



Ackworth Parish Magazine



The 'Mirfield Experience'

June 2016/July 2016
50p per copy (£3 per year)

~ Ackworth Parish Church ~ Who's Who ~

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All Saints' Church, Ackworth – A Vision!

Since my appointment as Rector of Ackworth in 1997, there has been a growing awareness of the need to re-order All Saints to create a church which meets the requirements of a rapidly changing and growing community. Located in an area of the village which houses the main centre of population, we must ask ourselves the question as to whether the present building is fit for purpose in a rapidly changing 21st century culture; a purpose which must lie at the heart of any proposed change we might make. Any change must encompass the joint requirement of both community and liturgical needs, worship and mission being at the centre of the church's primary function of opening the lives of people in this community to the Gospel of Christ, in both word and deed.

Since its opening in July 1889, the community which All Saints was built to serve has grown more than ten fold. In the census of 1881 there were 770 residents recorded in the Moor Top and Brackenhill areas of the village. With a rapidly expanding community around Brackenhill, that figure must now be nearer 8 or 9,000. The demographic of that population will also have changed, due to the newer houses being built, being mostly starter homes and houses for young families. With shrinking attendances at most churches, we must address the question as to whether we are meeting the expectations of the gospel and the community we exist to serve. Without change, the answer must be NO!

The answer to this question prompts a process and a line of thought which is allied to the prophetic tradition of Christianity. It is to that tradition we look to as the prime motivator of the task which lies before us. In the growth of the early church, chronicled in the Acts of the Apostles, we read: "In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophesy and your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams" (Acts ch2 v 17). Although, age wise, I am now a part of the dreaming category, it is vision which will initiate and inspire the process which we embark upon in the project set before us.

In the time since my ordination in 1988, I have seen considerable change in the Liturgy/worship of the Church of England, a change which continues apace as we move through the 21st century. Alongside this, we have seen huge cultural and social changes in our communities. Hardly surprisingly, liturgical change does not always keep pace with cultural change and the change of the church buildings tends to be even further behind these changing needs. Obviously architectural structures cannot change as rapidly or as easily as thoughts and ideas, which are the essence of cultural change. The best we can hope to

achieve, architecturally speaking, is to create a space that while it is sympathetic to present needs, is flexible enough to adapt to change. It is this principle, I guess, that is the essence of the first part of my vision for the church and community I have served for almost 20 years. That is: 'To create a church which is sympathetic to past traditions and yet flexible enough to meet the developing needs and functions of as many sectors/groups of the community as possible.'

The other part of that vision is concerned with the revitalisation of that aspect of society and culture which has seen a sad decline in the last 40-50 years or so: a sense of community. It is this sense which is the essential element of a healthy society, a strong feeling of well-being that is in desperate need of nurture and revitalising. It is a quality of social life that is undergirded and informed by our Christian ethos. It could be defined by our Lord's two dominical commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength and love your neighbour as yourself"

In creating the right facilities, we could offer a space in which a greater sense of community could begin to develop. In short, the other aspect of my vision for All Saints would be: 'To create a multi-functional facility which would meet as many needs of a growing community as possible and be faithful to its Christian ethos to nurture community values which enrich and give value to the people we serve'

In beginning and progressing such a project we need to take account of both the past and present significance of our building. Built as it was, on the route of a major trunk road through the village and now adjacent to a bus stop, it still occupies a site which is central to the majority of the village population. Initially built to serve a growing community, it still occupies a site of strategic importance in this respect. Over the period it has been in existence, the community has seen the closure of 3 other churches, two Methodist and one Roman Catholic, thus making All Saints even more significant in terms of Christian witness and social life in the village. All Saints' Church has been a strategically significant site for over 125 years and will be well established in the conscious experiences of many residents, young and old.

As regards the needs, both liturgical and community, we do need to keep in mind that which is valued from the past when we begin to assess what change is needed to meet changing future needs. A sympathetic fusion of older, valued features within any planning for future needs will need to be considered.

Indeed, the first question, prior to any alteration, should be "can future needs be met without making any changes, that will facilitate liturgical, missionary and social functions in the community?" We will also need to undertake an audit of other existing facilities to ensure we are not duplicating what already exists. Clearly, the uniquely Christian nature of the building will play a large part in this assessment.

Budgetary considerations must also play a large part in any planning. These may dictate whether we embark upon any new build or work within the constraints of the current shell. In total, we need to establish a clear and demonstrable need for any changes needed to achieve the vision which will inspire and motivate the project which lies before us.

In our decisions, we must take into account the heritage which has been passed down to us and exercise our stewardship wisely. Whilst we must take seriously our responsibilities to future generations we must also remember the precious heritage given into our care from previous generations. We must honour the charge we have received from Christ himself, to make disciples of all nations, to ensure his church continues to flourish in the future.

I would like to leave you with words which mark the beginning of this Church's service to its community. At the service to mark its opening on the 2nd July 1889, the Archdeacon of Sheffield, the Venerable Blakeney, preached on a text from the Old Testament: Haggai, chapter 2 verse 9:

"The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of Hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity says the Lord of Hosts"

I pray that the spirit of this text might offer hope for the future, inspired by past glories. This is my hope for a parish and church I have served for the last 20 years.

Reverend Paul Hartley

Rector of Ackworth

The 'Mirfield Experience'

Sunday, 17th April saw eight revitalised church members arrive back in Ackworth after a weekend at Mirfield's Community of the Resurrection of friendship, rest, spiritual replenishment and a good balance between silence and conversation!

Mirfield Monastery, an Anglican religious community, is run by monks and offers retreats for individuals and groups. The monks live a disciplined, ordered life, structured around regular services at key parts of each day, prayer, study and ministry, supporting dioceses in Zimbabwe and South Africa and linking with other religious communities abroad. They also train Church of England priests at its attached College.

The services themselves were beautiful, taking place in their huge, light, tranquil, graceful church – a feast for the senses and the spirit with the beauty of the liturgy, and a feeling of peace, holiness and mystery, enhanced by the plainsong and chant of the monks.

Spending large parts of the day, including mealtimes, in silence, seemed a challenge at first and certainly out of one's comfort zone, but it was surprising how comfortable and natural it very quickly seemed – and how much more you notice and possibly appreciate when not focusing on conversation! It was a privilege to be allowed an insight into this way of life and I quickly began to look forward to the periods of silence and to be able to reflect and practise 'tuning in' to what is so often unnoticed in our busy, stress-filled lives. The weekend brought our church group closer together and closer to God in and around us, with a reminder that it was a 'still, small voice' that transformed Elijah's life and brought him into the knowledge and presence of a loving and merciful God in 1 Kings 19.

Mirfield offers guest rooms and guests are welcome on an individual basis at any time to enjoy the lovely house and grounds – but we are all keen to organise another church weekend!

Going on with God!

Sunday, April 17th was a blustery and cold spring day.

It was also a very important day in the life of a member of St Cuthbert's Church, Mick Socket, and another 42 Christians who had been preparing for Confirmation into the Church of England as this was the day when Tony,

Bishop of Wakefield would be leading the service at the Cathedral that would be so special for them!

The candidates were from all ages, and Ackworth – all ready and eager to commit themselves to Christ.



I walked up to the cathedral door that afternoon with anticipation of a wonderful service in a very special place and also with memories of how I had felt before my own confirmation almost 8 years before.

The atmosphere inside the Cathedral was electric! Even 40 minutes before the service was due to begin, there was a buzz of excitement as Canon Tony MacPhearson was explaining the procedures as the service would unfold. There was a great air of anticipation and eagerness and the building was full of friends and family here to support and bear witness. The candidates were asked to sit along the sides of the aisle with proposers close by. The Cathedral was absolutely packed out by the time the service began at 3.30pm!

First of all came the baptism of one lady, then the sprig of Rosemary that was dipped into the water and sprayed over the candidates, the words of Faith that were spoken: everything at a service like this is so special and wonderful for those who are making a public declaration of their Faith having come to it through private thought, prayer and spiritual understanding.

The most poignant moment of the whole service was when, standing before the Bishop, the candidates closed their eyes and the congregation said a special prayer for them. I remembered my own confirmation service and how I had felt the presence of God, how that feeling had been truly 'awesome'.

The people who were there that day, to bear witness and to celebrate with the candidates, their smiles and support, gave the service feel of a loving family that is welcoming new people in – which is precisely what Confirmation is about, becoming a valuable member of a large family. As Mick himself said;

"When I went into the Cathedral at Wakefield for my Confirmation service, it was such a special atmosphere. Alongside 42 other adults and children all sharing the same journey. The service was uplifting, emotional and fulfilling. The whole service was splendid and enjoyed by everyone, so many church friends and families came with loving support. A wonderful day to remember."

Like many good family occasions, the afternoon ended with photographs and a party! Now there was a relaxed social atmosphere following the seriousness of the Service itself.

'Are you ready with your own mouth and from your own heart to affirm your faith in Jesus Christ?' 'I AM!'

They Fell in the Great War

Please remember the following brave soldiers in your prayers on the centenary of their deaths in World War 1:

BURTON Herbert - 4632, Private, killed in action Saturday 1.7.16 (age 23) King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry 1/5th Battalion, Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France, Son of Sarah Ann, Glebelands Terrace, Brackenhill

CALVERT Reginald recorded on the Ackworth Roll of Honour; I have been unable to confirm any details.

CHAMBERS John - 15026, Corporal, killed in action Sunday 23.7.16 (30) West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales Own) B Company 12th Battalion. Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Son of Robert & Mary E, 5, Heaton St. Moor Top.

CLARKE Edward Vincent - 11205, Private, died of wounds Tuesday 25/7/16 (25) Royal Irish Regiment 2nd Battalion, formerly 19444 Hussars, Buried St. Sever Cemetery, Rouen, Seine-Maritime, France. Son of Thomas & Annie of 'The Lymes' High Ackworth

COWLING Thomas William - 15/1184, Private, killed in action Saturday 1.7.16 (25) West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales Own) 15th Battalion, Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. Son of James & Ann, 6, Mill Lane, MoorTop.

MEAYS Harry - 18/650, Private, killed in action 30.6.16, West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales Own) 18th Battalion. Buried Bertrancourt Military

Cemetery, France. Born Ackworth, pictured in 'Ackworth: Images from a Much Loved Village'

OUTRAM John – 12/932, Private, killed in action Saturday 1.7.16, King's Own Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales Own) 12th Battalion. Buried Euston Road Cemetery, Colincamp, France. Appears on the Ackworth Working Men's Club Roll of Honour

PARR Alfred – Ackworth Roll of Honour records, 2670 Lance Corporal, killed in action Thursday 5.7.16 King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, 1/5th Battalion. Commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial, Somme, France. I have been unable to confirm an Ackworth connection.

TURTON Wilfred Smith – 26231, Private, died of wounds, Saturday 1.7.16 (34) King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry 7th Battalion. Buried Lijssenthoek Military Cemetery, Poperinge, West-Vlaanderen, Belgium. Son of Walter Booth & Georgina Grace, Husband of Marion, The Mount, Pontefract, born in Ackworth. Brother of Sidney Booth who died 21.8.18.

WIGGLESWORTH Fred - 22195, Private, died Thursday 6.7.16(26) West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales Own) 2nd Battalion. Buried Heilly Station Cemetery, Mericourt-L'Abbe, Somme, France

Many of the above fell in the dreadful Battle of the Somme, almost half of the 120,000 men who had 'gone over the top' became casualties 19,240 were killed and 2,152 missing, the 1st July was the worst day in British military history.

ACT – Ackworth Churches Together

**WE ARE A FAMILY OF LOCAL CHURCHES
WORKING TOGETHER WITH THE PURPOSE OF
BUILDING UP THE KINGDOM OF GOD IN ACKWORTH**

*Please note these future events and ventures and look for what interests you...
join in our village life and be part of the Community!*

OPEN AIR SONGS OF PRAISE:

There are regular Open Air Songs of Praise Services held at All Saints' Church during the summer months, the first one will be held on Sunday July 3rd at 3.30pm, followed by an afternoon tea. Come along and have a good sing!

Everybody is welcome!

CONCERT 18th June

At the Methodist Church – the Featherstone Male Voice Choir will be singing starting at 7pm. Tickets – adults £6 children 12 and under go free

GALA 25th JUNE:

Churches Together representatives will be walking in the parade and we hope to see you in the show field.

Just to add...

A Toddler Group takes place at All Saints' Church 2pm to 3.30pm on the first Thursday of each month. If you have a young toddler at home, why not come along and meet others?

AND... Coffee Stop run by the Community Church is open on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 2.00-3.15 pm in the Parish Rooms, Bell Lane.

Finally... all churches continue to collect clothes for refugees being housed and supported in the Wakefield district. All items of clean clothes are welcome, for men and for women and especially baby clothes are desperately needed. Please do help if you can. Thank you!

Ackworth Churches Together (ACT) consists of people with strong Christian values and beliefs who live in and around Ackworth, who really want to make a difference in our village community.

ALL SAINTS'CHURCH FAIR

Following what had been the hottest weekend of the year the weather forecast for our latest fair held on Saturday 11th May was less than promising.

Fortunately it was much better than expected and we opened the gates at 1pm bathed in sunshine and with the mercury settled at 17 degrees. It is said that the sun shines on the righteous (I always counter this with the phrase that it also shows up the ungodly!) and leave it up to the reader to decide into which category our small, enthusiastic band of helpers fall.

Perhaps it is the fact that we are now holding the fairs in the afternoon or maybe just that more people are aware of what is on offer, whatever, we enjoyed a superb level of support from both congregations and the community of Ackworth generally. I thank everybody for supporting our efforts; it really does make a huge difference to morale and made for a very worthwhile day for us all.

My thanks too for all those who could not attend on the day but supported us with donations for the cake stall, tombola, raffle, bric a brac etc and especially to Paul at First Impressions for the huge array of plants he donated, I was busy

planting for 2 weeks and used 260 litres of compost and many will need to be transplanted over the coming month!

Our next fair is planned for the afternoon of 11th June and the July fair is scheduled for Saturday the 2nd, everybody gets a well earned rest in August and we pick up again on Saturday 3rd September and look forward to seeing you all again. Given the increased attendance at the first two fairs all future events will be held between 1.00pm and 3.30 pm. My apologies to Phil Richardson but at least he can gain solace in a pint or two on Saturday afternoons!

In between all of this is the event on the green in June and Ackworth Gala later on in the month and our Community Weekend at All Saints in early July, please look out for further news on all of these events and I know the organisers, as we do, rely heavily on your continued support. Please do come to support them on the day if you can possibly make it.

Almost an afterthought really but we raised the magnificent sum of £869 on the

day which all goes to supporting the work of our church here in Ackworth which without your help and support just couldn't happen. Once again my very sincerest thanks to all of you who helped in any way whether working, donating or supporting what we do. It just would not happen without all of you.

Thank You



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Readings Rota for June 2016, July 2016

Date	Liturgical Week	Old Testament	New Testament	Gospel	St Cuthbert's	All Saints'
05/06/16	Proper 5	1 Kings 17:8-16(17-end)	Galatians 1:11-24	Luke 7:11-17	Sue Hartley	Mrs M Walker
12/06/16	Proper 6	1 Kings 21:1-21a	Galatians 2:15-21	Luke 7:36-8:3		Mr I Hall
19/06/16	Proper 7	1 Kings 19:1-15a	Galatians 3:23-29	Luke 8:26-39	Keith Shaw	Mrs S Hall
26/06/16	Proper 8	2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Luke 9:51-62	Jane Gosney	Mrs M Walker
03/07/16	St Thomas	Habekuk 2:1-4	Ephesians 2:19-22	John 20:24-29	Anne Bullock	Mr I Hall
10/07/16	Proper 10	Amos 7:7-17	Colossians 1:1-14	Luke 10:25-37		Mrs S Hall
17/07/16	Proper 11	Amos 8:1-12	Colossians 1:15-28	Luke 10:38-42	Jackie Dawson	Mrs M Walker
24/07/16	Proper 12	Hosea 1:2-10	Colossians 2:6-15 (16-19)	Luke 11:1-13	Dorothy Grieff	Mr I Hall
31/07/16	Proper 13	Hosea 11:1-11	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21	Jane Siddall	Mrs S Hall

ALL SAINTS' FLOWERS
Christine Williams
ST. CUTHBERT'S FLOWERS



June 5th Wedding
June 12th Elaine Roberts
June 19th Rota
June 26th Wedding
July All dates rota

The Parish of St Cuthbert's and All Saints' - CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2016		
Date	Event	Venue
Sunday 5th June	Event on the Green Refreshments	Village Green St Cuthbert's Church
Saturday 11th June 1.00pm – 3.30pm	June Fair	All Saints' Church
Saturday 25th June	Ackworth Gala Refreshment tent	Carr Bridge Playing Fields
Saturday 2nd July 1.00pm – 3.30pm	Summer Fair	All Saints' Church
Sunday 3rd July 3.30pm	Outdoor Service with refreshments afterwards – tea and cakes.	All Saints' Church
Saturday 13th August	Afternoon Tea with the Sounds of Mellow	St Cuthbert's Church
Saturday 3rd September 1.00pm – 3.30pm	Autumn Fair	All Saints' Church
Saturday 24th September	Ceilidh	Oakfield Park School
Saturday 1st October 1.00pm – 3.30pm	Harvest Fair	All Saints' Church
7th to 9th October	Harvest Weekend	Both Churches
Saturday 12th November 1.00pm – 3.30pm	Christmas Fair	All Saints' Church
Friday 9th December 7.30pm	Featherstone Male Voice Choir Concert	St Cuthbert's Church



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Senior Citizen Menu

Monday – Friday

12 – 4pm

1 Course £4.95

2 Courses £7.45

3 Courses £9.95

The Main Menu is served

12 – 8pm

Friday & Saturday
Evenings 6pm – 9pm
3 Course Couples Menu

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½ Carafe Wine

A new menu every week
Main Menu & Specials also
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Wednesday

Quiz Night

Followed by

Open the Box

£1 per ticket with
chance to win a CASH
prize

Thursday

Music Quiz Night

9.30pm

With FREE supper

Sunday

Carvery 12 – 4pm
Main Menu 5pm – 8pm

From the Registers

Baptisms

24/4/16 Alice Elizabeth Storey

Marriages

16/4/16 Brian Moxon & Alison Julie Booth

Funerals

24/2/16 Juliet Mainwaring, Pontefract

1/3/16 Penelope Kitson (70) 62 Millgate, Ackworth Moor Top

2/3/16 Alma Rose Rhodes (99) Stellar House, Pontefract

18/3/16 Joan Wainwright (88) Springhills N.H. Outwood, Wakefield

18/3/15 William Spencer (87) 50 Chiltern Drive, Ackworth Moor Top

30/6/16 Thomas Noel Williams (83) 90 Queens Avenue Pontefract

7/4/16 Brian Gott (71) 38 Doncaster Road Estate, Ackworth Moor Top

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers)

Ackworth School Meeting House, Sundays, 10:45am

ACKWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

BARNSELY ROAD

SUNDAY 10.45am WORSHIP WITH JUNIOR CHURCH

ALL AGE WORSHIP ON THE 3rd SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

COFFEE MORNINGS - MONDAYS - 10:30 am - 12 noon

THE PARISH OF ST JOSEPH PONTEFRACT

Incorporating ST MICHAEL KNOTTINGLEY

FATHER SIMON LODGE

Sunday Mass Times

ST MICHAEL 9 am. ST JOSEPH 11.30 am, Evening 6 pm.

Mass Times for The Parish Of The Sacred Heart RC

Father Anthony Fenton

Sacred Heart, Hemsworth, Sunday, 10:45am Saturday Night Mass,
6:00pm

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 June 2016 and July 2016

Sunday Services

8.30am	Holy Communion (2nd & 4th Sunday BCP service)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion	St Cuthbert's
3.30pm	Evensong (except 3rd Sunday in month)	All Saints'
3.30pm	Evensong with Healing Prayer (third Sunday in month)	All Saints'

Wednesday Service

9.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
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Special Events and Services

4/6/16	All Saints' Sale : 1-3.30pm @ All Saints'	
5/6/16	Heritage Fayre: 1pm onwards @ The Green, High Ackworth	
18/6/16	Visit to Driglington Church—All WELCOME: an opportunity to view the re-ordering of a Church of similar age to All Saints' and discuss possibilities for the future changes we could make to our Church (see notice sheet for details)	
25/6/16	Ackworth Gala @ Carr Bridge Playing Fields	
2/7/16	All Saints' Sales 1-3.30pm @ All Saints'	
3/7/16	Open Air Service (weather Permitting) 3.30pm at All Saints' Church, followed by afternoon tea. A 'Songs of Praise' service - all your favourite hymns followed by an opportunity to meet together over refreshments and chat.	
9/7/16	Pilgrimage to Durham—coach trip to visit the resting place of our patronal saint - Cuthbert (details on notice sheet)	

Little Friends Mother and Toddler Group

1st Thursday of each month

2pm to 3.30pm

All Saints Church - Sue Tanswell 612913 for information.