

## August Letter

Dear Friends,

For the past 3-4 weeks I have had plenty of time to sit and think, both when I was in hospital and now that I'm back home. Inevitably, my thoughts have turned to the stumble which brought on this enforced idleness.

From time to time, misfortune strikes, but how do we deal with it? It is tempting to feel sorry for oneself but that doesn't get us very far.

I tend to follow the philosophy of the Monty Python team and 'Always look on the bright side of life'. So many things could have gone disastrously wrong following the fall but didn't and I feel so fortunate that this was so.

In the Old Testament, we often read of individuals (or tribes or nations) who suffer some calamity - illness, defeat in battle or widespread famine - and the cause is put down to people having offended God. We don't tend to think that way these days (though I have been examining my conscience). I hope we don't need the prospect of divine retribution to prompt us to do what is right; our conscience and our faith should keep us on the right track.

Go carefully,

*Patrick*

# AUGUST PARISH DIARY

## SUNDAY 2ND

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

Tuesday 4th

10.45 a.m. Holy Communion at Crossley House

Wednesday 5th

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

Thursday 6th

9.30 a.m. Morning prayer

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## SUNDAY 9TH

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

Wednesday 12th

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion

11.30 a.m. Ing's Way Lunch Day

Thursday 13th

9.30 a.m. Morning prayer

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## SUNDAY 16TH

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion (*Revd. Richard*

*Bailey*)

Wednesday 19th

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

Thursday 20th

9.30 a.m. Morning prayer

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## SUNDAY 23RD

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

Wednesday 26th

9.30 a.m. Holy Communion

Thursday 27th

9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer

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## SUNDAY 30TH

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion

## **August 29th: The beheading of St John the Baptist**

When you go back to work after the August Bank Holiday this month, spare a thought for John the Baptist: however rough your local sandwich bar may be, it probably doesn't serve you locusts with a honey dip; you won't be imprisoned for saying derogatory things about the local MP's wife, and even the boss from hell is unlikely to have a daughter who wants to hip-hop about with your head on a platter.

John the Baptist, by our standards, had a terrible life. Yet the Bible tells us that of all the people in history, no one has ever been born who was as great as him. Why? Because of the unique job God gave him to do, which has to be the best PR job of all time: act as God's press officer.

This was quite literally the PR job from heaven: with God as his client, John the Baptist's job was to broadcast the news that the Messiah had come. Not even Church House Westminster has ever attempted anything like that.

It always helps if PR people recognise their own clients, and the same was true of John: he was the first person to recognise Jesus as the Messiah. PR people also help their clients prepare for their public role, and John did the same for Jesus: he baptised him in the Jordan at the start of his ministry.

PR people also stand up in public for their client's point of view, and in John's case it led to his arrest and imprisonment. His death was finally brought about by the scheming of Herodias and Salome, and here the similarity ends: for not even the most dedicated press officers literally lose their heads over a client.

## **Apostle Spoons.**

*Ian Mc Alpine.*

Four hundred years ago silver spoons were much more widely used than they are today and often turn up in the records of quite ordinary people. For example, when my 13 x great-grandfather Robert Ravald of Kersal near Manchester, yeoman, died in 1578 he left a silver spoon worth just five shillings. How I wish I had it today! Five shillings (25p) was about the average price of silver spoons in those days when silver was worth about five shillings an ounce.

During the 16th and 17th centuries spoons were made in many different designs and their bowls were of a rather different shape from modern ones. However, the most well-known type was the Apostle spoon which had the figure of one of the twelve Apostles at the end of its handle. The earliest known Apostle spoons date from the very late 15th century and they were made until the mid-17th. Although a simple hallmark, the leopard's head, was introduced in 1300 to guarantee the purity of objects made from silver, the date letter which showed when an item was made was not used until 1477. However, Apostle spoons can often be dated accurately because they were all made after that date. The spoons were often given as christening presents so that a child named Peter would have a spoon with a figure of St Peter on the handle, and so on. The figures would be recognisable from some attribute associated with the saints they represented, often the instrument of their martyrdom. For example St Simon Zelotes was depicted carrying a long saw. The full list was as follows although there were variations:-

1. St James the Less, with a fuller's hat.
2. St Bartholomew, with a butcher's knife.
3. St Peter, with a key, sometimes a fish.
4. St Jude, with a cross, a club or a carpenter's square.
5. St James the Greater, with a pilgrim's staff and a gourd, bottle or sometimes a hat with an scallop shell.
6. St Philip, with a long staff - lots of variations.
7. The Saviour or "Master", with an orb or cross.

8. St John, with a cup of sorrow.
9. St Thomas, with a spear, sometimes a builder's rule.
10. St Matthew, with a wallet, sometimes an axe and spear.
11. St Matthias, with an axe.
12. St Simon Zelotes, with a long saw.
13. St Andrew, with a saltire cross (as on the Scottish flag).

All thirteen, from a 1626 set, are illustrated inside the front cover.

Sometimes the spoons were made in sets of twelve or thirteen (to include the "Master" spoon representing Jesus). Only a handful of complete sets have survived and even individual Apostle spoons are extremely rare and expensive today. There is a tantalising reference to "eleven silver spoons" in another of my family documents from 1631 - very probably an incomplete set of Apostle spoons.

From the late 1800s until the 1950s miniature sets of Apostle spoons were produced in large numbers in silver, silver plate or even brass. They were very much smaller than the originals and there was no attempt to distinguish between the individual apostles. These are still very common today and in 2000 I gave a set of twelve silver ones to a special friend in Lancashire when her twins were christened. Although made in the 1930s they were a tangible link with a tradition dating back 500 years.

#### REFERENCE.

William Joseph Cripps, Old English Plate, London, 1886.

#### **Confirmation**

Bishop Nick will be presiding at a service of confirmation at St. Saviour's on 15th November. Prior to that, Dorothy will be running a course to prepare those who wish to be confirmed. If you would like to join them or know more, please have a word with Dorothy.

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

## Cub Scout Naturalist Badges

We took advantage of the beautiful July weather and spent several evenings down in the wetlands looking at the flora and fauna. The Cubs completed a nature trail identifying leaves, trees and flowers and also looking for bugs - we found a splendid spider's web on the bridge. They also did some pond dipping - although there was a distinct lack of pond life!!

## Beaver Scout Sleepover

Following on from the summer fair eleven Beavers took part in a sleepover at church. They enjoyed games in the wetlands before having pizzas for tea. Then they made puppets before watching Paddington Bear on the big screen. Small tents were erected in the hall and the children prepared for bed although sleep was a long time coming! It was after 1am before all the little darlings succumbed to slumber. Very early on Sunday morning - i.e. 6am - they were up and about full of energy. However the leaders were well prepared with creative activities to keep them occupied until breakfast. After this there was some knotting practice and the children also learned how to tie their shoe laces. They all attended church parade and afterwards enjoyed some yummy bacon sandwiches. This was the first time the hall has been used for a sleepover but maybe not the last.

## Summer

We have not organised a summer camp this year due to leaders' work and family commitments. However there are a

number of events already planned for the autumn and some in the pipeline too. From the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> October a District Badge Weekend will be held at Blackhills. Those who attend should be able to gain at least four badges during the camp. Beavers will come for the day on the Saturday. A maximum of 200 campers are expected.

The reason for the Badge Weekend is that all the Challenge badges for each section in Scouting have changed together with many of the activity badges. The district has a stock of almost 2000 old badges. However these can still be worn on uniforms during the changeover so hence a weekend to try and use up some of these.

These are the new Scout Challenge Awards which have to be gained in order to achieve the Chief Scout's Gold Award which nestles at the top of the arrangement.



*BEV HOWARD*  
*Group Scout Leader*

## **Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes**

Once the holidays are over, we are quickly into the time when we need to start putting shoeboxes together. Empty, covered boxes will be available in church in September and towards the end of October, we will hold another “Bring and Fill” event, when anyone who is interested is invited to come along and bring in small items to go in the boxes. These will be combined with other items we have collected over the months and we can have fun selecting things to make up full boxes. Drinks and cakes will be available - please bring your own sandwiches. More details next month.

## **Children’s Work**

Sadly, through pressure of work and family commitments, Karen Wheelhouse can no longer run our K:Ing’s Way Club and Messy Church sessions, so they have now closed. We are most grateful to Karen for the enormous amount of work she has put into both these - and many Parade services - in the time she has been with us. We have greatly admired her commitment, enthusiasm and wonderful talents and will miss her smiling presence. In the meantime the Family and Parade services on the 3rd Sunday of the month (though, not in August) will continue and we are looking at ways we can work with children in the future. Details will be given in future magazines.

## **Blessings**

The student was writing to the head of the mission in England who had founded his local school in the African bush. He wanted to end with a blessing, ‘May heaven preserve you.’

Not being quite confident of his English, he looked up the word ‘preserve’. When the letter reached the head of the mission, it ended with the words: “And may Heaven pickle you.”

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## **Just for a laugh!**

6 out of 7 dwarfs aren't Happy.

I hate Russian dolls...so full of themselves

A soldier survived mustard gas in battle, and then pepper spray by the police. He's now a seasoned veteran.

"This is your captain speaking, AND THIS IS YOUR CAPTAIN SHOUTING."

Shout out to the people who want to know what the opposite of in is

My granddad has the heart of a lion and a life time ban from the Edinburgh zoo.

I'm addicted to brake fluid, but I can stop whenever I want.

I went on a once in a lifetime holiday. Never again.

What should you do if you see a space man? Park in it man.

Never trust an atom. They make up everything.

A man with two left feet buys a pair of flip flips.

Two fish are sitting in a tank. One looks over at the other and says: "Hey, do you know how to drive this thing?"

What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh.

What's the best thing about Switzerland? I don't know, but their flag is a huge plus.

What do you call a can opener that doesn't work? A can't opener

## **Damit wir klug werden (through this we become wise Ps.90:12)**

That was the theme of the recent Kirchentag, which took place in Stuttgart early in June. The Kirchentag is the great gathering of the German Protestant Churches which takes place every two years in a different German city each time. (The Catholic Church also holds great gatherings, but in the years when the Protestant Churches don't hold theirs.)

Church people in the city open their homes to visitors on a bed and breakfast arrangement, with the proviso that guests remain at the Kirchentag for the whole day, and only return in the evening. We had the very good fortune to be billeted with Heiner und Inge Reinwald, in the suburbs of Stuttgart where the Vicar of Linton was also a guest. We felt ourselves very blessed, For Heiner and Inge were a lovely couple, who entertained us to breakfast on their patio each morning (the temperature was 28° for each of the four days we were there, with no cloud cover). There was such a range of experiences and skills among us that the conversation at breakfast every day was stimulating.

The Kirchentag attracts 100,000+ people of all ages (it was good to see so many young people there), and offers a range of events. There are something like 2000 events, ranging from lectures and stimulating discussions to rock concerts, and music is almost always a feature of the events.

Everyone who attends the Kirchentag is entitled to free use of all the train, bus and tram services for the duration of the Kirchentag, on production of an official pass. Our first task was to register and we were issued with the guide book to the events, the song book, and a map of the town and the Neckar Park, where the Kirchentag was held. We were also able to purchase the official lanyard which would hold our passes. These cost us €3 each, and ensured that we did not lose our passes. The other useful item we bought was the Kirchentag scarf, which was useful for keeping off the sun.

The Kirchentag was stimulating in many ways. Angela Merkel was speaking at one event. Needless to say the 9000 seat lecture hall was

already full an hour before she was due to speak. Two days later that hall was full again long before Kofi Annan and Bishop Nick were to engage in debate with Dr Frank-Walter Steinmeyer, the federal foreign minister, on the question: Is the World Spinning out of control?

There was a huge amount of music of all types before, after and during the scheduled events. One of the most entertaining groups was Undivided from Miami, which consisted of six middle aged men who not only sang but also provided the instrumental sounds to accompany their singing. (The lead singer so closely resembled Greg off Masterchef that we wondered if he was moonlighting!)

That lecture was called What Money can't buy and was given by Professor Michael Sandel, who is often heard on Radio 4 in the series The Public Philosopher. It was invigorating to see him "working" the audience (which numbered about 5000). Michael Sandel is very critical of the way in which society is putting a price on everything, but he drew everyone in, getting individuals to express their views, and encouraging debate between members of the audience. The Moderator (chairperson) had us all stand to sing the hymn Lobet den Herrn, which we know in English as Praise to the Lord, the Almighty. At the end she had us all stand again to sing another hymn, this one we did not know.

There is a great quality about German hymn singing. We attended a service one evening, at which Bishop Nick was preaching. It opened with a piece from an Indonesian choir, which lifted us straight into heaven. But when we all joined in the hymns, there was a power in the singing. It may be due to the huge open vowels of the German language; it was like being carried up to heaven on great wave of devotion.

Other music was presented by John Bell of the Iona Community. With the assistance of the Kaiserwerth Choir from Düsseldorf, he conducted us (literally) through a number of hymns which were to appear in a German edition. One of them, written in the wake of the Dunblane massacre, was so expressive and touching that it was difficult to sing.

The Ottoman Empire Soundsystem provided the musical introduction

(and relief) during a serious discussion of Everyone has the right to leave their country - but to go where? The right to enter a country. During this meeting, the Human Rights Commissioner of the Council of Europe had some trenchant criticisms to make of the responses to the turmoil in Europe over the migrant crisis. In fact, he felt that most of the responses were inadequate.

The Kirchentag provides an opportunity to talk to people from different countries. We were taking to a German lay-preacher on the tram to Neckar Park one morning. He and Jean were comparing notes about being retired. (The German phrase is in Ruhestand, literally standing in quietness); he remarked it was more unRuhestand because he was working just as hard in retirement as he had before. Jean agreed!

We made another encounter which turned out to be very fortuitous. We were eating a light meal after the human rights lecture, when we spotted a group of three people looking for a table. They were looking hot and exhausted and we invited them to join us. He proved to be the General Secretary of the Council of Churches for Malaysia. His wife was German, and visibly struggling in the heat. Her sister was also with them, and was herself from somewhere close to Stuttgart. He was Methodist, and told us something of the possibilities which were before them in that part of the world.

The Kirchentag is a huge enterprise, impossible to sum up adequately, but we certainly intend to be there again in Berlin in 2017, celebrating the 500th anniversary of the reformation.

*R. W. Bailey*

### **Asking**

I never go forth to meet a new day  
Without asking God as I kneel down to pray  
To give me the strength and courage to be  
As patient with others as He is with me!

*Anonymous*

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## **I've learned-**

that you cannot make someone love you. All you can do is be someone who can be loved. The rest is up to them.

that no matter how much I care, some people just don't care back.

that it takes years to build up trust, and only seconds to destroy it.

that no matter how good a friend is, they're going to hurt you every once in a while and you must forgive them for that.

that it's not what you have in your life but who you have in your life that counts.

that you should never ruin an apology with an excuse.

that you can get by on charm for about fifteen minutes. After that, you'd better know something.

that you can do something in an instant that will give you heartache for life.

that you should always leave loved ones with loving words. It may be the last time you see them.

that you can keep going long after you can't.

that we are responsible for what we do, no matter how we feel.

that either you control your attitude or it controls you.

that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

that my best friend and I can do anything or nothing and have the best time.

that sometimes the people you expect to kick you when you're down will be the ones to help you get back up.

that no matter how bad your heart is broken the world doesn't stop for your grief.

## Notes from the PCC

At the PCC meeting on Tuesday 21st July, we had the good news from James, our Treasurer, that we have been successful with the second phase of our application for money from the Heritage Lottery Fund. It has been a very long and arduous process to complete all the necessary stages to get to this point, but we feel at last, that things are going to happen. We now need to get permission from the Diocese (a Faculty) to proceed, but once that is in place, it should be all systems go. The priority will be to get the heaters replaced in church before winter, so it is nice and warm! As well as this, there will be repairs to the flat roof over the hall and narthex; re-pointing of the external walls, repairs to the guttering and downpipes and some timber repair. We are extremely grateful to James Muff for all the work he has done on this—it has been a huge undertaking.

In line with Church of England policy, we have been reviewing our safeguarding procedures to ensure we comply with all the latest guidance. Jenny Price, the Diocesan Safeguarding Officer, is coming to talk to us after the holidays so we can check with her that we are doing all we should.

It was with great sadness that we heard that both K:Ing's Way Club and Messy Church have now closed. We are most grateful to Karen Wheelhouse for all she has done with the young people in her time with us. We now need to look at where we go from here.

The Diocese continues to look at how it will be organised and the Deanery Synods in the Bradford Episcopal area have been looking at how many Deaneries there will be in their area. The present members still have 2 years of their terms remaining, so no changes will be made immediately, but it is important that they think carefully about the best system to adopt. We congratulate Jean Bailey, one of our Deanery Synod representatives, on being elected to the Diocesan Synod. This will give us a vital link to what goes on in the wider Diocese.

*Hilary Davis, PCC Secretary*

## August Roll of Remembrance

2nd	John Brooksbank	(1935)
4th	Clara Willis	(1979)
	Stanley Percival	(1984)
	Elsie Spencer	(1988)
8th	Davina Roberts	(1987)
	Norman Morgan	(2007)
9th	Florence Jenkinson	(1985)
11th	Herbert Wilkinson	(1952)
	Norman Wilkinson	(1985)
	Lena Place	(2003)
12th	John William Teale	(1947)
	Winifred Jennings	(1978)
14th	Edgar Hudson Jones	(1992)
15th	Russell Stead	(1982)
16th	Emily Robertshaw	(1982)
17th	Alice Newsome	(1992)
18th	Dorothy Williamson	(1971)
19th	Mary Veronica Blackburn	(2014)
20th	Haydn Alpin	(1989)
24th	Emily Size	(1975)
	Herbert Curtis	(1984)
	Josephine Singleton	(1984)
26th	Dorothy Smith	(1980)
	Hilda Mary Jones	(2004)
27th	Amy Ridgway	(2010)
29th	Jane Marsh	(1981)

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