

Ackworth Parish Magazine



May 2002

Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who?



Rector:	Revd. Paul Hartley, The Rectory, Ackworth.	602751
Lay Reader:	Dr. Paul Fox 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
Churchwardens:	Mr Bill Branston, 8 Andrews Grove. Mr Fred Davies, 40 Barnsley Road.	610590 610694
Secretary:	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
<u>Christian Stewardship:</u>		
Treasurer:	Mr Bryan Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill.	616074
Covenant Secretary:	Mr John Gardham, 83 Pontefract Rd.	794500
Stewardship Recorder:	Miss Ada Pritchard, 4 Oddfellows Clubhouses.	611086
Car Lifts to Church:	Mrs Ann Tait, 5 King's Close.	612613
<u>Children and Young People:</u>		
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:	Mr Harry S Armitage, Headteacher.	722275
Third World and Missions:	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
Mothers' Union:	Mrs Mary Walker, 141 Wakefield Road.	616812
<u>Church Flowers/Brasses:</u>		
St Cuthbert's:	Mrs Phyllis Asquith, 70 Pontefract Road.	704732
All Saints':	Miss Ethel Smith, 'Solentia', Wakefield Rd.	611258
Weekly News sheet:	Mrs Maureen Richardson, 45 Woodleigh Cres.	612859
<u>Parish Magazine:</u>		
Publishing:	Mrs Sue Hartley, The Rectory.	602751
Advertising:	Mrs Linda Steer, 54 Holly Bank.	614716
Distribution:	Mrs Biddy Branston, 8 Andrews Grove.	610590
<u>St. Cuthbert's Bell Ringers</u>		
Tower Captain:	Mr Ian Hall, 87 Wakefield Road.	612003
Ringling Master:	Mrs Stella Hall, 87 Wakefield Road.	612003



UP's and DOWN's

This month in the church's calendar could be said to be a month of **ups** and **downs**. With two major festivals - Ascension Day on the 9th when Jesus ascended to his Father and Pentecost (Whitsunday) on the 19th when the Holy Spirit descended, literally to 'fire up' the disciples to begin the work of the church.

The words of the NT lesson on Ascension Day really sets the stage, prepares us for action; new beginnings. After the disciples had watched Jesus ascend to the heavens they are joined by two men dressed in white who address them with the words; "*Why do you stand here gazing into the sky?*" They returned to Jerusalem following Jesus' commissioning, where the Holy Spirit charges them up to fulfil those commands, the Church is born and its work begins.

From feeling perhaps a bit down after seeing their Lord go away from them yet again, their spirits are lifted as they are empowered to become his living presence for others. **Up's and Down's**. They can't stand gazing into the clouds wistfully for long - there's work to be done!

There is a rather downbeat feeling in Church today about what seems to be a dismal situation brought about by looming financial crises. Due to announced cutbacks by the Church Commissioners last year, it means that our Diocese has an extra £ $\frac{3}{4}$ million per year to find, plus a greater burden for clergy pension contributions. The result has been that there have been cutbacks in clergy and diocesan staff and increases in parish quotas.

In our deanery the total has increased by £42,000. Some parishes, our own included, have had no increase, others have almost doubled.

However you view it, this means fewer clergy, a greater burden for congregations and an increased work load for clergy and laity. For myself, eight months after a heart attack and being told to avoid stress, this does not sound like good news. At a recent deanery clergy chapter meeting the atmosphere was somewhat gloomy and definitely 'downbeat'.

Sounds a bit like those first disciples at the Ascension, their Lord had gone **up** but they felt a bit **down**. But Pentecost was approaching; we are reminded of that by our Lord's last words to them before he ascended; words which link - like the two great festivals of this month - those words *were* "...you will receive power when the Holy

Spirit comes upon you and you will be my witnesses ..." And again when Peter goes out to speak to the crowds after receiving the Holy Spirit, when he quotes from the prophet Joel *'God says, I will pour out my spirit on all people ...'*

Although we may be feeling **down** at the moment as a church - perhaps stood gazing at those halcyon days of the past - maybe we feel a bit sorry for ourselves; powerless in the face of what seems to be happening. We should not forget that Jesus promised that we will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon us.

So, although looking at the current position pessimistically; looking at the **down** side, things may look gloomy. Pentecost does hold the promise that God will pour out his spirit on **all** people. Perhaps then looking at the **up** side of things, perhaps the Holy Spirit is prompting us to find new ways to minister to his people - to witness to all people - *'to the ends of the earth'* to borrow a phrase from the Ascension Day NT reading. The way for the Church to progress in the future could be through the ministry of **all** believers. To me that certainly seems to be good news.

Yours in Christ,
Paul.

Moving on...

Last time I wrote about resting in God's presence. About standing on a beach and watching the sun setting, and the beauty which was all around me.

On that same beach, I was very conscious of the ground on which I stood. I suspect that all of us at some time have played in the sand on a beach. Digging holes, making sandcastles, making moats and ditches for water to travel in or, my particular favourite, building a dam to stop water from flowing back into the sea.

On this occasion, whilst watching the water flowing in rivulets down the beach, I was very conscious of how the sand moved as well as the water. With my usual enquiring mind, I performed several experiments, which have no doubt been studied and used many times over in engineering circles, using stones and blocks to test the direction of the flow of water and the impact this had on the sand.

My favourite experiment on this beach was to stand with my wellies together at the heel, and my feet splayed out, thereby changing the direction of water flow, as a consequence the sand moved in a different way also. This was no great surprise to me. But what I noticed most of all, was that as the sand moved, it left a gap. A gap which was filled by my wellies. So what happened when I stood there long enough was that I slowly sank. I did not test the experiment to

the point at which the water passed over the top of my wellies!!

What happened was that if I stood still long enough, I sank and, no doubt, I would have eventually drowned. This was true also of standing in the shallow waves. Standing still in these circumstances was not an option.

This is also true of our spiritual lives. We cannot stand still for too long. If we do, we will slowly sink, and eventually drown.

Resting in the presence of God is a marvellous thing to do, and do regularly. However, we cannot afford to rest for too long. Moving on, and travelling with God is what God actually wants us to be doing most of the time. The last thing he wants of us is to get stuck in a spiritual hole, without ever moving on.

Moving on is often the way in which we grow spiritually. God wants us to be deeply spiritual, to have as perfect a relationship with him as possible. That means growing in faith, and spirit. This is true of our lives, we cannot possibly know everything, but we can always learn something new. So it is with our relationship with God and our spiritual lives.

We can always learn, and then we will find that we are moving on. We will then find that we have moved on to new ground, where we can rest for a while in God's presence - but not for too long. The journey onwards continues.

Resting and travelling is part of the rhythm of life. A life which we all share. A life which we have in our God.

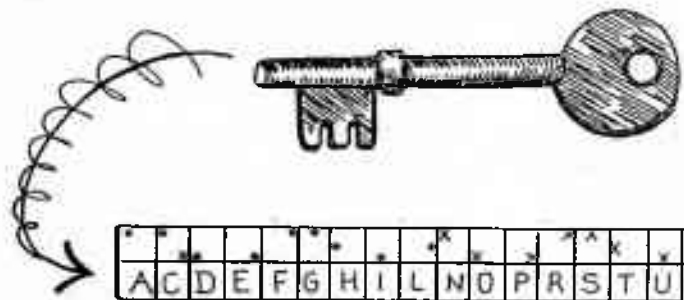
Paul Fox.



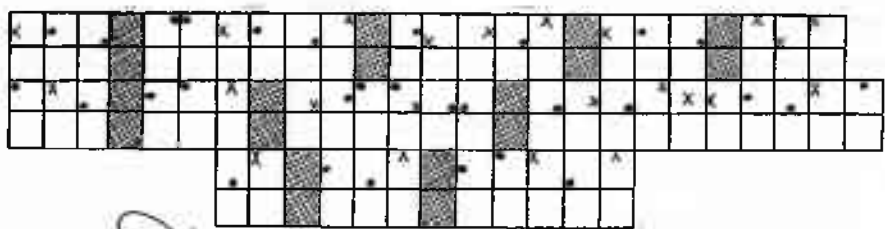


Cool Kids!

Use the key to crack the code



*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
A	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	L	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	V	W	Y					



Can you find this verse in John Chapter 3 v. ... ?

**JESUS HAS THE POWER TO CHANGE YOU.
HOW CAN YOU LET HIM CHANGE YOU?**

Last month's picture illustrated the parable of 'The Good Samaritan.'

Appeal Update

During the last few weeks our appeal brochure has been sent out to all those who are on the electoral roll, take a parish magazine or have used the church for baptisms, weddings, or funerals. We have also sent a personal letter to all the businesses in Ackworth and have delivered brochures to parishioners in parts of our village.

So far we have received help from many individuals, both financial and in kind. In particular we are indebted to the Brown Cow, Guides and others who have organised events the proceeds of which have been given to the appeal. We hope we have been able to thank everyone who has sent us a donation, unless the gifts have been given anonymously or the name of the donor is not known.

The Coffee Mornings held on Thursdays at All Saints' each week is really meeting a need in this part of the village and has raised over £1,000 since beginning last December. Our thanks to the organisers who prepare for this each week and also to all their supporters.

As the Appeal continues we hope and pray that you can continue to support us in achieving the aims we have detailed in the appeal brochure. If you feel you can organise an event please contact the Rector, David Lunn (the appeal committee chairman) or myself.

If you have helped us already please accept our grateful thanks. We also look forward everyone's continued support in the weeks and months to ahead.

Bill Branston

'Two Churches, One Vision ...'

PCC Jottings for March

- The photocopier has been repaired under the terms of maintenance agreement.
- The stonework on the disabled access ramp had been finished. The rail has now to be fitted.
- Whilst work was being done on the ramp it was noticed that the lych gate is in a poor state of repair. Work is needed on the roof and stonework requires repointing.
- Plans for reordering All Saints' Church to include toilets, a food preparation area and a screen were looked at and discussed.
- Fund raising brochures have begun to be distributed and there has been an early response.
- The Rector has asked Ian Hall to help with the administration of the chalice at All Saints'.
- In February the coffee mornings raised £193.

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Readers and Readings

5 6th Sunday of Easter	<i>SC</i>	<i>AS</i>
Genesis 8:20 - 9:17	Mr K Shaw	Mrs M Walker
Acts 17:22-31	Mr K Shaw	Mrs M Walker
John 14:15-21		
12 7th Sunday of Easter		
Ezekiel 36:24-28	Helen Parkinson	Mrs V Cook
Acts 1:6-14	Helen Parkinson	Mrs V Cook
John 17:1-11		
19 Day of Pentecost		
Numbers 11:24-30	Miss Parker	Miss Smith
Acts 2:1-21	Miss Parker	Miss Smith
John 20:19-23		
26 Trinity Sunday		
Isaiah 40:12-17 & 27-31	Ann Atack	
2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Ann Atack	
Matthew 28:16-20		



Flowers & Brasses for May

Sorry - no details received for these rotas - please check with the organiser

From the Registers - March 2002

Marriages

9 Christopher Steven Bown and Sarah Elizabeth Smith

Funerals

25 Reginald Rogers Waites (94) Ladywell House, High Ackworth



Grand Prize Draw ticket sellers needed on the 6th July 10am - 4pm at GT Smiths. If you can offer some time for this please contact any member of the Social Committee

DIARY

1	Wednesday	Ss Philip and James Apostles		
		9.30am	Holy Communion (said) <i>(MU Corporate Communion)</i>	All Saints'
		7.45pm	Magazine Committee	
2	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning	All Saints'
7	Tuesday	2.00pm	Toddler Group	4 Doncaster Rd
8	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
		7.30pm	Fundraising Committee	St Cuthbert's
9	Thursday		Ascension Day	
		10.00am	Coffee Morning	All Saints'
		7.30pm	Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
12	Sunday	6.30pm	Christian Aid Week United Service	St Cuthbert's
13	Monday	7.30pm	PCC Meeting	vestry - St Cuthbert's
15	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
		7.30pm	Fabric Committee	vestry - St Cuthbert's
16	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning	All Saints'
21	Tuesday	2.00pm	Toddler Group	4 Doncaster Rd
22	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
23	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning	All Saints'
29	Wednesday	9.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
30	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning	All Saints'
		2.00pm	Mother's Union (please check with organiser for details)	

Forthcoming Events

29	June	Ackworth Gala - Book Stall	
5	July	Ackworth Junior Choir concert	St Cuthbert's
13	July	Summer Event 'Jubilee Fayre'	Howard School
20	July	Stall at the Ackworth Show	

Copy for the May magazine to be in no later than Wednesday 1st May

(copy arriving after this date may not be able to be inserted in next month's magazine)

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In Memoriam

Kitty Cooper 1926-2002

Good Friday—29th March, 2002 was both poignant and sad this year for more than one reason. It was the day when a dear friend and faithful follower of Christ died less than 24 hours after being admitted to hospital.

Sad though it was and such a shock to us all; so soon after hearing the devastating diagnosis not three months earlier, her passing could not have come on a more appropriate day than Good Friday. For someone of such great faith and Christian conviction, to depart this world on the same day that we commemorate our Lord's death could not underline an more strongly the belief she held in the resurrection.

Although the diagnosis she received some weeks ago was so terrible, it was not her own demise that troubled Kitty, but what effect it would have on her family. On the many occasions we talked following the diagnosis she spoke confidently and with great assurance of meeting her Lord. Quite clearly, for Kitty, death did not have the final say and in dying with her Lord, she rose again with him on that glorious day on which we celebrate the resurrection; Easter Day.

The day of her funeral could not have been more suitable. For one

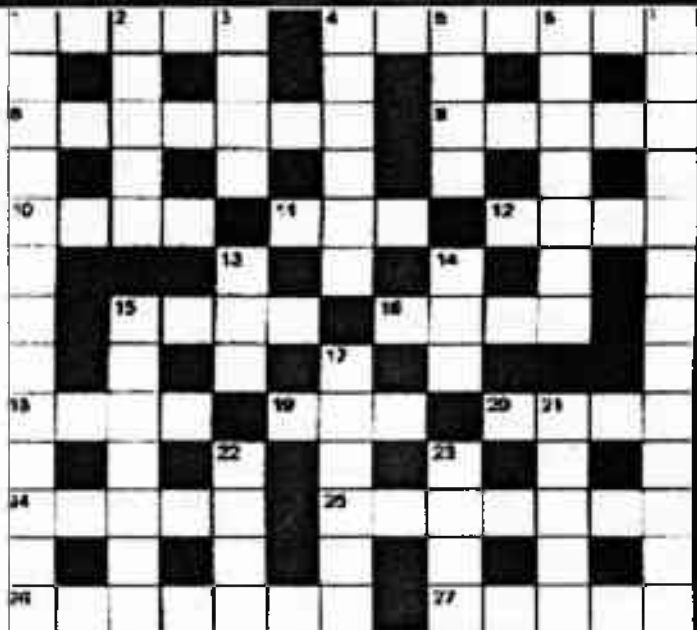
who had been a member, worker and held high office in the Mothers' Union for over 40 years, there could have been no more appropriate day that the festival of the Annunciation of our Lord to the Blessed Virgin Mary; a day of great celebration for the Mothers' Union worldwide. And it was a day of celebration for all who knew Kitty as we met to praise God and give thanks for a life which in so many ways had enriched the lives of many others in the 75 years, which by God's grace, she shared with us.

Departed this life, but with us forever in spirit, Kitty will be a part of this Church, and particularly All Saints' long after most of us have gone. A lady of unshakeable faith with a strong and determined character, Kitty was an example to us all. On the day of her funeral, one text stood out for me from the gospel set for the festival of the Annunciation as typifying her life; "With God, nothing will be impossible". If we believe this as Kitty did, then her death will not be in vain, but she will continue to live in accordance with the promise that Easter offers us all, in the joy and hope of the resurrection.

Reg Waites

Many thanks to all who made donation in lieu of flowers to the 'Repairs, Restoration, Re-Ordering Appeal' in memory of Reg Waites. The total amount given was £290.

This Month's Crossword



Across

- 1 Consumed at Holy Communion (5)
- 4 The prayer for the day (7)
- 8 Used to force a confession (7)
- 9 Not here (5)
- 10 Madrid (football team) (4)
- 11 Plural of the verb AM (3)
- 12 Photo (4)
- 15 Not bad (4)
- 16 He wrote letters to the Churches (4)
- 18 Scottish town (4)
- 19 Number of Commandments (3)
- 20 Leave out (4)
- 24 Fool (5)
- 25 OT Prophet (7)
- 26 Jewel (7)
- 27 Latin form of mother (5)

Down

- 1 One of the Miracles (5,4,4)
- 2 Terra (dry land) (5)
- 3 Put to flight (4)
- 4 A Toast (6)
- 5 Deceased (4)
- 6 All female pop group (7)
- 7 Book by Peter Wright (3,10)
- 13 OT character who had great patience (3)
- 14 Organised (3)
- 15 Very hard building stone (7)
- 17 Biblical term for Look (6)
- 21 Damp (5)
- 22 Greek colonnaded walk (4)
- 23 Food producer (4)

Last month's answers: Across: 4 resort. 5 grid. 7 holiday. 10 dwarf. 11 catalan. 12 mined. 14 agonise.

15 globe. 16 ironing. 20 palls. 21 goshawk. 22 hate. 23 wilson. Down: 1 aspice. 2 great. 3 brownie.

4 root. 6 darker. 8 daggers. 9 yawning. 10 damsons. 13 bleach. 14 ability. 17 ironic. 18 ghost. 19 swan.

god is 'now'

I had known of Celtic Christianity for many years. It's spirituality is impressive. However, it was only at the Parish Weekend at Scarborough that I realised how Celtic tradition had a living relevance for today.

The danger of Celtic studies is that we look back through rose tinted spectacles; we never get beyond the glossy and the nostalgic. Yet a real part of the Celtic inheritance – and one we can easily miss – is its success in that area of spirituality we call 'practising the presence of God'.

Of course we know about the presence of God – and yet in our daily lives we somehow manage to keep him at a distance. Somehow God is not 'here and now', but more 'then and there'. Yet Sunday to Saturday the Celts live in the 'now' of God.

At Scarborough the youngsters followed a programme in parallel with that of the adults (the same Celtic material applies at different levels!) On Sunday those young folk were back together with the adults for worship, they were asked as part of the service and as an offering to God, what they had done.

Well, they had gone into the park at one point. Why? To find God. And so, where was

God? I shall always remember the response from one young lad. In a tone of voice that betrayed just a touch of frustration that these so called bright adults should ask him such an obvious question, he said forcefully "Everywhere!"

I wonder, have we lost that sense of God's presence as part of our experience? Have the Celtic Christians something to teach us? Or do we think them naïve for praying on getting out of bed, for praying whilst dressing, for praying on lighting the fire ... at breakfast ... while milking the cow ... and on through the working day.

Perhaps prayer does have something to do with the 'quality of life'.

Douglas Brown



Why not try create a prayer in this way whilst working, it can transform a routine, mundane task into a prayerful sharing of that task with God.

Try using this formula:

- Think of an ordinary task of the day.
- Think three: think Trinity.
- Think three; analyse the action.
- Ask God to be active in what you do.
 1. About Father/Creator.
 2. About Son/Saviour.
 3. About Spirit/Enabler.
- Can you make it rhyme?

A Modern Celtic Prayer

I dust in the name of the Father,
I dust in the name of the Son,
I dust in the name of the Spirit.

I dust up high in the name of the Father,
I dust down low in the name of the Son,
I dust all around in the name of the Spirit.

Father, uplift me as I dust up high,
Son, recover me as I dust down low,
Spirit strengthen me as I dust all around.

Whether high or low,
Wherever I go,
Lord, bless my task,
That's all I ask.

We Give Thanks For You All...

My family and I wish to express our heartfelt thanks for all the prayer support given by the good folk of Ackworth during my wife's illness and subsequently.

Claudie greatly appreciated it and she was ever mindful of how much she enjoyed visiting St. Cuthbert's.

Your prayers were not the only support you gave us and of particular consolation were all the host of expressions of care and concern so warmly conveyed.

Thank you all so very, very much.

Douglas Brown.



Thursday Coffee Mornings

Our Thursday Coffee Morning has now been running for about four months. We have been very surprised at the response we've had. We have successfully raised £750 and are now seeing 30 to 40 people each week. Our thanks go to everyone who has supported us. We hope you will continue to come and join us. Bring your friends and neighbours along too.

Everyone Welcome!

Ann Atack, Stella Hall, Wendy Laybourne and Sue Tanswell



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THE PARISH OF ACKWORTH



St Cuthbert's and All Saints' Sunday Services May 2002



5th May

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

12th May

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

19th May

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

26th May

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

Please contact the Rector to arrange Baptisms and Weddings