

# News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



Church Magazine September 2021

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

**Price 60p**

## First Words

As the year moves into the Autumn more things are returning to normal. You will see from the Parish Registers that we have started baptisms again after a break of over a year.

I am pleased to say that we are able to sing in services again. We are beginning to plan the Autumn events at St Mary's. I hope that we will soon have both the Creche and Sunday Club on Sunday mornings again soon.

On Monday 13th September at 7.30pm the PCC will be meeting in Church.

Wednesday 15th to Sunday 19th September it is Heritage Open Days. More details on the Sunday notices.

On Sunday 19th at 4.30pm we will be having a special service to dedicate our new Disabled Access, a time to give thanks together and to invite our neighbours into St Mary's.

The Ministry Team will be meeting at 10am on Tuesday 21st September, and at 6pm on the same day there will be a meeting of the Ecclesfield Feoffees.

On Wednesday 22nd September there will be the first "St Mary's Gathering" at 7.30pm - a time to meet together once a month for prayer and worship, study and fellowship.

On Saturday 25th September there will be a wedding in Church at 3pm.

On Monday 27th September the Ecclesfield Charities will be meeting at 7pm in Church.

We need to have a meeting of Sunday Club leaders, and anyone interested in becoming a leader or helper before the end of September - look out on the notice sheet for details.

God bless,

Tim



## The Church Magazine

During lockdown we have been lucky to access the magazine both in print and online. As we come out of this situation it is time to pay for the magazine as usual. Could you please let Pat Blackburn know if you are continuing to take it and also if you know of anyone not able to come to Church who would like it. The cost is the same, £6.00 for the year. **Pat B**

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

**Front Cover** – Aster – birth flower for September

**Back Cover** – View through Lych Gate - Donate

# Andrew Jones

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# Prayer for the Month

## *Psalm 103.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless His holy name...

The Psalter is the Bible's prayer book. The Psalms have been prayed in monasteries and Churches for the whole of Christian history. There are Psalms for every occasion: psalms of worship and thanksgiving; Psalms of lament and grief when our hearts are breaking. There are Psalms which cry out to God for justice and vindication; even cursing Psalms!

The breadth and range of the Psalter is greater than the Church's liturgy and hymns. Everyone knows Psalm 23; it is a beautiful and simple prayer of trust in God in all circumstances. It is easy to memorise.

My favourite Psalm is 103. Its title - added much later is "Thanksgiving for God's goodness." It is certainly that, but it is much more. The unknown writer thanks God for His blessings, for health and life; for His justice and mercy. In memorable phrases he rejoices in the extent of God's forgiveness:

"For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him;  
as far as the east is from the west,  
so far he removes our transgressions from us."

To the author of this Psalm, God is father-like in his compassion. The writer meditates on our mortal nature, in contrast with God who is eternal. And yet this eternal God loves mortal men and women.

The psalm ends calling on the angels and the whole host of heaven to worship God. It is a reminder that our worship is caught up with the worship of heaven.

Whether we gather in a Church service to sing God's praises or are at home reading the Psalms in the silence of our hearts, our 'sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving' is not alone. Our worship is part of the worship of all of creation and all of heaven. As we say in the Eucharist, we worship alongside "angels and archangels and all the company of heaven."

This beautiful prayer reminds me of the nature of the God we worship, His glory and power, His beauty and compassion; and it reminds me that worship is about God, not about me. Too often we see even worship as something that is for us; we want to sing the songs that we like and to have the style of worship that we prefer. This Psalm reminds us that we worship God, and our hymns and prayers are an offering, not an exercise in self-expression!





# God and The Arts

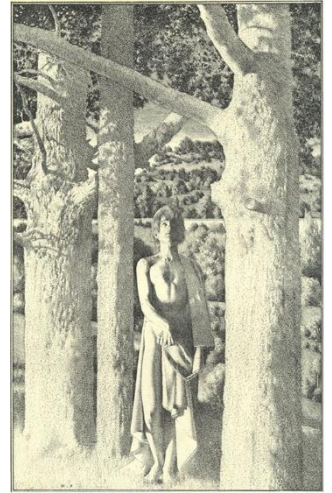
Editor: The Revd Michael Burgess continues his series on God in the Arts with 'A Hill Prayer' by Maxfield Parrish. You can see a copy of the illustration at: <http://www.uh.edu/engines/epi1900.htm>

## 'How wonderful creation is'

There is a story that someone asked a Father of the early church, Tertullian, to prove the existence of God.

He replied by showing the person a rose. But Tertullian took a risk, for while many appreciate the beauty and wonder of a rose, it is not everyone who sees that beauty pointing to God as its creator.

In one of his hymns, Fr Faber wrote: 'How wonderful creation is, The work which thou didst bless, And O! what then must Thou be like – Eternal loveliness.' A rose can speak of beauty and speak of God to some; to others a rose is just another flower in the garden.



William Blake wrote, 'The tree which moves some to tears of joy is in the eyes of others only a green thing which stands in the way.' We know that only too well when forests are cut down in the name of progress, and trees that have stood for centuries are hewn down in a moment.

This month's work of art is 'A Hill Prayer' by Maxfield Parrish: it shows a man standing in a forest of venerable and imposing trees, and the hills stretching out behind him. Maxfield Parrish was an American artist, who created paintings of brilliant colour and luminosity. The particular cobalt he used was known as 'Parrish blue.' Much of his work was for illustrations in books and magazines and in advertising. But here is an early drawing of 1897, based in a New England forest, that has a haunting quality about it. He drew it to accompany a poem of Marian Warner Wildman where the writer goes into the forest to escape the doubts and worries of the world and to find release and peace. It ends with the lines:

'I love thee with a beauty-broken heart  
And worship thee, be whatever thou art.'

The drawing may evoke for us memories of forests and countryside we have explored, with trees towering above us, reaching to the sky, their leaves rustling in the wind and letting shafts of sunlight through. Like the artist, we may have wondered at their age and beauty and pondered the mystery of creation around us. In their beauty we can glimpse their Creator; in the miracle of their life, we can see the bringer of life and eternal life. For scripture begins with trees: the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil with the story of how human pride exchanges paradise for hard work and toil.

But the final pages of the Bible describe that tree of life once again: this time arching over the river that runs through the heavenly city with leaves that bring healing and restoration. And bridging that tree of Genesis and the tree of Revelation is the wood of the cross: 'None in foliage, none in blossom, none in fruit thy peer may be.' In that tree we can truly glory.

Autumn will soon be with us, and the magnificence of the trees around will fade as their leaves fall and are swept away. After the death of winter, spring will come and bring the miracle of new life to their roots and branches, and once again we can behold their glory, like the traveller in the forest of Maxfield Parrish's drawing – trees that remind us of 'the one and only noble tree': the Cross that is the sign of salvation for all seasons and all lives.

# St James the Least of All

## On the perils of taking a wedding

The Rectory  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

As with many of your ideas, your intentions are admirable; it is just that they don't work.

So it was with the recent wedding in your church, where you allowed the happy but quite mad young couple to try and imitate the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. It was kind of them to want to celebrate Will and Kate's recent 10th wedding anniversary, but it did not seem to occur to anybody that your church, converted from a 1960s warehouse, is fractionally less impressive than Westminster Abbey. And I feel that a backdrop of a car park and canal make a poor substitute for the Houses of Parliament and the Thames. Finally, even 43 very enthusiastic young people can hardly pretend they are a congregation of several thousand.

However, I do applaud your decision to invite me to take it, in order to impart a degree of gravitas to the proceedings, though of course I would not presume to upstage the Archbishop of Canterbury. (Although were he to ask my advice on how to run the Anglican Church, I have several helpful suggestions to hand.) But even I struggled to keep things on a proper course when the bride, lacking a horse-drawn carriage, simply walked up the lane with her ancient pony. (Which then tried to bite me at the church door!)

Her arrival was greeted with music. I will pass no comment on this, as the Bible says we are to make a joyful noise, not necessarily music, unto the Lord. I am sure that drums and kazoos and guitars all have their place – somewhere or other.

It was a pity that the groom, unlike Prince William, had not thought to get to the church on time – or indeed, at all. It was fortunate that the bride's mother found him in that pub nearby, or really, we would have struggled to complete the wedding.

Your loving uncle,  
Eustace

*Editor:* And yes, churches have bells that are often rung as newlyweds make their way back up the aisle, but is that all those bells symbolize - just joyful noise?

Wedding bells come from ancient Celtic and Irish traditions. Church bells were incorporated into wedding ceremonies as a symbol of abundance and prosperity; the ringing of bells was also believed to ward off evil spirits.





# 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

One of the most important parts of any Church's life comes when we meet in small groups. We spend time together, as we pray and read the Bible together, the Holy Spirit is at work bonding us helping us to discern God's call on our life and on the direction of our Church, helping us to understand and respond to the needs of our parish.

At the moment there are no small groups as part of St Mary's family. So, this September we will be launching "St Mary's Gathering." A monthly home group meeting in Church. The first meeting will be on Wednesday 22nd September at 7.30pm.

Every month we will have a time of fellowship and worship, there will be time to read and study the Bible together and there will be opportunities to pray with and for one another. I hope that we will soon have a second 'gathering' meeting monthly on an afternoon alongside the evening meeting.

We can see how important small group meetings are when we read the book of Acts. As faithful Jewish believers, the first Christians attended public worship in the Jerusalem Temple, but they also met together. As the Church grew out from Jerusalem, this pattern was repeated. Christians would worship in the local synagogue and also meet in homes for prayer and to study the Apostles' teaching.

When the fledgling Church broke away from the Jewish faith, the house groups became house-churches, spread throughout the Roman Empire.

In parts of the world today, such as in China, the house Churches are the basic unit of the Church. When Church buildings are closed down or confiscated, the Church continues because of the house churches, in fact in places such as China, the Church flourishes and grows even when persecuted because of the vitality of the house Churches.

I hope and pray that "St Mary's Gathering" will help us to grow closer together as a Church family, help us to grow in faith and in love of our neighbour. I pray that it will be a beginning, the start of more groups meeting in Church as well as in homes.

If you are able to come along on the 22nd of September at 7.30pm it will be good to see you there. After the past two years there is a lot of rebuilding to do of our life and worship, and 'St Mary's Gathering' will be an important part of that rebuilding.

Even if you have never been to a small group in the past you are invited. You are welcome.

God bless,

Tim.

## Lord, teach us to pray.

The disciples asked Jesus **how** to pray. They saw that Jesus' prayer, his relationship with God, was something that they wanted for themselves. They also saw that prayer is something that can be taught and learned.

Starting on Wednesday October 13th at 7.30pm there will be a monthly prayer meeting in St Mary's. We will practice some of the ancient forms of contemplative prayer, much of the hour will be spent in silent prayer together in a Church whose walls are saturated with the worship and the prayers of people for hundreds and hundreds of years.

The goal of prayer is to meet with God at an ever-deeper level. Secular forms of prayer such as 'Mindfulness' have proved to be a life-line for many people in the past two years.

"Soul Sanctuary" will be a space to simply 'be' in the presence of God; it will be a place to learn how to pray contemplatively; a place to learn the ancient ways of Christian Meditation; a place where your soul can find space to grow.

All are invited and welcome.

Tim

## Flying bishop

The new Bishop wanted a bird's eye view of his new diocese, so he had an idea. He rang his local airfield to charter a flight, and was told that a twin-engine plane would be waiting for him. Arriving at the airfield, the bishop spotted a plane warming up outside a hangar. He jumped in, slammed the door shut, and shouted, "Let's go!"

At once the pilot taxied out, swung the plane into the wind and took off. Once in the air, the bishop spent several minutes enjoying the views, and looking for local landmarks. Finally, he instructed the pilot, "Fly down the valley now and make low passes so I can take pictures of some of the best of the old parish churches."

"Why?" asked the pilot.

"Because I'm the new bishop," he replied happily, adjusting his camera, "and I want some good aerial views of my diocese."

The pilot was silent for a moment. Finally he stammered, "So, what you're telling me, is, you're NOT my flight instructor?"



# From the Registers

## Baptisms:

Sunday 8th August	Seth Clark & Melissa Clark
Sunday 8th August	Hope Willow Booth
Sunday 15th August	Montague & Elyes Mathon-Rowe
Sunday 22nd August	Henry James Silverwood
Sunday 22nd August	Evan Reece Fowler-Steane
Sunday 22nd August	Carter William Giles

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

## Marriages

Saturday 14th August	Kyle Foster & Dena Ama
Friday 20th August	Ashley Williamson & Sophie Oxley

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

## Funerals

Monday 9th August	Donald Knott
Wednesday 18th August	Graham Middleton
Tuesday 24th August	Edward Brennan

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

## Don Knott – Organist & Choirmaster In Memoriam

Don's love of music started at an early age. In his teens he studied the organ and piano which led him to become one of the area's youngest church organists.

After meeting Madge and marrying, they had two boys David and Martin. With a busy family life, he still managed to carry on playing every Sunday at church.

In 1988 David James who was vicar at that time, asked him to become resident organist at St. Mary's and that as they say, 'is history'.

With Don as organist and Madge as Choir Mistress they managed to put together a pretty good choir, and under their tutelage we sang some beautiful music, at St. Mary's and also at many churches in the area.

When Madge died, he lost his soulmate in life and in music, but fortunately for the choir his love of music kept him going.

So, Don, we at St. Mary's will never forget you, we hope that you and Madge are now making beautiful music together, as you always did.

God Speed Your Journey.







This year Ecclesfield St Mary is taking part in the Heritage Open Days (HoDs) and the church will be hosting a range of stalls and activities each day from 10:30 - 16:00 between Thursday 15th and Saturday 17th September.

The organisers are not sure what attendance will be like this year but we have much to celebrate and this is a great way of enabling people who have never visited the church to call in and explore. We have a beautiful churchyard, an amazing heritage, not least the newly found Saxon (or is it Celtic?) cross shaft and a new all-access entrance.

Worship has taken place on this spot for over 1000 years and during that time, the church has evolved to meet the changing needs of the times and people it served and continues to do so today. Our building reflects the good times and bad, turbulence and stability, growth and decline its people have witnessed and commemorated over time. Do support us over the three days we are open and please encourage friends, neighbours and family to visit.

**[Our official listing on the HoD website is:](#)**

The Grade I listed building, Ecclesfield St Mary, is one of only 400 major churches in the country. Arguably, the founding church of Hallamshire, its astonishing heritage has evolved from Saxon (or Celtic?) times to the present day and beyond.

On a raised ancient site overlooking the village to which it gave its name, medieval Ecclesfield was one of the largest parishes in England. After the Conquest, a stone church replaced an earlier Saxon (or Celtic) place of worship and underwent several changes during the medieval period being substantially rebuilt between 1450-1525. Evidence of earlier churches and the faith, fears and myths of those who worshipped there can still be seen. The recent discovery of a Saxon cross shaft confirms the area has been a significant cultural centre for hundreds of years.

In its well cared for churchyard lie the remains of hundreds of parishioners whose lives were often even more tumultuous than our own. Amongst yew trees, wildflowers and tendered borders, can be found the graves of Joseph Hunter, author of Hunter's Hallamshire, the social reformer Lady Mabel Smith (Lady Mabel Florence Harriet Fitzwilliam-Wentworth) and Alexander Scott said to have been Nelson's spy.

See the newly discovered Saxon cross shaft, view a display of the life and works of Joseph Hunter or discover the Sheffield Family History Society display. Clay modelling, stained windows and activities for children as well as a guided tour of the church and surroundings.

Children's family activities available: Yes, especially Saturday 17th September

Coffee morning Friday 16th 10:30- 12:00

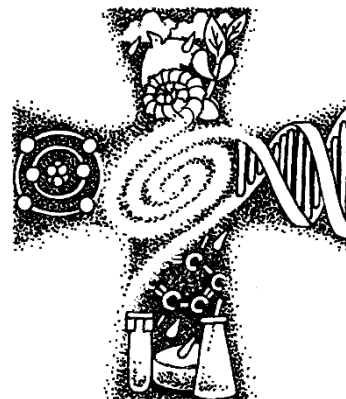
Tours of the church available Friday and Saturday 14:00

# 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.

## Faithful to Scripture, Faithful to Science: Alister McGrath on science and Christian faith

Alister McGrath is well-known as a theologian, but he started out as a scientist. After becoming a Christian as a student, he wanted to learn about his new faith so he studied theology at the same time as completing his PhD in molecular biophysics. He has not lost touch with science, but has continued to write and speak about how science and Christian faith work together. In this extract from a recently released interview, he shares his experience of being a scientist and a Christian.



“I think my most vivid experience of wonder took place in the 1970's when I was on vacation in Iran. We were travelling on a bus in the middle of the night because it wasn't hot then, and the bus broke down. We found ourselves in the middle of this solemn black desert, and the night sky shone with a brilliance like I had never seen before. That just overwhelmed me, it made me think there is something really wonderful here.

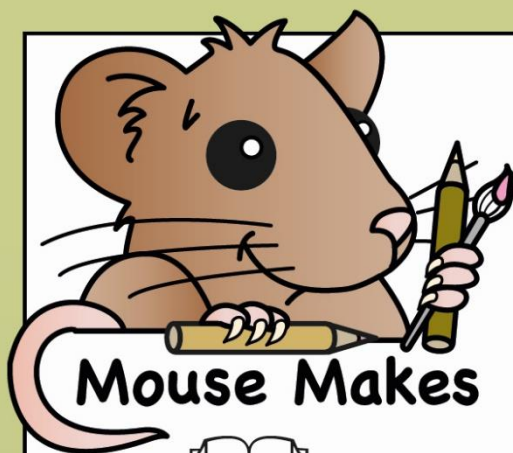
“Now, I was a Christian by that time and I knew how Christianity could answer that but it just struck me, that sense of wonder has two possible outcomes. One is science - this universe is wonderful, what's it all about? But of course, it is also about religion, the deeper levels of things that science can't really engage. I think one of the things I have discovered over time is that maybe this sense of wonder both opens the gateway to science and to faith, and that those two together are able to answer questions which on their own they simply couldn't.

“I think 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 - they transcend its capacities to answer, and you might think of non-empirical questions like, ‘Why am I here? What is the meaning of life? What is good and how do I live a good life?’

“These are real questions and they're good questions but they're not scientific questions. And the psychologists tell us that we really need answers to those questions if we are to lead a fulfilled human existence. You find some scientists who say, ‘Well because science can't answer them there are no answers to be given’, but actually most realise that there are answers waiting to be discovered - it's just that science can't deliver them.

“Science fills in part of a big picture but there are parts of the picture you have to fill in from somewhere else. Science is part of the answer but only part, and faith supplements it, giving us a vision of life that is exciting and reliable, and also something that we can inhabit meaningfully.”

Find more on [wondersofthelivingworld.org](http://wondersofthelivingworld.org)



## Mouse Makes



### The bowl of flour and the jar of oil

It had not rained for months and months, there was a drought in the land.

God sent His prophet **Elijah** to the town of Zarephath. At the town gate he saw a widow gathering firewood.

*"Please bring me a drink of water and some bread."* he asked her.

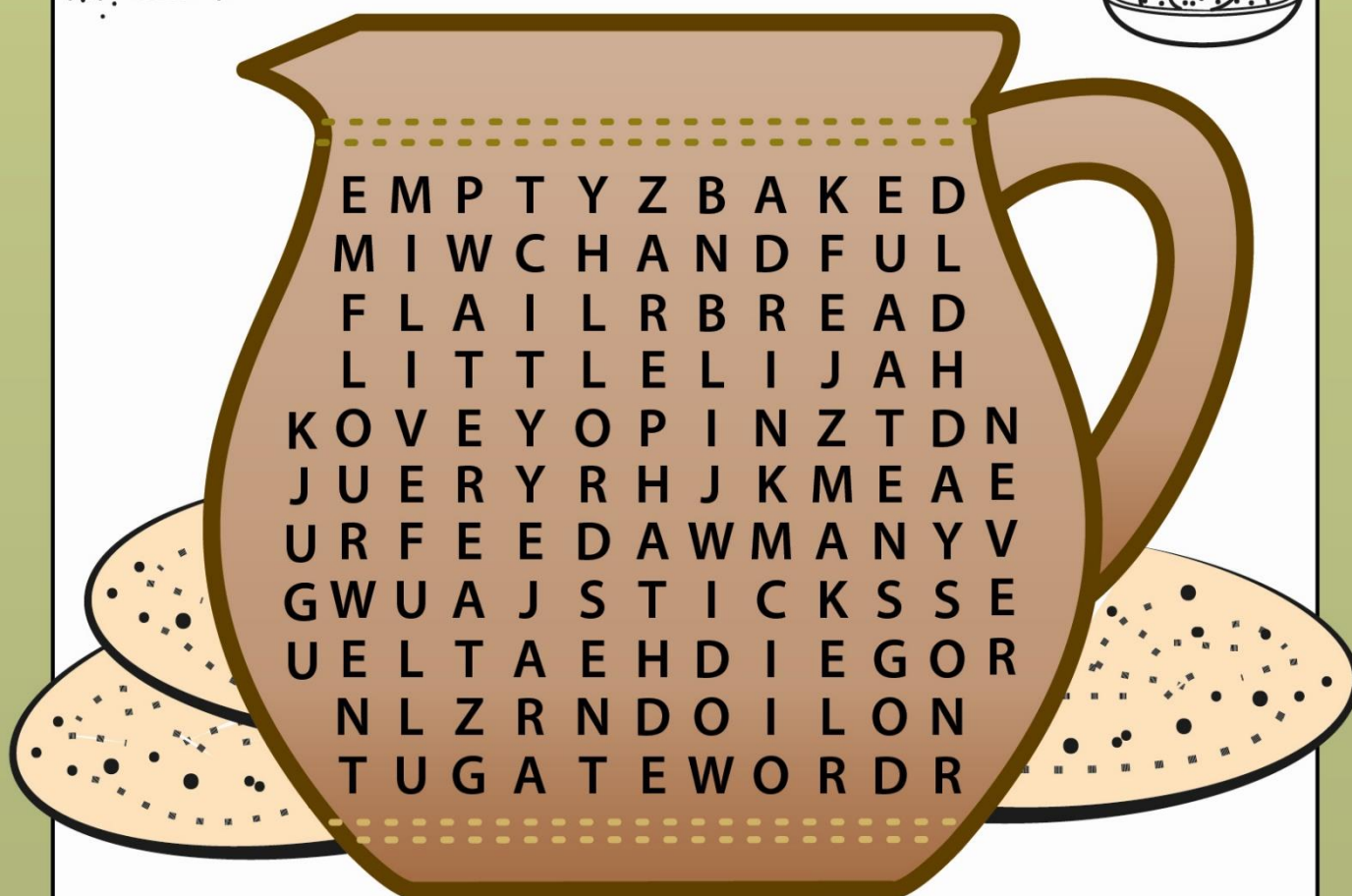


She answered *"All I have is a handful of flour and a drop of oil in a jar, it is our last meal."*

*"Do not worry."* Elijah said, *"Make the meal and make a small loaf for me."*

The woman did what Elijah had asked and God blessed her ...

... The bowl never ran out of flour and the jar never ran out of oil until it rained again!



Find these words from the story in the word search:

WORD • LORD • GOD • ELIJAH • SENT • ZAREPHATH • GATE • CITY • WIDOW  
STICKS • WATER • DRINK • BREAD • FEED • HANDFUL • FLOUR • LITTLE  
OIL • SON • EAT • DIE • FULL • WENT • MAKE • BAKED • ATE • JAR • JUG • MANY  
DAYS • LIVE • NEVER • EMPTY

# Learning lessons from a graveyard

*Editor:* By the Revd Peter Crumpler, a Church of England priest in St Albans, Herts, and a former communications director for the C of E

If you're looking for a quiet oasis away from the bustle and busyness of everyday life, there's a place where nature, heritage and the life histories of hundreds of local people are on peaceful display. Take a walk in your local cemetery.

The chances are it's a place where nature abounds, where socially-distant peace can be found, and you can meditate on the deeper issues of life.

It's true that graveyards seldom feature in most people's favourite places to visit. Many find them morbid, reminding them of their own mortality.

Or they can prompt memories of loved ones no longer with us, and the sadness overcomes the happy memories of the life shared together. Others simply rush past cemeteries or graveyards, without even noticing that they are there.

But walk among the gravestones, read the inscriptions and you find the stories of people's lives.

Samuel Ryder, the Hertfordshire seed merchant who devised the United States v Europe Ryder Cup golf tournament, is buried in the cemetery opposite the church where I minister. When I visited recently, someone had left golf balls on his grave. In the same cemetery, there are more than 200 plain white graves of local and Commonwealth service people who died during the two world wars, and a memorial to the many local soldiers who died in the First World War.

To wander around any cemetery or graveyard is to enter into the lives of generations of families. To see the grave of the still-born baby close to the child who died in infancy, both near to the grandmother who died in her nineties. The husband and wife who died within months of each other, are alongside the wife who outlived her spouse by decades.

I'm always struck by how people are described. Most are defined by their family relationships – beloved grandfather, grandmother, father, mother, wife, husband, son or daughter.

Others are described by their roles in life – actress, golf professional or for the war graves, by their ranks. How long, I wonder, had the young men and women been in uniform before meeting their deaths – and being remembered ever after as soldiers? In some cases, it may have been just a few months. What, I find myself asking, would I like to have written on my gravestone? How would each of us like to be remembered? How can long lives be summed up in the few words you can fit on a gravestone?

And what is it that we are doing in life that will be of lasting value? Cemeteries are places that can make you consider your own life and think about what is important in it.

Many Christian funerals begin with the words of Jesus Christ, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'

It is a promise I hold to as I walk the paths around the graves.

*The Revd Peter Crumpler is associate minister at St Paul's Church, Fleetville, St Albans.*



# Editor's ~~Lookdown~~ Humour

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

[Karl Marx](#) is an historically famous figure, but nobody mentions his sister Onya, who invented the [starting pistol](#)...

I phoned my wife earlier and asked if she wanted me to pick up [fish and chips](#) on the way home from work, but she just grunted at me. I think she still regrets letting me name the [twins](#)...

Three old men sat on a park bench. 1<sup>st</sup> man "It's windy" - 2<sup>nd</sup> man "No it's Thursday" - 3<sup>rd</sup> man "Me too! Let's get some [beers](#)!"

Nurse: what happened to your [fingers](#)? Me: you know those chefs who cut up [vegetables](#) real fast? Nurse: yes? Me: I can't do that.

Two ladies overheard in a French [Bistro](#) - 1<sup>st</sup> lady "I'm really in the mood for a Quickie" - 2<sup>nd</sup> lady "It's pronounced "[Quiche](#)""

I accidentally swallowed some [Scrabble](#) tiles and now I'm experiencing constant vowel movements. The next trip to the [bathroom](#) could spell disaster.

## ***A man walks into the local hardware store...***

Man - Do you have any two-watt bulbs?

Cashier - For what?

Man - OK, that'll do. I'll take two.

Cashier - Two what?

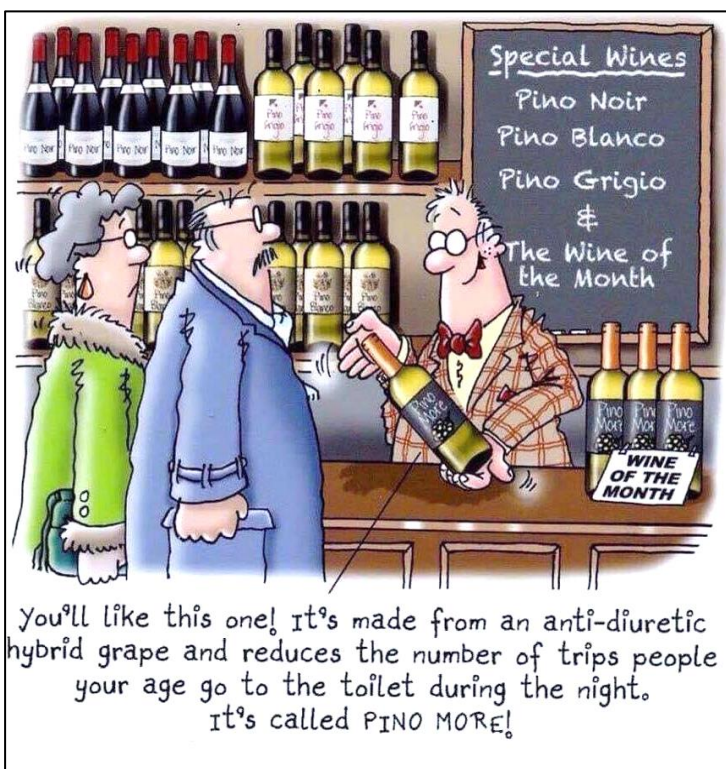
Man - I thought you didn't have any.

Cashier - Any what?

Man - OK then! Two.

Cashier - What?!

Man - Exactly!



# Whitley Hall Cricket Club



I write on the 1st day of September and the 1st XI has just one league match remaining. August started with an outstanding victory away at Elsecar with Whitley winning by 8 wickets followed by a disappointing defeat at home to high flying Treeton. The 21st August saw the match at Wakefield abandoned due to rain and the final game was an overwhelming win at home against relegated Wickersley. The final match will be away at champions Appleby Frodingham and Whitley will end the season in 6th, 7th or 8th place. The 2nd XI continues to have a mixed season standing in 6th heading into September with two games remaining and a chance to climb to 5th. The 3rd XI has had a great season and sit in promotion spot into Division 6; however, a re-structuring of the League with an extra Division for 2022 might affect this promotion.

## Fixtures at Baxter Field, Cinder Hill Lane, 12 noon

4th September	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Rotherham 1st XI
11th September	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Sheffield United 1st XI

Secretary: Joe Webster: [whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk](mailto:whitleyhall@ycspl.co.uk) Website: [www.Whitleyhall.play-cricket.com](http://www.Whitleyhall.play-cricket.com)

Andrew Robinson

## Dead Sea Scrolls – brought to light 30 years ago

Thirty years ago, on 22nd September 1991, photographs and transcripts of the Dead Sea Scrolls were made available to scholars generally for the first time.

[The Scrolls](#) – ancient, mostly Hebrew or Aramaic manuscripts of leather, papyrus, and copper – were first found in 1947 near the shore of the Dead Sea. They come from various sites and date from the third century BC to the second century AD.

The decision by the Huntington Library, which is in San Marino, California, to make the Scrolls public was hailed by its director, Dr William A Moffett, as a bold move “equivalent to breaking down the Berlin Wall”. Up to that time access to the scrolls had been restricted to a fairly small group of ‘authorised’ scholars.

The Huntington photograph collection was created by philanthropist Elizabeth Hay Bechtel in 1980, with Robert Schlosser taking the actual pictures. After her death in 1987 they became the property of the library, with no agreed restrictions on their use – unlike the official collections, which certain experts reserved for their own use “to ensure scholarly accuracy”.

Last year the Museum of the Bible, in Washington DC, confirmed that all 16 of the fragments it owns are modern forgeries.

# Saint of the month - 26th Sept - Wilson Carlile

## Wilson Carlile founder of the Church Army

Wilson Carlile was born in Brixton in 1847, and did not set out to become an evangelist. Instead, he was brilliant at both languages and music, and excelled as a businessman. That is, until an economic recession and serious illness brought him crashing down and finished his career, aged only 31.

Not surprisingly, a serious breakdown followed, when Carlile questioned everything that he had been attempting in life. This search for a new meaning brought him to faith in Jesus Christ, and so turned his world upside down. He later wrote:

I have seen the crucified and risen Lord as truly as if He had made Himself visible to me bodily sight. That is for me the conclusive evidence of His existence. He touched my heart and old desires and hope left it. In their place came the new thought that I might serve Him and His poor and suffering brethren.



Wilson approached two Christians whose passion for ministry was already well known: the Americans evangelists Moody and Sanky, who were at that time in England. Wilson attended their meetings and supplied music via his harmonium. In return, he learned a lot about effective outdoors evangelism.

Carlile then prepared himself for a life of ministry. He was confirmed into the Church of England, studied at the London College of Divinity, ordained in 1880 and served his curacy at St Mary Abbots in Kensington. But Carlile wanted more than comfortable parish life, and soon began outdoor preaching again. He wanted to reach the poor, unchurched, of the community.

Carlile left Kensington to work in a slum mission, and by 1882 he was busy uniting the local Anglican parish missions into one organisation. Here his business skills in planning and organising proved invaluable, and soon he had founded the 'Church Army.' He then founded two training colleges, to train both men and women evangelists. After slight hesitation, the Church of England agreed to incorporate the Church Army into its structure, and even created the office of Evangelist for the Church Army captains and sisters.

In the years that followed, Church Army has done great work in evangelism, as well as in social and moral welfare. It helped support the troops during World War 1. Carlile remained honorary chief secretary until retirement in 1926. He died in 1942.

[The Wilson Carlile Centre](#) in Sheffield is owned and run by [Church Army](#): a registered charity in England & Wales 226226, Scotland SC040457 and Republic of Ireland 20152604

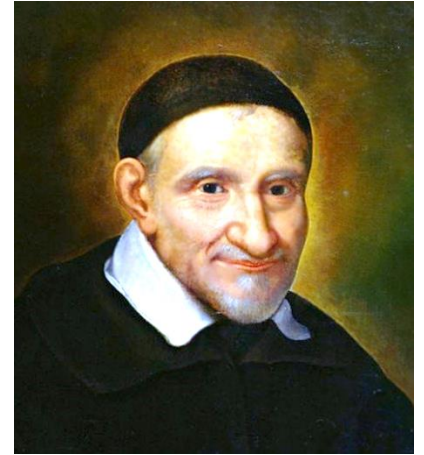


# Vincent de Paul –27th September

## Patron of all charitable societies

Very few people stand out as being incredibly good, but Vincent de Paul was one of them. His life touched thousands of people, who were helped and inspired by his love and kindness.

Vincent de Paul was born in 1581 to a Gascon peasant family at Ranquine. Educated by the Franciscans and then at Toulouse University, he was ordained a priest very young, at only 19. He became a court chaplain, and then tutor to the children of the Gondi family. In 1617 he was made parish priest of Chatillon-les-Dombes.



From here, Vincent de Paul ministered both to the rich and fashionable, and also to the poor and oppressed. He helped prisoners in the galleys, and even convicts at Bordeaux.

In 1625 Vincent de Paul founded a congregation of priests who renounced all church preferment and instead devoted themselves to the faithful in smaller towns and villages. In 1633 they were given the Paris priory church of Saint-Lazare, and that same year Vincent founded the Sisters of Charity, the first congregation of 'unenclosed' women, whose lives were entirely devoted to the poor and sick, and even providing some hospital care. Rich women helped by raising funds for various projects, which were an immense success.

Even in his lifetime, Vincent became a legend. Clergy and laity, rich and poor, outcasts and convicts all were warmed and enriched by his charisma and selfless devotion. Vincent was simply consumed by the love of God and of his neighbour. His good works seemed innumerable – ranging from helping war-victims in Lorraine, and sending missionaries to Poland, Ireland and Scotland, to advising Anne of Austria at Court during the regency.

No wonder that after his death at nearly 80, the Pope named him as patron of all charitable societies. Even today, the [Vincent de Paul Society](#) is working with the poor and oppressed.

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# The Gardening Year – September 2021

**Space requirements recap** - You will now be familiar with your garden plot. How much space do you have and how much can you dedicate to container gardening?

**Some helpful tips.** Space Have you worked out how much space you can dedicate to your container garden? Growing upwards. If ground space is limited, could you grow vertically, to increase your yield.?

**Window boxes.** What could you grow in window boxes outside your kitchen window? Herbs or salads are a good idea. Hanging baskets. Don't forget hanging basket's too, Tumbling Tomatoes or Strawberries work well in these. Space to garden. Remember to leave room for yourself to move around your containers.

**Conditions.** Not all garden plots are created equal, while some have the perfect south facing patio or decking, others will be struggling with limited light and less than optimum settings, with a bit of forethought, most situations, apart from a tiny north facing space can be overcome.

**Sunlight.** If sunlight is restricted, you'll either need to grow crops that can tolerate partial shade, use reflecting surfaces to increase light or remove structures that are creating shadows.

**Prevailing winds.** If your container is going to be on a balcony or roof garden, or if you live in a particularly exposed area, then prevailing winds can be a problem. Tall container crops are particularly prone to damage from wind. If you live in a windy area, look for compact bush variety of plants that stay clear of crops that grow very tall, such as runner beans by the way, you can buy Runner bean seeds that only grow 3ft tall.

**Drought.** Plants that grow in containers will dry out more quickly than those planted in the ground and will depend on you to watering. If you live in a dry climate this is especially important, in this instance you might have to plan for drought resistant varieties and forgo plants that need a lot of water, or you may need to budget for an irrigation system to make watering easy.

Colin Williams

## Eat the Seasons – September

**Vegetables** - Artichoke, Aubergine, Beetroot, Broccoli, Butternut Squash, Carrots, Celeriac, Celery, Chillies, Courgettes, Cucumber, Fennel, French Beans, Garlic, Horseradish, Kale, Kohlrabi, Leeks, Lettuce & Salad Leaves, Mangetout, Marrow, Onions, Pak Choi, Peppers, Potatoes (Maincrop), Pumpkin, Radishes, Rocket, Runner Beans, Shallots, Spring Onions, Sweetcorn, Tomatoes, Turnips, Watercress, Wild Mushrooms

**Fruit** - Apples, Bilberries, Blackberries, Damsons, Elderberries, Figs, Grapes, Medlar, Melons, Nectarines, Peaches, Pears, Plums, Raspberries, Redcurrants

**Herbs** - Chestnuts, Chives, Cob Nuts, Coriander, Oregano, Mint, Parsley (Curly & Flat-Leafed), Rosemary, Sage, Sorrel, Thyme

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

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

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

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# Just how dangerous is cannabis?

## The Ven John Barton considers recent research on the drug

If you have a child or grandchild, it's quite possible they will have tried cannabis. Known in various forms as pot, weed, skunk, Ganga and marijuana, it's the most widely used illegal drug. One in three 17-year-olds have experimented with it and some are now regular users or addicts. Described as the 'gateway drug', one in 10 cannabis users have gone on to hard drugs.

Some claim it's a harmless recreational practice, less damaging than alcohol. It has been legalised in 18 American States, including California. Take a tourist bus tour of San Francisco, and your guide will point out the shops which are licensed to sell the drug. It is argued that the illegal use of pot was so widespread that licensing its sale was the only way to break the chain of criminal activity involved with its production and distribution. The American TV documentary series Murder Mountain suggests otherwise.

Recent research has cast doubt on the 'harmless' claim: not only does early use of cannabis increase by 37% the chances of depression in adulthood, but the drug actually causes long-lasting damage to the thinking skills and behaviour of developing brains - worse than teenage drinking. Regular use may affect the respiratory and immune systems and even the ability to procreate. Whether or not it causes cancer is an open question, but it is usually mixed with tobacco, which is undoubtedly carcinogenic.

Evidence that cannabis may reduce certain kinds of pain has been examined by the Multiple Sclerosis Society, which reports that although cannabis may benefit some with MS, it has been linked to mental health problems such as anxiety, memory loss, panic attacks and psychotic episodes.

Just before he died in 2020, Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks published Morality, a searching and sober analysis of behaviour in the West. In a chapter on widespread drug use, he wrote "I think of the lives that might have been saved, if figures of authority and influence had cared enough to say 'No' more firmly."

---

### Crossword Puzzle - Solution is here

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



# ERIC EYRE

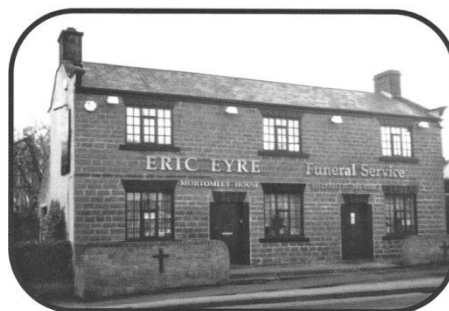
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# It is time to eat Lamb

Cheap imported lamb from New Zealand may be available all year round, but in season British lamb is hard to beat. In May and June lamb is at its most tender but as the season progresses the flavour develops. Spring lamb is fantastic for roasting simply with garlic and herbs, autumn lamb is great when given a spicier, more adventurous treatment.



Sheep thrive in a variety of climates and have been the principal meat source across North Africa and Eurasia for centuries. The Industrial Revolution sparked an increased demand for meat and led to the increased breeding of sheep for meat in the UK. We can now reap the reward of several generations of selective breeding for taste and texture; well-reared lamb today is likely to be better than any eaten at any time in the past.

Lambs are the offspring of the domestic sheep, [ovis aries](#). Lambs are typically weaned to a diet of grass between the ages of 1 and 3 months and the consumption of grass adds flavour to lamb. The majority of lamb sold in Britain is from animals between four months and a year old. The meat of older animals is properly referred to as Hogget (up to two years old) and then Mutton.

Big supermarkets will buy lamb from a number of different farms. Buying lamb from a good butcher's shop or farmers' market will give you the opportunity to ask about the source of the lamb, and then buy the same quality produce again if you like it. Look for firm, pinkish meat with creamy white fat.

[Lamb](#) is not generally 'hung' as beef is, but some butchers will hang it for you if you ask. It can be kept in the fridge for at least a couple of days - the larger the cut the longer the meat will keep. Freezing tends to have a drying effect on meat and so is best used for cuts that will be slow cooked in stews or casseroles, rather than 'dry-heat' cooking like grilling, roasting or frying.

**Cooking** - The method will be dependent on the cut and recipe. Generally, lamb benefits from slightly slower cooking with more moderate heat compared with beef. Trim excess external fat before use, the trimmings will be appreciated by the birds that visit your garden. Lamb cooked using dry-heat methods will be more flavourful if served slightly pink. Stews and casseroles will benefit from slow-cooking until no pink remains. When roasting larger cuts, allow the meat to stand for at least 15 minutes after cooking. Lamb is a good source of zinc, iron and B vitamins. It is relatively high in both saturated and unsaturated fats (roughly two to three times that of beef).

Mutton, as a substitute for goat meat makes the best ever ['Mutton Curry'](#) and excellent Mutton or [Scotch Pies](#).

The Kiwis are the world's biggest consumers of lamb, eating around three times as much as us Brits! There are around 10 sheep per person in New Zealand - in the UK people outnumber sheep.

**Sherlock Holmes in The Twopenny Box** – I used to be allowed twopence for my lunch, that being the price of a mutton pie, but near the pie shop was a second-hand bookshop with a barrel full of old books and the legend, 'Your choice for 2d', stuck above it. Often the price of my luncheon used to be spent on some sample out of this barrel, and I have within reach of my arm, as I write these lines, copies of Gordon's *Tacitus*, Temple's works, Pope's *Homer*, Addison's *Spectator* and Swift's works, which all came out of the twopenny box.

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## Chapeltown & District Probus Club



PROBUS Club will start face-to-face meetings again in September at the Grenoside Community Centre. We will be following the very conservative safety rules which the Community Centre is following 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.

For the meeting on 8th September when 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 fraud. This is likely to be a very interesting and important presentation as we have all become fed-up with the attempts to scam us via the phone, e-mail, internet and text messages. We will also be returning to the tradition of lunch after meetings although these will no longer be at Whitley Hall following their decision not to welcome us any more. We will be going to the Acorn at Burncross on 8th September. Our Annual Dinner will be on 2nd November at Wortley Hall and guests are welcome..

In August we welcomed Fred Dewhurst who gave a fascinating talk on the building of social housing in Sheffield at the beginning of the 20th century, describing with many photos of housing which still exists, the novel approach that Sheffield took. 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:-

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

13th October – Andrew Raftery “The History of Organ Transplantation”

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

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

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

**Andrew Robinson**

# Crossword Puzzle

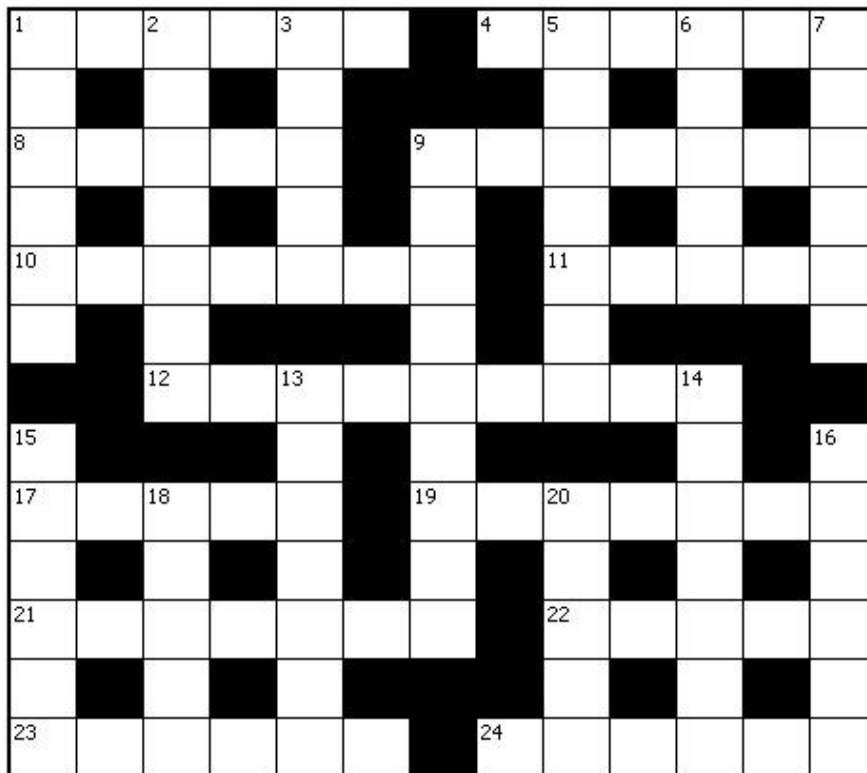
## Clues Across

- 1 'Through [Christ] we have gained .... by faith into this grace' (Romans 5:2) (6)
- 4 Deprives of sight (Deuteronomy 16:19) (6)
- 8 The words of a hymn do this (mostly) (5)
- 9 Faithful allegiance (1 Chronicles 12:33) (7)
- 10 Belgium's chief port (7)
- 11 Where John was baptizing 'because there was plenty of water' (John 3:23) (5)
- 12 Imposing height (Psalm 48:2) (9)
- 17 Jesus' tempter in the wilderness (Mark 1:13) (5)
- 19 Comes between Amos and Jonah (7)
- 21 'Your will be done' ... as it is in heaven' (Matthew 6:10) (2,5)
- 22 Gale (Matthew 8:24) (5)
- 23 Axle, eh? (anag.) (6)
- 24 'Out of the... I cry to you, O Lord' (Psalm 130:1) (6)

## Clues Down

- 1 Popular Christian author and humorist, Plass (6)
- 2 Transparent ice-like mineral (Revelation 4:6) (7)
- 3 Method of compelling surrender by surrounding target of attack (2 Chronicles 32:1) (5)
- 5 Expose (Isaiah 52:10) (3,4)
- 6 Lonny (anag.) (5)
- 7 Utterance (1 Timothy 1:15) (6)
- 9 Husband of Deborah, the prophetess (Judges 4:4) (9)
- 13 Burial service (Jeremiah 34:5) (7)
- 14 What Christ threatened to do to the lukewarm church in Laodicea (Revelation 3:16) (4,3)
- 15 Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net (John 21:11) (6)
- 16 His response to Jesus' decision to return to Judea was 'Let us also go, that we may die with him' (John 11:16) (6)
- 18 There will be weeping and gnashing of ... (Matthew 8:12) (5)
- 20 Walkway between rows of pews in a church (5)



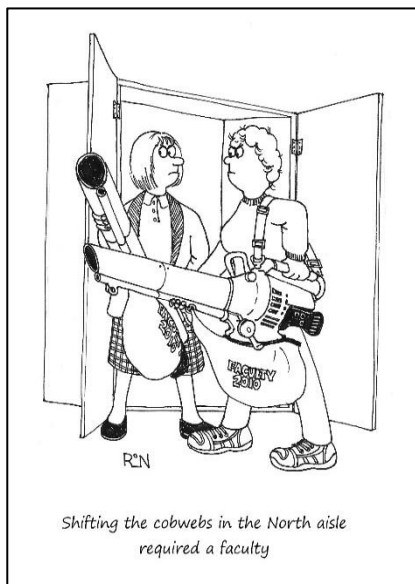


# Grenoside Singers

The choir has finally met as a group after an absence of over eighteen months. We have not sung together yet but have held two social evenings at our practice venue in St. Mark's Church Hall. It was lovely to see old friends and have a chat over a cup of tea and to look forward to singing in the future. Rehearsals will re-commence from Monday 6th September, so if you are interested in joining the choir and would like to join at us a choir practice, this is an ideal opportunity as old and new members will be starting at a similar point. Believe it or not, the focus will soon be on Christmas and preparing for our traditional carol concert in Grenoside Community Centre. So do come along on Monday 6th September at 7.30pm in St. Mark's Church Hall where you will definitely receive a very warm welcome.

If you would like any more information about The Grenoside Singers, please feel free to contact Judith Gill the Secretary using the details on the back of this edition.

**Judith Gill**



# Prayers and Poems Page

## September Prayer

Dear Lord,

September – the month of new beginnings for many, as summer fades and school and college terms start. After such a strange time of restrictions, hopes of freedom, with warnings to be cautious, it is hard to know what to expect this September.

We can't know what lies ahead, Lord, but we can trust you to see us through whatever it turns out to be.

Thank you for your promise, I will never leave you or forsake you... (Hebrews 13:5)

Help us to hold fast to that promise, to keep trusting you - and to be thankful for each September day.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

### Night Sanctification

Father, bless me and my body keep,  
Father, bless me in my soul;  
Father, bless me through this night of sleep,  
In my body and my soul.

Father, bless me as I live my days,  
Father, bless me in my creed;  
Father, bless me in my binding ways,  
To my life and to my creed.

Father, sanctify to me my speech,  
Father, sanctify my heart;  
Father, sanctify my portion each,  
In my speech and in my heart.

*From Poems of the Western Highlanders*

### Repentance

Lord God, take pity on me.  
During my infancy I ignored You;  
During my boyhood I had no interest in You.  
During my adolescence I pursued vain pleasures.  
But now, Lord Jesus, I crave Your mercy.  
I want to know You,  
I want to understand Your truth,  
I want to feel Your joy.

*By Richard Rolle (c 1300 – 1349)  
Hermit in Yorkshire*

### Spitfire

The heavens ring with Merlin's roar  
We gaze in wonder from the ground  
To see a great old aircraft soar  
And marvel at the engine's sound.

The Spitfire loops and rolls and dives  
We smile and gasp and clap and cheer;  
The pilot shows his skill and strives  
To make us think he has no fear!

No fear – but eighty years ago  
Young men of barely adult age  
Sat in those planes, true courage shown  
They flew into the battle's rage.

They too would loop and roll and dive  
Not to impress a watching crowd  
But so that Britain might survive –  
And hist'ry shows they did us proud!

So many died within those planes  
The watchers would with horror see  
A blazing trail of smoke and flames  
As brave men died to keep us free.

Yes – watch the Spitfire, and rejoice  
Rejoice to see the pilot's skill.  
Remember those who had no choice  
But met the foe with iron will.

*By Nigel Beeton*

## Evil all about us

Lord, I don't understand how people do the horrible things to each other which I read about in the newspapers. .... Lord, I cry to You to help those who inflict such injuries. Take hatred from their hearts; give them understanding of the evil they do. Strengthen the persecuted; give them courage and a firm belief in You. Give me and all who try to serve You the desire to serve the suffering and fill us with the love which will defeat the power of evil in the world.

*By Michael Hollings (1921–1997), a Catholic priest in London*

## 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 –Carol Travis  
Theatre Tel No. 0114 240 2624

### Ecclesfield Community Garden

Ecclesfield Park - Located between  
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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

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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







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

**Why your donation counts**



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