

The June Letter

Dear Friends,

“ A mighty, rushing wind” – “the wind that shakes the barley” – “the wind bloweth where it listeth” – “the wind of change”.....

Wherever you care to look – in poetry, in literature, in the Bible, you will find multiple and varied references to the wind, and what it can do. Sometimes fierce and angry, sometimes soft and gentle, the wind can seem a mysterious force in our world. All the more remarkable because, unlike other weather phenomena, we cannot actually *see* it; we only see its effects.

We have seen some very fierce winds indeed blowing across parts of our country during this last winter, and causing considerable damage in places. Unless you have experienced it directly, it can be easy to forget what it feels like to be totally in the control of a force of nature.

So, why remember the winter winds, in a sunny June? This year, the Christian feast of Pentecost falls on June 8th, and is a very significant day for us. It's the day when the Holy Spirit descended on the first disciples, as they began the work of taking Christ's message out to communities near and far, following his Resurrection and Ascension. Trying to describe the Holy Spirit – the third part of the Trinity with God the Father and God the Son – is always tricky. One way which I have found helpful is to remember the first quotation above – “a mighty rushing wind” – and picture how that can look to us here today.

Firstly, the wind is powerful – it can carry all before it. It can lift things up and drop them elsewhere. It can blow tiles off house roofs, blow down trees, walls and any object in its way. It can take you where you do not want to go. If you have ever tried to negotiate an urban wind tunnel on a windy day (as I have), you will know what a nerve-racking experience that can be.

But harnessed and used, that power becomes a great source of energy. It can carry sailing vessels all round the world. It can drive turbines to produce electrical energy. Used gently, it can coax a fire into life, for warmth, for cooking, for light and safety.

Secondly, though we can harness the wind, we have no other control over it – it follows the patterns and paths set by nature. It reminds us that there is a greater creation than humanity can ever hope to direct to its own ends.

Thirdly, that, no matter who we are and where we fit in the earthly scheme of things, we are all subject to times of waiting for something outside our sphere of influence. That may be a fair wind in the right direction, it may be something much more mundane.

How does the wind teach us about the Holy Spirit? For me, it is a reminder that God moves in his own way, to use us in ways we may not choose – or feel we can manage. We may not see Him coming, but we can see the effects in our church and our neighbourhood, of God working through his people. There develops a sort of ripple effect, where listening to God, responding and doing can be picked up by others, in the same way that the barley ripples gently in a field, as a soft, invisible wind passes through.

On Pentecost Sunday this year, our new Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales is formally inaugurated at a service in York Minster. Some of us will be there, as we hope will be a small number from every congregation. Let us pray that we find ways to see where the Holy Spirit is directing us, to refresh us in Mission in our community, and across our whole diocese.

Jean Bailey

JUNE PARISH DIARY	
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<u>SUNDAY 1ST</u>	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
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	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (<i>Rev. Sarah Gill</i>)
	2.00 p.m.	Messy Church
Tuesday 3rd	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion at Crossley House
Wednesday 4 th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	PCC meeting in Vestry
Thursday 5th	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	4.30 p.m.	K:Ing's Way Club

6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts
7.30 p.m. Scouts

SUNDAY 8TH PENTECOST

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (*Rev. Richard and Mrs. Jean Bailey*)

Tuesday 10th 7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 11th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
11.30 a.m. Ings Way Lunch Day
6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts
Thursday 12th 9.30 a.m. Morning prayer
4.30 p.m. K:Ing's Way Club
6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts
7.30 p.m. Scouts

SUNDAY 15TH TRINITY SUNDAY

10.00 a.m. Parade Service & Holy Communion
(*Rev. Richard Bailey and Mrs. Karen Wheelhouse*)

Tuesday 17th 7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 18th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James's
6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts
Thursday 19th 9.30 a.m. Morning prayer
4.30 p.m. K:Ing's Way Club
6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts
7.00 p.m. Bowls evening
7.30 p.m. Scouts

SUNDAY 22ND FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Tuesday 24th 7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 25th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
6.15 p.m. Cub Scouts
Thursday 26th 9.30 a.m. Morning prayer
4.30 p.m. K:Ing's Way Club
6.00 p.m. Beaver Scouts
7.30 p.m. Scouts

SUNDAY 29TH SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

The Way I See It: Remembering D-Day – the day the liberators came

Canon David Winter, Former Head of Religious Broadcasting, BBC

70 years ago, on 6th June 1944, the event much of Western Europe had awaited for so long took place. Under stormy skies and accompanied by a lengthy bombardment of the German positions from the air, a huge fleet of ships set sail across the English channel. There were large naval vessels, but also hundreds of troop landing craft, packed with heavily armed soldiers, tossed up and down by the heavy seas. Some said afterwards that the sea sickness was worse than the eventual landing on the Normandy beaches, though I think there's a touch of bravado there!

The invasion, aimed at driving the occupying enemy forces from the lands they had held since 1940, had been long expected, yet when it came the impact was sensational. My own family had thought something was 'up', because my older brother, who was an RAF radar engineer (and emergency lorry driver) had been strangely out of touch for quite a long while. The reason, we later found out, was that he, with the entire invading force of some 150,000, was secretly encamped 'somewhere in southern England' awaiting the order to embark. Weather was one problem; the other was ensuring that the enemy was taken by surprise.

Then, on 6th June it happened. The news bulletins were slow to confirm that this was actually the long-awaited invasion - an 'action' was taking place involving navy, air force and army personnel along an unidentified French coastline. Emerging from the sea mist, the invading force did indeed take the German defenders by surprise for a few hours, but quickly the defences were manned and it was under heavy fire that many allied troops stormed up the beaches and tried to secure positions on land. My brother drove his truck up one of those beaches and, as he put it, there were plenty of bullets flying around. At the same time, allied paratroopers had been dropped behind the enemy lines - a brave and risky undertaking, but one that again took the defenders by surprise.

The landings were along the coast of Normandy. The first major town captured, Caen, was terribly damaged in the battle. Yet the French people were overwhelming in their welcome for the invaders, even though many homes were destroyed and villages all but flattened.

I remember a holiday many years ago when we visited Vers-sur-Mer on that same coast, a small seaside village where the invading army was largely British. There was (and probably still is) a memorial to the event, the wording of which I have never forgotten. Having recorded the date and details, it simply said: 'The allied forces, in freeing our little community, also began the liberation of the whole of Europe'. 'Liberation' is a wonderful word, and liberty a great human concept. As my brother and his colleagues made their way north through France, Belgium and then into Germany itself, they were welcomed (even in Germany, eventually) as those who were bringing the priceless gift of freedom to millions of people. It is a gift to be cherished, never taken lightly, and never abused.

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Centenary

Poppies will be grown in the grounds of parish churches and Church of England schools across the country as an act of remembrance for the centenary of World War 1 by the Church of England. The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have both urged church schools and churches to plant poppy seeds with them this Spring, to commemorate the centenary of World War 1 and help make the country awash with poppies.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu said: "I encourage parishes and church schools across the country to join together to make many thousand flowers bloom as a tribute to the sacrifice of past generations Here in the grounds of Bishopthorpe we, too, are getting behind this community initiative. I have been inspired by the parishes of the new Diocese of Leeds (West Yorkshire and the Dales) and their shared efforts to mark the 100th anniversary of the Great War."

Our Diocese, along with the Dioceses of Oxford, Exeter and Manchester, has sent packets of poppy seeds to all their churches and/or church schools to create their own memorial gardens or flower pots. We entrusted our seeds to the Cub Pack, who planted them in a short ceremony following their meeting on 30th April. We also gave a packet to Crossley Hall primary School—so look out for the poppies which are a reminder of our past and a very visual way of pledging ourselves to serve together in the future.

Battle of Towton Memorial Day

(Continued from last month)

Ian Mc Alpine.

Every Palm Sunday the Towton Battlefield Society holds a special memorial near to the site of the battle fought in 1461. My friend and former colleague Mrs. Janet Senior took me to see this year's display. It would of course have been impossible to stage a full re-enactment of the Battle of Towton and the event consisted mainly of stalls and displays about life in mediaeval England, especially relating to 15th century arms, armour and warfare which helped us to gain a better idea of military life during the Wars of the Roses. A walk round the battlefield was arranged but we were unfortunately unable to take part. At 1pm a moving and beautiful memorial service was held in front of a temporary wooden cross erected near the displays. A wreath was laid in honour of all the fallen and everyone repeated the version of the Lord's Prayer written around 1430 which the soldiers at Towton would have known:-

*“Oure Fadir that art in hevenes
Halewid be thi name
Thi kingdom come to thee
Be thi will done in eerthe as in hevene
Give to us this day oure breed
Over othre substance
And forgive to oure dettis as
We forgive oure dettours
And lede us not into temptation
But deliver us from ivel
Amen.”*

Very sorry that we had to leave early, Janet and I next visited the nearby churchyard at Saxton where a new monument marked the final resting place of the remains discovered in 1996. The battered tomb of the Lancastrian commander Lord Dacre, killed at Towton and said to have been buried with his horse, stood nearby.

Finally we called at the ancient Chapel of St Mary at Lead which dates

back to around 1150 and was already 300 years old by 1461. Soldiers from both sides are said to have retreated there for prayer, rest and shelter after the battle. A truly memorable day which helped to bring to life a terrible and almost forgotten conflict from more than five centuries ago.

And on 14th June, 1461 exactly eleven weeks after the battle my distant ancestor, John Ravald and two members of the Lancastrian nobility bought about 100 acres of land and ten houses in and around Doncaster, only about 20 miles south of Towton. Ravald was born in Manchester about 1414, was ordained as a priest at Lichfield Cathedral in 1439 and held offices at Whalley Abbey in Lancashire. In 1461 Doncaster was in Lancastrian hands - much of Yorkshire, including the area around Bradford and Leeds supported the Lancastrian cause. John, whose brother William Ravald was my 17 x great-grandfather, was almost certainly not at Towton but because of his links with his prominent Lancastrian associates and the purchase of his property in Doncaster must surely have heard recent reports of the battle, perhaps even from survivors. However, by September 1470 King Edward was living in a strong house with a drawbridge in Doncaster while his army occupied the surrounding villages where John Ravald's property was situated. I rather suspect that John and his Lancastrian associates soon lost their lands in South Yorkshire! Ravald's fate still remains a mystery. Nevertheless, after 19 generations and 553 years his story gives me a tantalising family link with the bloodiest battle ever fought on English soil.

Reasons for marriage

Studying our wedding photos, my six-year-old asked, "Did you marry Dad because he was a vicar?"

"Not really," I replied.

"Did you marry him because he was good-looking?"

"No, not that either," I replied.

"Did you marry him for his money?"

"Definitely not," I laughed. "He didn't have any."

"So," he concluded sadly, "you just felt sorry for him." ©Parish Pump

The Little Things

It really is the little things
That mean the most of all...
The "let me help you with that" things
That may seem very small;
The "I'll be glad to do it" things
That make your cares much lighter,
The "laugh with me, it's funny" things
That make your outlook brighter...

The "never mind the trouble" things,
The "yes, I understand,"
The interest and encouragement
In everything you've planned.
It really is the little things,
The friendly word or smile,
That add such happiness to life
And make it more worth while.

Mary Dawson Hughes

DIY

Our churchwarden has the courage, but not always the skills, to tackle any DIY job that needs doing around the church. For example, in the church shed are still pieces of the church lawn mower she once tried to fix. So our vicar wasn't surprised the day he found her in the vestry, attacking the vacuum cleaner with a screwdriver. "This thing won't cooperate," she complained.

The vicar thought for a moment: "Why don't you drag it out to the shed and show it what you did to the lawn mower?"

(P.S. This has no connection to Kaaren whatsoever!)

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Bowls Evening

Thursday 19th June

Prompt 7.00 p.m. start
At West Bradford Bowling Club
Prospect Place, Duckworth Lane BD9 5EY.

Come and join us for a light-hearted bowling
competition (no experience necessary!)

Tickets £3.50 to include Pie & Pea supper.

Summer Fair

Our Summer Fair will be on **Saturday 12th July** from 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. There will be the usual attractions of stalls selling cakes and home produce, plants, gifts, books etc; games; tombola (for children and adults); a raffle and refreshments on sale throughout. Do please come along and join us—and maybe find a bargain!

Away from it all!

Malton is a fascinating town to explore; an old Market Town, with three splendid ancient churches, all dating from the 12th or 13th century. It is now a busy town, just a mile or so south of Old Malton, the original settlement.

Old Malton church is built from the ruins of a priory of Gilbertine Canons. This, in itself, is a distinction, for the Gilbertines were the only English order. They were formed by Gilbert of Sempringham, who was the son of a knight and landholder, but was in some way disabled and so prevented from becoming a knight. We don't know what form his disability took, but the coat of arms of the order shows what looks like a crutch.

Gilbert trained as a clerk and, back at Sempringham, was urged to form a group for seven girls who wanted to follow the religious life. He soon found that there were men who also wanted to follow the religious life, and he came up with the idea of a double monastery. At first he asked the Cistercians to accept them under their rule, but was refused. So he founded his own order.

It was never a large order, and very few of the houses were double, with both nuns and canons. The rule was very strict in keeping the two apart. The nuns had their cloister on one side of the Church while the canons were on the other. They worshipped together, but there was a wall between the two communities so that the nuns could hear and join in the singing, but couldn't see the canons. The relationship between the canons and the nuns was not quite as unbalanced as that might seem; at General Chapters of the order, both nuns and canons were represented, and the nuns had a real say in their own affairs. This was a step towards equality far beyond anything else of the time. Old Malton (founded in 1150) was a community of canons only, and in its heyday, had a huge church and domestic buildings. Now only a third of the original church remains in use as the parish church. Fortunately, the church has retained some of the old misericords (which supported sleepy canons reciting the night office). Seven are original, but there are some twenty five more added at a restoration in the nineteenth century. All the carvings are particularly fine.

Old Malton Priory was the last Gilbertine house to be surrendered in 1539, when there was a prior and nine canons. The last prior, William Todd had been implicated in some way with the Pilgrimage of Grace, though his fate is unknown.

Down in Malton are two parish Churches, which both were originally chapels of ease to Old Malton, both dating from a little after 1150, and presumably served by the canons. St Laurence's Church was returned to the Roman Catholics some years ago and acts as their parish church, but St Michael's, in the Market Place, remains the Anglican parish church of the town.

Gilbert himself was born in 1083 and died in 1189, at the age of 106, a truly massive record for the times.

Old Malton priory has a curious connection with us here in Fairweather Green, in that the last restoration was done by George Pace, architect of St Saviour's, who also wrote the guide book to the Church.

R. W. Bailey

46TH Bradford North Scout Group

We had a good turn out for the St. George's Day parade held on the 27th April which proved to be a lovely sunny afternoon. In total 600 members from across the city attended the service in the Cathedral and then marched back into town for the salute outside City Hall.

Several camps are planned for the forthcoming months with the first one being an Exped camp to Hag Dyke. The Scouts and Explorers are to hike up the slopes of Whernside near Kettlewell to Hag Dyke hostel. This building was originally a farmhouse and dates back to the 16th century. However it has very recently been modernised with central heating and a new kitchen being installed. During the weekend there will be several challenges and tasks to complete; these will form part of the young people's Chief Scout and Duke of Edinburgh awards criteria.

From the 18th to 20th July seventy members of our group will be camping at city Scouts' Solstice Camp at Blackhills. Over 700 campers are expected for the weekend. There will be inflatable fun with Spider Mountain, The Eliminator, Grand National Space Hopper, an assault course and zip line. In the Creative arena there will be a craft zone, music tent, circus skills, face painting and an opportunity to learn to drum. The Survival and Adventure area offers archery and rifle shooting, climbing and low ropes. There will be a cave bus on site, an opportunity to learn Bear Grylls's survival skills and a laser tag zone. On the Games and Sports Field the children will be able to complete their fitness awards and athlete badges; additionally parachute games, 4-way tug-o-war, croquet and golf will be available.

On the Saturday evening there will be a carnival celebrating the Commonwealth games with each group providing food, games or an activity based on one of the 53 member states of the Commonwealth. Sunday will see everyone celebrate Scouting in Bradford with a service in and around the camp chapel. Wayne Bulpitt, the Chief Commissioner for Scouting in the UK, is joining us. The celebration will be led by Sam Coley from the Cathedral in conjunction with some of our youngsters.

Let's hope the Solstice camp lives up to its name and we see a lot of the great yellow ball in the sky!

Meanwhile thank you to everyone who has wished us well in our 70th year. Our reunion held on the 9th May was a memorable and most joyous occasion for all concerned. We're now planning the 70th birthday party which will be held in September at Blackhills.

Bev Howard GROUP SCOUT LEADER

**THE BEAVERS, CUBS, SCOUTS AND EXPLORERS
INVITE YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL**

Open Evening

Incorporating the AGM

ON THURSDAY 26TH JUNE 2014

STARTING AT 6.30PM

**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS & BADGES
INVESTITURES
INSPECTION AWARDS**

SUPPER & RAFFLE

EVERYONE WELCOME

The Ark Would have Floated

Apparently the recent film “Noah” got some scientists thinking and they reached for their Bibles and their computers. After numerous calculations, they came up with the conclusion that the ark WOULD have floated, even with the weight of two of every kind of animal (around 7,000 creatures) packed inside it.

A group of Master’s students from the University of Leicester analysed the exact details of the Ark, as set out in Genesis 6:13-22. God instructed Noah to build a boat that was 300 cubits long, 50 cubits wide and 30 cubits high, and all of gopher wood. They averaged out the Egyptian and Hebrew cubit measurement to come up with 48.2 cm, making the Ark about 144 metres long. It would have been a pretty tight fit for the animals—but it would have floated! ©*Parish Pump*

The simple pleasures of Ordinary Time

One great phrase of the Church of England, which is little-known but carries a wealth of rich meaning, is "ordinary time." While the seasons of Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Advent all have their fixtures and moments for focus and concentration, the bulk of the summer months is 'ordinary time'! A very evocative phase - nothing particularly to focus on or to celebrate.

Just because it is ordinary it does not mean it is not important or of no significance to how God wants us to use our lives. For most of us life is lived between high and low points: we look forward to something on the horizon or we are seeking to recover from something. So it should be no surprise that ordinary time is the longest season in the Church calendar. Abraham Lincoln once said that: "God must love ordinary people because he made so many of them"!

Ordinary people, it seems, need 'ordinary time'. Sundays and week days in-between, to sense God's presence with us in the day-to-day mundane, and ordinary comings and goings of life. He is there in the heights of resurrection joy and celebration. He is with us in the vulnerability and frailty of human weakness, modelled in the incarnation. He is with us in our efforts to discipline ourselves and be moulded by him (Lent) but he is also with us whenever we are conscious of life just being ordinary. When our eyes are opened to these things, we will see what an extraordinary God we have! ©*Parish Pump*

June Roll of Remembrance

2nd	Thomas Varley	(1975)
3rd	June Love	(1978)
	Jessie Trigg	(1979)
4th	Jack Hartley	(1980)
5th	Herbert Vivian Bamford	(1985)
6th	Joyce Whitham	(1971)
10th	Horace Dixon	(1956)
	Margaret Lee	(1983)
13th	Winifred Deacon	(1983)
14th	Lily Hodgson	(1994)
17th	Alfred Ainsworth	(1971)
	Alicia Booth	(1978)
18th	Laura Shewan	(1977)
19th	Annie Whittle	(1981)
22nd	Edna Stubbs	(1984)
	Dorothy Ward	(1985)
	Ronald John Critchley	(1996)
24th	Thomas Brocklehurst	(1958)
25th	Kath Pasterfield	(2001)
26th	Sidney Lake	(1981)
29th	Ada Fox	(1980)
	Ethel Cromley	(1982)
	Frances Teale	
	Walter Teale	
	Emily Holmes	

**ST. SAVIOUR'S PARISH CHURCH
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