

The August Letter

Dear Friends,

Recently, at Morning Prayer, we read about the Israelites asking Samuel to appoint a king to rule over them (1 Sam 8). They want someone who will lead them in battle and ensure their security. Samuel realised that this request was a denial of their covenant relationship with God as their saviour and deliverer, and pointed out many of the duties and impositions that a king would demand of the people. After consulting the Lord, Samuel agrees to find them a king, and, one supposes, lets them suffer the consequences.

By coincidence, as I write, there are moves afoot to appoint a new Prime Minister, and the Opposition leader's future is also under scrutiny. On top of that, the Chilcot report has finally emerged, and its view of how things are done in the corridors of power makes me wonder why anyone would seek high office. That they do, shows how public-spirited and self sacrificing they are, or are they just in it for what they can get out of it? It's not for me to say and by the time you read this, much of it will be sorted out though it will take somewhat longer for the dust to settle on 'Brexit'.

Whether or not you admire politicians and all their works, the process of government is clearly a minefield and has been at least since Samuel's day. My conclusion is that they need our prayers that they do right by as many as is possible.

Roll on the next election!

Patrick

AUGUST PARISH DIARY

Tuesday 2nd	10.45 a.m.	Holy Communion at Crossley House
	12 noon	Knit and Natter
Wednesday 3rd	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
Thursday 4th	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
	10.30 a.m.	Environment Sub-group meeting

SUNDAY 7TH ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

(Revd. Richard & Mrs. Jean Bailey)

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Tuesday 9th	12 noon	Knit and Natter
	2.00 p.m.	Young person service planning meeting
Wednesday 10th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	11.30 a.m	Ing's Way Lunch Day
Thursday 11 th	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer

SUNDAY 14TH TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Tuesday 16th	12 noon	Knit and Natter
Wednesday 17th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
Thursday 18th	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
Saturday 20th	10.00 a.m.	Environment Group Study Day

SUNDAY 21ST THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

(Revd. Richard Bailey)

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Tuesday 23rd	12 noon	Knit and Natter
Wednesday 24th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
Thursday 25 th	9.30 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	7.30 p.m.	Social Committee meeting

SUNDAY 28TH THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
Tuesday 30th	12 noon	Knit and Natter
Wednesday 31st	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's

Services from September

We are really excited to announce a new format for our services, beginning in September. We hope there will be something to suit everyone - young or old, traditional or less formal. The programme will be:

1st Sunday:

9.30 a.m. Said Communion

10.00 a.m. Refreshments in the hall

10.30 a.m. All age worship – an informal service of worship and song

2nd Sunday

10.00 a.m. Holy Communion service, with Baptism (if required)

3rd Sunday

10.00 a.m. Parade and Family service – a simplified communion service particularly geared to young people

4th Sunday

10.00 a.m. Shortened sung communion service

11.00 a.m. Messy Church – bible stories, crafts, food, song and prayer for all the family

5th Sunday (when there is one)

10.00 a.m. Special service on a specific theme or season as appropriate.

Do please come along and join in. Where there is more than one service, you are welcome to come to both or either as you prefer. We look forward to seeing you!

Ing's Way Lunch Day

The lunch day doesn't stop for summer—so please come along as usual on Wednesday 10th August for a free lunch of our delicious homemade soup, sandwiches, tea /coffee and biscuits. We are open for business from 11.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. so come along and have a natter with friends and enjoy the fare on offer.

Manchester's Paternoster Word Square

Ian Mc Alpine.

Readers may remember my 2009 article on the Roman 'Paternoster' word square which usually looks something like this:-

S A T O R
A R E P O
T E N E T
O P E R A
R O T A S

Anagram formed by the letters of the sator square

At first the square seems meaningless. However, all the words except 'AREPO' are real Latin ones and have proper grammatical relationships. The usual translation is something like 'Arepo' (a made-up Latin name) the sower holds the wheels with care' which leaves us little the wiser. However, the 25 letters in the square can be rearranged into a cross like this.:-

Paternoster squares have been found in Italy, France, Colchester and Manchester and my sixth cousin Valerie and I recently saw a copy of the Manchester one at the city's new Cathedral Centre. The original square, which I saw soon after its discovery during excavations at Manchester's Roman fort in the 1970s is now at Manchester Museum. Only a fragment containing the second line ('OPERA') and the lower and upper sections of the first ('ROTAS') and third ('TENET') lines remains but there is enough to show that this is a very rare example of a reversed Paternoster square beginning with 'ROTAS' rather than 'SATOR', similar to the one found at Colchester.

Archaeologists have dated the Manchester square to around 185 AD, during the violent reign of the notorious emperor Commodus, (180 - 192), some 400 years before St Augustine's evangelising mission of 597. The squares are now thought to be secret signs used by early Christians to make themselves known to each other without the risk of persecution, rather like the much better known *ichthys* (fish) symbol. It seems remarkable that Christianity had reached a relatively minor

Roman settlement in Britain as early as the 2nd century AD. Certainly it is by far Manchester's earliest known Christian artefact.

Just yards away from the ancient Cathedral, the Centre was opened in 2002 and is well worth visiting. It contains a Christian bookshop and conference centre as well as exhibitions on Manchester's 2,000 year history. The copy of the 'Paternoster' stone is now housed in the bookshop and is a reassuring reminder of the continuity of our Christian faith.

“O Taste and See!”

This is the title for our Environment Day event on **Saturday 20th August**, beginning at 10am and finishing at 3.30pm. There will be something to meet all tastes, in looking at what the church has to say about our care for and love of the environment in which we live. So there will be a *Study session* in the morning, followed by a *Bring and Share lunch*.

If you like to look at displays of information rather than Study times, you can check out the variety of material set up in the hall, while we eat lunch.

And for those who value times of quiet prayer, lunch will be followed by a *Quiet Afternoon* on the same theme in church. Please feel free to come to any part of the day, or all of it, as you can manage. It is free to attend, though if part of your attendance will cover lunch, please bring a contribution to the communal buffet.

For more information, and booking forms, please contact Richard and Jean Bailey on 01274-483344.

Miscellaneous Thoughts

Love looks through a telescope, envy through a microscope. John Billings

We should all swap problems. Everyone know how to solve the other persons. Anon.

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The Way I See It : WHO ARE WE?

David Winter, Former Head of Religious Broadcasting, BBC

All this talk about Europe and the post-referendum arguments about identity have left me, and probably many people, wondering just who I am. After all, this island is home to people of probably the most mixed provenance in human history.

Way back, we were Celts, until our ancestors were driven back into the mountains of Scotland and Wales. Then came the Romans, the Vikings, Angles and Saxons, some to do a bit of pillaging and others to make themselves at home. Then came 1066 and the French invasion, which changed our language for ever.

Over the ensuing centuries we had various refugees from religious persecution, Irish people in huge numbers when harvests failed, and then more recently people from the Commonwealth, starting with the recruitment of workers from the Caribbean in the nineteen-fifties and then those driven from their homes by Idi Amin in East Africa. And so it has gone on.

Yet here we are, quite clearly a nation, even if we don't all look or sound alike. We may feel at times that it would be nice if everyone was just like we are, but deep down we know how boring that would be. It's a nice quiet afternoon exercise to map out our own answers to the question 'Who am I?' What are the things that really make me who I am? I've done my list. I am, I suppose, first and foremost Christian. Then I'm British (English/Welsh), European (geography/culture), and a member of the wonderful, multi-coloured, argumentative, richly endowed but endlessly flawed human race.

In the words of the old Church of England catechism, which older readers may remember, the answer to the question 'Who are you?' is 'a child of God, and an inheritor of the kingdom of heaven'. Put it all together, and I'd settle for that.

The Boffins and the Technocrats

The boffins and the technocrats
Help folk like me and you
Inventing lots of clever things
That tell us what to do!

My car now has a clever light
Dispelling doubt or fear,
Without it I'd have not a clue
When to shift up a gear!

Of course there is the Sat Nav
To help me find my way
The time I learned to read a map
Was just a wasted day!

My PC's a law unto itself
So busy telling me
To upgrade this or restart that –
The net I never see!

And sometimes, when my work is done
I turn on my TV
All chance to watch my programme gone –
“Retune” it says to me.

The oven, fridge, and microwave
They make a beeping sound
Or else they have bright lights which flash
To order me around.

And so I am a harassed man,
I live a hassled life;
The one who shouts at me the least
Is my sweet lovely wife!

**You are invited to the
Celebrations at
St. Saviour's Church
Ings Way, Fairweather Green
BD8 0LU**

Festival of Crosses 10-18th September

Saturday 10th September 2.00 to 4.00 p.m.
Afternoon tea to launch Festival of Crosses, which
is open at various times during the following week

Sunday 18th September 10.00 a.m.
Holy Communion, led by
the Rt. Revd Toby Howarth,
Bishop of Bradford,
In the presence of the Lord Mayor
Followed by a Faith Lunch

Saturday 24th September 7.30 p.m.
50th Anniversary Concert by Steeton Male Voice
Choir (Tickets £7)

**Please RSVP by September 1st, stating which
events you will be attending, to
info@stsavioursfwg.org.uk; text to 07796674734 or
phone 01274 776186**

Visit www.stsavioursfwg.org.uk for more information

The Sally Army – marching on prayer and a smile

On 20th August the Church of England marks the lives of two formidable Christian pioneers of the Victorian era, William and Catherine Booth. Faced with the poverty and deprivation of the growing

cities of the industrial revolution, they founded a new and revolutionary Christian mission.

Eventually named the ‘Salvation Army’, it met with ridicule and abuse at first, but when people saw how lives were changed and families rescued from squalor and despair, attitudes altered. By the Great War years the Salvation Army – ‘the Sally Army’ as it was affectionately dubbed – was every soldier’s favourite charity. They were always there, just behind the front line, with a cup of tea, a smiling face and a prayer.

As the recent TV series ‘The Sally Army and Me’ presented by Paul O’Grady demonstrated, although our cities are very different now, they still hide a multitude of desperate human needs. The Booths’ unusual ‘army’ is still there, still smiling and still praying.

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Coffee and tea

If you fancy a cuppa, go ahead! Neither coffee nor tea is bad for you, according to recent research by the World Health Organisation. It seems that coffee may help reduce the risks of heart disease, strokes (in women), Parkinson disease and Alzheimer’s disease. Tea helps with heart health, reduces the risk of cancer, and supports normal hydration.

Fearless in the line of fire

A six year old girl was taken by her grannie to a very ‘high’ Anglican church. Afterwards she tried to explain to her father what it had been like. ‘They tried to run us out – they even brought in a smoke bomb and shook it at all the people in the front row, but grannie wasn’t scared one bit. We stayed until the very end.’

Yum yum

A notice outside Chichester Cathedral advertised lunchtime concerts with the encouragement that: “Sandwiches may be eaten.” Someone had scribbled underneath: “So if you are a sandwich, don’t come!”

Sweets

I gave my four-year-old grand-daughter money for sweets and the church collection plate. Later, seeing her enormous pile of sweets, I got suspicious and asked if she hadn’t also given some money to God in church that morning. “No,” she replied sweetly, “He wasn’t there.”

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46TH Bradford North Scout Group

BIRTHDAY CAMP

At the beginning of July fifty members of our group joined 300 others at Blackhills to celebrate 30 years of Beaver Scouting, Blackhills campsite's 70th birthday and the Cubs' centenary.

After pitching camp on the Friday evening everyone trooped off to the campfire for a sing song led by Gilly (renowned in the Scouting fraternity for leading A1 campfires). Following this there were wide games and a disco and finally supper was had before bedding the younger members down for the night. It only took until 1am for them all to succumb to sleep!

As ever, some of our younger members were awake with the larks, causing havoc at 5.30am and then wondering why they felt a little grumpy and out of sorts mid-afternoon! They received zero sympathy especially from the leaders who had been woken up at the crack of dawn.

Cereal and a full English breakfast were served at eight o'clock. Having feasted and then tidied their tents they went off to play in the woods. Camp activities started at 10 o'clock with our Group being first into the Circus arena for an hour of skills training and fun. Following this the children were free to choose their entertainment which included: spider mountain; bouncy castles; ferret racing (mmm!), go-carting; golf; climbing; archery and shooting; crate stacking and crafts. There was also face painting and, in the afternoon, Dennis the mini fire engine arrived – a hit with all ages (especially leaders!).

In the evening everyone was entertained in the circus – diabolo; unicycling; tightrope walking; juggling; hula hooping and clowning around. Popcorn and candy floss stalls and many dressed in circus themed attire adding to the ambience. The evening finished with a super firework display.

After a morning of activities on Sunday we held our Scout's Own service in the camp chapel with time for singing and a story, prayers and reflections. Camp closed at 3pm and the verdict from everyone was *absolutely brilliant*.

The last few weeks of term saw the Explorers preparing for their Duke of Edinburgh expeditions which included cooking on open fires at Blackhills. Cubs finished off activities towards the Road & Personal Safety badges. We also made paper boats and raced them in Jacky Beck. Scouts also spent a couple of evenings at Blackhills practising shooting skills and playing wide games. Our Beavers enjoyed a day out at Heskwith Farm at Bolton Abbey.

The City Cub Challenge was held on Saturday 16th July and although our young team didn't win they really enjoyed the experience. Meanwhile on the same day, leaders and young people were helping with the church summer fair.

From 1st to 5th August thirty of us will be camping at Blackhills. The theme for the week is the Olympic Games and we hope to cover many of the sport related badges. On Monday afternoon two groups of Explorers are trekking from Blackhills to Sconce Scout Campsite near Baildon for an overnight camp and then back to Keighley where they will meet the rest of the group for a swimming session at the leisure centre and a visit to Cliffe Castle. Kayaking and raft building take place on the Thursday at Doe Park, Denholme.

At the end of September the District Badge Weekend takes place at Blackhills. All members will have the opportunity to gain several badges during the event.

BEV HOWARD

Group Scout Leader

The Gospel Writers

This is the first of four articles that look at the writers behind the four Gospels in the New Testament.

Part 1 – The Gospel According to St Mark

In contrast to their order in the New Testament, the first of the four gospels to be written was that according to Mark. It was probably written between AD 65 and 75, at least thirty years after the death and resurrection of Jesus. Mark's gospel was not the earliest book of the New Testament to be written. Paul's letters to the churches he founded were written much earlier.

Mark was not a disciple of Jesus and we are not really sure of his true identity. Some think he was the young man who ran naked from the Garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14:51) or the companion of Barnabas and Paul on one of their journeys (Acts 12:25) or the friend of the writer of 1 Peter (1 Peter 5: 13) However, as Mark was the most common name in the Roman Empire at that time, we have no way of definitely identifying him. It appears that he was most probably a member of a Christian community in Rome and that he very likely knew the disciple, Peter, very well.

Before Mark wrote his gospel, stories about Jesus circulated in the Early Church both orally and in writing. The main source of these would, of course, be the disciples. The reason Mark decided to bring these together into a gospel was, probably, the passing of many of the original twelve disciples, in many cases through martyrdom. Mark took these stories and wove them together into his gospel. Rather like a seamstress making a bedcover out of different coloured or patterned squares of cloth, Mark assembled them in the way he felt they would go together best, acting both as an editor and writer.

Mark's gospel is very short - you can read it all in a couple of hours. It is not a life story of Jesus and has little chronology except for the last week of Jesus' life, to which Mark devotes a quarter of his gospel. It starts with Jesus, as a man, being baptised by John the Baptist and ends abruptly at chapter 16 verse 8 with the women fleeing from the empty tomb. The rest of chapter 16 - verses 9 to 20 - is an addition to the

gospel, written by someone else at a much later date. Scholars are divided in their opinions as to whether Mark originally finished his gospel on such an abrupt note. Some think Mark's original ending was lost, others that he died before he could complete it while others feel that was the way Mark intended to end it, leaving the reader to draw the conclusion, through faith, that Jesus had been raised from the dead.

By writing the first gospel, Mark paved the way for the others. Indeed, as we shall see, his gospel acted as a blueprint, particularly for the writers of Matthew and Luke who copied great chunks of Mark's gospel into their own writings.

Alan Jones

Two New Records in Church History!

Ian Mc Alpine

I expect many of us remember that our new Diocese, the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales came into operation on Easter Day, 20th April 2014. On 14th July this year its name was changed, for various reasons, to the Diocese of Leeds after just less than two years and three months.

Many English dioceses are very old indeed - for example the Dioceses of York and Lichfield date back as far as 627 and 669 although they have changed their boundaries and structure over the last fourteen centuries - but the WYAD appears to be the shortest-lived title of any diocese in English history although it had the longest ever name!

Thank You!

The gift of an Amazon card was a total surprise, and we have thought long and hard before spending it. We have bought a good music centre to replace the clapped out old one in our sitting room. We are now listening to our old friend Gordon Stewart, our Director of Music at Stand, playing a selection of Andrew Carter's work. Wow! What an experience. Our heartfelt thanks for your generosity.

Jean & Richard

Notes from the PCC

Our July meeting was on Thursday 21st when we continued to look at the arrangements for our new schedule of services (see elsewhere in the magazine for details). There had been a very interesting meeting the previous week with the Revd. Sue Hope, from St. Peter's in Shipley, who has considerable experience in planning different types of service. The best advice she could offer was to take things slowly! To identify a group of people to primarily aim at and concentrate on that, before trying to tackle more. We feel it is important to encourage more young people into church, so we are concentrating on All-Age worship, Messy Church and the like. Do please support these new services and help us to make them a success.

We are also busily preparing for the 50th anniversary celebrations next month. Hopefully, many friends and colleagues from earlier times will be able to join us as we mark this small milestone. It would be lovely to see a full church so please support the events and come along to as many as you can. Kaaren is still accepting crosses for the Festival of Crosses. Please contact her (details inside the back cover) if you have a cross you would be willing to lend.

The Diocesan reorganisation of Deaneries is proceeding and our request to be included in the same area as St. James's, Thornton, and St. Peter's, Allerton, has been agreed. It wouldn't have meant the end of our association with them had we been in a different Deanery, but it does make things slightly easier this way. As yet, the Deaneries haven't been named - although the Diocese has now officially become the Diocese of Leeds.

The Garden Party held last month proved to be very popular and lots of people came along to enjoy the stalls, games, food and—especially—the Caribbean Steel Band. We raised just over £600 for church funds, which was a splendid effort. Many thanks to all who came along to support, donated goods or manned a stall. We are especially grateful to the uniformed organisations for their efforts with the barbecue, games and face painting.

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)
29 th	Jane Marsh	(1981)

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