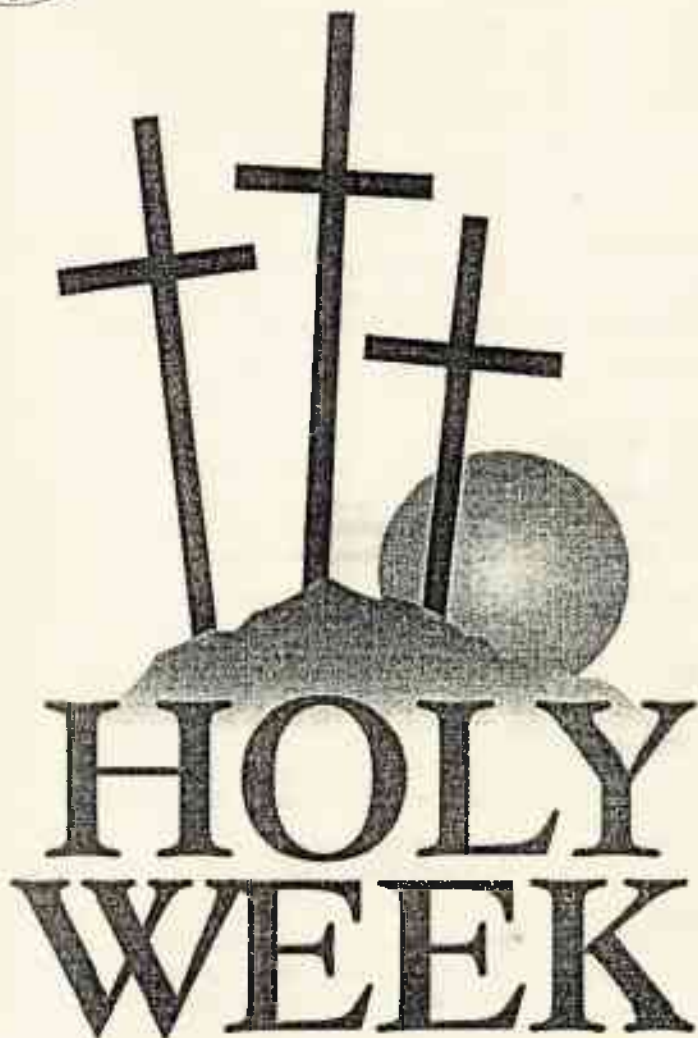




# Ackworth Parish Magazine



Apr 2007/May 2007  
50p per copy (£3 per year)

**~ Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who ~**

<b><u>Rector:</u></b>	Rev'd Paul Hartley, The Rectory, Ackworth	602751
<b><u>Assistant Curate:</u></b>	Rev'd Dr Jenny Montgomery, 37 Highfield Road, Pontefract	702726
<b><u>Lay Readers:</u></b>	Dr. Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove	613834
	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>Secretary:</u></b>	Mrs Caroline Longhurst	01924
	27 Springhill Avenue, Crofton	865026
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<b>Treasurer:</b>	Mr Bryan Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill	616074
<b>Covenant Secretary:</b>	Mr Donald Marshall, 17 Hill Drive	700961
<b>Stewardship Recorder:</b>	Mrs Sue Hartley, The Rectory, Ackworth	602751
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<b>Mums &amp; Tots Group:</b>	Mrs Jackie Fox, 5 Andrews Grove	613834
<b>Children's Society:</b>	Mrs Helen Parkinson, 48 Holly Bank	614400
<b>The Howard C E School:</b>	Miss Sue Jackson, Headteacher	722275
<b><u>Third World and Missions:</u></b>	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View	616384
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<b><u>Church Flowers/Brasses:</u></b>		
<b>St Cuthbert's:</b>	Mrs Phyllis Asquith, 70 Pontefract Road	704732
<b>All Saints':</b>	Miss Ethel Smith, 'Solentia', Wakefield Road	611258
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<b><u>Parish Magazine:</u></b>		
<b>Publishing:</b>	Mrs Stella Hall, 32 Station Road	612003
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<b>Distribution:</b>	Mrs Biddy Branston, 8 Andrews Grove	610590
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<b>Tower Captain:</b>	Mr Ian Hall, 32 Station Road	612003
<b>Ringling Master:</b>	Mrs Stella Hall, 32 Station Road	612003

Dear Friends

As is usually the case with this particular issue each year, there was no shortage of events or issues to write about!

From the beginning of April (Palm Sunday) and through the first week we have Holy Week and Easter Sunday; on the 6th May we will be hosting a confirmation service by the Bishop of Pontefract and in the middle of these two we have our annual parochial church meeting on the 22nd. That's not including Ascension Day and Pentecost or Whit Sunday of the 27th May! In past magazine articles I have covered all of these events more than once and how do you choose one without neglecting the other? It's quite a dilemma to know where to start, I'm sure you'll agree?!



One answer of course is to try and include them all, or as much of them as possible in one article by lining them with a common theme, writing as I am, ahead of time during Lent, the solution came from the ecumenical Lent Study Groups we are holding again this year with representation from all the churches in Ackworth. The theme of the study course focuses on a very important commemoration which we celebrate this year particularly in Yorkshire but throughout the country—the bicentennial anniversary of the abolition of slavery (William Wilberforce was schooled in Pocklington and became MP for Hull).

Slavery, along with its closely linked subject of service and servanthood is a common theme which runs through many of the events of Holy Week and Easter, the APCM and Confirmation.

Let me explain! Firstly, the Gospel of Christ preaches freedom from slavery—the slavery of sin and has at its heart the duty of service towards God and our neighbours; a 'service' which Christ preached, 'offers' perfect freedom. Following the example of our Lord and master who 'emptied himself, taking the form of a servant' (Philippians 2:1 Song of Christ's Glory) we are called to become servants of the Gospel ourselves. In Holy Week we see two supreme acts of service, firstly in the washing of his disciples' feet on Maundy Thursday, as an example

for all disciples to follow and that supreme act of service on Good Friday when he died on the cross for our sakes, or as that passage from Philippians (2:1-11) goes on to say in verse 8: 'and being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on the cross'.



At the confirmation service (which I urge you all to attend to support our brothers and sisters in Christ as they make this important step of faith in their lives) the Bishop confirms with the laying on of hands using the words; "Confirm O Lord (N) your servant with your Holy Spirit" and finally we have the Annual Parochial Church Meeting!

What, you might ask has that to do with service or servanthood? Amongst other things, one of the important functions of the annual meeting is to appoint officers to serve the church, churchwardens, PCC members and sidespeople. In general terms, their function is to ensure that the church is kept going to serve the needs of the parish, celebrate God's glory in worship and serve God. Although such offices in the church are positions of responsibility they are essentially there purely to serve God and his mission. Though the business of PCC meetings and annual meetings do embody much that people see as boring administrative duty, which are after all features of servant hood, they do support the vital functions of running the church that it might carry out its vital mission of preaching the gospel in word and action and performing its duty of care embodied in our Lord's command to love one another. Let us never forget that the service of God is perfect freedom; as Jesus himself said in Matthew , chapter 11:3 "My yoke (of slavery/ servanthood) is easy and my burden is light".

Can you serve in return for the service that God and his church has given you for many years? There are several vacancies on PCC, let's hope that none remain vacant by the APCM as some have done in recent years.

A happy and holy Easter from  
Paul and Sue.

# He's Risen!

## Resurrection

Easter is a glorious time of celebration, a time to rejoice that Christ is risen. After the solemn reflection of Lent it is a time to look forward with hope to new life. Spring is the right time to celebrate Christ's resurrection because it is the season of growth and newness. Jesus said these words:

"I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die."

*John 11.25-26*

These are words of such glorious hope and this resurrection and new life is what we celebrate in our Easter liturgy, starting with our Easter Eve service when we light the Easter fire and bring the light of Christ into our church.

Having brought the light of Christ into the church we then must spread this light out into the world. In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus calls his followers to be light-bearers:

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven." *Matthew 5.14-16*

This is the great call for us to witness to that light and new life

which Jesus came to bring.

Spring is the season of new growth and it seems a good time to share a prophecy I was given just after I came to Ackworth. I had very ambivalent feelings about the whole thing and felt that Ackworth was a hard place to spread the gospel. I went to a women's prayer breakfast, sharing with Christians from many denominations. One of the leaders prayed with me at the end about my feelings and we were given a very clear prophecy. We both saw the same picture of green shoots poking up through concrete. I really wasn't sure what to make of this but shared it with Paul.

To our great joy, we are seeing this prophecy fulfilled. What are the signs? Church attendance is up. Giving is up. New people are coming into church. We have four adults and seven children to be confirmed soon. There is a nurture group. There is a small but active prayer group. The healing service is amazing. New ministries have developed. People are thinking seriously about God's call on their life. These are all markers of health in a church. There are very clear signs of the work of the Holy Spirit. In fact, not only have we green shoots, in some cases we have plants!

This Easter we have lots to celebrate. First and foremost we celebrate the fact that **He is Risen!** We also can celebrate the fact that he is present and active in our midst and that by the power of the Holy Spirit there is new life and growth. We can look to the future with hope. We can look forward with excitement as God says to each one of us:

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" *Isaiah 43.19*

A happy and blessed Easter to all of you as we look forward to the new things that God will do.

Love in Christ

Jenny

## Ecumenical Milestone.

In what was a first for the Wakefield Diocese, and amongst only a handful in West Yorkshire as a whole (including Bradford and Leeds), we have been granted permission by the Bishop of Pontefract to allow the Rev'd Alice Musgrove, our local Methodist Minister, to celebrate Holy communion in St Cuthbert's and All Saints' churches (letter of permission dated 16/2/07).

Although it is over three years ago that Anglican and Methodist leaders signed a covenant that brought them much closer, especially in worship matters, this is one of the first practical moves we have seen in these areas. In the near future it is anticipated that permission will be granted for Jenny and myself to celebrate the sacrament of Holy communion in the Methodist Church. Meanwhile, we look forward to welcoming Iris to preside at the altar as well as preaching from the pulpit as she has done on several occasions in the last few months.

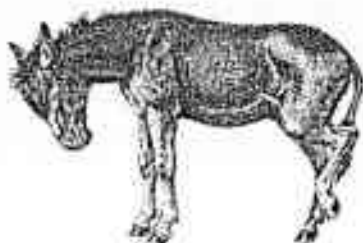
## THE LITTLE DONKEY

Could he have known, as he patiently stood,  
That this was the moment ordained by the Word?  
Shaggy, and humble, and gentle, and good,  
Waiting to worship his Maker and Lord.

"Come, He has need of thee, brother so lowly.  
Honoured art thou at thy Maker's behest.  
Bear Him, oh gently, thy burden most holy,  
Hail! Little donkey, of all creatures blest.

Lo! The King cometh, Himself to surrender,  
Now and forever His glory to prove.  
Virtues are thine such as mortals may ponder,  
For worship is service-and service is Love".

Rosina Belle Quillian





## THE WEATHER

Nowadays if we want to know what the weather has in store for us there are many options that we can use to find out what it might be and whether or not there are any precautions that we ought to consider taking. It might be protecting plants from a late frost or securing property if gales are forecast. We can find out by turning to the weather forecast on the radio or television, reading the newspaper or even using the Internet. But many years ago there were none of those choices available but people were still very much influenced by the weather in their daily lives and so developed the practice of predicting the very unpredictable British weather. Many of those predictions were linked to farming and the sea. One of the best known of these is –Red sky at night, a shepherd's delight, Red sky in the morning a shepherd's warning. (This is mentioned in the Bible-Matthew chapter 16 verses 2 & 3.)

April is well known for its showers and one saying is "Thunder in April, Floods in May." Also it is said-"A cold April and a full barn." "March winds and April showers Bring forth May flowers."

Other sayings for May include-"A wet May, Brings forth good hay" and "A hot May makes a fat churchyard".

Clouds were also a great influence on predicting weather patterns. If the sky is full of small fluffy white clouds it is said-"If woolly fleeces strew the heavenly way, Be sure no rain disturbs the summer's day". However when the cirrus clouds appear high up and wind-swept they announce the arrival of wind. "Mackerel sky and mares' tails, Make tall ships carry low sails".



A mackerel sky denotes that fine weather is disappearing for a short time. "Mackerel sky, mackerel sky, never long wet, never long dry". However if the clouds seem together in large blocks then showers are imminent. "When clouds appear like rocks and towers, the earth will be refreshed by frequent showers".

However beware when clouds build up to make a lowering black anvil shape in the sky for that means that a thunderstorm is almost certain to occur.



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or there may just be room on the night! **See you there!**

## UNDERSTANDING THE FEMALE OF THE SPECIES

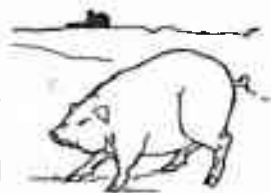
### Marriage Seminar

Whilst attending a marriage seminar dealing with communication, Tom and his wife Grace listened to the instructor. "It is essential that husbands and wives know each others likes and dislikes ", he said. He then addressed Tom. "Can you tell me the name of your wife's favourite flower?" Tom leaned over and touched his wife's arm gently and whispered, "It's Homepride, isn't it?".



### Wife and Husband

A couple drove down a country road for several miles without saying a word. An earlier discussion had led to an argument and neither of them



wanted to concede their position. As they passed a field full of mules, goats and pigs the husband asked sarcastically, "Relatives of yours?" "Yes", the wife replied, "in-laws".

### Words

A husband read an article aloud to his wife about how many words women use each day---30, 000 to a man's 15,000. The wife replied, "The reason has to be because we have to repeat everything we say to a man". The husband turned to his wife and asked, "What?"

Finally. God may have created man before woman but there is always a rough draft before a masterpiece!



## WEDDING WAYS

Now is the time of year when so many weddings are taking place and there are many different customs that may be observed at them. Here are a few of the origins of these customs.

The word wedding comes from an old English word meaning to weld together, signifying the essential meaning of the ceremony as it describes the welding of two persons into one. Many customs have gathered around the wedding ceremony. Nowadays when a couple get engaged the woman receives an engagement ring. In former times, there was a custom, of breaking a crooked coin and each keeping half as a pledge of their love. (This was the basis of the title of the musical 'Half a Sixpence', adapted from the novel, 'Kipps'.) The crooked coin was an emblem of good luck. Sometimes two rings were purchased which could both be halved and the halves interchanged and they were so made that they could be locked together again, the woman's to the man's, and the man's to the woman's.



Bridesmaids today are entirely ornamental, but in olden times they were there to accompany the bride to church and after church they went with her to her new home and their last duty was to undress her and put her to bed. In some parts however it was the custom of the bridegroom's men to bring the bride to church and the bridesmaids to bring the bridegroom and perhaps the pages who bear the bride's train today are a relic of that custom. While bridesmaids are still numerous, the bridegroom's men have shrunk away to the best man and ushers.

The bride's veil is, of course a relic of when women went veiled. Over her head she may wear a wreath of orange blossom, which is more ornate than the wreath of corn ears, which she once wore, but both convey the suggestion that she should be fruitful in bearing children.



At a fashionable wedding a red carpet is laid down for the couple to walk on from their cars to the church. In former days the whole way from the house to the church as well as the nave of the church itself was strewn with flowers and evergreens, whilst all their friends wore sprigs of rosemary-the flower that signifies remembrance. The giving away of the bride by her father, or close male relative, reminds us that a woman was always supposed to be under the protection of someone.

Long ago, the first part of the ceremony took place in the porch and that is one of the reasons why old porches are so large. This was done to ensure that the ceremony took place in public. The ring is placed on the fourth finger of the woman's left hand- the reason given being that the left hand is used less often than the right hand and the fourth finger less used than any other finger (since it cannot, unlike any other finger, be stretched out by itself) the ring is less likely to get broken. Another reason given is that our forefathers believed that a vein ran from it direct to the heart.

The giving and receiving of a ring is a very old custom. It is made of gold as being the most precious substance and it is round as signifying that love has no ending. Strange as it may seem to us, brides of old wore knives suspended from their girdles together with a bunch of keys, a bodkin, seals and even pincers to show that they were adepts in household matters. Instead of today's bouquet of flowers she carried a bunch of herbs to show that she was an expert in the culinary and healing arts.

As they left the church, rice or corn was thrown over them signifying the desire of their friends and relatives that they may have plenty of money and children. The wedding cake too has a history- it was used in Roman times when little cakes were given to the pair as part of the marriage ceremony. In later times the custom arose of breaking up those little cakes into pieces and passing them through the wedding ring, and then giving them to the girls and young men present who would put them under their pillows, believing that when they were asleep their future partners would appear to them in their dreams.



## THE GRASS SNAKE

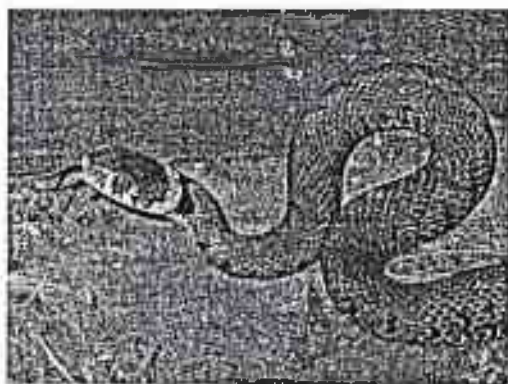
This is a poem written by the grandson of one of our readers.  
James is eleven years old.

As it slithers through the grass,  
Skin as shiny as green glass,  
Looking for a mouse to eat,  
In the massive field of wheat.

It slithers to the riverside,  
In a steady little glide.  
It goes in to have a swim,  
Scaring fish limb from limb.

It swims down stream for a mile,  
Then it sleeps in the sun for a while.  
It speedily goes to catch its prey,  
But the mouse runs too far astray.

James Lovell



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## ALL SAINTS' FLOWERS

APRIL 1ST.	LENT
APRIL 8TH	CONGREGATION & EDITH SKIDMORE
APRIL 15TH	CONGREGATION & EDITH SKIDMORE
APRIL 22 <sup>ND</sup>	FLOWER FUND
APRIL 29 <sup>TH</sup>	FLOWER FUND
MAY 6 <sup>TH</sup>	BETTY JOHNSON
MAY 13 <sup>TH</sup>	FLOWER FUND
MAY 20 <sup>TH</sup>	ETHEL SMITH
MAY 27 <sup>TH</sup>	PENTECOST CONGREGATION

## ST CUTHBERT'S FLOWERS

APRIL 1 <sup>ST</sup>	LENT
APRIL 8 <sup>TH</sup>	CONGREGATION
APRIL 15 <sup>TH</sup>	CONGREGATION
APRIL 22 <sup>ND</sup>	CONGREGATION
APRIL 29 <sup>TH</sup>	CONGREGATION
MAY 6 <sup>TH</sup>	MOLLIE GARDHAM
MAY 13 <sup>TH</sup>	JANET BATEMAN
MAY 20 <sup>TH</sup>	CONGREGATION
MAY 29 <sup>TH</sup>	CONGREGATION



## BRASSES

APRIL	PHYLLIS ASQUITH
MAY	PHYLLIS ASQUITH





## Readings Rota for April 2007, May 2007

Date	Liturgical Week	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel	St Cuthbert's	All Saints'
01/04/2007	Palm Sunday	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Philippians 2:5-11	Luke 23:1-49	George Scargill	Mrs S Hall
08/04/2007	Easter Day	Isaiah 65:17-end	Acts 10:34-43	John 20:1-18	Jane Siddall	P Mrs Backhouse
15/04/2007	2nd Sunday of Easter	Exodus 14:10-31 & 15:20-21	Acts 5:27-32	John 20:19-31	Sue Hartley	Mrs M Walker
22/04/2007	3rd Sunday of Easter	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)	John 21:1-19	Keith Shaw	Dr McWilliam
29/04/2007	4th Sunday of Easter	Genesis 7:1-5, 11-18 & 8:6-18 & 9:8-13	Acts 9:36-43	John 10:22-30	Pauline Wong	B Mrs S Hall
06/05/2007	5th Sunday of Easter	Genesis 22:1-18	Acts 11:1-18	John 13:31-35	Emil Brown	
13/05/2007	6th Sunday of Easter	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Acts 16:9-15	John 5:1-9	Miss Parker	P Mrs M Walker
20/05/2007	7th Sunday of Easter	Ezekiel 36:24-28	Acts 16:16-34	John 17:20-26	Anne Atack	Dr McWilliam
27/05/2007	Day of Pentecost	Genesis 11:1-9	Acts 2:1-21	John 14:8-17 & 25-27	George Scargill	B Mrs S Hall





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## RDA ACKWORTH GROUP

The RDA Association was founded in 1965 as the Advisory Council on Riding for the Disabled and became Riding for the Disabled Association in 1969. In 1986 HRH the Princess Royal became President. There are more than 500 volunteer groups in the UK with more than 18,000 volunteers.

Ackworth RDA recently celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary during which time they have provided therapeutic and recreational riding for a large number of adults and children, with a wide variety of disabilities.

Blue Boy has played a wonderful and significant part in this record. Blue Boy was 28 on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. He has been with Ackworth RDA since he was two years old, almost as long as the Ackworth RDA has been in existence. He is still in good health and is still ridden but at 28 years old, he is the human equivalent of eighty years old. The RDA need to replace him fairly soon and are looking for a younger animal which will help some of the riders to progress and take part in dressage competitions.

Ackworth RDA relies entirely on voluntary donations; it costs around £12,000 a year to cover running costs and finding the £3,000 that will be needed to purchase another Blue Boy is quite an undertaking. The RDA is appealing to local businesses and organisations to ask for help in raising this sum

### FRIENDS OF ACKWORTH RDA:

Shortly the Group will be launching a Friends scheme. It is aimed at young people up to the age of fourteen. Friends will be offered four evenings (once a month from May during the summer) at the RDA centre in Station Road when they can meet the horses, groom them and have a short ride. Friends must enrol beforehand: the cost is £10.

Contact Alison Harris 01977 795450 or Anne Cook 01977 610637 if you are interested.



## IT'S A SMALL WORLD

As I have said upon a number of occasions, when contributing articles to the Parish Magazine, reference to St. Mary's Church, Shrewsbury, in the February/March magazine brought back memories of my childhood and a family connection stretching back over a hundred years.

Like Oxford, the town skyline is dominated by church spires, the tallest being that of St. Mary's, standing in the heart of the medieval town since about 1170. It has outstanding windows dominated by the largely 14<sup>th</sup> century English glass Jesse window, already located in two other Shrewsbury churches before being finally installed in St. Mary's in 1788. Other glass has been brought in from Belgium, Holland and Germany. One window depicting the life of St. Bernard, made in Cologne circa 1500, was taken from the Abbey Church of Altenberg to escape the attentions of Napoleon, after laying it in storage it was bought in 1845, by the then vicar, for £425 in a London auction.



My great grandfather was Verger and Sexton, living in one of the 16<sup>th</sup> century black and white, half-timbered, cottages adjacent to the church. His brother made the table upon which the visitors' book is placed.

My grandmother, who was a prize winning dressmaker, looked after the church vestments for over fifty years. A previous vicar wrote, "No-one in the long history of St. Mary's has been more loyal to her church, which she has served with such dedication during her long life".

My father also gave a lifetime of service, being a choirboy, King's scout, a server for sixty years, Parochial Church Council member for almost forty years, Church Warden for thirteen years, Sub Deacon at High Mass for twenty years and he even cleaned the brasses with his sister in the last eight years of his life. He was also Secretary of the Deanery Synod for six years.

My own involvement has been less impressive. I was baptised there, but upon becoming a regular worshipper, I changed my allegiance to St. Chad's where my grandfather had been a chorister for

over sixty years.

We held a Blessing service for our elder son, who is adopted, at St. Mary's in 1975, shortly before it was rumoured that the church was to become redundant, in being absorbed into a new Benefice. I am delighted to hear that this did not occur and that services are still being held there.

I have retained a link with the town, where I am a hereditary Freeman of the Borough, and I will make a point of re-acquainting myself with my family heritage the next time I visit.

Colin Tanswell

## HANDY HINTS

A few more handy hints from the 1950's.

It is interesting to find out from readers that some of these hints from so long ago really do work!

### Hair tonic.

Gather a few young nettles and put them into two pints of water (rain water if possible) and place the pan onto the stove. Let the liquid simmer gently for two hours and then strain off the liquid and then place it in a bottle when it has cooled. Saturate the scalp thoroughly with the lotion every other night. This will prevent hair loss and makes it beautifully soft and glossy.

### Old brass

To clean old brass or copper items, mix a small quantity of ammonia with some Brasso. If the article happens to be green with age or neglect, use a wire pot cleaner to apply the lotion and rub well. When dry polish with a soft cloth.

### Scorched linen

If an article is accidentally scorched whilst ironing it may be rectified by rubbing the area with a freshly cut onion. Afterwards soak it in a solution of cold water and peroxide of hydrogen.

### Pottery vases

If you are using vases made of pottery they may leave damp marks when they are used. To prevent this happening, melt some candle grease and run a thin layer in the bottom of the vase and this will prevent these unsightly marks being made on furniture.

## LUKE HOWARD F.R.S.

In this extract from Saywell's "History of Ackworth" there is information about the Howard family who lived here in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Today Luke Howard is remembered for his work in meteorology and in particular his special interest in clouds, which he is responsible for identifying and naming. This has been reflected in the naming of Howard Drive and the roads called after the clouds in the newer areas of the village.

"Luke Howard was born in London on November 28<sup>th</sup>, 1772. He was the son of Robert Howard, and of Elizabeth Leatham, of Pontefract. He was educated at Burford, near Oxford, at a school kept by a member of the Society of Friends, to which body his parents belonged. Here he received a good classical education, especially in Latin. During this time he diligently pursued his studies, Chemistry, Natural History, and Meteorology, specially occupying his attention. He traced his interest in the latter science to the extraordinary fog, and northern lights of 1783.

From quite a schoolboy he was a great observer of nature, and about the year 1820, he published the result of his researches in a book entitled, "The Climate of London," in two volumes. His nomenclature of the clouds (which was adopted by scientific men) led to a correspondence with the celebrated German poet, Goethe.

In 1796, Luke Howard married Mariabella Eliot, a lady of a remarkably benevolent disposition and superior judgment, who aided him materially in carrying out his plans and efforts, especially those of a benevolent character. The education of the poor was to Mrs. Howard and her two daughters, a deeply interesting object. In 1823, Mr. Howard purchased the estate of Ackworth Villa, which, from that time, became the family home for the greater part of the year.

Finding there the need of education, the two Miss Howards commenced a school for the farmers' daughters in the neighbourhood, this being held in a room on the premises, and taught by the ladies themselves on three mornings in the week. The Boys' British School in the village was also set up by the Howards. The school was a great blessing but soon became too large for the arrangement; and the younger sister planned and built the school-room and mistress's house, opposite the Villa gates. Her name, Rachel Howard is engraved over the front entrance. Her father partially endowed the school.



For many years Luke Howard carried on the business of a manufacturing chemist at Stratford in Essex. He died at the home of his eldest son in 1864 at the advanced age of ninety-two."

## ODDS AND ENDS

### An Easter Legend.

There is a legend that said that the crown of thorns Jesus wore on his head on the cross was afterwards recovered by one of his disciples and that it was kept for many years in a little chapel in Palestine. Every Good Friday (so the legend says) it was taken out and reverently placed on the altar. At the first sign of dawn on Easter Day the crown of thorns miraculously changed into a garland of sweet scented flowers, the fragrance of which filled every corner of the chapel. On the following night it changed back to a crown of thorns, but the fragrance of those flowers remained behind, and people used to come from far and near to smell the perfume divine.

### Origins

In many of the cathedrals there is a stone seat built as part of the wall. These seats were provided for old or infirm people when there were no pews or chairs for anyone to be seated. This is the origin of the phrase "the weakest go to the wall". Pews were not introduced until about the year 1450 but there were few churches without them by 1650

#### *Then and now*

What were the qualifications required by curates in the 18<sup>th</sup> century? It seems that the main occupation of a rural clergyman was hunting. He would cut short the service should it interfere with the serious business of killing foxes! A living would be taken up more for its sporting possibilities than for its income. The following advertisement came from a periodical of 1795. "Wanted immediately, a good strong, bony man to act in the capacity of curate. He must be subject to the following particulars: to have no objection to act as gardener, husbandman, and occasional whipper-in. Any gentleman whom the above may suit, on application to Mr. B. at the Grays's Inn Coffee House, Holborn, may meet with immediate employ.

N.B. Character will not be so much required as equestrian skill. And none need apply who has not a complete stabalarian education."

## EPITAPHS

There are some curious epitaphs to be found in some of the older churchyards around the world. Here are a few more of them.

From Pentewan Churchyard in Cornwall.

In this grave you see before

Lies buried up a dismal story;

A young maiden, she was crossed in love,

And taken to the realms above. But he that crossed her, I should say,

Deserves to go the other way.

In Whitby Churchyard.

Sudden and unexpected was the end

Of our esteemed and beloved friend,

He gave to all his friends a sudden shock

By one day falling into Sunderland dock.

In St Agnes, Cornwall.

Here lies the body of Joan Carthew,

Born at St. Coplumb, Died at St. Cue;

Children she had five,

Three are dead, and two alive;

Those who are dead choosing rather

To die with their mother than live with their father.

Near Salisbury.

I bowled, I struck, I caught, I stopped,

Sure life's a game of cricket;

I blocked with care, with caution popped,

Yet Death has hit my wicket.

### **Spring Cleaning**

The social committee would like your unwanted toiletries and books  
(in good condition please).

### **Hang on to them !**

We want them for the end of May

to sell at the church stall at the

Village Fayre on the Green on Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2007

and

Ackworth Gala on Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2007

## 1st ACKWORTH SCOUT GROUP

As you may be aware from local and national T.V. coverage 2007 is the 'Centenary of the Scout Movement'. It was in 1907 that the hero of Mafeking, Robert Baden Powell, took a group of boys to an experimental camp on Brownsea Island in Poole Harbour. The rest as they say, is history. From these early beginnings Scouting has become the biggest uniformed youth movement in the world.

Here in Ackworth, as part of our Centenary celebrations, we are trying to discover all we can about the history of Scouting in Ackworth from its earliest days. We know for instance that before the war, there was a group in Ackworth (though not known by its present name) We are keen to discover all we can, and would ask you to assist us in our investigations. Were you, or your family Wolf Cubs or Scouts prior to 1980, when the groups re-opened under the name of 1<sup>st</sup> Ackworth? Where were meetings held, who was in charge, what colour was the group's neckerchief etc? If you have any information at all, no matter how little, please get in touch. Do you have any photographs, old items of uniform or any other Scouting memorabilia that you would be willing to donate to us? We can assure them of a good home. Later in the year we hope to hold an exhibition of what we have discovered.

Because of the importance of this year, there are many special camps and activities planned that all cost money. Would anyone like to sponsor us, or give a donation towards offsetting the cost of such activities?

The group meets every Tuesday evening in term time at 'The Howard's School', Station Road, Ackworth from 5.15pm to 9.00pm. Items of interest could be delivered there during these times. Alternatively you could contact the Group Leader on 01977 611225.



# Holy Week and Easter Special Services

## **Palm Sunday**

Eucharist and Procession of Palms at St Cuthbert's at 10.15am

## **Holy Week Meditations**

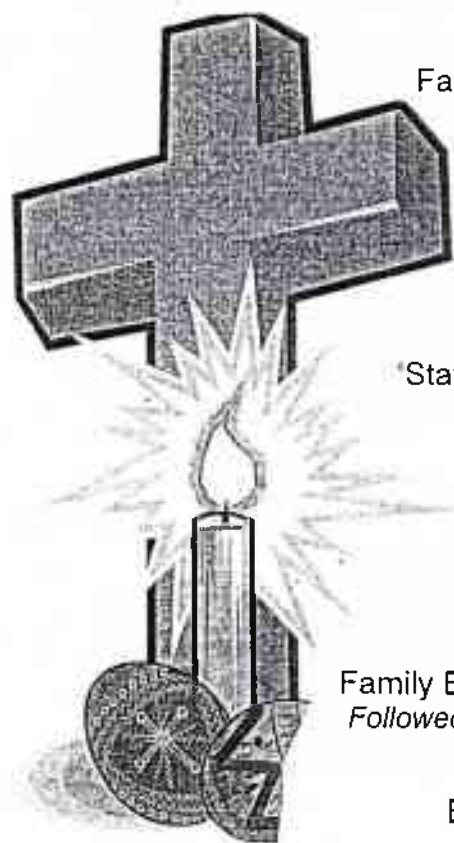
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at St Cuthbert's at 7.30pm

## **Maundy Thursday**

Chrism Eucharist at Wakefield Cathedral at 10.30am

Institution of the Last Supper at St Cuthbert's at 7.30pm

*Followed by the Watch until 10.00pm*



## **Good Friday**

Family Service at All Saints at 10.30am

Ackworth Churches Together Act of  
Witness at Co-op car park - short  
service with hymns at 12 noon

Friday Liturgy at St Cuthbert's at  
2.00pm

'Stations of the Cross' at St Cuthbert's at  
7.30pm

*Meditation in words and music*

## **Easter Eve**

First Eucharist of Easter at St  
Cuthbert's at 8.30pm

## **Easter Day**

Family Eucharist at St Cuthbert's at 10.15am  
*Followed by egg rolling and decorated egg com-  
petition*

Easter Praise at All Saints' at 6.30pm

## From the Registers

### Baptisms

- 12 Nov Luke Oliver Bullimore & Finlay Thomas Byrne (correction)  
14 Jan Jacob Ross Gowler & Ella Louise Ponsonby  
28 Jan George James Steven Hackett &  
Ella Grace Elizabeth Antal-Smith  
11 Feb Melissa Jayne Haigh & Lucy Rachel Cook

### Funerals

- 12 Feb Jane Hopton (89) 4 Vale View, Low Ackworth  
12 Feb Christine May Armitage (56) 41 Hardacre Lane  
Ackworth Moor Top

### The Diocese of Wakefield Pontefract Deanery

There will be a Deanery Eucharist on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 7-30 pm.

The Service is to be held at St Giles' Pontefract

This is a service for the whole deanery to get together to celebrate our common life. The preacher will be Bishop Tom Butler (Bishop of Southwark) The service will be followed by refreshments. All are welcome. Please come along and join in.

In Christ Fr Bob Cooper Vicar of St Giles with St Mary's Pontefract  
Rural Dean of Pontefract

### Mass Times for The Parish Of The Sacred Heart RC Father Anthony Fenton

Our Lady of Lourdes, Ackworth, Sunday, 8:45am

Our Lady of Graces, Kinsley, Saturday, 6:00pm

Sacred Heart, Hemsworth, Sunday, 10:30am

### ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

- |                  |              |                                   |
|------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 10.30am      | <b>Worship</b>                    |
|                  | 6.30pm       | <b>Prayer Meeting</b>             |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | 9.30—11.15am | <b>Parents and Toddlers Group</b> |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 9.30—11.15am | <b>Parents and Toddlers Group</b> |

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

## **Sunday Services for February and March**

### **Sunday Services**

8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong (except last Sunday in month)	All Saints'
3.30pm	Evensong with Healing Prayer (third 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**

- 22nd Apr: Following a said 10.15am service of Holy Communion -  
The Annual Parochial Church Meeting.
- 23rd Apr: St George - Holy Communion @ 7.30pm St Cuthbert's
- 25th Apr: St Mark - Holy Communion @ 7.30pm St Cuthbert's
- 26th Apr: Deanery Eucharist 7.30pm St Giles Pontefract.
- 1st May: Sts Philip & James - Holy Communion @ 7.30pm  
St Cuthbert's
- 6th May: Confirmation by the Bishop of Pontefract @ 10.15am  
St Cuthbert's followed by faith lunch.
- 14th May: St Matthias -Holy Communion @ 7.30pm St Cuthbert's
- 17th May: Ascension Day -Holy Communion @ 7.30pm St Cuthbert's

### **ACK WORTH VILAGE FAYRE**

Village Green High Ackworth  
3<sup>rd</sup> June 2007, 1.00pm – 4.00 pm

Plant Stall	Book Stall (New Children)	Craft Stall
Memorabilia Stall	Coconut Shy	Raffles
Cake Stall	Roll a Penny	Scent Stall
Tombola Stall	Face Painting	By-Pass Stall
Bric a Brac Stall	Lions	Card Stall

Art Mart

Talks—Local Interest held in Alms Houses

Tour of John Gully's Grave

Refreshments in the Church during the afternoon

Lunch served in The Brown Cow