



Ackworth Parish Magazine



April 2008/May 2008
50p per copy (£3 per year)

~ Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who ~

<u>Rector:</u>	Rev'd Paul Hartley, The Rectory, Ackworth	602751
<u>Assistant Curate:</u>	Rev'd Dr Jenny Montgomery, 37 Highfield Road, Pontefract	702726
<u>Lay Readers:</u>	Dr. Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove Mrs Marie Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill	613834 616074
<u>Churchwardens:</u>	Mr Bill Branston, 8 Andrews Grove Mrs Lynne Ward, 83 Station Road	610590 616384
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mrs Caroline Longhurst 27 Springhill Avenue, Crofton	01924 865026
<u>Christian Stewardship:</u>		
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mr Bryan Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill	616074
<u>Covenant Secretary:</u>	Mr Donald Marshall, 17 Hill Drive	700961
<u>Stewardship Recorder:</u>	Mrs Sue Hartley, The Rectory, Ackworth	602751
<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 & 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>	Miss Sue Jackson, Headteacher	722275
<u>Third World and Missions:</u>	Mrs Lynne Ward, 83 Station Road	616384
<u>Social Committee:</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 Ethel Smith, 'Solentia', Wakefield Road	611258
<u>Weekly News sheet:</u>	Mrs Maureen Richardson 45 Woodleigh Crescent	612859
<u>Parish Magazine:</u>		
<u>Publishing:</u>	Mrs Stella Hall, 32 Station Road Mr Nigel Parkinson, 48 Holly Bank	612003 614400
<u>Distribution:</u>	Mrs Biddy Branston, 8 Andrews Grove Mrs Margaret Seaman, 20 Flounders Hill	610590 611400
<u>St. Cuthbert's Bell Ringers:</u>		
<u>Tower Captain:</u>	Mr Ian Hall, 32 Station Road	612003
<u>Ringling Master:</u>	Mrs Stella Hall, 32 Station Road	612003

Dear Friends

In this magazine, with Easter well underway, we turn our attention towards those other great spring festivals of Ascension and Pentecost (1st & 11th May).

Having rejoiced in the resurrection, the joy of our Lord back among us, the hope inspired that death is not the end; the Ascension seems a bit of a downer. It must have been perplexing if not disconcerting to those first disciples, that, having just got used to the idea that their Lord and master was alive and back amongst them once again he is taken from them again.

On this basis, you might be forgiven for thinking that the Ascension of our Lord does not give us much to celebrate about. But, thinking this way would be to reckon without Pentecost! Yes, the Ascension without Pentecost would be bad news, but they are the two parts of stages in a process which completely transformed the Christian faith and gave birth to the Church. My favourite spiritual writer, Henri Nouwen, puts it well in his book 'Sabbatical Journey'; he writes...

'Pentecost is the coming of the spirit of Jesus into the world. It is the celebration of God breaking through the boundaries of time and space and opening the whole world for the re-creating power of love. Pentecost is freedom, the freedom of the spirit to blow where it wants.'

If Jesus had not ascended and returned as spirit, he would still be bound by the restrictions of an earthly body; He would still be stuck in a small Judean town where followers would jealously cling on to him. Through his ascension he breaks through these barriers of time and space and is available to the whole world. As Henri Nouwen puts it. Pentecost is the time when we celebrate the freedom of the spirit, being released to blow where it wants.

This is the popular image of Pentecost we are all familiar with, the spirit coming as a mighty wind and tongues of flame. The evidence of its power can be seen in those first disciples as that spirit stirs up gifts in them and they are 'fired' up (if you'll pardon the pun) to go out and proclaim the good news of God's love,

revealed in Jesus Christ, to the whole world. This is great cause for celebration, the birthday of the Church and the initiation of its prime function - mission - as Henri Nouwen puts it ... *'the opening of the whole world for the re-creating power of love.* ' And what a power; a power that is able to transform lives; gives all people value and purpose; the bringer of peace; a power that can even overcome the ultimate enemy - death itself.

The Holy Spirit first came as fire and in its all consuming passion, we often speak of the fire of love. Let us pray that all Christians get fired up this Pentecost. Let's really celebrate the Church's birthday by using those gifts brought by the spirit to spread the warmth of God's love to other. Traditionally we celebrate birthdays with cakes; cakes with candles on them; candles which are traditionally blown out. The flames of Pentecost however, are flames we don't want blown out, but stirred up in each and every one of us.

I would like to leave you with a verse from one of my favourite hymns, written by the Bishop who ordained me deacon, stirring the flame and gift of the Holy Spirit in me. From 'Father Lord of all Creation (Old and New no. 111)

*'Holy Spirit, rushing burning,
Wind and flame of Pentecost.
Fire our heart afresh with yearning,
To regain what we have lost,
May your love unite our actions,
Nevermore to speak alone.
God in us abolish faction;
God though us your love make known.'*

Happy Pentecost

Paul



Dedication

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts!
My soul longs, indeed it faints
for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy
to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.

Happy are those who live in your house,
ever singing your praise.



On Pentecost Sunday, May 11th Bishop Stephen will be coming to St Cuthbert's church to re-dedicate and bless the building after the restoration work we have had done. This promises to be a really special day when we will give thanks for the generosity of all those who supported this work, the skill of the builders and above all to God.

Perhaps those who have heard me muttering on the subject of church buildings and what a nuisance they can be may be surprised that I've chosen to write something about buildings. However, despite the time and trouble that they take up our church buildings are really important. If I didn't think they were important I wouldn't have spent the last two Saturdays doing my share of church cleaning!

Buildings are important for several reasons. They should provide us with a comfortable and safe place for worship. The appearance and layout of the building should help focus our hearts and minds on God. For instance, having a font at the entrance reminds us of our baptism, the vows made by us or on our behalf which are at the heart of our Christian belief. Our buildings are a witness to the community. They are a visible sign to those around that there are

people gathering to worship God. If bells are rung, so much the better.

However, despite the importance of buildings, in the end they are just buildings and mustn't be allowed to become an end in themselves. They are a tool in the same way as knives are to a chef. What really matters is the people. The church of God is not the buildings, however lovely, however special but all of us. St Peter said:

Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

We together are the church and each one of us matters. When bricks are missing from a building or slates are off the roof the wind and rain get in. In the same way each one of us has a special place that only we can fill. Without us there is a gap. Our gifts are many and varied but all of them matter in making the church strong, a real 'spiritual house'.

On Pentecost Sunday we will re-dedicate the church building to God to be used for his glory and the increase of his Kingdom. At the same time let us re-dedicate ourselves, his church to be used for his glory and the increase of his Kingdom. Our efforts together with the skill of our builders have restored St Cuthbert's as a place to worship God. I pray that our efforts and skills may now be used in God's service so that we might draw others to be part of his church. I pray that by God's grace he will use us to bring restoration to our whole village., to hurting people and lives that they may taste the abundant life Jesus promises.

I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly (John 10.10)
With love in Christ

Jenny

DO YOU JUST BELONG?

This is a poem from a church in Zimbabwe, which poses a few pertinent questions.

Are you an active member? The kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?
Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock?
Or do you simply stay at home and criticise and knock?
Do you take an active part to help the work along?
Or are you simply satisfied that you can just belong/
Do you ever visit a member who is sick?
Or leave the work to one or two and talk about a clique?
Think this over, member, you know the right from wrong,
Are you an active member, or do you just 'belong'?

Are you Spring Cleaning soon?

If you are please do not throw away any unwanted toiletries and books
Hang on to them !

The social committee would be pleased to have them
(in good condition please) during May to sell at the church stall at the
"Event on the Green"
on Sunday June 1st 2008
and also at the
Ackworth Gala.

Knottingley Concert Brass

will be performing a concert in St Cuthbert's Church
on **Saturday 31st May 2008 at 7.30 pm.**
as part of the Ackworth Heritage Society's
"Event on the Green" to be held on
Sunday 1st June 2008).

This is a very popular highly rated local brass band
and an event not to be missed!

(Proceeds to Ackworth Repairs, Restoration, Re-ordering Appeal)

Advance Tickets from Churchwardens or Pauline
Locket (01977 619356).
£5.00 (Adults) and £2.50 (Child)



FROM THE OLD MAGAZINES

Church Bosses.

If anyone were to ask in a quiz, 'In which church in England can you find likenesses of Gandhi, De Valera and the Russian Bear?' it is safe to assume that not many would know the answer. Those who wish to see them would have difficulty in finding them after being told in which church they are, unless they were given exact directions. To find them it is necessary to climb the gallery at the back of the Church of Saint Mary-the-Virgin in Oxford. From there one must look up at the vaulting of the north side of the nave. On three small bosses are painted the images of Gandhi, De Valera and the Russian Bear. The explanation for their presence is that in the 1920's some decoration of the church was being carried out and it was thought that it would be a good idea to incorporate in it some figures, which were prominent in the news at that time.

The Dog Door.

At Mullion, in Cornwall there is a small door about the size of an entrance to a dog kennel in the front door of the Parish church known as the dog door through which in olden times dogs could go in and out as they pleased during the services. If they proved to be noisy or troublesome, they were carried out by the vergers with a pair of tongs big enough to get hold of them round the body. One of these pair of tongs is preserved in St. Asaph Cathedral in North Wales.

Writing on Walls.

Writing on walls is not nowadays encouraged. The removal of graffiti is a costly business now but long ago writing on walls was not regarded in this way. If one looks closely at the Norman and Gothic pillars in many ancient cathedrals and churches, one will find that there is old writing on the walls. Certain monks or stonemasons were allowed to amuse themselves in this curious way. There are quantities of such graffiti on the Norman pillars of the nave and the crypt of Rochester Cathedral. There are faces and eagles and drawings of Christ, and similar drawings apparently by the same hand dating back to the thirteenth century have been found at Canterbury, Sandwich and other parts of Kent. They are possibly the work of a travelling mason, who scratched his drawings on pillars for all the world, as an art student today would scribble in a notebook.

At St. Mary's, Ashwell, in Hertfordshire there is this writing scratched on the wall over six hundred years ago reading:

"Wretched, wild, distracted,
The dregs of people alone survive to tell the tale".

EMIL'S QUESTION

How quick does the Lord act when Satan tries to 'pull one of his stunts'?

THE ANSWER: Very fast indeed! I say that based on I believe good evidence both from scripture and numerous personal experiences. The latest one was on a Sunday morning this February last as I prepared to climb into my friend's car outside St. Cuthbert's Church. It had been frosty overnight but a sun-thaw had caused unbeknowingly the formation of many slippery mud patches, and as you will guess I slipped and fell! Despite going down with quite a bump I WAS UNHARMED if a little shaken! Satan, I believe, was the cause of my fall, but of course Jesus' protection ensured I was unharmed and fully able to bless and praise the Lord and curse Lucifer's evil plans! All in less than ten tiny seconds!

If we turn to our Bibles there are literally hundreds of instances in scripture where God has acted to stop Satan harming us, too many to list them all!

Have a go at counting them if you like; here are a few to get you started!

1) John's Gospel Chapter 11, v. 17-44

Even though Lazarus has been dead FOUR DAYS, nothing is impossible for Jesus Christ: (v.39 – Lazarus is dead, v. 43 – Jesus calls Lazarus to walk out of the tomb). Note the sequence of events! Just a brief prayer, the tomb is opened and Lazarus walks out still in the grave-clothes. How long? Certainly not days.

2) Matthew's Gospel Chapter 21, v. 18-22

One of the most famous passages in Matthew: the withering of the fig-tree. Here the evidence is even more clear: the disciples even ask 'How did the fig-tree wither so quickly?'

3) Matthew's Gospel chapter 15, v. 21-28

The Canaanite woman whose daughter was possessed by demons: cured 'from that very hour' (v. 28).

4) Matthew's Gospel Chapter 8, v. 28 to Chapter 9, v. 8.

5) Matthew's Gospel Chapter 9, v. 18-25.

6) Matthew's Gospel Chapter 9, v. 27-33.

7) Matthew's Gospel Chapter 8, v. 1-4.

EMIL BROWN

THE UNSTOPPABLE CHURCH

Hello dear friends

Whitsun is here again. I remember a very different kind of Whitsun. As a child my mother would buy me new clothes all in white. I was rigged out from head to toe with all new underwear including liberty bodice and underskirt. Mum always made sure that I was warm.

We would go to Church that morning. How different it all is today.

Children get new things all the time but back then things were very different. I went to Church feeling very smart. Mum would say to me, "Don't mucky your new clothes Pauline". They would be my best for a while but like everything else I would grow out of them fast.

Pentecost is a very important time for the Church. Jesus told the disciples to wait for the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit would empower them and they would be witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth. (Acts Ch. 4 v. 7).

The Holy Spirit came on the disciples as Jesus had promised them but people thought that they were drunk. I have witnessed many people 'drunk' in the Spirit, including myself.

Anyone who asks Jesus into his heart will be born again and will be filled with the Holy Spirit just like the disciples. (John Ch. 3 v. 5). Jesus said, 'Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter the Kingdom of God'. (v. 16)

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son that whoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. Peter preached on the Day of Pentecost and three thousand were saved. The apostles witnessed many miracles. Jesus said (John Ch. 14 v. 12) 'Verily, verily I say unto you, he that believeth on me, the works that I do, shall he do also. And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything in my name I will do it'.

What a wonderful promise from our Lord. I hope that you have a great Whitsun and may the Lord bless you and keep you and make His face to shine on you.

Love and blessings

Pauline Wong

CHILDREN'S THOUGHTS

A four year old overheard saying the Lord's Prayer;
"And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets".

A Sunday school teacher asked her group of children why they thought it was necessary to be quiet in church and one bright girl replied,
"Because people are sleeping".

A small boy was heard saying his prayers and he said,
"Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

Jesus healed ten leopards and the one that lost his spots came back to thank him.

The Tower of Babel was the place Solomon kept his wives.

The vicar at the end of his talk to the children asked them if they had any questions about the story he had told them. A small girl's hand shot up and she asked, "Please Sir, why did the angels walk up and down Jacob's ladder when they had wings. " Ah, I see ", said the vicar breathing deeply. "Now is there any one who would like to answer that question?"

These are answers taken from a GCSE exam paper.

1 The Bible is full of interesting caricatures. In the first book of the Bible, Genesis, Adam and eve were created from an apple tree. One of their children. Cain, asked, "Am I my brother's son?"

2 Moses led the Hebrew slaves to the Red Sea, where they all made unleavened bread, which is bread made without any ingredients. Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments. He died before he ever reached Canada.

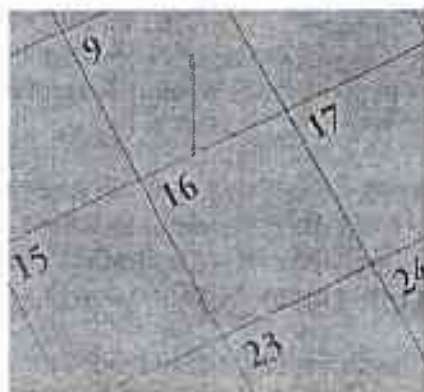
Wanted for Ackworth Calendar 2009

The Fund Raising Committee has decided to create an Ackworth Calendar for 2009 and by popular request this year we shall revert back to a calendar which will contain pictures of old Ackworth that have not been included in our previous Ackworth Calendars.

The committee would be pleased to receive copies of scenes of Old Ackworth for inclusion in the Ackworth Calendar. If you have a picture, an old photograph or a postcard of Ackworth which you believe could be included in the Ackworth Calendar we should be pleased to hear from you.

We would need to receive your suggestions by the end of April 2008 and if chosen for the Ackworth Calendar we would need to have the item on loan for about 2 months. Each entry accepted would receive a complimentary calendar at publication.

If you have a suitable item therefore for the Ackworth Calendar, please contact Bill Branston (01977 610590) or Pauline Locket (01977 619356).



LOADS OF MANURE

Large quantity of well-rotted manure available to anyone who has a trailer or is willing to bag it for themselves. Access for cars is possible. Free apart from donation to Church Restoration Fund. Ring 01977 795450 if interested!



ALL SAINTS' FLOWERS

APRIL 6 TH	EDITH SKIDMORE
APRIL 13 TH	FLOWER FUND
APRIL 20 TH	FLOWER FUND
APRIL 27 TH	FLOWER FUND
MAY 4 TH	BETTY JOHNSON
MAY 11 TH	PENTECOST CONGREGATION
MAY 18 TH	PENTECOST CONGREGATION
MAY 25 TH	ETHEL SMITH

ST. CUTHBERT'S FLOWERS

APRIL 6 TH	VACANT
APRIL 13 TH	VACANT
APRIL 20 TH	VACANT
APRIL 27 TH	MOLLIE GARDHAM
MAY 4 TH	JANET BATEMAN
MAY 11 TH	VACANT
MAY 18 TH	VACANT
MAY 25 TH	VACANT



APRIL
MAY

BRASSES

VACANT
VACANT



Readings Rota for April 2008 - May 2008

Date	Liturgical Week	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel	St Cuthbert's	ser	All Saints'
06/04/2008	3rd Sunday of Easter	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Acts 2:14a & 36-41	Luke 24:13-35	Sue Hartley		Dr McWilliam
13/04/2008	4th Sunday of Easter	Genesis 7	Acts 2:42-47	John 10:1-10	Keith Shaw	P	Mrs S Hall
20/04/2008	5th Sunday of Easter	Genesis 8:1-19	Acts 7:55-60	John 14:1-14	Pauline Wong		Mrs M Walker
27/04/2008	6th Sunday of Easter	Genesis 8:20 - 9:17	Acts 17:22-31	John 14:15-21	Anne Atack	B	Dr McWilliam
04/05/2008	7th Sunday of Easter	Ezekiel 36:24-28	Acts 1:6-14	John 17:1-11	Emill Brown		Mrs S Hall
11/05/2008	Day of Pentecost	Numbers 11:24-30	Acts 2:1-21	John 20:19-23	Jacob Place	P	Mrs M Walker
18/05/2008	Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 40:12-17 & 27-31	2 Corinthians 13:11-14	Matthew 28:16-20	Miss Parker		Dr McWilliam
25/05/2008	Proper 3	Leviticus 19:1,2,9-18	1 Corinthians 3:10,11,16-end	Matthew 5:58 -end	George Scargill	B	Mrs S Hall



ICING ON THE CAKE

Celebration Cakes made to order
Christenings, Birthdays, Anniversaries.
Wedding Cakes to compliment
your wedding theme.

Sugar Flowers ~ Icing accessories sold
17 Gillygate, Pontefract. WF8 1PH
Tel: 01977 792222
www.weddingcakesandmore.co.uk



Pat Olbison
Traditional Joiner
Mission Room House
Wakefield Road, Ackworth
WF7 7AB
Tel: 01977 612733
Mob: 07779 485572

J C POWERCO
HILLSIDE
BARNSELY ROAD
ACKWORTH 612319



Lawnmowers, Chainsaws,
Cultivators, Shredders etc.
Sales, Service, Spares.
All leading makes.

Nurseryman and Florist
JAMES LAMPREY & SON
Pontefract Road
High Ackworth



Shrubs, Trees, Plants, Cut Flowers,
Floral Tributes, Fresh Produce
794387

ACKWORTH **PHYSIOTHERAPY CLINIC**

For all your musculoskeletal problems
including: Low Back Pain, Neck Pain
including Whiplash, Arthritis, Sports
Injuries, Shoulder, Knee and other joint
problems.

John Lane, Chartered Physiotherapist,
Health Professions Council Registered.
College Lane Surgery, Barnsley Road,
Ackworth
Tel: 07906 838846
Health Insurance Company Approved

ENGLAND & HINTON

Opticians
8 Bell Lane, Ackworth
613633



Sight tests by appointment
Family Eyecare



A S YAGER Opticians
32 Ropergate, Pontefract
702565

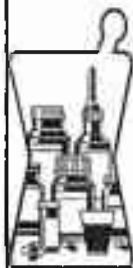
Sight Tests, Contact Lenses
Wide Range of Budget
and Designer Frames

**MORGAN
LANDSCAPES**

13 Birch Street,
Wakefield
WF1 5ER



**Decking, Fencing,
Landscaping
& Garden Maintenance**
"No Job Too Small"
Tel: 01924 387273
Mob: 07921 223453



**STEVEN K. F. LO
CHEMIST**

29 Barnsley Road
Ackworth
613132

Friendly advice on all healthcare.
Open daily 9am - 6:00pm;
Saturday 9am - 12:00pm

**BRACKEN HOUSE FISH SHOP
ACKWORTH**

Mob: 07703 258725
After hours: 01977 610519



Opening Times
Tues 11.30 - 1.30 & 4.30 - 9 pm
Thurs 11.30 - 1.30 & 4.00 - 9 pm
Fri 11.30 - 1.30 & 4.30 - 7.30
Sat 11.30 am - 1.30 pm
Satisfaction Guaranteed

RITA BENN SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Professional tuition in

Piano

Keyboard

Violin

Singing (Modern)

THEORY OF MUSIC

Exam preparation in most instruments

Accompanist

Call: 01977 649595 for details
Rita Benn Dip ABRSM



**Granville Brooks
Funeral Service**
36 Green Lane,
Featherstone 791869
or Pontefract 702583



Personal service day and night
Contact Graham Waring

FAIRTRADE
Third World Products
Fina Petrol Station,
Wakefield Road, Ackworth.



Tea, Coffee, Dried Fruit, Nuts, Gifts
etc

Weekdays 2 pm - 5 pm
(Wed ~ Closed all day)
Sat 10 - 12 noon

K. J. PEATFIELD
H.P.C. Registered Chiropodist
Podiatrist



8 Elm Terrace
SWALES YARD
Pontefract
WF8 1DG
(behind Malt Shovel)

State Registered Chiropodist
Please telephone for an appoint-
ment 704508

GPS
The Workshop
55 Wakefield Road
Ackworth



Ironmongery, timber,
plywoods, fixings.
General DIY goods
613961

The Brown Cow
Pontefract Road, Ackworth.
Tel: 01977 704753



Freshly prepared
and cooked...
Lunches ~ Mon. to Sat.
12 noon - 2 pm
3-course Sunday Lunch £6.95
Tea-time specials
Friday 6 - 8 pm



THE CARD GALLERY
ACKWORTH

THE ONLY PLACE TO GO FOR
HANDMADE GREETING CARDS
AND VERSE CARDS FULL OF SPE-
CIAL SENTIMENTS
COME AND SEE US ... YOU
WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED
01977 611532



78 Pontefract Road,
High Ackworth
791426

Premium hand finished
memorials
at competitive prices

A DRIVER'S PRAYER

The following poem was written in 1954 by a lorry driver who entered it in a competition run by a magazine published for drivers called 'Headlight'. He won first prize with it and earned himself the sum of £20. This was at a time when his weekly wage was £9 4sh. 6d so it was a prize well worth winning. The sentiments expressed in his poem are just as relevant today, more than fifty years on, especially with the increased volume of traffic.



O God whose end is just,
Whose strength is all my stay,
Protect and bless my journey,
As I drive forth this day.

Let wisdom guide my actions,
Let honesty fill my heart,
And help me Lord in every
hour,
To do a driver's part.

Protect when danger
threatens,
Sustain when roads are
rough,
Help me keep my standards
high,

And smile at each rebuff.

When fog comes down upon me,
I pray the lord be nigh,
Whether on lonely road or moor,
Or 'neath snow filled skies.

Keep me O God in life and
When I reach life's journey's end,
Forgive my sins and take me in,
For Jesus' sake, Amen.

Lawrence R. Carter

A MISCELLANY

Thoughts on Heaven. John Newton was a slaver before realising the barbarity of his work. He then became a preacher and a well-known hymn writer. He once said, "If I ever reach Heaven, I expect to find three wonders there. First to meet some I had not thought to see there; second, to miss some I had expected to see there; third, the greatest wonder of all, to see myself there!

The gardener's prayer. At this time of the year when spring has arrived the garden centres will be busy with people wanting to make their gardens beautiful again. This poem by Karel Capek puts some thoughts on what help we need to transform these areas into the gardens of our dreams.

O Lord, grant that in some way it may rain every day, say
From about midnight until three o'clock in the morning, but
You see, it must be gentle and warm so that it can soak in;
Grant that at the same time it would not rain on campion,
Alyssum, helianthemum, lavender, and others which you in
Your infinite wisdom know are drought-loving plants. I will
Write their names on a piece of paper if you wish. And grant
That the sun may shine the whole day long, but not everywhere
(Not for instance on spirea, or on gentian, plantain lily and
Rhododendron), and not too much; that there may be plenty of
Dew and little wind, enough worms, no plant-lice and snails,
No mildew and that once a week thin liquid manure and guano
May fall from Heaven. Amen.

Maxims.

Worry is like a rocking horse, it gets you nowhere.

A smile is a thing you can wear and never be out of fashion.

Bad habits are like bad eggs, you never know how bad until you break them.

Ackworth Hand Bell Ringers

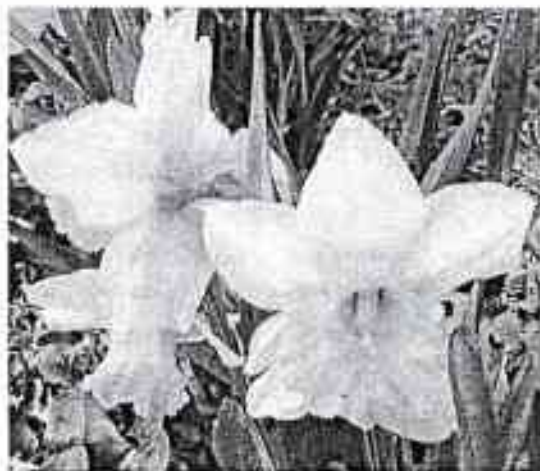
Have you ever thought about learning to ring hand bells? Now is your chance as Ackworth PCC own one of the finest sets of hand bells in Yorkshire and it is planned to restart practices and to build up a new team of ringers so that the bells can be rung again in Ackworth and at other events locally. The team will be led by Dave Harvey, who is an experienced hand bell ringer. Dave will be teaching the new team from basics, so no previous experience in hand bell ringing is needed.

If you would like to be part of the team or just want to ring for pleasure and can come to practice on one night in the week we should be pleased to hear from you. We would like the team to be a mixed age team so teenagers and young persons will be very welcome. The first meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th April 2008 at 7.30 pm at All Saints' Church, Wakefield Road. This will give us the opportunity to plan for the future and to fix the practice times.

For more information please contact Dave (01977 610739), Janet Lamb (01977 625896) or Jane Gosney (01977 793579) or speak to Margaret Lloyd.

A Thank you.

We would like to thank Jim and Carol at Lamprey and Sons Nurseries for kindly donating the daffodils for the Mothering Sunday service.



ALL SAINTS, COFFEE MORNINGS

NELLIE

Thursday 7th February: Two weeks ago Nellie, a dear little lady, who was one of the longest supporters of the Coffee Morning, died; she was special to all of us. She was very frail and sometimes when it was windy, she was so breathless when she arrived that it took her about five minutes before she could speak. Her eyes were also a trouble to her over the last couple of years but she was always cheerful, a lesson to us all, and she would always impress on us that she hoped we would never give up running the Coffee Morning.

She was buried at South Kirby last Thursday, so we were very sad that we could not get to her funeral, but Ann got everyone together for a few minutes prayer and reflection over Nellie's life. This week Linda, her lovely daughter, came to see us to thank us for all the happy Thursdays her mum had spent with us and for the little box of cakes she took home each week, we suspected were for her grandsons.

For the Coffee Morning helpers this is what it is all about, new and old friends meeting together each Thursday. When we started the aim was to raise money for All Saints' refurbishment, but if some kind benefactor were to come forward to meet the costs, the Coffee Morning would still have to continue for the friendship, love and fellowship which abounds in the church each Thursday is what being a Christian is all about, and it gives us back more than we can ever give.

God bless you Nellie, we will miss you.

Sue

CELEBRATING AT THE COFFEE MORNINGS

Is it something in the tea or the coffee that makes the difference or are they simply the product of a generation that had life harder and knew how to survive? Whatever the reason in the last eighteen months we have had some very special birthdays to celebrate. Last year one of our most regular customers celebrated her ninetieth birthday, although she tried to keep it a very little known event. Another celebrated her ninety-fifth birthday the day before the Coffee Morning by attending Holy Communion and receiving a round of applause from the congregation

This year we have had another ninetieth, this time in February

when Edna Evans reached that special milestone and we look forward to April when we hope that we can celebrate with one of the morning's earliest arrivals, Edith Cosgrove as she also becomes ninety. We are all frequently amazed when the weather is really dreadful and these ladies all turn up with a smile to brighten up the day for us all.

AN EXTRACT FROM SAYWELL

This piece from Saywell's 'History of Ackworth' concerns the use of the official wand. The one referred to in this extract may still be seen at the back of St. Cuthbert's Church near the organ where it resides in the back pew.

"In Cathedrals and Collegiate Churches the vergers' wand is a very imposing one of ebony and silver. In some churches it used to be carried, not only before the Bishop when he visited the church, but also before the Rector or Vicar, in his passage from the vestry to the reading desk, Communion table, or pulpit. Where this custom prevails, as at the Parish Church of Stockton-on-Tees, the duty falls to the one of the vergers. But with the introduction of surpliced choirs, and the disappearance of 'three deckers', the vergers' wand also disappeared, and are now looked upon as relics of antiquity.

There can be no doubt that the long 'tip staff' of the gaily caparisoned beadle, was one of the earliest forms of these wands, and where, as at Ackworth, this most important functionary's dignity was at one time further enhanced by the combined offices of village constable, and night-watchman, the 'tipstaff' was supplemented or superseded by the short, but more widely mace-like wand, which served the double purpose of truncheon and wand.

The ancient wand, a short staff painted green and white, still exists at Ackworth, but is not used. In 1849 it was superseded by a longer one, painted black, with a gilt knob, below which is inscribed in gilt letters, the following words;-"V.R. 1st(time used), 1849, (crown), J. JONES, W. BEECROFT, CHURCHWARDENS". Although erected in the Churchwardens' pew, it is never used, two plain white wands being carried on special occasions, by the Churchwardens. Sometimes these wands are respectively surmounted by a crown and mitre, symbolising State and Church, as at Thornaby Church, Yorks."

From the Registers

Baptisms

- 13th Jan. Alex Haunch & Emma Grace Applebee
27th Jan. Henry Blake Coulter
10th Feb. Jack Charles Hampson & Charlie James Watkins
24th Feb. Elliott Jake Banks & Charlie Cairan Berry

Funerals

- 7th Jan. Richard Ambler (87) 14 Harwood Lane, Upton
17th Jan. William Henry Horbury (77) 23 Millgate Ackworth Moor Top
23rd Jan. John James Lincoln (86) 41 Orchard Drive, Ackworth Moor Top
29th Jan. Leonard Edgington (67) Eden Place, High Ackworth
31st Jan. Doris Wivell (78) 20 Chiltern Court, Ackworth Moor Top
11th Feb. Irene Mason (87) The Old Vicarage, North Featherstone
15th Feb. Joan Shorthouse (79) 29 Murton Ave, Hemsworth
29th Feb. Mary Akers (84) 65 Northgate Lodge, Pontefract

Mass Times for The Parish Of The Sacred Heart RC Father Anthony Fenton

- Our Lady of Lourdes, Ackworth, Sunday, 8:45am
Our Lady of Graces, Kinsley, Saturday, 6:00pm
Sacred Heart, Hemsworth, Sunday, 10:30am

ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday	10.30am	Worship
	6.30pm	Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	9.30—11.15am	Parents and Toddlers Group
Wednesday	9.30—11.15am	Parents and Toddlers Group

All services and meetings are held at the Ackworth Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane.

Sunday Services for April and May

Sunday Services

8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'
	(except last Sunday in month)	
3.30pm	Evensong with Healing Prayer	All Saints'
	(third Sunday in month)	
4.00pm	Open Door Service	All Saints'
	(last Sunday in month)	

Wednesday Service

9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
--------	----------------	-------------

Special Events and Services

- 1st May Ascension Day Holy Communion 7.30pm SC
- 20th May Healing Service 6.30pm AS Guest Speaker - Bishop of Pontefract Rt Rev'd Tony Robinson
- 22nd May Corpus Christi Holy Communion 7.30pm SC
- 5th April Lord Mayors Parade and Civic Service starting from the Quaker school at about 10.00am, the parade will process to St Cuthbert's for a service to begin at 10.30am
All are welcome!
- 11th May Pentecost Sunday at 3.30pm
a service of Rededication and
Thanksgiving for the
Restoration of St Cuthbert's
Service to be led by the
Bishop of Wakefield the Rt
Rev'd Stephen Platten.
Refreshments to be served
afterwards.
All are welcome.

