00pm	Wedding rehearsal in Church
Saturday 24th July	12 noon	Wedding in Church
	2.00pm	wedding in Church
Sunday 25th July	10.00am	A service of Thanksgiving and Celebration
		<i>This depends on the lifting of restrictions on 19th July</i>
	12 noon	Baptisms
	6.30pm	Eucharist
Thursday 29th July	9.30am	Mid-week Eucharist
Friday 30th July	2.00pm	Wedding in Church
	4.00pm	Wedding Blessing in Church
Saturday 31st July	2.00pm	Wedding Blessing in Church

God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.

Exploring the Big Questions: scientists and theologians share their views

It's important to have debates about science and Christian faith and to dig into the hot topics, but we can't exist solely on a diet of controversy. I find it helpful, at times, to simply enjoy the wonders revealed by science and the big questions they raise about meaning and purpose. What's the universe for? What do you do with your



feelings of awe and wonder? Where do we get our sense of the value of the living world from? I had the privilege of meeting a group of Christian scientists and theologians who shared thoughts about these big questions and will share some of their thoughts here.

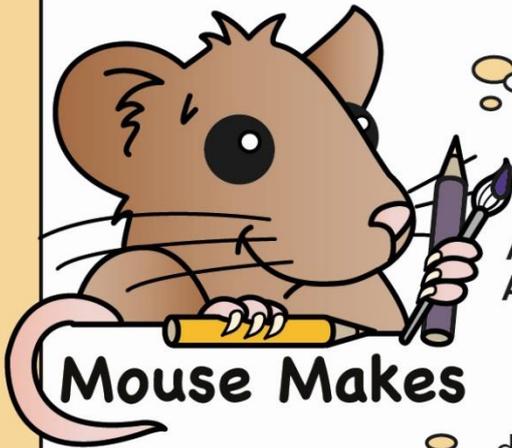
The Oxford-based theologian Alister McGrath shared that “science is wonderful at asking questions. Some of those questions can be answered, but very often when you do answer them, they simply open up yet more questions. But of course, there are some more fundamental questions I think science simply cannot answer...questions like, ‘Why am I here?’”

Rhoda Hawkins, a physicist at Sheffield University, has had a similar experience. “I never cease to be amazed at quite how impressive the world is, and how impressive the mechanisms are for how things work...It really is beautiful in many ways, and it leads me to think about God. I’m not saying that I have any proof, but I’m saying that by looking at the world around me it tells me more about God and it leads me to worship Him.”

Another scientist who appreciates beauty is Jeff Hardin, who explained that “studying the wonders of the living world is an exercise in art appreciation. For me, God is the creator of everything... so the joy of discovery is also the joy of appreciating the world that God has made...and leads me to thank God for the amazing world that we have to enjoy and to explore.”

I will close with some words from Jeff Schloss, who – like the others quoted above – finds that Christian faith makes science more satisfying for him. “Once I became a Christian...I had the sense that I was studying the marvels of the natural world, which are marvellous in their own right but become more profoundly engaging and enticing when one thinks that you’re studying the works of God.” Perhaps if we can spend more time listening to people like this, our discussions about science and faith will also be richer and deeper.

Quotes from videos on www.wondersofthelivingworld.org



Mouse Makes



Read the full story in
Luke 10:25-37

The Parable of the Good Samaritan

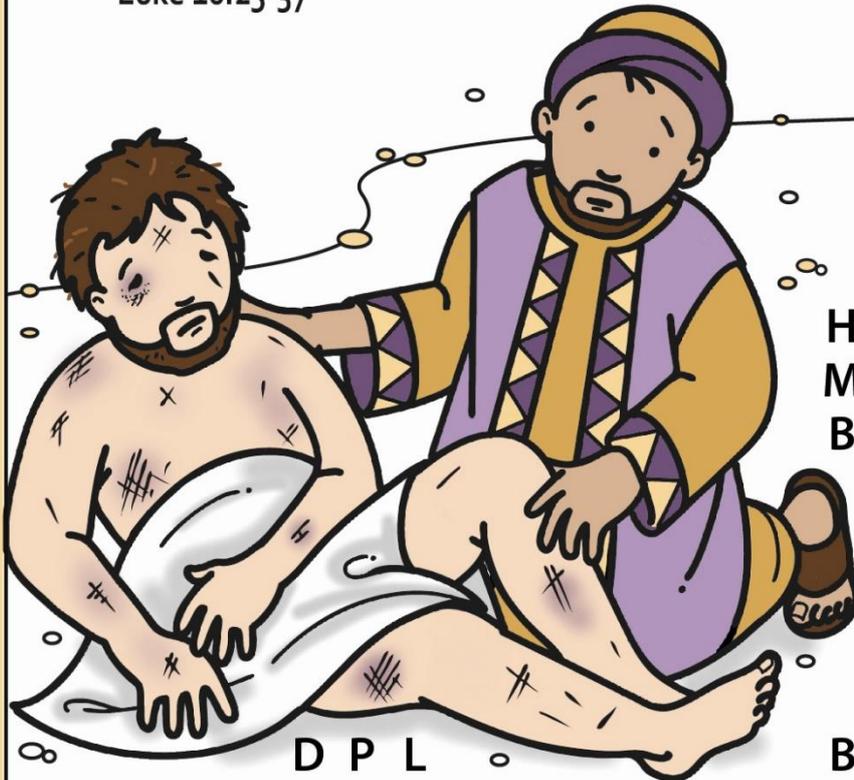
A man asked Jesus "Who is my neighbour?" and Jesus replied with this parable:

A man was attacked by robbers, they tore his clothes, beat him and left him almost dead. A priest saw him but walked by on the other side. A Levite saw him but walked by on the other side.

A Samaritan saw him and took pity on him, he poured oil and wine on his wounds and then bandaged them. He lifted the man onto his donkey, took him to an inn and cared for him.

The next day he gave the innkeeper two denarii to look after the man until he returned.

Which of the three travellers do you think was the neighbour to the man who was attacked?



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JESUS • PARABLE • JERUSALEM • JERICHO • JOURNEY • MAN • ROBBERS • SAW
CLOTHES • DOWN • ROAD • PRIEST • PASSED • PLACE • SIDE • LEVITE • CARE
GOOD • SAMARITAN • COMPASSION • BOUND • WOUNDS • POURED • OIL
WINE • MERCY • INN • TWO • DENARII • REPAY • BACK • NEIGHBOUR • GO DO

Bishop challenges the BBC on its religious broadcasting

A Church of England bishop has recently called on the BBC to be more imaginative in its religious broadcasting.

The Bishop of Ripon, Helen-Ann Hartley, urged the BBC to go beyond 'preaching to the converted' to producing documentaries and dramas that challenge and inform people's world views.

Writing in a recent edition of Radio Times, Bishop Hartley noted that the BBC is promising 'more content than ever before' but added:

"If most of it fails to get beyond the 'God slot' normally reserved for 'Songs of Praise', what's the point, beyond keeping the faithful happy?"

Bishop Hartley chairs the respected Sandford St Martin Trust, which "promotes thought-provoking, distinctive programming that deals with religion, ethics and spirituality." By running annual awards, the Trust "promotes excellent broadcasting about all faiths, from major networks, independents and online sources, at local and national level."

In the hard-hitting article, she asked "Where are the documentaries that challenge us to rethink the world we live in? Or the dramas that ask us to re-imagine the human relationships? Instead of congratulating itself on producing more content than ever, I wonder if it's time for the BBC to ask just what is the point of religion on the telly, or the radio for that matter?"

Bishop Hartley described the BBC as focusing unduly on ritual "because that's what the BBC thinks religious people do or are interested in."

She said "I'm far more motivated by programmes that explore the big questions in life. You can't really understand the world and what motivates people if you're not able to interpret or understand religion."

Bishop Helen-Ann Hartley issued a strong challenge to the BBC to up its game on what the Corporation describes as 'religious broadcasting.'

She does so from an influential position, as the Sandford St Martin Trust has long championed insightful, imaginative programmes that go beyond stereotypes and superficialities to depict the role played by faith in the lives of millions of people.

Bishop Hartley makes clear in the article "I don't just want to watch a multi-platform worship service at Easter. I'd like to ask hard questions and explore what the answers might be."

She applauded the Channel 4 drama series, 'It's a Sin' set in the AIDs crisis of the 1980s, commenting "Drama can shine a light on how generations have faced issues and challenges, many of which resonate with our current pandemic crisis.

"We all have world views, the question is how much these help us understand one another, and the things that motivate us. That's what great TV like 'It's a Sin' can do.

Editor's Lockdown Humour

don't forget to click on the pictures and links to learn more!

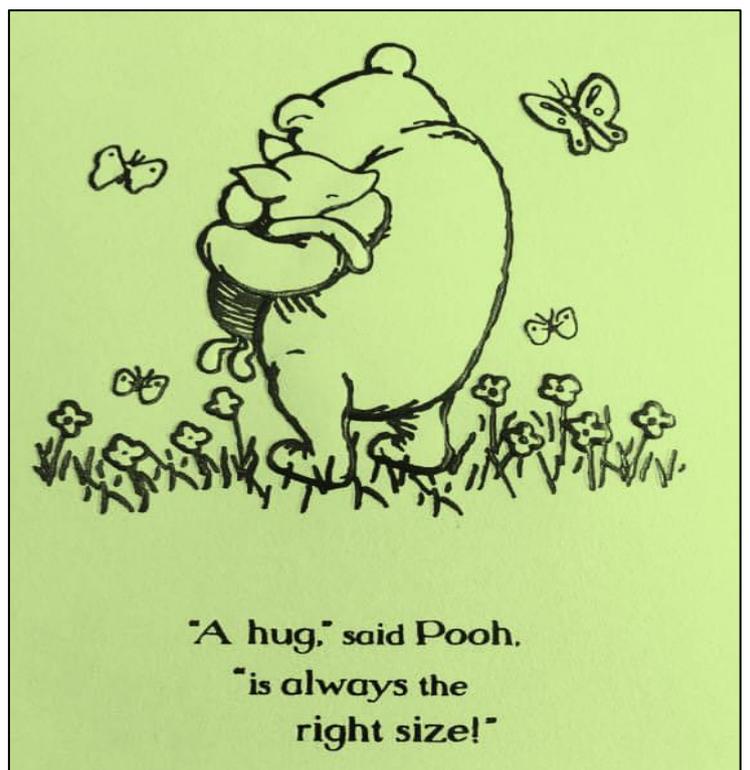
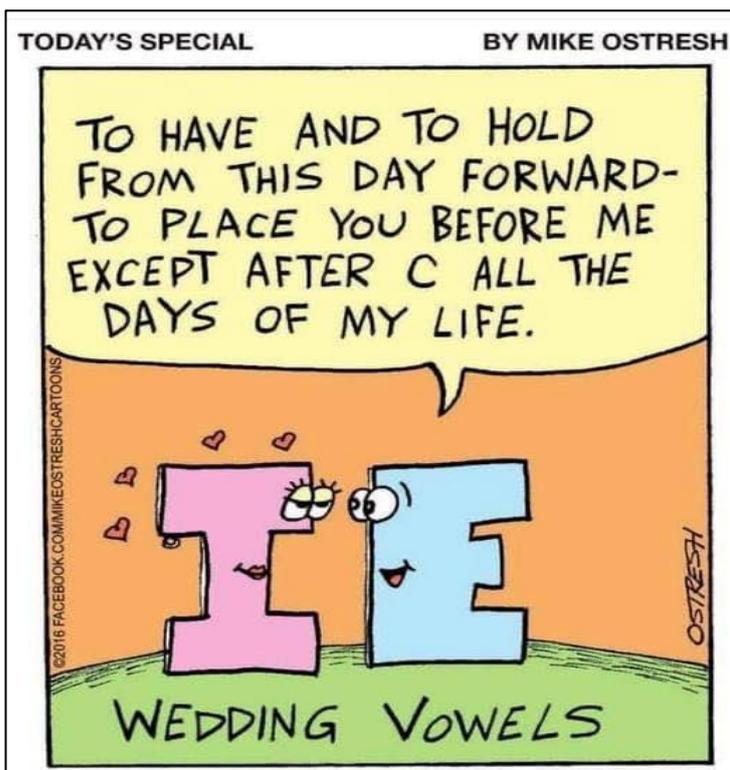
Doctor, I can't stop singing "The Green, Green Grass of Home". - That sounds like [Tom Jones](#) syndrome. - Is it common? - It's not unusual...

I hear [proofreading](#) is being abolished. Is nothing scared?

Give me [coffee](#) to change the things I can, and [wine](#) to accept those that I can't.

If you think you are [smarter](#) than the previous generation... 50-years ago the owner's manual of a car showed you how to adjust the [valves](#). Today it warns you not to drink the contents of the [battery](#)...

KIDS MENU	(SERVED UP TO AGE 13)
WHATEVER A sandwich served with a bowl of soup	4.95
I DON'T KNOW Scottish beefburger on a bun and served with fries	5.95
I DON'T WANT ANYTHING Breaded haddock goujons with fries and peas	4.95
I'M NOT HUNGRY Cheesy pasta served with fries and peas	4.95
I DON'T WANT THAT Tomato pasta served with fries and peas	4.95
I DON'T CARE 100% chicken battered chunks with fries and peas	4.95
REALLY Simple sausage and mash	4.95



Whitley Hall Cricket Club



Following a mixed start to the season, May was disappointing with matches cancelled due to weather on three Saturdays but the 1st XI won two out of three played. On 5th June, Wakefield visited Baxter Field but the Whitley total of 191 was easily beaten by the visitors with 8 wickets in hand. This was followed by a win at Wickersley on 12th June. The team then travelled to Scarborough on 13th June in the next round of the Yorkshire Viking Cup, a 40 over competition, and the Whitley total of 183 was too much for Scarborough with Whitley winning by 25 runs; Whitley now progress to the Quarter Final on 11th July where they welcome Driffield to Cinder Hill Lane. 19th June then saw a League defeat at home to Appleby Frodingham but the final Saturday in June saw

a comfortable home win against Hallam whose target of 179 was easily achieved with Whitley winning by 8 wickets. The 1st XI remain in mid table with half the season over. The 2nd XI has also had a mixed season but have been steadily climbing League 1 to mid-table and the third team is having an amazing season and currently top the table in League 7 with a clear margin. We are proud that Whitley now has a ladies' XI led by Millie Bethel and for the first time in club history, they celebrated a win - over Anston on 27th June. Congratulations!

Full COVID-19 safety procedures are in place for players, officials and visitors. Spectators are welcome and drinks and snacks are available but please follow the procedures which are clearly posted.

Fixtures at Baxter Field, Cinder Hill Lane, 12 noon

3 rd July	2 nd XI	v	Darfield 1 st XI
10 th July	1 st XI	v	Tickhill 1 st XI
11 th July	1 st XI	v	Driffield Town 1 st XI (Viking Cup)
17 th July	2 nd XI	v	Hallam 2 nd XI
24 th July	1 st XI	v	Sheffield Collegiate 1 st XI
31 st July	2 nd XI	v	South Kirby 1 st XI
7 th August	2 nd XI	v	Shiregreen 1 st XI

Secretary: Joe Webster: whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk

Website: www.Whitleyhall.play-cricket.com

Andrew Robinson

Cry baby

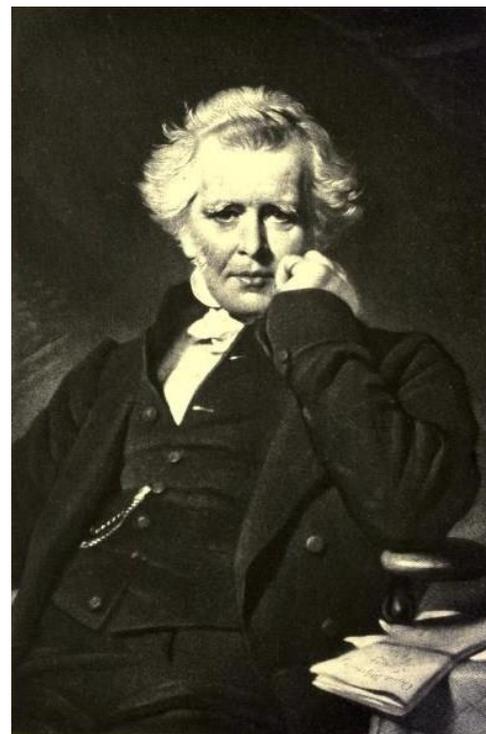
A woman took her four-month-old baby to visit her neighbour, but the baby began to fuss as soon as they arrived. The neighbour's five-year-old son asked where the baby had come from. "He was sent down from Heaven," the mother replied, above the screams.

The little boy watched the baby crying for a few more minutes, and then turned to his mother. "I bet I know why he was sent from Heaven. God wanted some quiet up there!"

Saint of the month - Henry Venn of the CMS

Most Christians in the UK have heard of the Church Mission Society or CMS. Far fewer have heard of the Revd Henry Venn (1796-1873), whose father, the rector of Clapham, founded CMS in 1799, and who himself became the greatest missionary strategist of the 19th century.

Not that Henry Venn ever became a missionary himself; after Cambridge he served his curacy at St Dunstan's in Fleet Street, and then an incumbency at Drypool in Hull, before becoming vicar of St Johns, Holloway in 1834. But Henry Venn's parish-based ministry did not obscure his passionate interest in overseas evangelism, and in 1841 he accepted an invitation to become the honorary secretary of the Church Mission Society. That decision was to shape the history of overseas missions, and to make CMS into the most effective force in Britain for delivering effective overseas mission.



For Henry was an outstanding administrator, and his wisdom and management of the missionaries enabled CMS to grow and flourish. When Henry first began work on CMS, it employed 107 European clergy and nine local indigenous people. When he died in 1873, there were 230 European clergy and 148 local people in service.

After his resignation from St Johns Holloway in 1846, Henry devoted himself almost exclusively to the work of CMS. He was directly responsible for sending out 498 clergymen, all of them chosen by him, and with most of whom he continued in regular correspondence. He also established eight or nine bishoprics for the supervision of CMS missionary clergy and was usually involved in the appointments made.

Henry and a missions colleague in America were the first to use the term 'indigenous church', and they were way ahead of their time in seeing the necessity for creating churches on the mission fields that in time would become not only self-supporting, but also self-governing and self-propagating. In fact, Venn wrote with enthusiasm on this "euthanasia of missions," meaning that missionaries were only ever meant to be temporary, and not permanent.

All in all, Henry Venn's exposition on the basic principles of indigenous Christian missions was so powerful that much of it was later adopted by the Lausanne Congress of 1974.

But alongside Venn's passion for evangelism was his concern for social justice, and he frequently lobbied the British Parliament, especially the closure of the Atlantic slave trade.

In 1873, when he was 76, Venn died at his home in Mortlake, Surrey. He is buried in the churchyard.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Venn_\(Church_Missionary_Society\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Venn_(Church_Missionary_Society))

St Mary Magdalene, the woman with a past

Later this month Christians all over the world will commemorate probably the most unlikely saint in the Bible, Mary Magdalene. There was something in her background that has always fascinated people. All we are told about her 'past' is that Jesus had cast 'seven devils' out of her, but on that slender if intriguing evidence she has become the patron saint of 'fallen women'.

Some see her as the woman 'who was a sinner' who washed Christ's feet with her tears at a respectable dinner party. Of that person Jesus remarked that 'she had been forgiven much' and consequently 'loved much'. Whether she was that woman or not, the description perfectly fits her. No one who has heard or read it could surely fail to be moved by her tearful encounter with the risen Jesus in the garden on Easter morning, the man she had taken to be the gardener revealing Himself in one word, Mary, as her beloved Teacher.



The problem with a good story – and hers is as good as it gets – is that people can't leave it alone. Down the centuries she has been John the Apostle's fiancée until he left her to follow Christ. She has gone with Jesus' mother and the same John to live in Ephesus and died there. In art and in literature she has become an alluring, sexual figure, disapproved of by the mother of Jesus. There is no historical evidence whatsoever for any of this. In fact, the Gospels suggest the two Marys were close in their shared devotion to Jesus.

has sometimes been identified with the woman who anointed Christ's feet in the house of Simon (Luke 7:37). Over the centuries many artists have painted this scene. Mary Magdalene's feast has been kept in the West since the 8th century. Her popularity is shown in the fact that 187 ancient churches in Britain are dedicated to her, and a college at both Oxford and Cambridge. Whatever the details of her story, we cherish it because it shows that having a 'past' is no reason not to have a future.

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The Gardening Year – July 2021

Gardening for your needs. When deciding what to grow, it's important to take the needs of you and your family into account. Each person has individual dietary requirements and it's worth thinking about these before buying your first packet of seeds. Remember pregnant women, expectant mothers need lots of vitamins and minerals, check which foods are higher in these important nutrients and consider growing some of them. Babies, shop bought baby food can be expensive, by growing your own and pureeing it you can make your own.

Toddlers, you'll be less likely to have a fussy eater if they are brought up around home grown food, let them pick their own cherry tomatoes and take care of their own containers.

Teenagers, encourage teenagers to eat healthy by growing vegetables and incorporating them into their favourite meals. Busy people, if you have a busy lifestyle, then good nutrition is paramount. Eating home grown seasonal and fresh produce is one way to achieve and maintain good health.

Elderly and vulnerable, growing ingredients for healthy soups, stews and casseroles can be ideal for elderly and vulnerable persons.

Space and conditions, you've already learned a lot about accessing the space you have available, and it's important to bear this in mind when you are deciding what to grow. However, there are crafty ways to increase your growing space, for example growing vertically instead of concentrating on ground space, is one way to increase your yield. This works especially well on patios or small court yards but don't forget about other growing conditions of your plot as well.

Maximising space. some plants do not like too much sun or the heat of the summer sun in this case, growing them in the shade of climbing sun lovers is another way to increase your yield in a small space. This is how the principles of permaculture work, letting nature support itself, in a natural environment shade lovers grow in the shade of sun lovers. Plants that need support, grow around other plants. Plants that don't compete for nutrients and water grow together in harmony.

Colin Williams

Eat the Seasons – July

Vegetables Artichoke, Aubergine, Beetroot, Broad Beans, Broccoli, Carrots, Chillies, Courgettes, Fennel, French Beans, Garlic, Jersey Royal New Potatoes, Kohlrabi, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, Mangetout, New Potatoes, Onions, Pak Choi, Peas, Radishes, Rocket, Runner Beans, Samphire, Spinach, Spring Onions, Tomatoes, Turnips, Watercress, Wild Nettles

Fruit - Apricots, Bilberries, Blueberries, Cherries, Gooseberries, Greengages, Kiwi Fruit, Melons, Peaches, Strawberries

Herbs - Basil, Chervil, Chives, Coriander, Dill, Elderflowers, Oregano, Mint, Nasturtium, Parsley (Curly) and (Flat-Leafed), Rosemary, Sage, Sorrel, Tarragon, Thyme

Meat – Lamb, Rabbit, Wood Pigeon

Fish – Cod, Coley, Crab, Dover Sole, Haddock, Halibut, Herring, Langoustine, Mackerel, Plaice, Pollack, Prawns, Salmon, Sardines, Scallops (Queen), Sea Bream, Sea Trout, Shrimp, Squid, Whelks, Whitebait

Visit - www.eattheseasons.co.uk

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Please take my money

Have you ever tried to use cash in a shop, and been refused? That happened to more than a third of us last year.

But now, in response to widespread protest, supermarkets and high street shops have promised that they will continue to accept cash. Aldi, Asda, Co-op, John Lewis, Lloyds Pharmacy and Waitrose have all joined a pledge organised by the consumer group Which? to protect customers' choice.

Which? is now asking the government to set out when it will introduce laws protecting access to cash, which the Treasury promised in March 2020. A treasury spokesman said: "We remain committed to further legislation to protect cash."

What will you miss about lockdown?

More than half of us admit that we will miss some aspects of the Covid-19 restrictions, especially spending more time at home with our family, and appreciating the quieter roads.

A recent study by King's College London and Ipsos Mori found that around one third of us feel the past year has been similar or better than normal, while 54 per cent of us say that we will miss some of the changes.

Three in ten of us feel closer to our immediate family than we did before the pandemic, while just one in six of us say that we have grown further apart. One in five of us say that our finances are better because of the pandemic.

Overall, it seems that while the public would rather the pandemic hadn't happened, that doesn't mean it's been all bad for everyone, or that people see it as deeply affecting their future lives.

Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

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

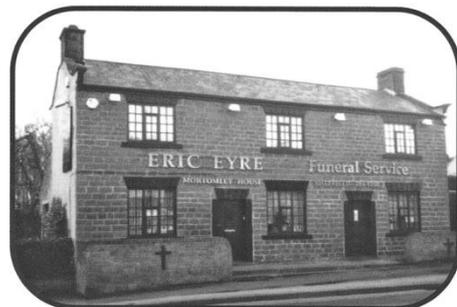
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It is time to eat Crab

In sandwiches, with pasta, in salads, with chilli - there are a multitude of ways to enjoy this most versatile of seafoods. White crab meat (from the claws) rivals, or exceeds, lobster for flavour and succulence and needs very little fiddling with to create masterful dishes such as Crab Salad.

[Crabs](#) first evolved in the Jurassic period - the horseshoe crab dates back over 200 million years! They have been caught and eaten throughout human history. Crabs are crustaceans belonging to the order Decapoda (which includes lobsters and prawns). There are around 4,500 species of crab, ranging in size from the 5mm wide pea crab to the Japanese spider crab with a leg span in excess of 2m.



Purchasing a live crab will ensure maximum freshness. Whole cooked crabs or fresh crab meat from a trusted supplier are perfectly adequate alternatives. Use the [Good Fish Guide](#) to make better informed choices when buying seafood. Live crabs should be refrigerated and cooked on the day of purchase. Cooked fresh crab meat will be fine in the fridge for 3 or 4 days and can be frozen.

[Crab](#) is a good source of a number of trace minerals including selenium, which counteracts cancer and chromosome damage as well as increasing our resistance to viral and bacterial infections. It contains useful amounts of B vitamins, iron and zinc. Chitin (pronounced kite-in), a substance derived from the shells of crabs and lobsters, has anti-bacterial and anti-viral properties and is used in wound dressings and burn treatments.

Crab and Pea Risotto – Serves 4

Ingredients

1 tbsp olive oil
20g (3/4oz) butter
3 shallots, finely chopped
280g (9oz) arborio rice
120ml (4fl oz) white wine
900ml (11/2pt) hot chicken or vegetable stock

300g (10oz) peas, fresh or defrosted if frozen
1 lemon, zested and juiced
50g (2oz) Parmesan, finely grated
2 dressed crabs or 2 x 170g tins crabmeat, drained
handful basil (or parsley), shredded, plus extra to garnish

Method

1. In a deep pan, heat the oil and half the butter over a low heat. Add the shallots and cook for 5 minutes, until softened and translucent. Increase the heat and stir in the rice until well coated.
2. Pour in the wine, stirring until all the liquid has been absorbed. Add a ladleful of hot stock and stir until almost completely absorbed. Repeat this process, adding the stock a ladle at a time, stirring constantly until all the stock has been used up (about 15 minutes). If it looks a little dry add a splash of hot water to loosen.
3. Stir in the peas and cook for 2 minutes more, then remove from the heat and stir in the remaining butter, lemon zest and juice, Parmesan and half the crabmeat. Cover the pan for 5 minutes, to warm through.
4. To serve, stir in the basil (or parsley), and divide the risotto between serving bowls. Top with the remaining crabmeat and extra basil (or parsley).

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Chapelton & District Probud Club

Chapelton and District PROBUS Club is still meeting every month on the 2nd Wednesday and we are continuing with the Zoom system. A meeting on the last day of June at the Grenoside Community Centre is planned to discuss re-opening and the current hope is that face to face meetings will commence again in September., although Government rules will dictate what happens. We have a really important presentation planned with police fraud specialist Andy Foster and a colleague on the fight against fraud, especially on the phone and the internet and what we can do to avoid being trapped. We also hope to be able to have lunch at Whitley Hall after the meeting.

In May we welcomed back John Hope who gave an absolutely fascinating talk on "Time Through the Ages" which covered everything from the early definition of time before the second was adopted through all the amazing devices which humans have devised to measure time. June saw Keith Stevens give an equally absorbing talk on "What Climate Change?", a thought provoking session giving huge quantities of statistics showing climate across centuries and millennia and contrasting what is happening now with trends and what the human race has contributed. His conclusions were controversial and really surprising.

The annual membership fee has been reduced to £15 for this year only so there will never be a better time to join. If you are interested or would like to join a meeting as a guest, please make contact with the Secretary, Trevor Winslow (see below).

Upcoming meetings:-

14th July – David Templeman "More History of Sheffield and its Suburbs"

11th August – Fred Dewhurst "The History of Sheffield Social Housing before WW1"

8th September – Andy Foster "Fraud, Cybercrime and Fake Phone Calls"

Our Secretary is Trevor Winslow – contact chapelton.probus@gmail.com or the website <https://chapelton-probus.org.uk/>

Andrew Robinson

Crossword Puzzle

Clues Across

- 1 Sent out three times on a reconnaissance mission from Noah's ark (Genesis 8:8–12) (4)
- 3 'The vilest — who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives' (8)
- 9 Described by the 19th-century MP Sir Wilfred Lawson as 'the Devil in solution' (7)
- 10 'Whoever — his life for my sake will find it' (Matthew 10:39) (5)
- 11 King of Gezer (Joshua 10:33) (5)
- 12 Gideon's home town (Judges 6:11) (6)
- 14 The area under the jurisdiction of a primate, for example, Canterbury, York (13)
- 17 To him God promised that David would be king (1 Chronicles 11:3) (6)
- 19 A descendant of Aaron who was not allowed to offer food to God (Leviticus 21:20) (5)
- 22 'If any of you — wisdom, he should ask God' (James 1:5) (5)
- 23 I gain me (anag.) (7)
- 24 Relating to the armed forces (1 Chronicles 5:18) (8)
- 25 Title given to 2 Down (abbrev.) (4)

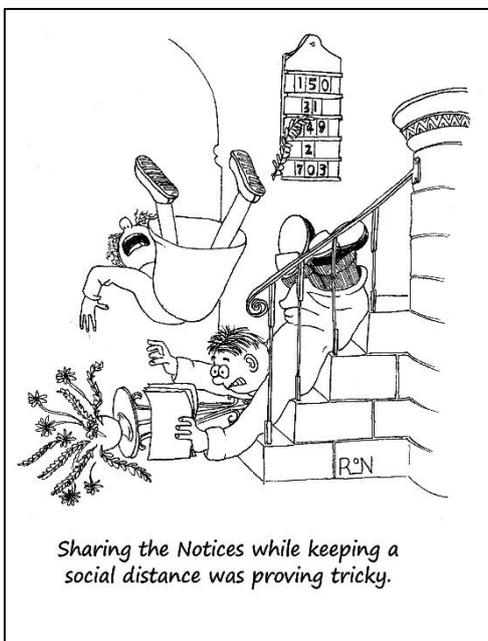
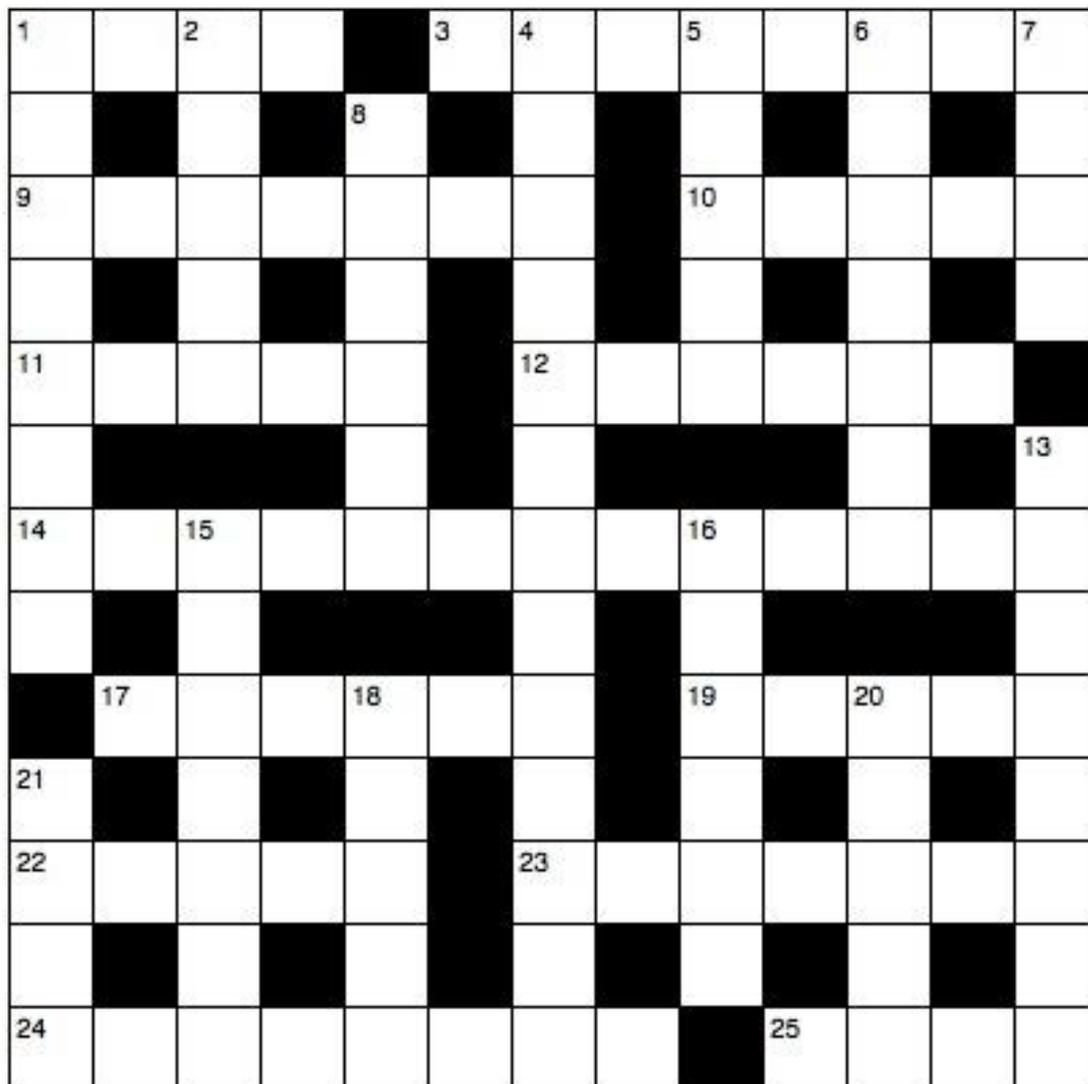
Clues Down

- 1 Greek coins (Acts 19:19) (8)
- 2 Church of England incumbent (5)
- 4 What Epaphroditus was to Paul (Philippians 2:25) (6-7)
- 5 Mother of David's sixth son (2 Samuel 3:5) (5)
- 6 'We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in — ' (2 Corinthians 4:8) (7)
- 7 It destroys treasures on earth (Matthew 6:19) (4)
- 8 It threatened Paul in Jerusalem (Acts 21:35) (3,3)
- 13 Well-known Reference Bible that espoused dispensationalism (8)
- 15 Where the choir sits in a parish church (7)
- 16 Real do (anag.) (6)
- 18 'Martha, Martha... you are worried and — about many things' (Luke 10:41) (5)

20 'One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day — ' (Romans 14:5) (5)

21 A place with twelve springs and 70 palm trees where the Israelites camped (Exodus 15:27) (4)

Solution is on Page 21



Prayers and Poems Page

Reaching Out

Dear Lord Jesus, we remember the work of your disciples who served You faithfully during the early days of the Church. They went out along among the people, who were often hostile, and spoke of their faith. They also encouraged others by their written testimonies. Together, they spread the word of Your teaching and of the joy of serving You, regardless of their own fate and well-being.

We ask You to help us today to continue Your work by witness and example. May we continue to draw comfort and inspiration from Your teaching, and so acknowledge and confess our faith wherever we go and to those we meet.

By Terence Trimmer

Sing to the Lord

Sing to the Lord a song of praise
Sing of the wonders that we see
His right hand and His holy arm
Have won for Him the victory

He has revealed His salvation
Deliv'rance He has truly shown
Before all nations of the world
His mighty acts have been made known.

His faithful love, of limits free
Is seen unto the end of earth,
All peoples see His salvation
And all can sing with joy and mirth.

Make songs for God with human voice
With trumpets and the mighty horn
Sing praises to our God and king
To sunset from the break of dawn.

O let the rivers clap their hands
The hills ring out before the Lord
For lo, He judges righteously
His justice seen throughout the world!

By Nigel Beeton

Prioritising

Martha cooked
But Mary looked
And sat at the Masters feet,
It's a story of old
But we are told
It's where man and God can meet.

So much to do
But think it through
There's a place for you and me,
To spend time with the Lord
And be found in His word
It's where we are meant to be.

So find a place
To seek His face
Where the Lord Himself is found
With a God who cares
Hears all our prayers
The place where grace abounds.

By Megan Carter

When we feel shaken (Lk 10:42)

Faithful Father,
When we feel shaken by the events of the past; when we don't know quite how to go forward; when our confidence in what we thought we could control is undermined; remind us that one thing is needed – to sit at your feet and listen to You.

You are our security. You will never fail those who belong to You through faith in Your Son, Jesus.

As we take time to listen to You, Lord, and to meditate on Your Holy Spirit-inspired Word, may we know Your peace – and Your good plans for us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

Hymn 189: 'Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken'

John Newton (1725-1807) based on Isaiah 33:20-21

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
2. See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows and thirsts assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.
3. Round each habitation hov'ring,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a cov'ring,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus they march, the pillar leading,
light by night and shade by day;
daily on the manna feeding
which he gives them when they pray.
4. Saviour, if of Zion's city
I through grace a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
boasted pomp and empty show;
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Zion's children know.

The year was 1800, and Vienna was under bombardment by Napoleon's troops. The great Austrian composer, Haydn, then old and frail, asked to be carried to his piano. There he made his own defiance of Napoleon, by solemnly play through his composition 'Emperor's Hymn'. Haydn had composed it for the Austrian Emperor, Franz II's birthday on 12 February 1797. Haydn never touched his piano again, and died a few days later, aged 77.

That is where the tune for this well-loved hymn came from. It quickly became the tune of the Austrian national anthem. It was later even adopted by the Germans, as the tune for August Heinrich Hoffman von Fallersleben's (1798 – 1874) anthem Deutschlandslied, which began with the famous words: 'Deutschland uber alles' (Germany before everything). In the ensuing political upheavals, the tune survived in the German national anthem, but was abandoned by the Austrians in 1946.

In the meantime, the tune had also reached England, as early as 1805. It was then that the words of a hymn by John Newton were first paired up with it. This meant that when the Austrian Emperor Franz visited his grandmother Queen Victoria, at Windsor Castle, he most likely would have sung his own national anthem tune to English words written by a converted slave trader turned country vicar!

John Newton's inspiration for this hymn comes from Psalm 87: 'Glorious things are spoken of you, O city of God' (vs3) and also a text from Isaiah 33:20-21: 'Look on Zion... there the Lord in majesty will be for us a place of broad rivers and streams...'

John Newton's hymn celebrates the joy of knowing that the Church is the new Jerusalem (Zion) where God abides. He rejoices that God protects His people and promises to supply their needs. He leads them into the Promised Land, just as long ago He led the Israelites through the wilderness to their Promised Land. Back then, He led them with a fiery and cloudy pillar; now we have His very Spirit within us, to guide us each step of the way home.

Contact Numbers for Local Groups

Ecclesfield Rainbows

Gatty Hall
Tuesday 5.00 pm to 6.15 pm
Leader - Debbie
Tel: 0786 047 1793

Ecclesfield Brownies

Gatty Hall
Monday 5.30 pm to 6.45 pm
Leader - Mrs J Hutchinson
Tel: 0798 344 2742

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

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

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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
25theecclesfieldscouts@gmail.com

The Grenoside Singers

Practice Monday in St Mark's
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Secretary: Judith Gill Tel: 0782 411 2584
www.grenosidesingers.co.uk

Whitley Hall Cricket Club

Matches every Saturday and some
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Please make contact if you wish to play or
learn. Secretary: Joe Webster:
whitleyhall@yicspl.co.uk
Website:
www.whitleyhall.play-cricket.com

Chapelton and District PROBUS Club

Meets every 2nd Wednesday in the month
in Grenoside Community Centre
All retired and semi-retired gentlemen welcome
Contact the Secretary: Trevor Winslow
chapelton.probus@gmail.com
We are now on Zoom see
www.chapelton-probus.org.uk

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



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