



# Ackworth Parish Magazine



**June / July 2003**

**50p per copy (£3 per year)**

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

<u>Rector:</u>	Revd. Paul Hartley, The Rectory, Ackworth	602751
<u>Lay Readers:</u>	Dr. Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
	Mrs Marie Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill.	616074
<u>Churchwardens:</u>	Mr Bill Branston, 8 Andrews Grove.	610590
	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
Churchwarden Emeritus:	Mr. Fred Davies	
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mrs Valerie Cook, 34 Barnsley Road.	619520

### Christian Stewardship:

<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mr Bryan Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill.	616074
<u>Covenant Secretary:</u>	Mr Donald Marshall, 17 Hill Drive	700961
<u>Stewardship Recorder:</u>	Mrs Sue Hartley, The Rectory, Ackworth	602751
<u>Car Lifts to Church:</u>	Mrs Ann Tait, 5 King's Close.	612613

### Children and Young People:

<u>Junior Church:</u>	Dr Paul Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Mums &amp; Tots Group:</u>	Mrs Jackie Fox, 5 Andrews Grove.	613834
<u>Children's Society:</u>	Mrs Helen Parkinson, 48 Holly Bank	614400
<u>The Howard C E School:</u>	Miss Sue Jackson, Headteacher.	722275

<u>Third World and Missions:</u>	Mrs Lynne Ward, 1 Orchard View.	616384
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<u>Social Committee:</u>	Mrs Biddy Branston, 8 Andrews Grove.	610590
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### Church Flowers/Brasses:

<u>St Cuthbert's:</u>	Mrs Phyllis Asquith, 70 Pontefract Road.	704732
<u>All Saints':</u>	Miss Ethel Smith, 'Solentia', Wakefield Rd.	611258

<u>Weekly News sheet:</u>	Mrs Maureen Richardson, 45 Woodleigh Cres.	612859
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### Parish Magazine:

<u>Publishing:</u>	Mrs Valerie Cook, 34 Barnsley Road.	619520
	Mrs Stella Hall, 87 Wakefield Road.	612003
	Mrs Jean Reast, 6 The Courtway.	611590
<u>Distribution:</u>	Mrs Biddy Branston, 8 Andrews Grove	610590

### St. Cuthbert's Bell Ringers

<u>Tower Captain:</u>	Mr Ian Hall, 87 Wakefield Road.	612003
<u>Ringling Master:</u>	Mrs Stella Hall, 87 Wakefield Road.	612003

## Looking Back



Disappointingly, only twenty people attended the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) on Sunday 27th April at All Saints' church.

As well as the legally required business of this meeting, it also gives me, as Rector, an opportunity to reflect upon the past year, assess where we are as a church in fulfilling our duty to the community we serve, and formulate a 'vision' for the future, with particular reference to necessary changes and aims for the year ahead.

For this issue my article will précis some of the points I made in my report to the meeting.

I began by thanking all those who have contributed towards the running of the church over the last year, and although I don't like singling anybody out, as all have equal value as members of the body of Christ (see 1 Corinthians. 12). I did mention those who had retired from a post. Fred Davies retired as Churchwarden after 17 years of service after last year's APCM. Ada Pritchard as Stewardship Recorder (a post now taken up by Susan Hartley), John Gardham has retired as Covenant/Gift Aid Secretary (his post is still vacant) and Susan Hartley retired as magazine editor. to be replaced by Valerie Cook. Stella Hall and Jean Reast.

Sadly, we have lost several committed members of our congregations over the past year: Arnold Barratt. Marjorie Brearley, Sylvia Forster and Pat Barran. Also, although not regular attenders, we have also seen the passing of valued supporters of our church during the year; in particular, Bill Guest. Hilda Aston. Ilva Johnson, Alf Camplin. Joe Stocks and Maurice Seaman.

Although not in quite the same vein, we have also seen the demise of the Mothers' Union. Ackworth Branch. Due to declining attendance and difficulty in finding a leader, they sadly came to the decision to close the branch.

On a more general note we have seen a drop in attendance figures at our services of worship. It is only a small drop, but we should nevertheless, as members of the church, all be concerned. Merely standing still is unacceptable, as a body whose focus should be on growth, as we are all commanded as Christians, by our Lord, to make disciples of all nations and preach the Gospel in every corner of the world. We must, as the saying goes, begin by putting our own house in order before we can expect to bring in new converts.

Out of an electoral roll of 136 (of which, as I said earlier, only 20 were at the meeting) a significant proportion of those members are rarely seen in our churches. Each and

every member must make an extra effort to attend services more regularly. Success breeds success, and if newcomers see a bustling and well attended church, they will be more likely to return. We need to be more committed at attending ourselves, and the simplest form of evangelism is quite simply to 'bring a friend'. As an old Chinese proverb puts it: 'one beggar telling another beggar where to find bread.'

On the positive side, we have seen a new addition to our ministry team, with the licensing of Marie Lewis. Marie, as she has shown to date, will bring both innovation and inspiration to the worship and ministry of our Church. The Thursday coffee morning continues to go from strength to strength. Apart from raising about £5,000 in the first year for the Restoration Appeal, it also provides a valuable outreach of the church into the community and has begun to draw people into Sunday worship.

The fundraising committee and the fabric committee both continue to work in raising funds for the restoration appeal and effecting much-needed repairs and improvements to our churches. Approximately £11,000 has been raised over the year and the first phase of repairs to St Cuthbert's roof has been completed. As with all such projects maintaining the interest and enthusiasm of the initial launch becomes increasingly difficult. We need input, therefore, in terms of fresh ideas and support, of yourselves if we are to continue to keep funds and work progressing.

The youth and children's committee continues in their very valuable work of attracting and maintaining the interest of children and young people in our church: a task which needs your help, support and prayers.

What of the coming year? With decline in attendance and weekly giving over the past year, we do need to focus on stimulating growth for the year ahead. Whilst income from fees has increased—keeping our head above water—we cannot rely on fees to pay the bills (who can tell how many baptisms, weddings and funerals will take place in the year ahead)? The share which we pay the Diocese has increased by over £2,000 for this year and is set to increase by 10% in 2004 and 11% in 2005. Clearly, we cannot afford to stand still in terms of our giving. Unless we all increase the amount we give by at least similar proportions, we shall find ourselves with serious problems as a church. We must not forget that other bills are also bound to rise and our freewill offering via the plate and envelope scheme are the only reliable source of income we can count on. We must not forget the benefits of the Gift Aid Scheme, particularly as the Covenant Scheme has now ceased. If you pay income tax, we can claim a further 28% from the Inland Revenue on top of what you give! Contact me for further details.

In order to try and improve attendance at our services, the worship group will be reviewing and looking for possible ways in which we can improve our orders of service to make them easier to follow and in particular more meaningful to newcomers.

We need to make All Saints' a priority in terms of re-ordering to provide a better facility to meet community needs and stimulate growth via outreach. If we are to be successful in attracting grants to pay for these improvements, then we have to be able to prove to

funders that community groups would make use of such a facility. If you know of any groups who may wish to use our building on a regular or occasional basis, please contact me, or get one of their members to ring me.

Two words emerge from this review as regards our focus for the future—Commitment and Growth. We need to nurture both as the body of Christ, if we are to fulfil our calling to preach the gospel to all nations.

Yours in Christ

*Paul*

## Dear Readers



Two members of our congregation who were great supporters of the church have died recently: Pat Barran, who lived at The Grange, had moved to be with her family; Betty Haskell, whose last contribution—about the lilies in Africa by 'Homegrown' - was in our previous issue, died peacefully in her sleep on 4th May. We thank God for their lives.

We hope you will enjoy reading more about life in the past here in Ackworth and further afield. We are glad that several people have given us articles for our issues so far and thank them for this. We do hope it will encourage more of you to let us have any material that you think would be of interest.

Ackworth continues to change, notably with new houses being built in several areas. It is sad that the quality of life for some has been threatened or spoilt by some of the development, through lack of consideration and thought by the authorities or builders. The building at Mill House Farm and the installation of new sewage pipes have caused much distress to those living near. Would you like to have heavy plant and a generator installed a few feet from your house for several weeks, or a house suddenly built on a higher level just a few metres from your house? It shows that we need to take thought for others in our working, as well as our private lives.

It would be good if many of the newcomers and those who have lived here longer feel part of a common heritage and a living community. We want Ackworth to be a good place to live, and for that to happen we all need to feel pride in it and responsibility for it.

We are taking a look at the social organisations in the village, starting with the Ackworth Social Centre, which, we believe, is the oldest. With your help we shall publish information on all the groups in time.

There is still an outstanding debt on our new photocopier, so any donations to this would be welcome.

**Stella, Jean and Valerie**

## Ackworth Over the Years . . .

In 1894, Saywell writes: 'Ackworth is a large village, and one of the best in the district. It was originally a Saxon hamlet. As to ecclesiastical jurisdiction, Ackworth is situated in the Deanery of Pontefract and the Archdeaconry of the West Riding and Diocese of York. The parish consists of three parts, High, Low and Middle Ackworth, with the newly sprung up and increasing settlement of Moor Top, and the little hamlet of Brackenhill, which is almost entirely inhabited by stoneworkers. Less than a century ago it was a sweetly pretty dell, the abode of a reputed witch, whose tenement is still pointed out. Moor Top consists of several good houses, the rest are the cottages of miners and quarryworkers. ' He speaks of 'the old Boot and Shoe hostelry, where the last of the old coaches of the district stopped. . . ' and of Middle Ackworth as being 'chiefly inhabited by members of the Society of Friends, who possess a large school (the former Foundling Hospital) and college (Flounders—its name preserved in the estate built on its site). Hundhill, which gives its name to a mansion and a few servants' cottages around it, formed a part of the parish of Ackworth prior to 1876, as also did the Grange, the seat of the Tempest family, but both hamlets are now in the parish of East Hardwick. The Tempests are an old Roman Catholic family . . . And maintain a domestic chaplain, chapel and school for the use of household and retainers. . . The parish of Ackworth is within the magisterial division of Pontefract, the Poor Law Union of Hemsworth, and the newly formed Parliamentary division of Osgoldcross.' In his opinion , 'Moor Top has of late years become so populous that at no distant period a division must of necessity take place. The new parish would include Brackenhill and Constitution Hill. (Rev. J L Saywell's 'History of Ackworth')



Green records some facts about the corn mill, which was powered by water from the mill leet, a tributary of the Went. 'The mill is now of antiquated structure and machinery, but was quite the most up-to-date thing when in 1435 Richard Taillour took it on lease for twenty years at the annual rent of 33s. 4d. And surrendered into the King's hands . . . All the lands and tenements which he held in Ackworth as security that he would maintain it and the mill pond in good repair and condition during his tenancy. This was probably when the water-mill was completed. Before that a windmill figures in Duchy (of Lancaster) records; one which may or may not have been on the site of the present disused steam and windmill. ('Historical Antiquities of Ackworth' compiled by W A Green, 1910)

Looking back in the magazines we get glimpses of how different life was then.

Amongst the hints for **Thursday's Cooking** in the April 1946 magazine we came across this tasty tip!

*When cauliflowers* are expensive, outer leaves and stalks should not be cut off and thrown away. Instead, thoroughly wash them and cut up and put through the mincer. Add some mashed potatoes, and warm all together in a saucepan, with seasoning, a little milk and margarine. Spread on a dish, sprinkle with grated cheese, and brown in the oven.

If your shoes need a quick polish, try this hint from **Friday's Household** in November 1946:

*For shoes.*—Don't throw away your banana skins. When you have taken the skin off your banana rub your shoes with it, leave about one minute, then polish them with a duster, and they will shine like new.

## Social Committee—Dates for your Diary



**Saturday 21st June**      **A Family Barbecue at the home of Kirsty and David Morris, 4 Doncaster Road, 4pm.** Details will be published in the weekly notice sheet

**Saturday 28th June**      **Secondhand Book Stall at the Village Gala.** Books for this can be put at the back of either church.

**Friday 4th July**      **An evening Family Car Treasure Hunt.** Details will be published in the notice sheet

**Saturday 12th July**      **Summer Fayre**      1pm at St Cuthbert's. There will be stalls for toiletries, bric-a-brac, cakes and home produce, plants, nearly new toys, tombola, and home-made cards. There will also be a **balloon race**.

**Saturday 27th September**      **Advance notice!**  
**Simeon in Concert**      7.30pm St Cuthbert's

**Do support as many of the events as you can.**

## Ackworth Stone Quarries

Ackworth developed differently from other villages in the area, because of its quarries of excellent freestone. Well into the 19th century Low Ackworth was largely agricultural, most of the quarrymen lived in Moortop and Brackenhill had a mixture of quarrymen and miners. It was the quarrying industry that played a leading part in the revitalising of the village economy after a severe depression in the 1850's and 60's.



The Ackworth sandstone which can 'be cut freely in any direction without a tendency to split' - hence freestone—had been quarried on a relatively small scale from at least the 17th century, as we can see in the building of Hessle Hall, very close to the hillside quarry on Constitution Hill, Ackworth Old Hall and the Masons Arms. In Low Ackworth, The Mount, Cambridge Cottage and sadly, the recently demolished Beaufort Farm were also built early, The Mount having a date of 1611 engraved. Larger scale projects began in 1733 with the construction of the present Nostell Priory in 1733. Before this was completed work had begun on The Foundling Hospital in Moortop stone in 1759, Sir Rowland Winn being one of the Committee responsible for its building. In High Ackworth the Mary Lowther schoolroom and almshouses, as well as the stone houses further along on the right of Pontefract Road are witness to 18th century stone building. Fortunately, many of these buildings are now listed, but one of them, the Mill House on Mill Lane, the original part of which is possibly among the very earliest in the village, is now squeezed in between new houses being built all round it, and its fate is very much 'in the balance'.

Look around Ackworth, whatever part you live in, and you will see evidence of the use of this local building material. In the 19th century brick was to rival stone, as brickyards were established all round, even at Nostell, but these houses still made great use of stone as well. Look at street names in Moortop and you will begin to discover where this stone came from. (Further development of the quarrying industry in a future issue).

## Sunday School at the Mission Room

We waited outside, clutching our collection money. Naughty children had spent theirs on chewing gum at Tommy Steele's shop, the present GT News. Miss Pritchard would arrive, pedalling briskly, auburn hair neatly styled, wearing one of her smart hairy tweed suits. We were rather scared of her.



She ushered us into a vast, gloomy room. The ceiling was enormously high and the windows did not let in much light. There seemed to be cobwebs and horror—horror—spiders! In winter the huge room was bitterly cold, and we had to huddle around one of the two metal stoves for warmth. A great grand piano and a hanging hymn sheet dominated the far end of the room. This is where we sang our children's hymns and at least one of us developed an undying hatred of 'All things bright and beautiful' Oh, the number of times we sang it!

We split into groups for a Bible story and then we would draw a picture—torture for us, because none of us has artistic talents. An attendance stamp with a coloured picture of a Biblical scene was given to us. Children with the best attendance records won prizes. Once a month we met in All Saints' church, where Mr Armstrong, the Rector, would talk to us. He was kind and made difficult concepts easy for a child to understand.

Highlights of the year were the special festival occasions. Which of us can forget the Christmas parties with jelly and custard and fancy buns, but also the dreaded musical chairs? The fear of being the first one out was exceeded only by the fear of winning and being the centre of attention.



The Christmas Nativity Play has special memories for us when we were given our first drama roles—Mary's handmaid and Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist. Could this be where our love of the theatre began? However, two of us recollect a dreaded time when Miss Pritchard encouraged (made) us to sing 'We will rock you', complete with actions, very shaky ones!

In the poor, drab post-war years we were thrilled to be given beautiful cards on Mothering Sunday to take home to our mother. There were also the intriguing Palm Crosses. Mr Armstrong always took one apart to show us how it was made from one piece of palm.

Whitsuntide was a time of competition. All of us children had new clothes for White Sunday. This was at a time of austerity, so new clothes were a treat. Our mother tended to favour pretty, but practical clothes, and we always had a new pinafore to keep our new dress clean! We did envy those girls who floated in chiffony-type, fairy dresses. We always had matching hair slides and ribbons, new socks and a pair of Clarks' sandals—Clarks measured children's feet. The socks we remember are red, white and blue striped ones in 1951, Festival of Britain Year, and ones with crowns around the cuffs in 1953, Coronation year.

(Part 2 in our next issue)

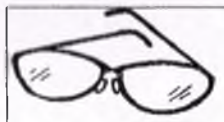
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## The Ackworth Social Centre

The Ackworth Council of Social Service was officially formed at a meeting attended mainly by Ackworth residents and nominees of other organisations in the village, on 26 February 1934, and was officially opened by the Rt. Hon. Viscount Allendale, M C on Saturday 17 November 1934.

### *joinery and carpentry . . .*

Weekly classes in joinery and carpentry were started with the association of Ackworth School and on their premises. It was felt desirable, however, that premises should be obtained to enable members to attend more frequently. Finally the former working men's club, opposite the Police Station in High Ackworth, was generously let free of rent for five years by the owners, Messrs J Tetley & Son Ltd of Leeds, provided that the Council of Social Service put the building in reasonable order. They also gave the Council an option to purchase the premises at the end of the period for £400. A Sinking Fund was started.

Thus began the organisation we now know as The Social Centre, and membership for both men and women was one penny per week.



Daily papers were supplied for the reading room; craft classes were arranged and equipment was obtained for members' use. Work benches, tool racks, cupboards, looms and other implements for hand weaving, and tables were made and chairs repaired. In October 1935 it was reported that 'Considerable use of boot repairing facilities has been made by the unemployed members and 74 pairs of boots and shoes have been repaired.'

### *keep-fit and country dancing . . .*

The women's section did cane seating, weaving and basket making. They obtained a sewing machine, and also had keep-fit and country dancing sessions. There were 113 women members, with an average attendance of 65.



The work of the Council increased considerably and five sub-committees were formed: Craft Work, Social Functions, House and Discipline Affairs, Finance and Women's Section.

In December 1936 the Council was asked to take over from the Parish Council the administration of the Long Lane Allotments, three acres of land belonging to Mr J B Hinchcliffe. This was agreed for two years, but it continued until 1978.

The Council offered financial assistance to members of the Women's Section whose husbands were unemployed, for visits to holiday centres; and unemployed male members were also sent away to holiday camps.

*premises taken over by the military authorities. . .*

In March 1939 arrangements were made for the provision of a Branch Library on the premises and the possibility of providing classroom accommodation, should the Government's evacuation scheme be put into operation, was considered. In March 1940 the secretary was instructed to negotiate with Messrs. J Tetley & Sons for the continuance of rent free tenancy, but in September 1940 the premises were taken over by the military authorities, Messrs. Tetley were therefore approached about the possibility of the premises being purchased at a price lower than £400, and this was agreed at £150. At that time the Sinking Fund stood at £121.18s.6d. And the property was bought.

The Council, however, had to find alternative accommodation to continue its meetings, and it was by the kind offer of Mr Austin, a founder member and early president, that the members could continue to meet in rooms over his stable in Mill Hill.

So the work of the Council continued during the war years, and eventually the premises were re-possessed and damages of £129.4.6 were received from the War Department.

The women's section continued to flourish, but the men's section did not do so well, their activities being limited to athletics and the use of the premises by the Football Club for changing purposes. In 1947 indoor games were purchased, and in 1948 there was renewed activity with the re-introduction of men's P T classes etc. This did not last, though, and the Council functioned solely as a Women's Club and became a member of the National Association of Women's Clubs.

In September 1967, the Council was notified by the Charity Commissioners, with whom it was registered, that it could no longer be considered a 'Council' of Social Service, and the name was changed to its present title, 'The Ackworth Social Service Centre'. It continued to be a registered charity, but for the first time in its history the officers and committee were all women.

In 1974 much needed repairs and improvements were carried out. The 'Centre' continued to function until 1988, when it was realised that the maintenance of the building was becoming too much of a burden and it was decided, very reluctantly, to put it up for sale. In due course the sale was completed.

From then on the members have met in the schoolroom at the Mary Lowther Almshouses, and it is felt that a service is still being offered to the life of the village. Today's members enjoy talks on a wide variety of topics, as well as social evenings, visits to the theatre and places of interest.

**Amy Saddler and Eileen King**

# Volunteer Soup

## Directions

### Ingredients

- Time
- Talent
- Discipline
- Persistence
- Humour
- Love
- Goodwill
- Natural Colour
- Energy
- Joy
- Preservatives
- Generosity
- Flavour

### Directions

In a pleasant atmosphere mix volunteer skills with the task at hand.  
Sprinkle liberally with time.  
Add responsibility to taste.  
For extra richness pour in plenty of appreciation.  
Stir until smooth.

*Recipe may be doubled or tripled as necessary.*

Recipe from Guiders

### Senior Exercise Regime

For those getting along in years. . Here is a little secret for building arm and shoulder muscles. Three days a week works well.

Begin by standing behind the house,  
And with a 5lb potato sack in each hand  
Extend your arms straight out to your sides  
And hold them there as long as you can.

After a few weeks, move up to 10 lb. Potato sacks,  
And finally get to where you can lift  
A 100 lb potato sack in each hand  
And hold your arms straight  
For more than a full minute.

Next ~ start putting a few potatoes in the sacks.  
But be careful not to overdo it!

With thanks to 'down under'

## JUNE AND JULY DIARY

	<i>Week of</i>			
4	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (M U Corporate Communion) A S	
5	Thursday	10.00am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	All Saints'
	<i>Week beginning</i>			
8	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Day of Pentecost</b>	Rededication of Village Cross #	
9	Monday	7.30pm	PCC	Vestry, St Cuthbert's
10	Tuesday	2.00pm	Toddlers	4 Doncaster Road
		7.45pm	Social Committee	8 Andrews Grove
11	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said)	All Saints'
12	Thursday	10.00am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	All Saints'
	<i>Week of</i>			
18	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said)	All Saints'
19	Thursday	10.00am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	All Saints'
21	Saturday	4.00pm	Barbecue #	4 Doncaster Road
	<i>Week of</i>			
24	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Birth of John the Baptist</b>		
		2.00pm	Toddlers	4 Doncaster Road
		7.30pm	Holy Communion	Saint Cuthbert's
25	Wednesday		<b>Holy Communion</b> (said)	All Saints'
26	Thursday	10.00am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	All Saints'
28	Saturday	1.00pm	Ackworth Gala #	Carr Field
	<i>Week of</i>			
1	Tuesday	7.45pm	Social Committee	8 Andrews Grove
2	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (M U Corporate Communion) A S	
3	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St Thomas, the Apostle</b>		
		10.00am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	All Saints'
		7.30pm	Holy Communion	St Cuthbert's
4	Friday	evening	Family Car Treasure Hunt * see notice sheet	
	<i>Week beginning</i>			
7	Monday	7.30pm	PCC	Vestry, St Cuthbert's
8	Tuesday	2.00pm	Toddlers	4 Doncaster Road
9	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (M U Corporate Communion) AS	
10	Thursday	10.00am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	All Saints'
12	Saturday	1.00pm	Summer Fayre #	St Cuthbert's
	<i>Week of</i>			
16	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said)	All Saints'
17	Thursday	10.00am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	All Saints'
	<i>Week of</i>			
22	Tuesday	2.00pm	Toddlers	4 Doncaster Road
23	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said)	All Saints'
24	Thursday	10.00am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	All Saints'
	<i>Week of</i>			
30	Wednesday	9.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> (said)	All Saints'
31	Thursday	10.00am	<b>Coffee Morning</b>	All Saints'

# see details elsewhere in magazine

## JUNE AND JULY READINGS AND READERS



<b>1 June</b>	<b>7th Sunday of Easter</b>		<b>S C</b>	<b>A S</b>
	Ezekiel 36. 24-28	1 John 5. 9-13	Julie Cleland	Valerie Cook
<b>8</b>	<b>Day of Pentecost</b>			
	Ezekiel 37.1-14	Acts 2. 1-21	Jane Siddall	Ethel Smith
<b>15</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>			
	Isaiah 6. 1-8	Romans 8. 12-17	Sue Hartley	Peter McWilliam
<b>22</b>	<b>Proper 7</b>			
	1 Samuel. 17. 32-49	2 Corinthians 6. 1-13	Keith Shaw	David Cook
<b>29</b>	<b>Ss Peter and Paul Apostles</b>			
	Zechariah 4. 1-6a & 10b-14	Acts 12. 1-11	Fred Davies	Stella Hall
<b>6 July</b>	<b>Proper 9</b>			
	2 Samuel 5.1-5, 9-10	2 Corinthians 12. 2-10	Lily Parker	Mary Walker
<b>13</b>	<b>Proper 10</b>			
	2 Samuel 6.1-5, 12b-19	Ephesians 1. 3-14	Grace Riley	Valerie Cook
<b>20</b>	<b>Proper 11</b>			
	2 Samuel 7. 1-14a	Ephesians 2. 11-22	Mary Woofinden	Ethel Smith
<b>27</b>	<b>Proper 12</b>			
	2 Samuel 1-15	Ephesians 3.14-21	Jane Siddall	Peter McWilliam
<b>3 August</b>	<b>Proper 13</b>			
	2 Samuel 11. 26-12.13a	Ephesians 4. 1-16	Sue Hartley	David Cook

<i>Flowers</i>	<i>S C</i>	<i>A S</i>	<i>Brasses &amp; Cleaning S C</i>
<i>1st June</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Flower Fund</i>	
<i>Pentecost</i>	<i>Elaine Roberts</i>	<i>Congregation and Peggv Huby</i>	<i>Pam Sutcliffe</i>
<i>15th June</i>	<i>Phyllis Asquith</i>		
<i>22nd June</i>	<i>Nora Barnard</i>	<i>Flower Fund</i>	
<i>29th June</i>	<i>Heather Walters</i>		
<i>6th July</i>	<i>Margaret Barrow</i>	<i>Susan Tanswell</i>	<i>Phyllis Asquith</i>
<i>13th July</i>	<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Flower Fund</i>	
<i>20th July</i>	<i>Janet Bateman</i>		
<i>29th July</i>	<i>Anne Hurst</i>	<i>Ethel Smith</i>	



The organisers in both churches would be glad of offers to provide flowers, or indeed to arrange them as well, for more Sundays throughout the year, except during Advent and Lent.

## From Palm Sunday to Easter Day

Ann Atack

On Palm Sunday the congregation churchyard for readings and crosses. we processed into church the family service.



at St Cuthbert's went out in the prayers; then waving our palm singing our first hymn to begin

During Holy Week we had three evenings with readings, meditation and music. On Maundy Thursday, after communion in the evening, the altar was stripped bare and we kept The Watch until 10pm.

There was a family service first on Friday. In the afternoon was the moving service of the Good Friday Liturgy, as we followed Christ from his betrayal through to his crucifixion and burial.

The evening service of Easter Eve saw the renewal of our baptismal vows and the lighting of the new Easter candle. The church was beautiful with its flower arrangements and the representation of the empty tomb anticipating Easter Day.



All three congregations were in good voice on Easter Sunday, and it was lovely to hear Paul Cooper playing All Saints' organ morning and evening. At St Cuthbert's, the Halleluiah chorus was accompanied by the waving of banners. After the service, while the adults enjoyed Simnel cake, the young people eagerly awaited the judges' decision for the decorated egg competition. Andrew and James Morris, Michael Fox and Samantha Davis were the winners and Zoe Gardham, using her initiative and rolling the rounder bantams' eggs, won the egg rolling competition. Easter Praise at All Saints' confirmed the message: 'Jesus Christ is Risen Today' in poetry, hymns, readings and prayers.

## Spring Raffle

The raffle was drawn at the All Saints' coffee morning on Thursday 24th April. Regular supporters had been asked to choose a favourite hymn and Paul Cooper kindly accompanied the singing after the usual social round of chatting, drinking and enjoying homemade cake. People sang the hymn they had chosen and everyone joined in enthusiastically.

Finally the draw took place, with prizes including a cuddly toy donkey, a Simnel cake, a framed painting of the church, whisky and crystal glasses; a meal for 4 at The Windmill, Foulby; and, of course, some Easter eggs. All the prizes were claimed.

Thanks to everyone who supported this event by donating prizes and buying raffle tickets. We raised £400 and will soon have reached £7,000 at our Coffee Mornings for the Restoration Appeal.



## Whitsun

Fred Davies

The commemoration of the gift of the Holy Spirit, comes seven weeks after Easter, and is one of the three great Feasts of the Church in English speaking countries. Whitsunday (from the Anglo-Saxon hwit—white),. The name is said to derive from the fact that Pentecost was a regular season for christenings, when white robes were worn.

Seen through the eyes of a nine-year old choirboy in a north Derbyshire village church, there was certainly no lack of new clothing sported by the children who formed up on Whitsunday morning for the procession to church. A bright early summer morning, ardently prayed for, led by the spirited drum and bugle band of the Church Lads' Brigade, the procession would consist of contingents from all the church organisations, and with the vicar at the head, would arrive at the parish church for the 'sermon' - usually given by a visiting speaker.

It must have been no small space, that locked room in which were huddled together some 120 persons, including the apostles and Mary (the last time any mention of her is made in the scriptures) and there was a tense air of expectancy. The 'rushing mighty wind' and the tongues of fire formed a tremendous climax to a collective psychic experience, and they 'began to speak in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance'. Some scholars have likened this to the Glossolalia, which still plays a prominent part in modern Pentecostalism. Pentecost is the name of the Festival from the Greek for 50, the number of days from Easter to Whitsun, or in the Jewish calendar from 2nd day of Passover to the Harvest Festival, when Jews from all parts of the Diaspora came to Jerusalem. In Europe this name has always been used for the feast and the Church of England has now reverted to it. Whatever one's view of this very 'proper, needful and serviceable miracle', there is no denying the greater miracle. What happened in that upper room 2000 years ago changed the world for ever.

## Ackworth Methodist Flower Festival

Margaret Jubb

'Around the World' brought colour and fragrance from flowers from all over the world, as well as flags, produce and national memorabilia., on the May Day weekend. 'Absolutely blooming marvellous!' was a good description. Visitors enjoyed the ploughman's lunches and cream teas that were served throughout the weekend. Many performers contributed to an excellent concert of music, comedy sketches and a multi-media worship presentation on Saturday evening. Our Sunday evening worship was a banquet at the Lord's table, led by our minister, the Revd. Iris Musgrave.

Our thanks to all our visitors who helped us to raise £900 towards the cost of urgent repairs we must make to our church and hall and to fulfilling our vision to redevelop the building for multi-purpose community use. We hope to be blooming again next year!

## Prince of Wales Hospice Coffee Morning

On 3rd May we had a successful coffee morning at Low Ackworth Community Centre, where people came along to support our local Hospice and enjoy a social event, meet old friends, make new ones and enjoy a chat over a cup of tea or coffee. Thanks to the hard work of the committee and the generosity of our patrons we raised £550. The annual sale of Easter egg novelties this year raised a record £620, so we had £1,170 to hand over to the Hospice.

We shall be having an Autumn Coffee morning later this year and look forward to your continuing support.

**Stella Hall**

### From the Registers



#### Baptisms

- 9 March Chloe Jean Andrews and Joanne Smith  
13 April Sadie May Appleyard, Alice Nichole  
Phoenix and Lewis James Healey

#### Marriages

- 15 March Christopher Mark Field and Stephanie Jane Halstead  
23 March Mark Jeffrey Berry and Janine Burton  
5 April Simon Pearson Cook and Rachel Louise Cook

#### Funerals

- 24 March Horace Hill (81) Willow Grange Nursing Home, Kinsley  
3 April Marjorie Wathan (84) Snyderdale NH, Old Snyderdale  
10 April John Alfred Camplin (89) 58 Orchard Drive, Moor Top  
14 April Annie Horbury (71) 47 Ryddings Drive, Moor Top  
17 April Joseph Stocks (83) 14 Chiltern Court, Moor Top  
23 April Emily Smally (84) Carleton NH, Carleton, Pontefract  
29 April John Newsome (84) 41 Chapel Garth, Moor Top

Please may we have **COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE** of the magazine sent to Stella or Jean by Wednesday 9 July?

Will all committees please try to fix the dates of their meetings for August and September and let us have them by 16 July at the latest?

## Homeopathy



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## Ackworth 'Springtime' Half Marathon—From little acorns . . .

Sunday, 23rd March, saw the well publicised further running of the Ackworth Half Marathon. I wonder how many remember that this started as a church event some twenty years ago?

In the summer of 1982 a small committee consisting of Jeremy Belk, Ken Storey and myself were drawn together by Dr. Jean Wharton, to realise her vision of raising funds for St. Cuthbert's Building Fund, plus interest and entertainment for the village, through the organisation of a 'marathon'. This was the time when a jogging boom was sweeping the world and fundraisers were beginning to appreciate the potential of sponsored road races for raising money for their causes. Jean had already decided when the first race was to be held, Saturday 26th March, 1983, perceived as an ideal time ahead for anyone preparing for the emerging London Marathon, the route, two laps of a circuit of the villages of Wentbridge, Kirk and Little Smeaton, Stapleton, Darrington and East Hardwick, starting and finishing in Low Ackworth. More detailed consideration of her proposals however, revealed that there would not be enough daylight at that time of year to ensure that all competitors completed the marathon distance (26.2 miles) before darkness fell. Therefore the distance was reduced by half.

Between us we had a little experience of road race planning and organisation, but sought the advice of a local race organiser. I remember our credentials did not impress him, or other contacts we made; they forecast only limited success for the venture. What they could not appreciate was that failure was not a word in Jean's vocabulary, and nothing would stand in her way. She drew together a team of helpers from the church, village, local medical fraternity and elsewhere, motivated them with strength of purpose, ensuring a success beyond expectations.

The race drew an entry up to the limit of 600, set by the police, including 68 from village residents. Prizes, presented by the Bishop of Pontefract, were awarded to the winner, runner up, first lady and first wheelchair competitor. The first winner was Don Weigel from nearby Askern; the most successful competitor over the years has been his club mate Dave Bond, who has won the race seven times between 1987 and 2000. Two ladies have won the race three times: Kath Drake from Spenborough, between 1987 and 1994 and Susan Garrod from Goole, between 1992 and 2000./ The course record for men, set this year, 65' 18", is a world-class time for an undulating course. For the ladies it is 76' 50", a time set in 1993. The first Ackworth runner in 1983 was Peter Grimoldby, who came in fifth. It is a tribute to his longevity that he completed the race again this

year, in a highly respectable time. In 9th place twenty years ago was Keith Horbury, who tragically died earlier this year.

On the day of the race various stalls, sideshows and amusements were set up on the Parish Field to make it an occasion for the local community and to give charitable organisations the chance to benefit from the occasion. I remember that conveyor belting was laid on the ground, in case of wet weather! The next day a party of churgoers could be seen picking up litter in Low Ackworth.

From these small beginnings, when we tried to *keep it simple*, the race has progressed almost beyond recognition to one of the foremost in the country, hosting Yorkshire and, maybe next year, national championships. I am no longer involved in the organisation, but I can imagine that it is now a mammoth task, undertaken by members of Ackworth Road Runners.

What has not changed though is the route, apart from a minor amendment many years ago in Little Smeaton, to accommodate wheelchairs, and the start and finish locations. The number of entrants has varied from year to year; in 1983 there were 482 finishers (there is usually a 10—15% drop-out rate from entries). 2003 was outstanding in that 686 finished, more than 100 better than in any previous race.

I doubt that Dr. Wharton could ever have imagined how her idea would evolve; it also spawned the formation of the running club. I hope she would have been proud if its development, although what she would have thought of a £5000 prize fund, with the winner taking £1000 back to Kenya, I cannot imagine.

### PCC Jottings—April

- There was in-depth discussion about the Away-Day for the PCC held in March.
- Matters arising from this day included raising the profile of the church within the village and meeting the pastoral needs of both church members and the wider community.
- A new pastoral group needs to be formed to build on work already started.
- Four members of the PCC have come to the end of their term of office and elections will take place at the APCM to fill these vacancies.
- Extra work has been done on the roof at St Cuthbert's church to finish the flashing on the valley gutter of the vestry and some stone slates have been put back into position.
- The rector has made a request for the loan of a garden vacuum to clear away confetti after weddings.
- Two ridge tiles are missing on the lychgate. As these are difficult to obtain and very expensive, it is recommended that the ridge ends are haunched up with cement.
- The Lent Lunch raised just over £130 for The Third World.
- The Castleford & Pontefract Express, The Yorkshire Post and The Flame have

been contacted about putting in an article concerning the re-ordering of All Saints' church, explaining what facilities there would be.

- Churches Together will hold a Songs of Praise service on 20 July at 2.30 on the grass at the Inn Yard at the top of Station Road. The Castleford Salvation Army Band will accompany the singing.
- There will be a quiz at The Brown Cow, following the presentation of a cheque for over £500 to the church. Date to be announced.
- About half the money for a new photocopier has been raised.
- Craft items made by Mary Walker will be on sale after the service at St Cuthbert's and orders can be taken.

### May

- There was discussion as to whether our churches should be left unlocked during the daytime.
- A video on 'Restoration of hope in our Church' was watched, followed by discussion on how to use this to promote growth.
- WMDC have given permission to fell or prune 9 trees in S C churchyard.
- Churches Together: volunteers required for tent at Gala on 28 June for one hour; one person to choose favourite hymn for 'Songs of Praise' 20 July. Christian Aid: it is hoped to change the collecting system from next year.
- Applications to be sent in for English Heritage lottery grant in June.
- More audit sheets and a non-secular partner are required for the proposed re-ordering at A S.
- People are invited to attend a conference at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Wakefield, on 5 July on 'Hope for the Church'.
- Financial support to be given to 2 members of the congregation to attend 2 day Alpha course.

### Easter Bunnies



Bunnies popped up everywhere, sometimes missing vital parts(!) at the Bunny Drive held on 5th April in the Low Ackworth Community Centre. It was a really good family evening with plenty of fun and excitement, complemented by a tasty faith supper. Though it would have been good to have a few more people, those who were there appreciated a little more space and a little less noise.

## A Memory Best Forgotten

Neva Meadley

I was married on the 17th September 1939 and, as my husband was a fireman in Hull and all leave was cancelled, he was allowed only one day off for the wedding, which was at 5pm on a Sunday, since our vicar was away in the Forces and it was a case of finding another one who 'had the time'. The planned honeymoon in London was 'off', of course. We lived in a house in the centre of Hull close to the Fire Station and when the bombing started we spent every night in the coal cellar of the station which, when I became pregnant, wasn't exactly the most comfortable place to be. I had my baby in a maternity hospital and during the two weeks I was there—the usual length of time in those days - the sirens went thirty one times. Each time the shutters of the rooms were closed and the babies taken down to the cellars, a most arduous task for the nurses, I should imagine.

The blitz in Hull in May 1941 was horrendous. NIGHTLY raids continued and we didn't even wait for the sirens; we just filled flasks, made sandwiches and went to the cellar, knowing full well they would sound at some time. When we returned home I walked on the front door, which had been blown in, the windows were blown out and the hearth filled with soot. I could not tell you how many times the windows were replaced. I was always on my own, of course, as my husband was busy at the fire station, not out fighting fires, but on the switchboard. It was obviously impossible to remain living there with a baby, so I had to go to my parents, who lived on the outskirts of the city and, whilst they had some alerts, the risk of bombs was not as high.

Finally we rented a house from a nurse who was serving abroad, but we hadn't been there long when the 'V' bombs started. One fell very near the house and down came the soot again.

Throughout all this we had to contend with rationing, which was adequate, if rather limiting, and queuing for oranges when the greengrocer had a delivery, but eventually it was all over and we had survived. Now it is just a bad dream, hopefully never to be repeated.



## New Testament

Ann Harrison

My husband, Ronald Harrison, served with the Queens' Own Cameron Highlanders in World War 2, out in India and Burma with the 14th Army, taking part in the Battle of Kohima and Imphal. Ron was wounded crossing the river Irrawaddy. He also served in Japan. Ron was given a small New Testament from St Cuthbert's, which was inscribed: 'Parish of Ackworth. To Ronald Harrison With Every Good Wish from the Rector, Churchwardens and Members of the Parochial Church Council'. Ron treasured his Bible. It went all over the world with him in the Army, as well as being in Scotland and the Military College of Science at Swindon, Wiltshire. I still have this Bible and I will never part with it, as it brings me much comfort, knowing that it belonged to my dearly beloved husband, Ron.

## Mill House Farm



In May 2003 this was one of the oldest buildings in Ackworth. It may have been demolished by the time you read this article. Until September 2002 its garden had 41 trees, including a stately lime at the drive entrance, a walnut and some good sorbus and firs. It was a haven for birds, bats and other wild life. In the summer of 2000, the then occupier began felling several trees, including a large willow in the front garden. Then came the news that a planning application had been made to erect nine houses, and to convert the Mill House into two dwellings.

The planning department initially did not seem concerned with the impact this would have on the environment, particularly in connection with the site's proximity to the River Went with its history of flooding. Within weeks of the application the river did flood dramatically.

The planning authority was also flooded with objections to the development. They had few answers to the questions raised, and were totally unprepared for the number of objections and detail in them. None had been made when Shepherd Homes had applied for permission to build on Station Road. Representations were also made to the Environment Agency, the Highways Department and the police. Radically amended plans were then submitted, which included a huge 'lagoon' to store run-off water and a private sewage pumping station, due to the low level of the area. Of course, allowing the felling of every tree, with the exception of the lime, on which I had applied for a preservation order) and covering the garden and orchard of this historic house with bricks and mortar cannot have contributed to England's flooding problems. . . .

Now the remains of the old mill race and culverts dating from Mediaeval times are buried for ever. Following our initial objections, some members of York University made investigations but, unfortunately, the contractors 'accidentally' demolished the main area.

Early this year Shepherd Homes applied for an amendment to the planning permission which had finally been granted in September 2002. This was to demolish the Mill House and replace it with two new houses. By now the footings were in for the four houses crammed into the front garden, and the ground floor levels varied between four and six feet above the original garden level. It was obvious that the contractor had had no intention of retaining the original house. There are only about 3 yards between the gable wall of a new house, which is much higher, and the Mill House. I applied to the quaintly named Department of Culture, Media and Sport to have the building listed. Time was very short, and to their credit, they dealt with the application at once and I had several telephone calls from an officer. However, due to the condition of the building, they were unable to recommend it be listed.

This leads me back to Wakefield MDC. It is their statutory responsibility to have historic buildings in their area listed. I attended a panel meeting of the MDC and asked



why this building had not been listed years ago. "We do not have sufficient staff." ! We pay ever-increasing council tax but, sadly, Ackworth seems to receive very little in the way of services.

If we want things doing in our lovely village, we will have to do it ourselves and / or ensure that Wakefield MDC fulfills its legal duties. The setting up of the Heritage Society is certainly a step forward. Let us hope their success in restoring the cross is the beginning of a better Ackworth.

**June Backhouse**

### College Lane Surgery



One building that most of us depend on at one time or more is the doctors' surgery, and most of us were looking for signs of the extension of College Lane Surgery from last September.

However, true to all building projects it did not begin until a few months later. Work commenced on 24th February, the complete project being expected to take a whole year. As we can see, the first phase, which should take 26 weeks, is well underway. They have already demolished the old Ackworth clinic, constructed a temporary car park and begun to build a two floor extension at the rear of the surgery. When this is done the staff will be transferred into the new accommodation.

The Mission of the Partners, Practice Manager, Architect, Construction company, Quantity Surveyors and Structural Engineers is: 'To develop additional accommodation of a high quality, which makes a clear visible statement about the outstanding quality of the practice.'

It is intended : "to complete this project on time, on budget and with the minimum of disruption." We hope that is the experience of all who work in and use the surgery.

We shall have a progress report from the Practice Manager for our next issue.

Editors

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## THE PARISH OF ACKWORTH

### St Cuthbert's and All Saints'

#### Sunday Services – June 2003

##### 1st June 7th Sunday of Easter

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

##### 8th June Day of Pentecost

8.30am	Holy Communion - BCP (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion and Parade	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

##### 15th June Trinity Sunday

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

##### 22nd June Proper 7

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

##### 29th June Saints Peter and Paul the Apostles

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Baptism	St Cuthbert's
4.00pm	Open Door Service	All Saints'

## Rededication of the Village Cross

Until the troubled Puritan times our village cross was topped by a cross. Now Ackworth Heritage Society have restored our cross with its stone ball.



**Come to the rededication on the Village Green (between St Cuthbert's church and The Brown Cow) just before midday on Sunday 8th June.** All religious denominations will be participating in the short service, and there will be:

**Craft stalls, entertainment and much more . . .!**

**THE PARISH OF ACKWORTH**  
**St Cuthbert's and All Saints'**  
**Sunday Services – July 2003**

**6th July Proper 9**

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

**13th July Proper 10**

8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion and Parade	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

**20th July Proper 11**

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion and Junior Church	St Cuthbert's
2.30pm	Songs of Praise—Churches Together	By Quaker School car park
	No Evensong	

**27th July Proper 12**

8.30am	Holy Communion (said)	All Saints'
10.15am	Parish Communion with Baptism	St Cuthbert's
4.00pm	Open Door	All Saints'

**3rd August Proper 13**

8.30am	Holy Communion	All Saints'
10.15am	Family Communion	St Cuthbert's
6.30pm	Evensong	All Saints'

**Churches Together in Ackworth**

Invite You to Visit

their Ecumenical Tent at the Village Gala  
on 28th June on the Carr Field  
for information on all the churches in Ackworth.

Also, do visit the Cake Stall of the Methodist church and our Book Stall.

Churches Together also invite you to  
Come and Join in a Songs of Praise service on

Sunday 20th July 2.30pm on the grass by Quaker School car park  
(top of Station Road)  
(If wet, in the Methodist Church)

Singing will be led by the band of the Castleford Salvation Army