

# News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine November 2021

[stmarysecclesfield.org.uk](http://stmarysecclesfield.org.uk)

*Price 60p*

# First Words

November is always a busy month.

On **Monday 1st November at 7.30pm** the **PCC** will be meeting in Church.

**Wednesday 3rd Nov at 10am** the **Wardens & Readers** will be meeting in Church.

On **Saturday 6th November at 1pm** there will be a **wedding** in Church.

On **Sunday 7th November at 10am** we are having our monthly All **Age Celebration Service**; at **12 noon** we have two families coming to Church for **Baptism**, and at **4pm** on the same day we will be holding the second **Annual Memorial Service**, covering funerals taken from 2020 - 2021.

The **Bellringers** will be holding their **AGM** in Church on **Tuesday 9th November at 7.30pm**.

On **Wednesday 10th November at 7pm** there is a Deanery meeting.

On **Thursday 11th November, at 10.30**, after the Mid-Week Eucharist, we will be holding **St Mary's Daytime Gathering**.

**Remembrance Sunday** falls on the **14th of November**. The service as usual will begin in **Church at 10am** and will move to the cemetery at 10.50 to gather at the Cenotaph for 11am.

We will be welcoming two year 1 classes from **Mansell Primary School** into Church for a visit on **Tues 16th November at 12.45pm**.

**Wed 17th November 3pm Soul Sanctuary** - an introduction to Meditation & Contemplative Prayer.

**Friday 19th October 2pm wedding** in Church.

*Continues on Page 4*



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

**Front Cover – Sweet Chestnut**

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**Back Cover – Ecclesfield in Bloom Poster**

# Andrew Jones

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# Prayer for the Month

***Lighten our darkness,  
Lord, we pray,  
and in your great mercy  
defend us from all perils  
and dangers of this night,  
for the love of your only Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.***

This well-known Church of England prayer goes back to the 1662 Book of Common Prayer where it was set as the Third Collect at Evensong. In Common Worship we find it in the order of Night Prayer (Compline), a short service, to pray at the very end of the day before sleep.

It is a very good prayer for Christ's protection for ourselves and for our families through the silent hours of the night. We put ourselves into Christ's hands at the end of the day, and having put ourselves into His hands we can sleep safely and securely, confident in the love of Christ.

I write these words just a few days before the end of October when the clocks go back and we face the long, dark nights of winter. It seems to me that this is also a very good prayer for us to pray in these weeks when we see so little of the sun.

We ask for Christ to guide us through these dark and cheerless days when the night can at times seem to creep into our hearts. When I pray Compline, especially in the winter months, I usually light a candle before praying the brief service, a symbol of the light for which I pray.

As well as being a prayer for Christ's protection in the dark days of winter and through the night, I always remember, when saying this prayer, the imagery of St John's Gospel. In John, the night has a spiritual meaning. Night is a time for evil - when Judas leaves the last Supper to betray Jesus, John simply comments, "And it was night" (John 13:30).

And so this prayer is also a plea to our Saviour for protection from evil, from all things, visible and invisible which may hurt the body or harm the soul; a prayer for ourselves and for those we love.

May Christ our light bless and keep you,

God bless,

Tim

## First Words - Continued

On **Saturday 20th November Ecclesfield in Bloom** are holding a “**Christmas Fayre**”. See the notice sheet for more details.

On **Wednesday 24th Nov** we will be holding **St Mary’s Evening Gathering in Church at 7.30pm**.

There will be a **Wedding Preparation Session** for couples getting married at St Mary’s in 2022 on **Saturday 27th Nov at 10am**.

Finally, **Sunday 28th November is Advent Sunday**, and we will be holding a service of **Advent Carols and Readings at 10am**.

November is looking like a very full and varied month. Please pray for all of these events and for me as I minister here at St Mary’s.

God bless,

Tim

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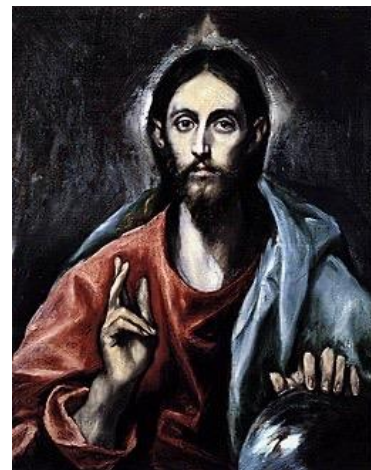
‘Let our family look after yours’

# God and The Arts

*Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with El Greco's 'The Saviour'. credit: 'El Greco, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons'*

## **'All you who pass this way, look and see'**

The philosopher Wittgenstein gave the following advice to people visiting an art gallery or exhibition: never try to rush through all the paintings on show, but instead choose just one painting. Sit in front of it for twenty minutes. Then get up and leave the art gallery. It is difficult advice to take to heart because we feel we want to get our money's worth from an exhibition, especially if we have paid an entrance charge. Once in the gallery we then feel so overawed by the number of paintings on show and the pressure of the crowd that we go quickly from one canvas to the next.



The rushing around at a gallery is part and parcel of the way we meet each day. We rush out of habit, and we rush because everyone else is rushing. Our world seems set in the fast lane. Carl Honoré in his book 'In Praise of Slow' tells how, as a busy journalist, he experienced a flashback to a time in his youth when life was unhurried. He reflects, with regret, that it was a better life then.

If we do want to take Wittgenstein's advice seriously and find ourselves in the National Gallery in Edinburgh, we could do no better than choose to sit in front of this month's painting: El Greco's 'The Saviour.' El Greco was born in 1541 in Crete. From Greece he travelled to Venice and Rome and finally to Toledo in Spain where he died in 1614.

His art is a fusion of eastern and western traditions, given extra fervour by the Counter-Reformation and resulting in a unique style of painting. His canvases are peopled by elongated figures who seem always to be straining upwards, just as the Counter-Reformation was exhorting the faithful to set their sights on heaven as they made their journey through life.

In his early years in Crete El Greco trained as an icon painter, and that is much in evidence in 'The Saviour.' It shows a half-length figure of Christ – he was to paint a fuller figure later. This Christ like an icon is looking out at us, with his right hand raised to bless us and this world, while the left hand holds that same world in His care. We can see in the eyes an inner strength, but also the poignant sadness of longing for this is a Saviour who has come through suffering and death to bring us new life.

As we look and see, we find here in El Greco's work a Christ-calmed steadiness amid the spinning world of rush and busyness. The nearer we draw to this Jesus, the slower we will find ourselves spinning. The duties and responsibilities that demand so much from us take their place in the wider perspective of the Saviour's grace and love. Then we can begin to experience that peace which the world cannot offer, but which Christ can bring.

The first step in that process is to stop and look. The Curé d'Ars, a parish priest in France in the early 19th century, told how he noticed an old man sitting at the back of his church every day. He didn't seem to be doing anything, just sitting there in the same place at the same time, looking towards the Blessed Sacrament on the High Altar. Eventually the young priest became suspicious. He asked the man what he was doing. 'I'm praying,' came the reply. 'Yes, but what exactly is it you do?' enquired the priest. 'Well, I look at Him and He looks at me.'

# St James the Least of All

*Editor: The Revd Dr Gary Bowness continues his tongue-in-cheek letters from 'Uncle Eustace'...*

## **There are more frightening things than bishops out there....**

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

You really should not worry about having reversed your car into the bishop's gatepost, knocking it over and destroying his rose-beds. It gives him an opportunity to exercise Christian forgiveness. Your real mistake was scribbling a note of apology and pushing it through his letterbox. Far better would have been to have sent an anonymous letter (and to have written it on lined notepaper in capital letters, preferably in green ink, to make it look truly authentic) saying that you had seen the archdeacon do it, and then you had watched him drive off without stopping. That would have taken the minds of the senior clergy away from parish matters for quite some time.

No, never worry about the wrath of bishops; dangers lurk much nearer home. For a start, never incur the displeasure of your flower arrangers. I only crossed their path once – and arrived in church the following Sunday, to see a ten-foot-high floral arrangement at the front of church. I assumed it was by way of making amends, until I discovered it had been placed in front of the pulpit. I was obliged to preach, hidden behind a large multicoloured hedge, while the congregation listened to what were apparently talking chrysanthemums.

A colleague offended his own ladies and arrived to find that the contents of the safe had been removed and replaced with all those exotic pieces of equipment that seem to be indispensable for arranging flowers. He was obliged to administer Communion using a small vase until peace was re-established and his chalice returned to him.

Similarly, organists are a delicate breed. Congratulate him on the anthem, and if it happened to be unaccompanied, he would assume you were implying that the services were better without his playing. Offend your organist and you can be guaranteed that hymns will be played at either half or double speed, stopping one verse short and that the final piece of music as you process out will stop, leaving you and the choir stranded halfway down the aisle.

And finally, never, ever upset your verger. One forgotten Christmas present and you can be sure you will get half-way through a baptism to find he hasn't put water in the font; at marriage services, the sheets for last week's funeral will have been accidentally put out and when you sit in your stall you will discover where he now stores the mop and bucket.

No, bishops are warm, fluffy bunnies; real dangers lurk much nearer home.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace





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# Thought for the Month

November is the month when the long dark nights of Autumn truly begin. Many people go to work in the dark and find that the sun has set before they finish work.

At this time of year we celebrate All Saints. All Saints Day falls on the 1st November, but we celebrate it in Church on the nearest Sunday, so this year All Saints Sunday is on the 31st October.

At All Saints we are reminded of our Christian Baptism. At every Baptism service we light the Easter Candle, a reminder of the Divine Light which shone in Christ, a light which the forces of evil and chaos tried to quench, but a light which overcame death and hell and chaos in the Resurrection of Jesus.

The Easter Candle is a symbol of Christ's victory. At the Baptism Service we take a light from the Easter Candle and present it to the newly baptised. As the candle is presented, these words are said:

You have received the light of Christ;  
walk in this light all the days of your life.  
**Shine as a light in the world  
to the glory of God the Father.**

We live in a world where there is real suffering, where people struggle; a world in which there is real evil, and too often this evil seems to be victorious. We only need to watch the news to see the terrible reality, not only of suffering, but of evil.

We pray for the victims, we cry out to God in solidarity with those who suffer. And what is God's answer to our prayers and cries? The Bible gives no answer, at least not in words. Instead it points us to Jesus, dying on the Cross with us in our suffering, for us as our Saviour. The cross tells us that we are never alone, that we are not abandoned, that the God who meets us in Jesus is with us. Always.

But that is not all. It also points us to Easter Day and the empty tomb; the victory of Christ over sin and death, over evil and hell. The resurrection of Jesus is hope for those who have no hope.

The symbol of this hope and of Christ's victory is the candle that we light at Easter, and the response of Christ's Church to the reality of suffering and evil and chaos is for each of us to let the light of Jesus shine in us and through us.

In us to guide us as we live as God's children, called to be saints wherever we find ourselves; and through us to bring the light of hope to others.

On All Saints we remember those who have inspired us to live as Christ's lights in the world, and we resolve to let His light shine through us to the glory of God the Father.

God bless you,  
Tim

# Mummy, what's church?

I was no more than three or four when we visited a church on holiday. It was a different sort of church, and I didn't know anyone and I didn't know what was going on. And I remember scowling, hanging on to my mum's leg, as she chatted with people after the service. I probably just looked like a petulant toddler, but even now, I can recall how scared I was of this strange new place.

As we begin to come back to church together, spare a thought for the toddlers in our midst. Some of them weren't even born when we were last in church – and even the older ones will have only hazy memories of church together. And they may need a little help to transition back well.

Because we want them to transition well! We want them to be part of a community which loves and worships God, and where they learn to love others and be loved and connect to others on this journey.

So, as you begin coming back into the building, here are some ideas to help your family:

Prepare toddlers just like you would for a new school or group. You know what your child needs: maybe to visit when no-one else is there, or to explain what will happen, or look at pictures of people they will see again.

In church, explain with your body and your words what you are doing and why. We're singing now because it's a way to tell God we love Him ... some people are standing like daddy, others are sitting quietly listening, some are dancing – what would you like to do? Jenny is reading from the Bible now because that's God's book and He's written important things in it for us to hear.



Recognise that things will be different for you too. Your children are 18 months older. They may now be a toddler intent on roaming the pews rather than that baby who let you worship in peace. Take a little time to think about what might be different and how you can manage the new season well.

And be kind to yourself. It's a brand-new season for all of us. And we'll get there!

Becky Sedgwick is part of the team at Parenting for Faith, which exists to equip parents and carers, and the churches that surround them, to help children and teens develop a lasting and two-way relationship with God. For more resources, including bespoke resources to support parents and carers of babies and toddlers.

See <https://parentingforfaith.org/>



# From the Registers

## Baptisms:

Sunday 3rd October

Ryan Alexander Gregory & Edson Talbot-Lee

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

## Marriages

Saturday 9th October

Liam Thomas Bacon & Kathryn Louise Battey

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

## Funerals

Wednesday 6th October

Kenneth Wright

91

Thursday 14th October

Ann Wheeler

68

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

# Eritrea re-arrests another 15 Christians

The Eritrean authorities have recently arrested 15 Christians in raids on their houses in the capital Asmara. All have previously been imprisoned for their faith. In an earlier raid, police rearrested two elderly pastors.

The East African dictatorship shut down most of its churches in 2002, often detaining Christians indefinitely in harsh conditions. Some have been packed into shipping containers in the heat of the desert and tortured to try to force them to renounce their faith.

These latest arrests swept up men and women aged from their late 20s to their 60s. Some have already served up to 16 years behind bars. They have all been taken to Mai Serwa maximum-security prison in the capital.

There are now some 160 Christian prisoners in Eritrea. UK-based Release International is supporting Christian refugees from Eritrea.

# International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church

The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church will be taking place on Sunday 7th November. This year Open Doors, CSW and Release International are again teaming up for a special online social media event on that day.

‘At this time of global crisis, persecuted believers need our prayers more than ever’

For more details, please visit:

**Open Doors** at <https://www.opendoorsuk.org/resources/prayer/idop/>

**CSW** at <https://www.csw.org.uk/idop>

**Release International** at <https://releaseinternational.org/idop/>

# The Village Blacksmith - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Under a spreading chestnut-tree  
The village smithy stands;  
The smith, a mighty man is he,  
With large and sinewy hands;  
And the muscles of his brawny arms  
Are strong as iron bands.

His hair is crisp, and black, and long,  
His face is like the tan;  
His brow is wet with honest sweat,  
He earns whate'er he can,  
And looks the whole world in the face,  
For he owes not any man.

Week in, week out, from morn till night,  
You can hear his bellows blow;  
You can hear him swing his heavy sledge,  
With measured beat and slow,  
Like a sexton ringing the village bell,  
When the evening sun is low.

And children coming home from school  
Look in at the open door;  
They love to see the flaming forge,  
And hear the bellows roar,  
And catch the burning sparks that fly  
Like chaff from a threshing-floor.

He goes on Sunday to the church,  
And sits among his boys;  
He hears the parson pray and preach,  
He hears his daughter's voice,  
Singing in the village choir,  
And it makes his heart rejoice.

It sounds to him like her mother's voice,  
Singing in Paradise!  
He needs must think of her once more,  
How in the grave she lies;  
And with his hard, rough hand he wipes  
A tear out of his eyes.

Toiling,--rejoicing,--sorrowing,  
Onward through life he goes;  
Each morning sees some task begin,  
Each evening sees it close  
Something attempted, something done,  
Has earned a night's repose.

Thanks, thanks to thee, my worthy friend,  
For the lesson thou hast taught!  
Thus at the flaming forge of life  
Our fortunes must be wrought;  
Thus on its sounding anvil shaped  
Each burning deed and thought.

---

## Grenoside Singers – Christmas is Coming!

By the time this article is in print Christmas will not be too far away so it is with much excitement that we can announce the date of our Christmas concert. After last year, which was fairly bleak for everyone, it will be lovely to have the opportunity to meet once more and celebrate the festive season together with many members of the local community. The concert will be held in the Grenoside Community Centre on Monday 13th December at 7.15pm. We are working towards that December concert in our Monday rehearsals and all being well we shall see many of you there in the Community Hall to listen, but also to join in with congregational carols.

We are also planning some other Christmas events in December so if you are interested in joining the choir and being part of our Christmas celebrations, you would be very welcome to come along to any of our rehearsals which are held in St Mark's Church Hall on Monday evenings at 7.30pm, or contact the Secretary, Judith Gill for more information. (Details on the back page of this edition.)

# 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.

## Should We Have Faith in Science?

How do you feel about science after more than 18 months of pandemic: tired or interested, impressed or cynical – or a bit of everything? The response to COVID-19 has demonstrated how ideology or worldview are hugely influential in our interpretation and use of scientific data – and at times in the process of experimentation itself. Should we trial a vaccine in Spain or South Africa? Is this treatment safe enough to administer to the general public? Should vaccination be made compulsory? The data don't tell us what to do.

So, when we are encouraged to 'trust the science' in our ongoing response to the pandemic, or in the run-up to the COP26 UN climate change conference, how can the Church respond? The whole biblical story affirms that God is the only one in whom we can have complete faith. On the other hand, I do put a certain amount of trust in other things. I can have faith in a plane, a body of knowledge, or a person. This trust is within limits because I know that air travel involves hazards, a body of knowledge will contain some mistakes, and every ordinary human is fallible.

I trust science to some extent because it involves careful observation and measurement, collecting different kinds of evidence. Data is interpreted, and competing interpretations are tried out. We summarise our findings in general principles or mathematical equations. Scientists keep each other accountable by looking critically at each other's work. Our knowledge is always provisional. You can't prove anything scientifically because we only deal in evidence, not proof.

On the other hand, there must always be the potential to disprove a theory or it's not science. Our aim is to keep getting nearer to the truth about the way the world is. Overall, I believe this method is reliable and worth supporting, but that only God is completely trustworthy.

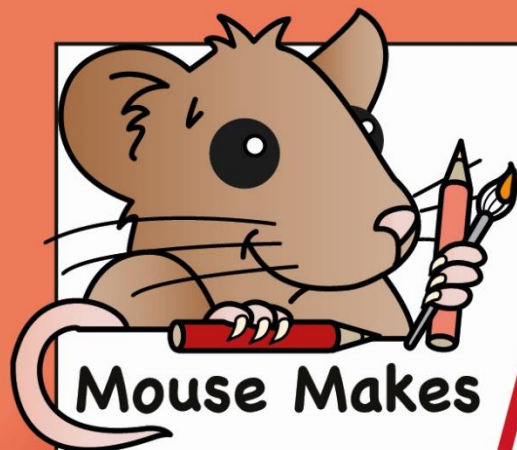
Psalm Eight reminds us both of the splendour of God's creation, and that He has placed us in a position of responsibility over it. Scientific knowledge can be part of what helps us to rule well. The process of doing science can be a bit like a blurry image coming into focus. The more we learn, the better we can usually see what's going on, and hopefully the easier it is to decide on a course of action. So in answer to the question 'Should we have faith in science?' I would say yes, when used wisely and within its proper limits.

*Editor: Albert Einstein quotes:*

"Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind."

"All religions, arts and sciences are branches of the same tree. All these aspirations are directed toward ennobling man's life, lifting it from the sphere of mere physical existence and leading the individual towards freedom."





Mouse Makes



**I AM**  
**THE**

Read John 10:11 and 14



**I AM**  
**THE**

Read John 15:1 and 35



**I AM**  
**THE**

Read John 6: 35,51



**AND THE**

Read John 11:25



**OF THE**

Read John 18:12

Seven times in John's Gospel  
Jesus calls Himself "I AM"  
- the same name that God calls  
Himself when He speaks to Moses  
in Exodus 3:14  
Jesus is telling us who He really is.



**I AM**  
**THE**

**I AM**  
**THE**

Read John 10:9

**I AM**  
**THE**



B R A N C H E S L I F E T B  
S H E P H E R D F A T H E R  
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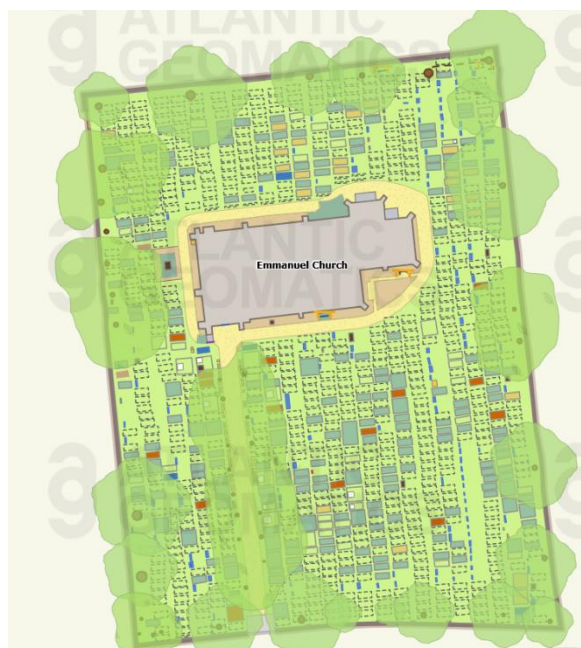
Look up the Bible references, fill in the missing words then look for them in the word search

# Nationwide digital churchyard mapping project underway

The first few of 19,000 churchyards have been surveyed as part of a Church of England project to create a free digital map of every grave and feature in every churchyard in the country.

The ancient church of St Bega on the shores of Lake Bassenthwaite in the Diocese of Carlisle was the first churchyard to be scanned by surveyors. They used sophisticated laser equipment, as part of the national programme.

A new website will go online in the new year, giving free access to the map. It is expected to be of special interest to local community groups, conservationists, and those researching family history. The website will also enable the charting of biodiversity and green technology.



The Church of England has partnered with Cumbrian-based surveying company [Atlantic Geomatics](#) who will use back-pack mounted laser scanners to map churchyards. They will also photograph all the visible headstones.

There are around 19,000 Anglican burial grounds in England, and the ambitious scheme will aim to digitally survey the majority over the coming seven years. Data on burials will be combined with other information, such as the National Biodiversity Network Atlas, to present the most complete picture of churchyards to date.

The project will come at no cost to parishes or dioceses in the Church of England and parishes will have free access to the map through a new web-based record system which is set to launch in Spring 2022. There will also be the option to subscribe to additional services.

Substantial funding for the programme has been given by Historic England, with the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Caring for God's Acre supporting the pilot phase, as well as support from genealogy research websites.

As well as details of burials, the online interactive map will detail biodiversity in churchyards, including ancient trees and plant-life, as well as green technology such as solar panels.

See For Yourself

The first live publicly available BGMS sites are Kirkburton  
<https://kirkburton.burialgrounds.co.uk/mapmanagement/#/>  
and Shelley burial grounds.  
<https://shelley.burialgrounds.co.uk/mapmanagement/#/>



# Editor's ~~Lookdown~~ Humour

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

3 Steps to make money. **Step 1:** Start a beer company named Responsibly. **Step 2:** Watch as every other beer company promotes you for free at the end of their commercials. **Step 3:** Enjoy your [Yacht](#)...

I was born Male, I identify as male, but according to Sainsburys Deluxe [Sticky Toffee Pudding](#) I am actually a family of four...

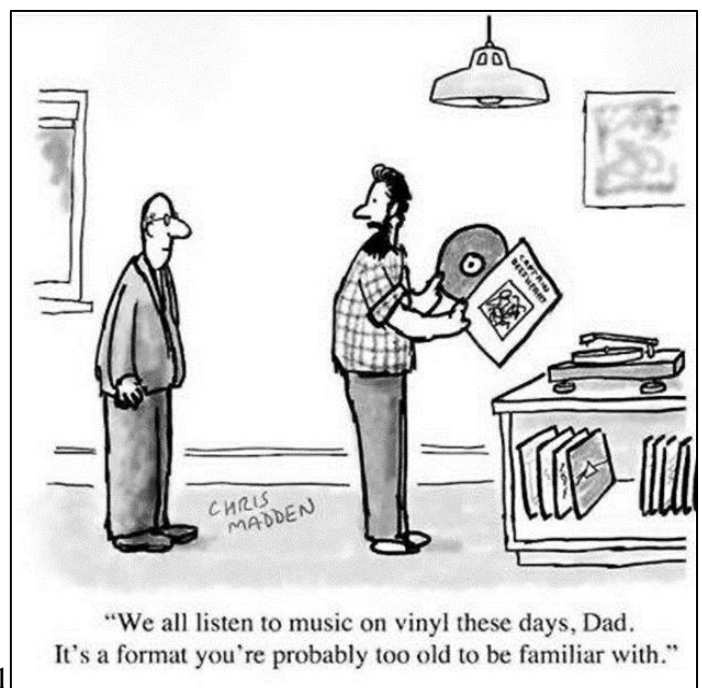
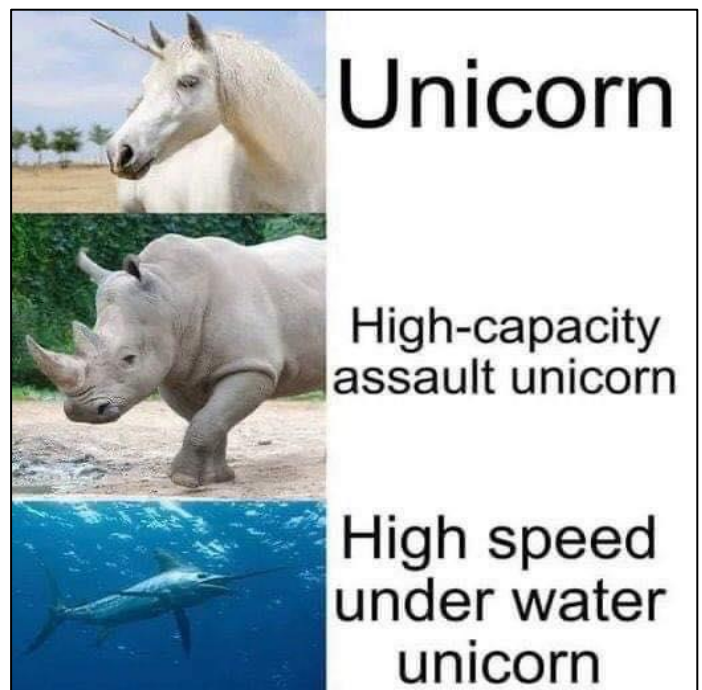
Did you know – even if a [bear](#) wears socks and shoes he still has bear feet...

As I walk through the [Valley of the Shadow of Death](#), I remind myself that you can't always trust [Google Maps](#)

I burned 2000 [calories](#) today... That's the last time I leave [brownies](#) in the oven while I take a nap.

You only need two tools in life... WD-40 and Duct Tape.

If it doesn't move and should, use [WD-40](#). If it moves and shouldn't use [Duct Tape](#).





## A Woman of Our Time

One hundred and forty-five years ago Mary Sumner Held a meeting in her home for Mothers of different social backgrounds to share mutual concerns and to support each other. This was the beginning of Mother's Union. In 2021 there are over four million members in eighty-four countries with influence on National and international policies. People often think we are just around to do cakes and tea, but our concerns go much deeper as we try to help women and their families have a better life. Our influence is much wider as we serve on a consultative council and produce papers for members of parliament about transforming lives by way of peaceful and safe environments for all, gender justice where all can flourish and self-reliance, so no one goes hungry. M.U. members are very much involved in working these principles out at ground level through teaching men and women to read, helping with credit and business plans to feed families.

**The United Nations '16 Days of Activism Against Gender - Based Violence and Abuse** - See page 22 for more information

M.U., Joins with over 6,000 other organisations in support of this campaign. M.U. is a Christian organisation open to all, although it began in the Church of England this is no barrier to anyone who wants to help those less fortunate. Here in Ecclesfield we held a coffee morning to raise money for families in need of a holiday who cannot afford one. We welcome everyone's support for these events and thanks to those who came and helped to raise over £320 towards the cost of a caravan holiday.

The advertisement features a central image of a white roller shutter door set in a stone wall. A hand is shown in the foreground holding a black remote control, pointing it at the door. The door has a 'CE APPROVED' mark in the top right corner. The background is a light green wall. Text is overlaid on the image in white and black boxes.

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\*Offer valid for openings up to 2.6m wide & inc: 2 remote controls, 55mm white slats, internal manual override.

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## Saints of the month - St Margaret of Scotland - 16<sup>th</sup> Nov

Some women have power, and some women are good. When a woman with power is also good, she can achieve an astonishing amount.

Margaret of Scotland has been called 'The Pearl of Scotland', but she began life in Hungary about 1045. She was born to the expatriate English prince Edward the Exile, and so was an English princess. The family returned to Wessex in 1057, when she was 13, and following the death of King Harold II at the Battle of Hastings in 1066, her brother Edgar Aetheling should have been King of England, but he was never crowned. Instead, the family fled north, to Scotland, where she was married to Malcolm III of Scotland by 1070. As a Scottish queen she went on to become mother of three kings of Scotland, and of a queen consort of England.



Margaret was a Christian, and became a good friend of Lanfranc, a future archbishop of Canterbury. Her biographer tells of how she read narratives from the Bible to her husband, thus helping to 'civilise' him. He was illiterate, but so admired her reading, that he had her books decorated with gold and silver. She was also credited with helping her youngest son, the future King David I of Scotland, towards becoming a just and holy ruler.

Margaret introduced the worship and practise of the Church of Rome into Scotland. She also wanted to help the many pilgrims travelling in Scotland, and so she established a ferry across the Firth of Forth, which is where the towns South Queensferry and North Queensferry got their names.

Margaret performed many charitable works for the poor, and she interceded for the release of English exiles who had been forced into serfdom following the Norman conquest. She also began the restoration of Iona Abbey.

In private life, Margaret spent much of her time in prayer, using a cave on the banks of the Tower Burn in Dunfermline as a place of devotion and prayers. St Margaret's Cave is still there today, covered beneath a municipal car park.

Margaret died in 1093, and in 1250 Pope Innocent IV canonised her. Her relics were dispersed after the Scottish Reformation, but at one time Mary, Queen of Scots, owned her head.

*Editor* - Her husband Malcolm III, and their eldest son Edward, were killed in the Battle of Alnwick against the English on 13 November 1093. Her son Edgar was left with the task of informing his mother of their deaths. Not yet 50 years old, Margaret died on 16 November 1093, three days after the deaths of her husband and eldest son. The cause of death was reportedly grief. She was buried before the high altar in Dunfermline Abbey in Fife, Scotland

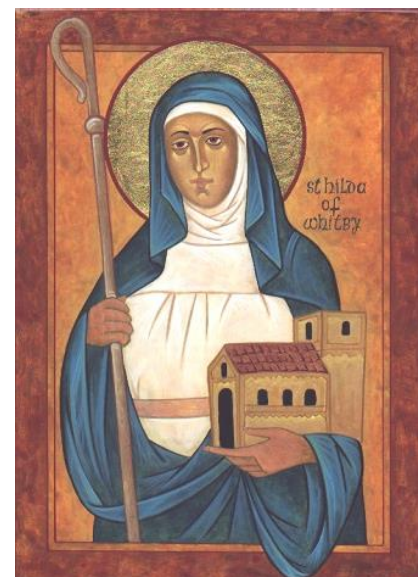


## Hilda - Abbess of Whitby – 19<sup>th</sup> Nov

Hilda played a key role in the early English Christian church, and she may even have been the first to encourage the writing of Christian poetry.

She was born a princess, into the Deiran (Northumbrian) dynasty, and her sister became Queen of the East Angles, with whom the Deiran had connections.

In those days East Anglia had close ties with the Gallic Church, and because of her sister, Hilda came under that influence. She was actually on her way to take her monastic vows near Paris when the Bishop of Lindisfarne, Aidan, called her back to Northumbria.



Back home, she went into seclusion for a time, before being sent to be abbess of a religious house in Hartlepool in 649.

Eight years later, Hilda felt moved to establish a religious community at Streasnaeshalch (later renamed Whitby). Her community was a royal establishment, a double monastery (both men and women) and became famous for its learning, with even five bishops trained there.

Whitby was also, of course, the venue for the famous Synod of Whitby in 664. With Hilda acting as hostess, the Synod met to decide upon the date of Easter. The issue at stake was greater than that, though, for the decision would sway the Church in Britain to adapt either the Celtic or Roman traditions. Although Hilda defended the Celtic church customs, she accepted with grace the decision of the Synod to accept the Roman date for Easter, and she then worked to unite the Church throughout the land.

**Editor:** Bede describes Hilda as a woman of great energy, who was a skilled administrator and teacher. As a landowner she had many in her employ to care for sheep and cattle, farming, and woodcutting. She gained such a reputation for wisdom that kings and princes sought her advice. However, she also had a concern for ordinary folk such as Cædmon. He was a herder at the monastery, who was inspired in a dream to sing verses in praise of God. Hilda recognized his gift and encouraged him to develop it. Bede writes, "All who knew her called her mother because of her outstanding devotion and grace".

**Support St. Mary's by donating today**



Scan the QR code using your mobile phone and donate by Google Pay, Apple Pay, PayPal or using your debit / credit card

**Why your donation counts**

Ecclesfield Church does not get any funding from the government or local authority. All its income comes from the generosity of people like yourself who give to support its services and help maintain the building for future generations.

Whether you give regularly or as a 'one-off', you can increase your donation by Gift Aiding it. This allows us to recover the basic rate tax paid on your gift, for every £ 10 you give the government gives another £ 2.50, making your gift worth £ 12.50



# The Gardening Year – November 2021

**Scheduling**, are their windows of opportunity in your weekly schedule that you could dedicate to gardening? Most of us say we have no time, but the reality is we prioritize it for other things. The most common one is the tv. Is there a program you just can't miss? maybe you could record it and treat yourself at the weekend or late one evening for all your hard work in the garden. Maybe you need to let another commitment go, this might be the perfect time to ditch the committee you are on and have been feeling fed up with for some time.

**Making time**, whether or not, we can find time to do things it's really about what we choose to do we all have choices, and it might be that we have to stop one activity in order to pursue your gardening. Perhaps you are a yes person and beginning your own container garden would be the perfect time to say no. Maybe you could give up the gym. and make your garden your outdoor gym. By the time you've moved a few pots around, carried compost and stretched around plants to weed you'll be fit and healthy.

**Careful planning**, time is something we all wish we all had more of, but it's possible to create time by taking an honest look at our weekly schedule. Sowing and harvesting are the busiest time of the year, make plans for this in advance.

**Successive sowing** is a way to make your time commitment work for you. Buying established plants mean you don't have a busy sowing season. Workout a rota with family or friends and enlist their help. could you give up a tv program or give up some other commitment. Could your garden become your green gym you'll have money too.

**Energy** as well as time, you will need energy to dedicate to gardening, once your seedlings are established, they will need lots of tender loving care. This is especially true of crops grown in pots, container crops are more reliant on you for the correct nutrition and once you move into summer and the temperature increases and rainfall decreases you will need more energy to keep up.

Colin Williams

## Eat the Seasons – November

**Vegetables** - Artichoke, Beetroot, Butternut Squash, Cauliflower, Celeriac, Celery, Chicory, Horseradish, Jerusalem Artichoke, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Parsnips, Potatoes (Maincrop), Pumpkin, Salsify, Shallots, Swede, Truffles (Black), Truffles (White), Turnips, Watercress, Wild Mushrooms

**Fruit** - Apples, Clementines, Cranberries, Passion Fruit, Pears, Pomegranate, Quince, Satsumas

**Herbs** - Almonds, Brazil Nuts, Chestnuts, Cob Nuts, Hazelnuts, Rosemary, Sage, 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, Gurnard, Haddock, Halibut, Hake, Lemon Sole, Lobster, Mackerel, Monkfish, Mussels, Oysters, Plaice, Pollack, Red Mullet, Sea Bass (Wild), Sea Bream, Skate, Squid, Turbot, Winkles

Visit - [www.eattheseasons.co.uk](http://www.eattheseasons.co.uk)

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## 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

# What is - 16 Days of Activism?

The United Nations' 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence and abuse is an annual international campaign. It takes place from 25 November (international Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) until 10 December (International Human Rights Day).

Started 30 years ago by activists at the inaugural Women's Global Leadership institute, the 16 Days are used by individuals and organisations around the world to call for prevention and elimination of violence against women and girls.

Throughout the campaign, Mothers' Union joins with over 6,000 organisations from approximately 187 countries to raise awareness of, and call for an end to, gender-based violence and abuse in all forms and in all societies.

GBV can affect any person at any time, and statistics demonstrate that women and girls are particularly at risk. Every day of the year, Mothers' Union works alongside communities to help end domestic abuse and gender-based violence and to support those affected by it. For these 16 days, we focus on women and girls, recognising the value of women and men reflecting, praying, and acting together to call for an end to violence in all its forms.

'For the LORD is a God of justice.'

*Isaiah 30.180*

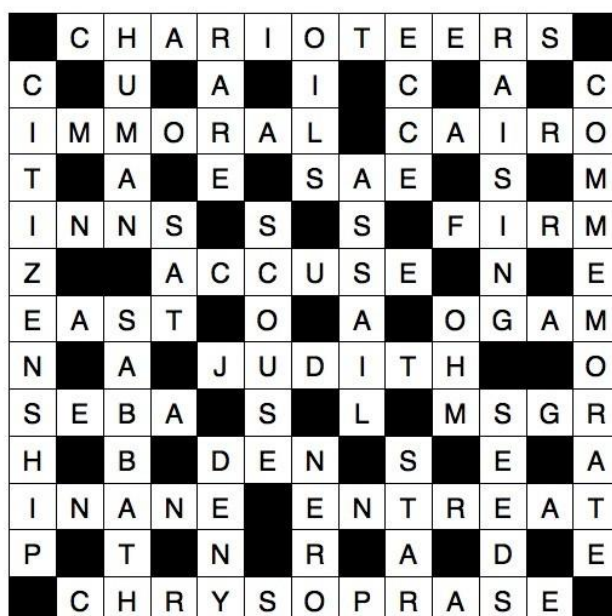
'Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight.

Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account.'

*Hebrews 4:13*

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## Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here



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34 Housley Park  
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British Institute of  
Funeral Directors

Eric Eyre National President  
1989 - 1990





# It is time to eat Goose

Before being usurped by turkey, goose was the preferred choice for the Christmas lunch table in England and more recently there are signs of it making a bit of a comeback. Goose meat is richer and darker than turkey. It has a higher fat content, but a lot of the fat melts away during cooking leaving deliciously tasty and succulent meat. Although not cheap, goose makes a wonderful treat for any special meal. In addition the goose fat collected during cooking makes *the* best roast potatoes and is almost worth the entrance price alone.



Geese were bred in ancient Egypt and goose liver was esteemed by the Romans. Goose has long been important in French cuisine where it plays a key part in traditional dishes such as cassoulet, confit d'oie and foie gras. It is now eaten widely in Europe and Asia, especially China.

The common domesticated goose is a descendant of the greylag goose (*Anser anser*) still found in the wild in Ireland, western Scotland and some other parts of Europe. Goose is the name for the female bird, the male being a gander.

Fresh geese are available from specialist suppliers and quality butchers. You may need to order in advance, particularly around Christmas. Geese are quite big-boned and so choose a larger bird than you would a chicken (allow at least 750g per person). Having said that, smaller (younger) birds are the most tender, so two small geese are preferable to a single huge one. Choose plump-looking free-range birds. Keep refrigerated, giblets removed, for up to 2 or 3 days.

## How to roast a goose

Unlike turkey and chicken, which should be roasted until the meat is an opaque white, goose can be served slightly pink. However, the legs need cooking for a lot longer than the breast, so keep the temperature low. Although the breast meat will be well done by the time the legs are cooked through, the layer of fat will ensure that it's nicely basted and won't dry out.

## Basic roast goose recipe - 1 goose, about 5kg Serves 6-8

1. Heat oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6. Remove all the fat from inside the bird and, using the point of a small knife or skewer, prick the skin all over, including under the wings and around the legs. Sit the goose in an empty sink and slowly pour over 2-4 kettlefuls of boiling water. The skin will tighten and become glossy. Leave to cool, then pat dry.
2. Stuff the goose with 2 onions, halved, an orange and a bay leaf or two. Rub all over with rapeseed oil and season generously with salt. Sit the goose on a rack in a large roasting tin and tightly cover with a large piece of foil. Cook for 1 hr 30 mins.
3. Remove from the oven, remove the foil and use oven gloves to lift the rack (and the goose) out of the roasting tin. Pour all the fat from the tin into a bowl and set aside. Sit the goose back in the tin, cover with foil, then roast for 1 hr. Remove the foil and return the bird to the oven for 15-20 mins to brown the skin. Transfer to a large board or platter to rest, uncovered, in a warmish place for 30 mins.

## Sherlock Holmes: "The Adventure of the Blue Carbuncle"

"He brought round both hat and goose to me on Christmas morning, knowing that even the smallest problems are of interest to me. The goose we retained until this morning, when there were signs that, in spite of the slight frost, it would be well that it should be eaten without unnecessary delay. Its finder has carried it off, therefore, to fulfil the ultimate destiny of a goose, while I continue to retain the hat of the gentleman who lost his Christmas dinner."

**Do you, your family, friends or neighbours shop at Amazon.co.uk?**

If you do, you can support St Mary's Church at **no extra cost**.

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Remember to select **"Ecclesfield Church"** as your charitable organisation before you shop, or use this link which does it for you

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1144309-0>

## Chapeltown & District Probus Club



PROBUS Club resumed face-to-face meetings in September at the Grenoside Community Centre. We followed the very conservative safety rules which the Community Centre is continuing with - spacing of chairs, masks advised for all other than those speaking and ventilation and a one-way system to ensure the safety of our members.

We welcomed back Andrew Raftery to our October meeting when he gave a fascinating illustrated account of the history of human organ transplants, covering not only the successes but also the failures during the early years of this growing field of surgery. His talk was illuminated with his dry sense of humour and his Yorkshire wit. 17 members had lunch after the meeting at the Acorn Inn.

Our future meetings will be followed by lunch at Wortley Hall with the seasonal lunches also booked for Wortley. Our 2021 Annual Dinner will be on the evening of 2<sup>nd</sup> November at Wortley Hall with musical entertainment and the 2022 Annual Dinner will return to its summer evening date.

The annual membership fee is still 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:-

10th November – Stephen Gay "In a Cornish Landscape - Part 2"

8<sup>th</sup> December – Geoff Marston "Part 2 of the Story of Sheffield Steel"  
Followed by Christmas lunch at Wortley Hall

Contact details: E-Mail [chapeltown.probus@gmail.com](mailto:chapeltown.probus@gmail.com)

Website <https://chapeltown-probus.org.uk/>

**Andrew Robinson**

# Crossword Puzzle

## Clues Across

- 1** In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed (2 Samuel 10:18) (11)  
**9** 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7)  
**10** City on the banks of the River Nile (5)  
**11** Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1)  
**13** Taverns (4)  
**16** 'Be on your guard; stand — in the faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4)  
**17** 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6)  
**18 and 27 Down** Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1–2) (4,4)  
**20** Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4)  
**21** She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6)  
**22** A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4)  
**23** Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4)  
**25** 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3)  
**28** Annie (anag.) (5)  
**29** Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7)  
**30** Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11)

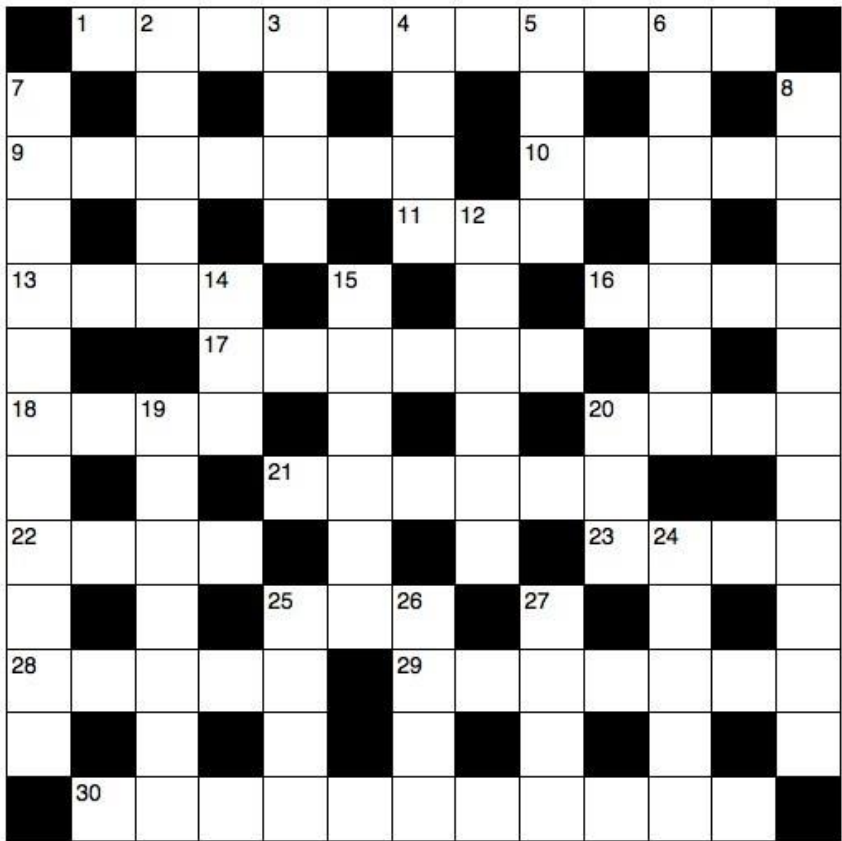
## Clues Down

- 2** 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5)  
**3** Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4)  
**4** 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4)  
**5** — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4)  
**6** 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7)  
**7** 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11)  
**8** 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11)  
**12** Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6)  
**14** 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3)  
**15** Liverpool dialect (6)  
**19** 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7)



- 20** Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3)
- 24** Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5)
- 25** 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4)
- 26** Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)
- 27** See 18 Across

Solution is on Page 22



# Prayers and Poems Page

## Prayer for November

Father,

In these short, dark days of November, with all the uncertainties and complications in our new Covid 19 landscape, help us to feel the reassurance of Your presence in the gift of each new day. Help us to be guided through the darkness by Your light – by Jesus, who will never leave us or forsake us.

In His name - the name above pandemics and shortages and rising bills and all anxieties – we pray.  
Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

### Zacchaeus

(Luke 19:1-10)

I wanted to sit here  
And watch Him,  
Just watch the man Jesus walk by.  
Hidden by the leaves,  
Hidden from the loathing of my lifestyle  
I simply wanted to see Him  
From my tree.

As I searched for His face  
He found mine,  
Reached where I was and looked up,  
Looked into the heart of my being,  
And Jesus did not walk by,  
He came to me,  
He spoke to me,

A tree is not a hiding place, my friend,  
Believe me.

Come down from your tree,  
Come down and be different,  
Come down and change your world,

Follow me.

*By Daphne Kitching*

### Orion

Orion soars above  
His stars, like diamonds, glitter  
Celestial wonder!

His wondrous belt  
And sword of nascent starforms  
Winter Glory!

*By Nigel Beeton*

### O Gallant Youth

Through long dark years our young have fought and died,  
In Freedom's name our country's foes defied;  
Now in Remembrance they are glorified,  
O Gallant Youth, we owe so much to you.

Though they were young, when came their country's call,  
Ready they were to stand up strong and tall.  
They did not flinch when asked to give their all,  
O Gallant Youth, we give our thanks for you.

Rows of graves, with headstones white  
Tributes to our gallant men,  
From Sun's rise till it sets from sight  
We'll always remember them.

Though they know well how high the price before -  
Legions of men and women lost in war -  
Our young today are standing firm and sure!  
O Gallant Youth, we are so proud of you!

Desert sands, through wind or flame  
Far flung seas, or skies of blue  
Where you go in Freedom's name  
We'll always think of you.

Go, in our name, to duty or to fight,  
Go, with our hopes into the darkest night;  
The hand of God will lead into the light.  
O Gallant Youth, we send our prayers with you!

Follow your fellow men from ages past  
Stand side by side with them, sincere, steadfast  
Fight for the right until you come at last  
Home, Gallant Youth, to those that wait for you.

*By Nigel Beeton*

## 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

EPPIC Theatre  
Monday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm  
Wednesday 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm  
Secretary - Emma Addy  
Theatre Tel No. 0114 240 2624

### Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Park - Located between  
Ladycroft bridge/stream and Bowling  
greens. Open Wednesday + Saturday  
10 am to 12 noon  
Tel: Robert 0114 246 1095

### Friends of Ecclesfield Library

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

### Ecclesfield Cubs

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

### Ecclesfield Beavers

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane)  
Monday 6.00 pm to 7.15 pm  
Leader - Mrs J Steel  
0114 246 0218  
Thursday - 5.45 - 7.00 pm  
Shane Porteous  
[shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:25theecclesfieldscouts@gmail.com)

### The Grenoside Singers

Practice Monday in St Mark's  
Church Hall at 7:30 pm  
Secretary: Judith Gill Tel: 0782 411 2584  
[www.grenosidesingers.co.uk](http://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:  
[whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk](mailto:whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk)  
Website:  
[www.whitleyhall.play-cricket.com](http://www.whitleyhall.play-cricket.com)

### Chapeltown and District PROBUS Club

Meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in the month  
in Grenoside Community Centre  
All retired and semi-retired gentlemen welcome  
Contact the Secretary: Trevor Winslow  
[chapeltown.probus@gmail.com](mailto:chapeltown.probus@gmail.com)  
We are now on Zoom see  
[www.chapeltown-probus.org.uk](http://www.chapeltown-probus.org.uk)

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







# **ECCLESFIELD IN BLOOM**

## **CHRISTMAS FAYRE at St. Mary's Church Ecclesfield**

between 10am and 12 noon  
on Saturday

**20th November 2021**

Tea/Coffee, Cakes,  
Raffle, Cards,  
Gifts, Toys, Books &  
Jewellery