



Ackworth Parish Magazine

Rector's Notes

Moving on

By the time you read these notes most of you will have heard that I am shortly to leave Ackworth. My last Sunday will be Easter Day, 7 April. On Monday 15 April I shall take up a new appointment as Deputy Chaplain at Leeds Prison, known to locals as Armley Gaol.

Prison Ministry

There are two full time Anglican Chaplains at Leeds, one full time Roman Catholic Chaplain, and many part time chaplains including Methodist, Baptist, Salvation Army and also a number of lay assistants. In addition there are representatives of other faiths including Buddhist, Muslim and Hindus. The Christian Chaplains try to work as a team, and also hold meetings with those of other faiths. The church's ministry in prisons is to all, both staff and prisoners. The church has a long history of work in prisons and in the last century the governor

of a prison was often ordained and acted as chaplain.

Prison ministry is based on the Gospels, and Christ's own concern for the outcast and sinner. He caused dispute by keeping the company of tax gatherers and sinners. When challenged he replied, 'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I did not come to call the virtuous, but sinners.'

In this month's issue.....

Fred Davies on the interregnum
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'Our Page' - for children
The Brownies need YOU



The thing in the font had claimed another victim . . .

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Rector's Notes

The churches are not working in prisons because they are trying to excuse crime, nor are the churches denying the very real suffering which offenders bring on innocent people. Not all prisoners are two headed monsters. Many are ordinary people who have made mistakes. Many deeply regret what they have done and wish to make a new start in life, if society will let them.

I hope that working in prison will provide me with an opportunity to develop my growing interest in counselling. I will leave Ackworth with mixed feelings - looking forward to the future, but with regret at leaving so many friends. Fred Davies writes elsewhere in the magazine about arrangements for the parish when I leave.

Award to Mrs Emmie Upright

For many years Mrs Upright has been the parish secretary for Missions to Seamen. During that time she has held many coffee mornings and organised the distribution and collection of boxes for the Mission. In recognition of her work the Missions to Seamen wish to present Mrs Upright with a presentation scroll. The presentation will be made by the area secretary, the Revd Richard Mulkern at the Parish Communion at St Cuthbert's Church on Sunday 10 March. Richard will preach about the work of Missions to Seamen and I hope many will come to hear him and to give support to Mrs Upright.

March Family Service

In March we are to hold our Family Service on the third Sunday of the month and not on the second Sunday. This is because some

of the Guides and Brownies will be away that weekend, and also because Mothering Sunday this year falls on Sunday 17 March.

Parish Weekend

I'm very pleased to report that the Parish Weekend is now fully booked. Over 100 members of the parish will be attending from the evening of Friday 22 March to Sunday afternoon, 24 March.. Although many people will be away, Sunday morning services will be held as usual at both All Saints and St Cuthbert's Church. Please note that Evensong will be cancelled on the Sunday evening. Instead there will be a United Evening Service at the Community Church, Bell Lane, 6 pm, organised by Churches Together in Ackworth.

Gwennie Hall

Older church members will still remember Miss Gwennie Hall who died recently. She was the sister of Gilbert Hall who for many years was organist at All Saints' Church. For almost forty years Gwennie travelled from Castleford to Ackworth to attend church. Our prayers and sympathies go to Jean McDonald, Gwennie's neice, and her family on their sad loss.

Magazine Copy

In future material for the magazine should be given to Linda Steer, David Newman or Maureen Richardson.

Peter Monahan

Fred Davies, churchwarden writes about the approaching interregnum

Many in the parish were saddened and surprised by the Rector's announcement on the 4th February that he would be preaching his last sermon at Ackworth on Easter Sunday.

During the weeks that remain, there will be time to evaluate the remarkable changes that have taken place during the last ten years of Peter's ministry here, but for the present the following comments must suffice.

Some members of the congregation are aware that for historical reasons the right of presentation to the Benefice is vested in the Duchy of Lancaster. During the interregnum period my fellow church warden, Bill Branston, and I will be in constant touch with the appropriate authorities with a view to appointing a fresh incumbent - that process has already begun.



An interregnum is usually a period of months rather than weeks and it is unfortunately the case that a worshipping congregation can decline during this time. As the Archdeacon of Pontefract pointed out in his mission visit to the parish last summer, Ackworth is one of the small number of parishes in the Diocese where there has been considerable growth in recent years. With 44 lay outlets of ministry we should be able to maintain the life and worship of the church in Ackworth in what we hope will be a smooth and short interregnum.

Mothers' Union Open Meeting

Thursday 28 March

2.30 pm St. Cuthbert's Vestry

Una Parker will talk about her visit to the Beijing Women's Conference, China, organised by the United Nations.

Prince of Wales Hospice Fund

Easter Coffee Morning

Saturday 23 March 10 am - 12 noon

Low Ackworth Community Centre

Tickets 50p including coffee and biscuits

Please support and bring your friends

Profile of Joyce Waites



I don't know about you but I'd always thought of Joyce Waites as an Ackworthian, born and bred. Perhaps that's because she is married to Des who belongs to an old Ackworth family. Joyce says she is still regarded as an outsider by many people. She was born in Wakefield and spent most of her early life in Featherstone. One day, when Joyce was about fifteen years old, she came home from school and announced to her mother that she wanted to go to church. Joyce's mother told her she'd better go and talk to the vicar who was well known for his conversations in the village street. Without delay Joyce went to the vicarage and was invited in by the vicar's wife for tea and buns. After that Joyce became a regular attender at St. Thomas's, Purston and had her first taste of teaching at Sunday School.

Joyce left school at sixteen. She didn't want to go to college and she thought it would be more helpful if she earned some money. She worked as an insurance clerk in Leeds and travelled every day by bus, leaving at 6.30 am in the morning. It was on the South Elmsall to Leeds bus that she met Des Waites. One extremely foggy morning the bus stopped in Hunslet and

everyone was told to get off. Joyce found herself accompanying Des into Leeds on foot. After that Joyce started coming to Ackworth regularly see Des who played in a band at the church Youth Club. They were married in 1966 and moved to Agbrigg.

Work was sought nearer to home and Joyce took a job as a statistician (!) - Joyce's exclamation marks - in the Public Health department at County Hall. She did this for a year and then went to work as an unqualified teacher at Fitzwilliam. Again, she went back to insurance until the birth of Jonathon in 1970 and Matthew in 1972. In 1975 Des passed exams in insurance and loss-adjusting and Joyce decided to go to college to become a qualified teacher. This she did, at Bretton Hall Annexe. It was a part-time course lasting four years and combined with running a home and looking after two lively boys Joyce found it a full-time job. In addition, the Waites family moved to Ackworth in 1978.

Qualifying in 1979, Joyce began working in Hemsworth, first at Southmoor Road and then at Archbishop Holgate's First school. Joyce is delighted to have been offered a post at the Howard school as a result of the recent reorganisation of schools. She will start work there in September as a teacher of Key Stage One.

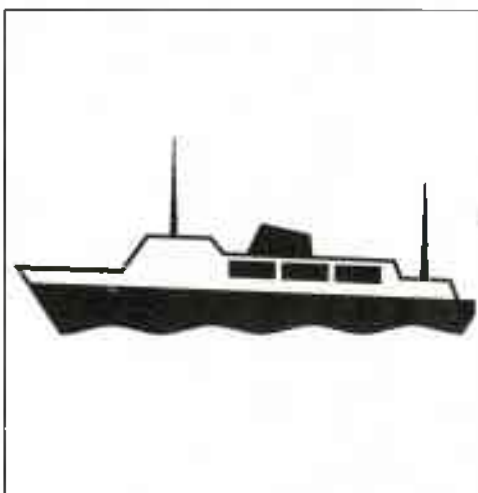
You probably think, as I did, that there can't be much time left in such a busy life for play, but again, you'd be wrong. Joyce has been a very active member of St. Cuthbert's church for many years. She has served on the PCC, the Deanery Synod and has helped run Christian Basics courses. She also administers the chalice

Profile of Joyce Waites

during the Eucharist and is coordinator of the Baptism Visitors Group.

Joyce and Des regularly go boating. They have a 30 foot motor cruiser, Sea Maiden, which at the moment Des is planning to sail down the east coast to moor on the Thames. Joyce is not going with him on this journey. Des fears that if it's a bad voyage Joyce might be put off boating for good and he doesn't want to risk that! Joyce also likes knitting complicated Fairisle jumpers - mainly worn aboard ship or should I say boat. At home much time is spent in the garden weeding, 'a lot of it!' - Joyce's words!

Linda Steer



1ST ACKWORTH BROWNIES

'MATURE' BROWNIE WANTED!!!!

We would like an adult, who was at one time a Brownie, to visit our Pack to talk about life as a Brownie in their day.

If you can help please contact Sue Malyan (615575) or Maureen Richardson (612859)

ETCETERA...

Children have an uncanny way of reducing the inexplicable to their own terms. A child explaining how God creates people: 'He draws us first, then cuts us out.'

**JAMES SIMPSON,
HOLY WIT**



'I envy you, Vicar - I suppose you go home now and put your feet up until next Sunday?'

Where is it?

Q. Where does Jesus give His mother away?

A. John 19:27



This act takes place at The Cross. It is the point in the crucifixion story where Jesus tells His mother that John is her son, and He then tells John that she is his mother. In this sense, Jesus is giving His mother away.

John's Gospel just happens to be my favourite Gospel. No doubt we all have our favourite. I have come to the conclusion that this is my favourite because it takes me out of this world, and gives me a glimpse of the next. I have a weakness for films and books which take me out of this world.

John's Gospel is obviously different from the other three gospels. It has far more theology in it than the others. Some people believe that it has so much theology in it, that it must have been written a long time after Jesus' death, perhaps even more than a hundred years. If this is the case, then it must be the least reliable of the four gospels.

As part of my studies I chose to write an essay on this Gospel. I found myself in favour of a much earlier date for the writing of the gospel, and found it to be just as accurate as the other three. If you read it thoroughly, and count the number of years that pass as the story unfolds, you will count three. This is the number of years between the start of Jesus' ministry and His death. Therefore it is probably just as reliable as any other Gospel.

Another interesting thing about John's gospel is that it is made up of four different strands. A lot of the gospel is given to the retelling of Jesus' life and ministry, this is the story in the gospel. Next to that you will see that there is a lot of teaching as well. Alongside these are passages which contain theological comment and commentary. Lastly, in the midst of all this, there are explanatory comments, which explain why something was happening.

These four strands are very cleverly and closely interwoven into an exciting Gospel. It is sometimes very difficult to determine where one of these strands ends, and another begins, but with practice it becomes easier.

John's Gospel presents Jesus in a fully glorified way. That is as God. It is worth reading well.

"Who did Jesus walk with, on the way to Emmaus?"

Paul Fox



Bishop Nigel writes:

In preparation for my visit to a school the vicar had been telling the children what a bishop does. *So what did he say about me?* I asked one class. Quick as a flash came the reply: *You're in the newspapers, and on radio and television, too much!*



Since 1993, at the request of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, I have been chairing the Church of England's Communications Unit. One of its key jobs is responding to the enquiries of journalists and broadcasters. So, among the bishops, I am the one who is chiefly responsible for speaking to the media. It is a five year post, and I shall hand over to someone else in 1998.

Hardly a week goes by without a request for a comment, on behalf of the Church, on some current issue — for the *Today* programme, *Newsnight*, BBC and ITV news, or, increasingly, one of the world satellite channels. Recently Canon Roy Clernents, my Chaplain,

counted more than 50 different radio and television stations ringing into Bishop's Lodge in just one week!



I refuse almost all these requests — either because I can pass them on to someone else more knowledgeable in that particular subject; or because I do not feel it appropriate for the Church to make a comment. Never do I make the first move (except once doing a phone-in on Radio Leeds!).

I had no idea, until I did this job, how frequently the media turn especially to the Church of England for guidance advice and opinion. Each day I receive, by fax, copies of every item to do with religion which has appeared in that day's press. Often there are several

pages. Indeed, the total amount of air time and column inches given to religious, and especially Anglican, matters has increased astonishingly.

Entering into the media world has proved to me how wrong people are when they say that the Church of England now occupies only a marginal position in our society. What is undeniably clear is that our Church and its message are news. It is, therefore, up to all of us to do our best to make sure that news is good.

That may mean sometimes saying things which people do not want to hear. Our Church is often at its best, and most biblical, when it is saying uncomfortable things. Then, being interviewed, on air, or by the press, can be a battle of wits

— requiring from us strong spiritual resources.

In this Diocese we are blessed with radio and television stations and local newspapers which are usually friendly to the Church — and willing to give space to good news. It is my view that we do not make sufficient or imaginative enough use of these free facilities available to us. Here are means of entering almost every home.

So, please make sure that good news from your local church — the way it worships and how it serves the community — is regularly given to your local media. We are not in the newspapers, and on radio and television, enough.

+ Nigel Wakefield

Wakefield Community Furniture Service



The Community Furniture Service is a Wakefield-based charity run by volunteers. They collect unwanted furniture and electrical goods and re-distribute

them to people in need throughout Wakefield and surrounding districts. They are part funded by Wakefield MDC Social Services Department.

They are currently recruiting volunteers to help continue and expand their service with a particular eye to people who might be able to drive the van for them. They are also looking for people who might help in the office on the administrative side and people with some electrical background but not necessarily combined in one person!

For more details without obligation please contact Canon George Nairn-Briggs at Church House, 01924 371802.

Free Copies of St John's Gospel

Thousands of copies of Saint John's Gospel from Britain's most talked about Bible—the new Contemporary English Version—are to be made available nationwide as part of a huge evangelistic outreach by the country's Christian Bookshops.



With specially made dispensers for the Gospels outside their shop, supported by poster and window displays, the bookshops are providing people with a *no strings attached* opportunity to find out more about the Bible.

Behind the project are Bible Society, SGM International, Wesley Owen Books & Music and the Christian Enquiry Agency who are to make available 100,000 Gospels through Wesley Owen and other independent bookshops from 11 March.

The Bible Society will also be distributing the Gospels, at cost price in packs of 50—enabling churches to use them in their own mission, and join in evangelism.

The use of the Contemporary

English Version for this project is also an opportunity for people to make up their own minds about the modern language and phrases used in the new translation which made the national headlines recently.

The translation has been prepared to meet the needs of the many people who *hear* the Bible rather than read it for themselves. And, while remaining entirely faithful to the original Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic languages of the Bible, the CEV is written in such a way that people of all ages and abilities can grasp its meaning and relevance.

The CEV translation/paraphrase of Saint John's Gospel begins:

"In the beginning was the one who is called the Word. The Word was with God and was truly God. From the very beginning the Word was with God. And with this Word, God created all things. Nothing was made without the Word. Everything that was created received its life from him, and his life gave light to everyone. The light keeps shining in the dark, and darkness has never put it out."

The Bible with Anglised text is due for publication early next year, and is another development in Bible Society's work to enable people to relate to the Scripture in today's culture.

People and Places

The Revd **E Jane Clay**, at present Assistant Priest at Lupset St George, is to be part-time Chaplain at New Hall Prison and Young Offenders Unit, Flockton, Wakefield. The licensing will take place at New Hall Prison on March 26 at 630pm.

The Revd **Susan M Rose**, will be instituted and inducted as the Vicar of Normanton on Wednesday 22 May at 730pm.

The Revd **Terence L Swinhoe** will be inducted and instituted as Vicar of St Matthew's Rastrick on Thursday 20 June at 730pm.

The Revd **Anthony MacPherson**, Priest-in-Charge of St Michael's, Westgate Common, Wakefield, has now been inducted and instituted as Vicar of that parish.

The Revd **Jesse van der Valk**, formerly Vicar of the United Benefice of Hartshead and Hightown, has become Vicar of St Mary Magdalene and St Michael and All Angels Woolwich in the Diocese of Southwark. The induction and institution took place on 24 February.

The Revd **Trevor Hicks**, at present Rector of All Saints' Castleford, is to be Priest-in-Charge of Womersley with Kirk Smeaton, and Industrial and Economic Adviser to the Bishop of Wakefield. He will continue as Rural Dean of Pontefract. The licensing will be on Saturday 11 May,

The Revd **Peter Moorhouse**, at present Rector of Ackworth, is to be full-time Assistant Chaplain at HM Prison, Leeds. He takes up the appointment on 15 April.

The Revd **Simon Moor**, at present curate of Skegness and Winthorpe in the Diocese of Lincoln, is to be assistant curate of Holy Cross Airedale. The licensing will take place on Monday 22 July at 730pm.

The former Provost of Wakefield, **John Lister**, has recently celebrated his 80th birthday. Bishop Nigel sent flowers on behalf of the Diocese. John Lister replied that it has been a tremendous occasion with thankfulness for his 39 years in the Diocese of Wakefield.

The Missionary Diocese of Wakefield

wishes to appoint a priest [male or female] to the joint post of Family Life and Marriage Education Officer and priest-in-charge of the parish of Flockton.

The FLAME officer shares the job with a lay colleague already in post. Flockton is a village of 1500 people between Wakefield and Huddersfield.

Application forms and job descriptions obtainable from Mrs Norma Edwards, Church House, South Parade, Wakefield, WF1 1LP. 01924 371802. Closing date for applications 11 March 1996.



A Cry From the Heart

Please would whoever borrowed my copy of the Turnbull Report and *The Empty Raincoat* by Charles Handy, please let me have them back as I do need to refer to both of them quite soon?

Canon George Nairn-Briggs

Mothers Union Open Day

June 29th, 12 noon to 4 pm at Bishop's Lodge, Woodthorpe Lane, Wakefield.

MORE THAN MOTHERS — an afternoon of Exploring, Explaining and Enlivening. For all Christians of all ages, Lay and Ordained. A chance to find out the truth about the MU! Displays, Competitions, Disability Awareness, Bouncy Castle, *Prison Creche*, University Musicians, Sausage Sizzle, Worship and much more. Look out for full details in SeeLink, the diocesan newspaper and your churches soon.

Launch Out !

Canon Robert Warren—the Church of England's Officer for Evangelism—will be urging Christians in our Diocese to shake off the shackles of tradition and launch into new ways of being the church, at a series of one-day training events.

Much of what goes on inside churches is out of touch with the way people live today, Robert Warren believes.

Launching a Missionary Congregation will enable groups of church members, with their minister, to begin to make changes. For the many clergy who have already been fired by Robert Warren's message, *Launching a Missionary Congregation* offers help with the practical next step.

Launching a Missionary Congregation visits Huddersfield (Saint Thomas, Bradley) on Saturday 16 March, as part of its nationwide tour. Churches are invited to send at last four members, plus a minister.

Launching a Missionary Congregation is not about *doing evangelism* but radically rethinking what it means to be the church. Like Robert Warren's book, *Building Missionary Congregations*, it is a challenge to the Church of England to move from maintenance to

mission—from keeping activities running to reaching others for Christ.

"Working with existing church structures is like running up the down escalator," says Canon Warren. "It may work, but it's not the best way to get between floors!"

Launching a Missionary Congregation will start church members on a journey of discovery and change, to be continued with others when they go home. Events are led by CPAS staff with Robert Warren. Each group will receive a workbook to keep. Group registration fee of £15 covers minister and book, additional members (at least four per church) £6 each. To book, contact CPAS on 01926 334242.

*Like running up the down
escalator!*

Brother John of Taizé

GOD OF THE UNEXPECTED, Newness and the Spirit in the Bible.

In a world of constant change, biblical faith can appear out-of-date and irrelevant to the concerns of everyday life. Yet, at Taizé, Bible reading is central to the discovery of new faith and forms an essential part of the daily pattern of prayer.

The Bible studies here, by Brother John of Taizé, shed new light on the theme of creation and bring the reader into contact with the God whose hallmark is the ability to do something new. Faith becomes an adventure, a journey along a road full of surprises, a call to a life beyond our dreams.

The questions at the end of each study can be used for personal reflection, or adapted to the needs of a discussion group.

God of the Unexpected, published by Mowbray, ISBN 0-264-67403-0, 144 pages paperback. £4.99



Wakefield Ministry Scheme

LAY PEOPLE often complain that the church doesn't use their talents! We are looking for talented lay* people in connection with the Wakefield Ministry Scheme. Do you know anyone who has an understanding of the church and ministry, organisational and management skills, personal maturity and time and enthusiasm to give?

For further details please contact the Revd Canon Margaret Bradnum, 1 Sunny Bank Road, Mixenden, Halifax, HX2 8RX. Telephone 01422 240669.

[* correction]

WHAT'S ON

Mar 3 Jung & the Christian Way, speaker Revd Denis McWilliam 230-430pm, Foster Place Retreat Centre, Hepworth, Holmfirth. 0161 748 8779

Mar 4 Make space for a Quiet Day 10am-4pm, Foster Place Retreat Centre, Hepworth, Holmfirth. 0161 748 8779

Mar 5-7 Salvation in a World of Many Faiths, a chance to examine this aspect of the new Doctrine Commission Report, led by the Inter-Faith Consultant to the Commission, at the College of the

Ascension, Selly Oak, Birmingham. 0121 472 1667 for details.

Mar 9 A Day for the Whole World - a USPG day for parish groups to keep the World Church on your parish agenda. At The College of the Ascension as above.

Mar 9 Newsome Church, Huddersfield, Redevelopment Fund, are holding a **Coffee Afternoon** in the Old Court Room at Huddersfield Town Hall, 130-430pm. Cake stall, Bric-a-Brac, Tombola. Admission 50p including coffee/tea and biscuits.

Mar 9 Oxford Place Methodist Centre, Leeds.

Racism is Institutionalised in the UK's Immigration Laws. Stanley Hope of the Iona Community explains the laws and discusses the Christian response. 2-4pm.

Mar 10 **An evening with Peter Coles** featuring Audio-Visual Sequences which he has produced. St Mary's Luddenden, 8pm. Retiring collection.

Mar 14 **An individually guided Retreat Day** 10am-4pm, Foster Place Retreat Centre, Hepworth, Holmfirth. 0161 748 8779

Mar 15-17 **Islam and Muslims in Britain Today.** Questions of understanding and Christian Response, at the College of the Ascension as above.

Mar 16 **Coffee Morning** at St Catherine's, Belle View, Wakefield, 1030am-noon. Cake Stall & Easter Egg Tombola.

Mar 16 All Saints' Church Darton Ladies' Group **Table Top Fayre** in Parish Hall, Church Street, Darton 10am-12noon.

Mar 17 **The Coptic Church in Egypt**, an illustrated talk by Fr Dominic CR, 630pm, following on from the 430pm Eucharist. Foster Place Retreat Centre, Hepworth, Holmfirth. 0161 748 8779

Mar 18-22 **A new Way of Being Church:** Small Christian Communities as a Model for Evangelism. A USPG workshop at Scargill House, not exclusively for clergy. Details 0121 472 1667.

Mar 23 **Wakefield Diocese Forward in Faith Quiet Day** 11am St Thomas' Purston. Bring packed lunch, soup and drinks provided. Preacher Canon Cyril Dawson.

Mar 30 **Exploring the sacred feminine**, facilitators Jill Johnson & Catherine Artindale, 10am-4pm. Foster Place Retreat Centre, Hepworth, Holmfirth. 0161 748 8779.

Mar 30 Mirfield Parish Church Choir Guild - **Table Top Sale** in aid of choir funds. St Mary's Hall, Church Lane, Mirfield, 11am-2pm. £5 per table (£6 on day), refreshments & cake stall. Details & booking 01924 497428.

Mar 30 **Youth Quiz Night** at Christ Church Moldgreen, Huddersfield. Teams of 4 needed. Cost £1.25 per person, £5 per team. Supper provided. 7pm start. Contact Wendy 01484 302747.

Mar 31 Sign interpreted **Palm Sunday Eucharist** at St Andrew's Parish Church, Peterson Road, Wakefield. 3pm. Preacher Bishop Nigel. Refreshments. Details from the Revd Charles Dixon, Minicom 01924 380175, Voice 01924 290501.

Apr 6-8 St Michael's Mytholmroyd **Easter Flowers**, Sat & Sun 130pm-530pm. Mon 10am-530pm. Organ music & teas/coffee.

Apr 6-15 **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land and Sinai.** Details from Revd Gordon Dey, 01274 682100.

Apr 20 **Myers-Briggs Basic Workshop** at St Peter's Gildersome. Details from Gill Butterworth 01924 823150.

Aug 18-25 West Yorkshire Ecumenical Council **Pilgrimage to Taizé.** details from 01924 377921, 01484 427940 or 0113 245 4893.

MUSICAL MATTERS

Mar 9 Concert by the **Pennine Singers** at Holy Trinity Church, South Crosland, Huddersfield, in aid of the Kirtland & Jardine Organ Appeal Fund. 730pm. Admission £3 including refreshments.

Mar 16 St Giles' Church Choir, directed by Phil Higgins will perform Gabriel Faure's **Requiem** in Saint Giles' Church, Pontefract, 730pm.

Mar 18-23 Christ Church Woodhouse AOS present **Guys and Dolls** at the Lawrence Batley Theatre, Queen's Square, Huddersfield 715pm, 215pm Sat mat. Tickets, Theatre Box Office 01484 430528 or Kirklees Information Centres.

Mar 26 Elland & District Music Society present the **Vertavo String Quartet** with music by Greig, Schumann & Brahms. Parochial Hall, Westgate, Elland at 730pm.

Mar 26-30 All Souls' Amateur Operatic

Society presents **Fiddler on the Roof** at the Playhouse, Halifax. 715pm. Tickets £4.50 & £5.50; 01422 354682.

Mar 30 Concert by the singer/ songwriter **Joe King** at St Catherine's Church Centre, Doncaster Road, Wakefield, 730pm. (1st anniversary of the opening of the new Church Centre). Admission free.

Mar 30 **Wakefield Festival Chorus** present **Festal Choral Music** at Silcoates School. 730pm. £4, concessions £3. Phone 01226 242975.

Mar 24 Halifax Choral Society presents **Verdi's Requiem & Bruckner's Te Deum** at the Victoria Theatre, Halifax 730pm. Tickets £5-£15 from Victoria Theatre Box Office 01422 351158.

Mar 24 St Thomas Thurstonland 330pm & Apr 2 730pm Fartown Trinity Methodist Church: **A Service for Lent** based on "The Journey" led by the choir of the Huddersfield Friends of Church Music.

Mar 31 **Olivet to Calvary** at Batley Central Methodist Church 6pm. Joint Choirs of Batley Methodist & Batley St Thomas. Programmes 50p & retiring collection.

Apr 23-27 The Wakefield AOS presents the new Musical **Bellas**, the hit story of the Vicar and the Luddites. Moving and packed with glorious ballads and rousing choruses. Sat matinee. Tickets & concessions from Theatre 01924 366556.

Experienced Church Organist wanted with the ability to develop small enthusiastic choir. Must be available for 2 services each Sunday and some occasional offices. Organ to be totally

refurbished in 1996. Salary £1000 neg. Write to Mrs L Butterfield, All Saints Pontefract PCC Secretary, 89 Monkhill Lane, Pontefract, West Yorks WF8 1RS. 01977 705963.

St Barnabas Church Amateurs, Crosland Moor, require an **Enthusiastic Producer** for their Annual Religious Musical. Details from Val Brook, 01484 653687.

Musical Help/Advice from an experienced Church Musician. Available to deputise and for tuition. Graham Kennedy, 01484 717283.

MARKET PLACE

Do you have any **surplus surpluses** for expanding choir with very little cash? Please contact Choirmaster Peter Baker on 01422 843839 if you can help.

Mothering Sunday Cards? Black & white cards in outline ready for colouring are available from The Children's Society, Suite L, Walker House, Castle Centre, Stockton on Tees, TS18 1BG 01624 677302.

Free to anyone who will collect: 1 **Roneo Electric Duplicator**, 28 tubes of Roneo Black Ink, 8 tubes Gestetner Black Ink, 4 boxes of universal typing stencils. Ring: 01226 790232, Fr Birch.

Wanted at least 6 copies of **Power Praise** (ISBN 0-86065-835-X) Phone 01484 652494.

West Coast Scotland, **Beautiful Ardnamurchan**, luxury caravan sleep 6/7. Peaceful position. 0113 253 2052

ITEMS FOR SEELINK should be sent to: SEE-LINK EDITOR The Revd Michael Bootes ocs, The Vicarage, 1 Manor Farm Close, Kellington, Goole, DN14 0AP, in writing please [or by Fax on 01977 663072], for one insertion only, by SIXTH of the preceding month,

CHANGES-OF-ORDER. Please write to Miss Donna Rusling, Church House, 1 South Parade, Wakefield, WF1 1LP. Changes-of-Order are concerned with how many copies each parish receives and whether the copies are FLAT or FOLDED. The cost from Jan 1 1996 is £3.90 per 100 per month.

A DAY THAT CAN BRING JOY OR PAIN



Mothering Sunday, the fourth Sunday in Lent, is a time of cards and greetings. Many churches give children posies of flowers to give to their mother as a 'thank-you' for all her loving care.

But for many people it is also a day of painful reminders. Single people, childless couples, people who had a bad relationship with their mother or with their own children are among those who feel excluded or devalued by this day.

MOTHER CHURCH

This demonstrates how the same words can cause pain to one person and reassurance to another. Some of the sting can be taken out of it by explaining that the name 'Mothering Sunday' really comes from the reference to 'the heavenly Jerusalem, which is the mother of us all', in the prayer book epistle reading for the day, Galatians 4:26.

It has become confused with Mother's day, an American invention; but the title Mothering Sunday refers to our mother, the church, and our membership of that great family.

Helping people through their pain with what they feel Mothering Sunday to be about is one way in which faith comes to life. For it reminds us that faith does not exist in the abstract, it always comes to life among real people in real situations. And we need to understand their situation, to discover the fullness of Christ's love for all his family.

Ian Yearsley

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

28 January	Andrew James Martin Sykes, 13 Brackenhill.
28 January	Christian Elliott Gardner, 14 Moor Top Avenue.

FUNERALS

1 February	Jack Saxton, 2 Went Hill Close, 76 years.
8 February	Gwennie Hall, 45 Healdfield Road, Castleford, 86 years.

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TIMBER & DIY

GPS, The Workshop, Rear of 55 Wakefield Road, Ackworth 613961

Suppliers of ironmongery, plywoods, timber, fixings, general DIY goods.

Why not advertise your business
in the parish magazine?

For details contact the Rector on 01977-602751



CAN YOU HEAR ME?

Do you know how the phone started? In March 1847, a boy was born in Scotland. His father was a teacher of deaf and dumb children and when the boy, Alexander Graham Bell, grew up he too became a teacher. His family moved to America and young Alexander began to invent a number of devices to help deaf people.

In March 1876 he patented his most famous invention - the telephone which is 120 years old this year. But, even though Alexander Graham Bell worded so hard on the idea, the telephone is no use to someone who is very hard of hearing or deaf. Modern phone have special switches that work with hearing aids but if you are very deaf you need to see someone to 'hear' them. You need to read their lips or to see the signs that their hands are making.

Can you talk with your hands?
All of us use some signs to show what we mean without words.

What about OK (finger and thumb in a circle) or good (thumbs up)?

In this country there are over 50,000 people whose main means of communication is through BSL (British Sign Language).

IT'S A START

First basic lesson in signing - how to say HELLO and HOW ARE YOU?



HELLO

You use your right hand, open flat, palm facing the person you are talking to. Move

your hand away from the side of your forehead (a bit like an American salute).



HOW ARE YOU

Thumbs up (like saying 'good') on both hands. Hold your hands up against your chest

and move them outwards towards the other person.

Did you hear about the girl who had flowing hair?
Her wig fell in the river.

What do you call a monster that's small and attractive?
A failure.

Parish of Ackworth - St Cuthbert's and All Saints' - Directory

- Rector:** Revd Peter Moorhouse, The Rectory, High Ackworth 602751.
- Churchwardens:** Mr Bill Branston, 8 Andrews Grove. 610590.
Mr Fred Davies, 40 Barnsley Road. 610694.
- Secretary:** Mrs Margaret Ward, 'Ormside', Hardaker Lane, 614441.
- Christian Stewardship:**
- Treasurer:** Mr Richard Beavis, 5 Lindale Avenue. 614072.
- Covenant Secretary:** Mr John Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd. 794500.
- Stewardship Recorder:** Miss Ada Pritchard, 4 Oddfellows Clubhouses. 611086.
- Car Lifts to Church:** Mrs Anne Tait, 5 King's Close. 612613.
- Children and young people:**
- Junior Church:** Dr Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove. 613834.
- Mums & Tots Group:** Mrs Jackie Fox, 5 Andrews Grove. 613834.
- Children's Society:** Mrs Helen Parkinson, 48 Holly Bank. 614400.
- The Howard C E School:** Mrs Karen Chetwynd, Headteacher. 611243.
- Third World and Missions:** Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View. 616384.
- Women's Groups:**
- Mothers' Union:** Mrs Emmie Upright, 21 St Clement's Court. 617537.
- Parish Womens' Group:** Mrs Erica Davies, 21c Hill Drive. 700413.
- Church Flowers:**
- St Cuthbert's:** Mrs Phyllis Asquith, 70 Pontefract Road. 704732.
- All Saints':** Miss Ethel Smith, 'Solentia', Wakefield Rd. 611258.
- Magazine Distribution:** Mrs Mollie Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd. 794500.
- Sunday Services**
- St Cuthbert's:** 10 15 am The Parish Communion and Junior Church.
- All Saints':** 8 30 am Holy Communion.
4 30 pm Evensong (2nd Sunday, Holy Communion).
- Mid Week Services**
- Tuesday** 9 15 am Holy Communion, St Cuthbert's Church.
- Wednesday:** 9 15 am Holy Communion, All Saints' Church.
- Guide and Brownie Parade and Family Communion:** 2nd Sunday in the month,
10 15 am, St Cuthbert's Church.
- Mums and Tots Group:** 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month (except August),
2 00 pm, All Saints' Church.
- Baptisms:** Normally take place at the 10 15 am Parish Communion on the last Sunday in the month. Please telephone the Rector for an appointment.
- Marriages:** Please contact the Rector.
- Ministry to the Sick:** Please inform the Rector of anyone who is in hospital or very ill at home.

Calendar for March



1 Fri	7 00 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)	
3 LENT 2		'Conflict'
	Genesis 7.17-end (Dr McWilliam/Mr Shaw), 1 John 3.1-10 (Dr McWilliam/Mrs Woffinden); Matthew 12.22-32 (ASB 510)	
	6 30 pm Evensong (St Cuthbert's)	
	7 30 pm Annual Church Meeting (St Cuthbert's)	
4 Mon	7 30 pm PCC (St Cuthbert's)	
5 Tues	9 15 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)	
6 Wed	9 15 am Holy Communion (All Saints')	
8 Fri	7 00 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)	

10 LENT 3 'Suffering'

All Saints': BCP Ephesians 5.1-14 (Miss Pittaway)
NB Family Service transferred to Sunday 17 March
St Cuthbert's: Gen 12.1-9 (Mrs B Firth); 1 Peter 2.19-end (Mr R Firth); Matt 16.13-end ASB 515

12 Tues 9 15 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)
10 00 am Coffee Morning, Howard School
2 00 pm Mums and Tots Group (All Saints')

13 Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (All Saints')

15 Fri 7 00 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)

17 LENT 4 - MOTHERING SUNDAY 'Transfiguration'

Exod 3.1-6 (Miss Smith); 2 Peter 1.16-19 (Miss Smith); Matt 17.1-13 ASB 520

19 Tues ST JOSEPH OF NAZARETH

9 15 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)

20 Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (All Saints')

7 45 pm Parish Women's Group, St Cuthbert's Vestry

22 Fri 7 00 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)

PARISH WEEKEND - Green Gables Hotel, Scarborough

24 LENT 5 'The Victory of the Cross'

Jer 31.31-34 (Mrs Cooper/Mr Cook); Heb 9.11-14 (Mrs Cooper/Miss Parker); Mk 10.32-45 ASB 524

6 00 pm United Service, The Community Church, Bell Lane. No Evensong, All Saints'

26 Tues THE ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LOD TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9 15 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)

2 00 pm Mums and Tots Group (All Saints')

27 Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (All Saints')

28 Thurs 2 30 pm Mothers Union Service and Meeting (St Cuthbert's Vestry)

29 Fri 7 00 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)

31 PALM SUNDAY 'The Way of the Cross'

Isaiah 50 4-9a (Dr McWilliam); Philippians 2.5-11 (Dr McWilliam/Mrs Riley); Matt 21.1-13 ASB 527

APRIL

7 EASTER DAY 'The Resurrection'

Isaiah 12 (Miss Pittaway/Mr Shaw); 1 Cor 15.12-20, (Miss Pittaway/ Mrs Woffinden),

Mark 16.1-8 ASB 574

Flowers

No flowers in Lent. Donations for Easter flowers for St Cuthbert's may be given to Mrs P Asquith.

Copy for the magazine should be given to Linda Steer, Maureen Richardson or David Newman by the first Sunday of the previous month.