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# Ackworth Parish Magazine



30p per copy (£3 per year)

June 2000

## Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who?



<u>Rector:</u>	Revd. Paul Hartley, The Rectory, Ackworth.	602751
<u>Lay Reader:</u>	Dr. Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove	613834
<u>Churchwardens:</u>	Mr Bill Branston, 8 Andrews Grove. Mr Fred Davies, 40 Barnsley Road.	610590 610694
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
<u>Christian Stewardship:</u>		
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mr Bryan Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill	616074
<u>Covenant Secretary:</u>	Mr John Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd	794500
<u>Stewardship Recorder:</u>	Miss Ada Pritchard, 4 Oddfellows Clubhouses.	611086
<u>Car Lifts to Church:</u>	Mrs Ann Tait, 5 King's Close.	612613
<u>Children and Young People:</u>		
<u>Junior Church:</u>	Dr Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Mums &amp; Tots Group:</u>	Mrs Jackie Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Children's Society:</u>	Mrs Helen Parkinson, 48 Holly Bank.	614400
<u>The Howard C E School:</u>	Mr Harry S Armitage, Headteacher.	611243
<u>Third World and Missions:</u>	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
<u>Women's Groups:</u>		
<u>Mothers' Union:</u>	Mrs Barbara Firth, 7 Lindale Ave.	611728
<u>Parish Women's Group:</u>	Mrs Biddy Branston, 8 Andrews Grove.	610590
<u>Church Flowers/Brasses:</u>		
<u>St Cuthbert's:</u>	Mrs Phyllis Asquith, 70 Pontefract Road.	704732
<u>All Saints':</u>	Miss Eibel Smith, 'Solentia', Wakefield Rd.	611258
<u>Weekly News sheet:</u>	Mrs Maureen Richardson, 45 Wandleigh Cres	612859
<u>Parish Magazine:</u>		
<u>Publishing:</u>	Mrs Sue Hartley, The Rectory	602751
<u>Advertising:</u>	Mrs Linda Steer, 54 Holly Bank.	614716
<u>Distribution:</u>	Mrs Mollie Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd	794500

## **Pentecost – The Power to Eat Elephants**



Looking at the title, you may think I've gone mad; but if you are still intrigued, then read on.

Pentecost and power are two words that are more or less synonymous with one another in the words from the Gospel reading set for the first major festival of this month, Ascension Day (1<sup>st</sup> June)

“... stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high ...” the power referred to by our risen Lord, just prior to his Ascension, being the power of the Holy Spirit that his disciples would receive on that second great celebration of this month, the day of Pentecost, and what a power it was!

To those poor frightened disciples, huddled together in fear, locked in that upper room they had shared since Maundy Thursday in case they should be discovered and suffer a similar fate to their Lord and master, it was a power that was to bring about total transformation. A power of understanding and courage that enabled them to go out and preach the Gospel of Christ – the power of their risen Lord; a power which

fuelled a movement that was to spread throughout the world; and a power which was not just confined to that room in Jerusalem almost 2,000 years ago, but poured out for generations and millennia to come; to all who would profess the faith of Jesus Christ and pray in that same spirit.

So that was the power which came via the Holy Spirit at that first Pentecost and continued to be sent down upon all who claim the Christian faith as their own and witness to the gospel. This was the power which endows all Christians with gifts to contribute towards the work of Christ's body here on earth; the Church.

So what on earth then has all this to do with eating elephants? Well, this image of eating elephants is one which arises out of an old Chinese (or Japanese – I can never be sure which!) philosophy where those big jobs or projects we all meet regularly in our lives are likened to those enormous, lumbering animals, elephants. The analogy being that because those really huge jobs are so frightening or daunting,



# **The Rector Writes ...**



it's a bit like being faced with having to eat an elephant. Obviously it would be absolutely impossible to swallow an elephant whole; no one would even attempt it and therefore, many 'elephant' tasks are side-stepped or avoided altogether; often those tasks are vital, so the individual or the organisation he or she is working on behalf of suffers. The answer is of course that the only way it is possible to eat an elephant is in 'bite sized' pieces - a mouthful at a time. In other words, to break down those enormous tasks into smaller component parts and better still to share those parts out; to use another Chinese proverb 'many hands make light work.'

Coupled with the fact that due to Pentecost we have all received power and gifts to work for the spread of the Gospel (i.e. we all have a part to play in the Church's work!) then no task, no matter how large should be impossible. Pentecost gives us as a Church, the 'power to eat elephants.'

Why then, in recent months, have we had to cancel events or projects because of lack of support, and why should some individuals or groups feel dispirited when after a lot of hard work and organisation things have been poorly supported? I can recall, sadly, having to announce on more than one occasion that unless offers of help or support were forthcoming for such and such an event or project then it would be cancelled. Happily in many cases, help has been offered after my last-ditch appeal, but really it should never have reached such a stage. Events, courses and projects are organised by individuals and groups both in our

parish and the Diocese for our benefit; to help build our faith, experience and depth of knowledge.

If we don't offer our help and support, more often than not by merely attending, then the organisation and energy needed to arrange it will become like elephants, too big to tackle and not enough to share in the task. Enthusiasm will peter out and those things will be avoided - nothing will be arranged and ultimately we will all be the poorer because of it.

T.S. Elliot once described the Church as being a bit like a hippopotamus trudging through mud, slow and ponderous at its best; often getting bogged down. Like the elephant however, we can all make the task lighter if we all take a share in that task.

Please use your spiritual gift to build up the body of the church. Often little more is needed than what was commonly termed 'community spirit,' the gift of encouragement, to support your church by simply being there. The more mouths we have, the better we will be able to sing God's praise and the easier it will be to eat some to those elephants.

Yours in Christ,  
Paul

*(Look out for the elephant! When you see the sign of the elephant you know your help and support is needed, keep an eye out in the magazine and on notice boards!)*

# Suzy Fund

This letter was recently received from St Peter & Paul's Suzy Fund

Dear Friends

When I came to talk to your Ladies Group about the Suzy Fund, four years ago, they had a collection to support our third World fund raising project and I thought that was the end of the Suzy/St Cuthbert's connection.

In my wildest dreams I did not anticipate over £3,500 to follow, your regular collections now total £3,661, a lot of money by UK standards, but by African purchasing power, it's the equivalent of nearly £40,000.

With your help we have provided irrigation schemes, chicken farms, vegetable growing, clinics and part of hospital. In November I will be visiting Ethiopia, at my own expense, to see for myself just how your money has been used.

I am sure that in Ethiopia, Somalia, Mozambique, Uganda and the many other projects we have helped, there are children alive today who would not have been if you had not cared. I

would never pretend that the Suzy Fund could cure all the worlds ills, but I do know that we have had an effect, when you consider that 10p will feed a child for a day or two, and 10p would provide a life saving injection against measles, or provide oral an re-hydration pack, how could you refuse.

I dream of a day when no child goes to bed hungry, but when we read that 30,000 children die every day, then I guess my dream is along way off. If one day we are asked "what did you do when children were dying by the roadside," the answer surely cannot be, "nothing."

Thanks for sharing my load.  
God bless,  
Brian Hazell.

*All monies given to the 'Suzy Fund' go direct to where the need exists without any deductions - administrative or other expenses. Anyone wishing to learn more about the fund should contact Barbara Firth or Vera McWilliam.*



## A Prayer for Pentecost

Spirit of God, Lord and Giver of Life  
Moving between us and around  
Like wind or water or fire,

Breathe into us your freshness that we may awake,  
Cleanse our vision that we may see more clearly.  
Kindle our senses that we may feel more sharply,  
And give us the courage to live as you would have us live.  
Amen

## Recruitment of Parish Legacy Officers

During the autumn the Diocese will be launching a new initiative to encourage Church members to consider, as part of their planned giving, leaving a legacy towards the ongoing work of God's mission and ministry in their parish. To assist with this, Graham Richards, the Diocesan Christian Giving Adviser, wants to see a team of Parish Legacy Officers appointed. Eventually, it is hoped that every parish will have its own Legacy Officer, (just like they have a Covenant Secretary), who's task it will be to offer simple advice to anyone enquiring about making a Will, or leaving a legacy.

The Parish Legacy Officers are not expected to be legal experts, neither will they write Wills for people. After receiving training provided by the Diocese, they will be able to point people in the right direction of what needs to be considered when making a Will and where to go to get it done properly. Their role will be one of a listener, as much as that of an enabler.

The job will not be an onerous one. For a start, it does not involve keeping copious records or liaising with the Inland Revenue! What it does require

are people who like working with people and might feel confident talking with others about Wills and legacies. Legacy Officers will gently promote legacies through their parish magazine, notice sheets, or in other appropriate ways, so the ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, is necessary. *(Centrally produced resources with information about Wills and legacies will be provided for all parishes.)* They will also gather information about local solicitors, to indicate where people can go to make or alter Wills and legacies.

Legacies offer an exciting prospect for the future life and development of our parishes. If being a part of this is something you would find challenging and enjoyable, please get in touch with Graham Richards at Church House, Wakefield on: 01924 371802 - or email him at: [christian.giving.adviser@pmail.net](mailto:christian.giving.adviser@pmail.net) he can then supply you with a simple job description and further information. You might also like to speak with the Rector about it.



Graham Richards

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## Readers and Readings

<b>4th 7th Sunday of Easter</b>	SC		AS
Ezekiel 36:24-28	Mr Shaw	Mrs V Cook	
1 John 5:9-13	Mr Shaw	Mrs V Cook	
<b>11th Day of Pentecost</b>			
Ezekiel 37:1-14		Mrs Cooper	
Acts 2:1-21		Mrs Cooper	
<b>18th Trinity Sunday</b>			
Isaiah 6:1-8	Mr F Walters	Dr McWilliam	
Romans 8:12-17	Mr F Walters	Dr McWilliam	
<b>25th Proper 7</b>			
1 Samuel 17:32-49		Mrs Hall	
2 Cor. 6:1-13	Mark Cavill	Mrs Hall	



### Flowers

4th Mrs Roberts	Mrs Cooper
11th Mrs Asquith	Mrs Huby
18th Mrs Barnard	Congregation
25th Vacant	Miss Smith

### Brasses

Mrs Sutcliffe

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

9th April	Matthew Charles Farrah
23rd April	Jessica Elizabeth Slater
	Daniel Jacob Butterworth

### Funerals

3rd April	Margaret Iris Halstead, 34 Denton Gardens, aged 57
6th April	Roy Taylor, 5 St. Clements Court, aged 58
11th April	Ethel May Roebuck, Victoria House, Ryhill, aged 97
13th April	Doreen Hinitt, 82 Station Road, aged 77
18th April	Raymond Charles Frederick Smees, 15 Beech Drive, aged 65





# June Diary

<b>1 Thursday</b>	<b>Ascension Day</b>	
	7.30pm Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
<b>5 Monday</b>	7.30pm PCC	St Cuthbert's
<b>7 Wednesday</b>	9.30am Holy Communion	All Saints'
	<i>(M.U. Corporate Communion)</i>	
	7.30pm Magazine Committee Meeting	The Rectory
<b>12 Monday</b>	<b>St Barnabas - Apostle</b>	
	7.30pm Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
	8.00pm Social Committee Meeting	The Rectory
<b>13 Tuesday</b>	2.00pm Toddler's	All Saints'
	7.30pm Faith, Love & Marriage - Study	St Cuthbert's
<b>14 Wednesday</b>	9.30am Holy Communion	All Saints'
<b>21 Wednesday</b>	9.30am Holy Communion	All Saints'
	7.45pm Women's Group Cheese Vestry-	St Cuthbert's
<b>22 Thursday</b>	<b>Corpus Christi</b>	
	7.30pm Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
<b>24 Saturday</b>	<b>Birth of John the Baptist</b>	
	10.30am Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
	Ackworth Gala (incl. Church Stall and float)*	
<b>28 Wednesday</b>	9.30am Holy Communion	All Saints'
	2.30pm Mothers' Union*	All Saints'
<b>29 Thursday</b>	<b>St's. Peter and Paul - Apostles</b>	
	7.30pm Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's

## JULY

<b>7 Friday</b>	Women's Group trip to Phantom of the Opera	
<b>8 Saturday</b>	M.U. Trip to Lindisfarne	
<b>11 Tuesday</b>	7.30pm Faith, Love and Marriage - study	St Cuthbert's
<b>15 Saturday</b>	10.30 Coffee Morning	Vestry - St Cuthbert's

\* further details for these events can be found elsewhere in the magazine



Good idea - why not pull these pages out

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# Cool Kids!

These are names for Jesus. The letters are jumbled.  
Can you sort them out? The first letter is underlined.  
(Some have more than one word.)

USEJS .....

IASORVU .....

MMLAUNEE .....

OOONGFSD .....

RCSIHT .....

FLO~~G~~MOABD .....

HSMSEIA .....

DOLR .....

Answers in next month's magazine.

## “What a friend we have in Jesus”

This is the beginning of a hymn which speaks about the friendship which Jesus offers. Most accounts of Jesus tend to centre on the major theological issues, called Christology. But in our academic attempts to work out who Jesus is or was, we often forget the simpler facts. The fact that he was simply a friend to many people.

I like to read the Gospel accounts about how Jesus deals with people, because this is how we should be dealing with people on a personal and on a corporate level.



Read John's Gospel and see how he meets James and John, Peter and Andrew, Phillip and Nathaniel. Read any of the other Gospels and see how Jesus meets with Matthew (sometimes known as Levi). Read in John's Gospel about how he treats Lazarus, Martha and Mary. Read about how he talks with Nicodemus.

These are just some of the instances when Jesus meets people, real people with real problems, and Jesus addresses those problems.

Jesus was very good at getting alongside people, alongside individuals and finding out about them. When was the last time you did that? Jesus did not just give a cursory and superficial chat. He spent time with these people, some of them not very nice (Zaccheus for one). Jesus spent time finding out about these people, finding out what their worries and concerns were, and then often addressed those concerns, and took the opportunity to teach everyone around him also.

Jesus was very close to many people, and at any one time he was very close to the individual he was meeting, and he always took time to speak to them.

Jesus was a friend for many people whilst he walked in this world. He is often called the friend of sinners, but he was friends with others who did not sin as well. Certainly, Jesus felt that his mission was to return the lost back to God, but the sad fact was that even those who felt they were saved, were actually lost also.

Jesus was the Friend of all these people we read about in the Gospels, but there is more than that. Jesus is the Friend of anyone who puts their trust in him. Anyone who has done that will be able to tell you just what kind of friend Jesus is. He gets alongside us. He listens to what we have to say in prayer, and then he addresses those needs (not always in the way we expect - see the Gospels for examples). But the best thing of all, is that he is always there, always listening and always helping.

Take time out to spend with Jesus, and see how good a friend he can be to you.

## Turning Lbs into £'s

After looking in the mirror shortly after Christmas, I thought that it was about time to do something about my ever increasing weight.



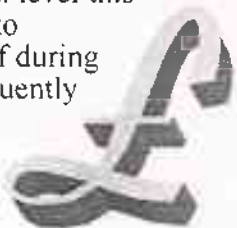
It was then that I decided that I would try and loose a few pounds. Someone

suggested sponsoring me with the proceeds going towards the necessary repairs which are needed at St Cuthbert's church. So being encouraged by family, friends and neighbours as well as the many customers I see at work I decided to go ahead and try.

With God's help, through prayer, I am now pleased to say that over

the last few months I have lost nearly three stones!

Looking back – what can I say - yes I did manage to raise several hundred pounds through sponsorship for church repairs, but also at a personal level this year I managed to discipline myself during Lent and consequently I now feel much fitter and my clothes also fit better.



A big thank you to all who encouraged and supported me, but most of all, thank you God, for all the strength, determination and love you have given me during the last few weeks.

*Ann Atack*

### Ackworth Gala 24th June

Our church will be decorating a float for this years Gala (contact the Social committee if you would like to help!) we will also have a stall selling secondhand books.

If you have any suitable books (not magazines please!) in good condition please leave at the back of church – no later than the 18<sup>th</sup> June.

Please support the Church and the Gala during this Millennium year!



### Easter Dinosaurs

Many thanks to all those who purchased a dinosaur with Cadbury egg this year. With sales and donations we raised £574 for The Prince of Wales Hospice!

# Etcetera...

## THE MOTHERS' UNION ~ June 2000

- 7th Corporate Communion. All Saints' Church, 9.30 am.
- 20th Deanery Summer Festival. St. Giles' Church, Pontefract, 7.15 pm.  
Speaker: The Bishop of Pontefract.
- 22nd Diocesan Quiet Day. Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield,  
10.30 - 3.30 pm.
- 28th ( Please note the change of day to Wednesday! )  
Service and Branch Meeting. All Saints' Church, 2.30 pm.  
Speaker: Revd. Nils Bersweden, Diocesan Chaplain to the Mothers' Union.
- 29th Diocesan Council Meeting. Town Hall, Dewsbury, 6.45 pm.

Barbara Firth



## Coffee Morning



at  
St Cuthbert's  
on Saturday  
15th June from 10.30am  
to raise funds for  
vestry kitchen  
new/replacement/extra  
equipment.

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# THE PARISH OF ACKWORTH



St Cuthbert's and All Saints'

## Sunday Services

June 2000



### 4th June

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

### 11th June

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion and Parade	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	St Cuthbert's

### 18th June

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

### 25th June

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
4.00pm	Open Door Service	All Saints'

*(an informal service for all ages)*

Please contact the Rector for enquiries about Marriages and Baptisms