# News & Views From St Mary's Church Ecclesfield



## Church Magazine June

stmarysecclesfield.org.uk

Price 60p

## **First Words**

I cannot believe that it is already June!

On **Sunday 1st June** we have **baptisms at 12 noon** after the morning service, and at **5pm** there is a wedding rehearsal.

On Monday 2nd June at 3.30pm we begin the Saints Alive course.

On **Thursday 5th June** after the Mid-week Communion there will be a service at **10.30am at Nightingale Nursing Home.** 

Pentecost is on **Sunday 8th June.** At **10am we have Pentecost Praise** and at 6.30pm The Eucharist.

Saints Alive continues Monday 9th June at 3.30pm.

On Wednesday 11th June at 2pm we host the Deanery Mothers Union Service.

On Saturday 14th June we have Prayer Breakfast at 9am followed by Bereavement Cafe at 10.30am. There will be a wedding in Church at 1pm.

On Monday 16th June Saints Alive continues at 3.30pm. There is a wedding rehearsal in Church at 7pm followed by a visit by Chapeltown Scouts at 8pm.

On **Wednesday 18th June at 2pm** we meet in Church to plan services and choose hymns for July and August.

On Saturday 21st June there is a wedding in church at 2pm.

On **Sunday 22nd June at 10am the Eucharist** will have a special focus on prayer and prayer ministry. This will be followed by an extra **Baptism service at 11.30am**.

Saints Alive continues Monday 23rd June at 3.30pm, and there will be Baptism Preparation at 7pm.

The Fabric Team will meet in Church on Tuesday 24th June at 4pm.

Wednesday 25th June 5pm wedding rehearsal in Church.

The Archdeacon's Visitation will be at Sheffield Cathedral at 7.30pm.

Saturday 28th June, 2pm Wedding in Church.

On **Sunday 29th June at 5pm** there will be a **wedding rehearsa**l in Church before the evening service.

Finally on Monday 30th June at 3.30pm Saints Alive continues, and at 7.30pm the PCC meets in Church.

I usually open up Church (the new West Doors) for Morning Prayer Monday to Thursday between 8.20am & 8.30am; after a time of silent prayer I say Morning Prayer - anyone is welcome to join in.

There is something for everyone in June at St Mary's. If you have any questions or want more information, please speak to Tim.

God bless you,

Tim

Front Cover – Honeysuckle

known for its strong, sweet, and heady scent, often described as nectareous and slightly like jasmine with a vanilla undertone.

# Kate Guest

## Counselling & Psychotherapy

Counselling is a talking therapy where you can discuss your problems and emotions in a safe, confidential space.

Counselling can help improve your mental health, teach you better ways to handle stress and anxiety, and increase your self-awareness and emotional resilience.

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Areas of counselling I deal with include abuse, anxiety, anger management, bereavement and loss, career support, work related stress, depression, low confidence and low selfesteem, loneliness, relationship problems, family problems, sex and sexuality and personal issues.

Counselling is not about judging; it is about giving someone the freedom to examine their own issues and so empower them to find their own resolution. Counselling can be a powerful way of examining ourselves and so bring about change within our lives.

I work with individuals and also provide couples and relationship counselling.

Contact me via email or telephone to book an appointment.

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Email: kate-guest@talktalk.net Mobile: 07914 357839

## Prayer for the Month

### Holy Spirit, sent by the Father, ignite in us your holy fire; strengthen your children with the gift of faith, revive your Church with the breath of love, and renew the face of the earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This month's prayer is the alternative Collect for Pentecost, which falls this year on the 8th of June. Pentecost is often called the birthday of the Church as on this day we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the early Church seven weeks after the resurrection (see Acts chapter 2).

At the first Pentecost the Spirit fell upon the disciples with a sound like a roaring wind and in tongues of fire. At the end of John's Gospel (See John chapter 20 verses 19 to 23) we have what some call John's Pentecost. He records what happened on the evening of Easter Day. The Risen Jesus appeared to the disciples in the upper room and breathed the Holy Spirit upon them.

The word 'spirit' in Greek and Hebrew can also be translated as 'wind' or 'breath.' And this collect picks up references to both Acts 2 and John 20.

We pray for Christ to pour out His Spirit upon the Church and upon ourselves as Jesus' followers.

The fire of the spirit refers to the power of the Church. Its power should come from God and not from itself or from its status. The fire of the Holy Spirit is the fire of God's love. This love should drive the mission and ministry of the Church and of every Christian.

The breath of the Holy Spirit in this prayer points us to the risen Jesus on Easter Day. It reminds us that the Spirit is not an impersonal force or energy, but that it comes from Christ; it is His breath, and it is given to fill us with His life.

If the Spirit is not making us like Christ, then it is not the Holy Spirit at work in us.

This Pentecost we pray for God to pour out the Holy Spirit upon His Church. To help us to love as He loves, to make us more Christlike, and to bring new life and vitality to our worship and our service of our neighbour. **Amen.** 

## Saints Alive

After a very successful trial run, the Saints Alive Course will be starting again on Monday 2nd June at 3.30pm in Church. If you are interested or want to know more, please speak to Tim. Next year the course will be held at St Mark's and will be on a week-day evening.

### The Seeking Heart - Meditation and Contemplative Prayer for all.

Meeting in St Mary's on the first and third Wednesday every month (4pm 1st Wednesday & 6pm 3rd Wednesday). Starting on Wednesday 23rd July at 6pm.

For more information see Tim. All are welcome.

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## God in The Arts

Editor: For 2025, the Revd Michael Burgess surveys works of sacred art that can be found in various museums...you can see the image by googling the title of the painting and the artist.

### He gave us eyes to see them: El Greco's 'The Tears of St Peter'

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century John Bowes, the 10<sup>th</sup> Earl of Strathmore, built a museum in the French style, with landscaped gardens, at Barnard Castle in Teesdale. He bequeathed it 800 paintings, including a previously unknown Van Dyck.

But visitors to the Bowes Museum often make a beeline for its amazing 18<sup>th</sup> century silver swan automaton. As the music plays, there is the illusion of flowing water: the swan preens itself, bends down and catches a fish in the water. It is a thrill and a joy to watch. At the other extreme and striking a different mood and emotion is El Greco's painting of 1580: 'The Tears of St Peter.' It was reluctantly purchased in 1869 for a price less than that paid for the monkey puzzle tree in the grounds outside.



The gospels tell us that St Peter wept bitterly when he heard the cock crow, as he had denied knowing Jesus three times. El Greco shows the saint, his eyes welling with those tears of betrayal, kneeling and turning to heaven for forgiveness. The sky is overcast, reflecting the sad scene below, and we can see ivy growing as a sign of the constancy so lacking in Peter's life.

At the Last Supper he had been the opposite: ready to follow, brave and generous with his words. But Peter leaves Jesus to drink the cup of sorrow alone in Gethsemane. In the courtyard of the high priest, warming himself by the fire, he utters that threefold denial. This was the lowest moment in his life, when instead of being solid rock, he showed that he was merely shifting sand.

And then the wonder and glory of Easter. We glimpse it in the background of the painting with the angel and Mary Magdalene at the tomb. And we know that everything changes for Peter by the shore of the Sea of Galilee. Like the silver swan in the Bowes Museum looking for fish, the disciples have returned to their old way of life.

But it is the risen Lord who directs them to a marvellous catch, and the charcoal fire of betrayal in the courtyard is now the charcoal fire of breakfast, a new day, and a new way of life for Peter. No denial now – he answers the three questions of our Lord positively and realises that he is loved by Jesus in his failure and weakness. It might have seemed the end for Peter in the courtyard, but the risen Lord comes to tell him 'I make all things new' and that includes you.

Peter is often known as the stumbling saint. Here, in El Greco's painting, he has stumbled and fallen to his knees in prayer. We celebrate St Peter at the end of this month. As we look at him, we know ourselves to be as weak and fearful. But the Lord comes to us as He comes to Peter. He lifts us up and puts us back on our feet again. With Peter, we know Him as our crucified and risen Lord.

Click on the link below to visit the El Greco Museum in Toledo https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/El\_Greco\_Museum,\_Toledo#/media/File:El\_Greco\_-Apostles.jpg

## Mothers' Union – April Meeting

Today we welcomed Elaine and Ian Ward to our meeting. Elaine and Ian are Derbyshire reps for C.R.Y. Cardiac Risk in the Young who raise funds for screening 14 to 35-year-olds and awareness of undiagnosed heart conditions. Elaine and Ian fit and healthy 17-year-old son Neil died suddenly from cardiac arrest in 1992 due to an undetected heart condition. Elaine explained that in fact every week in the UK 12 under 35 die suddenly. A shocking fact.

She recounted very moving cases of families who had lost loved ones like them in this way. C.R.Y. did not exist in 1992 and was formed after Steve Cox, a Junior Wimbledon Champion, was screened before starting a scholarship in America. It saved his life. His mother set up C.R.Y. in Surry as a consequence. Initially young tennis players were screened and the campaign to save young lives grew from there C.R.Y. is now a National Charity which funds research at Saint Georges, Bereavement Counselling and pathology.

Once Elaine and Ian had reheard they set up The Next Ward Memorial Fund to raise awareness and funding for screening 14 to 35-year-olds in our region. This has been very successful. Since 2014 Elaine and Ian have organised 27 screening sessions in many local venues including Bramall Lane and Cavendish Hall at Chatsworth, that is 2500 young people. The screenings have always revealed someone at risk and save lives plus; the rest of the family were then screened.

We watched a video of Pixie Lott explaining why she is involved with C.R.Y. and why screening saves young lives by preventing sudden cardiac arrest. Finally, Elaine informed us that there will be two screenings being held on 5th and 6th July 2025 at the Stubbin Medical Centre in Dronfield, she also explained how to register online at WWW.testmyheart.org.uk. There were leaflets to take away too. As a group we felt informed, moved and inspired and raised £101.00 for The Next Ward Memorial Fund.

**Bev Salt** 

## Mothers' Union Local Subscription

To all members the local subscription of £10.00 is now due from every member of the Mothers' Union, here in Ecclesfield.

This pays for the hire of The Gatty Hall for our meetings. It also pays for refreshments at our meetings and for flowers and cards etc to our members who are ill or bereaved. It also goes towards secretarial expenses too, which we keep to a minimum.

Thank you. Jennifer Armeson, Treasurer

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## Reflecting Faith: An Offer You Do Not Want to Refuse

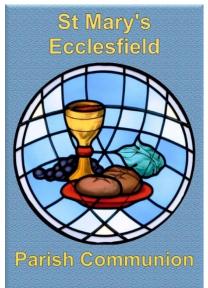
The Revd Dr Jo White considers...

For the last couple of months, we've been thinking about baptism, and last time we finished by saying that, even as late as the tenth century, only baptised people could stay in the church to watch, never mind actually consume, the celebration of the Eucharist.

This tells me how highly regarded the consecration of the bread and wine actually were, and still are, within the Church. Even today this is still the 'highlight' of the main Sunday service.

Everything we do within the service leads up to this special moment, when the priest offers the bread and wine to the people.

Prior to this, we've said prayers of penitence and have been absolved. We have heard stories from the Bible and had them expanded upon in a sermon.



We have stated our faith in response to this, and recognised God's awesome power by saying prayers of intercession for ourselves and others.

We have acknowledged God's amazing gifts of love and peace by sharing this with those around us, and we responded by offering to Him our gifts as token of our whole lives.

And then – finally we get to the Eucharistic Prayer.

As soon as this is concluded and the priest invites the congregation to come forward to receive the consecrated bread and wine, we are 'so overwhelmed' by the enormity of what is being offered to each of us that we 'fall on our knees' with the Prodigal Son and say, "Lord I am not worthy'.

This month: When you next go to a Communion Service, take note of the pattern of it as a whole and then 'think' about how you feel as you are invited to take the bread and wine.

## From the Registers

Baptisms

Sunday 11th May Eliza Lesley Pauline Townsend-Lee Elliott Jay Leigh & Tommy Harry Leigh

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

### Marriages

Saturday 24th May

Alexander Hattersley & Morgan Jane Lawson

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

## St James the Least of All

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

### On what security cameras in church will tell you

The Rectory St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren.

Much against my better judgement, after a recent series of small thefts, we have installed security cameras here at St James the Least of All. Thank goodness the suggestion for trip wires that opened the gate to Mrs Poppleroy's garden next door, thereby setting loose her deranged Pekingese, was narrowly defeated – though I had to use my casting vote.

So now we have a complete record of everything that goes on when no one is about. It makes such interesting viewing that I have cancelled my television licence and spend every evening watching the antics of my parishioners. I wonder if there is some niche television channel which would be interested; it could help the tower restoration fund no end.

Miss Margison seems to imagine she is now part of some theatrical performance every time she cleans the church; her body language as she wields a feather duster is of operatic proportions, as is her final bow to the cameras as she leaves.

I have at last found the several hiding places where Mr Prentice secretes his bottle of whisky every week when he comes to wind the tower clock.

Colonel Wainwright, who served for some time in the security services, is now worried that photographs of him cleaning the brass will be circulated in Russia. He fails to appreciate that his disguise as a French onion seller, with striped jersey, beret and waxed moustache does tend to make his presence rather more interesting than he imagines – to us, if not to the KGB.

The flower arrangers seem to imagine that we are recording sound as well as pictures and so whenever they are in church together, all gossip is written down and passed round by hand as they work in total silence. So far, they have remembered to take their pieces of paper home with them. One slip and I shall probably learn more about my parishioners in five minutes than I have done in the last five years.

The cameras have also solved the mystery of who has been pilfering the items - and even the nest where they have hidden it. If only I could teach the magpies to extract money from pockets and place it on the collection plate.

Your loving uncle, Eustace



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## Praying with the Prayers of the Bible

### Praying with Penitential Tears

### Psalm 51:2; 'Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.'

Psalm 51 is the most personal, the most passionate and the most profound prayer for forgiveness found anywhere in the Bible.

Without any introduction, explanation or excuse, the Psalmist cries out, 'Have mercy on me, O God.' Jewish and Christian scholars have almost been unanimous in seeing this Psalm as David's personal prayer for pardon, following his sin of adultery with Bathsheba and then scheming to have her husband Uriah killed (2 Samuel 11).

As we go through the Psalm, its various stages take us from deep contrition to joyful testimony. First, the confession; vv.1-4. As David bares his soul to God, there is no blaming other people, no excuses made, no pleading special circumstances.

'Have mercy on *me*, O God.' Notice the personal pronouns. '*My* transgressions,' twice (vv.1 and 3); '*my* iniquity;' '*my* sin,' twice (vv.2 and 3). And David knows that while he has sinned against his own family and against the murdered Uriah, all sin is ultimately against God. 'Against Thee, thee only, have I sinned' (v.4).

Second, the condition; vv.5-6. While David alone is responsible for the sins he has committed, he recognises that he is part of fallen, sinful humanity. Both Judaism and Christianity have a doctrine of original sin. So deep and all pervasive is the condition of fallen humanity that he speaks of being 'conceived' in sin and 'brought forth' in iniquity (v.5).

Although some commentators have tried to dismiss this teaching here by saying that David was conceived out of wedlock, its implications are far more profound. In v.6 he speaks about 'the inward being' and 'my secret heart.' David knows only too well that behind the sins he has committed lies a human heart prone to sin, attracted by sin and enticed to sin.

Third, the cleansing; vv. 7-12. With this deep, penitential confession of his transgressions, his iniquity and his sin, David now cries out for the only remedy – God's power to conquer human sin. The prayer began with a plea for mercy (v.1) and then followed the repeated petitions for the 'blotting out,' the 'washing' and the 'cleansing' from sin. Now the plea is for something deeper still; 'Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.' (v.7).

But David wants still more, and so we have the prayer in v.10; 'Create in me a clean heart.' And still David prays, 'Cast me not away from Your presence and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.'

Resulting from this sincere confession and heart-felt prayer for forgiveness and cleansing, comes the assurance of God's gracious answer. When David is spiritually restored, he will teach others the way of God's salvation (v.13) and praise God for his own deliverance (v.14).

So Psalm 51 promises forgiveness, cleansing, restoration and a place to serve God *when* we, in true penitence, make the same unqualified confessions of our sins.



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### Groups and Activities Now Running in the Library

Little Bears Club Knit & Natter Local History Group Creative Writing Group Chairobics Fridays 10-11:30am Mondays 2-4pm and Wednesdays 12-3pm Last Monday of the month 2-4pm First Wednesday of the month 6-8pm Thursdays 11:45 – 12:30pm

We also offer pre booked use of our PC's, printing and photocopying services. Tea & coffee can also be served for a small charge.

For more details about our events and activities Call us on 0114 2463615 or follow us on Facebook or Twitter



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## Understanding the Trinity

Editor: Canon Paul Hardingham considers our Three-in-One God

Trinity Sunday has its place in our liturgical calendar (15<sup>th</sup> June), yet we do not often hear sermons on the Trinity. The term 'Trinity' isn't found in the Bible, and the Early Church took nearly 400 years to come up with a clear understanding of it.

However, there are hints of trinitarian language in the New Testament, e.g. Jesus instructs His disciples to baptise 'in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit' (Matt 28:19). Our understanding of the Trinity arises from God's activity in our world, as reflected in the creedal questions:

'Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the One for whom we exist?

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world?

So why should the Trinity be important for us? If 'God is love' (1 John 4:8) it means that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are in a community of love together. Their relationship has been expressed as a divine dance, as they interact with one another, expressing love for each another and complementing the work each one has to do. As people made in God's image, we are called to live this community of love in our lives and churches.

The Trinity also provides the basis for our mission, 'As the Father has sent Me, so send I you.' Just as God the Father sent Jesus into the world, so Jesus sends us into the world to do the Father's work, equipped and accompanied by the Holy Spirit. In sharing God's love, we share the life of the Trinity. Augustine spoke about the Spirit being the love between God the Father and the Son.

'At the heart of reality lies the love between the Father and the Son. The Spirit unites us with Christ so that we begin to experience the same depth of love that exists between the Father and the Son.' (Graham Tomlin).

## Open Farm Sunday – 17th June

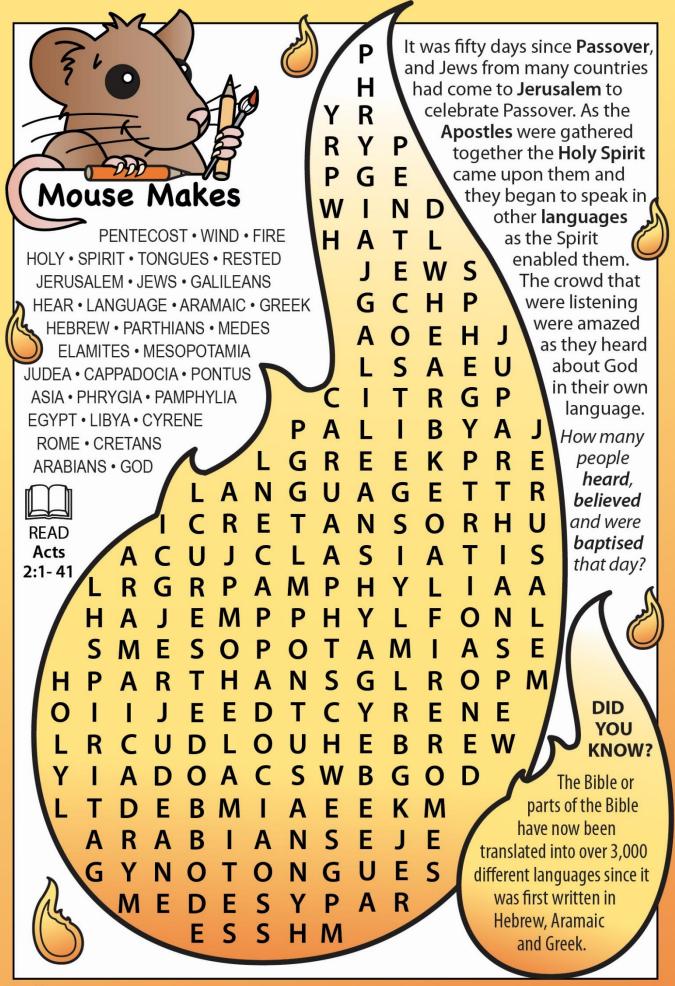
Do you have any farms near to where you live? Then this month, they might just provide you with an interesting day out!

For June brings Open Farm Sunday, which can be a "fabulous opportunity for the public to discover the crucial work farmers do in producing food, nurturing nature, and protecting the environment for future generations."

So says the website, <u>www.farmsunday.org</u>. And on the day, nearly 200 farms throughout the country will be welcoming the public to come and see their farms.

From Inverness to Cornwall, about 170 farms will be putting on guided tours, self-guided walking routes and static displays as part of the event. Visitors will be able to take part in a national pollinators survey. This will involve standing near a crop area for five minutes to count pollinating insects before doing a comparative count in a different habitat.

The day is organised by the group Linking Environment And Farming (LEAF).



## God in the Sciences

Editor: These questions and answers are taken from The Faraday Kids website (<u>www.faradaykids.com</u>). For even more science-faith Q&A's, check out 101 Great Big Questions About God and Science, Edited by L Henderson & S Bryant (Lion, 2022)

### Help, my kids just asked me a science question!

### Why aren't dinosaurs in the Bible?

The Bible wasn't written to list all the animals on earth or tell us about science. It was written a long time before people started to use science to learn about the world.

When the Bible was written, people didn't even have a word for dinosaurs yet! But it's not just dinosaurs that aren't mentioned in the Bible, it doesn't talk about armadillos, kangaroos, sabre-toothed cats or penguins either!

That doesn't mean that the Bible is out of date or wrong, or that these animals aren't important. Rather than teaching us science, many Christians believe that the Bible was written to tell people about God, how much He loves them, and all the amazing things He has done.

The Bible says that God made everything, and loves everything He made, so that includes dinosaurs. It also encourages people to explore and find out all about the wonderful things it says God has made. Science is a part of this exploration.

### Did God make the dinosaurs?

The Bible (the holy book that Christians read) says that God made everything. All the stars, the Earth and all the amazing plants and animals that have ever lived here. So yes, most Christians believe that God made the dinosaurs!

The Bible also teaches that God loves it when people explore His creation, and science is a great way of doing that. So, for many Christians, science is one of the fun things we can use to learn all about *how* God made everything, including all of the dinosaurs!

### Were humans and dinosaurs ever living on earth at the same time?

Yes! But probably not the kind of dinosaur you're thinking of! Most of the dinosaurs died out a very, very long time ago, way before humans first lived. But some of the smaller, feathery dinosaurs survived and over a long time they have evolved into the animals we call birds.

So, from chickens and robins to penguins and ostriches, there are dinosaurs living all over our world today!

These questions and answers are taken from The Faraday Kids website (<u>www.faradaykids.com</u>).

For even more science-faith Q&A's, check out 101 Great Big Questions About God and Science, Edited by L Henderson & S Bryant (Lion, 2022)

## Whitley Hall Cricket Club



The season started on 19th April with the 1st XI having a good win over Hallam beating their total of 167 all out by 7 wickets. The following game was away at Cleethorpes with Whitley achieving 203 for 8 after 50 overs with Cleethorpes managing to achieve 204 for 6, so a win by 4 wickets. On 3rd May, we welcomed Wickersley to Baxter Field, Wickersley like Hallam, back in the Premier League. Whitley's total of 232 for 5 was just too far for Wickersley to match and Whitley won by 30 runs. On 10th May, we visited Collegiate who, on a dry ground managed a superb score of 305 with no wickets. Whitley did their best but, following 3 dropped catches, could only manage a total of 177

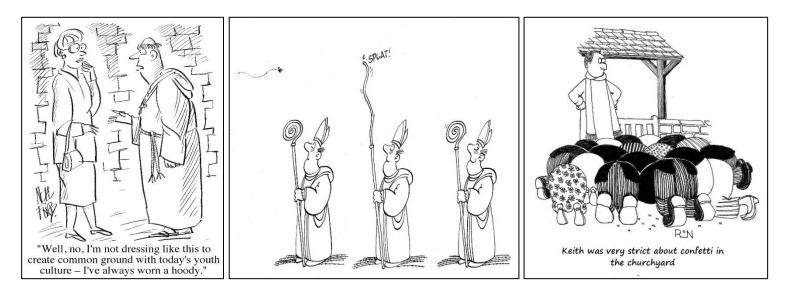
with Collegiate winninning by 128 runs. League performance was restored on 17th May when a good win was achieved at Appleby Frodingham, winning by 7 wickets with a similar performance the following week at home to Tickhill where the opposition total of 200 was beaten by Whitley by 6 wickets remaining. Unfortunately, knock-out results have been disappointing with a defeat in the Yorkshire knockout Cup at home against Sheriff Hutton Bridge from York on 4th May and then on 18th May in the T20 Cup at Collegiate with Hallam as the third club where Collegiate went through to the next round. The 2nd XI has had a decent start to the season with 3 wins out of 5 but the 3rd XI has had a difficult beginning with 2 wins out of 6 matches.

## Senior Matches at Cinder Hill Lane (12 noon) (see website for other home games for juniors and ladies)

Ð	Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Consiborough 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
)	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Past Pla	yers	BBQ and Whitley Legends v Elsecar Legends
1	Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Wakefield 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
)	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	v	Cawthorne 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Monk Bretton 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
	Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June			Whitley 6s Competition
	Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	1 <sup>st</sup> XI	V	Barnsley 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
$\mathbf{i}$	Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> June			Billy Oates Cup Quarter Finals
/	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July			It's OK To Talk 20/20
	Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	v	Houghton Main 1 <sup>st</sup> XI
	Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> July			Whitworth Cup Quarter Finals

All visitors welcome to use the facilities in the pavilion where snacks and drinks are available.

Contact: Joe Webster, Secretary: 07969 014592 or Andrew Robinson, President: 07793 595238 www.whitleyhall.play-cricket.com



## Thought for the Month

I love the Church. This is not something that I say very often; it isn't something that we hear others saying much if at all. We all know about the failure of the institution. We all know about the hypocrisy of the Church. Many of us, both within and outside the Church, have been hurt and disappointed by it.

But I have also found church to be a place of welcome, a place that I can call home. I have found that churches can be communities of healing.

Church is a place where you can turn up and meet the same people without having to make an appointment. The core of every Church is a group of people who can be relied on to meet together and to be shaped by both the community and by *That* which the community focuses its attention and its life together on. That, of course, is God; the God who meets us in Jesus; the God who meets us in the Scriptures and the liturgy, in the hymns and the prayers. The God who meets us in one another as we try to discern how to faithfully be and become the Body of Christ.

Church is something which we cannot do alone. The early Church theologian Tertullian said, "one Christian is no Christian." We need each other.

This weekly meeting together with the same purpose and the shared vision is something that is increasingly hard to find in modern Britain. We are fragmenting, we are becoming more divided and more isolated. Church is a community of people who are different, who disagree on many things, but who are still together, helping and supporting each other as we share the vision.

Despite the differences in age, politics, social class and gender, we are one because we are all called. We belong to one another, and we can depend on one another. I believe that Christ gives us to one another. When any part of the body is missing we are all diminished.

The Church is, surprisingly, Christ's gift to the world and the people that He loves. I thank God for the Church, not because it is perfect, it so clearly isn't and it never has been. St Paul called the Church a cracked clay jar; but it is through those cracks that the glory of God can and does shine.

The Church is not perfect, far from it. None of its members are perfect. But in our life together Christ is present and, in our worship, occasionally, just occasionally, we get a glimpse of heaven.

St Mary's is your Church, and you are and will always be welcome.

God bless, Tim.

## Our next hymn

A visiting minister, seeing the list of hymns chosen for the Sunday service, sent a message to the organist to say that the last hymn (519) did not suit his sermon, and so he wanted it replaced by 213. The organist's message replied: 'In this church the organist chooses the hymns and I will play 519.' The minister shot back: 'At this service I announce the hymns and I shall still announce 213.'

## St Columba of Iona - 9th June

In 563 AD St Columba sailed from Ireland to Iona – a tiny island off Mull, in the Western Highlands. He brought Christianity with him.

Columba (c. 521 -97) was born in Donegal of the royal Ui Neill clan, and he trained as a monk. He founded the monasteries of Derry (546), Durrow (c.556) and probably Kells. But in 565 Columba left Ireland with twelve companions for Iona, an island off southwest Scotland. Iona had been given to him for a monastery by the ruler of the Irish Dalriada.

Why would a monk in his mid-40s go into such voluntary exile? Various explanations include going into voluntary exile for Christ, an attempt to help overseas compatriots in their struggle for survival, or even as some sort of punishment for his part in a row over a psalter in Ireland. Whatever the reason, Columba went to Iona and spent the rest of his life in Scotland, returning to Ireland only for occasional visits.



Columba's biographer, Adomnan, portrays him as a tall, striking figure of powerful build and impressive presence, who combined the skills of scholar, poet and ruler with a fearless commitment to God's cause. Able, ardent, and sometimes harsh, Columba seems to have mellowed with age.

As well as building his monastery on Iona, Columba also converted Brude, king of the Picts. Columba had great skill as a scribe, and an example of this can be seen in the Cathach of Columba, a late 6th century psalter in the Irish Academy, which is the oldest surviving example of Irish majuscule writing. In his later years Columba spent much time transcribing books.

Columba's death was apparently foreseen by his community, and even, it seems, sensed by his favourite horse. He died in the church just before Matins, and it is a tribute to this man that his traditions were upheld by his followers for about a century, not least in the Synod of Whitby and in Irish monasteries on the continent of Europe.

Here is a prayer of St Columba:

Christ With Us My dearest Lord, Be Thou a bright flame before me, Be Thou a guiding star above me, Be Thou a smooth path beneath me, Be Thou a kindly shepherd behind me, Today and evermore.

**Iona** is a holy isle and has been described as the birthplace of Christianity in Scotland. St Columba and 12 companions came there from Ireland in AD 563. The monastery they founded was one of the most important and influential in the British Isles. It sent missionaries to northern Britain to convert people to Christianity. <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/lona</u>

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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

## The ground-breaking marriage of Martin Luther

Editor: by Tim Lenton

Five hundred years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> June 1525, German Protestant Reformer Martin Luther married Katharina von Bora, a nun whom he had helped to escape from a convent.

Little is normally written about this phase of his life, but a great deal about him as a theologian and world-changing reformer in the Christian world, which he came to after studying law – a career encouraged by his father Hans, who had done well in copper-refining and was a town councillor.



Luther, however, was prompted by a frightening thunderstorm experience to enter the monastery in Erfurt of the Order of the Hermits of St. Augustine: he changed course and never looked back. The conflicts in which he became involved resulted from what he felt was a lack of spirituality stemming from Rome. His studies and conclusions about salvation as a work of divine grace, and his opposition in particular to indulgences, resulted eventually in the split of the Western church into Catholics and Protestants – of various kinds.

His marriage to Katharina came after he had helped her and several other nuns escape from her convent, hiding among fish barrels on a cart. The other nuns were taken in by their families or friends, but Katharina was left stranded. She refused other offers but was happy to marry Luther; he in turn was happy to marry her because he felt that marriage was honourable, and any insistence on clerical celibacy indefensible.

The marriage was warm and successful, and the couple had six children. Luther's wife proved to be a competent household manager and could hold her own theologically. But her husband's death in 1546, together with legal difficulties with his Will, left her in poverty, and she died six years later at the age of 53, after a fall.

*Editor* - There are two stories told of Luther's sudden decision to become a monk: The other story - Melancthon's is that Luther was shocked by the sudden death of a university friend, Hieronimus Buntz. The cause of this death has been variously speculated as lightning, plague, pleurisy, or even that Luther killed him in a dual. <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin\_Luther</u>



## The Gardening Year – May

Still on the subject of garden pots, here are a few options.

**Fibre glass** - (reinforced plastic) is also a good option and ideal for use of both inside and out. They can be painted or can be bought in a style that looks like stone. Fiber glass boxes will last a lifetime. advantages of fibre glass

- (1) less expensive than stone.
- (2) low maintenance.
- (3) lightweight.
- (4) frost proof and noncorrosive.
- (5) last a long time.

Disadvantages although it has many good points, fibre glass is a brittle material, so if it is knocked or dropped it can chip or even crack.it is also a very thin material with poor insulation properties. This is fine if your climate is fairly stable throughout the year, but if you experience very hot summers or harsh winters it might not be the best materiel to use. As fibre glass is so hard wearing, it is also expensive.

**Terracotta** pots are readily available in garden centres and are very popular. The material is durable and attractive. They are quite heavy which makes them ideal for exposed areas, there is no risk of blowing over even in the wind, even with tall crops in them. You can buy terracotta containers in many different shapes and sizes to fit into your space. Many benefits terracotta pots are sturdy and if looked after can last many years. Terracotta pots wick away moisture from the plants which means risk of over watering is reduced and is safe for growing food crops.

**Irises** - tall, bearded irises are at their best this month. Tie tall stems, or stems in exposed positions, to light canes to keep them upright, or insert canes round a group of irises, linking the canes with garden twine. Cut blooms for indoor decoration as required removing the remainder as they die so that the new flowers have ampul space. Cut back stems when flowering has stopped and on poor soils, give a top dressing of general fertiliser 4oz per sq. Yard, to encourage sturdy growth for the following year.

**Vegetables outdoor tomato plants** plant outdoor tomato plants this month setting the plants so that the tops of the soil balls are about 1 inch below the surface. Firm the soil round each plant and put a 4-foot bamboo cane at the side of each plant and pinch out the tip at 4 trusses. Colin Williams

### **Colin Williams**

## Eat the Seasons – June

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

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

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

Meat - Lamb, Wood Pigeon

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

Visit - www.eattheseasons.co.uk

## Editor's Humour & Philosophy Page

Links and some images in this magazine are clickable - enjoy

**Breaking news** – Engineers have just made a car that can run on parsley. Now they're hoping to make buses and trains that can run on thyme...

I want to be like a caterpillar. Eat a lot. Sleep awhile. Wake up beautiful

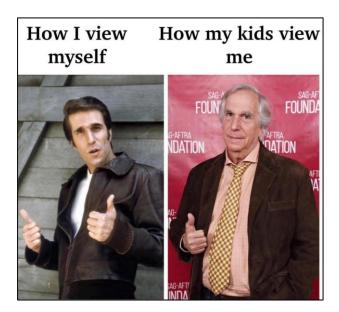
**How to tell you're an adult**. You gain 30lbs overnight - You'd rather sleep than go out - Everything hurts - Comfort comes before style - You have a favourite spatula - Everything feels like a chore - University students look like 12yr olds - You're always annoyed...

**One does not** simply grab the BBQ tongs, without clacking then together at least twice... like a crab...

I wanted to post a joke about Sodium but I was like Na, people won't get it

**Crooked politicians** - The editor of a small country newspaper, furious over several government bills that had recently been passed, printed a scathing editorial with an enormous headline: 'HALF THE LEGISLATORS ARE CROOKS.'

Many local politicians were outraged and exerted tremendous pressure on him to print a retraction. He finally gave in to the pressure and ran his apology with the headline: 'HALF OF OUR LEGISLATORS ARE NOT CROOKS.'



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry\_Winkler

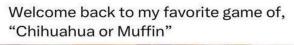
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Microsoft Windows





https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Plimsoll\_(shoe)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chihuahua\_(dog\_breed)





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## Time to Eat - Broad Beans

We love broad beans simply boiled, buttered and served with the Sunday roast. But they're much more versatile than that and seem to have a particular affinity for dishes using pork-based meats such as bacon, pancetta and chorizo.

Broad beans are thought to have originated in the Mediterranean. Archaeological findings at Iron Age and Bronze Age settlements in various parts of Europe show that they have been an important staple food for millennia. Today broad beans grow in temperate regions across the globe. They are known as fava beans in America where they haven't reached the same level of popularity as in Europe. They are enjoyed across northern China and are crucial to Egyptian cuisine as a key ingredient in the national dish, Ful medames, and in falafels.



Broad beans are a type of vetch with the Latin name Vicia faba. Vetches, which include peas and alfalfa, are nitrogen fixing plants that enrich the soil in which they are planted. Commonly cultivated broad beans mainly fall into two classes. Longpod beans feature eight beans per pod and are more durable to different climatic conditions. Windsor varieties have four or five beans per pod and are considered by some to have a finer flavour.

Buying and storing - For the freshest broad beans try a farmers' market or, better still, a Pick Your Own farm. Choose crisp-looking unwithered pods. After picking, broad beans quickly lose flavour with each day that passes. Keep them cool and eat them quick. Freshly picked beans can be frozen very successfully after briefly blanching them.

Preparing - Split the pods and remove the beans (only the pods of Very young beans are edible). The pale green skins can be left on or removed according to preference (older, larger beans have thicker, tougher skins). To remove the skins, blanch in boiling water for one minute and then rinse in cold water. Slip off the skins before finishing by boiling or steaming until tender (approx. 2 - 5 minutes). Broad beans are good sources of protein, fibre, vitamins A and C, potassium and iron. They also contain levodopa (L-dopa), a chemical the body uses to produce dopamine (the neurotransmitter associated with the brain's reward and motivation system).

Habas fritas (deep fried or roasted broad beans) are a delicious and addictive bar snack, popular in Spain.

They are available in the UK by mail order from:

### Olives Et Al

https://olivesetal.co.uk/products/habas-fritas?variant=44671405392124

### Brindisa.

https://brindisa.com/collections/olives-nuts-snacks/products/perello-spicy-broad-beans-1kg

Recipe 1 - Broad bean, mint and ricotta bruschetta - <u>https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/food-and-drink/recipes/broad-bean-mint-and-ricotta-bruschetta-8022909.html</u>

Recipe 2 - Broad beans with yoghurt and dill - <u>https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/food-and-</u> <u>drink/recipes/broad-beans-with-yoghurt-and-dill-1950395.html</u>

Recipe 3 - Broad bean hummus - https://www.bbc.co.uk/food/recipes/broad\_bean\_hummus\_29052

## **Crossword Puzzle**

### Clues Across

- 8 Laban complained he had not been allowed to kiss them when Jacob fled with his family (Genesis 31:28) (13)
- **9** In favour of (3)
- **10** 'The child's father and mother at what was said about him' (Luke 2:33) (9)
- 11 Swagger (Psalm 12:8) (5)
- **13** 'Terrors him on every side and dog his every step' (Job 18:11) (7)
- 16 Bay bits (anag.) (7)
- 19 Preach, address an audience, speak in public (5)
- 22 Holy Communion (9)
- 24 'On their way to out the land, Joshua instructed them, "Go and make a survey of the land"' (Joshua 18:8) (3)
- 25 Joseph advised Pharaoh to appoint these to administer his grain storage plan (Genesis 41:34) (13)

### Clues Down

- 1 'Assyria's pride will be brought down and sceptre will pass away' (Zechariah 10:11) (6)
- **2** 'And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in with God and men' (Luke 2:52) (6)
- 3 The descendants of Esau (Genesis 36:9) (8)
- 4 The components of the crown that Jesus was made to wear before his crucifixion (John 19:2) (6)
- 5 Colour of cloth which was to cover holy objects in the tabernacle when moving camp (Numbers 4:6–12) (4)
- 6 One of the gold articles plundered from the Midianites offered to the Lord by the Israelite army 'to make atonement' (Numbers 31:50) (6)
- 7 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set — ' (Jeremiah 31:29) (2,4)
- 12 Ate (anag.) (3)
- 14 'We ourselves... groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our as sons' (Romans 8:23) (8)
- **15** Abram's nephew (Genesis 14:12) (3)
- 16 Rupture (Job 30:14) (6)
- 17 'Yet to all who received him... he gave the right to children of God' (John 1:12) (6)
- 18 'I... asked him the true meaning of all . he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things' (Daniel 7:16) (4,2)
- 20 Military units (Exodus 14:20) (6)
- 21 'Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to her to public disgrace' (Matthew 1:19) (6)
- 23 Diva (anag.) (4)

1		2	3	4	5	6		7
8								
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11	12	2	22	13	14		15	
							25 25	
16		17		 18	19	 20		21
22			23			24		
25		2						

## Prayer for June 2025

Dear Lord,

June is the loveliest month, with long days and the beauty of summer all around us. Thank you that, in the church's year this month, we remember one of the loveliest of your followers – Barnabas, known as the Son of Encouragement.

He encouraged the believers in Antioch to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. Through his ministry of encouragement, a great number of people were brought to know you.

Lord, we all thrive when we are encouraged. And we, your people, so need to be encouraged today in this world which can seem so confusing and discouraging. So, thank you for those who have encouraged us in the past, and for those who encourage us now.

Help us to read your living unchanging Word and to remain true to you with all our hearts. Help us to be a Barnabas to those we know who might be struggling. May we bear fruit in our discipleship.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching

## Chapeltown & District Probus Club



For our May meeting, we were especially pleased to welcome Jonathan Jones who presented a very interesting and at times moving story about The Bugle Boy based at the time of the First World War. Jonathan is a recently retired teacher of Drama who grew up in Grenoside. His story focuses on "an ordinary boy with an extraordinary talent", growing up in a village on the outskirts of Sheffield. A series of events lead to him enlisting at 15 years of age to serve as a bugler on the Western Front. Here he meets a boy who has bullied him for as long as he can remember but he begins to sense the dark secret which has made that boy and who he has become.

The first trip booked for 2025 took place on 13th May, a visit to Skipton and a 3 hour canal trip with full Yorkshire Ploughman's Lunch. 38 people had a really enjoyable day with s few hours after the boat trip to explore including a one-day exhibition in the Town Hall representing everything Yorkshire. Future visits will be the Royal Armories Museum in Leeds, likely to be in September, the AVRO Aviation Museum in Manchester, likely to be later in 2025 or early 2026 and Jodrell Bank, now scheduled for 2026 – watch this space.

Our next speaker on 11th June will be Mike Higginbottom who will speak on the story of cinemas in the Sheffield area.

PROBUS Club meets every month in the Community Centre in Grenoside. The club is about providing a relaxing social environment to welcome retired and semi-retired men including those still working but with time on their hands. You can visit a meeting as a guest or choose to become a member. Please make contact with the Secretary, Trevor Winslow (see below).

Upcoming meetings on Wednesday at 10.00 in Grenoside Community Centre (followed by optional lunch at Wortley Hall):-

11th June – Mike Higginbottom – The History of Sheffield Cinema
9th July – Paul Adey – History of the US Motor Industry, part 2
13th August – George Clark – Richard III, Villain or Hero?

Contact details: e-Mail <u>chapeltown.probus@gmail.com</u> Website <u>https://chapeltown-probus.org.uk/</u>

Andrew Robinson

### May Queen 2025

Lynda & Michael Waldron's granddaughter Mia Garratt was chosen to be Ecclesfield Guides May Queen for 2025.

Mia has been attending Brownies and Guides since she was 7 years old. She was named Queen Lavender and it was very difficult to find a flower that had not been used before, but Mia quite likes the colour lilac. Her grandfather crowned her on Friday night and her Nan was chairperson. Mia said she had really enjoyed her time in the show in the Gatty Hall and the Sunday service at St Mary's. *See back page photo* 

#### Fill me with Your Spirit, Lord By Howard Webber

Fill me with your Spirit, Lord, Fill me with your love. Fill this empty heart of mine, Come down gentle dove. You see all my self-concern, Lovelessness and pride. Help me to open up my heart, Place your love inside.

Fill me with your Spirit, Lord, Fill me with your power. Give to me your source of strength, From this very hour. You have seen me trying hard, Failing every time, Show me how to let you now, Live Your life in mine.

Fill me with your Spirit, Lord, Fill me with your joy. Give to me that happiness Nothing can destroy. Even when my sufferings Point me to despair, May I know that joy inside Just because You're there.

Fill me with Your Spirit, Lord, Fill me with Your peace, Quieten all the turbulence, Bid my struggles cease. Often my anxieties, Fill my life with stress, Show me how to let them go, Give to me Your rest.

### June - From a poem by Irene F Pawsey

Flowery banks, A-drone with bees, Dreaming cattle Under trees: Song-bird pipe A merry tune – This is summer, This is June.

### Surprising realizations! - By Nigel Beeton

Sometimes the way we spell our words May change from shore to shore The structuring of nouns and verbs Can sometimes be a chore!

Our friends across the pond delight In colors, - splendors too! The British think it's only right By putting in a 'u'!

The New York man may mark his land By putting in a 'fence'; But if you cross it, understand That you will cause 'offense'!

Pedants may, perhaps surprised With U.S. friends agree; For both will spell out 'realized' By dropping 's' for zee!

And nether nation's pundits wise Will cease their harmony Both will spell the word 'surprise' With no sign of a zee!

(But Gentle Reader, we both know That they will fight instead -Their arguments will hotly flow – Should it be 'zee', or 'zed'?)

### 'O Lord, Seek Us'

O Lord, seek us, O Lord, find us In Thy patient care;
By Thy love before, behind us, Round us everywhere:
Lest the god of this world bind us, Lest he speak us fair,
Lest he forge a chain to bind us, Lest he bait a snare.
Turn not from us, call to mind us, Find, embrace us, bear;
Be Thy love before, behind us, Round us, everywhere.

By Christina Rossetti (1830 - 94)

### **Contact Details for Local Groups**

### **Ecclesfield Rainbows**

Gatty Hall Thursday 5.00 pm to 6.15 pm Contact - Girl Guiding Website / To Register Interest

### **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

### 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) Thursday - 5:45 - 7:00 pm Contact Shane Porteous shane@ecclesfieldscouts.org.uk

### **Ecclesfield Scouts**

Scout Hut (off Yew Lane) Thursday 7:15 pm to 9:00 pm Leader - Bryony Hemming 25thecclesfieldscouts@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

### 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 Website: 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 We are now face to face see www.chapeltown-probus.org.uk

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

## Useful Contacts

	E-mail:	Phone:
<u>Vicar:</u> Revd. Tim Gill	ttimgill@aol.com	257 0002
Church Wardens		
Ann Hackett		
Michael Waldron		
<b>Church Office</b> Tuesday 9:00am to 1:00 pm Thursday 9:00am to 12:00 pm	office.stmarys.ecclesfield@googlemail.com	245 0106
Website	https://stmarysecclesfield.org.uk/	
Groups:	Times and Days:	Phone:
Choir Practice in Church Contact: Lynda Pearce	7 pm on Friday Practice in Church	208 3500
Music Group Contact: Andrea Whittaker	7:30 pm Thursday Practice in Church	246 0746
Mother's Union in Gatty Hall Contact: Maureen Lambert	1.00 pm 1st Wednesday of the month	246 9690
Ecclesfield Ladies Group Contact: Anne Rostron	2.00 pm Thursday in Gatty Hall	245 5492
Bell Ringers Contact: Phil Hirst	7:30 pm Tuesday in Church Belfry	296 2766
Gatty Hall Bookings		286 2766 0780 307 8223
	Moddings Enguisics places contact the Vis	

### For Baptisms or Weddings Enquiries please contact the Vicar

Magazine e-mail:

stmarys.magazine.ecclesfield@gmail.com

## We thought you might find it helpful to know what the significant days and Sundays of each month are called

Date	Day	Colour
1st June	Seventh Sunday of Easter	White
8th June	Day of Pentecost – Whit Sunday	Red
15th June	Trinity Sunday	Gold
22nd June	First Sunday after Trinity	Green
29th June	Second Sunday after Trinity – St Peter and St Paul	Red

