

**St John the Divine
Rastrick
Your Parish Magazine**



£1.50

June 2024

Parish of St John the Divine, Rastrick
St John the Divine, Gooder Lane, Rastrick, HD6 1HN

Vicar

Rev'd Michelle Petch - 01484 710538 - vicar@rastrickbenefice.org.uk

Churchwardens

David Marshall - 01484 718182 - mars42@hotmail.co.uk

Hilary Cartwright - 01484 537399 - hilarymccarthy54@gmail.com

Licensed Lay Minister

Alan Hoggard - 07756 035591- alanhoggard@btinternet.com

Pastoral Minister

Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - family.hearson@tiscali.co.uk

Safeguarding

Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - janehearson83@gmail.com

Health & Safety

Please contact the Vicar or a Churchwarden.

Hall Bookings

Christine Whitaker - 01484 710952 - bookings@stjohnsrastrick.org.uk

PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH

God of Mission who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions, and power to our witness.

Help our churches to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment
to you, and in service to our local community,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE

Here is a list of regular activities which occur in our church.

Please contact Group Leaders for details of their activities.

Sunday Services in Church

- 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion (1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays)
- 11:00 a.m. Holy Communion or Morning Worship (2nd Sunday)
- 10:30 a.m. Joint Benefice Service (5th Sunday as announced)

Mondays in the Community Hall

- 6:00 p.m. Rainbows and Brownies
- 7:30 p.m. Guides
- 7:00 p.m. Beer & Banter Men's Group (1st Monday in the month
at The Four Sons, Clough Lane) - Alan: 07756 035591

Tuesdays in Church

- 2:00 p.m. Mothers' Union (3rd Tuesday in the month)

Tuesdays in the Community Hall

- 12:00 noon Community Lunch (1st Tuesday in the month)
- 1:30 p.m. Reminiscent Cinema (1st Tuesday in the month)
- 1:00-2:30 p.m. Tai-Chi
- 6:30 p.m. Cubs
- 8:00 p.m. Scouts

Wednesday Service in Church

- 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th weeks in month)

Wednesdays in the Community Hall

- 6:15 p.m. Beavers
- 7:30 p.m. Wednesday Nighters (1st Wednesday in the month)
in the Conference Suite.

Thursdays in the Community Hall

- Brighthouse Community Cinema (3rd Thursday in the month).
- See press for times and film showing.

Fridays

- 7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (by Zoom). Alan:07756 035591



Rev'd Michelle writes 

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies.
Lord of all to thee we raise, this our grateful hymn of praise.*

I have just returned from Parcevall Hall near Appletreewick, where I was leading a 3-day retreat for members of the Mothers Union. We had a wonderful time of fun, fellowship and faith in the most beautiful surroundings. It has reminded me of the importance of taking time out from the busyness of daily life to refresh and restore body, mind and spirit and to spend time with God. Giving thanks to Him and enjoying the beauty of His creation.

It's a timely reminder, for as we enter June, so we begin that extended season of the church year known as Ordinary Time. There are no major festivals and so we have the time and space to rest in God. It's the time of year when nature is at its best, becoming greener and more abundant. When we can sit out in the garden and enjoy the warmer weather, go for walks in the countryside, slowing down and glimpsing the beauty of God's creation afresh.

I encourage you this month to take time to notice the beauty of the natural world which is all around us and to give thanks to the one who creates, redeems and sustains it.

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies.
Lord of all to thee we raise, this our grateful hymn of praise.*

With my prayers and every blessing.

Michelle

SERVICES AND CHURCH INFO

SUNDAY SERVICES at St. JOHN'S - JUNE

Sunday 2nd June - 11:00 - Trinity 1 - All Age Holy Communion

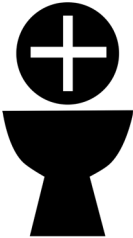
Sunday 9th June - 11:00 - Trinity 2 - Morning Worship

Sunday 16th June - 11:00 - Trinity 3 - Holy Communion

with the Wednesday Nighters

Sunday 23rd June - 11:00 - Trinity 4 - Holy Communion

Sunday 30th June - 10:30 - Trinity 5 - Benefice Holy Communion



MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES - JUNE

Wednesday 5th - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 12th - 10:30 - St John's

Wednesday 19th - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 26th - 10:30 - St John's

OTHER FORTHCOMING UNITED BENEFICE SERVICES

- ◇ Sunday 30th June - 10:30 - Joint Benefice - St John's
- ◇ Sunday 29th September - 10:30 - Joint Benefice - St Matthew's

Please join Rev'd Michelle live on St John's Facebook page for Morning Prayer at 8.30am every morning Tuesday to Saturday



or you can catch up later in the day on Facebook or via the link on the home page of our Website.

Daily Lectionary Readings June 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
03-Jun Psalms 27 Joshua 14 Luke 12.1-12	04-Jun Psalms 32 Joshua 21.43 – 22.8 Luke 12.13-21	05-Jun Psalms 34 Joshua 22.9-end Luke 12.22-31	06-Jun Psalms 37* Joshua 23 Luke 12.32-40	07-Jun Psalms 31 Joshua 24.1-28 Luke 12.41-48	08-Jun Psalms 41 Joshua 24.29-end Luke 12.49-end
10-Jun Psalms 44 Judges 2 Luke 13.1-9	11-Jun Barnabas the Apostle Acts 11:19-end John 15: 12-17	12-Jun Psalms 119.57-80 Judges 5 Luke 13.22-end	13-Jun Psalms 56 Judges 6.1-24 Luke 14.1-11	14-Jun Psalms 51 Judges 6.25-end Luke 14.12-24	15-Jun Psalms 68 Judges 7 Luke 14.25-end
17-Jun Psalms 71 Judges 8.22-end Luke 15.1-10	18-Jun Psalms 73 Judges 9.1-21 Luke 15.1.1-end	19-Jun Psalms 77 Judges 9.22-end Luke 16.1-18	20-Jun Psalms 78.1-39* Judges 11.1-11 Luke 16.19-end	21-Jun Psalms 55 Judges 11.29-end Luke 17.1-10	22-Jun Psalms 76 Judges 12.1-7 Luke 17.11-19
24-Jun Birth John the Baptist Acts 13:14b-26 Luke 1 : 57-66,80	25-Jun Psalms 87 Judges 14 Luke 18.1-14	26-Jun Psalms 119.105-128 Judges 15.1 – 16.3 Luke 18.15-30	27-Jun Psalms 90 Judges 16.4-end Luke 18.31-end	28-Jun Psalms 88 Judges 17 Luke 19.1-10	29-Jun Peter & Paul Apostles Acts: 12 1-11 Matthew 16: 13-19
01-Jul Psalms 98 1 Samuel 1.1-20 Luke 19.28-40	02-Jul Psalms 106 1 Samuel 1.21 – 2.11 Luke 19.41-end	03-Jul Thomas the Apostle Ephesians2: 19-end John 20: 24-29	04-Jul Psalms 113 1 Samuel 2.27-end Luke 20.9-19	05-Jul Psalms 139 1 Samuel 3.1 – 4.1a Luke 20.20-26	06-Jul Psalms 120 1 Samuel 4.1b-end Luke 20.27-40

Join Michelle on line Tuesday - Saturday: <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivinerastrick>

Or use the Church of England Daily Pray: <https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

All readings in full can be found by downloading the 'Lectionary: from the CofE' App on your mobile or PC

PRAYER PAGE

This month's prayer has been chosen by Oriel, and is a prayer for the Leeds Diocesan Companion Link with Mara Diocese, Tanzania.

Gracious God, We give you Thanks,
and Praise your Holy name
for the work of the Holy Spirit in the Worldwide Anglican Church,
especially through Our Diocesan Companion Link
with Mara Diocese in the Province of Tanzania.

We give thanks for the many benefits
that this partnership has brought to each diocese.
For the gift of thoughtful prayer that you have taught us through it,
and for the tasks undertaken
and relationships which have been built over the years.

Though we are separated by many miles,
We thank you for the shared love of worship
you have stirred up in our hearts,
and for the love of justice you have implanted in our wills.
Reminding us that you are with us in times of trouble
as well in times of joy;
nurture in us thankful hearts when we stand together,
and send your holy wisdom into our undertakings.

In any dispute, may we be gentle and loving;
in unity, may we be humble;
in poverty, nourish us with hope;
in wealth, help us become responsible and generous.

Inflame us with prophetic vision
so that our fellowship may bear the likeness
of the incoming kingdom proclaimed
for all by Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Bwana Asifiwe. Amen.





Taizé

PILGRIMAGE

17-26 AUGUST 2024

Led by Bishop Smitha

**“Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name,
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.”**

Taizé is an inspirational pilgrimage of trust, gathering people from all over the world.

Simplicity and joy of heart define Taizé, and it has been the place where many have found or deepened their faith and prayer life, explored vocation, and committed their lives to Christ.

Its songs and prayers continue to inspire worship worldwide.



Although aimed at young adults of 35 or under, anyone (of any age) is welcome to join the pilgrimage.

**Please ask Rev’d Michelle for more information
if you are interested.**

Prayer Ministry

Prayer Ministry is offered monthly during the 11am Parish Communion Service.

An opportunity to bring concerns, people and situations before God in prayer alongside someone else.



Please come to the main door of the Lady Chapel after receiving communion if you would like to take part.

Next date:

Sunday 16th June

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
(Phil 4:6)*

The Men of the Churches of Rastrick

Host

**Beer and
Banter
2024**



Mondays at **The Four Sons**, Rastrick 7pm

10th June - Music and Language - Graham Kennedy

All Men Welcome

Further Details call Alan 07756035591

Pie and Peas!!

MOTHERS' UNION MATTERS!



MU matters here at St John's!

We make impacts around the corner
and around the world!

We are still looking to collect old candles and small 'baked bean' cans. Someone melts down the wax and transforms it into wax candles in the cans. These all get taken by transit van to Ukraine. Please continue to bring your wax to me or Ann J. Thank you.

Also, many thanks for all of the knitting which you do and the other items you donate for the baby banks, the refuges and for the refugees. Recently I have been given three twiddle muffs, see photo, which will get taken into our Nursing Homes in Rastrick. How lovely and generous is that?!



Other activities continue as usual... helping out at New Hall Prison in the visitors' tea bar, in the mother and baby unit and offering cooking classes to some of the women. **Would you also like to volunteer for any of these activities? See me, Ann Johnson or Margaret France.** We are getting involved with a scheme initiated by the Anglican Chaplain at New Hall.... she recognises that after the women leave New Hall that they may wish to attend a church in the area where they live. They may have come to faith whilst in the Prison or have been a Christian for many years. The Anglican chaplain has asked us to assist in finding a MU Member in the area where they are going to live. This could be as far west as Liverpool, and into Cumbria, north towards Carlisle and south to Doncaster and eastwards over to Hull. So, a diverse area, and we are looking for MU Members who could take a willing ex offender into their own church in these areas.



This month we had the MU Coffee and Goodies Day held at Freda Broadbent's house. We all had a great time, chatting for longer than is usual after church and at meetings, and we were faced with a delicious array of home baking and produce and many of us had our lunch whilst

we were there. We made a whopping £372. But if we had not made anything then it would still have been a very successful fun and day.

The MU held their annual retreat at Parceval Hall from Tuesday 21 -23 May. These days were led by Revd. Michelle and they offered a spiritual haven in glorious countryside. These three days gave us an opportunity to step back from the busyness of our lives and to look at various Bible passages and discuss what they meant to ourselves. It is difficult to explain how each day unfolded for each of us, since I am sure that each individual will have absorbed different positives and challenges. During this year we will organise a further one day, to set aside from our busy lives, and to allow peace and calm to enter our thoughts . We have enjoyed these single days in the past at the Community of the Resurrection. I will let you all know of the date and venue and perhaps you will be able to be with us.

The other week Michelle, Trees Fewster and I also had a wonderful opportunity, granted by the Principal of the College, to give an MU presentation about the MU to the students about all that the organisation does. This was surely a bridge between the MU and the those who will be clergy in the future.

Mabel, a refugee from Nigeria is living in our parish, and many of us are enjoying taking her out to see different sights in and around Brighouse. You may see her at Church on Sundays and at the midweek Service. Please introduce yourself and make her feel welcome. Her English is very good and she is studying at Halifax college. Ask me for her phone number!

With love and best wishes to you all, *Julia*

INSPIRED BY A HYMN

Hymns which influenced me to write poems:

Walk with me, oh my Lord –

Through the darkest night and brightest day...

Estelle White (1925-2011)



Jesus is with us. We know that He's here.
 We feel His love flowing because He is near.
 Let's open our hearts to let Him come in
 To fill us with love and release us from sin.

Chorus: Jesus is here, Jesus is here
 His presence surrounds us.
 Jesus is here!

Jesus is with us. We know that He's here.
 We feel His strength guiding; it dispels all our fear.
 We lean on His goodness to help us survive,
 To cope with life's stress and be glad we're alive!

Chorus:

Jesus is with us. We know that He's here.
 We know that He loves us. He always is near.
 We lift up our voices in joyous acclaim.
 "Jesus is here – His Glory proclaim"!

Chorus: Jesus is here, Jesus is here
 His presence surrounds us.
 Jesus is here!

Shirley Stou

Coffee and Conversation

**Next Date:
Friday 21st June
12:30 -1:30**



**Come and join me each month
for lunch/coffee
in The Platform Café
Railway Bridge View**



Very informal - may include:

exchanging news

prayer

**a discussion around the Gospel reading
for the following Sunday**



ECO CHURCH UPDATE

Eco Church Update, June 2024 - by John

1. **July 4th is fast approaching – Use Your Vote!**

Did you know that Friends of the Earth recently won a High Court action against the Government, because of its failure to produce a detailed plan to mitigate climate change? This was poignant in view of the Government's 'row back' last November on its climate pledges. The Government intends to 'max out on' our North Sea oil and gas reserves. The rise in global temperatures continues unabated, and on average climate scientists predict that – given the worldwide lack of political will – the earth will be 2.7 degC hotter by the end of this century than in 1950. Many countries will, by then, be uninhabitable.

So, what would the various parties do about climate change in government? Each of us will have different voting priorities on 4th July, but here's one of my key criteria. Which party, and which parliamentary candidate is prepared to support bold action *now*?

2. **An example to follow.**

Barbara Rainford (from St Matthews) and I attended an inspirational Eco Church workshop at Marion Russell's church, St Mary's Embsay, on 12th May. St Mary's has recently achieved the Gold award and their team generously shared with us the steps they've taken to get there – each of the 59 improvements featuring on one of the tapestries shown! (*See page 15*)

St Mary's will soon be entirely heated by electricity. Getting to this stage has been a long journey. Initially they were advised to install solar panels and heat pumps. Their eventual solution is quite different!

Tapestries from
St Mary's
Embsay



3. **Churches Count for Nature.** During the week 8-16th June, we'll be taking part in this event. It involves carrying out a count of plant species and wildlife in the church gardens. Rosemary has already engaged the Brownies to take part, and we'll be organising sessions for church members too.

MU Diary Dates



- Monday 3 June Midday Prayers in Halifax Minster led by Cherry Fancourt
- Thursday 6 June Council Meeting, here in St. John's Church 10.30 -2.30
- Tuesday 18 June Area Gathering, here in St. John's Church 12.30 - 2.30 with Bishop Smitha

St. JOHN'S RUCKSACK CLUB

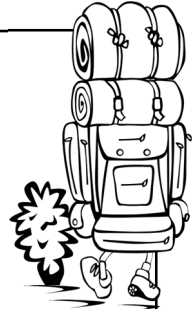
Half Day Walk - Sunday 9th June 2024

'A Mirfield Meander'

Starting from the Station Road car park
(WF14 8NH) in Mirfield at approx 1.45pm.

Leaders Ken and Jill Swallow - 07967 796404

Leave Church 1.30pm



This first half-day walk of the year sees us begin the club's new approach to making the half-day walks more 'family friendly'.

At around three miles this is a gentle and level walk taking as its theme 'Transport through the Ages'.

We follow paths, roads, rivers and canals, whilst also criss-crossing the railway at different points.

From the canal towpath, we follow a lane for a short way. Then the Calder Valley Greenway; then the canal towpath again; then the Calder riverside path; back onto the canal towpath and from there back to the car park. It is just over two hours in all - including time for the usual break.

Full Day Walk - Saturday 22nd June

THE LUDDITE TRAIL

Comprising of two parts which together commemorate the route taken by the Luddite marchers in April 1812.

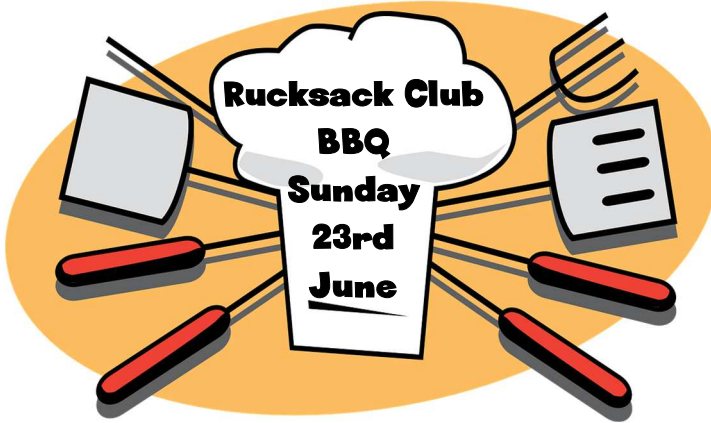
The first part which we undertake will be 7 miles and will provide an introduction to the social and economic uprising of that era whilst enjoying superb views of our local countryside.

Meet at church for a 9.30 am start.

Contact Jennifer Guy 07807946396.



**Open invitation to join members of the Rucksack Club
at their annual BBQ event**



The annual
barbecue
takes place
from 6.00 p.m.
at the home of
Keith Hallewell
39 Straton Road

The cost is £10.00 children under age of 12 free
Please bring your own folding chair
To help maintain costs we would welcome salad donations

Please contact Roger Ellis
at - rogmarg.ellis@gmail.com or 01484 718013
by Sunday 16th June if you would like to attend



**FLOWERS
IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE
GIVEN IN MAY**

Thank you to
Anne Beaumont and Gerald Savage
for donating monies to the Flower Fund
in loving memory of their loved ones.
It is much appreciated.

What the Vicar got up to last month

Just a selection...



Visited The Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield, to speak to the students about the MU.



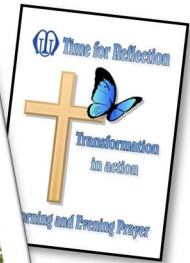
Crafts at Railway Bridge View



Ascension Day assemblies at Woodhouse School



Pentecost Praise
Joining the Music Group vocals?



Leading the
MU Annual Retreat
at Parcevall Hall



Notes from a churchwarden 12 – Dad

As it's both Fathers Day and the D-Day Landings 80th Anniversary this month, it put me in mind of my own father. So I am writing this piece in his memory. It has no particular religious significance, other than the fact he was a regular churchgoer, but may be of interest.

He was a mild mannered man, whom I never saw lose his temper. He was born in 1917 and lived just off Tuel Lane, Sowerby Bridge. By 14 he was driving and his first car was his parents 1929 Morris Cowley. During 1932 and 1933 he was taken on school trips to the Lake District, staying at Wall End Farm in Langdale, which began a lifelong love of the area (the only gap being during the war years), which I have continued to this day. Dad studied at Halifax Technical College and took the London University external B.Sc.(Hons) course in engineering, graduating in 1937



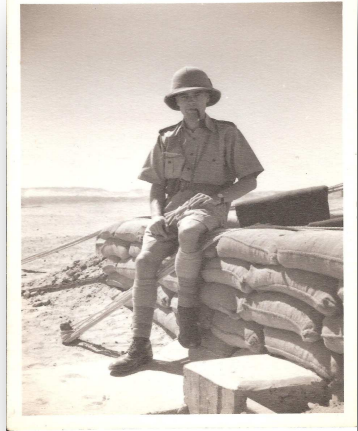
Joining Metro Vickers in 1937, he was encouraged to get experience with an external organization, and he and Leslie Wilcox had the chance of a

trip up the Amazon as engineer on the SS Anselm (torpedoed and sunk in 1941 by a U-boat). There was only one position and it was decided on the toss of a coin. My father won, and so in 1938 he set sail from Liverpool. He told me that he was 6th engineer on the ship, but as the other 5 were nearly always drunk, he ended up doing most of the work. The picture, taken by my father, shows the Amazonian Forest in 1938. On his return and before the war started he was involved in



the original electrification of the Manchester-Sheffield railway line.

In 1939, my father joined up, in the Royal Engineers as a Lieutenant. He was posted to London during the blitz and spent 9 months digging out unexploded bombs. He was then posted to North Africa and I have maps covering areas around Sidi Barrani, Salum and the defences at Tobruk (Remember the film 'Ice Cold in Alex'). At one point he and his men had to drive from Mersa Matruh (Picture is Dad at Mersa Matruh 1941) to Aleppo in Syria, a trip of about 1000 miles. Whilst in Syria he had to drive round the desert for about two weeks as far as Iraq, passing through Palmyra.



(The picture below is of farming in Syria 1941) At one point their Morris 15cwt truck sank to the axles in the sand and some friendly nomads



pulled them out. He was then posted to Cairo, promoted to Captain and had to prepare for the invasion of Italy in 1943, landing at Augusta, Sicily. His group's job was to restore electricity generating units damaged or destroyed by the retreating Germans, and he worked with the

Italian partisans. He was promoted again to Major around this time. In 1945 he returned home on the M.V. Georgic (a ship that had been bombed and sunk at Port Tewfik in Egypt in 1941, but refloated and returned to service in 1944). He found a copy of Trollope's 'The Warden' on board which he read on the way home. I remember my father was quite keen on Trollope.

Dad then married my mum on February 14th 1946 at St Mary's in Elland, and was demobbed later that year. He returned to Metro Vickers, but soon moved to ICI, for a much increased salary. Originally working in Huddersfield, he was transferred to Blackley, Manchester in 1956 as Divisional Electrical Engineer. I remember well my father travelling over to Manchester every day, and probably not getting back home till between 6pm and 7pm and then working on the dining room table, with papers and folders around him. The M62 had not been built and he would travel on the old Nont's road as it was called (after the Nont Sarah pub, a fairly isolated hostelry on the way) come rain, snow, wind or sun.



On Sundays, we would have the traditional Sunday Roast, with my father at the head of the table carving, whilst a portrait of 'The Laughing Cavalier' on the wall behind, was seemingly watching him making sure he did it properly.

He was also a member of the 'English Speaking Union' for a while in the 1970's/80's, although I do not know in what capacity. He went to Germany with them and delivered a speech in German. I remember him learning the language using BBC 'Komm Mit' records. My father was quite good at languages and either on holiday or with work, he would always take the time to learn the language.

My Mum, unfortunately had a recurrence of the cancer that she had developed in 1960. My father would take her over to Christie's in Manchester for treatment. My father then, had a mild heart attack in 1971, apparently on the golf course; so mild he didn't know he'd had one until the doctor told him, but he was taken into hospital and wired up for a while. Unfortunately it was around my 21st birthday at Easter which I was to celebrate in Grasmere. I was going to cancel it, but my parents

determined I should go, and so I went on my own, meeting up with our usual group for the celebrations. In 1972 my dad took early retirement as my mum was very ill. She died in November 1973.

A year or two later, on a visit to his sister and her husband in Elland, he met Anne. Making up a bridge four (my parents were quite keen bridge players socially) Dad and Anne, both having lost their spouses found mutual pleasure in each other's company and married on 1st January 1976, with myself as best man, which I was delighted to do, but found a little strange. Anne had Parkinson's disease, but they had 17 happy years together and would often go on short trips to North Yorkshire. Dad looked after Anne as her condition gradually deteriorated, uncomplaining and coping as he always did. I have heard him described, on more than one occasion, as 'a proper gentleman'. Anne sadly passed away in 1993.

It was after Dad retired, that he took up watercolour painting. He had always been able to draw and had done many pen and ink sketches, which would grace anybody's wall. Taking some lessons from Ashley Jackson he developed into a decent painter and joined the local Art Circle. He painted for pleasure, and gave



paintings to any friends that wanted one. He did however, put some up for sale and I recall he had some paintings with him on a visit to Ilkley. He went into a gallery to browse and after a conversation with the owner, showed him the paintings he had with him (he had taken some to a friend to let them choose one). The gallery owner offered to sell them for him. My father only went into the gallery out of interest, not to sell his paintings. When my daughter was a few years old she saw my father painting the sky on the canvas. Some time later, when she saw a sunset, she said 'Has grandad been painting the sky again?'. An interesting association of ideas I think. Apart from his artistic accomplishments he could also play the violin. I have a record (an old 78) which he and my mother

made (My mother was an accomplished pianist) in the early fifties. It was not a commercial record and I think there must have been a means by which people could arrange to make their own records.

He was a keen amateur photographer, and I have many photographs taken going back to the 1920's and 1930's, including his war years. There are some of his Amazon trip, and also some of Palmyra during the war. (You may recall that Palmyra was destroyed in 2015.) He had a dark room built in to our house and built his own enlarger. He taught me how to develop and print my own black and white photographs, a skill that has now been sadly rendered obsolete by digital photography. As he got older he became involved with Probus and was President of the local branch. He was also treasurer at All Saints in Elland.

My father passed away in 2003, after a very active, successful and fulfilling life.

This is a very much 'potted' version of my father's life, and there are many more personal memories that are not mentioned here, but I like to remember him as 'a proper gentleman' and 'grandad who painted the sky'. Not bad epitaphs, I think. So everybody, if you've a mind to, remember



your fathers on the 16th, there's probably a lot more to them than you realise. If the memories of your father are not good, then read and appreciate that most are.

David Marshall

St. JOHN'S PANTOMIME SOCIETY

Pantomime - Dick Whittington



The pantomime committee have selected Dick Whittington and his Cat for this year's production and we are hoping for a good turnout for the cast auditions and the chorus meeting.

Cast Auditions will be held on Wednesday, 10th July at 7.30pm. in the Church Hall.

Anyone of secondary school age in December, including adults, of course, is invited to attend and audition for a part. Audition night always causes some laughs and often gives us a chance to meet new talent.

Please pass the word around anyone whom you think may be interested.

The first Chorus meeting will take place on Wednesday, 4th September at 6pm in the Sturrock Room of the Church Hall.

There is no upper or lower age limit for people in the chorus and we would love to nurture a teenage chorus. If you, or anyone you know, may be interested please come along and meet the team who will tell you more about what is involved.

If you are interested in either of the above, but cannot attend at these dates please contact Graham Readshaw on 01484 713699 or 07949 082402 and let him know of your interest.



MISSIONS AND CHARITIES

Below is a message received from Melina,
the Link Officer in Mara Diocese.

“Yesterday, I spoke with the principal of college (where the 2 girls from Nyakiswa are studying), and he informed me that among the best students at the institution – those who complete their work diligently without being coerced and who are dedicated to both academic and extra-curricular activities – our girls from Nyakiswa rank first. Indeed, we thank God for the church’s wise selection. These girls are well-mannered, respectful and good Christians. We are very grateful for your dedication to helping the less fortunate and for shining a light on their lives”.



BRIGHOUSE CENTRAL FOODBANK

We are grateful for all your contributions to the Brighthouse Central Foodbank, but if you want some suggestions we are particularly in need of small cans of chicken, ham and Spam, cans of carrots, packets of mashed potatoes and packets of dried pasta in sauce.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

Norman Lake



Coffee & Cake



with a Christian Aid Flavour

served in the Church on Saturday June 8
from 10.00am

followed by

Light Lunches

from Noon until 2.00pm.

Donations of baking would be very welcome.

Christian Aid envelopes will be available for the collection
of donations to support this worthy charity.
Thank you for your support.

LOYOLA PRESS.



God of love, teach me to
walk with my brothers and
sisters to build a world of
justice and peace for all.

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'3-minute retreat'



Music News


In May we celebrated both Ascension Day and Pentecost - Jesus ascending to the Father, leaving us to continue his work in the world, which we do with the help of the Holy Spirit who came at Pentecost (Whitsun).

Both celebrations involved music!



The Rastrick Voices sang at the lovely Ascension Day benefice service, which this year was at St John's. They led the singing of the hymns and also sang the beautiful hymn, 'He came singing love'. This included solo lines sung by Margaret and Gerald. The words emphasize how it is now up to us to continue the work here:

*"For the love to go on we must make it our song,
You and I be the singers".*

On Whit Sunday (Pentecost), it was the turn of the music group to provide the accompaniment for the hymns and songs - and what a selection! Our music seemed to want to fly away in the wind, but with the use of clothes pegs, we managed to play such whammies as, 'Shine Jesus, shine', 'Walk in the Light', 'We are marching...'.


The Rastrick Voices will be busy rehearsing again shortly, as we hope to celebrate the return of our refurbished organ with something special. This won't be immediately, as the organ will need a couple of months to settle in, but we look forward to its return and to our celebration!

Pam



PENTECOST PRAISE

Acts 2, v.1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Well, that was a surprise...!

The flames of the Holy Spirit were brought to life during our Pentecost Praise at Pentecost (or Whit Sunday), thanks to Daryll from Upper Edge! We sang some favourite hymns and songs about the Holy Spirit, listened to the reading from Acts, joined in the prayers, and were captivated by Daryll's amazing 'visual aids' using real fire! ...all this and a picnic too!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to THE CHURCH!

Benefice Safari Supper



Saturday 13th July
Tickets £10.00

From:

Margaret Brown Tel: 01484 714533

Cherry Fancourt Tel: 01484 385080

5:30 start

**Two courses, then meet at
St Matthew's Parish Centre**

7:30 onwards

for pudding and entertainment

Pudding & Entertainment only – £5.00

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

Tickets available shortly

Eco Church - Swap Stall

The next
Eco Church
Swap Stall
will be on:

Sat. 8th, Sun. 9th. June



Cherry



COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next Community Lunch is on Tuesday 4th June. 12:00
All welcome. (No charge - donations much appreciated)



COFFEE & CHAT (See Christian Aid advert p. 27)

The next Coffee & Chat
is on Saturday 8th June, in church. 10:00 - 12:00



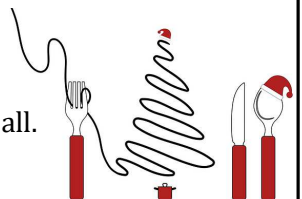
AFTERNOON TEA

The next Afternoon Tea
is on Saturday 19th October, in church. 2:00 - 4:30



ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The annual Christmas Lunch
is on Tuesday 3rd December, in the Community Hall.
Booking essential: £20

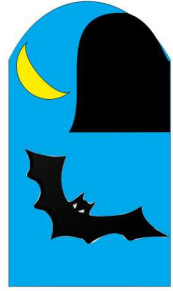


PUZZLE PAGE by the Bat in the Belfry

June already and hopefully the better weather is with us. Try these two if you have a minute to spare.

Number 24 - 11 D-Day

It's 80 years since D-Day this month, so how much do you know about it? Try these questions.



- 1) D-Day was part of a large scale operation. What was the codename of this operation?
- 2) Who led the men at Pegasus Bridge?
- 3) What beach name was not part of the invasion?
- 4) "D-Day" is the term generally used to describe the first day of the invasion of Europe. But what is the official name for the entire landing phase of the invasion from D-Day till the end of June 1944?
- 5) German Field Marshall Erwin Rommel was absent from the action at the onset of the invasion. Why?
- 6) What was the name of General Patton's fake army before the D-Day invasion?
- 7) What wall had been set up by the Germans up along the coast of France?
- 8) D-Day was originally scheduled for 5th June 1944. What delayed the invasion until June 6th? forces of D-Day?
- 9) Who was the overall supreme commander of Allied forces of D-Day?
- 10) Who made this remark about the invasion plan: "There it is ... It won't work. I know it won't work, but you'll bloody well have to make it work."?

Number 24 - 12 Dads Day

Can you answer the following regarding famous fathers?

- 1) What is the name of Simba's dad in The Lion King?
- 2) A famous author once wrote to his son: 'The object of love is the best and most beautiful. Try to live up to it.' Who was the famous father in question?
- 3) Which member of the British Royal Family was playing squash when his first son was born?

- 4) Which famous fictional father tells his children, Scout and Jem: 'You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view – until you climb into his skin and walk around in it.'
- 5) Whose father was Philip II of Macedon?
- 6) Cleopatra's four children were fathered by which two men?
- 7) Which great mathematician is often called the 'Father of Geometry'?
- 8) In literature and film, whose grandfather was the Earl of Dorincourt?
- 9) Who had a daughter called Pebbles and an adopted son named Stony?
- 10) Lucy Davis played Dawn Tinsley in the BBC comedy *The Office*, can you name her real life father?

Last month's answers

Number 24 – 9 Don't be a half Whit

1) Ancient Greek: 'pentekostē', which means the 'fiftieth day' - we use this word now as the day is celebrated on the fiftieth day after Easter (inclusive of Easter Day). **2)** Whitsun stems from the old English word for White Sunday (hwīta sunnand?g), named due to the white robes worn on that day (worn by the candidates for baptism). **3)** Australia (Queensland) **4)** (South) Pacific (Part of the nation of Vanuatu) **5)** Slim Whitman **6)** Answers: a: Czech, b: Spanish, Latin or Portuguese, c: German d: Danish e: Finnish f: Dutch **7)** Poland **8)** France

Number 24 – 10 Barking Mad

1) Snowy - (Tintin books) **2)** Three men in a boat by Jerome K Jerome **3)** Toby - (The Sign of Four) **4)** Georgina Kirrin (George) **5)** Toto - Wizard of Oz etc **6)** Bullseye - (Bill Sikes dog in 'Oliver Twist') **7)** Argos - (Odysseus faithful dog) **8)** White Fang - (Novel by Jack London) **9)** Gaspode - (Discworld books by Terry Pratchett) **10)** Algy - (Rupert Bear) **11)** Flush - (Elizabeth Barret Browning's cocker spaniel, written by Virginia Woolf) **12)** Hairy Maclary (Books by Lynley Dodd)

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH

SHIRLEY... Sleepless Nights

The other night I couldn't sleep. My mind was going over things which had happened in my past. The good times, bad times, sad times and happy times. Then it wondered further into philosophical mode.

I concluded one's life span is like a pendulum, swinging from right to left in a great arc. Similar to each day, from the light of dawn awakening to darkness as we sleep. Then my mind explored further, comparing life's journey which follows a similar pattern. We experience ups, the good times and downs, the bad times. Often, we are at a 'junction' for a decision. Which road should we take? As I lay thinking, I could identify several places when I wondered if I had made the right choice. Would my life have been better than it was now? "No", I concluded. It could have been much worse.



Using metaphors again, life is a journey which sometimes travels along a stoney road. I can identify with this. It is at these times that, guiltily I pray a little harder asking for God's help. In the Bible, Matthew Ch 7 v 7, we are encouraged to "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened." Sometimes the way things worked out surprised or maybe disappointed me. But I have survived and I believe this is because I have faith that God, and or Jesus, is walking life's path with me. This is a great comforting support, or cynical people call it a prop. I don't mind. I KNOW it makes a difference to me. I have been fortunate. I have not been tested as many are today. Those who have to cope with pain, disability, hunger, debt, loneliness, abuse, loss, persecution etc. Any one of these sufferings can, however, be lessened a little with the help of family and friends. Just knowing someone cares and is there to support in human form matters a great deal.

We can be those hands carrying out more of Jesus's words, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is this, thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matthew 22:37-39).

Without realising it, I slowly drifted off to sleep. In the morning, I decided to share the above with you.

Good News Days

I can remember, not long ago, mentioning the bad news which seems to surround us each day on the TV and newspapers. However, just lately, I have noted there is more good news around. Although it is easy for us to blame God for 'neglecting' his flock and Satan seems to have the upper hand, more and more people are coming forward to voice their concerns for this neglect. Dementia is being examined more closely instead of suffers being isolated. This also applies to mental illness in different forms such as PTS and domestic abuse. More people are being brought to justice by victims of sex abuse. I think God is giving a nudge to those who at one time would have been frightened to stand up for what they think is right. We need to take our worries to God in prayer more, and share with others our concerns about others' suffering, so that together we can create a better situation for more neglected people.

Shirley Stow

AND FINALLY

Proof that our Vicar is always one step ahead of the rest...



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The Vicar 2022

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 2nd June

Pantomime Society Bacon Butty Morning

Monday 3rd June

MU - Midday Prayers in Halifax Minster, led by Cherry Fancourt

Tuesday 4th June

Community Lunch 12:00

Thursday 6th June

MU Council Meeting in St. John's 10:30-2:30

Saturday 8th June

Coffee & Cake in church (Christian Aid) 10:00 - 12:00

Light lunch (Christian Aid) 12:00 - 2:00

Eco Church - Swap Stall

Sunday 9th June

Rucksack Club Half Day Walk

Eco Church - Swap Stall

Monday 10th June

Beer & Banter - The Four Sons 7:00

Thursday 13th June

Communion Service at Railway Bridge View 2:00

Tuesday 18th June

MU Area Gathering in St. John's with Bishop Smitha 12.30 - 2.30

Friday 21st June

Coffee & Conversation - Railway Bridge View 12:30

Saturday 22nd June

Rucksack Club Full Day Walk

Sunday 23rd June

Rucksack Club BBQ 6:00



Items for *the* July magazine.

to: stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com by 9:00 a.m. Sat. 29th June please. Thanks.



Website : www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk



Parish Calendar : <http://tinyurl.com/jcjrehp>



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