

The May Letter

Dear Friends,

There has been an important date in my diary for several weeks now - 7th May. That evening Kaaren and I will be sworn in for another year as churchwardens - a chance to swear in front of the Archdeacon. The service is at 7.30 p.m. at All Saints, Little Horton opposite St Luke's Hospital, and you are warmly invited to come to support us.

You will also be aware that the same day is Polling Day. Since early February, when it was noted that there were 100 days until the elections, we have all been bombarded by politicians and commentators telling us what we can expect after the election if this or that party wins. If no party wins outright, goodness knows what horse-trading will follow and where all the promised policies will end up.

I take an interest in politics because it affects the way our lives, and society in general, function. My problem is that I don't care much for politicians and you can't have one without the other. I can't put much trust in what they say; a manifesto, to me, is less a commitment to future actions, more a wish list which may or may not happen. I don't spend long reading leaflets pushed through the door, particularly if they give more space to what a mess the others will make and less about what the candidate hopes to do. And personal attacks on opposing candidates never impress.

However, we must make up our minds, both for parliamentary and local elections, and GO AND VOTE - even if you can't make it to Little Horton in the evening.

Patrick

MAY PARISH DIARY

SUNDAY 3RD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Tuesday 5th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Communion at Crossley House
	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 6th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m.	Cub scouts
	7.00 p.m.	Worship Committee meeting
Thursday 7th	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
	7.30 p.m.	Churchwardens' service at Little Horton

SUNDAY 10TH

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Tuesday 12th	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 13th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	11.30 a.m.	Ing's Way Lunch Day
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Thursday 14th	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.	Holy Communion for Ascension Day
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts

SUNDAY 17TH

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

	10.00 a.m.	Parade Service and Holy Communion Faith Lunch and Raffle
Tuesday 19th	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
	7.30 p.m.	PCC meeting in vestry
Wednesday 20 th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m.	Cub scouts
Thursday 21st	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 24TH PENTECOST

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

Tuesday 26th 7.30 p.m. Adult tap dancing

Wednesday 27th 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion

Thursday 28th 9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 31ST TRINITY SUNDAY

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

For your Diary ...

The Social Committee has put together a programme of events for the coming months. Please note these dates in your diary—more information will be available nearer the time.

Sunday 17th May 10.00 a.m. Parade Service with a Caribbean Steel Band, followed by a Faith Lunch and raffle.

Saturday 20th June Summer Fair: All the usual stalls, games and refreshments.

Thursday 25th June: Bowls Evening: at West Bradford Bowling Club, Prospect Place, off Duckworth Lane.

Saturday 18th July: Vicarage Garden Party: with Steel Band and stalls.

September: Table Top Sale—date and time to be decided.

Saturday 19th September: Birthday Anniversary Concert

Sunday 20th September: Quiz and Lunch: Joint event with church and the Scout Group at Girlington Conservative Club, Thornton Road.

Saturday October 17th: Harvest Supper

November: Winter Fair—date and time to be decided

Please support as many of these as you can!

The Way I See It : Celebrating the Penny Black

Canon David Winter, former Head of Religious Broadcasting, BBC

I wrote three letters yesterday. That is such an unusual event that I thought I'd catalogue it. I printed them off my computer, and then looked for an envelope. I couldn't find one. Then I looked for stamps in the drawer where I used to keep them. Again, I could not find them. Undaunted, I put on my coat and walked up to the Post Office, where I queued to buy envelopes and stamps.

Initially, thinking I ought to stock up, I asked for forty first class and forty second class stamps. But when the clerk told me the cost, I revised my order downwards, not wanting to embark on a second mortgage. Then, armed with envelopes (addressed) and stamps I actually posted them, and sometime over the next couple of days my correspondents, who do not have email, will get a letter through their door. Job done!

1st May is the 175th anniversary of the Penny Black, Britain's first official adhesive postage stamp. Ever since then, we have been writing letters, putting them in envelopes, addressing them and sticking a stamp on. In recent years we have been spared the need to lick them, as peel-off stamps have become the fashion. The penny, of course, has multiplied sixty fold, like the biblical wheat, and, oddly, on the whole, letters take longer to arrive now than they did in the days of Queen Victoria.

What we are seeing now looks like the slow death of letter writing, which old'uns like me are supposed deeply to regret. To be fair, I do regret not receiving personal letters (I could do without all the others, mostly appeals, advertisements or official notifications). But I can't expect to get them if I don't send them, and almost all my personal 'correspondence' is via email. Sadly, I don't think people will one day be reading the collected emails of David Winter, or even of distinguished artists, poets or bishops. Letters will go the way of diaries and fountain pens.

Perhaps it's just as well that the invention of the internet is so recent. I can't imagine that St Paul's Email to the Ephesians would have stood the test of time.

The Guarding of the God of Life

The God of life with guarding hold you,
The loving Christ with guarding fold you,
The Holy Spirit, guarding, mould you,
Each night of life to aid, enfold you,
Each day and night of life uphold you.

Ancient Celtic poem

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Blessing

It was the five year old girl's first trip down to the Communion rail at church. Fascinated, she watched the vicar place a wafer in the palm of each person kneeling before him. When the vicar reached the little girl, he ignored the child's out-stretched palm, and laid his hand on her head in a gentle blessing instead. The child, utterly bewildered, whispered to her father in a piercing voice; "He's put it on my head!"

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When Children and RE mix...

When children meet the Bible, the result can be unpredictable. As in these answers to a school chaplain's efforts to teach RE....

The main purpose of the prophets was to set up the lights for when Jesus came on the stage.

The Kingdom of God is no ordinary place like the bathroom at home.

Jesus said: If you want to divorce your wife leave a note for her on the table.

Jesus healed a man with a weathered hand.

The last verses of Mark's gospel were written later by a unanimous person.

Jesus first proclaimed the gospel to the Jews: He told them to make love to each other.

An altar is a stall for candles.

© *Parish Pump*

“Out of the Strong Came Forth Sweetness”

Ian Mc Alpine.

Recently I bought a tin of Lyle’s Golden Syrup and was reminded of the curious design on the tin which had scarcely changed at all in many decades. It showed a dead lion surrounded by a swarm of bees and the enigmatic inscription “Out of the strong came forth sweetness”. What could this possibly mean and what could it have to do with golden syrup?

I soon discovered that the words were a reference to the story in chapter 14 of the Book of Judges in which Samson was travelling to the land of the Philistines in search of a wife. During the journey he killed a lion, and when he passed the same spot on his return he noticed that bees had made a honeycomb in the carcase. In ancient times it was commonly believed that bees were generated from dead animal carcasses. Samson later turned this incident into a riddle at his wedding to an unnamed woman from Timnath:

"Out of the eater came forth meat and out of the strong came forth sweetness". (Judges 14: 14) The “eater” was of course the dead lion! However, the wedding guests who had not seen the lion were understandably baffled by Samson’s somewhat unfair question! This chapter of Judges is very obscure in parts and it is difficult to see exactly what was going on. The “sweetness” was clearly the honey in the comb but the decomposing remains of the lion can scarcely be regarded as edible “meat” except for scavenging birds and wild animals.



The sugar cane refining process produced a syrup that usually went to waste. However, in 1883, Charles Eastick, a chemist at the Abram Lyle & Sons (now part of Tate & Lyle) refinery in Plaistow discovered how it could be refined to make a preserve and sweetener for cooking. The resulting product was first marketed in 1885 as "Golden Syrup" in tins bearing the familiar image of the lion and bees. While it is not known

exactly why this picture and slogan were chosen, Abram Lyle was a deeply religious man, and it has been suggested that they refer either to the strength of the Lyle company or, more plausibly, the [strong] metal tins in which [sweet] golden syrup is sold. Unfortunately the exact reason why Lyle chose the image and motto for his product still remains uncertain and intrigues purchasers of his Golden Syrup today.

May 1: Philip the apostle with common sense

Is there someone in church whom you respect for their spirituality and common sense combined – someone you feel easy about approaching to ask questions? That person's patron saint should be Philip.

Philip came from Bethsaida, as did Andrew and Peter, and was a disciple of Jesus from early on. He knew how to lead others to Jesus – he brought Nathanael (or Bartholomew) to him in a calm, kindly way. He knew how to do some financial forecasting: at the feeding of the 5,000 it was he who pointed out that without divine help, even 200 pennyworth of bread wasn't going to feed that crowd. He was the one whom the Greeks approached when they wanted to ask Jesus to show them the Father, but didn't quite have the nerve to approach Jesus directly. People had confidence in Philip's spirituality, common sense and kindness. Such a person is a gift to any church! In art, the Apostle Philip has been represented either with a cross, or with loaves of bread.

© *Parish Pump*

Messy Church

The next Messy Church session will be on **Sunday 7th June** from 2.00 to 4.00 p.m. There will be games, activities, Bible stories, songs and a light meal. All children are invited to come along, with a family member - and it's all FREE!



Afraid, alone, in pain
Be the answer to Loko's prayer this Christian Aid Week.

This Christian Aid Week, you can help transform the lives of women like Loko.

From 10-16 May, churches the length and breadth of Britain and Ireland will come together to pray, campaign and raise money to improve the lives of people like Loko. Every year, 100,000 volunteers demonstrate God's love for the poor by taking part in house-to-house collections for Christian Aid.

This fantastic witness is a chance to take the mission of the church into your community.

Loko's choice in life is simple: 'If I can't collect firewood, my children will die.'



Four times a week, in a remote corner of Ethiopia, Loko makes a back-breaking eight-hour trip to gather wood. It's a task she dreads, but she steels herself to do it because if she doesn't her children will starve. She prays to God as she walks. 'I ask him to change my life and lead us out of this,' she says.

Just £5 could give Loko a loan to start her own business buying and selling tea and coffee, freeing her from her desperate task and allowing her to spend more time caring for her family.

At St. Saviour's, we will again be carrying out house-to-house collections. We should be most grateful for your help with this. Please sign your name against any streets you are able to cover on the list at the back of church.

More information on other ways to help can be found at www.caweek.org



Hymns

Did we sing your favourite hymn last Sunday? If we did, than I hope it was the tune you were expecting and that the words hadn't been changed so that you were wrong-footed when you were caught off guard.. Spare a thought for the person who chooses the hymns as it's fraught with complexities and rarely pleases every one. I know, I landed the job for a short period a few years ago.

Where do you start? If it's a festival like Christmas or Easter, then there are hymns that people expect to sing, and probably more than there is room for in one service; people are disappointed. Are there hymns which reflect the message in one of the readings? Maybe, but do enough people know it? Is it long enough for the procession at the beginning or not too long for the Gradual hymn between the Epistle and Gospel?

People seem to be comfortable with hymns they know, so introducing a new one is tricky, however relevant it might be for the occasion. And how many do you know but don't particularly like, even though it might be a favourite with someone else who has requested it? When I was choosing, more than once I put in a hymn which I knew well without realising that it was unfamiliar in Fairweather Green.

A number of hymns written in centuries gone by can have quite obscure meanings to today's ear, but in their way are quite poetic. Likewise some contemporary hymns can be very relevant, though some appear superficial if not trite.

In the end we perform whatever is put before us,, like it loathe it, but if the latter remember that somebody loves it. And take pity on the good souls who put the hymn list together. They do their best, and if they weren't there it might fall to you!

46TH Bradford North Scout Group

BRADFORD SCOUTS GANG SHOW: 'BRING IT ALL BACK'

Thirty plus young people starred in this show which was held at the Bradford Playhouse from 19th to 21st March. It was a resounding success both from an aesthetic and financial view. The programme of sketches and song and dance routines was brilliantly executed with the audience appreciating a good laugh and talents of those involved.

EASTER EGG HUNT 2015

Eggspectations were running high on Sunday 29th March as over 300 Beaver and Cub Scouts descended upon Blackhills Campsite for the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Giant Egg & Spoon Obstacle Race.

At 10am, the morning competitors arrived for the eggstravaganza with the Beavers first hunting for eggs hidden in the woods. Meanwhile the Cubs were engaged in their Egg & Spoon obstacle races sited on the Training Ground. Leaders came up with some very creative team names for this including *Chocolate Ninjas*, *Queensbury Scramblers*, *Only Yoking* and the *Eggsperts!*

Many parents waited for their youngsters in the Eaton Centre 'Café' where bacon sandwiches or hot dogs and hot drinks were served. The Scout Shop was also open and the Tuck shop did some roaring trade.

After lunch the second batch of eggstremely eager young people arrived for their activities. The obstacle course, however, could now be likened to a mud bath, although this did not deter the enthusiasm of the participants but instead seemed to add to the fun!

Well done to our Cubs who came first and 2nd in the Obstacle race: Hippy Hoppities and the Eggstreme Teams.

A group of our Explorer Scouts worked diligently all Saturday afternoon preparing the event and assisted with the hunt and obstacle races on the Sunday before tidying everything up

afterwards: Thanks to: Joe , Dominic , Amy, Tamara, Ethan, Connor and Paulina.

JOINT MEETING

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Explorers met at Blackhills on Wednesday April 1st. They collected wood (of the rather damp variety) and built and lit fires before toasting their marshmallows (yummy!). Darkness soon engulfed the campsite so we retreated indoors for refreshments before seven new Beaver Scouts were invested into the Colony. The Cubs received their Disability Awareness badges and several youngsters their Promise Challenge Award and Service stars.

Josh Capper, Elliott Cousins and Eryn Ward were awarded their Chief Scouts Gold Award which is the highest accolade that can be achieved in the Scout section. These three young people will be joining the Explorer unit prior to Big Camp at Harrogate.

The leaders of each section have been busy planning an exciting and challenging programme for the summer months. There will be no summer camp this year due to leader's work and personal commitments but we hope to hold several small weekend events in order to engage and capture the youngsters eagerness and give them opportunities to develop their outdoor skills.

Bev Howard, Group Scout Leader



Remembering the 56

30 years on

At 3.40pm on May 11th 1985, a small fire broke out in the main stand at Valley Parade football ground during the final match of the season. Within four minutes the wooden structure was ablaze. Fifty-four Bradford City supporters and two Lincoln City supporters lost their lives.

The Memorial in City Park, Bradford

The sculpture depicts three ethereal figures in bronze moving in a broken circle. The broken circle represents the damaged stadium, whilst the figures symbolise the divide between life and death

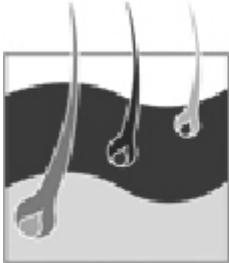


and the rescuers running to offer help. The bronze figures and base are covered in the names of those who lost their lives. The artist said:

"As I cast each letter of each name, I began to realise how enormous had been the damage done by the fire. In some cases the same surname occurred again and again. It was then that I knew how cruel the tragedy had been for those left behind."

Two of those who died were the children of Pat Clarke from Allerton. Her daughter Ashley then aged 16 and fourteen year old Craig perished on that fateful day, along with their father Trevor.

Pat would like to invite everyone to a fund raising afternoon on Sunday 10th May at the Girdlington Conservative Club (next door to the fire station). From 2.30pm until approximately 5pm there will be entertainment, a tombola and bingo with all proceeds going to :



**CENTRE FOR
SKIN
SCIENCES**

The **Bradford Burns Unit** is a world renowned burns research facility set up at the University of Bradford following the fire. The unit continues to rely on the invaluable support received

from the people of Bradford and would be grateful for your continued contributions to carry on with this precious work.

*For more details about the fund raising afternoon please email:
bevhoward0429@gmail.com*

Notes from the PCC

The PCC met for the monthly meeting on Tuesday 21st April to look at various matters.

The Social Committee has planned a varied programme of events for the year, some purely for fun and fellowship, some more aimed and fundraising—but hopefully, still enjoyable. We do value these times of getting together with our own members and with others from the community, other churches and organisations. A basic list is given on page 3; more information will be given nearer each date, and more events may be added. Please do try to support if you can.

Dorothy is keen to liven up some of the services—especially those involving children and we have the exciting prospect of a Caribbean steel band at the Parade service on May 17th. The service will be followed by a faith lunch in the hall, so please come and join us. There will also be a raffle to boost our coffers a little. There is a Worship Committee meeting at the Vicarage on Tuesday 5th May, when we will discuss ideas for worship for the coming months. Please come along if you would like to put forward your views, or have a word with Dorothy, the wardens or a member of the PCC if there is something you would like to raise.

We have looked at how we respond to people coming into church asking for help and we are trying to formulate a policy for dealing with such requests with other churches in the neighbourhood so there is some uniformity. It is by no means an easy matter, but we hope we will be able to find ways we can help with immediate needs and provide information for further support.

The saga of the HLF work continues! We are at the moment in a lull as all the information has been submitted to English Heritage and we await their response as to how we next proceed. The hope is that work can start in September or October, but we will just have to wait and see. In the meantime, we continue to deal with problems as they arise.

Hilary Davis—PCC Secretary

May Roll of Remembrance

6th	James Hewitt	(2000)
10th	Arnold Bower	(1994)
11th	Jayne Ashley Stockman	(1985)
	Craig Albert Stockman	(1985)
	Trevor John Stockman	(1985)
13th	Ken West	(1997)
16th	Arnold Bower	(1994)
17th	George Marlow	(1944)
21st	Eric Pincott	(1985)
22nd	Clara Jackson	(1991)
26th	Edith Lumsden	(1985)
27th	Edna May Land	(1987)
28th	Arthur Ainsworth	(1974)
	Doris Lilian Hutson	(1978)
29th	Margaret Rhodes	(1980)

**ST. SAVIOUR'S PARISH CHURCH
FAIRWEATHER GREEN
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