

## The April Letter

### Dear Friends

It has been a difficult year in which to decide that Spring really is on the way! Each time a bit of sun has sneaked in through the windows over these last few weeks, it's been followed by wind, rain or snow, and sometimes all three! We begin to long for a little warmth – longer days, opportunities to go out into the countryside again, without wrapping up in multiple layers. In short, we're waiting for the new freshness of Springtime.

The commercial world knows well how many of us respond to the promise of something new – newer and of course, “improved”. Whether it's washing powder, or the latest smart phone, or a change in what fashion considers this year's must-have, wear-or-be-square (or whatever today's phrase may be) clothing, many of us will pay attention when the word “new” flashes across the television screens.

With Springtime, in our part of the world, comes the major Christian festival of Easter, and this year, Easter falls on 5<sup>th</sup> April. The wonderful feeling of seeing the *new* is there throughout Easter, and it can be seen in church too in so many different ways. On the visual level, we move away from the purple solemnity of Lent into the light brightness of Easter, when we come into church on Easter morning. Back are the flowers, the new Paschal (or Easter) candle, the singing of special Easter hymns and music, and the great shout of “Allelujah”! as we acknowledge that the hard events of Good Friday are behind us, and a new day has dawned.

It was traditional for baptisms to take place at Easter – to quote – “Baptism marks the beginning of a journey with God which continues for the rest of our lives, the first step in response to God's love.” \*\* And some churches mark this season with a renewal of our baptism vows – the opportunity to say for ourselves what, for most of us, was said on our behalf in infancy.

God has done new things in every respect for us in this season of the year. His wonderful creation comes back into life after the dark, leafless, winter landscape begins to turn green – and how lucky we are, to be so near the magnificent display of crocuses in Lister Park, heralding the season. In our worship and study, the challenges of Lent move into the celebrations of Easter and beyond. And we are reminded again that, whenever and wherever we find ourselves in the year, when we turn to God, and listen to what he wants for us in our lives, we have once again that great gift of a new start, with the one who loves us, and whose gift to us always is the grace to move on from the past, into a new future.

Have a very Happy and Blessed Easter,

*Jean Bailey*

*\*\* Taken from Common Worship's Pastoral Introduction to Holy Baptism.*

**APRIL PARISH DIARY**

Wednesday 1st	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
Thursday 2nd	11.00 a.m.	Service of Oils at Wakefield Cathedral
	7.00 p.m.	Holy Communion, Stripping of the Altar & Vigil
Friday 3rd	10.00 a.m.	Service for Children - building the Tomb
	11.30 a.m.	Service in Ladyhill Park, followed by Walk of Witness to Allerton Congregational Church
	2.30 p.m.	Proclamation of the Cross

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**SUNDAY 5TH EASTER DAY**

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Tuesday 7th	11.00 a.m.	Holy communion at Crossley House
Wednesday 8th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	11.30 a.m.	Ing's Way Lunch Day
Thursday 9th	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer

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SUNDAY 12TH SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Tuesday 14th	7.30 p.m.	Adult Tap Dancing
Wednesday 15th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Thursday 16th	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

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SUNDAY 19TH THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (not Parade)
Tuesday 21st	7.30 p.m.	Adult Tap Dancing
	7.30 p.m.	PCC in vestry
Wednesday 22nd	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	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

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SUNDAY 26TH FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Tuesday 28th	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 29th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Thursday 30th	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

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## **April 2nd: Maundy Thursday – time to wash feet**

Maundy Thursday is famous for two things. The first is one of the final acts that Jesus did before his death: the washing of his own disciples' feet. (see John 13) Jesus washed his disciples' feet for a purpose: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

In Latin, the opening phrase of this sentence is 'mandatum novum do vobis'. The word 'mundy' is thus a corruption of the Latin 'mandatum' (or command). The ceremony of the 'washing of the feet' of members of the congregation came to be an important part of the liturgy (regular worship) of the medieval church, symbolising the humility of the clergy, in obedience to the example of Christ.

But Thursday was also important because it was on that night that Jesus first introduced the Lord's Supper, or what we nowadays call Holy Communion. Jesus and his close friends had met in a secret upper room to share the Passover meal together - for the last time. And there Jesus transformed the Passover into the Lord's Supper, saying, 'this is my body' and 'this is my blood' as he, the Lamb of God, prepared to die for the sins of the whole world. John's gospel makes it clear that the Last Supper took place the evening BEFORE the regular Passover meal, and that later Jesus died at the same time that the Passover lambs were killed.

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## **Easter Date Trivia**

The date of Easter Sunday is set as the first Sunday following the first full moon after the Spring equinox (20th March.) In recent times, the earliest Easter Sunday has been was in 2008, when it fell on 23rd March. The previous instance of this was 1913—outside most living people's memory. The earliest it can be is March 22nd and the last time this happened was in 1818, and it won't happen again until 2160.

Conversely, the latest Easter can be is April 25th.— the last instance of this being in 1943, and it won't come again until 2038. The latest date for Easter in recent times is 2011, when it was on April 24th.

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## “Leofwine’s Outlying Farmstead”

*Ian Mc Alpine.*

Ever since I came to live in Fairweather Green in 2003 I’ve been intrigued by the name of its neighbour Leaventhorpe and recently decided to investigate. I recognised the ‘thorpe’ element as an old English and also old Norse word which had a variety of meanings including ‘outlying farmstead’ and ‘settlement’. I then turned to the standard reference work [The place names of Yorkshire](#) and discovered that Leaventhorpe originally meant “Leofwine’s outlying farmstead”. “Leofwine” had been shortened and simplified to “Leaven” in the modern form of the place name.

Down the centuries the place name was spelt in all sorts of ways. *Lowintorph* occurs in a document in the 1240s, *Lewynthorpe* in 1303, *Lewethorp* in 1368, along with various others. *Leaventhorp*, very close to the modern version is mentioned in 1598 but a strange contracted form *Lenthorp* occurs as late as 1771.

The earliest documentary reference to the name was in the 1240s but I am convinced that Leaventhorpe goes back way before that. The village is not mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 although nearby Thornton (“Torenton”) is but the survey did not always mention very small settlements by name. Leofwine was a popular Anglo-Saxon personal name meaning “dear friend”. An internet search for Leofwine revealed hundreds of instances as I expected. However, significantly not one of them dated from after 1100! This leads me to believe that Leaventhorpe’s origins date back more than 900 years - probably over 1,000 - and that its name preserves that of a long-forgotten Anglo-Saxon landowner born before the Norman Conquest.

### **Noah had problems too**

When Noah sailed the waters blue,  
he had his troubles same as you.  
For forty days he drove the Ark  
before he found a place to park.

## **Holy Week and Easter**

As reported in last month's magazine, there will be a full range of services this year:

### **29th March, Palm Sunday**

10.00 a.m. Procession around the grounds.

### **Monday 30th**

7.00 p.m. Taizé Eucharist

### **Tuesday 31st**

7.00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

### **Wednesday 1st April**

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion at St James's

### **Maundy Thursday 2nd**

11.00 a.m. Service of Oils at Wakefield Cathedral

7.00 p.m. Eucharist, Stripping of the Altar and Vigil

### **Good Friday 3rd**

10.00 a.m. Children's service: build the tomb

11.30 a.m. Service in Ladyhill Park, followed by Walk of Witness to Allerton Congregational Church for light lunch

2.30 p.m. Proclamation of the Cross

### **Easter Sunday 5th**

10.00 a.m. Family Communion, 10.00 a.m.

*Please join us as often as you can.*

## **Flowers**

We love to have the church looking at its best with floral arrangements, following the austere season of Lent when there are no adornments at all. Kaaren thanks all who have contributed so far to the cost of these. We will be meeting on Saturday 4th from 9.30 a.m. to make the arrangements and restore the sanctuary to its normal state after the Stripping of the Altar service on Maundy Thursday. Any help would be appreciated - creative or more muscular for the heavy lifting! If there is some anniversary you would like to commemorate during the year - a special birthday, wedding anniversary or the death of a loved one - by donating some flowers or money towards their cost, that can be arranged.

## **Notes from the Annual Parochial Church Meeting**

We held our Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 8th March to elect various officers - as well as to look at what we had been doing over the past year. Kaaren Raistrick and Patrick Preston agreed to stand for another term of office as Churchwardens and we were grateful to re-elect them, with thanks for their hard work over the past year - especially during the interregnum.

Each year 3 people come to the end of their allotted term on the PCC and must re-apply if they wish to serve again. This year Fiona Graham, Wendy Heywood and Hilary Davis reached that point and as there were no other volunteers, we were all re-elected.

Our Treasurer, James Muff, reported that we had had a very difficult year financially and for the first time had failed to pay our Diocesan Share - falling short by about £3,000. In addition to this, we also had a running deficit for the year of nearly £2,500 which is a real cause for concern. We need to look urgently at ways to increase our income in 2015.

Despite the financial struggle, there are a lot of good things going on at the church. The Scout Group continues to flourish with its enthusiastic leadership and growing number of energetic children, the K:Ing's Way Club has become firmly established and Messy Church sessions have proved popular. The Ing's Way Lunch Day attracts 20-30 people each month and we have had a number of social and fundraising activities which have brought us together as a church and also with the community. Thanks were expressed to all who run or help with these various events in any way.

We warmly welcomed Dorothy to her first APCM and she spoke of her hopes for the future - more financial stability; structural soundness of the building and an increased congregation - especially young people. She thanked all those who are doing so much to keep the church running smoothly and looked forward to a long and happy association with us.

### **With the coming General Election in mind...**

- Common sense isn't.
- There are two sides to every question, and a politician usually takes both.
- It's nice to have five years between elections. It takes people that long to regain their faith.
- A politician doesn't stand on his record; he jumps on the other fellow's.
- It's a good thing that politicians are generally paid by the year. They would starve to death on piecework.
- The trick in campaigning is to give them platitudes without fear or favour and straight-from-the-shoulder generalities.
- A politician thinks of the next election; a statesman of the next generation.
- One thing you can give and still keep is your word. anon
- Honesty is a question of right and wrong, not a matter of policy. anon

### **For the love of chocolate**

Are you going to indulge in Easter chocolate this year? Ever wonder where it first came from? We have the Aztecs of equatorial Central America to thank: it was they who discovered that a certain tree, later named *Theobroma Cacao*, was well worth cultivating. The Aztecs considered chocolate the 'drink of the gods' (Theo means God, broma means drink; hence the name). The Aztecs credited chocolate for everything from spiritual wisdom to sexual prowess; Emperor Montezuma is reported to have drunk more than 50 flagons of the stuff each day.

The Spanish explorer Cortes also called it 'the divine drink', and the conquistadors brought chocolate back to Spain. From there it travelled north, and reached England about 1849. It was first served as a drink, until during the Industrial Revolution it caught the attention of several leading Quaker families, (including the Cadburys, the Frys, the Rowntrees and the Terrys). It was the Fry family who created the first 'eating' chocolate... and the rest, as they say, is history. Today the world eats about 600,000 tons a year. Enjoy your Easter egg!



## **Samaritan's Purse launches campaign to tackle Uganda's Water Poverty Cycle**

Samaritan's Purse has launched a campaign to help 20,000 people in Karamoja, northern Uganda, break free from the crippling effects of water poverty. Globally, one in ten people lacks access to clean water (WHO/UNICEF - JMP Report, 2014), but in Karamoja the situation is far worse, with six in ten people lacking access to clean water.

Families in Karamoja are affected in many ways: sickness by contaminated water prevents children attending school; their parents stay at home to look after them, so they cannot earn a living; lack of money means that families cannot afford food or healthcare. When daughters have to walk several miles each day to/from the nearest water source, they get no education, and are at risk of sexual abuse.

To help these communities break out of this vicious cycle Samaritan's Purse is planning to rehabilitate 45 broken wells and drill five new boreholes in Karamoja, and provide comprehensive sanitation and hygiene education. Samaritan's Purse has launched a campaign – *Still, Sparkling or Dirty* - to eliminate water poverty for more than 20,000 people living in 50 communities in Karamoja. A well or borehole will provide clean water for approximately 400 people right where they live. On average it will cost £6,000 to install and/or repair the 50 wells in Karamoja. Every donation raised through this campaign will be matched, pound for pound, by the UK government.

More information is available on <http://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/turn-on-the-tap/>

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## **US Vicar counts Words Spoken by Women in Bible**

A US Vicar, the Revd. Lindsay Hardin Freeman, has spent three years analysing and recording every time a woman speaks in the Bible. Her research found that 93 women speak in the Bible, but only 49 are named and they utter around 14,000 words.

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# 46<sup>TH</sup> Bradford North Scout Group

## WINTER CAMP

Fourteen of our Scouts and ten Explorers joined over eighty others at Blackhills Scout Camp from the 27<sup>th</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March. On the Friday evening everyone took part in team challenges, a quiz and wide games outdoors. Shooting skills were tested on Saturday at the Rifle and Archery ranges. There was also Axe Throwing – a favourite of many! Watch out everyone!

Scalextrix circuits had to be assembled by teams before challenging each other with their remote control skills.

There was an opportunity to practise survival skills: making herbal teas and cinnamon twisty bread and frying popcorn.

Later in the afternoon there was a cooking competition. Eight teams of seven had to prepare and cook a three course meal over an open fire. Their meals were then served to invited guests that included Baroness Eaton and the County and Regional Commissioners. The overall winners were the 46<sup>th</sup> Bradford North Explorer Scouts (Yeah!). Evening activities included a disco, Wii games or playing with the Scalextrix kits.

Throughout the weekend there was a photographic competition. Participants had to take ten specific pictures including: a grumpy leader; their own team; some wildlife and an action scene.

A Scout's Own service was held outdoors on Sunday morning. Following this there were presentations of certificates. The overall winning team were the 46<sup>th</sup> Bradford North Scouts 'B' team led by Eryn Ward. (Yeah -again!!).

## CUB SCOUTS

Fifty Cub Scouts enjoyed an afternoon playing darts, draughts, dominoes, connect-4 and skittles at the District Tournament held last month. Fourteen of our members attended and between them clocked up sixteen trophies for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place! (Marvellous!).

We have now concluded our work towards the Disability Awareness Badge. The children have learned some British Sign language and

braille. They have tried drawing and writing with one hand and their feet, and had to decorate a biscuit with icing whilst blind-folded – interesting! The children also considered many disabilities including the hidden ones such as autism and dyslexia. One of our Young Leaders spoke about his personal disabilities and how he manages his various problems – the Cubs were very respectful and interested in what he had to say and asked several pertinent questions.

Additionally we all learned how difficult it is to ‘live’ in a wheelchair – picking things up that are dropped for example and moving over obstacles. The children particularly liked the fact they could experience sitting in a wheelchair and trying these things for themselves. We discussed whether disabled people could take part in sports and if so which ones. This led to further talk about the Paralympics and the values associated with this.

As a result of all their hard work, 24 Cubs have achieved this activity badge.

## **BIG CAMP**

Thousands of young people and leaders will descend upon Harrogate Showground during the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> May. There will be hundreds of activities operating from dawn until dusk. Whether the children like adventurous or challenging experiences or prefer a more creative time via arts and crafts, there will be something for everyone. There will also be evening entertainment ranging from live bands, puppet shows, a fairground, camp fire singsongs and discos. So far forty of our members are booked on.

## **JAMBOREE**

Two of our Explorers, Dominic and Tamara, will be jetting off to Japan in the summer to join the World Scout Jamboree. There will be more information on this *once in a lifetime* opportunity in subsequent issues of the Parish News.

*BEV HOWARD Group Scout Leader*

## **The UK's churches and chapels are much loved national assets, new opinion poll shows**

A poll for the National Churches Trust by ComRes, designed to measure attitudes to church buildings, shows that four in five (79%) British people think that churches and chapels are an important part of the UK's heritage and history.

Three quarters of British people (74%) say that church buildings play an important role for society by providing a space for community activities, such as playgroups, cultural and social events and meetings. This view is held among British adults of all religions and none with more than three in five British adults of non-Christian religions (67%) and of no religion (64%) agreeing that church buildings play an important role for society by providing a space for community activities.

The ComRes poll also shows that more than two in five (45%) British adults have visited a church or chapel over the past year. Religious services are the primary reason (28%), followed by visits made as tourists or visitors (19%) and visits made to take part in non-religious community activities (13%) including playgroups, cultural and social events and meetings.

A major part of the work of the National Churches Trust, the only UK-wide independent charity dedicated to promoting and supporting church buildings of historic, architectural and community value, is providing grants to pay for the repair and restoration of churches and the provision of modern facilities such as toilets and kitchens. The ComRes poll found that three quarters (75%) of British adults agree that it is important that churches and chapels have good access and modern facilities such as toilets to make it easier for people to use them.

(ComRes interviewed 2,061 GB adults last December. Full data at [www.ComRes.co.uk](http://www.ComRes.co.uk) )

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## **Remembering Albert Einstein – and his formula – 60 years on**

The most influential physicist of the 20th century, Albert Einstein died 60 years ago this month, on 18th April 1955.

He was born in Ulm, Germany, in 1879, but took American citizenship in 1940. His 1905 theory of special relativity and his formula  $E=mc^2$  radically changed scientists' views on space, time and matter.

He considered himself a “reluctant Zionist”, and although he did support the state of Israel as a refuge for Jews, when the presidency was offered to him in 1952, he turned it down.

He did not believe in a personal God. He described himself as agnostic rather than atheist and believed in an ordered reality, revealed in one of his most famous quotes, “God does not play dice with the universe.” This was also displayed his unease with quantum physics and its random nature, believing that the ultimate “theory of everything” could not be attained by studying it.

He was instrumental in persuading Churchill to bring Jewish scientists out of Germany and into British universities in the mid-1930s. He was also a pacifist, and regretted his role in persuading America to build an atomic bomb. He felt that the most important question facing humanity was “Is the universe a friendly place?”

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### **Miscellaneous thoughts**

In the cookie of life, friends are the chocolate chips.

The two hardest things to handle in life are failure and success.

Friendship is a responsibility...not an opportunity.

Every day is a gift; that's why they call it the present.

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## Notes from the PCC

The first meeting of the “new” PCC took place on Tuesday 17th March and the first item of business was to elect the various officers for the year. All who stood last year were willing to stand again, so Patrick Preston is the Lay Chair, James Muff the Treasurer and Health and Safety Officer, I am PCC Secretary, Keith West is Electoral Roll Officer and Eric Heywood is the Safeguarding Officer. Conveners for the various Committees—Fabric, Finance, Social and Worship—were appointed and details of their meetings will be given in the weekly notice sheet. Everyone is welcome to attend and offer their advice and support.

The grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund is taking up an enormous amount of time at the moment—especially for James. We need to submit the next phase of documentation by the end of March and we have had to make decisions about what works to include as the estimates we have received have exceeded the money available. As a result, we have also been looking at other possible sources of funding—or there is the possibility of a further submission to the HLF. A condition of receiving the money is that we publicise the fact HLF are supporting us, and also indicate ways the improvements to the building have benefited us and the community, so we have been addressing his issue.

Our safeguarding policy for dealing with children and vulnerable adults was reviewed and the latest guidelines will be published on the website and displayed on the noticeboard for use by all who are in contact with these groups of people.

Thanks to the Community Payback scheme, we now have a tidy garden, newly painted hall, lobby and kitchen ceiling and soon hope to have the fence fully re-painted, weather permitting! We are grateful for the donation of paint to resource this work and, as ever, we are grateful to Ivan Robinson for fitting (and paying for!) a new thermostat. Keeping the building looking clean, tidy and loved helps make it attractive to outside groups/individuals who may wish to hire it and contribute much needed finance.

*Hilary Davis PCC Secretary*

## April Roll of Remembrance

1st	Alfred Lunnon	(1966)
8th	Kenneth Blackburn	(1958)
11th	Maurice Howard	(1975)
	Jean Collins	(2001)
	Reginald Sollis	(2003)
12th	Percy Wigglesworth	(1975)
14th	Frank Size	(1962)
18th	Annie Ingham	(1986)
20th	Ernest Holroyd	(1984)
21st	Elizabeth Chater	(1966)
	Bertha Hayhurst	(1994)
22nd	Clifford Thorpe	(1980)
	James Hester	(1984)
23rd	Kathleen Walker	(1983)
	Evelyn Chater	(1983)
24th	Richard Woodyet	(1984)
26th	William Albert Went	(1956)
28th	Sophia Kay	(1980)
	Edith Heatherington	(1983)
29th	David Spence	(1996)
30th	William Perkins	(1958)

**ST. SAVIOUR'S PARISH CHURCH  
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