



Ackworth Parish Magazine

See inside for details.



By Maerten Jacobsz Van Heemskerck
Location: Musee Des Beaux Arts Rennes France

St Luke Painting The Virgin 1545 - 50

October 2005/November 2005

50p per copy (£3 per year)

~ Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who ~

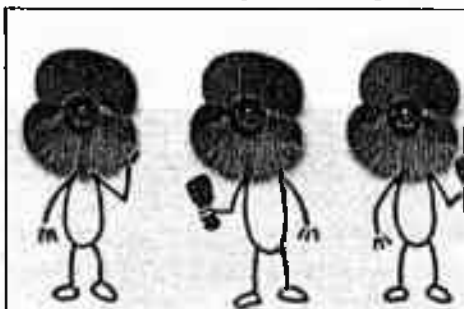
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Dear Friends

After the long period of Trinity (this year lasting 23 Sundays) during which Church activity often seems to go into 'tick-over', we see the two months ahead gearing up to a more active state of awareness

Many festivals and commemorations are seen in October and November which have elements of a common theme within them—that of healing. At the end of October and the beginning of November we see the festivals of All Saints and All Souls; a time when we focus upon the loss of loved ones and give thanks for the inspiration of great men and women of faith in past generations - the saints. It is hoped that many will find inspiration from former lives of faith and will find comfort and healing of their great loss of loved ones in more recent times - saints in the making.

Also on November 13th we have our service of Remembrance when we also seek healing for the loss of loved ones, but also look to the healing of memories and pray for the healing and reconciliation of nations;



Significantly, the figure perhaps most associated with healing, apart from our lord himself we commemorate on October 18th, St Luke, often dubbed the beloved physician or doctor. So, it is at this time, the nearest Sunday to this—Sunday 16th October at All Saints' at 6.30pm that it seemed appropriate to begin a new service of worship (to Ackworth, that is!), a service of healing and, hopefully, monthly after that on the third Sunday of each month.

But, what about the ministry of healing? For quite some time, it was not regarded as what you might call a part of mainstream ministry, although happily the new common worship series have now made provision for such in their 'Pastoral Services' book. It's odd however, that such a ministry should be regarded with some suspicion and though in the popular view that it was the preserve of charismatic or pentecostal traditions.

It is odd because healing was a major part of our Lord's ministry and probably has at least equal coverage in the gospels to that of passages concerning prayer or worship which we would never question or even think twice about. Jesus in fact commanded his disciples and us to continue this ministry. We read at the end of Matthew's gospel our Lord's instructions before he ascended to leave ; ' ... *go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you*' (Matt. 28:19 & 20).

And what did he command them?

In Matthew's gospel again, chapter 10 we read '*He called his 12 disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness*' (vs 1) and again in verse 8 '*heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those who have leprosy and drive out demons*'. In the gospel of St Luke, (9:2) '*...and he sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal the sick...*' or 10:9 '*Heal the sick who are there and tell them "The kingdom of God is near you"*'. In the epistle of St James we are exhorted to pray and anoint the sick - James 5:14 '*Is any of you sick, He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oils in the name of the Lord*'. These and many other passages are irrefutable evidence we as a church should be offering this ministry!

Sadly, the healing ministry has suffered a bad press in the past and as a result of a few examples where extreme scenarios have been publicised, occasions when false expectations have been raised. Whilst I would not deny that miracle cures are possible, much of healing that we experience in the name of our Lord Jesus is more holistic. Often healing comes, not with the cure of symptoms, but with acceptance by individuals of their illness and the rift of dysfunction it has created in their own lives and their relationship with family and friends, who in most cases have to live with serious illness even when it's not their own!

It is God's will that all should be whole; be at one with themselves and those around them; a wholeness of mind, body and spirit -

this is the essence of spiritual healing. Often it is the ordinary that is the realm of God's concern and the spectacular or extraordinary examples of this ministry are rare. All we can do is pray in faith and nurture a strong desire that God's healing should be at work; the rest is down to God himself—prayer is always answered, but God's will doesn't always coincide with our will.

Healing is not just of physical or mental illness. But of relationships with others and with God; healing of communities, healing and reconciliation between nations. None who profess the Christian faith would deny the need of confession and forgiveness; repentance is no other than the healing of the sin that separates us from God and those we have sinned against.

I encourage you to come along to this first service and subsequent ones as we pray for God's healing in all kinds of areas, worship and offer thanks for his healing grace at work in the world. If you are in need of this ministry, come and let us offer prayer together for whatever you need may be, that you may find the peace and wholeness which is God's will for all his children.

Yours in Christ

Paul

Restoration at last! Repairs to start at St Cuthbert's in October.

Just three years after we launched our Repairs, Restoration and Re-Ordering Appeal to the village major work is to start at St Cuthbert's Church in early October.

The PCC has entered into a contract valued at £186,995.60 for the majority of the urgent restoration work required on the Tower, the South porch and stonework work around the majority of the stained glass windows. The work will be mainly outside work and will include re-roofing the Tower, stabilising the pinnacles on the Tower and the considerable replacement of stonework both on the Tower and around the windows in the main body of the church.

Work formally commenced on 15 August 2005 but the contractor has needed to spend the first six weeks in preparing the Ackworth stone before starting on site in early October 2005. The completion date for the work is 24 July 2006. Whilst there will be scaffolding around the church for most of that period, it is not anticipated that the work will seriously affect, or impact upon the inside of the church and no services should be affected.

You will however notice some changes;

The clock will be stopped on or by the 30 September 2005 for the duration of the work on the Tower.

The bells will not be rung.

The big West door will be opened and become the main means of access to the church during October. This will be the first time this door has been opened for over 30 years. (*If anyone can remember when it was last used please let the Church wardens know*). This will be necessary as the roof of the South porch is to be dismantled and rebuilt and it will be necessary for safety reasons to close off this entry door, whilst this part of the work is undertaken.

The work on the South porch must be carried out in October to accommodate the rare Natterer bats that live there, certainly using the porch roof as a summer roost. This work is under the direct supervision of English Nature.

Scaffolding for the Tower will be erected during late October to be in place before 31 October 2005. During erection there will be safe access maintained through the scaffolding to the West door until the South porch is returned to normal use.

The path in the churchyard around the west end of the Tower will be closed off by the contractor for use as a working area - so all access to the rear of the churchyard will be around the east end of the church.

It will be pleasing to see the work put in hand as a visual sign that the Appeal for which we have worked so hard (and still needs funds for) is achieving its aims.

We hope that during the winter and spring 2005/2006 you will continue to support the church and attend its services while this essential repair work is carried out to preserve the building for future generations.

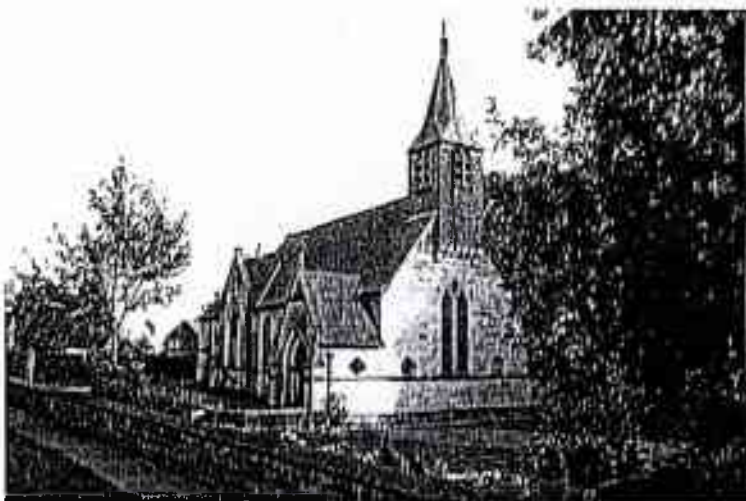
Meanwhile at All Saints' Church...

We hope to be able to announce shortly our plans for a ramp for the disabled to allow easier access to the Church.

Planning is continuing on the provision of a waste

sewerage system to allow us to install a small kitchen and a toilet in advance of the main Re-ordering. We will let you know more soon.

Bill Branston,
Lynne Ward,
Churchwardens.



Christingle Services

Sunday 27th November

4.00pm at All Saints'
and

6.00pm at St Cuthbert's

A seasonal service for all the family. Make sure you pick up a Children's Society collecting box from school or church!

SPECIAL BIRTHDAY

Following on from the last magazine in which Etta Ball had celebrated her hundredth birthday this little poem was sent in by one of our readers. I wonder if Etta felt like the writer of this poem thirty years ago.

SEVENTY-I don't believe it!
Did someone change the date?
It doesn't seem so very long
Since I was forty-eight.
What happened to my fifties??
They simply slipped away,
Then suddenly came sixty---
Another special day.

When I see the lines and wrinkles
I know it must be true,
And yet I'm twenty-one inside
With many things to do.
I'd like to be one hundred
Feeling hale and hearty.
So make a date in thirty years
You're welcome to my party!

JOHN GULLY M.P. part one

From Saywell comes an interesting account of one of Ackworth's more famous residents. His grave of course can be seen when visiting St. Cuthbert's churchyard where it is to be found just outside the churchyard's boundary where the Heritage group have placed some information about him.

"John Gully, late of Ackworth Park, and M.P. for Pontefract, and the well known sportsman, died at Durham, on Monday, March 9th, 1863, in the 80th year of his age. In all the crowd of characters that have ever made up the ring on a racecourse, there were few more famous, and no one whose career has been so much of a romance, as that of John Gully. He was indeed essentially one of the men of his time, and the tyro or stranger would crave for a look at him long before his hero worship would centre on a jockey-lord etc. And yet Mr. Gully was by no means a remarkable man in appearance, or, rather, in no way noticeable for the mere emphasis of his tone or the quaint cut of his coat. With a mien singularly quiet and almost subdued, he associated the air and presence of a gentleman, while his fine frame and commanding figure gave an innate dignity to his deportment that none who knew him would care to question. In fact, as your gaze rested on him, it was almost impossible to identify the man with the earlier stages of his history, -the butcher's boy, the prize fighter, the public-house landlord, or the outside betting man. It was far easier to recognise him as a country squire of good estate, the owner of a long string of racehorses, or the honourable member of a reformed Parliament. In a new country like America or Australia, we can readily imagine that the fighting butcher might in due time develop into that stately Senator; but here, in Old England, Mr. Gully's success was unparalleled. And he owed this, not merely to his great wealth, but far more to his keen judgement, his good sense, and a certain straight-forward respectability about everything he did. The gentlemen of the turf from the very first, took kindly to Gully, for they felt they could do so without any of the danger or disgust too often resulting from the society of a self-made man.

Mr. Gully was born at Bristol, sometime in the year 1783. He was brought up to the trade of a butcher, but very soon evinced handiness in taking care of himself, in sundry fistic tourneys with his comrades about home. On leaving the ring, Mr. Gully, like most success-

ful pugilists, inclined to the public life of a Boniface, and was for many years landlord of The Plough, in Carey Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields. But another ring found attractions for him, and he very soon devoted himself to the business of betting man. In 1812, he had horses of his own, and in 1827 he purchased the winner of the Derby, Mameluke, from Lord Jersey, for 4,000 guineas. In 1832 he, along with a partner, Mr. Ridsdale, won both the Derby and the Leger. Shortly after this, he assaulted Mr. Ridsdale in the hunting field, and had £500 to pay as damages. He also fought a duel with Mr. Osbaldeston, who sent a ball through his hat. As Mr. Gully examined the course of the ball, he jokingly remarked, "It is better through my hat than through my head".

He must have been very successful, for he purchased Upper Hare Park, near Newmarket, from Lord Rivers, where he for some time resided; but he sold this to Sir Mark Wood, and bought in 1831, for £21,000, Ackworth Park, near Pontefract; an accession which somewhat unexpectedly led to his representing that Borough in the Radical interest for some sessions in Parliament. He was twice returned, and on the first occasion without a contest."

This being quite a long extract the other half of the article will be in the next magazine.

HANDY HINTS FROM 1945

Anaemia sufferers—Sufferers from anaemia and similar weaknesses will benefit by drinking the juice of spinach. Wash the vegetable, place in a saucepan with no more than two tablespoonfuls of water. Put over a slow heat, and the juice will be drawn out. Squeeze thoroughly, and take a wine-glassful the very first thing every morning.

Cooking peas—Cook peas this way: Take the outside leaves of some lettuces and well wash them and put in the bottom of a saucepan. Put the peas on top of leaves, gradually bringing to boil. The juice from the lettuce leaves is enough to cook the peas without water. Before serving, add a piece of butter or margarine, salt and sugar.

Icing- When icing a cake, add a good pinch of starch. This will make the icing harden quickly.

Mushrooms- When cooking mushrooms remember to put them in boiling water before you fry them. If you do this they will not shrivel.

I think that I may try the tip about mushrooms and see if it really works!!

1st Ackworth Scout Group

This successful group meet every Tuesday at the Howard's School. Beaver (boys 6-8 years) and Cubs (boys 8-11 years). We are desperately short of leaders for the Cub section, and would very much like to re-start the Scout section for older boys ; at the moment boys have to leave us round about the 11th birthday because we do not have enough leader for all sections.

Can you help us!

Scouting offers a wide range variety of activities both indoors and outdoors, and its training scheme caters for all levels of ability through games, stories, craft and badge work through to its progressive training scheme. Recent activities have included a 'Family Fun Night', a visit for beavers to 'Forbidden Corner' in Wensleydale the Cubs enjoyed an evening Sailing and canoeing at Pugney Water park. Earlier in the year they sent a week-end youth hostelling in Derbyshire and have just returned from a four day camping expedition, where they had the opportunity to try new skills such as archery and karting.

If you feel you can help us in any way please contact the group leader on 01977 611225, or come along and visit us some Tuesday evening.

Boys may also join Beaver or Cubs in September—just come along to the Howard's school

T E Peacock (Leader in Charge)



ALL SAINTS' FLOWERS

OCTOBER 2 ND	ETHEL SMITH
OCTOBER 9 TH	CONGREGATION (HARVEST)
OCTOBER 16 TH	CONGREGATION
OCTOBER 23 RD	FLOWER FUND
OCTOBER 30 TH	PATRONAL FESTIVAL (CONGREGATION)
NOVEMBER 6 TH	CONGREGATION
NOVEMBER 13 TH	ADA PRITCHARD
NOVEMBER 20 TH	ADA PRITCHARD
NOVEMBER 27 TH	ADVENT

ST CUTHBERT'S FLOWERS

OCTOBER 2 ND	JEAN REAST
OCTOBER 9 TH	VACANT
OCTOBER 16 TH	WEDDING
OCTOBER 23 RD	JOYCE DODD
OCTOBER 30 TH	VACANT
NOVEMBER 6 TH	ADA PRITCHARD
NOVEMBER 13 TH	VACANT
NOVEMBER 20 TH	VACANT
NOVEMBER 27 TH	ADVENT

BRASSES

OCTOBER	MRS. STOTT
NOVEMBER	MRS. STOTT



LOADS OF MANURE

Large quantity of well-rotted manure available to anyone who has a trailer or is willing to bag it for themselves. Access for cars is possible. Free apart from donation to Church Restoration Fund. Ring 01977 795450 if interested!



WEST YORKSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

I thought you might be interested to hear that I responded to the item in the June/july magazine for a home fire safety check from the West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service and I telephoned them on their free phone number and was told someone would be in touch.

A short time later I was very surprised when the Fire Brigade drew up outside the door. However I had no need to worry as the two Fire Officers explained that they were in the area and had come to check the fire alarms and give advice on fire safety in the home but if they received a 999 call they would have to leave!

I have several smoke alarms and I knew the one in the kitchen didn't work, as it needed a new battery. It had tended to go off at the slightest whiff of smoke or heat so I hadn't bothered to replace the battery. They advise however, that I should not have one in the kitchen but in the hall and they duly put one in the hall, free of charge. The other smoke alarms were in working order.

Next there was a general chat about safety-did I smoke? Did I use a chip pan? Did I use an electric blanket (part of the service is to replace electric blankets that are over three years old) Did I use scented candles? Had I any flexes running under carpets? During the chat they advised to close all internal doors when retiring to bed and to leave the door keys in the same place every night so that one knows where they are in case of fire and one doesn't have to go hunting for them.

I felt that all this was good advice from these two officers who were a credit to the West Yorkshire Fire & rescue Service and if anyone wishes to have their smoke alarms checked, or smoke alarms fitted, they should ring the free phone number, which is 0800 587436

Jean Reast



GOD'S ACRE

When looking back through the old church magazines I often notice the many changes that have taken place in the life of the Church. However sometimes it seems that the same problems beset us as they did fifty or more years ago. None more so than the upkeep of the churchyards. This article comes from a magazine of May 1952.

"God's acre can be, and often is, a problem to those who have to look after it, especially as the grass grows long at this time of the year. To maintain it in a worthy condition, even to mow the grass once a year, for many country churches with large churchyards nowadays represents a serious drain on their finances. "God's acre" is frequently a considerable area which, if neglected, and the grass allowed to reach knee-high at least, would impart a down-at-heel look to the whole neighbourhood. A tidy churchyard is an amenity from which, therefore, all benefit. Further, since the churchyard forms the last resting-place of all in many villages-for the faithful as well as those who never pass through the church door in life- it follows that the churchyard is of concern to all. But it is often the Church alone which has to keep it up.

Now "keeping up" a churchyard is not what it was. To start with, it costs many times as much to get the hay mown. And that itself, in and out among the headstones with a tricky tool like a scythe, is skilled work requiring practitioners increasingly difficult to find. In other words, even when the church has the money, it is often hard to find some one to do the work.

How did our forefathers manage? They had their churchyards too. Gray's "Elegy in a Country Churchyard" would never have been written if they had not. It is almost certain that their habit was to keep the grass short by allowing sheep to graze among the tombstones. To keep the sheep off, in fact, was often the reason for the iron railings round the more elaborate tombs.

Their churchyards, also, did not grow larger to the same extent as ours do. To prevent that, our "rude forefathers", as the poet Gray called them, in their wisdom cleared God's acre and started again as it filled up.

Neither of these factors can operate now. The latter would be resisted by many people. And sheep can never again be the solution. Why? Because the carefully tended graves of today, the vases of flowers, the polished kerbs, are not made for the rough treatment, which the mounds of our forefathers withstood.

But there is another reason. The modern tendency is to regard the churchyard as a place for numerous individual graves, privately cared for and maintained, instead of seeing it, as our forebears rightly did and

the law still does, as the common grave of the parish. The fact remains that somehow the Church must go on maintaining its "God's Acres" for the benefit of everyone, including the Church's critics and the vast army of the "couldn't care less".

FLOWER FUND AT ALL SAINTS

I am pleased to say, thanks to sponsors and the contributions from the congregation, that the flower fund remains healthy. With the consent of the aforesaid, contributions from the fund have also been made for the proposed alterations at All Saints. Thanks to all who have contributed. My particular gratitude to Mary and Jean without whose help I would not be able to continue in charge, which I would regret greatly.

On December 7th (Wednesday) I hope to hold the annual coffee morning, after All Saints' morning service, (10.30 to 12.30).

As always that morning, there will be seasonal refreshments, holly available, and "bring and buy" of small articles suitable for Christmas.

Unless I hear to the contrary I will allocate the usual Sundays (as near as possible to the date) to sponsors for flowers. Anyone wishing to become a sponsor please let me know by December 7th.

Ethel M. Smith

MARTHA'S REVENGE

One day- many hundreds of years ago now, a stranger monk went to visit a certain monastery on Mt. Sinai.

The brethren were busy, working in their fields and gardens, and the stranger began to chide them.

"Why," he asked, quoting the words of our Lord, "do you labour for the meat that perishes?" and he told them that they would do far better to follow the example of Mary rather than of Martha.

The brethren made no reply, except that Silvanus, the abbot told Zachary, one of their number, to find the stranger a spiritual book and show him to an empty cell. This he did. They then went back to work.

That evening the stranger came out of his cell and found Silvanus.

"Tell me, Father," he said, "do the brethren not eat today?"

"Yes," replied Silvanus, "Why not?"

"Because no one has summoned me to a meal."

"But we thought you were different," said Silvanus. "We are carnal men and must eat. You are a spiritual man, and do not mind things of the flesh."

The stranger looked away.

"It is good to remember," continued Silvanus, "that we can only have Mary's as long as there are Martha's. Come and eat."

August and September 2005 Readings and Readers

Date	Liturgical Week	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel	St Cuthbert's	All Saints'
02/10/2005	Proper 22	Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20	Philippians 3:4b-14	Matthew 21:33-46	Mrs Woofinden	Dr McWilliam
09/10/2005	Proper 23	Exodus 32:1-14	Philippians 4:1-9	Matthew 22:1-14	George Scargill	Mrs S Hall
16/10/2005	Proper 24	Exodus 33:12-23	1 Thessalonians 1:1-10	Matthew 22:15-20	Jane Siddall	Mrs Backhouse
23/10/2005	Proper 25	Deuteronomy 34:1-14	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Matthew 22:34-46	Sue Hartley	Mrs M Walker
30/10/2005	All Saints' Day	Revelation 7:9-17	1 John 3:1-3	Matthew 5:1-12	xxxxxxxxxxxxxx	
06/11/2005	3rd Before Advent	Amos 5:18-24	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	Matthew 25:1-13	Mr Shaw	Dr McWilliam
13/11/2005	2nd Before Advent	Zephaniah 1:7 & 12-18	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Matthew 25:14-30	Jacob Place	Mrs S Hall
20/11/2005	Christ the King	Ezekiel 34:1-16 & 20-24	Ephesians 1:15-23	Matthew 25:31-46	Susan Clarke	Mrs Backhouse



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GARDEN BIRDS

Autumn's here again and our winter visitors are beginning to re-appear after their summer "holidays". We fed the many and varied birds throughout the winter and then in the spring we saw the frenzied activity when nesting began.

We had high hopes as we watched the male wren build an intricate nest in the ivy under the window box but were disappointed when it obviously didn't match up to the exacting requirements of the female and it was abandoned. The poor male has to build several nests before one is found to be acceptable.

Meanwhile, Henry's fur began to come out in profusion as the warmer weather came, and after each grooming session it was put out in various parts of the garden. It was interesting to see how eagerly it was collected by some of the birds and obviously used in the nest. We would have loved to have seen some of these creations lined with ginger or white fur. (The enemy has his uses!)

Then the young birds began to appear and we watched with delight as young blue tits and great tits began to be seen in the garden. The young goldfinches were only recognisable because of their distinc-

tive shape. The young starlings were so attractive in their juvenile state but so aggressive with each other, certainly sibling rivalry was there. They fed happily with any of the other birds but not with each other.

The tamest of all the young birds was the robin. It was a joy to watch as they began to achieve their adult plumage. One day, on returning home, a young robin was sitting on the doorstep and made no attempt to move as I approached. Fearing that it was unwell I bent down and began to stroke it and talk to it. Wondering where to place it for its own safety I began to pick it up and it was only then that it decided to fly away quite capable of taking care of itself!

Some birds remained all summer but the long tailed tits, the jay, wrens, greenfinches and pheasants disappeared to forage for their own food in the fields and hedgerows but are now beginning to return.

The jay which came very early every morning, well before six o'clock, had obviously "planted" peanuts in one of the flower tubs as several of them were found when replanting the flowers and now a strange plant has grown and we wonder if it is a peanut plant. We had hoped to gather up plenty of acorns for the jay, wood pigeons and squirrel this year to supplement their winter-feed but the season seems to have been a poor one for them- at least around here.

We have been delighted at the variety of birds that have visited us and look forward to seeing some of our rarer guests such as the tree creeper, fieldfare, jackdaw and heron again



Fieldfare



Treecreeper



Jackdaw



Heron



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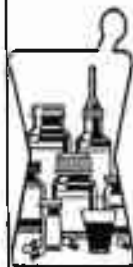
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THE COLOUR PURPLE

This was the name of the last guided walk in Brockadale for this season. Until April next year the monthly meetings will be held, as last year, in the upstairs room at the Brown Cow at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of each month.

We were a small group for this walk as it was at the earlier time of 6.30. There were lots of beautiful, delicate harebells nodding their heads in the strong wind. Unfortunately a lot of the flowers had almost finished flowering in profusion although there were traces of knapweed and clustered bellflower still to be seen and various varieties of thistles including the carline thistle whose seed head was incredibly beautiful. A small, almost inconspicuous flower, called eyebright, which is a parasitic plant, proved to be extremely attractive when looked at closely with a hand held lens. Another plant called St. John's wort was also worth a closer inspection. We also saw wild liquorice growing on the hillside, which is quite rare in this area.

As we were walking along looking for the flowers we spotted what appeared to be a white flower growing. However on closer inspection it turned out to be a spider which none of us had seen before. It was very well camouflaged, and until it moved its legs upon being disturbed could well have been a flower. Looking in books we discovered it to be a crab spider, which is usually to be found in southern England. It was obviously the female spider, which is usually white with a fat body. It sits amongst flowers, ready to pounce upon pollinating insects by grasping them with its long crab-like front legs.



St John's Wort



Spidercrab

DRIVER BEWARE!

If you find modern day driving stressful, the other motorists aggressive and inconsiderate, be thankful you haven't encountered any of the following drivers who were unfortunate enough to be involved in accidents. These are true things written by them on insurance company claim forms.

- I didn't think the speed limit applied after midnight.
- To avoid hitting the bumper of the car in front, I struck the pedestrian.
- The man was all over the road. I had to swerve a number of times before I hit him.
- I knocked over a man. He admitted it was his fault as he had been run over before.
- Coming home I drove into the wrong house and collided with a tree I don't have.
- The other car collided with mine without giving warning of its intentions.
- In my attempts to kill a fly, I drove into a telegraph pole.
- I collided with a stationary truck coming the other way.
- I had been driving for forty years when I fell asleep at the wheel and had an accident.
- An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished.
- The pedestrian had no idea which way to run, so I ran over him.
- I thought my window was down but I found out it was up when I put my head through it.
- I was thrown from my car as it left the road and was found later in a ditch by some stray cows.
- I had been shopping for plants all day and was on my way home. As I reached an intersection, a hedge sprang up, obscuring my vision and I did not see the other car.



A POTTY FESTIVAL

(From your Norfolk Correspondents)

No not the kind you find under the bed, or use as a baby's training aid, the title is derived from the lobster pot, which gives the name to a local Morris Dance group, the Lobster Potties.

Norfolk is the home to a number of other such groups and annually a festival is held in the coastal town of Sheringham, where they gather together and perform. This year nineteen groups supported this event from as far a field as Kent, Leeds, Leicester, Northants and Halle in Germany. The two-day festival began with a colourful and entertaining procession through the town, followed by demonstrations at four prominent sites. When not dancing the participants wandered around in their colourful and distinctive costumes, one had to admire the nerve of a man attired in an old fashioned farm worker's smock, with a black top hat, and those with blackened faces, one smoking a pipe and pushing a push chair looked particularly odd.

We learned of the various types of regional styles of dancing which have been practised since before Shakespeare's time (16th century) and it is thought may have been brought back by the Crusaders, being derived from Moorish dances, hence the name Morris.

Northwest Clog probably dates back to the 1600s although it only came to fore in the 1800s, when men had to wear clogs for work in the mines and factories. Clogs were the only footwear that the majority of people could afford, in the mill towns and villages of the north, and it naturally followed that dances had to be tailored to the footwear, it was not possible for them to perform the fancy steps and the twisting and leaping associated with, for instance Cotswold. So the Norwest Clog style became commonplace in Lancashire, Cheshire, and parts of Yorkshire and Derbyshire. In some areas of Lancashire it became the practice for dancers to blacken their faces in the hope that they would not be recognised by their bosses.

Cotswold figures were being danced by the 16th century with the style concentrated in the Cotswold counties. In the 1900s, when traditional dancing began to decline, the Cotswolds was one of the first areas visited, by enthusiasts, in order to record details of the dances before they fell into oblivion.

Border is the tradition of Shropshire and Herefordshire and appears to be a combined form of Cotswold and Country Dance figures with perhaps a dash of Northwest thrown in for good measure. The dances are typically performed vigorously and flamboyantly with blackened faces.

Clog Stepping is a tradition that has grown up in various parts of the country, such as the North of England, where clogs were the traditional footwear, the dances are derived from other Morris figures but, unlike the Northwest, who dance in iron shod clogs, clog steppers dance in the bare wooden sole and heel, their best effect is achieved by dancing on wooden boards or a stage.

Appalachian styles of dancing originate from the peoples living in the Appalachian Mountains in America. The dances can be performed in any footwear but it is usual to wear boots or stout shoes. The figures, which are akin to square dances, are performed in a flamboyant manner with great vigour.

Garland was founded mainly in the industrial areas of Lancashire, where the sides performed with blackened faces and would dance with garlands to add a bit of colour. Nowadays garland dancing is associated with women's sides.

Molly was originally danced in Cambridgeshire and the Fens; the costume is based on old-fashioned farm worker's dress. It is said that the dancers would take a plough with them on their rounds, and, if they were not rewarded, as they thought they should be, with beer and food or money, they would plough up the driveway. Another form of Molly is danced with four brooms set out in the form of a square.

It is good to note that this part of our precious heritage is being preserved albeit if only in certain parts of the country, what a pity it is not more widely practised, especially in this part of Yorkshire.

Sue & Colin Tanswell



Bonfire Toffee

A nice recipe for the kids.

Ingredients:

- 60g Margarine
- 180g White Sugar
- 155g Golden Syrup
- 70g Black Treacle
- 20mls Vinegar

Method:

Put the margarine and the white sugar in a saucepan and heat gently, stirring all of the time. When all of the margarine has melted, add the golden syrup and black treacle. Continue to stir until the sugar has dissolved. Boil slowly, over a low heat, stirring occasionally.

You need to boil off enough water for the mixture to solidify when cooled to room temperature but you also need to keep the temperature of the mixture low enough during cooking to prevent burning. The test involves getting a sample of mixture on a teaspoon and dropping it into cold water - either in a cup or a saucer. When the test yields a soft but not liquid result, add the vinegar carefully. The water and most of the acetic acid in the vinegar will boil off but some will stay in the toffee and modify the flavour - most importantly, the malt will stay in the final toffee.

Lightly grease a toffee tray with margarine.

Keep on boiling slowly and testing every few minutes (*things speed up towards the end*) until you get a stiff result - you will get a feel for how fast you can boil toffee without burning it. Carefully pour into a greased toffee tray and let cool. When cold, break up with a toffee hammer or the handle of a heavy knife or spoon.

Variations:

1. Add some peppermint oil or orange oil near the end to alter the flavour slightly.
2. Add some nuts (sliced roast almonds or brazils).

Storage:

Break up and store in an airtight tin - bonfire toffee is deliquescent so, unless you want to end up with a sugar solution, make sure that it is airtight.

Serving suggestions:

Eat straight from the tin whilst watching the bonfire.

Special Services

Oct	9th	10.15am (SC)	Harvest Thanksgiving— a Celebration of Community
		6.30pm (AS)	Harvest Praise
	16th	6.30pm (AS)	Evensong with Healing Prayer
	18th	7.30pm (SC)	Holy Communion - St Luke
	30th	All Saints' Sunday	
		10.15am (AS)	Patronal Festival—Holy Communion <i>(NO 8.30am at AS; NO 10.15am at SC)</i>
		5.00pm (SC)	Commemoration of the Faithful Departed <i>(NO Evensong at AS)</i>
Nov	13th	Remembrance Sunday	
		10.00am (SC)	Said Communion
		11.00am (SC)	Service of Remembrance
	27th	Advent Sunday	
		4.00pm (AS)	Christingle Service
		6.00pm (SC)	Christingle Service

From the Registers

Baptisms

July	10th	Hannah Louise Morris & Harry Kenneth Copley
	31st	Jordan Thomas & Eden George Varley Amelia Grace Hardman

Marriages

July	2nd	Andrew David Houston & Danielle Louise Williams Jon Grindrod & Michelle Ball
July	16th	Michael James Beaumont & Suzanna Marie Booth
	23rd	Michael Keith Bamfield & Rachel Elizabeth Baxter Matthew Sanderson & Amanda Sarah Jane Newby
Aug	4th	Adam William Broderick & Julia Theresa Gill
	5th	Richard Mark Haigh & Cheryl Ann Vincent
	27th	Richard Fulcher & Karen Dutton

Funerals

July	1st	Dominic Ethan Evans (21) 9 Millers Croft, Ackworth
	21st	Michael G Robinson (64) 96 Taylors Ave, Cleethorpes
Aug	1st	Leslie Ryan (63) 19 Barnsley Road, Ackworth
	8th	Winifred Guy (92) 51 Rhyddings Drive, Ackworth

Sunday Services for October and November

Sunday Services (usual pattern)

8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong (October)	All Saints'
3.30pm	Evensong (November) (except last Sunday in month)	All Saints'
4.00pm	Open Door Service (last Sunday in month)	All Saints'

Wednesday Service

9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
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Dates for Your Diary

1st Oct	Sat	10.00am	Parish Walk starting at St Cuthbert's
3rd Oct	Mon	7.30pm	PCC Meeting
20th Oct	Thur	7.30pm	Antiques Roadshow at St Cuthbert's
27th Nov	Sun	4.00pm	Christingle Service, All Saints'
		6.00pm	Christingle Service, St Cuthbert's

St Cuthberts

Antiques Road Show

Wednesday 20th October 2005, 7pm to 9pm

Bring your own for a valuation by the experts.

Further details: 619356/613178

Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Sunday 9.00am Mass

ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday	10.30am	Worship
	6.30pm	Prayer Meeting
Tuesday	9.30—11.15am	Parents and Toddlers Group
Wednesday	9.30—11.15pm	Parents and Toddlers Group

All services and meetings are held at the Ackworth Parish Council Community Centre, Bell Lane.