



# Ackworth Parish Magazine



**December 2007/January 2008**  
50p per copy (£3 per year)

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

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<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, 83 Station Road	616384
<b><u>Social Committee:</u></b>	Mrs Bidy Branston, 8 Andrews Grove	610590
<b><u>Church Flowers/Brasses:</u></b>		
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<b>All Saints':</b>	Miss Ethel Smith, 'Solentia', Wakefield Road	611258
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<b>Tower Captain:</b>	Mr Ian Hall, 32 Station Road	612003
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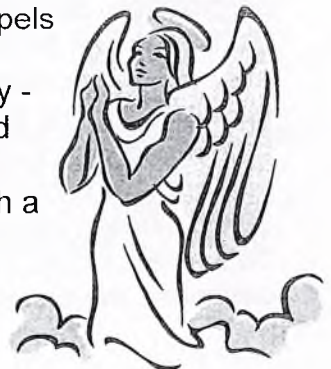
Dear Friends,

Once again we come to the seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany, a time rich in meaning, overflowing with events to write about for my magazine letter. But, as often is the case, I feel like a child let loose in a sweet shop ... where do I start? Well this year I felt perhaps as good a place as any is at the beginning of the season which takes up most of December - Advent.

Christmas and to some extent Epiphany, seems to get most of the attention at this time of year, starting as it does (if we are to believe the shops and TV adverts) in October, and poor old Advent seems to get lost in all the bustle and excitement. Some of you will know by now that this is something of a 'cause célèbre' with me. Advent: this quiet season of thoughtful expectation is so often drowned in the sea of jollity and glitter which the commercial world of Christmas imposes upon us. Advent is a season with an emphasis upon something we don't do very well in today's society, particularly at this time of year, it is a time of WAITING.

Waiting is not easy in our 'I want it and I want it now' culture; probably the reason why Christmas celebrations are started so early. During Advent we wait in hope for the coming of one, without whom there would be no Christmas - Jesus Christ - born into human society as a helpless infant at the first coming (the word 'Advent' means 'coming') and anticipated in the second coming in power and glory to judge. I guess the reason we may find it so difficult to spend this season waiting for these two 'comings' is, that in the first and most well known coming - the incarnation - over 2,000 years later we already know what to expect; the whole story is laid out in the Gospels so how can you build a sense of anticipation when you already know the result? Secondly - do we really want to contemplate that second coming in power when we will all be judged. Can we really approach with confidence such a judgement?

Well, in the first instance, do we really know what to expect? How well do we know the



child that is to be born? What does it mean to us personally to fully welcome such a presence born into our lives at Christmas? And, if we fear judgment then perhaps it is a good time to examine our lives and make changes. God will not condemn anyone who turns to him, who changes their lives to meet the demands of his kingdom - we have the promise of forgiveness of all the our past failures by a righteous judge!

The waiting of Advent then is a time of preparation to meet our Lord as he comes both as a helpless child and as righteous judge in power. The whole of the season is prefigured with people who waited and prepared; the Old Testament patriarchal prophets who prophesied the coming of the messiah and who tried to incite people to prepare for his arrival; John the Baptist, the forerunner, whose urgent and powerful preaching urged people to get ready to meet the Christ, Mary, that innocent young girl who accepted humbly God's will and waited patiently for the birth of her child. Others we see are Joseph, Zechariah and Elizabeth - waiting and preparing.

Although Joseph and Zechariah may have had something of the anxious expectant father in their waiting, it is Mary that is a model of what our waiting through Advent should be like. Mary waited patiently trusting in God, that what he said would happen, would come to pass. This is a waiting which is 'open-ended' giving up control of our future and letting God define our lives. Such waiting is a time between ourselves and God, a time for learning about ourselves and about the one who is to come - Jesus Christ.

So although this time of preparation, of build up to Christmas can be a busy time - after all, we are still called to live in the world - let us not neglect to take some time to wait expectantly and prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ. Let our waiting not be wasted, not as Henri Nouwen describes the secular approach to



waiting as; *'a dry desert between where we are and where we want to go...'* May our waiting be as Isaiah writes *'a desert that blooms.'* Finally, another quote from Isaiah (40:31) *'...they who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength...'*

May your Advent be a time of fruitful expectation and may Christmas be a time of renewal.

A blessed and Holy Christmas and a happy and rewarding New Year.

From Paul, Sue and the rest of the Rectory family.

### MAGAZINE PAYMENT

The cost of the magazine remains unchanged at 50p a copy or £3.00 if you pay for the year. If you have your copy of the magazine delivered your distributor will be collecting the subscriptions in January. Thank you.

# Christingle Services

Sunday 2nd December at  
All Saints' - 4.00pm  
and  
St Cuthbert's - 6.00 pm



A Seasonal Service for all the family.  
Make sure you pick up your  
Children's Society collecting box  
either from school or church!



## Gifts for the King

What a talented lot we are! You may remember that at harvest for our prayers we wrote on leaves what we loved and were good at and fastened them to trees and to the Cross as our offering to God. I took these leaves, looked at them and counted them. There were nearly two hundred, representing two hundred people with gifts to offer in and around our village. That doesn't include those who worship at All Saints but I'm sure the same is true there. The variety of gifts represented was extraordinary. There were some funny ones, there were some very honest ones:

I'm good at sinning.

I'm good at saying sorry.

We have enough swimmers for a team. We could even manage a horse-riding team or a group of climbers. There are lots of sporty people. There is enough art and drama and music to stage a major production. Many admitted to being good cooks. We have drivers. We have home-makers. We have those who are good at caring for families 'a good family man' as one person put it.



There are so many loving people - good at hugs and kisses and cuddles. There are listeners. There are people who just love to pray. One I especially liked was the one which said:

I love my family, chocolate and, of course, Jesus.

There will be a small prize for the first person to tell me who described them self as a 'stirrer'!

Many of the gifts represented here are already being used in God's service. The cooks supply delicious food for church events and each week a devoted bunch run an amazing coffee morning with home baking which provides friendship, fellowship and outreach to the

elderly. Those who are good listeners are being used both informally in their everyday life and more formally through our pastoral group. We all need a cuddle - 'Thank you' to the huggers. The readers are essential for our worship. Bringing up a family well is one of the hardest jobs on earth and bringing up children to know and love Jesus is one of the highest callings I can imagine.

There are so many gifts represented here. There is such potential. What about a church drama group? What about a music group? The gifts are all there. Who are we going to give them to? At Christmas we give gifts to each other. Perhaps this year we might also give Jesus a birthday present. Each one of us has something amazing to give him, a part of our self to be used in his service. If anyone feels they want to offer their gifts to Jesus this Christmas but isn't sure how to proceed talk to Paul or myself.

Out of all the gifts to you, you shall set apart every offering due to the Lord; the best of all of them is the part to be consecrated. Numbers 18.29

Whatever we offer to God he will take and use for his glory. He will make our offering holy. At communion we say:

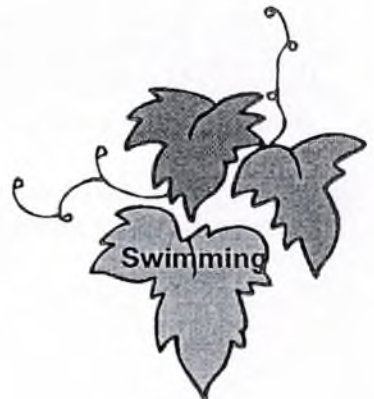
Yours, Lord is the greatness, the power,  
the glory, the splendour, and the majesty;  
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.

All things come from you,  
and of your own do we give you.

May this be true this Christmas. Have a happy, holy and blessed Christmas.

With love in Christ

Jenny



## Prayer Chain

'This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you' (John 15. 12)

'Constantly ask God's help in prayer, and pray always in the power of the Spirit' (Eph. 6. 18)



How can we serve God and each other and make God central to all that we do?

The newly-formed Pastoral Committee is setting up a prayer chain as one way in which we might address our key concerns of supporting each other, communicating more effectively and rooting our lives in prayer.

This is how it works ...

If anyone – whether on the chain or not – has the name of an individual who would appreciate prayer, once permission is given for including them in our prayers they can ring the co-ordinator with the name and an outline (e.g. 'Mary who is celebrating the birth of her first child'/'Joe in his bereavement'). An outline only please – we are mindful of confidentiality!

The co-ordinator will ring the first person on the 'chain' who will remember this individual in their private prayers for one week (unless asked to continue for another week) and ring the next person to inform them. If anyone on the chain is out, a message will be left if possible but if not, the next name will be rung. Everyone on the chain will have a list with numbers but will only have to ring once.

That's it! Could you add your name to the list? Ring Lynne Ward (616384) or Jean Charlton (793837) for more details. Thank you.





## UNICEF – Jars of Grace

Each year, 25 million people die from diseases caused by unsafe drinking water and lack of water for sanitation and basic hygiene. More than half these deaths are those of children. Millions more are left underweight, mentally and physically disabled and vulnerable to disease.

By supporting UNICEF's *Jars of Grace* appeal, you are a part of the move to tackle this problem, giving more children in developing countries a healthier outlook for the future.

Our *Jars of Grace* appeal runs from Harvest until Christmas. To create a 'Jar', tear off the label on the back of the leaflet (available in both churches or from Lynne Ward, 616384) and stick to an empty jar. Then simply drop a coin into the jar each meal as an act of thanksgiving for all we have. The jars will be collected early in 2008.

Thank you for your support. Just £89 will provide a water pump through UNICEF to bring safe, clean water to children. Can our congregations together provide one this year?

## UPDATE ON ACKWORTH RDA

The search for a new horse for RDA is over! Clyde joined our 'herd' about a month ago. He is a black and white cob aged ten, who, so far, has proved to be very good at his job. He isn't a clone for Blue Boy however.

One of our bigger horses had to be retired rather suddenly so it was more important to find a substitute for him. Our summer sessions are now over but during the winter months we have several visits a week from pupils at the Wakefield Community School. They thoroughly enjoy the contact with the horses and in addition they have been using our site for some practical experience, mending fences and generally tidying up.

Clyde will be a very useful addition to our string. Many thanks to the PCC and several members of the congregation for their generous support to enable us to make the purchase.

Alison Harris

## GOD GAVE US HIS SON JESUS

Hello everyone. The dark nights are well and truly upon us once again. We draw our curtains early and wait for February and March to appear. As we wait we start to think about Christmas. Who will we invite this year or will we be going out? Whatever we do it can be a very busy time and quite stressful. I remember when my children were small, and I didn't work back then, oh how I enjoyed those times baking in the kitchen.

Getting ready all my mince pies and tarts just like my mum used to do when I was a child, having cooked my cakes and puddings way back in September. What a great time I had.

I loved my children running around during their school holidays and we always had a great time. Now they're grown up with a family of their own. At least one of them has a daughter, our oldest. The atmosphere is different as there are no children running around, and I now work and it all seems harder to prepare for Christmas.

But one thing is still true-God gave us His Son Jesus Christ. Things may have changed in my house, no more patter of small feet or noise, but we can still celebrate the birth of Christ. The greatest gift of all (what a present) in our quiet times and through the long dark nights we have the comfort of our Saviour and we can find strength and true happiness in Him. God not only gave us His Son, He gave us life and through His living word in the Bible words which are springs of living water.

John Chapter 4 verse 14; 'But whoever drink of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.'

There is a song from Handel's Messiah

'For unto us a child is born

Unto us a child is given

And the government shall be upon His shoulder,

And His name shall be called

Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God,

The Everlasting Father,

And the Prince of Peace is He.'

So in the dark and cold nights let us call upon the Prince of Peace and we will find the true meaning of life. And let us share that gift with others, our friends, colleagues at work, or even out in the streets.

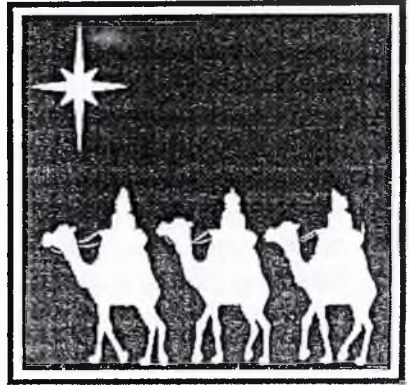
Have a great Christmas and joyous Christmas, and when you feel stressed just take timeout of all your business and praise God for His Son Jesus Christ.

Pauline Wong

## GOD THE SON

This Christmas poem has been written by, and sent in for the magazine by one of the readers.

Three wise men searched for their King  
They'd followed that great star.  
To bring their gifts and worship Him  
They travelled from afar,  
And angels told the shepherds  
Of the King that had been born  
In a lowly stable in Bethlehem  
On that cold winter's morn.  
But He was born, that He might die  
To save lost souls from hell.  
He came to set the prisoners free  
How many, who can tell?



He lived a life of poverty  
Humble till the end.  
So one-day sinners like me  
Could call Him, Saviour, Friend.  
That helpless babe in a manger lay  
God's perfect holy Son.  
He willingly went to the cross and said  
"Thy will be done".  
The suffering that He endured we'll never fully know,  
But we give thanks to God above  
For His birth so long ago.  
For through the birth of God the Son  
The battle we can win  
To overcome the evil one  
And conquer all our sin.  
So with new hearts we now can wait  
And look up to the sky  
And eagerly watch for our King  
To come down from on high.  
He'll take us to our heavenly home  
With Him to always be.  
Thank you Father for your Son  
Who died to set me free.

Thelma J. Miller

## HANDY HINTS OF MORE FRUGAL TIMES

Wrap apparently dead batteries in tinfoil and leave in a moderate oven when baking and that will be useful again. A small battery should be left in for 20 minutes and a larger one for 30 minutes.

To make rubber gloves last longer-when new turn them inside out and stick a piece of sticking plaster across the tip of each finger. At the same time this will protect your nails. After wearing always rinse the gloves in clear water and then clip with a clothes peg and hang up when not in use. And before throwing away your worn gloves, cut strips from the cuffs to make some strong and useful bands.



If you feel really thrifty you can always unwind old nylon pan scrubbers to obtain long lengths of very strong nylon cord!

Just had a new carpet fitted? Then you could save any leftover pieces of carpet and use them to cover the tops of stools. Just cut them to size and stick them on.

Tablemats need a facelift?

Paste a picture from an old calendar or glossy magazine on to them and finish off the work with a coat of heat resistant varnish-makes the mats as good as new.

What to do during the long winter evenings?

Cut the least worn parts of old corduroy jackets and trousers and cut into squares and then make into cushion covers. Use some old stockings as filling.

If you have any old but bright towels you could cut them up and make a colourful mat for the bathroom. And make inexpensive toilet bags for the whole family from one brightly coloured plastic tablecloth.

## ALL WAS SAFELY GATHERED IN

Harvest Thanksgiving was celebrated in both our Churches on Sunday the fourteenth of October this year.

It proved to be sheer joy to be a participant in these celebrations. There was real delight to be seen on the clergy faces when they saw the greater numbers in both Churches. This was a real 'back to Church' day. Both young and old joined together in worship.

People had worked hard preparing the Churches for this celebration. Beautiful flowers added to make this a special occasion. This year the Harvest offerings consisted mainly of non-perishable foodstuff, which could then be used to help the less fortunate in a local sheltered accommodation. Holding a cheese and biscuit lunch at St. Cuthbert's Church after the morning service also raised money, which went to support our friends in the Third World.

Jars of Grace are now available between Harvest and Christmas, where one can collect money when having a meal to help those who are not as fortunate as we are. These are then handed in and the money will be sent to UNICEF to provide children with safe water and sanitation.

Look out for the many special services, which will be held during the Advent and Christmas season. Maybe you will be able to join us!

Ann Atack

### 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!



## ALL SAINTS' FLOWERS

DECEMBER 2 <sup>ND</sup>	ADVENT
DECEMBER 9 <sup>TH</sup>	ADVENT
DECEMBER 16 <sup>TH</sup>	ADVENT
DECEMBER 23 <sup>RD</sup>	ADVENT
DECEMBER 30 <sup>TH</sup>	CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
JANUARY 6 <sup>TH</sup>	FLOWER FUND
JANUARY 13 <sup>TH</sup>	FLOWER FUND
JANUARY 20 <sup>TH</sup>	ADA PRITCHARD
JANUARY 27 <sup>TH</sup>	FLOWER FUND

## ST. CUTHBERT'S FLOWERS

DECEMBER 2 <sup>ND</sup>	ADVENT
DECEMBER 9 <sup>TH</sup>	ADVENT
DECEMBER 16 <sup>TH</sup>	ADVENT
DECEMBER 23 <sup>RD</sup>	ADVENT
DECEMBER 30 <sup>TH</sup>	CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
JANUARY 6 <sup>TH</sup>	PHYLLIS ASQUITH
JANUARY 13 <sup>TH</sup>	VACANT
JANUARY 20 <sup>TH</sup>	VACANT
JANUARY 27 <sup>TH</sup>	VACANT



### BRASSES

DECEMBER  
JANUARY



VERA & PETER McWILLIAM  
PHYLLIS ASQUITH

## ALL SAINTS' FLOWER FUND

The flower fund remains healthy thanks to sponsors and Wednesday morning contributions. Unless I hear to the contrary I will list the sponsors for their chosen dates for the next year. Thank you to Jean, who by providing transport, enabled us to take advantage of the discount from 'Country Baskets' (East Ardsley). By the end of the year it will have been possible to donate £120 to the re-ordering fund. Thanks are also due to Jean, Mary and Mollie for their beautiful flower arrangements. Any more offers of help?

### **THANK YOU**

May I take advantage of the magazine to thank everyone who made my recent birthday so wonderful? I treasure the cards, the flowers and many other gifts, including a birthday cake, pronounced delicious by all who partook (including me), and a painting by Louie (a boy aged 3) and a poem by Hayley (a girl aged 10). Most of all I treasure the thought and time given to me by relatives and friends.

Best wishes to you all.

Ethel



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## AN EXTRACT FROM SAYWELL

This is just a short piece from Saywell's 'History of Ackworth'. It concerns the exterior of St. Cuthbert's Church where there is a niche over the outside of the porch. An effigy of St. Cuthbert, the patron saint of the church, stands there holding in his hand a crozier.



"A very beautiful custom, distinctly Norwegian in its origin, has been observed for many years at Ackworth at Christmas. The following lines by J.W. chastely describe it.



At Ackworth Church, on Christmas Eve,  
Outside the porch is hung  
A sheaf of corn, to feast the birds  
That all the summer sung  
Around the Church their Maker's praise  
In many a joyous stave,  
And make them on Christ's birthday morn  
As blithesome and as brave.

And is't not meet that we should keep  
Our Saviour's natal day  
In peace with all—man, beast and bird—  
That come across our way?  
Not making glad ourselves alone  
Beneath our sprigs of holly,  
But striving hard to make all else  
Around us, just as jolly.

J.W. —Written in 1880

The custom, however, has long been observed both at Christmas tide and harvest and was introduced into Ackworth by the Rev. Kenworthy, the late Rector."

## AT CHRISTMAS TIME

From our happy home  
Through the world we roam  
One week in all the year,  
Making winter spring  
With the joy we bring  
For Christmas-tide is here.

Now the eastern star  
Shines from afar  
To light the poorest home;  
Hearts warmer grow,  
Gifts freely flow,  
For Christmas-tide has come.

Now gay trees rise  
Before young eyes  
Abloom with tempting cheer;  
Blithe voices sing,  
And blithe bells ring,  
For Christmas-tide is here.

Oh, happy chime,  
Oh, blessed time,  
That draws us all so near!  
'Welcome dear day',  
All creatures say,  
For Christmas-tide is here.

Louisa M. Alcott



## CHRISTMAS CARDS

I received this verse last year with my Christmas card from my Canadian cousin. I hope that you too will enjoy reading it.

Margaret Lloyd

I have a list of folks, all written in a book  
And every year at Christmas time, I go and take a look.  
And that is when I realise that these names are a part  
Not of the book they're written in, but in my very heart.  
Each name stands for someone whose path touched mine and then,  
Left such a print of friendship that I want to touch again.  
And while it sounds fantastic for me to make this claim,  
I really feel I am composed of each remembered name.  
So never think of Christmas cards as just a mere routine  
Of names upon a Christmas list, forgotten in between  
For when I send a Christmas card that is addressed to you  
It is because you're on that list of folks I'm indebted to.  
And every year when Christmas comes I realize anew  
The biggest gift that life can give is meeting folks like you.  
And may the spirit of Christmas that forever and ever endures  
Leave its richest blessings in the hearts of you and yours.

## MORE CURIOUS EPITAPHS

The first epitaph is to be seen in the churchyard of Olveston, which is in Gloucestershire. There can be found the grave of Thomas Davies who died at an early age in the year 1820. The inscription on it reads:

God takes away the good,  
Too good on earth to stay,  
And leaves the bad,  
Too bad to take away.

Unfortunately, if this assertion is true, there must have been some very unsatisfactory folk in Olveston, for nearby graves record that a good number of the parishioners lived to very advanced years, including relatives of Thomas Davies. Indeed his own father lived to be ninety-seven, a remarkable age in those times!

A short but telling inscription follows:

Owen More is gone away,  
Owing more than he could pay.

This one is in a Cheltenham graveyard.

Here lies I and my two daughters,  
Killed by drinking Cheltenham water;  
If we had stuck to Epsom salts,  
We shouldn't be lying  
In these here vaults.



The next two are similar in their cynical attitude to the death of their wives.

The first one is located in a Devonshire churchyard.

Charity, wife of Gideon Bligh,  
Underneath this stone doth lie.  
Nought was she ever known to do  
That her husband told her to.

The second shorter one comes from Wales:

This spot is the sweetest I've seen in my life,  
For it raises my flowers and covers my wife.

Finally a sad tale from a churchyard in Pembrokeshire-

Here lie I, and no wonder I'm dead,  
For the wheel of a wagon went over my head.



## NORFOLK JOTTINGS-2007

The caravan season has ended for another year and provides an opportunity for more reflections. In the last jottings we commented on the adverse weather conditions earlier this year; there was some improvement but the North Norfolk micro climate was evident into the last week, whilst the rest of the country enjoyed an Indian Summer we were subjected to two days of gale force winds. This was most frustrating as the sun shone from almost cloudless skies and the weather forecast maps indicated widely spaced isobars!

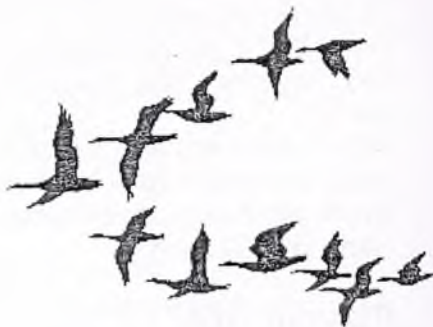
On the 19<sup>th</sup> of August, International Lighthouse Day, we visited the red and white lighthouse which stands prominently on the cliffs at Happisburgh (pronounced Haisboro). This lighthouse, built by Trinity House, became operational on the 1st of January 1791 as a consequence of a severe storm on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 1789, when seventy ships floundered on the nearby treacherous Haisboboro Sands, and six hundred lives were lost. Candles, oil lamps, cannel gas, paraffin vapour and acetylene provided the light before electricity was introduced in 1948. A lamp bulb currently costs £60 and lasts for about 3,000 hours; the electricity bill is currently £2,000 a year. There have been no lighthouse keepers since 1929, as it is now remotely controlled by computer. In 1990, some may remember, the BBC television programme 'Challenge Anneka' repainted its exterior. It was again repainted in 1998 at a cost of £26,000. Threatened with decommissioning in 1998, local opposition was strong enough to arrange a postponement and to instigate the necessary Act of Parliament to establish the Happisburgh Lighthouse Trust, for the only independently run lighthouse in the country.

We have a happy knack of timing our visits with special occasions, without realising it until the day. To mark this occasion the Norfolk Amateur Radio club was broadcasting worldwide to other lighthouse, their information board noted contact with eight countries, mostly in Europe but one as far afield as India. We climbed to the lamp gallery, one hundred and twelve steps, where a guide pointed out local landmarks, including soil erosion, which is bringing the sea nearer and destroying houses on the cliff top. A London family accompanied us with a very badly behaved boy, who climbed the barrier protecting the lamp bulb, without any comment from his parents! On the way back to the car park we noted great activity in the adjoining fields, where peas were being harvested, some enterprising visitors took the opportunity to do some gleaning.

On the last day of our caravan year we went on a boat trip, this

time on the Rivers Thurne and Bure between Potter Heigham and Stokesby. Plenty of wildlife was evident, as the waterways were less crowded, although a number of hardy souls were still holidaying afloat. We saw a kingfisher, two herons and numerous great-crested grebes, seen at close quarters. Overhead we had the wonderful sight of hundreds of geese flying eastwards in their particular V formation. We passed a number of windmills, alas only two with full sails. On our return the wind or current were stronger which discouraged us from stopping at a riverside café, at Acle Bridge, where the smell of grilled bacon was most appetising, as we were in danger of overrunning our three hour time limit.

Sue & Colin Tanswell



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## ODDS AND ENDS

### A special Christmas present

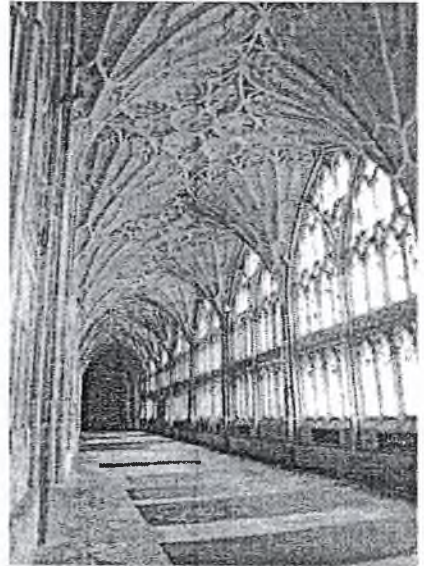
It may not be generally known that the famous hymn, "Christians awake, salute the happy morn" was actually written as a Christmas present for a little girl. The author of the hymn, John Byrom, (1692 – 1773), asked her one day what she would like from him as her Christmas gift. She replied, much to his surprise, that she would really love to have a poem written especially for her.

To her delight, when she came downstairs to breakfast on Christmas morning in 1749, she found on her plate a sheet headed, "Christmas Day: for Dolly". The lines of the well-known and loved hymn were written upon it.

John Byrom was an interesting man. Among many other things he taught shorthand to Charles and John Wesley, and it was in this shorthand that most of Charles Wesley's hymns were written, as they came into his mind.

### Playing Golf

If you visit the beautiful Gloucester Cathedral it is possible to see in one of the lower lights of the East window a man who is playing what appears to be a game of golf. This seems to suggest that the game of golf was known in Gloucestershire as far back as the fourteenth century. The window, which was the largest church window in the world, was erected by Sir Thomas, Lord Bradstone, between the years 1340 to 1350 in memory of his companions in arms who fell at the Battle of Crecy and the Siege of Calais and it is thought by some people that the figure depicted there commemorates one of his companions who was an early devotee of golf.





## Nine Tailors

At funerals it was possible to indicate the age and the sex of the dead person for whom the bells were being tolled. Three times one was for a child, three twos for a woman and three threes for a man, followed by the appropriate number of rings for the age of the person.

This was used by the author, Dorothy L. Sayers in her famous book, "The nine Tailors" as 'nine tellers' or 'nine tailors'-strokes- meant a man. In the book the bell is called 'Tailor Paul' and does indeed toll nine times for the victim found dead in the belfry. But it also comes from a saying disparaging tailors: 'It takes nine tailors to make a man'. This originally came from a French proverb. The meaning of it was that a man should buy his clothes from various sources. Elizabeth the first on being confronted by a delegation of eighteen tailors is reputed to have remarked, "Good morrow gentlemen both".

## Fires in the belfry

The tower of the parish church of All Saints and St. Andrew in Wicklewood in Norfolk is unique in that it once provided living accommodation, probably for the incumbent himself! The belfry has the remains of a fireplace- in a fair state of preservation- and an opening for an oven. There is another fireplace in the room above too. The chimneys of both, which run inside the walls of the tower, are still intact, though their tops are now bricked over. (1951)



## Special Services and Events

### December

#### Every Wednesday throughout Advent:

	7.30pm	Prayer and Meditation for Advent	St Cuthbert's
Sun. 2	4.00pm	Christingle Service	All Saints'
	6.00pm	Christingle Service	St Cuthbert's
Sat. 8	7.30pm	Lord Mayor's Charity Concert	St Cuthbert's
Sun. 9	5.30pm	Gift Service	St Cuthbert's
Sat. 15	11.00am	Churches Together Carol Singing	Co-op Car park
Sun. 16	3.00pm	Village Carol Service	St Cuthbert's
Sun. 23	3.30pm	Christmas Carol Service	All Saints'

### Christmas Eve

	5.30pm	Carols round the crib.	St Cuthbert's
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass	St Cuthbert's

### Christmas Day

	8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
	10.15am	All Age Eucharist	St Cuthbert's

### January

Sun. 6	3.30pm	Epiphany Carol Service <i>(with the Wellbeck Singers Choir)</i>	All Saints'
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### January 18th - 25th Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

*Watch for further details and posters advertising various services throughout this week concluding with:*

Fri. 25th	7.30pm	United Service - Conversion of St Paul	St Cuthbert's
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### Readers List

At the time of print this was not yet ready however the new list will be available to the readers in time for the start of Advent. Thank you.

### **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

# From the Registers

## From the Registers

### *Baptism*

Sept 9 Georgina Lily Robinson

Oct 28 Halle Mae Ramos, Oliver A G Williams, Elliott Longhurst

### *Marriages*

Sept 29 Paul James Deighton & Julie Waite

Oct 27 John Matthew Walker & Joanne Louise Baker

### *Thanksgiving/Renewal of Vows*

Oct 27 Michael Victor Ball & Betty Ball (30th Wedding Anniversary)

### *Funerals*

Aug 10 Barbara Marshall (74) 42 Rhyddings Avenue  
Ackworth Moor Top

Sept 19 Elsie Frankland (99) Stella House N.H. Pontefract

21 Joseph William Watson (96) The Laurels, Norton

Oct 2 Vivien Irene Snowden (60) 82 Mount Pleasant,  
Ackworth Moor Top

4 Dorothy Lord (82) 65 Rhyddings Drive Ackworth Moor Top

4 Michael Edward Lyons (90) The Lawn House,  
Pontefract Rd, Ackworth

17 Joan Lindsay (66) 31 Townend Avenue, Low Ackworth

17 Joyce Brenda Lanes (71) Holberg House, Pontefract

24 Phyliss Eleanor Harrison (85) 5 Rosslyn Grove,  
Ackworth Moor Top.

26 Ronald Shepherd (64) 22 Mount Pleasant,  
Ackworth Moor Top.

31 Brenda Valerie Crookes (68) 51 Hillside Road,  
Ackworth Moor Top.

## 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.**

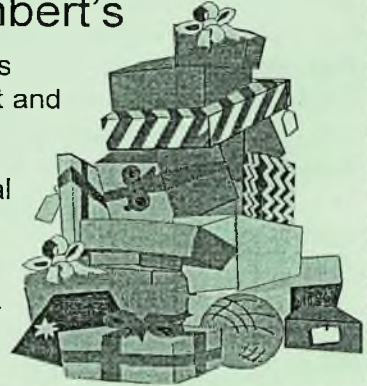
## Gift Service

Sunday 9th December  
5.30pm at St Cuthbert's

This is your opportunity to make a child's Christmas special. Please wrap your gift and mark 'boy' or 'girl' and suitable age.

All gifts will then be collected by the local Social Services to be distributed in time for Christmas.

*Please note that any gifts brought to church after the time will have to be stored until next year !*



## St Cuthbert's and All Saints' Special Christmas Services

### 2nd December

4.00pm

Christingle

All Saints'

6.00pm

Christingle

St Cuthbert's

### 16th December

3.00pm

Village Carol Service

St Cuthbert's

### 23rd December

3.30pm

Carol Service

All Saints'

### 24th December - Christmas Eve

5.30pm

Carols round the Crib

St Cuthbert's

11.30pm

Midnight Mass

St Cuthbert's

### 25th December - Christmas Day

8.30am

Holy Communion

All Saints'

10.15am

All-Age Eucharist

St Cuthbert's