



Ackworth Parish Magazine



30p per copy (£3.00 per year) JULY 1998

Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who?

<u>Rector:</u>	Revd. Paul Hartley, The Rectory, High Ackworth.	602751
<u>Churchwardens:</u>	Mr Bill Branston, 8 Andrews Grove. Mr Fred Davies, 40 Barnsley Road.	610590 610694
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
<u>Christian Stewardship:</u>		
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mr Bryan Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill.	616074
<u>Covenant Secretary:</u>	Mr John Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd.	794500
<u>Stewardship Recorder:</u>	Miss Ada Pritchard, 4 Oddfellows Clubhouses.	611086
<u>Car Lifts to Church:</u>	Mrs Ann Tait, 5 King's Close.	612613
<u>Children and young people:</u>		
<u>Junior Church:</u>	Dr Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Mums & Tots Group:</u>	Mrs Jackie Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Children's Society:</u>	Mrs Helen Parkinson, 48 Holly Bank.	614400
<u>The Howard C E School:</u>	Mr Harry S Armitage, Headteacher.	611243
<u>Third World and Missions:</u>	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
<u>Women's Groups:</u>		
<u>Mothers' Union:</u>	Mrs Emmie Upright, 21 St Clement's Court.	617537
<u>Parish Women's Group:</u>	Mrs Erica Davies, 21c Hill Drive.	700413
<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 Rd.	611258
<u>Parish Magazine:</u>		
<u>Publishing/Advertising:</u>	Mrs Linda Steer	614716
<u>Weekly news sheet:</u>	Mrs Maureen Richardson	612859
<u>Magazine Distribution:</u>	Mrs Mollie Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd.	794500
<u>Church Cleaning Rotas:</u>	Mr Fred Davies, 40 Barnsley Rd.	610694



Sunday Services

St Cuthbert's	10.15 am	The Parish Communion and Junior Church
All Saints'	8.30 am	Holy Communion
All Saints'	6.30 pm	Evensong
All Saints'	4.00 pm	New Service (Last Sunday of the month)

Morning and Evening Prayers

Monday to Thursday 9.00 am and 5.00 pm St Cuthbert's Church

Guide, Brownie and Rainbow Parade and Family Communion:

2nd Sunday in the month 10.15 am at St Cuthbert's Church

Baptisms and Marriages: Please contact the Rector for an appointment

From the Rector's Study



A recent text I read at Evensong put me in mind of a common topic of conversation particularly amongst men in recent weeks. St Paul writes in his first letter to the

Corinthians, chapter 9:24-27 which begins; "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run but only one gets the prize. Run in such a way as to get the prize"

Though, not specifically for running races the months of June and July will remain in the minds of sports fans for some time to come. With the World Cup drawing to a close in France, the Test Match against South Africa and the Lawn Tennis Championship at Wimbledon, there is a wide choice for those who enjoy sport, especially for armchair fanatics such as myself but equally for those lucky enough to be able to see any of these events live. In short, it's a good summer for sports spectators: those experts who know far better than those directly involved.

Yet, it is to those directly involved; those actually playing the sport that I would now like to turn to. For it is there on the field of play that real commitment is found, regardless of how faithful we may be as fans. Behind the elation we share as spectators when we see our team or individual win, there is the other side that of the terrible disappointment and dejection of losers, certainly in the case of the big competitions after years of training and practice for that one event. This situation was poignantly reflected in a bill poster I saw which depicted the end of a football final. The winners were doing a lap of honour with the trophy, whilst the losing players were sat on the pitch heads bowed, shoulders slumped and with anguished faces. The caption really made me think; it read "Heaven or Hell - it's the same place." What made the difference is from which side you look at things, from a winners

perspective or that of the losers!

Spiritual Hunger

But then, that's not the only criteria of heaven and hell; it also depends on our own



attitude. regardless of whether we are winners or losers in this life. By and large, in our late twentieth century western society we are the winners as regards physical well-being. However, our attitude and state of mind do not seem to reflect this fact, because for all our wealth and privilege we are still unhappy. Regardless of the fact that for the most part we are well fed, have comfortable homes and do not live in fear of war, violence and torture, people in the rich west suffer the highest incidence of depression and mental breakdown than most of the third world countries. Increasingly we hear and read that there is in the rich west a growing spiritual hunger. There is an ever widening gap in the lives of many that power and possessions cannot fill.

just paying lip-service or giving up an hour of our time on a Sunday morning, but committing ourselves to a change in our lives, a change that affects us twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year, year in year out. For just like those sportsmen and women who train years to attain their goal so it is for those who seek spiritual fulfilment. Top athletes cannot just walk into an Olympic final on a whim, it takes years of perseverance and practice to reap the rewards which being at the top of their fields can give. The things which give true fulfilment in life call for sacrifice. Jesus came to call us to be involved with all people and situation which touch our lives. He calls us to be participants, not casual observers or spectators. We can't win the prize if we don't compete!

The Cost of Commitment

In fact the answer is quite simple, and lies in our own hands; it is up to us to reach out and grasp it and accept God into our lives. The solution is not without cost, of course, and the price is commitment. Not

GIVE JESUS A SPORTING CHANCE!

Yours in Christ

Paul.

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

31 May Edward Peter Weller

14 June Michael Thomas Wright & Lois Marie Wright



MARRIAGES

13 June Glen Andrew Gittins & Kathryn Mary Goodwin

Lee John Green & Melanie Hirst

FUNERALS

23 May John Webster Griffiths, 6 Langdale Drive, Low Ackworth, aged 49.

As Our Saviour taught us

Give us this day our daily bread

So far in The Lord's Prayer, everything has been directed heavenwards, and more specifically towards God. And this is the correct way to pray. Whenever we begin our prayers we must remember who we are addressing and where he is. It is also right to praise God and offer him our adoration, for he is worthy of nothing less. However, we must be realistic and recognise that most people's prayers contain a large element of asking prayers. These are called petitions. We ask God to provide us with what we need. It is important to remember that God will do just that; provide us with what we need, and not necessarily what we want. So what of this petition?

At first sight it must seem like a strange prayer; to ask God for bread. Bread can be such an unexciting piece of food, and such a basic one at that. But it must also seem to be a trivial thing to ask for. However, this is a deeply profound prayer.

It is true that we can interpret this part of the prayer literally. We are asking God to ensure that we will be given bread every day. Bread is a basic food source, and certainly one I would find it difficult to live without, especially if cheese was excluded as well. But accepting that this is such a basic food, what we are asking is that God will ensure that we will receive at least the basic food we need for survival. We are asking God to provide us with the food that we need. Of course, in New Testament days this would have been more acute, because even basic food sources were

scarce to many people. And if we look around us, we will still see many people in the world who are starving for lack of food, even such basic food as bread. When these people pray for daily bread, they can say it with true heartfelt meaning.

However, there is another deeper level of understanding. True, we need food to sustain us, but equally true, is that our spirit needs sustaining also. What we are asking for in this sense is that God will provide us with spiritual sustenance. That spiritual sustenance comes from God himself. It comes in the form of God's words. Here, then, we are asking God to feed us with his words. As I have often said, it is only by reading and understanding and then applying God's word in our lives that we can truly be called Christians. We need to read God's word on a daily, not a weekly basis if we are to be sustained in a spiritual sense.

There is another even deeper level of understanding. Jesus called himself the bread of life. When we ask for daily bread, we are also asking for Jesus. We are asking that Jesus will be present in our lives on a daily basis. The fact that Jesus is also the Word made flesh makes this more complete. When we receive Jesus into our lives, we also receive his word.

So next time you ask for your daily bread, remember that we are receiving physical food. But, we are also receiving spiritual food, and more importantly, we are receiving Jesus.



Paul Fox



Rotas for July

Readings and Readers

July 5th	5 AFTER PENTECOST	
Old Testament	Ruth 1:8-17	Mrs Walker/Miss Parker
New Testament	Acts 11:4-18	Mrs Walker/Mrs Riley
July 12th	6 AFTER PENTECOST	
New Testament	Acts 19:21-end	Dr McWilliam
	(Gospel only at St Cuthbert's)	
July 19th	7 AFTER PENTECOST	
Old Testament	Deuteronomy 10:12 - 11:1	Mrs Cooper/Mr S Law
New Testament	Romans 8:1-11	Mrs Cooper/Mrs Woofinden
July 26th	7 AFTER PENTECOST	
Old Testament	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Mrs Hall
New Testament	1 Corinthians 12:4-13	Miss Smith/Mr Cook



Flowers & Brasses

St Cuthbert's/All Saints'

5th	Mrs Barrow/Vacant
12th	Mrs Tanswell/Mrs Mills
19th	Mrs Bateman/Miss Smith
26th	Mrs Hurst/ Vacant



Mr & Mrs Firth

Mother's Union

July 7th: 11am-3pm Diocesan Prayer Day at Treacy Hall led by Rev. Jane Clay, Chaplain of New Hall Prison. Bring a packed lunch; coffee served from 10.30am. Please join us as some of our overseas visitors will be there too.

July 23rd: 6.45pm - 9pm Diocesan Council meeting at Dewsbury Town Hall

July 30th: 2.30pm Meeting and Service at All Saints'. The speaker will be Mrs Mavis Smith.



Calendar for July

1 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
5 SUNDAY	5 AFTER PENTECOST		
	8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	10.15am	Holy Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
	6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'
6 Monday	7.30pm	PCC Meeting	Vestry -St Cuthbert's
7 Tuesday	11.00am	M.U. Prayer Day	Treacy Hall
8 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
12 SUNDAY	6 AFTER PENTECOST		
	8.30am	Holy Communion - BCP	All Saints'
	10.15am	Holy Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
	1.00pm	Baptism	St Cuthbert's
	6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'
14 Tuesday	1.45pm	Mums And Tots	All Saints'
15 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
17 Friday		Ladies group trip to the Archbishop's Palace, York	
19 SUNDAY	7 AFTER PENTECOST		
	8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	10.15am	Holy Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
	6.30pm	Evensong	St Cuthbert's
23 Tuesday	2.00pm	Mums And Tots	All Saints'
	6.45pm	M.U. Council Meeting	Dewsbury Town Hall
29 WEDNESDAY	ST MARY MAGDALENE		
	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
26 SUNDAY	4 AFTER PENTECOST		
	8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	10.15am	Holy Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
	4.00pm	New Service	All Saints'
	6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'
29 Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
30 Thursday	2.30pm	Mothers Union	All Saints'

Last Hurdle or an Opening Gate?

As you may be aware, I am currently considering the possibility that God may be calling me to the Ordained Ministry in the Church. As part of this process I am attending a Selection Conference at Ely in Cambridgeshire from 20 to 23 July.

This is the final part of what, for me, has been an eighteen-month round of interviews and application forms and enables the Church, as a whole, to advise Bishop Nigel as to whether or not he should recommend me for training.

With God's Grace

This process, although time consuming and at times exhausting, has left me feeling that I and my family have learnt a great deal. We feel more able to move forward trusting in God and to launch out in faith for the future, whatever it may hold. We have come to share much more with friends and feel much more a part of the church in Ackworth and the wider Church. Above all, I have come to learn a great deal about myself; to mend bridges with the past; to forgive and ultimately reconcile myself to the person I am and the person who, with God's grace, I can become.

In God's Hands

If recommended, I will start training on the Northern Ordination Course in September. This is a non-residential course over three years and will involve me continuing to work as a nurse and to live and worship in Ackworth (although with a reduced role!). If not recommended, I will continue my current way of life, but enriched with the self-knowledge the process has given me, and empowered to look forward to the future, secure in God's hands.



This brings me back to the title of this piece. It is often said that the selection conference is "the last hurdle" before training, but the more I reflect on this the more my perspective has changed and I realise a hurdle is really a gate you are trying to jump over, when, if with patience you wait, the owner of the field will gladly open it for you to walk through.

I would greatly welcome your continuing prayers and support over the coming weeks and months, whatever the outcome, and would especially like you to pray for the selectors and candidates at the Conference in July.

Edward Wynn

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What is Jubilee 2000? ...

The Jubilee principle is found in the Old Testament Book of Leviticus. Every 50 years debts were cancelled and slaves freed, giving a chance of a new start, a chance for everyone to catch up. The word Jubilee comes from "Yobel", the ram's horn which was blown to proclaim the year of Jubilee, the "acceptable year of the Lord" mentioned by Isaiah and by Jesus when he stood up in the Synagogue and quoted Isaiah saying "The spirit of the Lord is upon me; He has sent me to proclaim the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour".

So what is the Jubilee 2000 campaign? It is now a Coalition with some 60 organisations affiliated to it, such a Christian Aid, CAFOD, all the churches, Tear Fund, the Mothers' Union, and in the secular world the Women's Institute, the Trades Unions etc. And all these organisations are committed to the campaign to achieve a one-off cancellation of the backlog of unpayable

debts of the world's poorest countries. This would be a once-only gesture to mark the Millennium, showing that creditors and debtors alike have made mistakes and the slate needs to be wiped clean. However, no cancellation will be carried lightly. Every package will be negotiated separately and strict conditions will be imposed. Countries will have to undertake to spend money released on health, education, etc and they will have to agree not to buy arms.

Zambia is one of the sub-Saharan countries classified as HIPC (Highly Indebted Poor Countries). Once one of the richest countries in Africa, now out of every £4 aid, £3 is returned in debt repayment.

If you feel that you could add your name to the Jubilee 2000 petition, please sign it at the back of either church.

Thank you

Prince of Wales Hospice

Tea Afternoon

**Saturday 11 July
2 pm onwards**

**Gardhams'
83 Pontefract Road**

**Bring & Buy
Raffle**

Everyone Welcome

Coins and Cans!

We have just emptied the Mara Jars and have pleasure in reporting that once again £60 has been counted, mainly in 1p and 2p coins. This is a splendid amount and will go a long way to help the children at school in our link diocese in Tanzania.

In June we weighed in 34 kilograms of aluminium drink cans raising £17 for the Bell Repair Fund. Bill Branston is still collecting aluminium cans so, if you can remember, drop them on the front door step of 8 Andrews Grove or pass them on at church, then your old cans can also be used to support the repairs to the bearings of Bells 5 and 6.

Make sure they are aluminium if you can (sic!).

PCC Notes ~ 5 May Lynne Ward ~ Parish Secretary

- New members were welcomed.
- The Parish Weekend at Green Gables paid for itself with a very small profit - those who gave donations were thanked.
- The Wakefield Ministry Scheme was discussed following Dr. John Williams' address; church members will be given a questionnaire which will precede a wider discussion.
- The Bishop's 'Church in Community' initiative was discussed - how healthy are our links with the local community?
- A consultative document from General Synod regarding the admission of children to communion before confirmation was considered.
- The PCC was asked to consider how the church might mark the Millennium. Ideas welcomed!
- A 'Gift Day' is planned for 17 October, 1998.

PCC Notes ~ 10 June

- The Archdeacon spoke to the PCC.
- The PCC agreed to join the Wakefield Ministry Scheme.

LENT LUNCH ~ SUZY FUND

As a postscript to the Lunch held in March which raised £143.05 for the Suzy Fund, Brian Hazell has thanked us all and writes:

"... I have sent your money to a friend of mine called Regina Paul, she is feeding children orphaned by the massacres in Rwanda. Since we have no overheads ... every penny donated is used for the purpose intended, there are no sticky fingers in the middle ... rest assured, there will be children alive next week who wouldn't have been if you hadn't cared."

Thank you again everyone who helped and contributed.

Jars of Grace

The final total collected during the 1997 'Jars of Grace' campaign was £183.40. This will be used for UNICEF's programmes of immunisation.

Thank you everyone who contributed.

Green Gables Weekend ~ Many thanks!

The Parish Weekend at Green Gables was a huge success - enjoyed by everyone who attended. Financially, despite initial worries, the weekend has paid for itself and even managed a tiny profit. This was due to the generosity of the hotel and also of many parishioners who donated extra funds for the weekend.

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