



Ackworth Parish Magazine

Peter Moorhouse

46th Rector of Ackworth

Peter's touch!

By the time this issue of the magazine appears, the 46th Rector of Ackworth will be just another name on a list which began in the year 1242; and yet not since the Revd Kenworthy presented his impressive list of building and restoration work to the Archbishop of York in 1875 has so much been done in so short a time. Peter came to Ackworth with a bold and imaginative concept of how a modern parish should work, and of the steps needed to transform a basically 19th century pattern of parish life. People in country places, where roots run deep, do not always welcome change to deeply cherished places, and it is not surprising that at first some of his plans for the re-ordering of the church interior aroused considerable opposition.

A building transformed

The finally agreed plan, however, resulted in a most attractive interior losing nothing of the original structure but with the added amenities of new lighting, organ, vestry, kitchen, new chancel floor and toilet facilities. Later work has also included a sound system, a new roof to the north aisle and conservation of two of the church's most historic memorials.

I think it is true to say that no aspect of church organisation has escaped Peter's touch, down to new hymn books and the efficient maintenance of the churchyard. All this seems to have had a most salutary effect on the size and age structure of the congregation, of whose talents and resources Peter has not hesitated to take full advantage.

No one can say that Peter has chosen an easy option to the next stage in his ministry. To many it would seem not so much a spiritual journey as a pilgrimage through a barren land. However, as is generally known, Peter's last two years at Ackworth have not been easy and he seems at his best when the going is rough. He departs with all our prayers and hopes that he will find fulfilment in his new mission.

Fred Davies

In this month's issue.....

The Parish Weekend at Scarborough.
Christian Aid - volunteers wanted.
The Ascension - Paul Fox
Rhododendrons at Wentworth Castle
Trailblazers - what the children think.
Our page - for children.

Parish of Ackworth - St Cuthbert's and All Saints' - Directory

Rector: To be appointed, please contact Churchwardens, Fred Davies on 610694 or Bill Branston on 610590.

Sunday Services

St Cuthbert's: 10 15 am The Parish Communion and Junior Church.

All Saints': 8 30 am Holy Communion.

6 30 pm Evensong (2nd Sunday, Holy Communion).

Mid Week Service

Wednesday: 9 30 am Holy Communion, All Saints' Church.

Guide and Brownie Parade and Family Communion: 2nd Sunday in the month,
10 15 am, St Cuthbert's Church.

Mums and Tots Group: 2nd and 4th Tuesdays in the month (except August),
2 pm at All Saints' Church.

Baptisms: Normally take place at the 10 15 am Parish Communion on the last Sunday in the month. Please telephone churchwardens for information.

Marriages: Please contact the churchwardens.

Ministry to the Sick: Please inform the churchwardens of anyone who is in hospital or very ill at home.

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

31 March Sophie Elizabeth Pickering, 'Rowan House', Wakefield Road

FUNERALS

27 February John William Hames, 42 Chapel Garth, 75 years

28 February Barbara Church, 68 Millgate, 55 years

4 March Olive Hepplestone, 7 Low Green, 91 years

26 March George Walter Hotson, 19 Hillside Road, 64 years

27 March Edward Chapman, 1 Doncaster Road Estate, 73 years

Pause for Thought

Man is a peculiar, puzzling paradox, groping for God and hoping to hide from him at the same time
William A Ward

Quick Quotes

- * For the best results, follow the Maker's instructions
- * Don't keep the faith - spread it
- * Bibles that are falling apart are usually read by people that aren't



About a hundred adults and innumerable children went as a parish for the weekend to Green Gables Hotel, Scarborough. The name board had Green Gables printed on it, sure enough, but looking at this building on a very foggy Friday afternoon one was reminded of the Munster residence! Once inside, the warmth really enveloped you. But nothing was as warm as the family feeling which pervaded the whole weekend. We enjoyed the swimming pool, games-rooms, good food, good beds, good bar, good company - and good fun.

On Saturday the Revd. Stephen Cottrell, Diocesan Missioner, took two sessions. As it was Lent he spoke of the dark side of life. He reminded us that as Christ endured every suffering known to mankind - physical, mental, emotional and spiritual - for love of us all, so He is still present and shares every suffering of every life here, now. He also explained how to heal painful memories by reliving them in the presence of Christ, unrealised at the time.

He demonstrated how a well-worn story from the Bible can come to life for us by separate groups identifying with a different character. It was surprising how many new insights were experienced. At one point we each wrote down, anonymously, a prayer, stating our greatest need in our Christian discipleship. We put them in a container, then had a 'lucky dip' and read aloud each other's prayers. It was a very moving experience. Here is one of them.

Scarborough Sanctus

My dear Lord, my liebe Lord - You give yourself to me in love, and then feed your own entire sweetness in me - You live through me, you love through me, knowing myself to be nothing, desiring nothing, but to do your will - My greatest need, my heartfelt desire is for you to work in me, and through me, so that other people may know your love for them, as I do. I pray in the power of your Holy Spirit, in union with your Christ, having access to our Father, who will hear and answer - Amen

A very enjoyable and lively entertainment was given by talented adults and children.

(Who was that strange female with green hair who gate-crashed the children's 'can-can' dance?)

No, it wasn't Peter! He was interviewed by Paul about his favourite hymns and we learnt more about him and the origins of his call to the priesthood. He also read a poem in his best Yorkshire accent about Albert and the Lion. With his reading glasses on he couldn't see our reactions!

On Sunday we celebrated the Eucharist and afterwards sang the top five of our favourite hymns. Who of us will ever forget our heartfelt singing of 'Bind us together, Lord, bind us together in love'? A fitting and moving thanks for our Father's ministry through Peter.

The weekend was best summed up by one of the children, who, when being gathered up in the car-park for the journey home, said 'Do we **have** to go home'?

Help Christian Aid to help the poor

Urgent request

Christian Aid Week is still the UK's largest house-to-house charity collection. Last year 250,000 volunteers delivered over 17 million envelopes nationwide and collected over £9 million.

But who are these volunteers?

Well, they are people just like you – people who care about the plight of the poor and feel they can help to alleviate suffering by giving a few hours of their time. It's not an easy job, and it may seem like a small contribution, but it does make a huge difference to those in need.

We urgently need collectors in your area and would ask you to consider whether this is something you could do.

If you would like details, please contact your local Christian Aid Week representative:

Jacquie Dawson

Tel: 610800



Sorting beans after harvest in Burkina Faso, West Africa

Christian Aid Week supports work in more than 60 countries worldwide, enabling poor people to help themselves.

In addition to giving emergency aid, it funds local projects that bring about long-term benefits to local communities.

One project assists 72 farmers in Burkina Faso to grow and export market garden produce.

ChristianAid



An Application for the Post of Rector!

A parish looking for a Rector is reported to have received this letter:-

"Gentlemen, I understand that your parish is looking for a new Rector, and I should like to apply for the post.

I have many qualifications that I think you would appreciate. I have been blessed with power to preach, and have had some success as a writer. Some say that I am a good organiser. I have been a leader in most places to which I have gone. Some men, however, think that I am too old - at fifty. I have never preached at one place more than three years at a time. In some, I have known my work to have caused riots and disturbances. I have to admit that I have been in gaol three times - or was it four? - but not because of any wrong-doing. My health is not too good as I suffer from fits. However, I still get a good deal done".

"I have had to work at my trade to pay my way. The churches in which I have preached have been small though situated in large cities. I am not on harmonious terms with the religious bodies who have taken me to court, threatened me, and have had me physically assaulted. I am not too good at keeping records. I have been known to forget whom I have baptised. However, if you want me I shall do my best for you, even if I have to work to help with my support."

Those responsible for the appointment were of course indignant, they were not interested in any unhealthy, contentious, trouble making, absent-minded ex gaol-bird as their Rector. They thought the application was an insult and demanded to know the applicant's name. The applicant was finally identified as.....**St. Paul**.

Reprinted from the Church magazine, Christ Church, Dusseldorf.

Rhododendrons at Wentworth Castle

Flaming reds and floods of purple rhododendrons greet you when you walk through the lovely gardens at Wentworth Castle

After a pleasant stroll under the shade and cover of some tall lime trees you descend into an abundance of colour and scents given out by the rhododendrons and azaleas. There are over 500 species of rhododendrons.

The castle or house is also of some architectural interest and has in its day been a glorious dwelling place. It now belongs to Barnsley MBC and houses the Northern College.

Sadly these gardens are open to the general public only once a year - on the Sunday and Monday of the Spring Bank Holiday weekend. Proceeds from the two day event usually go to Silkstone Parish Church and the upkeep of the gardens.

Look out for the dates in the May What's On section of See Link. Wentworth Castle, Stainborough is between Barnsley and Silkstone - not to be confused with Wentworth Woodhouse near Rotherham.

It's certainly worth a visit. The Mothers' Union put on some good refreshments too!

Margaret Lloyd

Where is it?

Q. How many accounts of the Ascension are there?

A. Three. Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:9-11.



To me, the Ascension used to seem like an afterthought. It always seemed like it was tagged on the end of the Gospels. I have since learnt to view it very differently. The accounts given in Luke and Acts are linked.

It seems apparent that whoever wrote the Gospel according to Luke, also wrote the book of Acts. This was probably Luke, who travelled with Paul on his missions to Eastern Europe. It is interesting to note, then, that Luke's Gospel ends with the Ascension, and Acts begins with it. This is no accident.

The Ascension takes a pivotal role in the formation of the church of Christ. The Gospel records the account of Jesus' earthly ministry. This ends with the Ascension. After the Ascension, Jesus no longer appears to the disciples. There is a finality

about this appearance. The book of Acts gives an account of the formation of the early church, and the acts of the apostles. This begins with Jesus disappearing into heaven. Jesus thus becomes our advocate in heaven.

The account of the Ascension in Acts is particularly worth noting. Here, Jesus ascends into heaven in a cloud. After this, the disciples continue to look at the sky, as if waiting for Jesus to return. At this point, two men dressed in white, and therefore assumed to be angels, appear beside them.

The disciples are then given an instruction. It is almost a rebuke, in the manner that Jesus would have given to them. Here they are, stood looking at the clouds, waiting for something to happen. The two men tell them that just as Jesus ascended into heaven in a cloud, he will return in a like manner. This is an interesting statement considering Jesus' statement in Mark 13:10. Here, the end will not come (the end being the return of Jesus) until the Gospel is preached to the whole world.

So it would appear that the two men are telling the disciples to stop hanging around and get on with it. Getting on with the preaching of the Gospel message being the task at hand. This is a task which we are all called to do. We should stop waiting for something to happen and just get on with the job Jesus gave us.

Paul Fox

'Who survived the den of lions?'

SEE -



LINK

May

1996

Bishop John writes

*Every day we get manipulated . . . Buy This! . . . Vote this way!
Think like this! . . . Believe this! . . . Watch this!*

It is like being surrounded by a lot of megaphones all shouting different messages at once. The consumer society of "I shop therefore I am" means that advertising has become an essential of life—and so marketing spreads into politics and education and health care.

So many opinions, so little truth. One person recently told me "I can't cope with any more quarrelling": she was fed up with politicians screaming at each other, advertisers shouting their wares, the opinionated giving their views about everything—even different faiths claiming a monopoly of truth. At Pentecost we shall pray, "give us a right judgement in all things". In this billboard world is there anything we need more than that



—to be able to pick what is good and wholesome and true from such a welter of choices? Right judgement is a gift of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes it is called the "gift of discernment": don't limit that to just perceiving the grosser forms of

evil—it is given to guide us through the grey uncertainties which surround so much of life. Christians today have to proclaim firmly that there is such a thing as Truth—and therefore some things are just plain wrong. This post-modern world tries to tell us that there is no such thing as eternal truth. We are told, "You have your opinion; I have mine" or "Truth is relative to the situation"—That is why the only real sin recognised on the media today

is intolerance—for to say that something is wrong is the sin against the Spirit of the Age which can never be forgiven.

Whether it is fashionable or not Christians have to say that there is right and wrong, virtue and sin, truth and falsehood. We do so because that is the very nature of God. Jesus described the Holy Spirit as the "Spirit of Truth" who would teach the world about the nature of sin, and justice and judgement. God's truth does not

and cannot change.

Never has it been harder to trace the path of right living and right believing than today. We are in the invigorating adventure of being a Christian and swimming against the stream.

But we do not swim alone. Pentecost speaks of the Holy Spirit being sent upon the Church and upon each Christian "to guide us into all truth". May we all be filled by the Spirit and know that truth.

+ John Pontefract

Guide to keeping churches safe and sound

The Council for the Care of Churches has published a guide to safeguarding church property. Every church is different, so there can be no one security plan that will fit them all. *Safe and Sound?*, however, guides those responsible for churches through the necessary steps to spotting the risks and avoiding them.

The guide, sponsored by the Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, shows how to assess the setting and character of the church and involve plenty of other people, for example 'in church watch' schemes. Comprehensive inventories, with photographs or drawings, videos of the church architecture, marking property and accu-

rate valuations are all recommended to help repair, replace or reclaim items. They should be safely stored away from the church.

A walk round the church, looking through the eyes of a prospective thief or vandal, will highlight possible points of entry, sources of ammunition for causing damage and anything an arsonist might find useful. Other practical, common-sense suggestions include installing proper lighting, regular inspection of electrics, heating and lightning conductors, speaking to fire and crime prevention officers and obtaining suitable insurance.

Safe and Sound? — a guide to

church security, written by Geoff £3.50 (£4.55 by post) and is available from Church House Bookshop, 31 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3NZ, tel 0171 340 Church House Publishing, price 0276.

Blasphemy Laws

Bishop Nigel has said that any change to the present blasphemy laws should strengthen not weaken them.

In an interview for the BBC Today programme the Bishop responded robustly to claims in the wake of the St Teresa film by Scorsese that the blasphemy laws were outmoded and should be abolished.

Bishop Nigel said: "It is wrong to murder, it is wrong to commit adultery, it is wrong to steal—and it is also wrong to take God's name in vain."

"70% of people in this country consistently claim to believe in God. They need to be reminded in plain language that more respect for God might lead to more respect

for other people—and a better society."

The Bishop emphasised that the blasphemy law is on the statute book and should be obeyed. It was there to protect the sensitivities of those who worship God. Any revision, he said, should widen the law's historical Church of England context—and possibly build on earlier discussions on this matter with other faiths.

The Bishop added: "Other faith leaders I know are appalled by the level of blasphemy in this country—and want Christian leaders to stand up and protest about the mocking of people's faith. I agree. Blasphemy is wrong and is a corrosive influence in our society."

People and Places

The Revd **Sean John Robertshaw**, at present Assistant Curate at Morley St Peter and Churwell All Saints, is to be Team Vicar in the Upper Holme Valley Team Ministry to work with the parishes of New Mill, Thurstonland and Thongsbridge and to be involved throughout the team with youth work. The licensing will take place on Tuesday 9 July at 730pm.

The Revd **Reginald David Baldock**, who will be taking up his post as Assistant Priest at All Saints, Salterhebble in Halifax from April 21 will receive his licence on Ascension Day 16 May at 730pm at All Saints Salterhebble.

Harold Speak 1915—1996

Headteacher. The Cathedral School 1959—1979

Harold Speak was born and grew up in Thornes and on March 14th, his body was laid to rest in the churchyard he knew so well. As a young man he worked in insurance and developed that love for the law which continued throughout his life. After war service in RAF Intelligence and then took a teacher training course.

He was appointed Headteacher of the 'new' Cathedral CE Secondary Modern Mixed School on Thornes Road in 1959. This school replaced the Cathedral Boys' School in Brook Street. The new building on Thornes Road was a symbol of the vision to provide great new opportunities for children who would have five years of secondary education. That hope was delayed because the building was not ready and the school operated in Holmefield House for two terms. Even then, Harold had to take a van round several schools to collect enough furniture to begin lessons. With great joy, the whole school carried their chairs to the new building in April 1960.

He gathered around him a staff of enthusiastic teachers and encouraged them to foster a spirit of adventure. Visitors came and marvelled at the work done in the school and after school. School visits ranged from the local park to the Lyke Wake Walk and Europe. He encouraged sports teams,

a choir and a brass band. Pupils helped to excavate Sandal Castle and to plant trees in the Cathedral Precinct. He initiated a School Association for parents and teachers and a school magazine complete with photographs, long before these were usual.

Changes came. In 1965 the school became a City High School and in 1974, a 9—13 middle School and finally to his delight, a High School again. He attended the opening of the much enlarged building in 1995.

Everyone who knew him has memories of him. Pupils now grandparents can recall incidents, teachers now in headships or senior posts owe much to his help, and some local authority officials remember his dedication to obtaining the best for the school. After he retired, he was a welcome visitor to the school. He served the Cathedral as Chapter Clerk and the Diocese as Chairman of the Day Schools Committee. Even in his last few months he wrote to many friends, always to encourage us.

One memorial is the present school but more importantly, the lives and careers of those who knew him. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

A Elizabeth Lee
Headteacher 1979-1990
The Cathedral School

From the Diocesan Registry

With effect from the 1st day of April 1996 the fee payable for a Common Licence for Marriage is as follows:

£12 to be retained by the Surrogate

£38 to be sent to the Registrar

All cheques should be made payable to "Dixon, Coles & Gill".

The Children's Society



The Children's Society has recently re-issued its statement of values. These are grounded in the words and actions of Jesus in the Gospels, especially His concern for each child. Jesus made no conditions to his acceptance of children and neither does The Children's Society—it works with and for children and young people of all backgrounds and creeds, putting Christian love into action.

This re-statement of the Society's values comes at the same time as the advertising campaign "a little voice",

which reminds us that, as individuals, problems may seem too big for us to cope with, but together we can make a difference. The Society believes that every child should have the right to a good start in life, to be protected, to be treated fairly, to have sufficient income, to have somewhere to live and to be listened to.

If you would like to know how The Children's Society is putting its beliefs into action and would like a representative to speak in your parish, please contact your local secretary or the Regional Office, telephone 01904 627866, who will put you in touch with the appropriate person.

Commemoration Day at Mirfield

The Annual Commemoration Day will be on Saturday 13th July with the Solemn Eucharist on the front lawn under cover at 12noon; Preacher: Fr Eric Simmons CR, former Superior and now Prior of the Community's House in London. Lunch will be on the Cricket Field (Sandwiches and drinks available). Silence will be kept in the Resurrection Chapel throughout the day and a priest will be available for confessions between 1030am and 1130am and 230pm until 430pm.

Applications for programmes and Service Books to be sent to The Commemoration Day Secretary, House of the Resurrection, Mirfield, West Yorks WF14 0BN.

The Rhythm of Life: Celtic Daily Prayer

by David Adam



offers patterns of prayer for morning, midday, evening and night with a strong Celtic flavour. The prayers are designed to be learned off by heart.

David Adam explains that his aim is to "get the word off the page and into the mind and the heart" selecting themes for each day that address some of the eternal realities of God, he says: "When we celebrate in worship the mighty acts of God; we are not so much concerned with remembering, as with entering into events. Our celebrations tune us in to the eternal events, allowing us to respond to them and to cany that response into our dady living."

The Rhythm of Life: Celtic Daily Prayer is based on the traditional daily office. This dates back to the early church and was onginally designed to encourage Christians to pray regularly. Ideal for family, group or individual worship, these prayers are an invaluable resource for anyone wishing to incorporate prayer into the rhythm of life.

David Adam is the Vicar of Lindisfarne, Northumberland. He is well-known for his books on Celtic spirituality and has been interviewed many times for national television and radio. His other books include *Fire of the North* (1993) and *Borderlands* (1991) (both SPCK); *The Open Gate* (1995), *Power Lines* (1992), *The Eye of the Eagle* (1990), *Tides and Seasons* (1989), *The City of the Deer* (1987) and *The Edge of Glory* (1985) (all Triangle).



Rhododendrons Open Days



Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council and Silkstone Church invite you to spend a pleasant couple of hours touring the gardens at Wentworth Castle near Barnsley. May 26 & 27. 10am-5pm. Adults £2, accompanied children free. Refreshments available 11am-430pm. Various stalls. Free Car Parking.



The Rhododendrons are The National Collection. The Camellias and Azaleas are the Northern Collection.



Proceeds for Silkstone Church and Northern College.



WHAT'S ON

- May 1 Resurrexit Service in the style of Taize.** St Mary's Church, Barnsley 745pm. An ecumenical service for the town and area.
- May 2 Meat cutting demonstration** with humorous entertainment, followed with a question time by Frank Wright. 730pm at St Saviour's Parish Hall, Church Street, Ravensthorpe. Adults £1.50, children under sixteen 50p, includes refreshments. Pay at door on the night.
- May 3-6 Flower Festival** at Christ Church, Sowerby Bridge, to coincide with the opening of the Rochdale Canal. Refreshments served all week-end. Entertainment throughout the town for 4 days.
- May 4-6 and all Sats & Suns in May.** St Thomas' Church, Heptonstall. 2-430pm **Church Open** to the public. Light refreshments available.
- May 5 The Religious Outlook**, led by Revd Bill Cuthbertson, 230-430pm. CCS, Foster Place Retreat Centre, Hepworth, Holmfirth. 0161 748 8779.
- May 6 Annual May Day Gala.** 130pm. CE Playing Field, Vicarage Lane, Royston. Attractions include Grand Draw, Five-a-Side Football Competition, Christian Rock Group, Gymnastic Display, Irish Dancers, Clown Pickles, Refreshments & usual stalls.
- May 7 Christ the King Battyford.** Illustrated talk on the subject of **Joan of Arc** given in dialogue form by Fr David Foss & Fr Dominic Whitnall CR. Entrance 25p. In aid of Church funds.
- May 7 St Peter's Guild, Kirkthorpe, Wakefield, are holding a Wine & Cheese Evening and Silent Auction** in Kirkthorpe Community Centre from 730pm. Proceeds towards the Loop Induction System for the deaf in St Peter's Church. Admission £1.50. Details from Ken Craven 01924 897480.
- May 7-9 Issues of Authority, Culture & Spirituality** in the Anglican Communion today. A workshop at USPG's College of the Ascension, Selly Oak, Birmingham. 0121 472 1667.
- May 7-11 St Michael's Amateurs present Showboat** at Mytholmroyd Parish Hall 715pm nightly, mat Sat 215pm. Tickets 01422 883663.
- May 9 A Day for Quiet Reflection.** Foster Place Retreat Centre, Hepworth, Holmfirth. 0161 748 8779.
- May 10-11 Art & Craft Exhibition**, St Mary's Church, Horbury Junction. Fri 2-9pm, Sat 10am-7pm. Demonstrations & displays, Live Music and refreshments. Admission 50p.
- May 10-11 Art Exhibition.** St Philip & St James Scholes, Cleckheaton. Reception Fri 730pm Wine & Light Refreshments £1.50. Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-4pm. Admission 50p including refreshments.
- May 11 Africa Today: reconstructing or dis-integrating?** A joint USPG/Christians aware

- day at the College of the Ascension, Selly Oak, Birmingham. 0121 472 1667.
- May 11-19 Sunshine & Shadows, Flower Festival** at St Edmund's Church, Castleton, Derbyshire. Teas available. Larger parties, lunches & teas can be arranged. For details 01433 620978.
- May 11 Spring Fayre** St Michael & St Helen's Church, Almondbury, Huddersfield. 130-430pm. Stalls and refreshments.
- May 11 The Gospel, the Poor & the Churches.** Janet Morley, Christian Aid's Churches Team leader will address a meeting at St Peter's Church, Morley at 730pm. Refreshments afterwards.
- May 11 Calderdale for Christ: Prayer Celebration** 730pm Holy Nativity Church, Mixenden.
- May 18 Plant Stall** in the Parish Hall, Kellington near Knottingley, 1030am-12noon. In aid of Church Funds.
- May 18 South America—Beyond Liberation Theology?** A USPG day at the College of the Ascension, Selly Oak. 0121 472 1667.
- May 18 St Barnabas Church Crosland Moor, Huddersfield, Needlework Exhibition** in the Parish Hall, De Trafford Street, Crosland Moor 10-12 and 2-4pm. Admission 60p including refreshments. Proceeds to Mothers' Union Relief Fund.
- May 25 May Devotions to Our Lady of Walsingham** at St Anne, Southorham, Halifax. 12noon. Procession, Sermon (Sister Clare, Horbury). Sprinkling, Anointing, Rosary & Benediction. Please bring picnic lunch, cold drinks provided. Details from Fr David Burrows 01422 365229.
- May 26 Sign Interpreted Pentecost Celebration Service** at St George's Church, Lee Mount, Halifax. 3pm. Refreshments. Further details from the Revd Charles Dixon, Minicom 01924 380175, voice 01924 290501.
- May 26 1996 Whit Sing** 3pm onwards, Halifax Piece Hall. Join the Christians of Calderdale for an afternoon of modern songs, old hymns, drama, comedy and local singer/songwriter, Catherine Binns.
- May 28 St Thomas' Church, Heptonstall, Pennine Spring Music Choral Evensong** at 730pm. Other concerts on May 29-June 1. For details 01422 842532.
- May 28 Christ Church, Mold Green, 745pm.** Evening of **Live Rock Music** for youth of all ages. Tickets £1 & further information from Andy 01484 305053 or £1.50 on the door.
- June 2 Summer Fayre** 2-4pm, St Mary's Church, High Street, Luddenden Village, near Halifax. Games & activities for all ages. Many prizes, refreshments.
- June 8 A Bit of a Do** — St Philip's Church Hall, Birchencliffe. 10am-4pm. Light refreshments all day; Main Course Lunch 1145-2pm (Tickets 01484 429084). Car wash, stalls & other attractions. Proceeds to local and other good causes.

June 8 **Deserts of vast infinity**, a day exploring the trauma of wrestling with Jacob led by Catherine Wood. 10am-4pm. £12 (drinks provided.) Foster Place Retreat Centre, Hephworth, Holmfirth. 0161 748 8779.

June 9 **Rededication of War Memorial in Royston Churchyard**. 230pm.

June 21-24 **Scenes from the Life of St John Baptist**. Royston Parish Church. Refreshments. Church Tower open. Exhibition of photographs of old Royston, parish events etc.

June 24 **Glimpse the World Church**. CMS Yorkshire meeting. Young people share their experiences of seeing the world with CMS. St John the Baptist, Kirkheaton, 730pm. Details 01226 282619.

June 28-30 **Festival of Flowers & Music in All Saints Church, Elland**. Fri 10am-9pm, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 12noon-5pm. Refreshments. Further information from 01422 256259.

June 28-30 **St Edward the Confessor Church Brotherton Flower Festival & Historical Weekend**.

June 29-July 2 **The Life of the Church**. flower festival at St Peter's Church, Woolley. Sat 10am-dusk, refreshments and light lunches served in the Village Hall. Sun 1230-5pm. Mon & Tue 11am-5pm tea & biscuits available in the Church.

July 5-7 **St Saviour's Church, Brownhill, Batley, Flower Festival** 10am-5pm. Details 01924 472217.

July 6 **St Mary's Church Todmorden Craft Fair** 10am-4pm. If you are interested in exhibiting please phone Judith Thornton on 01706 812008 for an application form.

July 12-15 **Celebration of Village Life Flower Festival**. All Saints Church Cawthorne Barnsley. Refreshments. A beautiful Church in a lovely village.

Aug 18-25 **West Yorkshire Ecumenical Council Pilgrimage to Taizé**. details from 01924 377921, 01484 427940 or 0113 245 4893.

Autumn 1997 **Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**. Details 01977 677010.

MUSICAL MATTERS

May 7-11 **Mytholmroyd St Michael's Amateurs** present **Showboat** at Mytholmroyd Parish Hall 715pm. Also Sat mat 215pm. For tickets 01422 883663

May 11 **St Michael's Church, Wakefield, Concert** by the Shearings Featherstone Male Voice Choir. 730pm. Information from 01924

377741.

May 14-18 **Pontefract Amateur Operatic Society** present **Summer Spectacular**, in the Town Hall Pontefract at 730pm. Tickets £5 (£4 concessions) from 01977 704320.

May 17 **Concert by The Wakefield Metropolitan Brass Band** at St Paul's Church, Alverthorpe, Wakefield in aid of SPACE (St Paul's School Appeal Committee) at 730pm. Admission £3 adults and £1 children (including refreshments). Tickets from 01924 376608 or at the door.

May 18 **St John's Church, Ealand Road, Carlinghow, Batley, 730pm. Brass Band Concert** with the Tingley/Thornhill Band. Admission £2.50.

June 15 **Halifax Choral Society** presents **Songs and Praises**, a programme of hymns and anthems in Halifax Parish Church at 730pm. Conductor John Pryce-Jones, organist Darius Battiwalla. Join the choir in the hymns. Tickets £5, concessions £4 available from the HCS Secretary 01422 714636.

July 6 **Huddersfield Town Hall 730pm**. Richard Baker and Jerry Jarratt present **The Story of Gilbert and Sullivan**. With Honley G & S Society, Huddersfield G & S Society, Meltham G & S Soc and Slaithwaite Philharmonic Orchestra. Tickets £8 to £10 from any members of the Societies or Elizabeth Pearson, 01484 663967. Proceeds in aid of Yorkshire Cancer Research.

MARKET PLACE

Electronic Organ for sale. Livingston Classic 2 manual and full RCO pedalboard. Tabkey stops, 24 speaking stops in light oak wooden case. Suitable for small church or meeting hall. Details from 0113 253 7389.

Dales Cottage for holidays this year; sleeps 6. Phone Mark & Keri Thomas 01484 421753.

Heptonstall Church Hall (on the edge of the moors) for hire. 01422 842004.

Gestetner 380A electric duplicator & 1 tube of ink, set on a metal cabinet with drawers. Contact the Revd J M Sausby 01484 683285.

80 copies of **Mission Prize 1** in good condition. £50. Contact Mr Sheard 01484 682751.

The CNI congregation, Daund, India, needs a **Chalice** which will be big enough for about 200 communicants. Also, a church in Solapur, India, needs a small portable organ for a newly formed English speaking congregation. Please contact David Shrisunder, 01924 496127.

ITEMS FOR SEELINK should be sent to: SEE-LINK EDITOR The Revd Michael Bootes ocs, The Vicarage, 1 Manor Farm Close, Kellington, Goole, DN14 0PF, in writing please [or by Fax on 01977 663072], for one insertion only, by SIXTH of the preceding month.

CHANGES-OF-ORDER. Please write to Miss Donna Rusling, Church House, 1 South Parade, Wakefield, WF1 1LP. Changes-of-Order are concerned with how many copies each parish receives and whether the copies are FLAT or FOLDED. The cost from Jan 1 1996 is £3.90 per 100 per month.

Trailblazers' thoughts about Trailblazers!

These are just a few thoughts about Trailblazers by our young folk. They are quite normal as young folk go - they love pop music, pop groups, fashion and generally messing about - and they seem to enjoy it. If you come to church and are aged between 8 and 14 you might like to join us. We'd love to meet you!

Jill Hill

Poem

I enjoy coming to Sunday School,
It's not just for the young.
It's always full of things to do
And we have lots of fun.
It teaches us about God
And all the things he does.
We enjoy each other's company
And we share out all our love.



I learn more things out of the Bible.

I like Trailblazers because it's fun and I
don't get bored like at home.

I learn how to understand God.

Some weeks we read the Bible and use
worksheets but in others we make posters,
sing or do other kinds of activities. Before
there was a Trailblazers group I helped in
Junior Church. It was fun helping the little
kids but I didn't really learn any more than I
already knew. Here in Trailblazers we
revise things we learnt when we were
younger but we learn new things too

I like Trailblazers because I learn things
about God and Jesus

Trailblazers is fun!

We have sheets to do and things to make

We sing songs and pray



I enjoy coming to church and Trailblazers
because it's fun and you don't just sit
around, you learn about Jesus' teachings,
the church year and the Bible.

I enjoy coming to church because I meet a
lot of nice people.

It isn't like ordinary church in that you don't
sit around a lot.



I come because it isn't boring and you do
something different every week.

Poem

I like coming to church,
Because I learn a lot about Jesus
I do learn about Jesus at school
But I feel I learn more at church.
I go to Trailblazers and I think it's fun
So don't you be afraid to come.
We do activities and have biscuits and
drinks

I think it's really fun!



Contributors

Ages 8-14yrs



Alex
Amy
Christopher
Daniel
Hannah
Iain
Joanna
Jenny

Katie
Kern
Laura
Laure
Mark
Nicholas
Sophie
Victoria



A HAND FROM THE PAST

The World's oldest surviving single book Latin Bible was made in Northumberland, written out by hand around the year 700. Imagine all the work - every single word written out with a pen made from a bird's feather sharpened into a quill, written in ink made from oak or holly gall on sheets of vellum. Vellum is made from animal skins and this one book was made from the skin of 500 animals and took seven scribes several thousands of hours to write and decorate. They could only copy manuscripts when the light was good: in winter, with no heating, the ink might freeze.

If we want a new Bible, or any book, we can just go and buy one for a few pounds. Handwritten, illuminated books by monks were so precious that each book lived in its own special be-jewelled box. Each book was a work of art with brightly coloured miniature pictures and decorated letters.

To give you some idea of how long it took, why not just try copying out just one page of your Bible in your best handwriting. See how long it takes and how many mistakes you make.

And to make it extra special, all the capital letters should be specially decorated with bright paint and real gold. Here are some to practice on...



Sam: Dad, can you write in the dark?

Father: I should think so, Sam. Why.

Sam: Would you sign this report card, please.

'Morning has broken' is my favourite hymn. It reminds me of the 70's and my late teens when I met my husband. Even more, I suppose, it reminds me of Cat Stevens who I liked very much. I had never heard the hymn before. I thought Cat Stevens had written it himself. When I did find out my first reaction was to say 'Gosh, fancy putting one of his songs in the hymn book'. I hadn't realised that the song came first.

Now I am a practising Christian the song has a lot more meaning for me. When I sing it in church it fills my heart with gladness and sorrow. It reminds me of awakening and saying 'Thank God' for doing just that! I am not the type of person to jump out of bed shouting 'Rise and shine'. I simply say 'Yes, I'm alive' and slowly get out of bed. Then I go over to the window to see what I can see. It's so pleasing living where I live. I'm so grateful. I can hear the birds singing and our cock crowing. I look into the garden and then beyond to the trees and the landscape. Then, the words of the hymn spring into my mind.



The hymn makes me think of growth - seeing our lovely children develop into individuals, liking the things that we do - animals, and all the things in nature. It reminds me of beautiful sunsets and colourful rainbows, seeing the birds that stop and rest a while in the garden, the kingfisher and most recently, the waxwing. I can hear the cooing of the doves and the hoot-hooting of an owl that comes most evenings.

I am also filled with sadness as I remember all my loved ones who are no longer with us to share in this beauty. Most of all, I think of Jesus' love for mankind and how we are all God's creations.

Sue Gardham



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in the parish magazine?

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Calendar for May 1996



1 Wed ST PHILIP AND ST JAMES APOSTLES

9.30 am Holy Communion (AS)

5 EASTER 4 'The Way, the Truth, and the Life'

Proverbs 4 10-19 (Mrs Cooper/Mr D Cook), 2 Cor 4 13-5 5

Mrs Cooper/Miss L Parker),

John 14 1-11 ASB 619

8 Wed 9.30 am Holy Communion (AS)

12 EASTER 5 Christian Aid Week 'Going to the Father'

All Saints' MATTINS - Nehemiah 2 (Miss Pittaway), Matthew

13 24-43 (Miss Pittaway)

St Cuthbert's John 16 12-24 ASB 623

14 Tues 2.00 pm Mums and Tots Group (All Saints)

15 Wed 9.30 am Holy Communion (AS)

19 SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION DAY 'The Ascension of Christ'

2 Kings 2 1-15 (Dr McWilliam/Mrs Riley), Ephesians 4 1-13 (Dr McWilliam/Mr Shaw),

Luke 24 45-end ASB 632

22 Wed 9.30 am Holy Communion (AS)

26 PENTECOST

Genesis 11 1-9 (Miss Smith), Acts 2 1-21 (Miss Smith/Mr Shaw), John 14 15-26 ASB 632

29 Wed 9.30 am Holy Communion (AS)

30 Thurs 2.30 pm Mothers' Union Service and Meeting (AS)

JUNE

2 TRINITY SUNDAY

'The Trinity'

Isaiah 6 1-8 (Mrs Cooper/Mrs Woffinden), Ephesians 1 3-14 (Mrs Cooper/Mrs B Firth),

John 14 8-17 ASB 640

Flowers

St Cuthbert's Church

5 May Mrs Bateman

12 May Mr Lamprey

19 May Vacant

26 May Vacant

All Saints' Church

5 May Mrs Upright

12 May Mrs Turton

19 May Misses Harrison

26 May Congregation

Brass Cleaning Rota

Mrs Asquith and Mrs Lancaster

Please note that the Wednesday morning service at All Saints' is now at 9.30 am and NOT 9.15 am

Copy for the magazine should be given to Linda Steer, Maureen Richardson or David Newman by the first Sunday of the previous month