



Ackworth Parish Magazine



August 2007/September 2007
50p per copy (£3 per year)

~ Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who ~

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Dear Friends,

Writing as I do, ahead of time, I am just on the verge of easing my way back into active ministry after some two months respite, due to illness. As you may imagine the speed at which my health deteriorated, the diagnosis and treatment all came as a bit of a shock to my family and myself. Thanks to the wonders of modern medical science and God's healing power and through the skill of the surgeon, the loving care of local GP's and hospital nursing staff, I should be in good repair physically speaking. The 'shock' however of becoming so seriously ill is proving to take somewhat more time to recover from. Though on the whole, the direction seems to be mostly onwards and upwards as they say, there are the occasional set-backs and I do ask you to be patient if now and again I can't manage to get to everything that happens in the church.

What I would like to say is a very big thank-you to all for your prayers, well wishes, cards and practical help you have given whilst I've been out of action, especially Jenny, Paul and Marie who have made my absence almost unnoticeable in that the worship, pastoral care and virtually every aspect of the churches ministry has continue unabated since I was taken into hospital at the end of April. To quote St Paul; 'I thank God every time I remember you' (Philippians 1:3).

As you can imagine, the whole episode has brought about changes in my life and the lives of those close to me. I have had to think about what possible impact it will have on the future of my ministry in Ackworth and what changes there will be in that ministry. Just a few days before I sat down to write this, Paul (Fox) preached a very thought provoking sermon about control; who or what is in control of our lives and what we feel we are in control of ourselves. If anything, my long period of convalescence has taught me is that I am not as in control of my own life as much as I thought I was, and that the church in Ackworth is not entirely dependant upon my control. That's no bad thing, particularly when I realise that there are many small jobs in the church that didn't have to be done by me. In fact, by my control over these jobs, I was probably stifling hidden gifts and depriving others of the opportunity to serve God through this Church. As Jenny says in her article 'Gifts and Jobs' in the last magazine, she was staggered by the range of tasks I carried out.

Clearly one good thing to come of my recent traumas is the realisation that I need to relinquish some of my control; allow others to take a

greater share in this sacred task of ministry which is entrusted to the whole church, not just an individual or small group who have been ordained or licensed by the Bishop. Any individual is limited by the amount of work that they can do, so it goes without saying that being too controlling can only hold back the growth of the Church. As a result of these recent reflections, there will soon appear in each church a 'situations vacant' board. Where any help is needed in any group or in any area of the churches work, a card can be pinned to these boards offering some details of the task required and who to approach if you feel able to help.

Please take a moment to take a frequent look at the boards and then go away to think and pray whether **you** might be able to help in any of those tasks.

Many thanks, Paul

Mission! What, me!?

Proclaim that the kingdom
of heaven is close at hand.

-Matthew 9.36

In the last week I've preached three times on missionary texts from the gospels. The first was on Sunday when we reflected on Luke 10.1-11; 16-20 where Jesus commissions and sends out the seventy (or seventy-two). That same evening the New Testament reading was Mark 6.7-29 which talks about Jesus sending out his twelve disciples. Finally, on Wednesday morning we considered Matthew 10.1-7, a similar account to that in Mark but where the disciples are listed by name.

This last passage was the one which really struck me most forcibly although I know it is no accident or coincidence that we have had all these readings so close together. The naming of the disciples in Matthew makes the whole thing seem much more immediate and real. The list reads:

Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

Names are important. I much prefer being called Jenny to 'reverend' or 'doctor'. Our name defines us as a unique individual. The disciples were all different with different stories to tell of their relationship with Jesus and how God had been at work in their lives.

The disciples were not just faceless workers but real people - Simon, also known as Peter, the one who stumbled and bumbled but fulfilled the promise of his name 'rock', and his brother Andrew - who brought Peter to Jesus at the beginning; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John who both struggled to understand the kingdom Jesus came to bring; Philip from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter who found Nathanael and said to him "Come and see" and Bartholomew; Thomas who doubted and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus - also known as Jude - Son of Cleophas, who died a martyr, and Mary who stood at the foot of the Cross, and who anointed Christ's body after death. Brother of Saint James the Lesser. Nephew of Mary and Joseph; blood relative of Jesus Christ, and reported to look a lot like him, may have been a fisherman. Apostle; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

We could go on exploring the personal stories of these twelve. I included a lot of information about Thaddaeus precisely because we hear little about him. They all had and have stories to tell - of their first encounter with Jesus, of their time with him, of all that they had learnt and seen him do. Peter could talk about how Jesus healed his mother-in-law. Matthew could talk about how Jesus transformed his life, he who had been a hated and feared tax

collector.

Like them, each one of us has a unique and personal story which we can share. I can talk about God's patience with me through my wilderness wanderings, his healing, the way in which he has transformed my life as he called me into ordained ministry. Perhaps Lily might talk about a lifetime of knowing God and his unfailing love. Philip might talk about encountering God through the love shown at the coffee morning and his welcome on Back to Church Sunday, culminating in his confirmation. Every one of us, like the disciples has a personal story to tell.

This is 'mission made easy'. We all love to talk about ourselves and others are fascinated by personal stories. In some parts of the church, mission appears to be a dirty word. Mission need not be scary. We are called by name to tell our own story.

When we go to France, I normally worship in a local church. My French is slightly better than my singing! A hymn we sang several years ago struck me forcibly. The refrain ran:

appelé, baptisé, envoyé - called (by name), baptised
(by name), sent out (by name).

Might this be our motto for mission? There is more than one way to go fishing.

Happy fishing!

With love in Christ
Jenny



A FRENCH WEDDING

We were invited to a wedding in the south of France during Spring Bank Holiday, a former pupil was marrying a Frenchman. The 'event' had been wonderfully stage managed by Katherine's parents. All the English guests were to stay at the hotel Dolce Fregate, which possesses one of the finest golf courses in Europe.

We arrived in Marseilles on the Thursday to find temperatures well over 30 degrees. We enjoyed a day in St. Cyr sur Mer on the Friday and meeting the other guests.

On Saturday we set off in convoy to Marseilles to the Mayor's Office where the necessary Civil Ceremony had to take place at 2.15 pm prior to the Church service later on. All went well for several miles until the leading car suddenly broke all speed limits and our car was left behind. Totally lost we looked in vain for the ribbons, which were attached to all our party's cars. There were plenty of ribbons to be seen, but not the ones we wanted to see

We came off the motorway and asked for directions at a Total garage. George, our driver, came back with a piece of paper with what looked like hieroglyphics drawn upon it! We set off again without much hope, when after a short time we noticed a van driver hooting and gesticulating wildly-it was the man from the garage indicating that we should follow him, which we did for more than ten minutes-right to the place we wanted to be-such unexpected kindness.

A charming Mayor took the Civil Service and the setting was in a beautiful park-cue for lots of photographs! Then back to the cars for another convoy to the Church. But what a shock was in store for us. Suddenly there was chaos. A young boy on a scooter came down the middle of the road doing wheelies, followed by dozens of others, some with passengers all doing amazing acrobatic stunts. The road was impassable. Then came what appeared to be gunshots and then cars doing upwards of 70 miles an hour doing terrifying hand brake turns. One really scary moment came when one of the drivers lost control and slewed across all the lanes of traffic and stopped about two inches from the car door. Jean leapt from the car to exchange insurance details and remonstrate with the drivers. She was hurriedly almost dragged back into the car. Then in the midst of this cacophony car horns etc came a wonderful carriage pulled by a

sedate black horse drawing the bride and groom—she with long black hair and nails. This was a Marseilles Mafia wedding! What a relief.

Eventually we arrived at the church where the service was very different to our no hymns, no bridesmaids just witnesses and in French.

Back at the hotel the evening started with champagne and canapés at six followed by the meal at eight. Again not at all conventional. After the first course came the speeches, which were in, French and English so lasted longer than usual so that the last course was served at 2am although there was dancing from midnight. The wedding cake was profiteroles covered in toffee and lit by fireworks! We were still on the dance floor at 2.30 am but then went off to our room while some stayed to the end at 4am.

On Sunday the bride's parents hosted a traditional Provençal lunch at a beautiful hill village called Le Castellet. It started at one and ended at four. I wasn't at all keen on some of the fare—baby octopus, scorpion fish pate, oysters, but some of the local food was delicious.

On Monday the groom's parents hosted a lunch at their home near Cassis around their pool. It was all home made food but again I couldn't face some of it—the various dishes made of wild boar, especially as the head of the animal was mounted on a wall in the house.

We had an exhausting but truly unforgettable few days and we wouldn't have missed it for anything.



EPITAPHS

Here are a few more strange epitaphs found on some old gravestones.

Here lies Solomon Peas
Under the trees and sod;
Yet Peas is not here,
Only the pod,
Peas shelled out
And has gone to God.

A dentist's epitaph;
View this decaying spot
With becoming gravity,
Here lieth a dentist,
Filling his last cavity.

This one may be seen at the Wesleyan Chapel in Wakefield.
Her manners mild,
Her temper such!
Her language good,
And not too much.

At Bath Abbey this one may be found.
Here lies Ann Mann:
She lived an old Maid,
And died an old Mann.

On John Bunn-
Here lies John Bunn,
Who was killed by a gun.
His name wasn't Bunn,
But his real name was Wood,
But Wood wouldn't rhyme with gun,
So I thought Bunn should.

MORE THAN JUST TEA OR COFFEE?

The following are a few of the comments of the people who regularly come to All Saints' Church on a Thursday morning to have a cup of tea or coffee and some home made cake, scones or buns and to enjoy a chat and look at books etc.

"I have been offered support in difficult times".

"I come from Pontefract and enjoy meeting up with old school friends and family every week".

"I get a feeling of peace when I come into the building".

"My daughter who comes to Church said, 'Mum get out of the house and meet my Church friends.' What a surprise I got. Lovely welcome. Wow!"

"We share our time between Yorkshire and Northumberland and like to show support to Church in both counties. We also enjoy a bit of Yorkshire baking!"

"It's the highlight of my week. I get a warm welcome and receive love, friendship and fellowship. The supporting prayers are very helpful".

"I like the chance to meet new people and through coming here each week I decided to be confirmed in St. Cuthbert's Church in May. A very special day."

"Even though I don't normally come to Church I feel God is with me as I sit there with my coffee."

"There is a feeling of peace and comfort and it helps ease the pain of bereavement.

"I enjoy the company. Living alone it gets me away from the same four walls. I make a real effort to come every week."

“Living alone it gives me the chance to see others in Church who would not normally come and meet Church members. A great benefit to the community-village life as it should be.”

“All the people who run the Coffee Morning are kind and helpful and they are there if we need them at all times.”

“Church members show that community life is important to them.”

“I feel that when I come I am helping the Church as well as enjoying spending time with old friends.”

In December 2001 we decided to try and see if a weekly Coffee Morning would raise any money for the Restoration Appeal. It certainly has-raising over £28,500 so far. We never imagined that more than five years on we'd still be running. What started out as a purely fund raising exercise has developed into something much more worth while. Whilst we still need to raise money to implement alterations to All Saints' church –including kitchen and toilet facilities- our priority now is outreach to the community. Our 'customers' are now friends and we enjoy real fellowship with them- sharing problems as well as the special events in their lives – the birth of grandchildren/great grandchildren, weddings and significant birthdays.

I wonder how many cakes/buns/pies have been made and consumed over those years-probably waistlines as well as numbers have grown!



ALL SAINTS' FLOWERS

AUGUST 5 TH	MOLLIE GARDHAM
AUGUST 12 TH	ETHEL SMITH
AUGUST 19 TH	JEAN HANCOCKS
AUGUST 26 TH	FLOWER FUND
SEPTEMBER 2 ND	MARGARET CAMPLIN
SEPTEMBER 9 TH	PHYLLIS & RUTH HARRISON
SEPTEMBER 16 TH	WENDY LAYBOURN
SEPTEMBER 23 RD	FLOWER FUND
SEPTEMBER 30 TH	FLOWER FUND

ST CUTHBERT'S FLOWERS

AUGUST 5 TH	MARGARET LLOYD
AUGUST 12 TH	HEATHER WALTERS
AUGUST 19 TH	BIDDY BRANSTON
AUGUST 26 TH	MRS. BARNARD
SEPTEMBER 2 ND	MRS. DODD
SEPTEMBER 9 TH	STELLA LEE
SEPTEMBER 16 TH	MOLLIE GARDHAM
SEPTEMBER 23 RD	LILY PARKER
SEPTEMBER 30 TH	VACANT



BRASSES

AUGUST	VACANT
SEPTEMBER	VACANT

Through the generosity of contributions we are able to make a further donation to the Restoration Fund.

Jean, Mary and Mollie would welcome help in the arrangement of flowers; if anyone would like to join them please let me know.

Ethel.



Readings Rota for August 2007, September 2007

05/08/2007	Proper 13	Hosea 11:1-11	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21	Jane Siddall		Mrs M Walker
12/08/2007	Proper 14	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:32-40	Sue Hartley	P	Dr McWilliam
19/08/2007	Proper 15	Isaiah 5:1-7	Hebrews 11:29-12:2	Luke 12:49-56	Keith Shaw		Mrs S Hall
26/08/2007	Proper 16	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Hebrews 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17	Pauline Wong	B	
02/09/2007	Proper 17	Jeremiah 2:4-13	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Luke 14:1,7-14	Emil Brown		Mrs M Walker
09/09/2007	Proper 18	Jeremiah 18:1-11	Philemon 1-21	Luke 14:25-33	Miss Parker	P	Dr McWilliam
16/09/2007	Proper 19	Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Luke 15:1-10	George Scargill		Mrs S Hall
23/09/2007	Proper 20	Jeremiah 8:18-9:1	1 Timothy 2:1-7	Luke 16:1-13	Jane Siddall		
30/09/2007	Proper 21	Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15	1 Timothy 6:6-19	Luke 16:19-31	Sue Hartley	B	Mrs M Walker

SCHOOLS

It may seem strange to us today with education being such an important stage in the lives of all children that it was not until 1870 that all children in this country went to school. Before that time, the Church provided nearly all the schools that did exist because the Church was the first to really care about education.

Towards the end of the eighteenth century the first Sunday Schools were started in order to teach the children to read and understand their bible. Then, in 1811, the Church founded the National Society, which opened elementary schools all over England. But the Church's interest in education is in fact much older than this for it is believed that St. Augustine, when he first came with his monks to England in 597, founded at Canterbury the first "grammar school" in England. To his horror when he arrived from Rome he found a country where nobody knew a word of Latin, the only language then used in all Church services. Therefore one of his first jobs was to train some English people to understand it. So, whenever a Church was built it was usual to start two schools: a Song school, where the choir boys could learn to sing the Divine Office (although they couldn't understand all the words) and a grammar school, where intelligent boys could learn Latin and perhaps later on become priests themselves.

As time went on many of the monasteries became centres of learning where the young monks like the Venerable Bede had a chance of becoming real scholars. In the meantime in many villages the old Song schools still flourished. At Chilham Church, which is near Canterbury, there is an old table, which came from one of these schools where the Master's feet have worn a groove underneath, while the children sat around him.

In 1382 William of Wykeham founded Winchester College where seventy scholars were to train for the Ministry to fill the gaps in the clergy, which had occurred as a result of the Black Death, which had killed off such a large amount of the population.

Shakespeare learned his "small Latin and less Greek" at the old Church grammar school in Stratford-on-Avon which received "all sorts of children to be taught, be their parents and the boys never so unapt". Also there were Chantry schools where a priest combined his duty of saying Mass with teaching schoolboys. From then until now the Church has claimed a great share in English education.

SHALLOW THINKING

Thank you to June Edwards (Backhouse) for this article for the magazine. It is based on verses 19 to 21 from the First book of Corinthians Chapter one.

"The scripture says, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and set aside the understanding of the scholars'. So then, where does this leave the wise? Or the scholars? Or the skilful debaters of the world? God has shown that this world's wisdom is foolishness! For God in his wisdom made it impossible for people to know him by means of their own wisdom. Instead by means of the so called 'foolish' message we preach, God decided to save those who believe".

A science teacher asked a class of schoolchildren if any of them believed in miracles. One of the children put up his hand and said, "Yes, I do."

"Right tell me of something that you consider to be a miracle", demanded his teacher.

"The crossing of the Red Sea by the Israelites," replied the boy.

The teacher then rejoined, "The Red Sea was only crossed because very strong winds separated what was only very shallow water to start with, so there was no miracle there."

"But there must have been," insisted the boy.

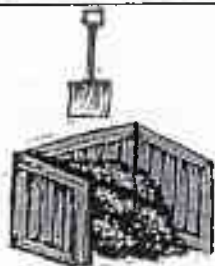
"Why do you think that?" questioned his teacher.

"Well Sir, because according to your explanation, the whole Egyptian army must have drowned in three inches of water!"



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HAVE YOU SEEN?

I wish to appeal to the readers of the Parish Magazine to help me in my search for a certain item that was kept in the bell-ringing chamber at St. Cuthbert's Church.

This item is a metal cylinder approximately 24 to 30 inches high by 7 inches across with a hinged lid and hasp and staple with a provision for a lock although there was no lock. This cylinder is painted black. It contained a quantity of maps (or drawings) of the land (especially glebe land) in and around Ackworth boundaries.

During the last few months the following items have been stolen from the Church-The Lych Gates, small old stained glass window and two large coping stones from All Saints' gatepost tops.

Unless anyone knows the whereabouts of this metal container then this will be added to the list of stolen items.

If anyone has any information on any of the items listed above, especially the metal cylinder please phone me.

Keith W. Watson
01977 616348

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THE PARISH RECORDS

This is an extract taken from Saywell's 'History of Ackworth' published in 1894 so of course the registers have grown considerably since then.

"These valuable records, which begin 10th February, 1558, are in a good state of preservation from the first, with the exception of a few places in the earliest book, where the entries have almost disappeared; but this defect is remedied to a great extent by a page for page paper copy on interleaves bound with the original parchment. During the rectorate of Dr. Timothy Lee (1744-1777), more than ordinary care was shewn in keeping the books. It was the Doctor who caused the copy to be made of the first book; and in his time the numbers of births and deaths, ages at death, and causes of death, are tabulated yearly, males being distinguished from females, and the entries being signed by him and the Churchwardens periodically.

The death tables are interesting as shewing the disorders most prevalent in the village. Consumption appears to have been peculiarly fatal. In one year, out of twelve burials of children from the Foundling Hospital, eleven are stated to have died from this cause.

In the second volume, which extends from August 1687 to March 1732, entries are made of the fact of pregnancy of women at the time of marriage, -'being with child'. Sometimes when a birth occurred too soon after marriage, the words 'begotten in fornication' are added to the entry of its baptism.

We also perceive evidence of the existence of the Foundling Hospital in the following entry: 'June 1705, Thomas, a child brought to the parish in the night was baptised'.

The prevalence of the plague is shewn in this register thus- 'Richard Pickeringe and Frances Ledsome, married June 25th 1645, in which year there died of the plague in Ackworth 153 persons; Richard Pickeringe being then Constable'.

The registers of this Parish consist of 15 volumes up to this present time."

THE VERSATILE LEMON

There are many and varied uses for the lemon, these are just a few of them.

When only a drop of lemon juice is required, pierce the rind with a knitting needle and squeeze out what is needed. The rind will then seal itself so that the lemon can be used again.

Add a squeeze of lemon juice to the following:

Mushrooms when frying them, to bring out the flavour.

Single cream in order to make sour cream.

Fresh milk if you require sour milk for a recipe.

Keep sweetcorn yellow by adding one teaspoonful of lemon juice to the unsalted cooking water a minute before removing it from the heat.

Salted cooking water toughens the corn.

Add to the water to remove the smell, when cooking whole onions, cabbage or cauliflower.

To keep poached eggs firm –add a little juice to the water.

Rub lemon juice over the chicken skin before roasting to make the skin crisp.

When going on holiday for just a few days, cut a fresh lemon in half and leave it in the kitchen and the room should smell lovely and fresh on your return.

To get rid of the smells of solvents from a newly cleaned oven, heat some lemon rind in the oven for about twenty minutes, then open the door and continue cooking for a further fifteen minutes.

Lemon juice mixed with metal polish will help brighten brass and keep it cleaner longer. Leaving it in Coca-Cola overnight can clean very dirty brass.

When cleaning suede, brush over with lemon juice, then steam for a few seconds. Brush with a suede brush.



THE WATERINGBURY YEW

I always enjoy reading my copy of the Parish magazine and I find the reprints from the old magazines particularly enjoyable. Last month, the article, reprinted from 1952, about the old yew tree in the churchyard at Wateringbury caught my attention.

I sent a copy of the article to some good friends who have lived in Wateringbury for many years and asked them for up-to-date information about the tree. Yes, the tree is still standing, although not nearly so vigorous as it was.

Our friends belong to the Historical Society in the village who suggested several years ago that a replacement yew should be planted in the churchyard to mature and take the place of the old one when it could no longer remain standing.

The Society has produced several booklets about the history of their village but there is no mention of the old yew tree in any of them. Members are rather intrigued to discover that someone in Ackworth in 1952 seemed to know more about the trees of Wateringbury than they themselves. What was the connection between the two villages? Was it perhaps a church connection or a more general interest in very old trees, stimulated by the beginning of the New Elizabethan Age?

Can any reader help to solve this mystery?
Marjorie Gorman



From the Registers

Baptisms

May 13 Daniel Colin Bland
June 24 Matthew James Bamfield
Hannah Elizabeth Bamfield-Baxter

Marriages

March 24 Simon Gosney & Samantha Underhill (correction)
May 26 Stewart Andrew Fretwell & Carla Marie Field

25th Wedding Anniversary Renewal and Re-dedication

June 16 Colin Partrick Stallgiss & Jean Stallgiss

Funerals

June 8 Richard Albert Wynn (65) 43 Woodleigh Crescent

Rachel Henrietta Ball

Readers may remember that two years ago there was an article in the magazine about Etta's 100th birthday celebrations. She was born on the 12th July 1905 and we have been told that on the day she celebrated her 102nd birthday she died.

Her family would like to take this opportunity to inform friends who still live in Ackworth of her death.

ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

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

Sunday Services for August and September

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

SATURDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2007

COFFEE MORNING

in aid of

THE PRINCE OF WALES HOSPICE

LOW ACKWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE

10.00AM - 12 NOON

50p including coffee and biscuits

Various stalls and raffle

EVERYONE WELCOME



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