



# Ackworth Parish Magazine



**February / March 2004**

**50p per copy (£3 per year)**

## ~ Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who ~

<b><u>Rector:</u></b>	Revd. Paul Hartley, The Rectory, Ackworth	602751
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	Mrs Marie Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill.	616074
<b><u>Churchwardens:</u></b>	Mr Bill Branston, 8 Andrews Grove.	610590
	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
<b><u>Churchwarden Emeritus:</u></b>	Mr. Fred Davies	
<b><u>Secretary:</u></b>	Mrs Valerie Cook, 34 Barnsley Road.	619520
 <b><u>Christian Stewardship:</u></b>		
<b><u>Treasurer:</u></b>	Mr Bryan Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill.	616074
<b><u>Covenant Secretary:</u></b>	Mr Donald Marshall, 17 Hill Drive	700961
<b><u>Stewardship Recorder:</u></b>	Miss Ada Pritchard, 4 Oddfellows Clubhouses.	611086
 <b><u>Car Lifts to Church:</u></b>		
	Mrs Ann Tait, 5 King's Close.	612613
 <b><u>Children and Young People:</u></b>		
<b><u>Junior Church:</u></b>	Dr Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<b><u>Mums &amp; Tots Group:</u></b>	Mrs Jackie Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<b><u>Children's Society:</u></b>	Mrs Helen Parkinson, 48 Holly Bank.	614400
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 <b><u>Third World and Missions:</u></b>		
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 <b><u>Church Flowers/Brasses:</u></b>		
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 <b><u>St. Cuthbert's Bell Ringers</u></b>		
<b><u>Tower Captain:</u></b>	Mr Ian Hall, 87 Wakefield Road.	612003
<b><u>Ringling Master:</u></b>	Mrs Stella Hall, 87 Wakefield Road.	612003

Dear Friends

As I have said before, it often feels odd to be writing an article in advance, particularly when it is a bi-monthly issue. This is very true on this occasion, as I am writing this just a few days into the New Year.

My thoughts are filled with reflections upon the New Year which has just begun; a year which holds the prospect of much potential and many possibilities. I know, that for an issue of the magazine which covers February and March my main focus should be on the season of Lent and what that time of penitence and abstinence means for us as individuals and as a church.

However, on this occasion I have decided to transgress (I'll seek forgiveness in Lent!) and turn to that which is occupying my mind at this time - the New Year. There is a vague link in a way, in that Lent tends to be viewed as a time for giving something up and our New Year's resolutions frequently entail giving up something enjoyable (often linked to an over-indulgent Christmas) though maybe not good for us.

The New Year was ushered in by a piece of good news for your church, albeit good news with a sting in its tail. Just before Christmas we received a letter in reply to our grant application Fund. In short, we have been repairs for St Cuthbert's of into £12,000 towards £140,000 towards stage two, we have to 'match' that by years or we will lose all of the grant mean that we have maintenance programme implications and that the church has to be open a specified number of times a year for visitors outside normal service times. The offer of a grant then is something of a double edged sword; it means that we must raise as much again as we have managed to raise in the last 2 - 3 years since we began our appeal.



for the Heritage Lottery offered a grant towards the £152,000 which is divided development costs and repairs; the 'sting' being that raising £42,000 within two the grant. Other conditions to undertake a repairs and which has further financial

We are presented then with quite a New Year's resolution as a church - to commit ourselves to raising a considerable amount of money in quite a relatively short space of time. Daunting though the task may be, I believe that we are equal to it and it does present us with an opportunity to achieve a major part of what we set out to do in 2001 when we launched our 'Repairs, Restoration and Re-ordering Appeal'. It means we will be able to virtually

complete the 'Restoration' (phase 1) aspect of that campaign and that it will allow us to carry out those major repairs to St Cuthbert's identified in the architect's report which initiated the appeal.

It also asks major questions of us as individuals and as a church. 'What does our church mean to us?' and 'is it something we want to pass on to future generations in good condition?'. In a deeper sense it also asks questions of our faith in terms of our commitment to the Christian heritage we received from generations past; the physical embodiment of which is the church.

When we began this appeal in 2001, though we began it in faith, the figure we set out to raise seemed daunting, virtually impossible to say the least. Now, over two years on, we have completed the roof repairs to St Cuthbert's and we are now offered a superb opportunity to virtually complete a major part of the original project. However, we can't just sit back and hope that someone else is going to do it for us - **it is down to each and every one of us to make sure it does**

In a film Sue got for Christmas ('Bruce Almighty') the main character was very much down on his luck; after being given the opportunity to be God, he found, eventually, that in order for miracles to happen, a two-way process had to take place. God offered the opportunity, man had to grasp that opportunity and use it. The phrase the film coined for this process was: 'Be the miracle'.

We have been offered a great opportunity to make what is effectively a miracle happen here in Ackworth (certainly it seems somewhat miraculous when you consider the virtually impossible task that faced us). It is now up to us to make it happen. We have to '**Be the Miracle**'. If you haven't made any New Year's resolutions yet, perhaps now would be a good time to sit down and think about it!

Yours in Christ

Paul Hartley.

If you would like to refresh your memory of what work still needs to be undertaken to St Cuthbert's to complete its restoration there is the appeal leaflet, and the display board showing photographs of the worst areas of deterioration, still available in church. If you would like to see some of the areas which need repairing/restoring, then why not speak to either our Churchwardens, the chairperson of our fabric committee - David Cook; the chairperson of our fundraising committee - David Lunn or the Rector, any of whom would be pleased to show you or discuss with you the work which still needs to be undertaken.

## **Dear Readers**

Although our first issue of the year does not come out till February, we hope it is not too late in 2004 to hope that this year brings you health, happiness and fulfilment.

We are grateful to Joyce Dodd for giving us the piece on Ackworth Bells (page 7), as it is always good to be able to involve more people in the magazine and to bring you a wider view of a subject we have touched on. Similarly, we know that many of you have memories of life in Bell Lane in earlier days—we have some recollections from several ladies who come to the coffee morning and will be using these in the next issue, but it would be good to have a wider selection to draw on.

In the same vein, we do ask that any of you concerned with organisations in the village send in your news for publication.

**Stella Hall, Jean Reast and Valerie Cook**

## **ACKWORTH HERITAGE GROUP**

**The next two meetings, to be held at The Parish Rooms, at 7.30pm**

**February 26<sup>th</sup>, Ron Gosney,  
will be giving a talk on Maritime Knottingley**

**and**

**March 25<sup>th</sup>  
Packhorse Days, Packhorse Ways  
A talk by Janet**

We look forward to the opening of the new library when we hope to have displays of Ackworth objects and history. We are looking for ideas from Ackworth people for themes they'd like to see covered.

## SACRILEGE

Looking through Saywell's "History of Ackworth" I came across this disturbing account of what happened in St. Cuthbert's Church in 1840. Fortunately today the Church is now fitted with a burglar alarm and there is no need for a sexton's wife to take such risks, as the Church silver is now deposited at York Minster!

"During the vacancy which occurred between the death of the Rev. W.R. Hay, and the induction of the Rev. E.G. Bailey, in February of this year, a most daring and desperate attempt was made to rob the Church. The miscreants were partially successful, but did not secure what they evidently wanted, viz: the silver Communion plate, which at that time was fortunately lying in safety beneath the bed of the sexton's wife (Mrs. Greenfield) In their search for the hidden treasure, they forced open the Parish chest, and burnt the contents; endeavoured to break into the iron safe, evidence of which was afterwards found in broken shovels, and bent pokers; smashed off the lid of the wine chest and drank the contents of the one bottle remaining; scattered over the vestry floor a quantity of Queen Anne coppers which they found in the drawer of the vestry table, but which were too cumbersome to carry away; maliciously gashed the pulpit cushions, and altar cloth; smashed chairs and benches; and carried away all the keys, the hearse driver's cloak, two surplices, a B.A. hood, and black preaching gown. In addition to all this, they collected a large quantity of the service books lying about in the pews, barricaded the vestry door and carried the books into Topham's Close where they emptied them down in a heap under an oak tree. No trace of the delinquents could afterwards be found, although two neighbouring churches experienced the same fate in the same week."



(The above details were elicited from the Sexton's wife herself, who was an eye-witness of the depredation.)

**Please see that copy for the next issue of the magazine reaches us by Saturday, 6th March. We are happy to publish events for any of the organisations in the village, and would hope to include any of your news items.**

## THE BELLS A RESPONSE



Many thanks to Mrs. Joyce Dodd who read the articles on the Ackworth bells and sent me a cutting from a local newspaper about them. It tells the history of the bells and how the three original bells were augmented to six and names the rectors involved and tells of the inscription on the bells. Here is an extract from the article about the ringing of the bells at an earlier time.

“It is a nice ring, and when heard from a distance is most pleasing. In the good old days the bells were rung twice every Sunday and in the winter months on Tuesday evening. On many occasions on Ackworth Feast Monday Night merry peals were rung by the Ackworth, Wragby and Pontefract ringers. It would be most fitting here to mention the names of the Ackworth ringers (many have passed on) who have given pleasure to the residents, and to those of the surrounding district. Lamprey, Sykes, Macauley, T. Harrop, W. Harrison, T. Middleton, A. Gill, H. Moss, W. Beetham, G. Cartridge, Wm. Palmer and F. Atkinson. Now alas, the bells are seldom rung, and so in consequence the public are robbed of one of the few remaining treasures”

I understand that the Lamprey mentioned in the article was Mrs. Dodd's father and indeed in the ringing chamber at St. Cuthbert's there is a peal board mentioning one of the peals rung and with his name on it.

Do any of our readers know anything about the Ackworth Feast Monday Night – where it was held and when or why it was ended?  
**Stella Hall**

## More hints from the Weekday Pages to help “Women with Homes”

The following health tip from July 1950 may be of use especially at this time of year.

“When you have a cold try this, and don't scoff at it because it is simple. Buy a clay pipe, and pack the bowl with cotton wool. and sprinkle over the wool a few drops of oil of peppermint. Then smoke (without lighting it, of course), inhaling the fumes which will quickly relieve the clogged bronchial passages.”

September's magazine has a tip for removing unwanted cooking smells. “A spoonful of mustard in the washing up bowl will remove the smell of

fish or onions from all cooking utensils and the hands”

A tip here for all the knitters amongst you from the November copy. “Recently whilst knitting a jumper with angora wool I found fluff and hairs from the wool all over my clothes. So if any readers have this same problem perhaps they would be interested to know that if you wrap the wool in greaseproof paper and place in the refrigerator for 24 hours it will solve the problem.”

And who can have too many useful tips with spring-cleaning looming up in the next few months?

December’s tip-“Next time you are going to paint or distemper a ceiling, buy one of those large cardboard picnic plates, and then push the handle of your brush through the centre of the plate with the curved edges towards the bristles. Then, when you are painting, the surplus liquid runs down from the bristles on to the plate and this can be tipped back into the can or bucket thus preventing a lot of mess and waste.”



### **Bell Lane Shops (continued)**

At the top of the hill was Jerry Wilson’s Post Office and grocery store. We used to go in there with friends whose mother had a ‘tick’ account. They would choose sweets and put them on the account. We did envy them! Our mother would not have credit. She used to exchange part of our sugar ration, we never had sugar in drinks, for sweets on Wakefield market. She would return home with Yorkshire mixtures, aniseed balls, mint imperials and pear drops. Each day she would count out a few sweets for us, twist them in paper and give them to us for school break. In case it is thought that we did nothing but eat sweets, we all still have our teeth – well for the most part!

### **The Williams Sisters**

Rowley’s fruit and vegetable shop, a former hairdresser’s, was the shop which supplied the freshest root liquorice. We loved to munch on the juicy, wonderfully flavoured stringy sticks.

Glassel’s Electrical shop and Metcalfe’s Drapery occupied the premises opposite Bell Lane School. Mr Glassel was a genial, voluble electrician, who fitted electric lights for us. We remember the cardboard cut-out ladies, thirties style, in Metcalfe’s shop, which had an old-fashioned air, even then.





One of us remembers sitting on the counter, being fitted for her second pair of shoes. She must have been about two years old.

Across the yard, which was the entrance to Louis Turton's 'bus depot, was Jukes' Sweets and General Purposes shop. We used to buy our coloured chalks there, as Jukes always had them first of all the village shops. Chalks were seasonal trade. In spring we took out our whips and tops and loved to chalk the coloured patterns on the tops. It was also possible to obtain Parma Violets earlier from Jukes than from elsewhere. We could buy cherry lips, another favourite, from Whitworth's, but not Parma Violets.

At the corner of Hardaker Lane were Hollis's Bike and hardware shop and Woodcock's general grocer's. Hollis's used to top up accumulators for wirelesses, a vital service in the days before television.

There were two butcher's shops, Gordon North's and Charlie Atkinson's. We did not use them because one of our older cousins worked for, then took as his own Horbury's Butcher's shop, one of the Six Shops on Wakefield Road.

At the bottom of Bell Lane we can still see Jessie Wrigglesworth's beautiful orchard. She sold her fruits: apples, pears, plums, gooseberries and raspberries. We remember dropping off a basket and note as we went to school and collecting it on the way home. It was usually filled with luscious raspberries for jam making. Jessie used rhubarb leaves to pad the basket and cushion the fruit. She also used these leaves to divide the pounds of fruit, so that it was clear just how much there was.



So, between them, the shops in Bell Lane could supply virtually everything a household required. There was even a Barclay's Bank near the bottom of the Lane. The village was more or less self sufficient. This was important in a time of little money and very few cars. Although there were plenty of buses, not every family could afford the fares. They had to rely on local shops and tradesmen who came round the streets selling their wares. It was a very different world from now. Certainly the disease of 'Shopaholicism' did not exist then, but shopping could still be an interesting and memorable experience.



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## ACKWORTH & DISTRICT PROBUS CLUB

Probus Clubs are organisations for people who have retired from their profession or business and wish to maintain their social relationships with others who have similar interests.

Each Probus Club is sponsored by a Rotary Club (in Ackworth's case it was Hemsworth Rotary Club). The club, once founded, is autonomous and in many cases has its own constitution. There is no requirement for a prospective Probus member to be a past or existing member of a Rotary Club although many members are active Rotarians.

The first Probus Club in England was formed in 1966 sponsored by the Rotary Club of Caterham. The clubs are non sectarian, non political and are not involved in service in the community as such. They exist, to quote the constitution of the Ackworth Club, 'to encourage and promote fellowship amongst its members.' However this does not prevent donations being made to charity, or its members being involved in voluntary and/or charitable activities (which is often the case).

Ackworth & District Probus Club was formed in January 1981. The founder President and Secretary were Tom Rogers and George Bilton respectively. The objects set out in the club's constitution are carried out by regular monthly meetings, the organisation of talks, video showings and trips to various places of interest to the members. Wives and friends of members are also invited. The Club has an annual dinner currently held in January and its AGM is held on the last Wednesday in March. The Club also has a Committee which deals with the administration of the affairs of the club consisting of the principal officers (President, Secretary, Treasurer and Vice-President) and four other members.

In the last 18 months or so trips have been organised for members to Whitby, Imperial War Museum North, RAF Museum at Hendon, Brodsworth Hall and Auction Rooms at Leyburn to name a few. At the moment arrangements are in hand for trips to RAF Fylingdales and the Central Science Laboratory at Sand Hutton near York.

The current Officers of the club are President: Brian Williams, Secretary: Alex Miller, Vice President: David Lovell and Treasurer: William Grieff. The club meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month at 10.15am at the Boot & Shoe Inn, Wakefield Road Ackworth with the kind permission and support of the Licensee Mr Les Thompson. The club is part of a National Association of Probus Clubs in Great Britain (which also has its own magazine and 'shop'). The movement is virtually worldwide and has its own website. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to attend the meeting and contact the Secretary for membership application forms. **Brian Williams**

## FEBRUARY AND MARCH DIARY



<b>Week beginning 2nd February</b>			
2	Monday	7.30pm	Eucharist and Procession of Candlemas St Cuthbert's
4	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (M U Corporate Communion) A S
5	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning All Saints'
<b>Week beginning 9th February</b>			
9	Monday	7.30pm	PCC Vestry, St Cuthbert's
11	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said) All Saints'
12	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning All Saints'
	Saturday	7.30pm	
<b>Week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>			
18	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said) All Saints'
		7.30pm	Fabric Committee Vestry, St Cuthbert's
19	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning All Saints'
<b>Week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>			
25	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said) All Saints'
		7.30pm	<b>Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes</b> St Cuthbert's
26	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning All Saints'
1	<b>Week beginning 1st March</b>		
1	Monday	7.30pm	PCC Vestry, St Cuthbert's
3	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (M U Corporate Communion) AS
4	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning All Saints'
<b>Week beginning 8th March</b>			
9	Tuesday	7.30pm	Lent Prayers St Cuthbert's
10	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said) All Saints'
11	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning All Saints'
<b>Week beginning 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>			
16	Tuesday	7.30pm	Lent Prayers St Cuthbert's
17	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said) All Saints'
18	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning All Saints'
20	Saturday	10.30am	<b>St Cuthbert's Patronal Festival</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> St Cuthbert's
<b>Week beginning 22nd March</b>			
23	Tuesday	7.30pm	Lent Prayers St Cuthbert's
24	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said) All Saints'
25	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning All Saints'
		7.30pm	<b>The Annunciation</b> <b>Holy Communion</b> St Cuthbert's
<b>Week beginning 29th March</b>			
28	Tuesday	7.30pm	Lent Prayers St Cuthbert's
29	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said) All Saints'
30	Thursday	10.00am	Coffee Morning All Saints'

## February and March Readings and Readers

1	<b>February 4th Sunday of Epiphany</b> Ezekiel 43: 27-44: 4 1Corinthians 13: 1-13	S C Lily Parker	A S Valerie Cook
8	<b>February 3rd Sunday Before Lent</b> Isaiah 6: 1-13 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11	Grace Riley	Peter McWilliam
15	<b>February 2nd Sunday Before Lent</b> Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15-25 Revelation 4	Mary Woofinden	David Cook
22	<b>February Sunday Next Before Lent</b> Exodus 34: 29-35 2 Corinthians 3: 12-4: 2	George Scargill	Stella Hall
29	<b>February 1st Sunday of Lent</b> Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 Romans 10: 8b-13	Jane Siddall	Mary Walker
7	<b>March 2nd Sunday of Lent</b> Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18 Philippians 3: 17-4: 1	Sue Hartley	Valerie Cook
14	<b>March 3rd Sunday of Lent</b> Joshua 5: 9-12 2 Corinthians 5: 16-21	Fred Davies	Peter McWilliam
21	<b>March Mothering Sunday</b> Exodus 2: 1-10 Colossians 3: 12-17	Keith Shaw	David Cook
28	<b>March Passion Sunday</b> Isaiah 43: 16-21 Philippians 3: 4b-14	Lily Parker	Stella Hall
2	<b>April Palm Sunday</b> Isaiah 50: 4-9a Philippians 2: 5-11	Ann Atack	Mary Walker

### From the Registers

#### Baptisms

9	November	Jack Hardaker
30		Anna Rose Eastwood
14th	December	Joseph John Atha



#### Marriage

22nd December Robert John Broadhurst and Anne Louise Emmott

#### Funerals

4th	November	Kenneth Raistrick (53)	Saudi Arabia
5th		Phyllis Moxon (79)	37 Rhyddings Drive, Ackworth Moortop
24th		David Morris (47)	'Elmgarth', Doncaster Road, Ackworth Moortop
10th	December	Dorothy Mary Alexander (82)	16 Chiltern Court, Ackworth Moortop
17th*		Herbert Thomas George Worsfold (77)	2 Doncaster Road Estate, Ackworth Moortop

\*Church collection and donations in memory of Herbert Worsfold, given to the Restoration Appeal, totalled £1,295.00. Many thanks to all who contributed.

# CANDLEMAS

Stella Hall

In times past a great day for weather forecasting was February the second. This was the date that marked the end of the Christmas holiday season, when all the greenery decorations were removed and work on the farms was due to start again.

The weather on Candlemas Day indicated to farmers (by the law of contraries) what they could expect in the following weeks

“If Candlemas be wet and foul  
Then half the winter’s gone at Yule”  
Or “If the sun shineth galore,  
Greater cold will come than before.”



There were many other weather sayings connected with this day, as well as numerous legends, not only in this country, but also in lands overseas, where villagers would await its arrival with apprehension.

It was believed that if a bear looked out and saw wet and windy weather, he would stay out in the world, but if the sun shone brightly, he would return to his winter quarters, sensing that winter was far from over. There are still farmers who frown upon good weather at Candlemas.

The connection between the weather and the meaning of Candlemas came about when Christ was referred to as “The Light” at his Presentation in the Temple, and people expected light to come back into the world on February 2<sup>nd</sup> after the dark winter days and nights. It became the custom to bless and carry lighted candles round the churches. In fact it was King Henry VIII who issued a proclamation stating: “ On Candlemas Day the bearing of candles be done in memory of Christ, the Spiritual Light.”

This widespread custom is to be seen depicted in existing old illuminated almanacs, on which February is represented as a woman holding a lighted candle in each hand.

<i>Flowers</i>	<i>SC</i>	<i>AS</i>	<i>Brasses</i>
<i>February 8</i>	<i>Ada Pritchard</i>	<i>Ethel Smith</i>	<i>Phyllis Asquith</i>

## *Lent*

*Please contact Phyllis or Ethel , if you can help in any way with decorating the churches for Easter on Saturday, 10th April. Offers of flowers, foliage and help on the day will be very welcome.*

## **Christingle Magic**

**Helen Parkinson**

Two beautiful Christingle Services were held on 30<sup>th</sup> November at All Saints' and St Cuthbert's churches. Both were well attended and it was delightful to see the children's faces when receiving their Christingles. The effect was atmospheric when the churches were darkened and the service was completed with the glow of the flickering candles lighting the congregation.

I would like to give a big thank-you to everyone who helped prepare for the services and those who attended. We shall be sending over £335 to the Children's Society this year.

## **A Wholehearted Nativity**



All 37 Boys' Brigade members  
14th December at the Method-

'first'. Never have so many shepherds crowded into the 'stable' on Barnsley Road. The finale was really heart-warming, when all the boys came forward as they sang 'Joy to the World' and were then joined by their younger siblings.

**Margaret Jubb**

took part in the Nativity on  
1st Church—a memorable

## **Carol Services**

**Valerie Cook**

The Village Carol Service was held in St Cuthbert's Church on the afternoon of Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December. Once more the church was lit with candles, which illuminated the faces of the congregation and their immediate surroundings, as the light outside faded. We listened to an interesting and beautiful selection of Christmas readings, from the Bible and poems old and new, and sang several of the most popular traditional carols.

## **Ackworth Concert Society**

Music lovers in Ackworth and the surrounding area have been treated to two contrasting feasts of music in December and January.

Saturday evening, 13<sup>th</sup> of December saw a full church at Badsworth for a trumpet and organ recital given by Anthony Thompson, who is an outstanding performer on the trumpet and cornet, as well as being a Badsworth boy, and Gordon Stewart, organist at Huddersfield Town Hall and a regular conductor of 'Songs of Praise' as well as playing with many orchestras and giving numerous recitals. We were treated to a programme of Christmas music from past and present times, by a truly European selection of composers. There were many surprises in store, with some of the modern music being really humorous or quite unexpected – the encore was unexpected even by Anthony,

who had recourse to slipping over to the organ from time to time, to check on what would be coming next, but the playing was still superb. Gordon's informative and often amusing compèring of the evening and the seasonal refreshments offered by the committee made this a memorable, festive concert for all.

**Valerie Cook**

On the cold evening of 10th January, a positive air of anticipation emanated from the 400 hundred or so people gathered in the Meeting House at Ackworth School. A quick glance over all the eager faces revealed many touches of grey on the heads, so was nostalgia abroad?

James Pearson and Dominic Seldis surged into a rhythmic cascade on the piano and double bass respectively. Underpinning this were hints of the old jazz standard 'When you're smiling'. Rippling improvisations on the theme came from the keyboard, punctuated by powerful chordal passages in the middle register, built up by a powerful 'bassist'. We were off!

When the next number began, a song started as a singer had emerged from the shadows, walking down the aisle to take her place in the spotlight. Here was Jacqueline Dankworth!

So the 'nostalgoids' nurtured long enough ago on Johnny Dankworth's glorious tenor sax playing and Cleo Lane's inimitable jazz singing held their daughter Jacqueline in their musical gaze. What might she reflect from the old firm?

In the event a great deal. Jacqueline endeared herself to the audience by a combination of modest charm and engaging youthful energy, as she introduced the musical items and, in a sense, herself.

Her style impressed by a wide variety of modes, all impeccably pursued, from edgy cutting jazz in the biting lower register, which recalled her mother, to gentle higher pitched excursions, beautifully controlled in some songs.

This was a liberal interpretation of jazz; to our delight there was movement into other fields—songs from great musicals, some particularly memorable Spanish and Latin-American songs. Dominic played a solo on the double bass, which James had composed for him in the classical style. James' moving and sensitive accompaniment testified to his masterly versatility.

The final applause seemed to be a firm invitation to Ackworth Concert Society to bring this delightful trio to us again at an early date. **Dennis Mitchell**



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## GETTING MARRIED?

This is an article in "Home Words" which was an inset in the Parish Magazine in earlier years. What a difference 50 or so years make!



"The reading of the banns in Church is not just a "fad" of the clergy. It has always been a means of protecting people and society. The word "banns" comes from the Latin word *bannum*, which means an edict or proclamation.

Although in nine cases out of ten everything is perfectly satisfactory, it has happened that the reading of the banns has brought to light the fact that one of the parties has been previously married.

What is the law concerning banns? They must be called in the parish church of the parish in which you live. If the couple live in different parishes then the banns must be called in each place. Few realise it, but the Sundays need not run consecutively nor need the publication of banns in each place coincide. Moreover there is no need for the description "bachelor" or "spinster" to be read out.

Sometimes one hears the remark, "Oh, go to a Registrar's office. It's much quicker". This is not the case. The same time must elapse while notice of the wedding is posted outside.

In due course the wedding itself can take place in either church, but only after the Vicar who is performing the ceremony has received the certificate of banns. It is the responsibility of the couple to see that he receives it.

What may be done about a couple who very much wish to be married in a particular church, yet neither lives in the parish? Is it impossible? No, but one must have lived in the parish for at least 15 days before the calling of the banns. Sleeping the night meets the case of living, but leaving a suitcase or just renting a room does not. The Vicar is quite likely to check up on this. On the other hand, if the person is on the electoral roll of a church this will do instead of residence, so long as the banns are also read in the parish church.

### WHAT ABOUT THE EXPENSE OF IT ALL?

The fee varies in different parishes, but is in the region of half a crown, or five shillings. The banns are still valid for three months, and so there is plenty of time to fix the wedding date.

If there is some reason why the wedding should take place as soon as possible, then

a special licence can be obtained. In every town there is a clergyman known as a "surrogate". He can issue what is known as a Bishop's licence, and the marriage may take place within a few hours. In my town the licence costs one pound and ten shillings. The "surrogate" gets another eleven shillings, so it is within the means of most people. Needless to say, all the usual qualifications of residence still apply.

A wedding by licence normally means double fees in the church. Without the trimmings, such as organ, choir etc. a normal wedding costs under a pound, so here, again, the expense will not be too great.

A number of people have the mistaken idea that a licence means one can be married anywhere and at any time, rather like a film wedding. They think it could take place in a "pub" or hotel; in an aeroplane or on board ship. This is not so. The mistake probably arose because there is what is known as a "special licence". Only the Archbishop of Canterbury may issue this, and the individual fortunate enough to secure one can be married anywhere and at any time. It will cost something in the region of £30. and most people would prefer to save the money for a home. The wedding ceremony may only be performed between eight in the morning and six in the evening. This law originated in an attempt to prevent runaway marriages.

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### **Ackworth Concert Society**

**At 7.30pm in The Meeting House, Ackworth School**

**Saturday 14th February 'Abendmusik'**

Works by Vivaldi, Scarlatti, Corelli and Handel  
on the theme of love

**Saturday 20th March Sinfonia of Leeds**

Chamber Orchestra

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## HOW MANY HAVE YOU SEEN?

Reading reports in several national newspapers about the sad demise of many of our once very common birds I realise how lucky we are to have such a wide variety of birds where we live. Although the house faces the ever increasingly busy A638 we are fortunate enough to have a small rear garden and open fields beyond that.

Our next door neighbour Ian is a keen ornithologist, even to the extent of suddenly disappearing to Fiji when he had news that a rare bird (the pink billed parrot finch) which he had hoped to see on a previous visit had turned up there! He was also saw a longed legged warbler which hadn't been seen since 1984. He mentioned the number of different birds he had logged in the gardens and fields and we began to compare notes.

We all put out various kinds of food for the birds- indeed the rowan tree is decorated all year round –not just at Christmas- with fat balls, seeds and nuts. There are feeders of different types to cater for personal tastes There seems to be a pattern to their feeding habits. One minute the tree is pulsating with eagerly feeding birds and a little while later there isn't a bird to be seen.



The nuts attract the long tailed tits, the blue tits, great tits and coal tits. The long tailed tits usually come in groups to feed and all are extremely acrobatic. Meanwhile the robin waits below the feeders waiting for the food which falls – not being agile enough to cope with the swaying food stores. The blackbirds and song thrushes particularly appreciate the rowan tree berries. One day the tree is resplendent with its crimson berries and the next it is almost stripped bare despite the fact that there are many other rowan trees to choose from along Dando Way. The cotoneaster berries remain untouched until the harsher weather arrives. Then the birds are back in force in springtime when the black ivy berries make easy feeding at nesting time.

Starlings, greenfinches, chaffinches and house and hedge sparrows now seem as agile as the titmouse family and can be seen regularly on the nuts and fat. Goldfinches come in their small flocks when certain seeds are to be found and yellowhammers lend a splash of colour to the garden and the almost tame pied wagtails are frequent visitors too.

Out in the field we have occasional visitors such as the kestrel and rarer sparrow hawk which causes great distress to the birds and even terrifies our aviary birds – sheer pandemonium when one arrives and frantically tries to get into the aviary.

My favourite bird in the field has to be the rook. Despite being a large bird it is very timid and easily bullied by the smaller ones when it alights on the garage roofs to share the household scraps that are thrown out. Whenever we throw out food for them into the field the "sentinel" gives a loud cry to alert the rest of the rooks to come and share. It's a wonderful sight to see them living together so harmoniously. They seem to have a very strong social code and we were thrilled one year when they decided to build nests in the nearby ash tree.

After prolonged or very heavy rain we have often seen mallard ducks swimming on their newly discovered "pond" and once a heron spent hours standing in a pool waiting for some hapless frog. There is the odd carrion crow, many collared doves and wood pigeons, a shy jay and much bolder pheasant and partridge. There is also the less than welcome, although handsome, magpie. Of course when the tractors are working in the fields there is always a host of gulls following closely behind to see what delights the ploughshares are un-earthing for them.

Perhaps my favourite garden bird is the little wren with its perky tail and loud cries of alarm if he sees the resident mighty hunter (in his dreams!) enjoying his territorial patrol of the garden

**Stella Hall**

### PCC JOTTINGS for DECEMBER

1. A faculty has arrived for the siting of a bench outside All Saints' Church.
2. There was discussion about the clearing of land to allow future interment of ashes at All Saints' graveyard. A faculty may be required for this before work can proceed.
3. The need for an asbestos register was raised as every public building will need this in 2004. It is necessary to identify any asbestos within a building, and what type it is, and mark it up, ensuring that it is safe.
4. Child protection policy must be reviewed and updated as necessary in line with Diocesan guidance.
5. Fundraising: Several small grant-making funds have been approached but the response so far has been negative.
6. A bell-ringing group will visit St. Cuthbert's Church on January 10<sup>th</sup> to ring for half an hour as part of a tour to ring the bells in this area.
7. The Church of England Pensions Board has written asking for donations, as has the Church Housing Trust. There will be a special

- collection for them after one of the Sunday services.
8. Mary Walker is to train as a chalice administrator for All Saints' Church.
  9. Some of the money collected at David Morris's funeral is to be used for a bookcase and books for children to be placed in the children's area. at St. Cuthbert's.
  10. The Church Fayre is now to be held at St. Cuthbert's Church on December 6<sup>th</sup>, and some stalls are to be transferred to the Parish Rooms at their Christmas event.

### PCC JOTTINGS for JANUARY

1. English Heritage have given approval of the plans for the repairs to St. Cuthbert's Church, and will give a substantial grant towards the costs, provided that certain requirements are met. These are quite detailed and specific in order to qualify, the main one being that we need to raise a further £42,000 in order to receive any grant.
2. Nearly £42,000 has been raised already for the Repair, Restoration and Re-ordering Fund, of which £23,000 has been spent on much needed repairs to St Cuthbert's Church. So far £10,000 has been raised at All Saints' Coffee Mornings and it is hoped this year to provide disabled access there.
3. The Fundraising Committee was thanked for all their hard work.
4. Deanery Synod: It was reported that the Covenant with the Methodist Church has now been signed and the Deanery was looking forward to working in closer cooperation with the Methodists.
5. Third World. - The Jars of Grace are now due in.
6. £120 to be spent on software to help preparing special Parade Services.
7. Annual thank you letters have been sent to Yvonne Ward for use of a room at The Brown Cow for the Trailblazers, Tom Precious, for his maintenance of the clock at St. Cuthbert's, Jim Lamprey, for his maintenance of the flower beds, Farmer Brown for his permission to use his farmyard for extra parking and to John Brooke for his donation of the Christmas tree at St. Cuthbert's.

### **ACKWORTH PARISH COUNCIL**

The next two meetings of the Parish Council will be held at the Parish Rooms at 7.30pm on Monday: 9th February  
and 8th March

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## St Cuthbert's and All Saints'

### Sunday Services – February and March 2004

#### 1st February 4th Sunday of Epiphany

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

#### 8th February Third Sunday Before Lent

8.30am	Holy Communion - BCP (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion and Parade	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

#### 15th February Second Sunday Before Lent

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

#### 22nd February Sunday Next Before Lent

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

#### 29th February First Sunday of Lent

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Open Door Service	All Saints'

#### 7th March Second Sunday of Lent

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

#### 14th March Third Sunday of Lent

8.30am	Holy Communion - BCP (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion and Parade	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

#### 21st March Mothering Sunday

8.30am	Holy Communion BCP (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

#### 28th March Passion Sunday—Clocks Go Forward!

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Open Door Service <b>Note the 'summer' time</b>	All Saints'

#### 4th April Palm Sunday

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion—including <b>Blessing and Procession of Palms</b>	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

