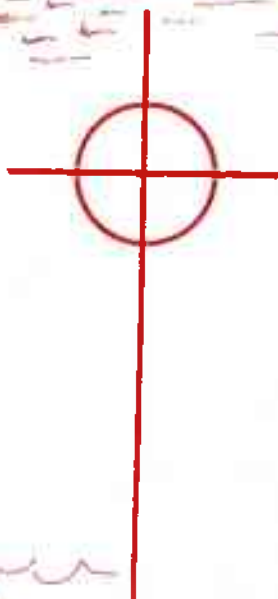




# ACKWORTH PARISH MAGAZINE



JANUARY 1990

20p or £2 per Year

ACKWORTH PARISH CHURCH  
ST CUTHBERT'S AND ALL SAINTS'

Rector: Rev. Peter Moorhouse, The Rectory, High Ackworth, 780880

Sunday Services

St Cuthbert's: 70 15 am The Parish Communion  
All Saints': 8 30 am Holy Communion (2nd Sunday, 1662 Prayer Book)  
2 30 pm Evensong (2nd Sunday, Holy Communion).

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Once again I have to report the sad loss of two church members.

FRANK NUNN

Mr Frank Nunn died on 11 November. He had been a faithful worshipper at the early morning service in Ackworth for many years. A quiet, gentle man Frank Nunn had been a police officer in West Yorkshire, and also in Nigeria, West Africa, where he was responsible for setting up a police training school in the Northern Province. He was awarded the Queen's Police Medal for his service as a policeman. We extend our sympathies to his wife Margaret and her family.

ALEX MCKEE

Mr Alex McKee died on 30 November, St Andrew's Day. He was fiercely proud of being a Scotsman, and it is entirely appropriate that he should have died on the feast of Scotland's patron saint. Alex McKee had led a full and interesting life. He too had spent time in Africa, firstly working in Nyasaland between the wars, and later in North Africa in the Second World War, as a major in the Black Watch. He had been a faithful church man both here and in Sheffield, though latterly he had been unable to attend church regularly. We extend our sympathies to his wife Lillian, and to her family.

Peter Moorhouse

# SEE



# LINK

NEWS FROM

WAKEFIELD DIOCESE

JANUARY 1990

## BISHOP DAVID WRITES

### Expectancy and Hope

We enter this New Year as events in Europe move faster than anyone had dared hope a year ago. We rejoice with those in Eastern Europe seeking greater openness, freedom and democracy. The prospects for peace and a scaling down of the confrontational attitudes between East and West are greater than at any time during this century. There is an atmosphere of expectation and hope; almost overnight, the whole pattern of Europe is in the process of change and there is a real expectation and hope for the future. The church is very much involved and needs the continuing support of our prayers in these momentous times.

### Conflict and Difference

"Wars and rumours of wars" now seem to be less prominent. We expect even more arms reductions. This leads me to reflect on the theme of conflict, and more particularly on the way we handle it in the church. The world has perhaps something to say to the church about how to manage its affairs. It is quite ironical as the world is seeking a more peaceful way forward, talk in the church should be so militaristic in its style — "Battle looms over women priests issue" — was one typical headline. And it sometimes seems as if the battle lines are drawn, the trenches dug, and all we can do is simply shout the odds at each other.

It is not only the women priests' debate. At a more local diocesan and parish level, disputes tend to break out all too easily over a wide range of matters from proposals to reorder a church and/or its worship, to who pours a cup of tea at the back of the church after the service! And it has to be said that the way we handle our disputes and differences leaves a great deal to be desired. Such disputes tend to bring out the very worst in us. They can so easily degenerate into stinging matches, where we dismiss and reject each other out of hand, and with no readiness on either side to engage with each other in a more positive and creative sharing of difference.

### Commitment to Charity

It may seem rather hackneyed, but one New Year resolution from the heart of the New Testament and which I commend to you is a COMMITMENT TO CHARITY. This doesn't mean the evasion of difference, nor the fudging of issues, nor the vague hope that issues over which there are strongly felt points of view will go away. It does mean a real determination on the part of us all to turn those potentially destructive and negative energies into a more thoroughgoing engagement with those who oppose us.

This means firstly a readiness for careful listening, giving space and time even to the one person who may not be in agreement. Points of view and people are often dismissed because they are not listened to. It will mean a good deal of patience and long suffering — those gifts of the Spirit which come so uneasily to us; a careful process of consultation and exchange with the real and deep humility and readiness to admit that I have got it wrong. It will mean a real determination to continue in our worship — in our Holy Communion together — with and in our differences. God will do what we cannot do — lead us into a deeper and richer community, a real unity in diversity. It will mean that whatever the dispute or difference, we may have in the end to agree to disagree, and then decide how this may be possible.

Underlying all this is the call and commitment to charity St Paul speaks of in I Corinthians, chapter 13, especially verses 4-7: "*Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice a wrong but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, endures all things*". My fervent hope is that at the beginning of the New Year, this will form a challenge to our Christian discipleship and belonging together in the church, and how we manage our differences.

▷ ▷ ▷ ▷

## A Prayer

Let me conclude with a prayer for us all as we enter this New Year and this new decade.

*"O Lord who has taught us that all our doings without charity are nothing worth: send thy Holy Ghost, and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the very bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee:  
grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake.  
Amen*

With my greetings and all good wishes for the peace and joy of the Lord in this New Year.

Yours sincerely,

## PEOPLE & PLACES

**The Rev Bryan Ellis**, Vicar of St Andrew's Wakefield and Rural Dean of Wakefield;

**The Rev John Flack**, Team Rector of Brighouse and Rural Dean of Brighouse and Elland;

**The Rev Stanley Hind**, Vicar of Womersley and Kirk Smeaton;

**The Rev Stuart Pearson**, Vicar of Woolley;

**The Rev Brian Wood**, Vicar of Drighlington and Rural Dean of Birstall;

will all be installed as Honorary Canons in Wakefield Cathedral, 28 January at 4 pm by Bishop David.

**The Rev Eric Ford**, Vicar of Hightown is to be P-in-C of St John the Baptist in the Wilderness, Cragg Vale.

**Mr Bill Jones**, formerly Community Relations Adviser to The Bishop (as featured in the May 1989 issue of See-Link) is now the Headmaster of Issenye Secondary School in our link Diocese of Mara.

**The Rev Alison Lowe**, Diocesan Adviser in Parish Education is to be Assistant Minister of Christ Church, Morningside, Edinburgh.

**The Rev Shaun Swales**, former A/c of St Matthew's Preston (Blackburn Diocese) is now A/c in The Penistone and Thurlestone Team Ministry.

At the Triennial Licensing of Readers (14 Oct), the speaker and preacher was the Bishop of Chester, and not as printed.

## WHAT'S ON

### January

5 **Yan Hadley** (Evangelist from Leicester) at St Catherine's Church, Belle Vue, Wakefield, 7.30.

20 **Solemn Eucharist** for The Servers' Guild (GSS) — St Paulinus Chapter, St Paul's Church, Eastthorpe, Mirfield, 3.00. All Altar servers are warmly invited — please bring your robes! Tel (0924) 497923.

### FOUR CHURCH PANTOMIMES:

26, 27, 31 (& Feb 2, 3) **"Little Red Riding Hood"** in St Mary's Church Hall, Mirfield. 7.15, £2 (children £1). Tel (0924) 495360.

31 (& Feb 2, 3, 7, 9, 10) St Barnabas' Amateurs present **"Humpty Dumpty"** in Crosland Moor, Huddersfield, Parish Hall. 7.15, £1.50 (children 70p). Tel Hudds 654111.

31 (& Feb 1 & 3) Elland Church DS present **"The Man in the Moon"** in Elland Parochial Hall. 7.15 (+ Sat 2.00), £1.50 (conc £1). Tel Elland (0422) 371745 or 373191. NB — these are the revised dates for this production.

### February

19-24 St Mark's Players present **"Tom the Piper's Son"** in St Mark's Sunday School, Longwood, Huddersfield. 7.15, £2 & £1. Tel (0484) 657787.

**Two Summer Schools** (sponsored by CORAT) suitable for both clergy and lay people. The School in **Rome (18-30 June)** has a limited number of bursaries available. The School in **Canterbury (12-24 July)** has facilities for day-students, £26 for a full lecture programme. For details write to: Summer Schools, 15 Dover Street, CANTERBURY CT1 3HD, Kent.



### LENT 1990

A series of parish-based study outlines on how Christians might individually, as groups, and as parishes, respond to God's love. The series has been specially prepared by Alison Lowe, Peter Stonier and Stan Evans for use in the Diocese. *Copies will be available early in January.*



### INSTITUTIONS

9 Jan **All Saints' Salterhebble** 7.30 +RP  
17 Jan **Shepley and Shelley** 7.30 +DW

## RECTOR'S NOTES

### REORDERING OF THE CHURCHES

The Parochial Church Council has drawn up plans for making effective use of our buildings. The plan includes selling the Mission Room, and using the proceeds of the sale to improve both churches, by providing toilets, meeting rooms, simple kitchen facilities, extra storage space, and an improved vestry at St Cuthbert's Church. It is my intention to preach about these proposals on Sunday 7 January at the Parish Communion, 10.15 am at St Cuthbert's Church, and at Evensong at All Saints' Church at 6.30 pm. In addition the PCC is to hold a meeting on Monday 29 January, in St Cuthbert's Church, when the plans will also be explained.

Part of the scheme for St Cuthbert's Church includes moving the organ to the back of the church in order to create extra floor space. In addition we are considering the possibility of purchasing an electronic organ especially designed for church use. At the meeting on Monday 29 January an electronic organ will be demonstrated by Makin Organs Ltd. of Oldham. This company specialises in producing high quality pipeless organs, and they have many installations throughout the country including Ripon Cathedral. Why not come along and hear the demonstration and see if you can tell the difference?

### THE POLL TAX, CHURCH FINANCES AND THE PARISH SHARE 1990

Our major item of expenditure is the Parish Share. This is our contribution to the running of the church nationally and in the Diocese. Last year our Share was £7,940. In 1990 our Share will be £9,945, which is an increase of almost exactly £2,000, or 25%. This is a big increase in our costs. There are two reasons for this large increase. Firstly because church attendances in the parish have gone up, for which we should be thankful. The second reason is to do with the Poll Tax. Until now clergy have lived in their houses rate free. This has always been taken into account in setting their pay or stipend. From April rates are abolished and clergy and their families will have to pay the Poll Tax. The Church Commissioners have decided to give clergy a once for all increase in stipend to compensate for the loss of rate relief. Some of the costs of this increase will be paid from the Share.

As domestic rates are abolished the parish will save about £500. However, since our Share will go up by £2,000 we have to find an extra £1,500, or £30 a week in order simply to stay where we are. This sounds like an enormous sum of money. What can we do about it?

1 The obvious solution is to increase our giving. Even a quite small increase by everyone would solve the problem. We have about 100 people giving through envelopes. An average increase of 30-40p a week by everyone would cover our increased costs. Some may be able to give more. If you have not increased your giving in the last year please consider doing so now. The average cost of the Parish Share is £1.48 per week per adult member.

2 If you are not in the envelope scheme please join now. Envelopes may be taken out at any time. They are the most effective way of supporting the church. For envelopes ring Ada Pritchard on Hemsworth 611086.



3 If you pay tax covenant your giving. For covenants ring John Gardham on Pontefract 794500.

4 Above all I ask you to pray about this matter, as you consider your financial commitment to the church.

### NEW ELECTORAL ROLL

1990 is an important year in the life of the Church of England. Under the terms of the Church Representation Rules each parish must make a completely new electoral roll every six years. The last roll was made in 1984, and a new one must be made in 1990. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PRESENT ROLL MUST REAPPLY IF THEY WISH TO HAVE THEIR NAMES PUT ON THE NEW ROLL. Details of the procedure will be announced in church nearer the time of revision. The electoral roll is the official list of church members. To qualify a person must be baptised, 16 years of age or over, resident in the parish, or have regularly attended worship in the church for six months.

Happy New Year.

*Peter Mordant.*



### CAN YOU HELP?

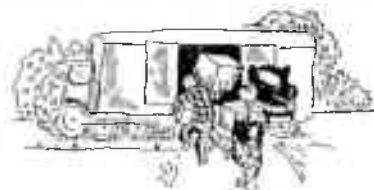
All four churches in Ackworth, Anglican, Methodist, Roman Catholic and Quaker, are concerned in trying to meet the needs of the community, whatever those needs are. Its members visit the sick, the elderly and the housebound. They give practical help putting up shelves, running errands, filling in difficult forms etc. They look for and deliver unwanted items of furniture to families in need.



To make that help more effective, a group consisting of representatives of the four churches met to "pool resources". It was felt that there are many talented people in our congregations, who may be willing to help with a "one-off" job, should the need arise. There may be others in the churches willing to consider a regular commitment, such as joining the Anglican church visiting group, most of whom spend an hour each week with a housebound person in the village.

In future editions of the magazine requests for specific help will be included as they arise. Please consider if it is a job you could do. We are told in the Bible that "each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others".

NB Could anyone lend a small trailer to transport items of furniture? If so, please contact Doreen Belk.



FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

"We welcome you into the Lord's family

- November 26 Andrew James Roberts, 51 Millgate  
" 26 John Andrew Ward, 1 Orchard View  
" 26 Maxine Alexandra Carmen Taylor,  
91 Pontefract Road



FUNERALS

"In sure hope of the Resurrection"

- November 17 Frank Nunn, 98 Station Road, 75 years  
" 21 Doreen Wilson, 'Coldene', Hemsworth Road, 56 years  
December 6 Alexander Graham, McKee, 8 Hill Drive, 85 years  
" 8 Audrey Hames, 42 Chapel Garth, 62 years



THE MOTHERS' UNION

- January 3 9 15 am Corporate Communion at All Saints' Church  
" 25 2 30 pm Service and meeting at the home of Mrs Forster,  
26 Chiltern Drive

Social Concern News - During last Summer Mothers' Union in the Diocese provided eleven needy families with a holiday, this involved eighteen adults and thirty five children.

Kitty Cooper



PCC NOTES - 4 DECEMBER

- 1 The Treasurer reported on the accounts at the year end. The Parish Share is to increase by £2,000 or 25% in 1990. There was some discussion as to how this increase could be met.
- 2 It was agreed to make the following donations to charity:  
United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel £150, Leprosy Mission £50, Church Army £50, Bible Society £50, Bishop's Centenary Fund £100, Ackworth Senior Citizens Fund £50, Brackenhill Youth Group £25, the Christmas Eve Carol Service collection to be donated to the Five Towns Hospice Fund, PCC to guarantee £100, a special donation of £100 to the Stewardship Mission in Guyana, South America, to be led by Mr Peter Davies.
- 3 The Rector is to preach about the proposed changes to the churches on Sunday 7 January, and a meeting is to be held about the proposals on Monday 29 January.
- 4 A report was given on the Howard School Governor's Meeting.
- 5 There was discussion on the possibility of lay people administering the chalice at St Guthbert's Church.

## MARRIAGES ARE MADE IN HEAVEN?

The divorce rate shows that even if marriages are made in heaven they are often destroyed on earth. The fact is that we all have a picture in our minds of an ideal marriage and reality falls far short of that. Every marriage has its problems because we are "only human".

marriages may  
be made in  
HEAVEN.



... but you have to  
do your own  
maintenance

Some marriages seem doomed before they start, for example marriage because a baby is on the way but there is no underlying firm relationship, marriage for convenient to escape from an intolerable home or work situation; if the couple has married "in haste", possibly on the rebound from a previous relationship, and without allowing time to get to know each other.

Sometimes couples will marry who are totally unsuited to each other. Such marriages can and do survive and flourish but they often break down in the very early stages when the couple realise they have nothing in common or are unable to face the responsibilities of married life. In a survey of couples going through a divorce, one third had problems in the first year of marriage and over seventy percent by the end of the fifth year.

Breakdown may come after a few years because the couple are not growing together in their marriage and are allowing the problems they encounter to drive a wedge between them rather than binding them together. They may be unwilling or unable to understand and meet their partner's emotional needs. Some couples in this situation stay together until their children leave home then split up in later life. There is an increasing number of divorced people re-marrying, unless insight has been gained into the reason for the failure of the first marriage, the pattern may be repeated and a high proportion of second marriages do in fact break down.

## CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

Our Christian faith can influence and strengthen our marriages in several ways:

- 1 If we are seeking God's guidance for our life we can expect Him to influence our choice of partner.
- 2 The closer we come to God, the more we realise how perfect He is and how imperfect we are. So in our marriage we will realise our own shortcomings and not expect perfection in our partner.
- 3 The spirit of forgiveness shown us time and time again in our Christian lives, and the fruits of the Spirit which we share often, are just those quantities most needed in marriage.
- 4 We are not alone but part of an eternal triangle. As a couple we can turn to God for help, guidance, provision of our needs and when the going gets tough, for attribution.



## HEAR TO BE HEARD

### Wakefield Diocesan Young Adults' Conference (16-25 age group) - Huddersfield Polytechnic 6-8 April 1990

A major event in the life of the Diocese in 1990! Following the success of the Lancaster Centenary Consultation, the aim of the Conference is to present a chance for young Christians to have a **real say** about how they see the Church in the 1990's.

Being residential, it will be a golden opportunity for young people of the Diocese to meet and share, and to encourage each other as they grow in Faith. As well as discussion, debate and worship, there will be live music, live theatre, and various other recreational facilities available.

Prior to the event, delegates will be invited to attend a planning day at one of the following centres so they themselves may be able to determine in large part, the Conference Agenda:

Huddersfield, St John's Parish Hall	6 Jan
Hailfax, the Parish Church Hall	27 Jan
Wakefield, The Treacy Hall (Cathedral)	3 Feb

In order to be properly representative of the Diocese, the hope is that **each parish** will be able to send a delegate. Should this not prove possible, additional places will be offered to parishes by Deanery allocation. As was the case at Lancaster, the cost of the Conference will be subsidised by the Diocese, with participating parishes making a contribution (£5 minimum).

Application for places should be made through Parish Priests. Further details are available from: The Rev David King, Education Dept, Church House, 1 South Parade, WAKEFIELD WF1 1LP, Yorkshire.

Geoff Banks

## Mission studies supported by USPG

USPG is supporting research and teaching programmes important for the future growth of the church.

Scholars in Oxford and Birmingham are working on topics which will deepen understanding of how the gospel relates to different cultures, not only to avoid past mistakes but also to open up new opportunities in mission.

From South Africa Dr Janet Hodgson is doing comparative studies of how Christianity is expressed in different places within the Anglican communion. Her research into informal movements among black Anglicans in South Africa is being

## MUSICAL MATTERS

### January

- 2 **Organ Recital** by Dr Gillian Weir on the newly-restored 5-manual organ in Wakefield Cathedral, 6.30. £3 at the door.
- 12 **Musical Evening** in the Walker Welfare Centre, Thornhill, Dewsbury, sponsored by Thornhill PC AIDE Group, 7.30, 50p, refreshments.
- 26 **Elland & District Music Society Concert**, Eiland Parochial Hall, 7.30. Jane Evans (Oboe/Cor Anglais) and Julian Rolton (Piano).

**Organist & Choirmaster required** for St Andrew's Church, Purlwell, Batley. Parish Communion (10.45) each Sunday. Ring Dewsbury 464635 or Roberttown 403288.

**Choir robes** need a good home. 30 surplices & blue cassocks, assorted sizes (men's and boys) in reasonable to good condition. Proceeds to the Bishop's Centenary Fund. Offers to Mr D Angell, Hudds 538770.

Applications for **Bishop's Chorister Award & Courses** to be made to: Canon David Baxter, 4 Cathedral Close, Margaret Street, WAKEFIELD WF1 2DQ, Yorkshire. Tel Wk (0924) 361922.

Applications for the **Diocesan Organ Tuition Scheme** to be made to: Miss Julie Crosby, 33 Ingle Avenue, Morley, LEEDS LS27 9NP, Yorkshire. Tel Leeds (0532) 523631.

## RETREATS, CONFERENCES

### Scargill House

Tel (075676) 234 or 315

Feb 14-16	Evangelism in the local Church,	£30
Feb 23-25	Priorities for a living Church,	£30

compared with studies of folk Anglicanism among North American Indians, and how black people worship in the Church of England. Dr Hodgson is a Research Fellow in the Department of Mission at the Birmingham-based Selly Oak Colleges and she is living in the USPG's College of the Ascension.

Bishop Patrick Kalilombe from Malawi is also at the Selly Oak Colleges. As lecturer in Third World theology he is a resource for missionaries in training there and for the church at large. USPG, together with other mission agencies, is funding his post.

## VIDEO CORNER

The Diocesan Communications Group are looking for people in the Diocese with skills in video work, with or without equipment. If you are interested, please contact Canon David Baxter, 4 The Cathedral Close, Margaret Street, WAKEFIELD WF1 2DQ, Yorkshire. Tel Wk 361922. A meeting of interested people is to take place very soon.

"Person to Person" — a specifically designed video to help ordinary Christians share their Faith confidently, clearly and naturally. This particular evangelism course — sponsored partly by the British & Foreign Bible Society, the Scripture Union and others. A demonstration is available on loan (free) from: Person to Person, PO Box 240, SWINDON SN5 7HA, Wiltshire.

**Christian Video Rentals**, in Wakefield. Wide range of Christian videos for Churches, housegroups & individuals available for hire (on a non-profit-making basis). Call, write or phone for full descriptive lists: John Lindley, 70 George St, Wakefield. Tel. 372567.

## MARKET PLACE

**Yorkshire Historic Churches Trust** (launched last May) now has a small amount of money available for grants. Closing date for applications — 31 March 1990. Please write (after 14 Jan) to: Dr David Smith, Secretary — YHCT, Crowham House, Market Place, MASHAM HG4 4EA, Yorkshire.

**Palm Crosses for 1990** (£25 per 100) available from: The Rev J Knight, Emmanuel Shared Church, Weston Favell Centre, NORTHAMPTON NN3 4JR, Northants. Purchases last year resulted in £14,500 being sent to the Church in Zululand. Cheques/PO's payable to "Emmanuel Church Palm Cross Account".

**Age Concern England** would like to contact anyone who has attained 100 years of age. Please write (free) to: Age Concern Dept CE1, FREEPOST, MITCHAM CR4 9AS, Surrey.

**Mothering Sunday Cards** for Churches. £7 for 100 assorted. P&P free in the UK. Write to: Mr J.P. Creed, PO Box 432, Headington, OXFORD OX3 9BW. Cheques/PO's payable to Mr J.P. Creed.

**SEE-LINK EDITOR** — The Rev Hugh N Lawrance, Christ Church Vicarage, Stainland Road, Barkisland, HALIFAX HX4 0AR, Yorkshire. Tel Hx 822339. Copy for February **IN WRITING PLEASE**, by 5th January. Copy for March by 5th February.

**NEXT CHANGE-OF-ORDER DATE** — 1st April. Please write to the Editor by 5th March with details of required changes.

**SEE-LINK PRINTERS** — John Lindley, Son & Co Ltd, for The Wakefield Diocesan Board of Finance, 1 South Parade, Wakefield, Yorkshire. January 1990 circulation — 43,351.

## BOOKS

**God in our midst** — Martin Reith  
SPCK, 96pp, £2.75

A book of prayers and devotions from the Celtic tradition. This is a reissue of an anthology of over 100 prayers, traditional and modern, reflecting the current growth of interest in Celtic Christianity, with its intensely human and spiritual dimension.

"Deliver us, O Lord, from evil.

O Lord Jesu Christ, keep us always in every good work.

O God, the fountain and author of all good things,

empty us of vices,

and fill us with good virtues;

through thee, Christ Jesus."

*(Book of Deer, 9th Century)*

**BEGUINE SPIRITUALITY** — Fiona Bowie  
(Ed) — SPCK £4.95

A powerful and evocative anthology introducing the work of 3 medieval women who wrote of God's love with a passion and directness which has never been surpassed: **Mechthild of Magdeburg, Hadewijch of Brabant and Beatrice of Nazareth.**

Fiona Bowie tells the unhappy story of the beguines, the pioneering communities of women with which these three were all connected, and places their lives and work in their social and religious context.

**CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY.** CAP was formed seven years ago as an ecumenical response to poverty in Britain. The Declaration "Hearing the Cry of the Poor" was launched nationally at the beginning of last December. If you wish to know more please contact the National Co-ordinator, Paul Goggins, Central Buildings, Oldham Street, Manchester M1 1JT. Tel 061-236 9321.

**New Private Nursery** opening in part of Halifax Parish Church Lower Hall. Mon to Fri, 7am-6pm. Full and part-time places available, for ages 2-5. Tel Hx 240112.

## WHERE DO WE TURN FOR HELP?

For hundreds of years couples have turned to relatives and friends for help. Help must be sought as a couple so one partner is not seen to be "ganging up" with their family against their partners. Small problems and many larger ones have been sorted out in this way.



The couple's G.P. may be able to help or to point them to where more specialised help is available. Local family planning clinics will see couples at short notice and may have access to a sexual counsellor if this is necessary. RELATE (formerly the Marriage Guidance Council) has offices in Wakefield and appointments can be made by 'phone. All these people or organisations mentioned will see either one or both partners.

In the days when attendance at Church was higher than it is now, many people turned to the Rector or Vicar for help. There is an increasing awareness in the Church that we are part of a community are we are here not only to worship God but to care for those around us. To this end we are planning to set up a marriage preparation course. At least fifty percent of couples get married in Church, the majority of them in the Church of England. The aim of the course is to enable couples to consider marriage means for them, at a time when the meaning of marriage is often lost in the preparations for it.

Marriage takes all our love, patience and understanding over many years. It is hard work and many hurts are inflicted along the way, in the process of growing together and really understanding and appreciating one another. This is summed up well in the children's book "The Velveteen Rabbit" in a conversation between two nursery animals:-

"What is REAL?" asked the Rabbit one day.

"Does it mean having things that buzz inside you and a stick-out handle?"

"Real isn't how you are made", said the Skin Horse.

"It's a thing that happens to you. When a child loves you for a long, long time, not just to play with, but REALLY loves you, then you become Real."

"Does it hurt?" asked the Rabbit.

"Sometime", said the Skin Horse, for he was always truthful.

"When you are Real you don't mind being hurt"

"Does it happen all at once, like being wound up," he asked,

"or bit by bit?"

"It doesn't happen all at once", said the Skin Horse. "You become.

It takes a long time. That's why it doesn't often happen to people who break easily, or have sharp edges, or have to be carefully kept.

Generally, by the time you are Real, most of your hair has been loved off, and your eyes drop out and you get loose in the joints and very shabby. But these things don't matter at all, because once you are Real you can't be ugly, except to people who don't understand."

"I suppose you are Real?" said the Rabbit.

"The Boy's Uncle made me Real", smiled the Skin Horse. "That was a great many years ago; but once you are Real you can't become unreal again. It lasts for always."



# January



2nd Tues 9 15 am Holy Communion (SC)  
 3rd Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (AS)

## 7th EPIPHANY 1

Readings: Eph 2.1-10 (Mr R Firth); John  
 John 1.29-34 ASB 463

9th Tues 9 15 am Holy Communion (SC)  
 2 00 pm Service for Mothers and Toddlers  
 (AS)

10th Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (AS)

## 14th EPIPHANY 2

Readings: Gal 1.11-end (Mr S McDougall);  
 John 1.35-end ASB 467

16th Tues 9 15 am Holy Communion (SC)  
 17th Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (AS)  
 7 45 pm Parish Women's Group,  
 AGM at the Rectory

## 21st EPIPHANY 3

Readings: Phil 4.10-20 (Mrs M Moorhouse); John 6.1-14 ASB 471  
 6 30 pm Ackworth Fellowship of Churches United Service  
 Ackworth School  
 NB NO EVENSONG AT ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

23rd Tues 9 15 am Holy Communion (SC)  
 2 00 pm Service for Mothers and Toddlers (AS)

## 24th Wed THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL

9 15 am Holy Communion (AS)  
 25th Thurs 2 30 pm Mothers' Union, 26 Chiltern Drive

## 28th EPIPHANY 4

Readings: Heb 12.18-end (Mrs M Ward); John 4.19-26 ASB 476

29th Mon 7 30 pm Meeting on re-ordering churches, St Guthbert's Church

30th Tues 9 15 am Holy Communion (SC)

## 31st Wed THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

9 15 am Holy Communion (AS)

# February

## 4th EPIPHANY 5

Readings: 1 Cor 3.18-end (Mr D Cook); Matt 12.38-42 ASB 480

## FLOWER ROTAS

### St Guthbert's Church

January 7 Mrs Kidson  
 " 14 "  
 " 21 Mrs Reast  
 " 28 Mrs McWilliam



### All Saints' Church

January 7 "  
 14 Mrs Turton  
 21 Vacant  
 28 Mrs Cooper

## BRASS CLEANING ROTA

Dr and Mrs P McWilliam



Copy for the February magazine should be handed to the Rector by  
 Sunday 7 January.