



Ackworth Parish Magazine



October 2007/November 2007

50p per copy (£3 per year)

~ Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who ~

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Dear Friends

Looking through the Church calendar for these two months, I found that there was certainly no shortage of things to write about. The most notable dates are: Harvest Thanksgiving (14 Oct); St Luke (18 Oct); Sts Simon and Jude (29 Oct); All Saints Day (1 Nov); All Souls Day (2 Nov); Remembrance Sunday (11 Nov); St Andrew (30 Nov).

Quite an assortment of festivals, apostles, evangelists and commemoration days. Not often afforded such a luxury of things to focus on, the question is where to start. After staring at the list for some time, it struck me that this list could be split into two broad categories under two headings! Firstly, what could be broadly termed 'Harvest' - the harvest of souls, winning lives for the Lord, or to use Jesus' words when he called his apostles 'fishing for men (or women)'. Thought about in this way, Harvest, and the saints we commemorate begin to fit into this broad theme. Before we can reap a harvest we must first sow and nurture growth. Luke, the writer of the Gospel and Acts offers us all the material we need here—God's word and teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ. And then follows the harvest itself; 'while harvest fields are vast and white'. Simon, Jude and Andrew are three of the Apostles whom Jesus called and entrusted with this task.

The other category in early November could come under the heading of 'Remembrance'. All Saints, All Souls and Remembrance Sunday are all festivals where we remember those who have gone before us, for whose lives and example we give thanks for. You might call these 'the harvest already gathered in to God's kingdom, with whom we join our prayers; those whose lives encourage us on. As they enjoy their reward and look longingly upon such saints with fond remembrance and love, it is our task now as the church in present times to look to saints in the making; ourselves and other committed Christians who work to usher in God's Kingdom here on earth and those who have yet to receive God's word (have his seed planted!) into their hearts.

As both Matthew and Luke write (9:37 & 10:2 respectively) 'the harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few'. There may be occasions when we will not see the fruits of our labours the harvest that we have sown, but there is much to be harvested due to the work of previous generations. It is us, each and every member of our congregations—those who have pledged their lives to Christ who must do this work, not just the ordained or licensed ministers!

I would like to leave you with the thought provoking poem which underlines this point that is down to each and every one of us to ensure the harvest is gathered in.

The U in Jesus

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God even stuck U in the name of His Son.
And each time U pray, you'll see it's true,
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name.
For U, He was born; that's why He came.
And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand,
He rose from the dead with U in His plan.
The stones split away, the god trUmpet blew,
And weven
And even the word resUrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth during His upward ascension,
He felt there was one thing He just had to mention,
"Go into the world and tell them it's true,
That I love them all — Just like I Love U.

There are so many people just like U.
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

It all depends now on what U will do:
He'd like them to know, but it all starts with U!

...it all starts with U (you). Let us pray daily with the words of that verse of the well known hymn 'O Breath of God'; *"Revive us Lord is zeal abating, while harvest fields are vast and white. Revive us Lord the world is waiting, equip thy church to spread the light."*

Yours in Christ

Paul.

In Memory of George and Renee Wilstrop

The PCC wishes to thanks Dr W M Delaney and Miss S M Jones for the donation of £125 made to the Repairs, Restoration and Re-ordering Fund in memory of George and Renee Wilstrop.

George and Renee were born in Ackworth and lived in the village for many years before moving to Worksop where Renee passed away earlier this year.

The Lych Gates have been replaced

We are pleased to be able to report we have now replaced the lych gates at St. Cuthbert's Church that were stolen in 2005. The new gates have been made by Graham and Nigel Buckley of Ackworth as closely as possible to the original style using seasoned French oak and heavy duty hinges. To record their replacement the date has been carved on the gates. We would like to thank Graham and Nigel for their sterling efforts in replacing the gates with such skill, care and consideration.

We shall need to carry out some work on the stonework of the lych gates at some point in the future to replace some cracked stonework and to realign the hinges but this is a task that must await another day.

WAB - Churchwarden.

Anglicans and Methodists Together

The Anglican- Methodist Covenant was signed in the summer of 2003. This is an incredibly important document, paving the way for true unity between our churches. Space doesn't permit printing the full text but you can access it at

<http://www.anglican-methodist.org.uk/text.htm>

or if anyone wants a paper copy, ask me and I'll print one. The covenant consists of a number of affirmations and a number of commitments. The affirmation and commitment below are especially relevant to what I want to say today.

Affirmation

We affirm that in both our churches the word of God is authentically preached, and the sacraments of Baptism and the Eucharist are duly administered and celebrated.

Commitment

We commit ourselves to encourage forms of Eucharistic sharing, including Eucharistic hospitality, in accordance with the rules of our respective churches.

Unfortunately, although on paper the covenant is wonderful, a real sign of unity, a real sign of the new kingdom Jesus came to bring, in practice it hasn't been put into practice as much as we might have hoped and prayed for. In some parts of the country there has been more progress than others and there are scattered local ecumenical partnerships. However, in the main, West Yorkshire has lagged behind in implementing the covenant.

In this light, what has happened in Ackworth is truly amazing. Revd Paul Hartley, Revd Iris Musgrove and myself have got official permission not just to preach in each other's churches but also to preside at communion, in other words putting into practice that commitment to encourage forms of Eucharistic sharing.

This permission was put into effect on 12th August when Iris came and presided at St Cuthbert's according to Anglican rites while I went to Ackworth Methodist Church where I used Methodist liturgy. I found this an awesome experience. I prefer Anglican liturgy but that is totally irrelevant. I can scarcely think of a more powerful demonstration of the fact that we are 'One Church, One Faith, One Lord' than that we were able to celebrate communion in one another's churches.

I honour the difference between denominations and enjoy the variety of worship that this encourages. However, in terms of our witness to the world we must be seen to be in unity and this local agreement is one of the most powerful signs of this unity. This is what St Paul said to the Ephesians:

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called— one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

I pray that we may build on the beginning that we have made by celebrating in each other's churches. Paul and I have thought about a joint communion for our two churches with all three of us celebrating together. We say in our communion service:

We break this bread
to share in the body of Christ.
Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

What happened on 12th August was indeed a visible sign that we are one body. Thanks be to God. Amen

Jenny

Ackworth Calendar 2008 is now on sale

Following the success of our previous Ackworth Calendars the Fund Raising Committee has created an Ackworth Calendar for 2008 that will be valued and sought after by residents and make a splendid Christmas present for friends and relatives that have moved away from the village and carry fond memories of Ackworth.

The 2008 Ackworth Calendar has been created using scenes depicted on the Ackworth Mural which was painted by Ackworth residents in the 1970s as the idea of the "Painting for Leisure" class then held at the Brackenhill Centre. The Mural, on loan to the Fieldhead Hospital Wakefield for several years, was presented to Ackworth Parish Council in 1982 and now hangs in The Ackworth Community Centre in Bell Lane.

The calendars, again sold in aid of the Repairs, Restoration, Re-ordering Appeal, will be on general sale from 24th September 2008. Previews have been very well received. Make sure you get your copy (and a quality envelope for posting, if needed). Do not miss out!

The calendars,
are available for £6.99 each at

**All Saints Church's (Thursday Coffee morning)
St Cuthbert's Church
Bell Lane Stores, Bell Lane
James Lamprey & Son, Pontefract Road
and other outlets.**

Repairs, Restoration and Re-ordering Work An update September 2007.

The necessary urgent work on the tower, the porch, the roof and the drainage and several windows at St Cuthbert's has at last been completed. The work was signed off in August 2007 and we are now entering the six month maintenance period. In this period work in connection with the glass in several windows has to be tidied up. There is also some repair work needed before the clock can be restarted.

Although the work has taken much longer than had been anticipated we are very fortunate that the contractor Lanstone Conservation Limited has acted in a careful and considerate manner and has carried out the work to a high standard.

Once this final account has been paid we shall turn our attention to All Saints' church and seek to put in place Phase 1 of the re-ordering to make the church more suitable for community use. This phase includes work, now in the final planning stage with the church architect, to complete the disabled access ramp and a toilet and kitchen area to the rear of the church with the introduction of mains drainage and a potable water supply. A revised plan for the Phase 1 work should be available from the architect during October to allow us to apply formally for a faculty for the work.

All Saints' church is now our priority and money is still needed for the Repairs Restoration and Re-ordering fund to ensure completion of these works.

WAB Churchwarden.

Harvest Here we Come!

I was awoken this morning at 8:00 am by the sound of a combined harvester revving the engine behind our neighbours house opposite. My goodness, is that the time of year? As I looked around with fresh eyes, I realised that yes, Autumn is coming. Soon will be the Harvest Festival at St Cuthbert's and All Saints' churches. Oh, that means more service planning. Oh, that means Christmas is just around the corner. How time flies. In Sainsbury's this week I saw Advent Calendars!

But then, back to Harvest!

Planning has begun two months ahead of the event, and this year we hope to make it a special event to mark this important part of the year. The part of the year when we give thanks to God for the harvest, for fruit and vegetables, for all that the land supplies us with via Sainsbury's!

However, the celebration goes deeper than that. We can, and should give thanks to God for all that he has given us. For food certainly, but for our families, and our friends, for relationships, for homes, and toys and games, for our church family and the fellowship there. For the gift of His Son, for His word in the Bible, and for every opportunity to preach His word.

Because when we preach His word, we are extending the Harvest in God's name. Jesus spoke a lot of the Harvest. But he wasn't speaking of corn and barley, he was speaking of people. Jesus wants to harvest everyone in the world into his barns, safely stored away in heaven, for eternal worship of God. However, in order to do that we have to spread the word. We, being all those of us who put our trust in God.

This year, we are asking everyone to bring something which can be donated to a local charity, supporting needy



women. After the service there will be a Harvest lunch, where you can donate something to the work of mission in the Third World. Just as important, we are asking you to bring a friend as well. But you don't have to donate them!!!

This Harvest Festival we are hoping and praying for a bumper crop of gifts for needy people, a large donation to the world of mission, and a large number of people who can meet God, may be for the first time, may be to be reintroduced to Him.

We are working on a new service, we are working on new displays, and we are praying that God will be working His miracles, that this year's Harvest Festival will be special, for all the right reasons. And we hope that everyone will support the church services, in order to support the work of others who are driving the combined harvester in God's name.

Paul Fox

Sale of Glebe Land

I understand that rumours are circulating around the village that our Church has sold glebe land (the Water Tower field) although we are still asking for money for our restoration appeal. I should like to take this opportunity to correct the record. This land has been sold by the Diocese of Wakefield but our local churches, St Cuthbert's and All Saints', have not and will not receive any money from this sale. Please ignore this rumour and continue to support our appeal as we still desperately need your donations to restore and re-order our churches.

Thank you
Paul Hartley - Rector

BROCKADALE IN AUTUMN

I hesitate to mention the weather and its range of problems and effects, except to say that things have been interesting in Brockadale

Sheep are a perennial nuisance it seems- far from being silly, they are ever intent in organising themselves into the best possible position of all worlds. They squeeze through impossibly small notches in fences and barbed wire (by holding it apart for their less well-organised members-as far as we know there have been no sightings of the use of wire clippers: it will happen!). This year during the night of major rain, they picked their way gingerly and delicately across the shattered fence which had been flattened by the deluge. They then organised themselves into another field from which they refused to budge until they had eaten every scrap of the clustered bell flower. And, I might say, ended the escapade in rather better fettle than their so-called rescuers, who would have been well served by a car-wash as they trudged home covered in mud.

Butterflies this year have been amazingly good. Twenty-four species have been noted, and there was also a first-the purple hairstreak. The trees also have been in good leaf. July often sees leaves showing signs of distress, but this year they continue full and green.

This year we begin our Winter Talks at The King's Croft with a bumper bundle of videos from the Yorkshire Wildlife Library. King's Croft has a super-large screen which we hope will do justice to them. We then return for the rest of the winter to the Mason's Arms in Bell Lane which accommodated us so well last year. They are always on the first Wednesday of the month. All are welcome to the talks, which are free except for the "obligatory" buying of raffle tickets. We hope many of you will be able to come, especially to the first one.

Talks are on the first Wednesday of the month, the first being at 7.30pm on

Wednesday, October 3rd.

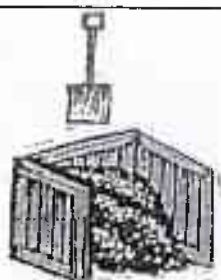
Cynthia Day

HANDY HINTS FOR CLEAN CARPETS

- For a mark made with a ballpoint pen on your carpet rub the stain with a little methylated spirit on a clean white pad. Sponge with warm water several times and then blot dry.
- If you should be unfortunate to have chewing gum on the carpet, apply ice to harden it, then pick off the gum, then use white spirit or methylated spirit for the residue. Rinse with cool water and then blot dry.
- For small grease marks on a carpet use baking soda or cornflour. Pour generously over the spots, and then brush lightly through the pile of the carpet. Leave over night and then vacuum the next day.
- For an orange squash stain dissolve one dessertspoonful of borax in half a pint of warm water. Sponge the area, but don't over wet the carpet. Follow with carpet shampoo if it is necessary.
- If you should spill red wine or dark sherry on a light coloured carpet, mop it with white wine immediately to counteract the stain. Treat soot on a carpet by covering it with salt. Brush with a stiff brush and repeat the process until the stain has disappeared. Never wet a soot stain!
- Mop up spilt coffee immediately, then rub the area with warm water containing carpet shampoo or washing-up liquid. Or you can sponge it with a solution of baking soda and water. Rinse with cold water. When the carpet is dry, finish off with dry-cleaning fluid. Shift a coffee stain with one part glycerine to one part warm water.

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!



FAMOUS PUT DOWNS

The following short caustic comments were made by one well-known person about another.

Winston Churchill said of Charles De Gaulle, "He looked like a female llama surprised in her bath".



Nancy Astor on her marriage, "I married beneath me. All women do".

Benjamin Disraeli on his political rival said, "The difference between a misfortune and a calamity is this: if Gladstone fell into

the Thames, it would be a misfortune. But if anyone dragged him out again, it would be a calamity".



Margot Asquith evidently had no love of Winston Churchill judging from this remark. "Winston Churchill would kill his own mother just so that he could use her skin to make a drum to beat his own praises".

King James the First was obviously no lover of the poetry of John Donne when he said this of his work. "Donne's verses

are like the peace and mercy of God. Like His Peace, they pass all understanding, and like His Mercy they seem to endure forever".



One American President about another,
"McKinley has as much backbone as a chocolate
éclair".



John Mortimer on the Prime Minister Margaret
Thatcher, "I am thoroughly in favour of Mrs
Thatcher's visit to the Falklands. I find a bit of
hesitation, though, about her coming back".

On that infamous visit of Chamberlain to Germany Adolf Hitler
remarked, "Chamberlain seemed such a nice old gentleman that I
thought I would give him my autograph".

The next two comments are similar ones regarding the lack of
animation in their subjects. Gore Vidal said of Ronald Reagan,
"He is a triumph of the embalmer's art".



Likewise the novelist George Orwell seemed
unimpressed by the charisma of the Prime
Minister when he said, "Clement Attlee reminds
me of nothing so much as a dead fish before it
has time to stiffen".

Clearly the Ulster politician John Hume thought
that Dr. Ian Paisley had something in common
with the veteran Russian politician, Molotov, of
the Cold War era when he said, "If the word 'No'
were removed from the English language, Ian
Paisley would be speechless".



ALL SAINTS' FLOWERS

OCTOBER 7 TH	FLOWER FUND
OCTOBER 14 TH	HARVEST CONGREGATION
OCTOBER 21 ST	HARVEST CONGREGATION
OCTOBER 28 TH	FLOWER FUND
NOVEMBER 4 TH	ETHEL SMITH
NOVEMBER 11 TH	FLOWER FUND
NOVEMBER 18 TH	FLOWER FUND
NOVEMBER 25 TH	FLOWER FUND

Please remember that there are two church buildings in the Parish for your Harvest Gifts. Last year's response at All Saints was wonderful and very much appreciated. The church is open 10-12 on Thursday morning, at other times gifts put in the porch will be taken in regularly.

E.M.Smith

ST. CUTHBERT'S FLOWERS

OCTOBER 7 TH	JEAN REAST
OCTOBER 14 TH	HARVEST
OCTOBER 21 ST	BETTY FELL
OCTOBER 28 TH	VACANT
NOVEMBER 4 TH	ADA PRITCHARD
NOVEMBER 11 TH	ARMISTICE
NOVEMBER 18 TH	VACANT
NOVEMBER 25 TH	VACANT



BRASSES

OCTOBER	VACANT
NOVEMBER	VACANT

Volunteers to clean the brasses are needed desperately at St. Cuthbert's Church. If you are able to offer to clean them one month it would be a great help.

Phyllis Asquith



Readings Rota for October 2007, November 2007

Date	Liturgical Week	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel	St Cuthbert's	All Saints'
07/10/2007	Proper 22	Lamentations 1:1-6	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Luke 17:5-10	Keith Shaw	Dr McWilliam
14/10/2007	Harvest Thanksgiving	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	Philippians 4:4-9	John 6:25-35	Briony Lewis	P Mrs S Hall
21/10/2007	Proper 24	Jeremiah 31:27-34	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5	Luke 18:1-8	Pauline Wong	
28/10/2007	Proper 25	Joel 2:23-32	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18	Luke 18:9-14	Anne Atack	B Mrs M Walker
04/11/2007	All Saints' Day	Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18	Ephesians 1:11-23	Luke 6:20-31		Dr McWilliam
11/11/2007	3rd Before Advent	Job 19:23-27a	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17	Luke 20:27-38	Emil Brown	Mrs S Hall
18/11/2007	2nd Before Advent	Malachi 4:1-2a	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Luke 21:5-19	Miss Parker	
25/11/2007	Christ the King	Jeremiah 23:1-6	Colossians 1:11-20	Luke 23:33-43	George Scargill	B Mrs M Walker

FROM THE OLD MAGAZINES

In one of the magazines from 1956 was a small intriguing reply to a question that a reader had sent to the editor of the women's page.

"Quite a number of readers have written to ask me whether Wreytor is a real village, and if so, where it is. I am not going to tell you. It is a real village, but that is not its real name. It is in Devon, off any main road and in a beautiful valley. It is a lovely place to discover, but its charm could easily be spoilt if it became too well known. The only clue I will give you is that the church stands by itself in the centre of the village, and one of its pew ends has an elephant carved on it".

I wonder if any of the readers ever found this idyllic place on the basis of those slender clues and have any of the 2007 readers ever come across this church and discovered why an elephant would be thought a suitable subject for a pew end carving?

A TURKEY LECTERN

A turkey lectern in a church is a rarity and an interesting story is attached to the one at the village of Boynton in East Yorkshire. The first William Strickland of Boynton sailed as a youth from Bristol with the celebrated explorer Cabot, hoping to find gold in the New World. The discovery of the turkey is attributed to Cabot, and the young William Strickland is believed to have been the turkey-boy on the expedition, a job which entailed caring for the turkeys on the voyage back to England, and then caring for the birds when back ashore. William became a rich man from the profits of the voyages and then applied for a coat-of-arms. The original drawing of the crest (probably drawn by William himself) showing a 'turkey in its pride' is still at the College of Arms the first known picture of a turkey anywhere. It is not surprising then that a turkey was chosen to be depicted on the lectern at Boynton Church.



THE FIDDLER REMEMBERED

The weather vane of Great Ponton Church in Lincolnshire is in the form of a violin. The story goes that many years ago a poor fiddler went around from house to house playing his fiddle and begging in order to eat. Many years later he managed to get to America and somehow amassed a great fortune. He never forgot the kindness of the villagers of Ponton and sent money to build the fine square tower that is such a landmark today. The distinctive weather vane was put up in his memory.





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Rita Benn Dip ABRSM



WHERE THE CURFEW RINGS TONIGHT

“The curfew tolls the knell of parting day,
The lowing herd wind slowly o’er the lea,
The plowman homeward plods his weary way,
And leaves the world to darkness and to me”.

Lines written by the poet Thomas Gray (1716-1771) and judged to be twelfth in the nation’s favourite poems. Have you ever wondered about the significance of the curfew mentioned in the first line? The following article is taken from an old magazine of the fifties and explains the origins of this custom.

“There is little doubt that with the exception of calling people to worship, the most ancient duty performed by church bells in Britain is that of ringing the curfew.

In earlier days many curfew bells resumed their nightly ringing at the beginning of autumn, after a five-month silence. Even today (1951) in the middle of September in the famous pork pie town of Melton Mowbray the old custom of eating a grilled herring and a roast potato to celebrate the resumption of the ringing of the curfew bell is still observed.

It is thought that the ringing of the curfew bell is an extinct custom but this is far from true. The bell is still rung (1951) in some towns and villages such as Kelso, Daventry and Wimborne. Every evening fifty chimes ring out from Lincoln’s Inn and a hundred from Gray’s Inn.

One famous curfew is that which rings from St. Michael’s Spurrier Gate. This is to mark the time when it once gave help to a traveller who had lost his way in the then wolf haunted forest, and who gave money so that its ringing should continue. The curfew was often the means by which travellers found their way. At Wokingham the bell is rung twice a day because a grateful traveller lost in the dense forest was led to safety by its notes. He left money to ensure that others might also be guided along their way.

A similar custom still survives at Newark-upon-Trent in ringing for ‘Gofer’. A man of this name was lost in Sherwood Forest and was guided to safety by the bells. In accordance with his bequest they are now rung on six successive Sunday evenings in the autumn.

The origins of the curfew go back to Saxon times. One of the

oldest surviving curfew bells is 'Great Tom' in Christ Church College Oxford. It was cast in 1680 and weighs 7 ½ tons. Every night at nine o'clock Great Tom struck 101 as a signal for all students to be in college. Today this has fallen into abeyance but when it was first hung there were 101 students in Christ Church.

At the time of William the Conqueror the curfew was strictly enforced. It appears to have been rung in every town and village as early as 7pm although as the years passed the hour got later. The King was severe in his punishment if everyone was not indoors, all fires and lights put out and all in bed. Later the rule about fires and lights was gradually relaxed.

Although these rules seemed to be severe they were to ensure safety as the houses were made of wood and thatched with straw. The fire was in a hollow in the centre of the room and the smoke escaped through a hole in the roof so that fierce fires were easily started.

The word curfew comes from the old French word 'covrefeu' which means 'cover fire' and was introduced into England by the Normans. The regulations also applied to the great abbeys and monasteries and the curfew was usually rung at 7pm. Records show that in the 15th century in London the curfew was rung simultaneously from Bow, St. Brides and St. Giles. Then the parish clerks of all the other churches in the city had to begin ringing the moment the three bells were heard on pain of punishment.

In Hailsham the curfew has been rung since the 13th century and it is said that one of the bells has been in use since 1198. Centuries ago the curfew also rang in the morning to inform people that it was time to get up. Today we should think it was very early for it was rung at 4am.

One of the places this was still rung until a few years ago was in Ludlow. Also it was rung at St. Mary's in Harlow, Essex. In 1839 Alexander Stafford left a sum of money to 'Ye clerk of ye church to look after ye clock and to sound ye curfew at five in ye morning and at eight at night'. A few years ago however some of the people objected to being awoken at such an hour and the morning bell was stopped. This ancient curfew bell was recast in 1860 and the method of ringing is to sound eight strokes for the hour and then a pause to sound one stroke for the first day of the month, two for the second and so on until the date has been rung out.

NORFOLK JOTTINGS-2007

Our caravan year began with some promise as the weather at Easter was outstanding, but from then on it has all been downhill. We have lost count of the number of thunderstorms and gales we have experienced. One gale in June was the strongest we have suffered in twenty years and the most frightening.



We repeated our visit of last year to the Bayfield Bird Walk; many of the fields where we had observed numerous hares last time now housed wall-to-wall pigpens. We were amused to see one sow cooling herself by lying inside a drinking trough and also by the antics of hordes of very young piglets-no hares this time.

We have avoided visiting Kings Lynn over the years as it involves retracing our route home, but by good fortune we made it at last on the 22nd of June, coinciding, by chance, with the 250th anniversary of the birth of one of its famous sons, Admiral George Vancouver. He ran away to sea, aged fourteen, and sailed under Captain Cook and was responsible for mapping the 5,000 mile west coastline of America. In the course of this journey a number of towns, a mountain and an island were named after him, from San Diego in California to Anchorage in Alaska. During the five-year voyage he had experiences ranging from bathing in the warm sea off Hawaii to enduring frozen waters where the turtles, which had been caught to form a fresh meat supply, froze to death in their tanks.



In celebration of the 250th anniversary the 'Earl of Pembroke', a three masted replica of a 1760's barque, with original rig, had arrived, under engine power at the port the previous day, in front of thousands of spectators lining the riverbanks. We were sorry to have missed this event, but it would have been more spectacular to have seen her under full sail. This

impressive craft, based in Cornwall, was built in Denmark in 1948, something of a surprise so soon after WW2.

Two days later we travelled in the opposite direction to Swannington, midway between Aylsham and Norwich, where a number of private gardens were open to the public. Braving predicted heavy showers we followed a route passing initially through a tree nursery, where mature trees, growing in large pots, had eye watering price tags. The first garden we visited, 'The Manor' belonged to the local MP, and contained an immense 400-year-old topiary hedge, which must have been fifteen foot high in places and at least fifty yards in length. We were advised that this hedge and the extensive grounds were maintained by a single gardener with only limited *low-level* assistance! Other gardens we visited were impressive in their own ways, formal and informal ranging in size from small cottage gardens to more extensive plots, some still in the throes of re-development. Tea and coffee and light refreshments were provided at many houses and also on the Village Green, where there were also stalls, tombola and games. We took advantage of a 'tractor bus', to an outlying farm, quite a hairy experience sitting on straw bales on a trailer, (I trust that they were well insured) where barbeque food was being served. The farmer's wife showed us around and explained how much damage had been caused in recent gales. A plaque on the wall, by her back door, intrigued us. It read, 'A lovely lady and a grumpy old man live here': we must get one! Our last port of call was 'The Rectory', where the owner, not now a clergyman, greeted us just as the heavens opened and we rushed for cover under a marquee, where cream teas were being served.

This ambitious fund raising event, and food for thought, was to raise money for the local church, St Margaret's and the Village Play Area. At £3.50 each it was good value for good causes.

On the Summer Solstice, in National Bike Week, Colin and Martin travelled to Blickling Hall for a ride, conducted by the Countryside Warden, around the estate including some places not normally accessible to the public. Two years ago this event was supported by seventy



cyclists, this year there was a tenth of that number!. Sites visited included the wartime camp at RAF Oulton, where the old cinema is still quite well preserved, with many of the original fixtures and fittings. After fifty years use as a barn, the original floor is now laid in the bookshop at the Hall. We gained



admittance to the Mausoleum, a pyramid shaped building, where bats now live above the tombs. We saw the remains of the ice house, where ice from the lake, (and imported ice) was kept well into summer months. We saw too the tower grandstand for horse racing, now converted into luxury holiday accommodation, costing £1,000 a week in high season! The Warden explained how the Estate is being further developed by re-establishing traditional English woodland, re-instating parkland which has been under the plough since 'Dig for Victory' in the last war, and by replanting avenues of trees. He also explained how the deer herds had been managed in days gone by. We returned by way of some very rough tracks, one downhill was so rutted that it was a miracle that no one fell off. As we were leaving the park we passed a field containing what appeared to be thousands of sheep and we were advised that they were from the Yorkshire Dales and only recently introduced.

Colin & Sue Tanswell



FOUNDLING HOSPITAL

In this extract from Saywell's "History of Ackworth" he tells us of the beginning and ending of this institution.

"This hospital (now the National School of the Society of Friends) was built in 1757-1759, at a cost of £13,000, partly by voluntary subscriptions, and partly by Parliamentary Grant, as an appendage to the Central Institution, which had a few years previously risen in London, a third house being opened in Shropshire, and both the secondary establishments being supplied with children from London.

The register, cash, and other books, relating to this hospital, are still kept at Ackworth School, as are several interesting documents of an earlier date concerning foundlings sent into the country several years before the house was built. Captain Coram started his benevolent schemes about 1739, and there is a book headed "Accounts with the Foundling Hospital, begun March 30th 1741", containing particulars of receipts and payments in respect of children, six in number at first, showing that a return was made to the London institution once a quarter.

At this time the children were lodged in the villages of Ackworth, Kippax, Empsal, Hemsworth, Hoyland, Midgley and Crigglestone.

It seems too that, that originally nurses and infants were sent down by stage wagon; but after that a "hospital caravan" was provided, a minute being made that no more were to be sent by wagon. All this was prior to the erection of a hospital. On the hospital books is a stamp bearing the representation of the finding of Moses. The full style of the Corporation was, "The Governors and Guardians of the Hospital for the maintenance and education of exposed and deserted young children."

The hospital at Ackworth was open for sixteen years, namely, from 19th August 1757, to 25th July 1773, and in that time 2,665 children were received into it; and of those 169, or six and a third per cent died there. The causes of death are summarised at the end of the hospital register, and their burials recorded in the parish registers of Ackworth Church.

The first master of the hospital appears to have been Richard Hargreaves, and the first money he received was from Dr. Timothy Lee, the Rector of Ackworth, amounting to £49 14 shillings and 4 ½ pence. The obstacles however, to the hospital's success were so great as to cause Parliament to interfere.

The Institution was closed by order of Parliament, after a comparatively useless existence of twelve years. It is said that the majority of the children admitted to the house at Ackworth, died before they were at an age to be put out as apprentices, which was usually at about eight years of age. The mortality, the difficulty of obtaining proper nurses, and of providing humane masters, with the frequent contests from the opposition of parishes, and the cruelty of masters where they were apprenticed, proved such insurmountable obstacles to the well-conducting of the Charity, that the house at Ackworth was finally abandoned as a Foundling Hospital, and remained unoccupied and on sale for eight years.

An excerpt from the Parish Registers of 1765:
Buried; Inhabitants-Male 8, Female 8.

Foundlings-Male 27, Female 25. The disproportion is seen at once.

Causes of death: Inhabitants; Dysentery 1; Small pox 3, Fever 2, Consumption 3, other causes 7.

Foundlings; Dysentery 23, Small Pox 18, Fever 4, Consumption 2, other causes 5."

Reading through this passage about the Foundling Hospital took me back to reading the first few chapters of "Oliver Twist" by Charles Dickens. The fate of those abandoned or orphaned children is fleshed out in the treatment of Oliver by the Beadle in the Hospital and later when he is apprenticed and receives cruel treatment. As Dickens wrote about what he saw and experienced, obviously this Hospital in Ackworth was not an isolated, unfortunate Institution.

From the Registers

Baptisms

- July 8 Lilac Jennie Grindrod & Suzanne Whitwam
Aug 12 Dominic Richard & Emily Victoria Sanderson & George Copley
Aug 14 Ellie Marie & Millie Ruth Swales & Thomas Christopher Joyce

Marriages

- July 20 Stephen Matthew Gleadall & Michelle White

Funerals

- July 23 Robert Wilson Wright (70) 18 Doncaster Road Estate
July 26 Doris Mackey (80) 18 Townend Avenue
July 30 William Michael Eaton (73) Stroud
Aug 1 Gladys Rita Tait (92) 52 Banks Avenue
Aug 29 Audrey Mary Harrison (92)
Aug 31 Muriel Haslam (82) Wheldon View, Castleford

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

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|------------------|--|-----------------------|
| 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 October and November

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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Special Services and Events

October

6	10am Wakefield Cathedral - Licensing of readers	
14	Harvest Thanksgiving	
	6.30pm Harvest Praise	All Saints'
18	St Luke the Evangelist	
	7.30pm Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's

November

4th	All Saints Sunday	
	10.15am Parish Eucharist	All Saints'
	5.00pm Commemoration of the Faithful Departed	St Cuthbert's

(please note there will be no 8.30am or 3.30pm service at All Saints, and no 10.15 am service at St Cuthbert's on this day.)

11th Remembrance Sunday

8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
10.00am	Holy Communion (said)	St Cuthbert's
11.00am	Service of Remembrance	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'