

A photograph of several yellow daffodils with green stems and leaves, set against a white background. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others as buds.

**St John the Divine  
Rastrick**

**Your  
Parish  
Magazine**

**March  
2025**

**£1.50**

**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 - janehearsen83@gmail.com

**Safeguarding**

Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - janehearsen83@gmail.com

**Health & Safety**

Please contact the Vicar or a Churchwarden.

**Hall Bookings**

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

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**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

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Monday Meet - 50 Archbell Avenue

7:00 p.m. Beer & Banter Men's Group (Various Mondays, monthly  
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 the month)

### Wednesdays in the Community Hall

Time Wednesday Nighters (1st Wednesday in the month)

Varies in the Sturrock Room.

### Fridays

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



*Rev'd Michelle writes* ..... 

Welcome to the March edition of the St John's magazine. March brings us Ash Wednesday and the season of Lent. This is traditionally a time of repentance and reflection, as we consider our failings and weaknesses in the light of God's goodness and grace shown supremely in the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus.

It's also a time to grow as we seek to find a little bit more time and space for God, and to put our faith into action in our lives. There are lots of opportunities to do this and to get involved.

Please do join me on Ash Wednesday (5th March) if you can, to start with season aright. There will be a said service at St Matthew's at 10.30am and a sung service at St John's at 7pm, with the opportunity to receive the sign of the cross in ash on the forehead at both of these services.

Following on from the successful 'Prayer Course' last year, our Lent course this time is based on the Lord's Prayer. We will be looking in depth at this special prayer which Jesus himself gave us and exploring what its words mean for our lives. We say the words so often, and yet do we really mean what we say and appreciate what we are asking for? There will be various dates, times and venues available. Please see the information elsewhere in this magazine for more details.

The invitation is also there for you to join me on Facebook for Morning Prayer Tuesday to Saturday at 8.30am, and you're also welcome to join us for the midweek communion services which alternate between St Matthew's and St John's on 10.30am on Wednesday mornings.

Whatever you do, I pray that you may find ways to draw ever closer to our loving God this Lent and come to appreciate a little more the extent of his great love for you shown in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

With my prayers and every blessing

*Michelle*

## SERVICES AND CHURCH INFORMATION

### SERVICES at St. JOHN'S - MARCH

Sunday 2nd. - 11:00 - Sunday before Lent - All Age Holy Communion

Wed. 5th. - 7:00pm. - Ash Wednesday, Holy Communion - Benefice

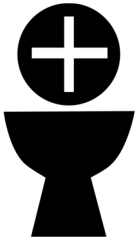
Sunday 9th. - 11:00 - 1st Sunday of Lent - Morning Worship

Sunday 16th. - 11:00 - 2nd Sunday of Lent - Holy Communion

Sunday 23rd. - 11:00 - 2nd before Lent - Holy Communion

Sunday 30th. - 10:30 - Mothering Sunday - All Age Holy Communion

Benefice service, **St. Matthew's**



### MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES - MARCH

Wednesday 5th - 10:30 - (Ash Wed.) St Matthew's

Wednesday 12th - 10:30 - No Midweek Communion

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

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

### FORTHCOMING UNITED BENEFICE SERVICES

- ◇ Wednesday March 5th - Ash Wednesday - 7:00pm. St John's
- ◇ Sunday March 30th - Mothering Sunday - 10:30 - St Matthew's
- ◇ Monday April 14th - Lent Reflection - 7:00pm. - St John's
- ◇ Tuesday April 15th - Lent Reflection - 7:00pm. - St Matthew's
- ◇ Wednesday April 16th - Lent Reflection - 7:00 pm. - St John's
- ◇ Thursday April 17th - Maundy Thursday - 7:00pm. - St Matthew's
- ◇ Friday April 18th - Good Friday - 7:00pm. - St John's
- ◇ Thursday May 29th - Ascension Day - 7:00pm. - 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.

## PRAYER PAGE

Do you have a favourite prayer,  
or have you come across a special prayer recently  
which you'd like to share?

This month we have a lovely little prayer from  
the Church of England  
Everyday Faith Reflections

Living, loving God,  
thank you that you call my name.

This day I want to follow you everywhere I go.  
Please may I go there with you.

**Amen**



## Mothering Sunday

Join us for a very special Benefice service:  
**10:30 at St Matthew's**

## Sunday 30th March

An opportunity  
to give thanks for our Mums,  
and for those people dear to us  
with mothering roles,  
both with us and no longer with us.

## 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.

Upcoming dates are as follows:

Sunday 16th March

Sunday 15th June

Sunday 18th May

Sunday 20th July

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

## Daily Lectionary Readings March 2025

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>
<b>03-Mar</b>	<b>04-Mar</b>	<b>05-Mar</b>	<b>06-Mar</b>	<b>07-Mar</b>	<b>08-Mar</b>
Psalms 80 Jeremiah 1 John 3.1-21	Psalms 87 Jeremiah 2.1-13 John 3.22-end	Ash Wednesday Daniel 9.3-6 1 Timothy 6.6-19	Psalms 77 Jeremiah 2.14-32 John 4.1-26	Psalms 3 Jeremiah 3.6-22 John 4.27-42	Psalms 71 Jeremiah 4.1-18 John 4.43-end
<b>10-Mar</b>	<b>11-Mar</b>	<b>12-Mar</b>	<b>13-Mar</b>	<b>14-Mar</b>	<b>15-Mar</b>
Psalms 10 Jeremiah 4.19-end John 5.1-18	Psalms 44 Jeremiah 5.1-19 John 5.19-29	Psalms 6 Jeremiah 5.20-end John 5.30-end	Psalms 42 Jeremiah 6.9-21 John 6.1-15	Psalms 22 Jeremiah 6.22-end John 6.16-27	Psalms 122 1 Samuel 16.1-13a Philippians 3.7-14
<b>17-Mar</b>	<b>18-Mar</b>	<b>19-Mar</b>	<b>20-Mar</b>	<b>21-Mar</b>	<b>22-Mar</b>
Psalms 26 Jeremiah 7.21-end John 6.41-51	Psalms 50 Jeremiah 8.1-15 John 6.52-59	Joseph of Nazareth Romans 4.13-18 Matthew 1.18-25	Psalms 34 Jeremiah 9.12-24 John 7.1-13	Psalms 40 Jeremiah 10.1-16 John 7.14-24	Psalms 23 Genesis 46.1-7 Hebrews 4.1-13
<b>24-Mar</b>	<b>25-Mar</b>	<b>26-Mar</b>	<b>27-Mar</b>	<b>28-Mar</b>	<b>29-Mar</b>
Psalms 5 Jeremiah 11.1-17 John 7.37-52	Annunciation of Our Lord Hebrews 10.4-10 Luke 1.26-38	Psalms 38 Jeremiah 13.1-11 John 8.12-30	Psalms 56 Jeremiah 14 John 8.31-47	Psalms 22 Jeremiah 15.10-end John 8.48-end	Psalms 31 Jeremiah 16.10-17.4 John 9.1-17
<b>31-Mar</b>	<b>01-Apr</b>	<b>02-Apr</b>	<b>03-Apr</b>	<b>04-Apr</b>	<b>05-Apr</b>
Psalms 70 Jeremiah 17.5-18 John 9.18-end	Psalms 54 Jeremiah 18.1-12 John 10.1-10	Psalms 63 Jeremiah 18.13-end John 10.11-21	Psalms 53 Jeremiah 19.1-13 John 10.22-end	Psalms 102 Jeremiah 19.14-20.6 John 11.1-16	Psalms 32 Jeremiah 20.7-end John 11.17-27

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

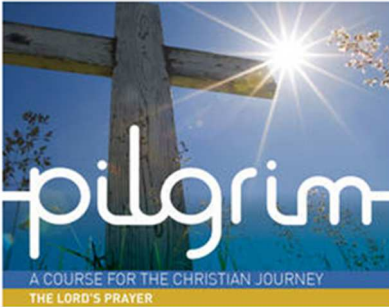
Download App 'Lectionary: from the CofE'

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

Other reflections:

<https://www.ucb.co.uk/word-for-today>





# A Lenten Journey through the Lord's Prayer

**Join a group this Lent and together  
unpack the prayer that Jesus taught us.**

**Commencing from Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Day	Time	Host	Address	Tel. No.
Monday	2:00 pm	Shirley Stow	50 Archbell Avenue	01484-714209
Leader: Alan Hoggard				
Tuesday	7.00 pm	Hilary Cartwright	120 Clough Lane	01484-537399
Leader: Alan Hoggard				
Wednesday	10.00 am	Paul Armitage	Upper Edge	01484-714944
Leaders: Jane & John Hearson				
Thursday:	2.00 pm	Barbara Rukin	13 Bell Row	01484-718993
Leader: Pam Dimbleby				
Thursday:	7.00 pm	Margaret Brown	St Matthews	01484-714533
Leader: Daryll Hackett				

**See leaflet in church for further details**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025

# Friday 7 March

A service for everyone! Organised by the Brighthouse & Rastrick Group of Churches

There will be a Service to mark the

## World Day of Prayer

on **Friday 7th March**

at **2.00 pm**

In the Salvation Army Citadel,  
King Street,  
Brighthouse,  
HD6 1NX

**Everyone is  
very welcome**



**Cook Islands** *I made you wonderful*



**INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION**

24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led

[wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)

Registered Charity Number 233242

## Preparation of the new Electoral Roll 2025

As required under the Church Representation Rules, I am in the process of preparing a new Electoral Roll in readiness for the annual meetings on Sunday 11 May 2025. Membership of the old Electoral Roll will not be carried over to the new one. Anyone wanting to be on the new roll needs to fill in a new application form. If you are on the current Electoral Roll you will receive a letter with an application form enclosed. If you are not on the current Electoral Roll an application form will be available at the back of church. Can you please return the completed forms by 13 April 2025 to allow time to complete the Electoral Roll procedure before the annual meeting? If you have any enquiries, please contact me.

Thanks,

*Rosemary Lake*

Electoral Roll Officer





## MU MATTERS

**Mothers' Union Matters.... here at St John's, around the corner and across the world!**

We postponed the Wave of Prayer Service from January until Tuesday 4 Feb this year due to the freezing weather in early January. One of the Wave of Prayers focused on women in Nigeria and included information that 40% of the population are under the age of 14. The MU there focuses on supporting education in parenting, health and improving the roles of women and girls. We prayed for Lesotho in southern Africa where there is a large number of child-headed households because both parents have died from HIV infection. Gender Based Violence continues unchecked. In Lesotho there is extreme heat and very strong winds causing disaster to their crops. Then when it does rain, floods occur which washes away crops and soil resulting in extreme hunger. Our prayers do not go unanswered if we can listen to what God says we can do to alleviate those situations.

Our Wave of Prayer was followed by a lively and active AGM for our Branch. We thank God for our continuing programme of activities and the will to undertake a great variety of interaction and fellowship with others.

On Sunday 16 February Revd. Michelle led a moving Service dedicated to the MU within the Morning Worship Service and she blessed our new Branch Committee and the MU programme for the year ahead. We enrolled Gillian Clough as a new Member. Welcome Gillian.

Ann Johnson, Margaret France and Jennifer Guy presented a moving sketch on domestic abuse and its impact on family relationships and highlighted some strategies for those who are oppressed as to how to



draw themselves out of being controlled and towards the Agencies which they can turn to for help.

Thank you, Alan, for leading a prayer for Revd. Michelle, myself and Jennifer Guy as we look forward to taking up a three-year appointment at Diocesan level. This is both a privilege and a great responsibility. We all pray that we will respond to this honour and fulfil the duties with zest, with wisdom and in prayer and with humility.



On Friday 28 February, although this is not an exclusive MU event, Pam Dimpleby is leading a short reflection in the Conference Suite on Psalm 139 at 2.00 pm. This will be a prelude to the World Day of Prayer Service which is being held in the Salvation Army Citadel at 2.00 on Friday 7 March,

where the MU has played a significant part in its organisation.

On Thursday 6 March the MU will once again be at Railway Bridge View to lead a craft session under the guidance of Gillian Clough. It will be well within everyone's capabilities and we will have fun following Gillian's directions and helping out the residents and ourselves. Come and join in.... we start with a short reflection and a hymn...often with singing All Things Bright and Beautiful as the residents' request!

Coming onto the horizon is the MU Commissioning Service to be held in Wakefield Cathedral on Saturday 15 March at 1.30 pm. This will be a wonderful and stirring Service seeing myself commissioned as Diocesan President, Michelle as Huddersfield Episcopal Area Chaplain and Jennifer Guy as a General Trustee for the Leeds Diocese. (*See photo above*). Please do come to this joyful and inspiring service ... we can arrange lift shares.

*Continued overleaf*

Yes, keep your diaries open.....on Tuesday 18 March Oriel Kelly is coming to our Branch Meeting which will be held in the Church at 2.00 pm. She is coming to talk about Mara and in particular the Safe House. I know that she has been gathering more up to date information about The House and it will be a very interesting opportunity to spend time together.

As ever, everyone is welcome to all of these events, and if you want to know more about the MU just ask me or any of the Members....  
...no commitment. Just be willing to have fun and friendship with others!!

*With Love,  
Julia*




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## St. JOHN'S RUCKSACK CLUB

### **Half Day Walk - Sunday 16th March**

**Walk - *Mill Bank Circular***

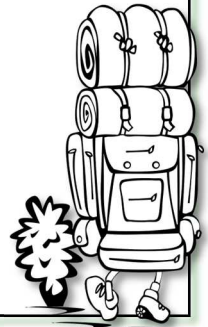
**Length - 3.5miles**

**Leaders - Sarah & Sophie Weller**

**Contact details - 07305604613**

**Leave Church At - 1pm**

**Walk Description - an easy walk along country lanes, gentle slopes and good views.**





## Practise being tender-hearted

*“Be kind to one another, tender-hearted”*

*Ephesians 4:32 NKJV*

In his best-selling book *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*, author Stephen Covey describes an experience he had on a subway in New York. A man and his children boarded the train, and the children were so loud and rambunctious, they disrupted the entire car. The man sat down beside Covey, seemingly oblivious to the situation. Covey finally said, ‘Sir, your children are really disturbing a lot of people. I wonder if you couldn’t control them a little more?’ The man looked startled. Then he said, ‘Oh, you’re right. I guess I should do something about it. We just came from the hospital where their mother died about an hour ago. I don’t know what to think, and I guess they don’t know how to handle it either.’ Covey’s attitude instantly changed.

Looking back on it later, he admitted that he learned a valuable lesson: seek to understand before seeking to be understood. Sometimes the people who irritate and hurt us do so because they themselves are in pain. They’re dealing with issues we don’t know about. And when they lash out, it’s just the burst dam of personal frustration. And it calls for looking beyond their words and actions and trying to see their hearts. And that’s hard to do when you’re self-absorbed.

The Bible addresses this: ‘Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you’ (vv. 31-32 NKJV). If you have been grumpy towards those you live with and work with, the word for today is – practise being tender-hearted.

Copies of word for today are available on line or at the back of church

*Alan*

## MISSIONS AND CHARITIES

At our recent meeting, we finalised the donation to Mary's Meals. There was £138 in the jars and we decided to make this up to £250 from our allocation.



A representative from the Foodbank gave a presentation in church on February 9<sup>th</sup> and received a donation of £100 from Missions and Charities and a contribution from the Knit and Natter group.



Representatives from the charities Headway (Huddersfield) and Experience Community based in Slaithwaite will give a presentation in church on March 9<sup>th</sup>. £250 has already been sent to Headway in Huddersfield, a charity which offers extensive help for people to improve their lives after brain surgery. £250 will be presented to Experience Community.

This is a not-for-profit charity that helps disabled people and those with mobility needs to access the Great Outdoors.

£100 will be sent to UCB for copies of "Word for Today", which will be available in church.

In an update from Mara, we learnt that Nyakiswa is to have a new vicar. The two girls that we are supporting on a secretarial course have just started their second year and money has been sent to cover their course fees and accommodation costs for this term from an existing pot of funds.



We have decided to support "Operation Mobilisation", specifically for Cambodia and initially for £100.



## Lent Appeal 2025

The Lent Appeal this year will be for the R.N.L.I.,  
and the Missions and Charities group will host "Coffee and Chat"  
in church on Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup> from  
10-12 noon to support the Appeal.



# Lifeboats

*Oriel*

### COFFEE & CAKE

Saturday 15th March, 10:00 - 12:00

Hosted by the Missions & Charities Group.



### BRIGHOUSE CENTRAL FOODBANK

We are grateful for all your contributions to the Brighthouse Central Foodbank. In March we would particularly appreciate the following:

- Cans of fruit
- Cans of custard
- Cans of tuna
- Packets of cereal (we're OK for porridge though)

Thank you so much for your support.

*Rosemary & Norman*



## What the Vicar has been doing

Just a selection...



Assembly at  
William Henry Smith  
School



Celebrating  
Gerald's 90th

Killing three birds  
with one (enjoyable) stone.....



World Day of  
Prayer  
planning  
meeting



MU events  
planning  
meeting



Organist planning meeting



MU special service



Pantomime Society  
AGM



Deanery Synod



Visited Cygnet Lodge

Conducted a  
House Blessing



World Day of Prayer  
Bible Study



Coffee & Conversation at  
Railway Bridge View

# Coffee and Conversation

**Next Date:  
Friday 28th March  
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**





# Rastrick

## Open Gardens

### July 19th 2025

### 10:00 - 4:00

This is a joint event with St. Matthew's.

If anyone would be willing to open their Garden could they please let me know – people are not looking for the perfect garden just to wander round different gardens and maybe enjoy a cup of tea/coffee and maybe a piece of cake/scone and jam/ice cream. No pressure.

Tickets will be £5 and we are hoping for 10 gardens, so 50p a garden will make a good day out.

Cheers

*Cherry* 

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### Help

Help – could do a bit of help for weeding planting in front of church (just two plots) and planting some bulbs a bit late but may bloom eventually.

Cheers,

*Cherry* 

## GLEDHOLT MALE VOICE CHOIR HUDDERSFIELD

# A RUSTLE OF SPRING



Musical Director: James W Morgan  
Accompanist: Jane Robertson  
With our guests

## CLIFTON HANDBELL RINGERS

this concert is supported by Go-Ahead Travel

Sunday 2nd March at St. John's Church, Rastrick, HD6 1HT  
Commencing 3.00 pm Tickets £12, available from:  
Choir members, St John's Church,  
on-line at [WeGotTickets/Gledholt](https://www.wegotickets.com),  
on the door or scan the QR code.





## Music News

“Praise him with clanging cymbals;  
praise him with loud clashing cymbals!”

*(Psalm 150 v 5)*

I love that verse from Psalm 150 - it makes me smile! Don't worry, we're not intending to haul the drum kit up (except for Christingle) but that verse just sounds so exuberant and happy !

### Music in March:



The Rastrick Voices will be practising during March for the moving Maundy Thursday evening service on Thursday 17th April. For those of you in the Voices, here's a reminder of your rehearsal dates:

March 9th, March 16th, April 6th & April 13th.

The Music Group will be providing the music for our worship at a very special Benefice Service on Mothering Sunday (March 30th. - 10:30 at St M's) where we'll give thanks for our Mums and for those people dear to us with mothering roles, both with us and no longer with us.



Ash Wednesday falls on 5th March, and Graham Kennedy will be playing the organ for this important service (7:00 pm.) which leads us into Lent.

Our lovely church is also a concert venue in March:

- Sunday 2nd - Gledholt Male Voice Choir & Clifton Handbell Ringers
- Sunday 30th - Orchestra of the Square Chapel. *(see p.29)*

...and a bit of forward notice: at 2:00 on Saturday 5th April, a number of local organists from the Halifax & District Organists' Association will be giving a recital on our wonderfully refurbished organ.

*Pam*

## ECO CHURCH

**Eco Church News** by John



### The CAN Bill petition and Calderdale

As I reported last month, the second reading of the CAN (Climate and Nature) Bill has, rather disappointingly, been kicked down the road. But I received a very positive reply from our MP, Joshua Fenton-Glynn. He says he wasn't able to go to the intended reading of the bill on 24<sup>th</sup> January because of personal circumstances (I understand a bereavement). But here's a paragraph from his letter:

*"I am proud of the record we have locally on tackling climate change. Calder Valley truly is a pioneer in the fight against the climate and nature emergency, with work done here recognised as leading the way - such as our natural flood management projects, the creation of wetlands at Brearley, innovative retrofit schemes, and the Climate Action Fund supporting work done by voluntary groups, to name just a few - and I will continue support the fantastic work being done locally in any way I can."*

I recently attended our Huddersfield Area PEO (Parish Environment Officer) meeting. Helen Pedley, from Christ Church Sowerby Bridge, told me that Josh F-G was involved in a public debate about a controversial plan to install a waste incinerator on the outskirts of their town. He was supporting local residents who have grave misgivings about the fitness of the applicants to operate the site. Helen sees Josh as a kindred spirit and looks forward to working with him in the days ahead.

Another local Eco champion from Holywell Green, Cordelia Paterson, has joined the Calder Valley Energy Partnership. She showed us, on-screen, the council-run venture to achieve Net Zero, known as the Calderdale Local Area Energy Plan. It's remarkably detailed; for example, addressing the issues of poor insulation and of the potential to fit heat pumps throughout the borough. I haven't studied the economics but the plan is certainly visionary! *To be continued...*

A reminder that the next Swap stall is on 15th & 16th March.  
Please bring any contributions the week before.

Thanks, **Pat**

**Eco Church - Swap Stall**



# SKIRCOAT REPAIR CAFE

**BIN IT? NO WAY!**

**WHAT DO YOU DO WITH**

a cd player that no longer opens?

a toaster that no longer works?

a jumper with moth holes?

**REPAIR CAFE IS**

repairing broken items together,

professional advice,

encounters and inspiration,

a place to have a cuppa and catch up

**COSTS?**

A voluntary contribution

All Saints Parish Hall, Godfrey Road

skircoatrepaircafe@gmail.com

Sat JAN 18<sup>th</sup> • Sat MAR 15<sup>th</sup> • Sat MAY 17<sup>th</sup>

1:30 – 4:30 PM (last entry 4pm)



CLOTHES • FURNITURE • ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES • TOYS • ETCETERA  
repaircafe.org/en

## A Celebration of Simon & Garfunkel

On Saturday 8th. February I was fortunate enough to be at church for the 'Celebration of Simon & Garfunkel', performed by duo Tim Chu and Ian Bailey - the UK's Number 1 non tribute band, and I had the most wonderful evening!

Called a 'non tribute band' because of their own special input, they 'wowed us' with their instrumental sections and original material, but once the well-known guitar introductions and the singing began, you could believe it was the original duo. We were immediately taken back to those Simon & Garfunkel days of our youth!

Tim and Ian sang so many of my favourites! When they sang, 'Bridge over Troubled Water' I was a teenager again, sitting on the floor with the church youth group

(probably in my kaftan, flares and headband!) where we used this as a prayer one evening, listening to it over and over...

...and when I got home

from the concert on Saturday I immediately went to find my old notebook from my college days (early 70s), full of lyrics and

guitar chord symbols, as we used to do then! *(Before you ask, it was a long time ago and I no longer play guitar - probably forgotten which end to blow!)* There are no less than thirteen Paul Simon songs and chords handwritten in that notebook!

The thing which struck me most about Tim and Ian though, was their musicality! Every nuance, every dynamic (volume), every breath taken, every slight change of tempo, all the phrasing, was all sung as if the two of them were one voice, even though they were singing in harmony! I could understand why the advert quoted, "Tim and Ian moved between harmonies and shared vocals like a gestalt entity."



That is so difficult to do, and must have taken many hours of practice, but the two of them were amazing!

Everyone I spoke to said what a brilliant concert it had been, and those of us of a certain age all said how it took us straight back!

SO glad I didn't miss this!

*Pam*

p.s. Also fascinated by how they controlled their own lighting!

## Craft Fayre

Craft Fayre: Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

This will be held in church, which is a bit different.

*(Hall is booked).*

If interested please contact Cherry or Hilary



## Rastrick Beer Festival



Plans are starting to be formulated to resurrect the beer festival which ran so successfully for 9 years before

the pandemic. This was a great community event and brought people together from the Brighouse and Rastrick community and beyond and was well know as the 'friendly' beer festival. So for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> Sept. there will be a beer festival in the community hall.

At this stage I am looking for 'expressions of interest' from anyone interested in helping to set-up and promote the festival, ideas, marketing skills and willing hands would be very welcome. Please get in touch if you or know of others who may be interested in getting on board.



Cheers,

Alan Hoggard email: [alanhoggard@btinternet.com](mailto:alanhoggard@btinternet.com)

or phone 07756035591

## I'd love to be a teabag

At the funeral service for her brother Eddie, Cherry discovered that he was a poet! The following was in the service booklet.

---

I'd love to be a teabag  
 And stay at home all day  
 And talk to other teabags  
 In a teabag sort of way

I'd love to be a teabag  
 In my little box  
 And never have to wash my face  
 Or change my dirty socks

I'd love to be a teabag  
 An Earl Grey one perhaps  
 To sleep all day and be around  
 With Earl Grey sorts of chaps

I wouldn't have to do a thing  
 No homework, jobs, or chores  
 Comfy in my caddy  
 With teabags and their snores

I wouldn't have to do exams  
 I needn't tidy rooms  
 Or sweep the floor, or feed the cat  
 Or wash up all the spoons

I wouldn't have to do a thing  
 A life of bliss you see  
 Except that once in all my life  
 I'd make a cup of tea

*Eddie Barrett*



Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 3pm  
St John the Divine, Brighthouse HD6 1HN

Mozart on Tour - Prague



**Dvorak: Czech Suite**

**Mozart: Serenade No. 11**

**Mozart: Symphony No. 38**  
*(Prague)*

Tickets: [orchestraofsquarechapel.net/](http://orchestraofsquarechapel.net/) or ring 07710 491762

More details from: [orchestraofsquarechapel.net](http://orchestraofsquarechapel.net)

Contact: [OofSquareChapel@gmail.com](mailto:OofSquareChapel@gmail.com)

# The Men of the Churches of Rastrick

Host



**Pie and**

## Beer and Banter 2025



## Mondays at The Four Sons, Rastrick 7pm

Still to come:

17<sup>th</sup> Mar – Lenten Juggling – Daryll Hackett

28<sup>th</sup> Apr – Wire-in Calderdale - Paul Thompson

All Men Welcome

Further Details call Alan 07756035591

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## Monday Meet 2pm – 4pm

At the home of Shirley Stow, 50 Archbell Avenue HD6 3SU

An informal gathering with the opportunity to unpack the bible readings from the previous day, talk current issues and tackle everyday dilemmas, drink coffee and eat cake

### Faith, fun and fellowship

For further information or to confirm location call  
Shirley (01484-714209) or Alan (07756035591)

All welcome

# Eco Church - Swap Stall

The next  
Eco Church  
Swap Stall  
will be on:  
**Sat. 15th & Sunday 16th March**



## COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next Community Lunch  
will be on Tuesday 4th March, 12:00  
Followed by the Reminiscent Cinema, 1:30



## COFFEE & CAKE

The next Coffee & Cake  
will be on Saturday 15th March, 10:00 - 12:00  
Hosted by the Missions & Charities Group



## COFFEE & CONVERSATION

The next Coffee & Conversation at Railway Bridge View  
will be on Friday 28th March, 12:30 - 1:30



## AFTERNOON TEA

The next Afternoon Tea  
will be on Saturday 24th May, in church. 2:00 - 4:30  
Tickets £9 from Cherry



## ***PUZZLE PAGE by the Bat in the Belfry***

March and Spring is upon us. Hopefully the cold weather is behind us. Try these two if you have time.



### **25 – 5 Homophones**

Homophones are words that sound the same but have different meanings, all of these are names of towns or cities in the UK. For example - A town in Dorset with the homophone "A small body of standing water" would be Poole.

- 1) (Oxfordshire) - Docile or submissive
- 2) (Yorkshire) - An evil demon that feeds on human beings
- 3) (Surrey) - A platform scale
- 4) (Hertfordshire) - In or at what place
- 5) (Northamptonshire) - A kitchen appliance
- 6) (Mid Glamorgan) - A large accumulation of money
- 7) (Staffordshire) - Part of the hull of a ship
- 8) (Cornwall) - Icy precipitation
- 9) (North Wales) - Various saprotrophic fungi
- 10) (Middlesex) - Discolourations, stigmas or blemishes



### **25 – 6 Trains and Boats and Planes**

See if you can answer the following transport questions.

- 1) Aboard which ship did Charles Darwin formulate his "Theory of Evolution"?
- 2) What name is given to the French high speed railway?
- 3) How far in metres did the Wright Brothers fly on their maiden flight?
- 4) Which ship sank causing a major oil spillage in Prince William Sound, Alaska in 1989?
- 5) Apart from London, which is the only English city to operate a Metro train service?
- 6) Established in 1919 which is the oldest airline that is still operating today?





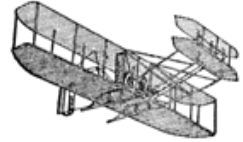


- 7) What was the name of the first Royal Yacht, gifted to King Charles II in 1660?  
 8) Which was the Allies only jet fighter to see active service in WW2?  
 9) Which is the only metro rail system in the UK that operates entirely underground?  
 10) Which two islands are served the shortest regular commercial flight in the World?

### ***Last month's answers***

#### **25 – 3 Watch the birdie**

- 1) Peregrine Falcon 2) Sparrowhawk  
 3) Reed Bunting 4) Wood Pigeon 5) Goldcrest 6) Meadow Pipit  
 7) Long Tailed Tit 8) Pied Wagtail 9) Green Woodpecker 10) Herring Gull



#### **25 – 4 Yorkshire Quiz**

- 1) Saint Peter 2) Harold Wilson, Herbert Henry Asquith, Charles Watson-Wentworth 3) Kingston upon Hull  
 4) Pontefract 5) Stainless Steel 6) Thornton, near Bradford  
 7) Hull 8) Norse (It means a third) 9) Spurn Point  
 10) Huddersfield

### **MORE NEXT MONTH**

# Organ Recital

Saturday 5th April

A recital by local organists from the  
 Halifax & District Organists' Association.

2:00 - 4:00



## SHIRLEY...

### Putting a Spring in your Step

March is a lovely month. It welcomes the first day of Spring – different dates depending on which one you accept! It also celebrates Mothering Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> March. Both dates heralding new births!

This month I particularly remember Mother Nature. During the winter months she has watched over the sleeping vegetation under her care.

We will soon witness her diligence as her work bursts into life. I already have snowdrops and primula in flower in my garden; you probably have similar too.

We all have Mothers! Sadly, some not now with us. Lots of us are privileged to be mothers. What a responsibility. I remember how excited I was to be pregnant with my first baby. I was as healthy as I have ever been. No morning sickness or other health problems. I could not wait until my March baby was born. She was due on a very snowy day. I went by ambulance to St Lukes hospital in Bradford as she had overrun the due arrival date by two weeks! I was never good with figures! It was not an easy birth but here I am to tell the tale. When they placed my baby in my arms, I looked down at her and said “Hello, Sally”! Sally was the nickname we called her for nine months, after our favourite ballroom dancing champions, Sonny Binick and Sally Brock. My husband and I were keen ballroom dancers at that time. I still get into trouble with Sally as she was actually named Suzanne Sally on her birth certificate and when ever she goes somewhere new in classes etc., they always address her as Suzanne and she has to explain she is known as Sally!

After the euphoria of her birth, I became very anxious. This little bundle in my arms would be our responsibility for many years - looking after her wellbeing in every way. I suddenly felt insecure.

I had the Baby Blues. One evening when my husband came home from work, I thrust my baby into his arms and told him to take her or I would put her in the dust bin. How shocking is that because I meant it. I felt I couldn't cope. However, I had a loving Mother who supported me until I got over this crisis.

I worried whether I have been a good mother sometimes. However, when I see my daughters now mothers themselves, and see their children, I think I did a good job after-all!

One Mothering Sunday I received a card which really touched my heart so much that I kept it and put it in a frame. It now reminds me of what I tried to do!

### For My Mother

A mother's hands are caring hands  
That teach her child so much-  
How to play and how to pray,  
how to reach and touch.  
A mother's arms are loving arms  
That hold her child so close,  
Yet always open gladly when  
her child needs freedom most.  
A Mother's love is gentle love  
That helps her child to grow.  
A mother's love is everywhere  
her child will ever go.

*Shirley*

## AND FINALLY....

*Reproduced by kind permission  
of Andy Robb,  
who invites you to visit his  
'Derek the Cleric' Facebook page.*



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# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY -



## **Sunday 2nd March**

Gledholt Male Voice Choir concert - 3:00

## **Monday 3th March** *(and every Monday)*

Monday Meet - Shirley's 2:00 - 4:00

## **Tuesday 4th March**

Community Lunch 12:00 & Reminiscent Cinema 1:30

## **Wednesday 5th March**

Ash Wednesday - service at 7:00pm.

## **Thursday 6th March**

MU Crafts at Railway Bridge View

## **Friday 7th March**

World Day of Prayer service - Salvation Army Citadel 2:00

## **Monday 10th March**

Lent Groups begin - see page 9 for venues and times.

## **Wednesday 12th March**

Service at St Winifreds

## **Saturday 15th March**

Coffee & Cake - hosted by Missions & Charities 10:00-12:00  
MU Commissioning Service - Wakefield Cathedral 1:30

## **Sunday 16th March**

Prayer Ministry during the 11:00 service  
Rucksack Club half day walk - 1:00

## **Monday 17th March**

Beer & Banter - Lenten Juggling - The Four Sons 7:00

## **Tuesday 18th March**

MU Branch meeting - Oriel Kelly (Mara) 2:00

## **Friday 28th March**

Coffee & Conversation - Railway Bridge View 12:30-1:30

## **Sunday 30th March**

Mothering Sunday Benefice Service - St. Matthew's 10:30  
Concert - Orchestra of the Square Chapel 3:00

Items for the April magazine to: [stjohnsrastrickmag@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsrastrickmag@gmail.com)  
by 9:00 a.m. Sat 22nd March please. Thanks.



Website : [www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk)



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



Facebook : [www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivine](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivine)

### **Wi-Fi**

Network : everywhere  
Password : anywhere