

My Article - Reliving the Mag. East 19



Ackworth Parish Magazine

Christian Aid Week

Nationwide collection

Christian Aid Week this year runs from May 15th to 19th. During that week millions of homes throughout the country will receive an envelope requesting a donation to the work of Christian Aid. The collection in Ackworth is organised by Churches Together in Ackworth, the body which promotes cooperation between the churches. On Sunday May 14th we shall be holding a united Christian Aid Week Service at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 6 pm.

Saving Planet Earth

The work of Christian Aid, and other similar organisations such as Traidcraft, Oxfam etc continues to be vital. Their work is vital not just because they help to save lives in Third World countries,

but because in the long run they are helping to save our threatened planet.

The biggest threat to our world is the continued growth in population. Many of our environmental problems stem from this growth which is largest in the Third World because life expectancy is short. Research shows that the best way to control population growth is to improve standards of living and health. This is why population growth is low in the West. By helping people to help themselves Christian Aid gives security for the future, and so less need for large families.

I hope the people of Ackworth will be as generous in giving to this cause as they have been in the past.

Peter Marlowe

== Parish Disco ==

Friday 12 May at 8pm

Low Ackworth Community Centre

Bring your own drinks and glasses

Tickets £3.50 from Pauline Wright (611756) or Linda Steer (614716)

Please note that the Rectory telephone number has changed and is now:

01977-602751

In this month's issue.....

- Palm Sunday - a poem
- The trials, tribulations and joys of delivering the parish mag
- Christian Aid Week
- The bells! The bells!
- Youth News

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Christian Aid Week, May 15-19



India

Learning to grow

Five-year-old Lakshmi used to spend her days wandering aimlessly and alone around her village in southern India, waiting for her mother to finish work at the temple.

Today her days are filled with exciting learning activities like clay-modelling, drawing, drama and story-telling, for Lakshmi has just joined one of the 13 balwadis (nursery schools) run by the Deccan Development Society (DDS).

"The balwadis provide a stimulating environment for children's mental development," says Dr Rukmini Rao, General Secretary of DDS. "The balwadi programme also ensures that the children receive one good meal per day between lessons because, if children are under-nourished, they cannot concentrate and benefit from the teaching."

The balwadi is overseen by the local sangham - a committee which brings women together to discuss the challenges they face. DDS encourages the formation of sanghams in the 60 villages where it works so that poor women, who are often voiceless and invisible in India because of their caste and sex, can overcome traditional prejudice and develop their potential.



Summing up...the Deccan Development Society's 13 Balwadis (nursery schools) offer a range of activities from maths to clay-modelling and story telling.

• Photo: DDS

The sanghams arrange house-building, tree-planting, leasing land, improving irrigation and providing interest-free loans to those in need.

It is through these sanghams that women transform their communities, and that Christian Aid can support DDS in improving the lives of children like Lakshmi.

Christian Aid

Registered charity no. 258003



'BELL A - PEAL!'



The bells are back! After several months of quiet, Ackworth once again resounds to the sound of church bells on Friday nights (practice night) and at the Sunday morning service at St. Cuthbert's. The bells have been out of action since one broke its bearings and had to be dismantled. The repairs have now been carried out and the bell group are striving to develop their skills and improve their ringing; ringing that is offered up at the beginning of the service as much in praise as the hymns that are sung during the service.

The Ackworth bell ringers are still a novice band who practice hard and who have been fortunate enough to receive much help and encouragement from more experienced ringers from other towers, notably Felkirk. The development of ringing skills also requires a reasonable set of bells on which to practice. Ackworth's six bells, although ringable, need a major overhaul and numbers five and six in particular require re-hanging on new bearings before the inexperienced ringer can comfortably learn on them. (The structure of the tower itself would also benefit from not being vibrated so vigorously).

..... and thus to the appeal!

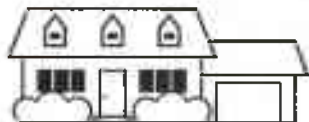
Bell repairs cost money! Lots of money!
Each bell will cost in the region of £800 to rehang on new bearings at today's prices.
The PCC has set up a bell fund and donations are always welcome. In addition a series of fund raising events are planned.
The first is a sponsored ring on VE Day, half the proceeds from which will go to the bell fund and half to The Children's Society as part of a nation-wide event taking place this year. Sponsor forms will be available from G.T.Smith's supermarket, Ackworth on Saturday 6th May.



Like them or loathe them, church bell ringing is a part of traditional English life - a folk art that is worthy of perpetuity and your support. The bell group thank you in anticipation!

Michael Oakes

DELIVERING THE PARISH MAGAZINE



I wonder how you came to have this magazine? Did you pick it up at church or have it delivered?

I deliver the Parish Magazine to 19 homes in Ackworth and unless you have delivered anything to people's homes you will not be aware of how many different post boxes there are! Some are very loose and the magazine slips through easily; others appear to have 'brushes' on the inside (presumably to keep out draughts) and you have to force the magazine between the brushes - sometimes this takes two hands; others have a spring on them and want to keep your fingers as well! I also deliver to one I can't reach - the post

box is high up on the inside of the gatepost and the gate is always locked, so my husband, a tall friend or my hairdresser delivers that one for me when they are passing.

When somebody moves I usually introduce myself to the newcomer and leave a complimentary copy and my telephone number in case they decide to have the magazine delivered. On occasion it was a farm and there was one difference - there was a gate across the entrance. I had no sooner opened the gate when an Alsatian dog bounded up, barking. I stood perfectly still and started talking to him, telling him what a handsome fellow he was, and he quietened down and followed me up to the farmhouse door. The door was opened by a lady who looked at me incredulously and said "How did you get in? He (meaning the dog) doesn't let anyone in!" I said "well he has let me in" and then added lamely "I like dogs". But she still looked very suspicious and declined the magazine. The dog then escorted me to the gate! I felt the Lord too was escorting me on that occasion.

I find it very pleasant delivering the magazine in the summer as I chat to all the gardeners, picking up all sorts of hints even the occasional cutting. Christmas too is a lovely time as I get invited in for the odd glass of sherry or cup of coffee. The hardest time of all is at the beginning of the year when I have to collect the money for the year. Ackworth people are very busy folk and I often have to call 3 or 4 times before I catch them in,

At the beginning of March Mollie Gardham, who is in overall charge of the distribution of the magazine, invited all the distributors to bring the magazine money to her house and have a cup of coffee and a chat, and I find this a very pleasant occasion when I have a chance to meet my fellow distributors.

Many thanks Mollie.

Jean Reast

FROM THE REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

- 29 January Christopher Scott Paterson, 111 Millgate
29 January Emily Jade Carr, 103 Bell Lane
29 January Jack David Worthington, 10 Victoria Street
26 February Ellie-Jayne Davis, 6 Woodhall Drive
26 February Dale Michael Cooper, 54 Mill Lane
26 February Adam George Guy, 2 Brookfield Drive
26 March Briony Jane Lewis, 36 Flounders Hill
26 March Jacob Robert Place, 60 Newstead Terrace, Fitzwilliam

FUNERALS

- 1 February Harold Fowler, 34 Rhyddings Drive, 78 years
7 February John Whitehall, 17 Chiltern Drive, 72 years
8 February Clarice Queenan, 21 St Clements Court, 77 years
15 March Irene Fisher, 1 Tan House Lane, 74 years
23 March Dorothy Mabel Hopinson, 17 Orchard Drive, 77 years
24 March Edwin Beckett Wilson, 'Hollyroyd', Doncaster Road, 94 years
24 March Mary (Polly) Hanby, 20 Rhyddings Drive, 90 years
12 April William Alfred Church, 47 Town End Avenue, 89 years.

Mother's Union

- May 3 9 15 am Corporate Communion, All Saints' Church
May 4 10 15 am to 3 pm Quiet Day at Mirfield
May 18 10 15 am to 3 pm Quiet Day at Horbury
7 15 pm Deanery Meeting at St Giles Hall, Pontefract
May 25 2 30 pm Service and Meeting, All Saints' Church



A Minister put up a notice on a field next to the church. 'I will give this land to anyone who is content.'

A parishioner came to him and asked for the field.

'Are you content?' asked the Minister.

'Yes,' said the man.

'Then why do you want the field?'

I HATE answering machines. Call me old-fashioned but I still prefer talking to a human being. However, even I couldn't resist this recording: 'The answering machine is on holiday. This is the refrigerator speaking. If you leave a message slowly and clearly, I will write it down and stick it on myself with one of those little magnets.'

NANCY OUELLETTE



Bishop John writes:

I have met several in the diocese who have taken part in a "catechumenate".

This awkward word refers to the process by which a person comes to faith and shows it in baptism and/or confirmation. In the early centuries it was a two or three year programme for new people entering the Christian church. People were given regular instruction, attended the first part of the Eucharist, and became part of the Christian fellowship. It was so long because people were coming from paganism and needed a careful programme of evangelism, education in the Christian faith and behaviour and an understanding of the liturgy.

Recently it has been revived in several different denominations – not because they want to copy the antique but because we face a similar problem. Many people coming to faith today have so little Christian background. As priests say about preparation for confirmation "You have to start so much further back these days".



The catechumenate helps people to grow up into Christ. It starts where they are and answers their questions. It provides a Christian framework in which they can learn about God, experience him in prayer and get excited about the Gospel.

Sponsors are essential – lay-people who befriend, pray for and often attend the groups alongside the *enquirers*.

One of the most significant steps in the spiritual life is to realise, "God used me to help that other person – not the Vicar, not that person I admire – but me". I often see sponsors moved to tears when those they have helped are baptized or confirmed. Some churches in the diocese are going further. They are asking lay people to undertake much of the preparation – as is common in the Roman Catholic Church.

From time to time the *enquirers* say

that they are ready for another step forward. This can be at a public service – the *rites*. They can be held at the beginning, when the person wants to go forward to personal faith and again when they decide they want to join the church.

Find out more about the catechumenate. Don't be put off by the language. Read the books of Canon Peter Ball; Stephen Cotterill has written a course for the

Additional Curates Society; get hold of the new Report to the House of Bishops called *On the Way* (and find out which of our parish priests has produced a *fine study*).

Above all, pray for a group of people you can accompany on a spiritual journey deeper, higher and more fully into our Lord.

John Pontefract

A TIME TO REMEMBER — 1939-1945



Bishop Nigel, whose father was killed in action during the war, will be leading Wakefield's commemoration at 11am on 8th May at the city's Cenotaph. He will take part in the civic commemorations on Sunday 7th May in Saint Mary's Barnsley in the morning, and at Halifax Parish Church in the afternoon; and on Sunday 20th August at Saint Peter's Huddersfield. Finally, on Sunday 10th September, he will take part in the Royal British

Legion Service in the cathedral for the County of West Yorkshire. Bishop John will also be taking part in various acts of commemoration for VE and VJ day around the diocese.

A LINK IN THE CHAIN

Many people who work with groups of children in our parishes can feel isolated and alone. That is why the diocesan Parish Link network is in existence. Each parish is invited to appoint a person who is willing to be a link between the Parish Children's Workers and Betty Pedley working in the Diocese and a link between different people and groups in the parish who share a concern for children.

In practice this means that about six times a year the link person receives a mailing for the Parish. This contains details about resources, events, training, quiet



days, as well as exchanges of information and good ideas. All of this is for sharing with others in the parish through magazines, newsletters, notice boards, phone calls and personal nudges!

Link people are asked to come to one of the regional link meetings held twice each year. These are held in the deaneries so that, hopefully, people do not have too far to travel. Any number of interested folk are welcome at these meetings which usually include some exchange of ideas, a training session based on some newly written resources which are available to be purchased at the link network shop. Leaders can buy up-to-date, hot off the press, resources and materials without having to shop around looking for them.

The working of the link network, however, is two way. There are times when the Diocese needs information from the parishes in order to inform for the planning of courses and resources. Surveys are carried out a couple of times each year on such subjects as Junior Church materials used, Holiday

Clubs, details of children's activities during Lent, Holy Week and Easter, work with 11-14's etc. This information is carefully analysed to give an understanding and overview of what is happening and what is needed. 159 parishes have joined the network and regularly receive the mailings. People from about 90 of these regularly attend the link meetings and encourage others to take part in training, events, surveys and everything that comes through the network.

It is hoped that more parishes will join the network. In such a two-way system we certainly need you just as much as we hope you need us.

- Do you know who your link person is?
- How can you help them to pass on information and encourage more folk to take part?
- Do you want to know more about the working of the network? If so, please contact Betty Pedley on 01924 371802 or 01422 346007.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

The Revd **Harold P Jones**, at present Curate of Penistone and Thurlstone Team Ministry is to be Priest-in-Charge of Womersley and Kirk Smeaton. A date for the licensing will be announced later.

The Revd Canon **John Gore**, at present Vicar of the Parish of Saint Augustine, Wembley Park (Diocese of London) is to be Priest-in-Charge of Heptonstall St Thomas a Becket and Saint Thomas the Apostle. A date for the licensing will be announced later.

Bishop Nigel has announced the appointment of the Revd **Stuart Ramsden** (Vicar of Purston cum South Featherstone) as an honorary Canon of Wakefield

Cathedral.

The Revd **Peter Bevan**, at present Vicar of St Philip and Saint James, Scholes, Cleckheaton, is to be Vicar of Saint Mary the Virgin and All Saints', Potters Bar, in the Diocese of Saint Albans.

Bishop Nigel has said how delighted we are in the Diocese of Wakefield that **David Hope**, is to be our new Archbishop — and, of course, everyone in his home city of Wakefield is thrilled. As Bishop of Wakefield and of London he has proved that he has the calibre and spiritual strength to be a good archbishop. Bishop Nigel has no doubt that he will compliment and support Dr Carey's warm and courageous leadership in proclaiming the Gospel and serving our nation.

DIOCESAN RALLY

A date for the diary, for clergy, churchwardens, PCC secretaries and treasurers. The Bishop is organizing a Diocesan Rally on the morning of **23 September**. It will be the first time the Bishop has called together the officers of all the parishes since Synodical Government began in 1970. Although the time is short — and there will be some parish events and some weddings already booked — the Bishop hopes that those who cannot come will send nominated deputies so that all are represented. In the wake of the DVSG report, and its local implementation, the Bishop wants us all to be properly informed and spiritually inspired. More details and invitations soon.

HYMNS FOR THE DIOCESE OF WAKEFIELD

There has been a very good response to the invitation to submit new hymns for use in the diocese. 150 hymns have been sent in (closing date was 31st March 1995). Approximately two thirds of the hymns submitted were with new tunes. Others, words only, had suggested tunes. The committee would like to thank all who have taken part. A panel will be sifting through the hymns in the coming months.

WHAT PREVENTS PEOPLE COMING TO CHURCH?

To assist research into what prevents people from coming to church, parishioners who either returned to or joined the church as adults are invited to share their experiences. Please send for a questionnaire to: Bill Jones, Box 1, Issenye, Serengeti, TANZANIA. Questionnaires may be returned to Bill Jones anonymously if preferred.

The Royal School of Church Music

Addington Palace, Croydon, CR9 5AD

ANY QUESTIONS ?

The Wakefield Area Committee of the **ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC** invites you to ask *Any Questions* on **Wednesday 3rd May 1995 at 730pm** at Pontefract CE Junior School, Skinner Lane, Pontefract. Church Music is going through a time of radical change. Clergy and musicians have lost many of the old landmarks.

The Panel consists of Bishop Nigel (Member of RSCM Council and Music in Worship Trust), The Revd Dr John March, (Vicar of Ossett, Member of the RSCM Council & Chairman of Anglican Renewal Ministries), Geoff Weaver (Director of Studies at RSCM) and Robert Cockroft (Editor of the Barnsley Chronicle, organist and music critic).

There is no charge for this evening, which is open to clergy, organists, choir and congregation members, whether affiliated to the RSCM or not.

If you intend to bring more than one car-load please let the area secretary know: Phone & fax 01422 202551 – who can also give further information.

INTER-FAITH BODY FOR NORTH KIRKLEES

With keynote addresses from the Bishop and others, including the Secretary of the national Inner Cities Religious Council, leaders of the Muslim and Christian communities met in Batley on Saturday, 25th March, at the invitation of the Chief Executive of Kirklees Metropolitan Council, "to find the way to work together to bring

about real and lasting change in the more deprived urban areas of North Kirklees". The morning was devoted to identifying issues of common concern, and the afternoon to nominating 20 men and women, 10 from each community, to form a North Kirklees Religious Council. Further information is available from Canon Dan O'Connor.

WOMEN AT PRAYER

In 1994 the Mothers' Union in London, with Canon Rachel Stowe as editor, produced a book of prayer anthology entitled *Women at Prayer* which is published by Marshall Pickering.

It has been so popular that the publishers have suggested two more books to be produced – "More Women at Prayer" and one for children which may be entitled "Children at Prayer".

Prayers written by **children** about

their everyday life and concerns need to be in by 30th May 1995. Prayers written by MU members on any subject need to be in by 30th September 1995. All prayers must be original and free from any copyright. It will be hoped to publish as many of the prayers as possible. Please send contributions to: Mrs Kitty Cooper, 27 Orchard Drive, Ackworth, Pontefract, WF7 7DS.

BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE IN PASTORAL MINISTRY DIOCESE OF WAKEFIELD



Would you like to do more in your church? Do you have a good listening ear?

Then what about taking a three year Course to enable people to develop their own personal pastoral ministry. If you would like to be considered or would like more details please contact Mrs Ros Gayford, Church House, 1 South Parade, Wakefield, WF1 1LP, 01924 371802. Applications for September 1995 must be in by 1 July 1995.

WAKEFIELD DIOCESAN CHURCH UNION

Four seminars have been arranged to assist parishes and individuals in renewal and mission — **RENEWING CATHOLICISM.**

June 14, 730pm, St Thomas Huddersfield: Renewing Spirituality, Geoffrey Rowell, Bishop of Basingstoke.

September 27, 730pm, Christ the King, Batteyford: Renewing Liturgy, Richard Knowling, a parish priest in London and formerly on the staff of the College of the Resurrection.

Oct 25, 730pm, Christ the King, Batteyford: Renewing Priesthood, David Peebles, College of the Resurrection.

Nov 29, 730pm, Christ the King, Batteyford: Renewing Religious Life, Sister Alma Mary, Priory of Our Lady, Walsingham.

Further details from Paul Tennant, 15 Quarmby Road, Cliffe End, Huddersfield, HD3 4HQ. 01484 649110.

LOST SHEEP



Do you regard yourself a member of the Mothers' Union, but have lost contact? If so we would love to know you exist so please get in touch with Celia McCulloch, Bishop's Lodge, Woodthorpe Lane, Wakefield, WF2 6JL.



WHAT'S ON

May 3, 10, 17 & 24 **Introductory Course on Spiritual Direction** St Catherine's Wakefield, 7pm coffee, 730-930pm course open to clergy & laity. Application form from Canon Cyril Dawson, Darrington Vicarage, WF8 3AB (01977 704744).

Main Course of 3 terms each of 6 weeks begins in late September.

May 5 A time to try individually guided prayer 10am-4pm Foster Place Retreat Centre, Hepworth, Holmfirth. 0161 748 8779

May 6 **South Africa A Year On** (from the 1994 Election) – a day to hear how things are working out. Come (and bring a car-load from your parish) to USP's College

- of the Ascension. For details telephone 021 472 1667.
- May 6 **VE Day Celebration Day Concert** in the Church Hall, Fitzwilliam 7pm. Welcome return of Lance Jackson (Baritone) and friends. Admission £1.50 including light supper. Proceeds for Kinsley New Parish Church/Centre. 01977 614260 for tickets.
- May 7 **Spirituality of Groups**. John Holt. Foster Place Retreat Centre, Hepworth, Holmfirth. 230-430pm. 0161 748 8779.
- May 7 **The Great Hymn Sing** 11am-3pm at St Stephen's, Lindley, Huddersfield. VE Celebrations, Wedding Hymns, Children's Choice etc. Sponsor your favourite hymns (by 27 April) to help our Building Fund & Ex-service charities. Other choirs very welcome. Details 01484 650996.
- May 8 **Car Boot Sale** at Dewsbury Minster. Proceeds for the Minster Appeal.
- May 10 10am-4pm Foster Place Retreat Centre open for **prayer or study**. 0161 748 8779.
- May 12 2-9pm & 13 10am-7pm **Arts and Craft Exhibition** at St Mary's Church, Horbury Junction, Horbury.
- May 12 **May We Present** - The Heckmondwike Players in Concert, an evening of musical entertainment at 745pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Church Lane, Mirfield. £3. 01924 495360 or 495322.
- May 12-14 **Weekend Pilgrimage to Walsingham** seats available, cost £63. Contact Fr O J Aisbitt 01924 273477 or write to St Peter's Vicarage, Horbury.
- May 13 **Faithful Women?** A day of sharing and celebrating, organised by Churches Together with Women in West Yorkshire. 10am-4pm at St Catherine's Church Centre, Doncaster Road, Wakefield. Application forms and details from Church House or the Revd Anne Jennings, 01924 378179.
- May 13 **Prom Praise**: The orchestra from All Souls' Langham Place, London, make their third visit to St George's Concert Hall Bradford. 730pm. Bookings can be made by ringing Neville Beards on 01274 883890 (Evenings and week-ends).
- May 17 Foster Place Retreat Centre open for **Individual Listening** 10am-4pm and **Half Hour Silent Contemplation** 6-630pm. 0161 748 8779.
- May 17 Concert at Dewsbury Minster by **James Shepherd Versatile Brass** 730pm. Proceeds for Minster Appeal. Admission £4.
- May 20 **Flower Festival** St Michael & St Helen's Church, Fleminghouse Lane, Almondbury. Viewing and refreshments 10am-430pm. Part of 40th Anniversary celebrations.
- May 18-20 Almondbury Players will be at Almondbury Methodist Church Hall with the comedy **Blithe Spirit** by Noel Coward. 715pm. Admission £3. (OAP & children £2.50 Thursday only)
- May 20 **10 mile Sponsored Walk** to benefit Christian Aid, starting at Bretton Park CP School at 10am. Details & sponsor forms from H Rennison 0113 253 5107.
- May 20 Matt Redman will be leading a **Youth Celebration** at Christ Church, South Ossett at 730pm. The speaker will be Rob Whitehouse. There will be a seminar on how to make worship music attractive to young people, at Ossett Methodist Church Hall during the afternoon - £3. Details from Gareth Phillips on 01924 276492.
- May 21 Christ Church Liversedge **Kirklees Environment Green Penny Hike** everyone to wear green clothing. Start Churchfield Garden of Rest.
- May 26 **Celebration Praise** (Organised by Diocesan Renewal Group - West) at St Thomas Bradley, Huddersfield, 730pm. Speaker Archdeacon Richard Inwood.
- May 27 **British Three Peaks Challenge** by Phil Morris & Jim Hesketh, backed by the congregation of St Mary's, Todmorden. To sponsor them ring 01706 817038.
- May 28-29 **Rhododendrons Open Days**. Barnsley MBC and Silkstone Church invite you to tour the gardens at Wentworth Castle, Barnsley from 10am-5pm. Admission £1.50 (children 5-13 75p) refreshments 1am-430pm. Stalls. Free car park. Follow the yellow signs "Stainborough Rhododendrons" proceeds for Silkstone Church & Northern College. Information from 01226 790232.
- May 29 **Forward in Faith Pilgrimage to Walsingham** leaving Thornhill Lees 720am and stops on route to Wakefield. Also long weekend pilgrimage July 7-9. Details from Fr Ashworth (Thornhill Lees) 01924 461269.
- Jun 3 **Mediaeval Summer Fayre** at St Mary's Luddenden opening at 2pm by Peter Alexander returned from "The Forbidden Planet". Stalls, entertainers, games, refreshments, pony rides, fancy dress etc.
- Jun 4 230-430pm Revd Judith Chapman: **Feminism in the light of Creation Centre Spirituality**. Foster Place Retreat Centre 0161 748 8779.
- Jun 8 **Todmorden Choral Society** will be helping the Mayor of Todmorden put on his day of music in celebration of VE Day by singing a selection of war time favourites.
- Jun 9-10 **Summer Showtime '95**, a Variety

Show of songs, sketches, comedy by the Cliffites Drama Group at St Philip's Parish Hall, Briarlyn Road, Birchencliffe, Huddersfield. Tickets £3 from Mrs A Dyson 01484 539216, 1 Briarlyn Ave, Birchencliffe, Huddersfield. In aid of The Candlelighters Childrens Cancer Unit Leeds & Church Funds.

Jun 9-11 **22nd Annual Art Exhibition and Sale of Pictures** in St Mary's Church Hall, Church Lane, Mirfield. Fri 7-10pm, Sat 10am-8pm, Sun 2-8pm. Refreshments & afternoon teas available.

Jun 10 **Quiet Day** at Heatherwood, Shibden, Halifax. Relax for the day in this lovely valley. Details from Jean Hoggard, 13 Joseph Ave, Northowram, Halifax HX3 7HJ.

Jun 10 **Exhibition of Needlepoint and Tapestry** the work of George A Wheelwright at St Andrew's Church, Stainland. 1030am-7pm. Admission £1.50 including refreshments.

Jun 15-19 **St Michael's Mytholmroyd Flower Festival** Victoria to Elizabeth. Opens 730 on 15th, Fri & Sat 10am-9pm, Sun 1230-9pm, Mon 10am-430pm. Refreshments, arts and other displays in the Parish Hall (inc photographs from the Alice Longstaff Collection)

Jun 17 **Garden Fête**, St Paul's Hanging Heaton, Batley, from 2pm, various stalls, side shows, tea, fun for all the family.

June 17-18 **Summer Festival of Arts, Crafts, & Music** at St Jude's, Halifax. Admission free. Refreshments, background music, church open Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-630pm. **Concert** by St Jude's Choir Sat evening 730pm. Festival services Sun 10am & 630pm. Details from Gordon Normanton 01422 365183.

Jun 18 **A Springling of Song** at Todmorden Central Methodist Church 730pm in aid of Todmorden Church Funds.

Jun 19-22 **Fellowship of Contemplative Prayer Retreat** at House of the Resurrection, Mirfield. £5 deposit & sae to Janet Craven, 70 Jenkyn Lane, Shepley, Huddersfield HD8 8AW. Cheques payable to Janet Craven.

July 3-7 **Retired Clergy & Clergy Widows**

Breakaway Special - short holiday at Scargill House. Speaker The Ven Graeme Spiers. £100. Details: The Bookings Secretary, Scargill House, Kettlewell, Skipton, N Yorks BD23 5HU, 01756 760234.

MUSICAL MATTERS

May 13 The Tingley Thornhill Band and the Thornhill Male Voice Choir **in Concert** at St John's Church Hall, Pearl St, Carlinghow, Batley, 730pm. £3 including refreshments. Phone Batley 470913.

May 16-20 St Michael's Amateurs present **Oklahoma** at Mytholmroyd Parish Hall 715pm, Matinee Sat 20th at 215pm. Tickets 01422 883663.

May 19 **Concert by the Ambassador's Dance Orchestra** (Glen Miller Style), Christ Church Staincliffe 730pm. Adults £3 children under 16 £1.50 by ticket or pay at the door. Refreshments included.

Jun 16 **Concert** by Rossendale Male Voice Choir, St Michael's Mytholmroyd, 730pm. Tickets £2.50 (children free).

Jun 25 **Organ Recital** at St Martin's Parish Church, Brighouse 230pm by **Dr Francis Jackson** playing the refurbished organ. Tickets £3 (£1.50 conc) from 01484 715238 or at the door.

MARKET PLACE

Surplices & Black Cassettes wanted to replenish Robe resources for Readers. Single items welcome. Please contact Secretary of Wakefield Diocesan Board of Ministry Readers Committee 01484 661153.

Two **au pairs** required for two English-speaking Swedish clergy families. All expenses paid including a possible course in Swedish, plus a monthly allowance. Please contact Revd Niils Bersweden on 01924 402064 for more details.

China Plates bearing a colour photograph of St Mary's Parish Church, Mirfield, and decorated with a floral border are on sale, price £9.95 from Mrs Barbara Chappell, 01924 495360. In aid of new induction loop and sound system in church.

Around the World in 80 minutes. A Slide Presentation to benefit your Church/Charity. Nominal expenses only, contact Malcolm & Hazel Rennison on 0113 253 5107.

ANNOUNCEMENTS for See-Link should be sent to: SEE-LINK EDITOR The Revd Michael Bootes OGS, 17 Hartley Park View, Pontefract, W Yorkshire WF8 4AP, in writing please, 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 1995 is £3.70 per 100 per month.



ASCENSION DAY 24 May

• During the 40 days after Jesus rose from the dead he often visited his disciples. Then he returned to heaven. The disciples were on the Mount of Olives when Jesus gave them his final message. As they watched, they saw him 'taken up into heaven... and a cloud hid him from their sight.' This is what we call the Ascension. This was the end of Jesus' ministry on earth but it was not the end of his work.



• For the disciples it was a new beginning as well. They returned to Jerusalem full of great joy and you don't feel like that if you think you've parted forever from a much loved friend. At last they understood that Jesus had to go so that he could be with them, and us, forever.

UP & DOWN

Lots of words start with the shorter words UP and DOWN. Can you say what starts the word that means...

1. padded, covered furniture
2. the Prime Minister lives here
3. tipping something over
4. heavy rain
5. capital letters
6. soft feathers, like a duck
7. Jack and Jill went there
8. everything muddled together

And, like in everyday life, are there more UPs than DOWNS?



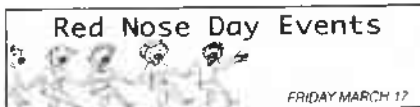
Patient:
Doctor, doctor, I feel like a yoyo.
Doctor:
Sit down, sit down, sit down.

What goes up and down but never moves?
A flight of stairs.

Passenger: Sixth floor, please.
Lift operator: Here we are, sonny.
Passenger: Don't call me sonny!
You're not my father!
Lift operator: I brought you up,



1 upholstery 2 Downing Street 3
upend 4 downpour 5 upper-case 6
downy 7 uphill 8 upside down



Ackworth Pupils Raise £1000

A magnificent effort was made on Red Nose Day by pupils and staff at Ackworth Middle School. £1000 was raised during the Day's activities. Several hundred pounds was raised by Year Five pupils in a sponsored swim at Minsthorpe Baths. Other activities included penalty shots, joke telling, netball shots, poster making, 'cookie make and sell' and Splat the Teacher!

The school also made £462 for Children in Need in November. Well done everyone!

A CONFIRMATION AT WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL

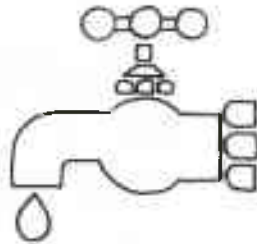
For a few weeks I had been having confirmation lessons after school with Joanna Steer and Adrian Beverley. I was confirmed on a Sunday afternoon at Wakefield Cathedral. On the day of being confirmed I was a bit nervous but not as much as I thought I would be.

When it was my turn to be confirmed the Bishop said a prayer for me and put his hand on my shoulder. My grandmas, grandads, uncles, aunties and my mum's friend Claudia from Paris came to the cathedral. Lots of people sent me cards. After the service I spoke to the Bishop and then we had a party at my house.

Laurie Newman.

'Wash For Dosh'

'Wash for Dosh' is a nationally organised campaign encouraging young people to have fun and raise money for Christian Aid Week at the same time! Our Trailblazers Group, for young people aged 8 and over, is intending to give our pews a sponsored polish.. The Group as a whole can be sponsored for each pew given a good 'do' in St Cuthbert's and All Saints' churches. Any donations for Christian Aid would be gratefully received but 2p per pew would mean a donation of about 74p in St Cuthbert's and 44p in All Saints' - assuming the young people last the course! We challenge them!



Whilst on the subject, how about a spring clean for shoes? The members of Junior Church are willing (again, for a donation to Christian Aid) to polish shoes brought to church in a named carrier bag during the Parish Communion on Sunday 7 May. How's that for an offer??

PALM SUNDAY

When will the people ever learn he thought
As he surveyed them cheering and calling his name.
This generation is always seeking signs - a leader - a saviour.
He watched them pull off palm leaves
And lay them down before him.
His donkey had seen much better times,
Not young and untried as some would have us think
But cantankerous and shrewd
And forever bent on revenge
Against a long list of old scores.
She was old and worn and yet
As they rode along he felt her body give.
It lost its aged tension and she
Opened her fetid mouth and brayed
A triumphant rasping noise.
Her eyes half-opened lost their baleful stare
And softened into memories perhaps
Of early youthful days.



When will the people ever learn he thought
As he surveyed them singing and calling his name.
This generation is always seeking signs - a leader - a saviour.
He watched them clutching folded palms,
Held spiked like swords before him
His bicycle had seen much better times,
Not new and untried as some would have us think
But over-mended, a bone-shaker which had just survived
Its successive student owners.
It had nothing much original left and yet
As they rode along its creaking seemed melodic.
It sped along in spite of flooded guttering.
As he rang the bell its piercing crystal sound
Warned the processing congregation
As they stumbled half blinded by the hail
Along the narrow pavement.

He shivered, waiting at the crossing next to the Supermarket.
His threadbare clothes now wet with sudden violent rain.
The east wind pierced his bones.
The congregation crossed the road in twos,
Skirted the garage forecourt, past the bank and
Turned down the hill towards the Church.

He rode on, alone.

Teresa Forrest

WHERE IS IT?

Q. In which of the Gospel accounts of the crucifixion does Jesus talk to the thieves that were crucified with Him?



A. The Gospel according to Luke 23:39-43

All the Gospels mention the thieves or criminals, Matthew and Mark mention two robbers (Mat. 27:38, Mark 15:27) and John mentions two others (John

19:18). However, it is only in Luke's Gospel that there is a record of a conversation between them. The fact that Jesus was crucified between two criminals emphasises that He was treated like a common criminal.

Luke's account of the crucifixion demonstrates the various responses to Jesus while He was on the cross - the people watch; the rulers scoff; the soldiers mock; one criminal rails at Jesus to save them, but the other criminal asks to be remembered by Jesus. What is our response today?

The first criminal asks "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us." This contains much bitterness, but no belief that his request could be granted.

The second criminal rebukes his counterpart. He has a greater understanding that what they are getting is a just punishment. Jesus, however, is innocent. This criminal asks "remember me when you come into your Kingdom". He has come to the realisation that death is not the end, there is more to come, and that Jesus is somehow involved. He probably did not know the works and true significance of what Jesus was achieving on the cross.

This criminal then gets a reply beyond all hope. "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise." What a promise! The word paradise is often translated "garden" (the same word as used for the Garden of Eden). It means the abode of the righteous (see 2 Cor. 12:3 and Rev. 2:7). In his repentance, he is offered immediate bliss with Jesus. I hope that as we all repent, we will also be granted immediate bliss with Jesus, and a promise that we too, will be remembered in God's Kingdom, the abode of the righteous. Amen

Next month we celebrate Pentecost so here's another riddle:

"Which prophet, in the Old Testament, said that the Spirit of the Lord would be poured out on everyone?" (Clue: Peter gives us the answer!)

Paul Fox

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An advertisement costs £15 per year. Contact the Rector (602751) for more details

Prince of Wales Hospice Fund - A 'Thank You'

Once again the Ackworth Group Committee would like to thank all who supported the Coffee Morning on March 25, or sent a donation. The total raised so far is £755. Of this £350 came from the sale of the 'ducklings' thanks to Molly Gardham and Margaret Barrow, who have knitted almost non stop for months.

MAY



- 2 Tues St Philip and St James, Apostles
 9 15 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)
 7 30 pm PCC, St Cuthbert's Vestry
- 3 Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (All Saints')
- 7 **EASTER 3** 'The Lakeside'
 Isaiah 61.1-7 (Miss Pittaway/Miss Parker);
 1 Cor 15.1-11 (Miss Pittaway/Mrs Riley)
 John 21.1-14 ASB 613
- 9 Tues 9 15 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)
 10 00 am Coffee Morning, the Howard School
 2 00 pm Mums and Tots Group (All Saints')
- 10 Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (All Saints')
- 13 Sat 11 30 am Readers Triennial Re-licensing Service,
 Wakefield Cathedral
- 14 **EASTER 4 CHRISTIAN AID WEEK** 'The Charge to Peter'
 All Saints': BCP James 1.17-21 (Miss Smith)
 St Cuthbert's: John 21.15-22 ASB 617
 6 00 pm Churches Together in Ackworth United Service,
 Our Lady of Lourdes Church
- 16 Tues **St Matthias the Apostle**
 9 15 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)
- 17 Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (All Saints')
 7 45 pm Parish Women's Group, SC Vestry
- 21 **EASTER 5 ROGATION SUNDAY** 'Going to the Father'
 Hosea 6.1-6 (Mrs Cooper/Mr Shaw); 1 Corinthians 15.21-28
 (Mrs Cooper/Mrs Woffinden); John 16.25-end ASB 622
- 23 Tues 9 15 am Holy Communion
 2 00 pm Mums and Tots Group (All Saints')
- 24 Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (All Saints')
- 25 **Thurs ASCENSION DAY**
 7 45 pm Parish Communion (St Cuthbert's)
- 28 **SUNDAY AFTER ASCENSION** 'The Ascension of Christ'
 Daniel 7.9-14 (Dr McWilliam); Ephesians 1.15-end (Dr McWilliam/
 Mr McDougall); Luke 24.45-end ASB 630
- 30 Tues 9 15 am Holy Communion (St Cuthbert's)
- 31 Wed 9 15 am Holy Communion (All Saints')

JUNE

- 4 **PENTECOST** 'The Holy Spirit'
 Genesis 11.1-9 (Miss Pittaway/Mrs B Firth);
 Acts 2.1-11 (Miss Pittaway/Mr R Firth); John 14.15-26 ASB 635

Flowers

St Cuthbert's Church

7 May Mrs J Bateman
 14 May Mr J Lamprey
 21 May Mrs A King
 28 May Vacant

All Saints' Church

7 May Mrs Upright
 14 May Mrs Turton
 21 May Misses P and R Harrison
 28 May Vacant

Brass Cleaning Rota

Mrs P Asquith and Mrs P Lancaster