

## The Vicar's Letter

It's the time of year when Harvest Festivals are celebrated all over the country. And not just in the countryside where you would think was most appropriate. What do us townies (even though there are plenty of fields) have to do with bringing in the crops safely? Essentially, harvest is about thanking God for the growth of the summer's crops and for getting them in. Harvest is a good time for evaluating just how we receive our food. Because we are detached from the production of food we can forget the struggles made by those who produce it. A plastic and polystyrene wrapped joint of meat or a 2 litre bottle full of milk or a jar of coffee say very little of how the journey from the farm to the supermarket was made. Whether food was produced locally or in another country we should keep to our Christian principles and try not accept produce when the cost is the suffering of others.

Fairtrade shows that trade can be a means out of poverty if the conditions are right. Seven million disadvantaged producers, workers and their families are benefiting from Fairtrade, but they and millions more still remain at the mercy of unfair international trade rules. That's why we need to do more than buy Fairtrade products – we also need to campaign for trade justice.

The fact that Fairtrade has allowed producers to transform their lives, also shows that the current system of trade is not working.

The price of coffee didn't plummet in recent years simply due to oversupply: oversupply was created when dozens of countries were forced to move into cash crops as a condition for loans from the World Bank. The price of sugar hasn't hit rock bottom simply because of an oversupply: oversupply was created by trade rules allowing huge subsidies to be provided to American sugar producers. Windward Island bananas haven't struggled to compete with dollar bananas from Latin America because their production is too expensive but because production costs in Latin America have been pushed down through aggressive use of pesticides and exploitation of labour.

While we support fair trade through buying products with the FAIRTRADE Mark, we want to see our government, supporting fairer trade rules.

I found this meditation online which is well worth thinking and praying about, it's called:

## **HARVEST DREAMS**

**Tread softly because you tread on farmers' dreams.**

Of what does a farmer dream?

In the UK

Of a rich harvest?

Of a good price for the crop, covering costs with something left over?

Of enough capital to see him through the bad times?

Of security - for himself and his family?

Of a good well-managed farm to pass on to his children, as his father passed it to him?

It may be easier to ask 'what does a farmer fear?' Because fear of failure is ever present!

Fear of too little rain - or too much.

Fear of rain and wind spoiling a good crop.

Fear of low prices for his produce, falling bank balances and an overdraft refused.

Fear of sickness or injury - how will my family cope without me?

And all these apply in the world wide farming community along with other fears:-

Fear of total crop failure.

Fear of an invasion of locusts, leaving just bare earth where there was a green field.

Fear of drought - lasting for months not just a few weeks.

Fear of 'picky' buyers for the crop - refusal could mean disaster.

Fear of starvation:- no rain, no grass, no cattle, no crop, no sales. Nothing for tomorrow.

And for the 'consumer'?

Do you remember the fuel shortage in September 2000?

Have you ever seen a Supermarket with no food on its shelves?

Our food supply appears secure.

If the buyer does not like one farmer or country he can make a deal elsewhere.

And it is so easy for us with our own 'dream' of cheap food to tread on the dreams of others!

The prophet Isaiah expressed God's indignation when he spoke of 'Grinding the face of the poor' (Is 3:15)

Love for our neighbour can be expressed in treading very softly and carefully in our choice of food. A wise choice will mean fewer 'food miles', 'Fair Traded' imports and a fair return for the primary producer where-ever they may be. An unwise choice can cause irreversible damage to God's world and farmers everywhere.

In buying food - 'Tread softly for you tread on farmers' dreams!'

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*Andy*

## OCTOBER PARISH DIARY

Saturday 2nd 7.30 p.m. Steeton Male Voice Choir concert

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### SUNDAY 3rd EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY/HARVEST

	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion and Junior Church
Tuesday 5th	11.00 a.m.	Harvest service 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
Thursday 7th	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
	6.00 p.m.	Beaver Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts

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### SUNDAY 10TH NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion and Junior Church
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 13th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	11.30 a.m.	Ings Way Lunch Day
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
	6.00 p.m.	Beaver Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts

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SUNDAY 17TH TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

	9.30 a.m.	Parade Service and Holy Communion
Tuesday 19th	7.30 p.m.	Adult tap dancing
Wednesday 20th	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion at St. James's
	6.15 p.m.	Cub Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Worship Committee at Vicarage
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	9.30 a.m.	Morning prayer
	6.00 p.m.	Beaver Scouts
	7.30 p.m.	Scouts
	7.15 p.m.	Music Man at Keighley

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SUNDAY 24TH LAST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY/BIBLE SUNDAY

	9.30 am.	Holy Communion & Junior Church
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

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SUNDAY 31ST 4TH SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT/All Saints'

	9.30 a.m.	Holy Communion
	4.00 p.m.	Service to Remember those who have died

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**Theatre Visit - The Music Man**

We are planning a visit to see this production by Keighley Amateurs on Thursday 21st October which starts at 7.15 prompt. Transport will be provided for those that require it. Tickets cost £11 (£9 concessions) and the bus will be approximately £3 extra. If there are insufficient people requiring the bus then we will try to arrange cars as required. If you are interested please have a word with James or Val as soon as possible or ring them on 01274 560400.

The Music Man is a story of a con artist, Professor Harold Hill, whose scam is selling band instruments with a promise of forming and instructing a boy's band using his revolutionary 'think' system. The story continues as he travels to River City, Iowa USA where he convinces the townspeople of his so called abilities.

## **Looking ahead to Christmas**

Just a reminder that our Christmas Fair will be on **Saturday 20th November** from 11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m., opened by the Lord Mayor of Bradford, Peter Hill. Lunches will be available, as well as lighter refreshments and there will be a variety of stalls, activities, a raffle etc. so please mark the date in your diary - and keep a look out for those unwanted gifts you have stashed away in a cupboard and will never use; we should be happy to recycle them - they may be just what someone else is looking for!

## **Of mice and men**

A minister went into his local pet shop to ask for some help. "I need at least 50 mice, 2,000 ants and as many of those little silverfish that you can get."

The pet shop owner was startled. "We can probably do that, but it might take some time.

Mind if I ask why you are placing such an unusual order?"

The minister shrugged. "It's simple. I've accepted a call to another church, and the church council told me to leave the parsonage the way I found it."

## **The hat**

After several months of unhappiness, it came time for the visiting minister to leave the little local church where he had been filling in. During the last Sunday service, his hat was passed around for a goodwill offering.

When it returned to the minister, the hat was empty. But he didn't flinch. He raised the hat to Heaven and said, "I thank You, Lord, that at least I got my hat back from this congregation."

## **Some things to ponder**

Is it good if a vacuum really sucks?

Why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand?

If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?

Why do "tug" boats push their barges?

Why are they called "stands" when they are made for sitting?

Why is it called “after dark” when it really is “after light”?  
Doesn’t “expecting the unexpected” make the unexpected expected?  
Why do “overlook” and “oversee” mean opposite things?  
Why is “phonics” not spelled the way it sounds?  
If all the world is a stage, where is the audience sitting?  
Why do we wash bath towels? Aren’t we clean when we use them?  
Why do they call it a TV set when you only have one?

### **Celebrating Life**

All Souls’ Day is the traditional time for remembering all those who are no longer alive among us. At St. Saviour’s we hold a service each year around this time to bring to mind all those who have died and to give thanks for their lives. It is particularly appropriate for those who have lost someone within the past year, but is meant for anyone who would like to remember a loved one.

This year the service will be on Sunday 31st October at 4.00 p.m. in the church and refreshments will be served in the hall afterwards. All are most welcome to come.

### **Harvest Festival**

This year we will be celebrating our Harvest on Sunday 3rd October, during the 9.30 a.m. service. We have supported the Bradford Food Bank for the past few years, and have recently extended that to a general, ongoing appeal. We should be delighted to receive further donations of tinned, dried or non-perishable foods suitable for use by the Food Bank. If, however, you would prefer to donate money, this will be given to the Pakistan Flood Appeal.

### **Crossley House**

Each month the Revd. Geoff Coles leads a service of Holy Communion at Crossley House Care Home, 885 Thornton Road. They are pleased to welcome others to join in this celebration and chat with the residents. On Tuesday 5th October, at 11.00 a.m. they will be holding a harvest celebration and would love to share it with anyone who would like to go along.

### **Last Month**

We apologise for last month's printing problems, which meant the caption was missing from the cartoon. For those of you who are still in suspense, it read: "*Gabriel was in two minds about the wallpaper. Perhaps he should go for a paint effect instead?*". We hope it was worth waiting for!

### **Steeton Male Voice Choir**

**Saturday 2nd October**

**7.30 p.m.**

**Tickets £6 in advance £7 on the door.**

**Tickets available from James Muff Tel: 01274  
560400**

**Refreshments available**

## Two Horses

*Author Unknown*

Just up the road from my home is a field, with two horses in it. From a distance, each horse looks like any other horse. But if you get a closer look you will notice something quite interesting...

One of the horses is blind.

His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has made him a safe and comfortable barn to live in. This alone is pretty amazing.

But if you stand nearby and listen, you will hear the sound of a bell. It is coming from a smaller horse in the field.

Attached to the horse's halter is a small, copper-coloured bell. It lets the blind friend know where the other horse is, so he can follow.

As you stand and watch these two friends you'll see that the horse with the bell is always checking on the blind horse, and that the blind horse will listen for the bell and then slowly walk to where the other horse is, trusting he will not be led astray.

When the horse with the bell returns to the shelter of the barn each evening, he will stop occasionally to look back, making sure that the blind friend isn't too far behind to hear the bell.

Like the owners of these two horses, God does not throw us away just because we are not perfect. Or because we have problems or challenges. He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need.

Sometimes we are the blind horse, being guided by the little ringing bell of those who God places in our lives. And at other times we are the guide horse, helping others to find their way.

## **Our PILGRIM PLACES: historic Christian sites in Britain :**

### **IONA & LINDISFARNE - part 3** *Dr. Herbert McGonigle*

Recently we have remembered that in 563 a little group of monks from Ireland arrived in Scotland. They were headed by a monk called Columba, and they settled on Iona. Soon the little island was recognised as a centre of Christian spirituality. Now read on...

The Celtic Christianity that flourished at Iona succeeded in evangelising large parts of Scotland and its influence also reached England. In the 630s Oswald was King of Northumbria. He had visited Iona at least once and was very impressed with the Christian community there. Oswald was a baptised Christian and he was concerned about the evangelisation of the pagans in his kingdom. He wanted a strong, missionary-minded evangelical bishop to oversee the Church in Northumbria and he asked Iona for help. The monks at Iona asked Aidan, bishop of Scattery Island in the west of Ireland, to go to Northumbria and in 635 he arrived there. He made his home on the island of Lindisfarne (Holy Island) but set up his episcopal centre at nearby Bamburgh on the mainland.

King Oswald warmly welcomed Aidan and the two men became firm friends. Oswald gave Aidan every help and encouragement and Aidan began a ministry of visitation, preaching, teaching and evangelism which resulted in Northumbria being the most Christianised of all the provinces in England. It was the 19th century Bishop Lightfoot of Durham who said that England's real patron saint was neither St George nor Augustine of Canterbury but Aidan of Lindisfarne. This judgement can hardly be challenged. Aidan not only made Northumbria a great centre of Celtic Christianity but the example of his loving, humble and sacrificial ministry inspired his fellow clergy and many more in the centuries following.

When Aidan died in 651AD, he had, with the help of his clergy and monks, not only evangelised Northumbria but also taken Celtic Christianity to other parts of England. Lindisfarne had become the English form of what Columba had first established on Iona. Celtic Christianity had always traced its roots to St John and Asia Minor and it flourished on Iona and Lindisfarne. Having lighted the fires of authentic New Testament Christianity in Ireland with Patrick, the sparks of Celtic spirituality were carried first to Iona and later to Lindisfarne.

In 1938, a year before Europe was plunged into the horrors of World War II, the Rev Dr George MacLeod founded the Iona Community. He took a party of working men from Glasgow to rebuild the ruined medieval Iona Abbey. It was the beginning of a project to make Iona a spiritual retreat. The Iona Community has grown in reputation across the decades as it seeks to interpret and apply the gospel in the contemporary world. So for about 1445 years the Christian faith has been established on this little Hebridean island. As the prophet asked, 'Who has despised the day of small things?' (Zech. 4:10). When Columba and his fellow monks pulled their little boat ashore on Iona in 563AD, it appeared indeed to be a day of small importance. But God was with them and, using the Bible's metaphor of spiritual fire, the sparks kindled on Iona brought the light of the gospel to the pagan darkness of Scotland and England.

### **A Helping Hand**

*There is much we can do just to brighten  
This world of all take and no give,  
There's a great deal that we can contribute  
Through the everyday lives that we live.*

*By supporting one's elderly neighbours  
Or through lending a hand in some way  
It's by taking a bunch of spring flowers  
To someone to brighten their day.*

*It's by sparing a few precious hours  
In the service of those most in need  
It's all about setting a standard  
And trying to give others a lead*

*It's the way that we tend to treat others  
And help and aid folks in distress  
In the care and assistance we offer  
That will set us apart from the rest.*

*The choice that we face is quite simple  
The rewards plain for all men to see  
As you did all of this to my brother  
Then said Jesus, you did it to me.*

*By Colin Hammacott*

## Operation Christmas Child

Last year we decided to support Samaritan's Purse and set about collecting shoeboxes and filling them with exciting things for children who would otherwise be unlikely to get anything at Christmas. This was such a success - and gave nearly as much pleasure to those packing the boxes as to those receiving them - that we have decided to repeat it this year.

Once you have your shoebox, decide on the approximate age of the child you are giving to and whether a boy or a girl and then select items from the following lists:

**Toys:** Bear, soft toy, tennis ball, finger puppet, jigsaw, yo-yo, building blocks, small musical instrument. For boys; trucks and cars, for girls; dolls, clip on earrings, etc.

**Educational Supplies:** Felt pens, pens, pencils, pencil sharpener, eraser, colouring book, notepad, picture or puzzle book, chalk, pencil case, stickers, etc.

**Hygiene Items:** Toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, comb, hair clips, bar of soap, flannel, etc.

**Other Items:** Sweets (sell-by date to be at least March 2011) gloves, scarf, sunglasses, cap, hat, bangles, necklaces etc.

All gifts should be new, please include items from each category.

### **Please do NOT include any of these items:**

No Food: especially chocolate. (except non-chocolate sweets). No medicine or vitamins. No war related items (Toy guns, soldiers or knives). No clothing other than listed above. No fragile items. No liquids (including blow bubbles, shampoo, bubble bath, toiletry sets or aerosols). No dangerous items. No novels. Nothing of a political nature. No hand-knitted stuffed toys without a CE mark.

Wrap the body and lid of the box separately in Christmas paper, stick on the sticker indicating the age and sex of the child, and include the donation of £2.50 per box to cover postage costs. Boxes will be available in church, and should be returned, full and labelled by SUNDAY 7th NOVEMBER at the latest. If anyone is interested in going along to the collection depot to help check and pack up the boxes, please have a word with Kaaren.

**Bible Sunday 24th October**

Thousands of people in Tanzania are now reading the Bible for the first time, thanks to the Bible Society's work to put God's word into their own language. For years, 33 year-old farmer Josephine Mkala-Mungi had to use a Bible written in Swahili, but now she is able to read the New Testament in Kikagulu, her mother tongue. 'It feels as if God is my best friend because He is now speaking to me directly,' she said.

For this year's Bible Sunday, on October 24th, the Bible Society will be asking churchgoers across the UK to support Bible translation work in Tanzania and to think about how the Bible's message can bring new-found freedom to those who read it.

In Tanzania some 56% of Josephine's tribe, which numbers a third of a million people, don't speak the national language, Swahili. Even more can't read it. So, the Bible has literally been a closed book to them. Bible Society's translation work has changed all that. Translator Michael Nhonya spent four years working on the new Bible. 'This is great,' he said. 'To finally hear and read it feels like I'm in heaven. It feels Like Jesus is speaking in the synagogue, only He's speaking here. It means Christianity will grow here.'

More information is on the Bible Society website [www.biblesociety.org.uk](http://www.biblesociety.org.uk)

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

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September nineteen Cubs, six Scouts, my grandson and nine adults ventured to Bramhope Scout Campsite for the weekend. We were also accompanied on this occasion by our younger members, the Beavers, who slept on Friday and then went home on Saturday evening.

Some of the knights camped outdoors whilst the less robust, and the Beavers, slept indoors in cosy warm bunk rooms!

Our theme for the weekend was King Arthur: thus the Green, Red, Yellow and Blue Knights, as our teams were named, began with a task: *make a castle in which to defend your 'kingdom'*. Card, paint, brushes and sponges were put to good use as each team produced magnificent structures. The knights also had to make their own swords and shields, decorating these with images of heraldry.

*Knight School* began with a contest of strength in the tug of war with each team member putting 100% effort into heaving and hoeing! Next the knights were put through their paces on the camp assault course. Helmets on, they tackled the various obstacles which included walls to climb, rope bridges and balancing beams.

Another challenge was the *Gladiator Arena* where the contestants had to stand opposite their partner on a wobbly platform and then try and knock each other over with a huge baton. After this they were able to let off a little bit of steam in the castle - of the bouncy variety! Practising their steering skills on the go-carts was also enjoyed and then the Knights ventured to Andrew's Tower which they had to climb and then

abseil back down.

Numerous badges were gained during the weekend including the Night's Away and Camper badges, Outdoor and Creative awards.

Our camp ended with a story based around the Knights' quest to find the Holy Grail, followed by a short reflection and closing prayer.

Yet another successful and most enjoyable weekend for us all at the 46<sup>th</sup> had been achieved. Roll on the next one!

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This term sees the Cubs engaged in a number of competitions including the Clewer Trophy which will be held at Blackhills Camp, and the 5-a-side football tournament at Goals in Kings Road. Meanwhile the Scouts are preparing for a camping competition to be held at Blackhills later this month.

*Bev Howard*

**GROUP SCOUT LEADER**

## Notes from the PCC

The agenda at the meeting on 7th September was somewhat dominated by financial matters. To comply with the conditions of our insurance policy, we have had to have an electrical inspection of the building. This threw up a list of things which need attention, graded in urgency from 1 to 4. Just to address those things with the highest priority will cost around £4,000, so we will need to be pro-active with our fundraising to cover this. In addition, we have had some lead stolen from the roof - which, although covered by insurance, has cost us the excess payment, and has also led to the identification of further work which needs to be done on the roof in due course.

On a brighter note, the work on the car park is due to start shortly, so we should soon have a safe and attractive area in front of church.

We are also anxious to give the hall a bit of a clean and tidy to make it more attractive to potential hirers. If you feel you have any skills in this area, please have a word with Kaaren or Eric. The hall is a valuable community asset, so please make it known to groups or individuals who may be looking for a venue.

We also looked ahead to the Harvest celebrations on 3rd October and decided on the charities to support (details elsewhere in the magazine) and will support Crossley House at their harvest service on 5th October.

We had originally planned to start the stewardship campaign at the harvest service, but we felt it might be better to wait until James has done the year-end accounting and we know more fully what the financial position is before looking at this. Details will be given later.

We are looking forward to the visit from Steeton Male Voice Choir, which was excellent last time, and hope for an enjoyable and entertaining evening.

*Hilary Davis, PCC Secretary.*

## Laid to Rest

Amy Ridgway

9th September 2010

Enid Gardner

15th September 2010

## October Roll of Remembrance

1st	George Singleton	(1945)
	Albert Edward Nichols	(1967)
2nd	Ethel Butterfield	(1979)
	Bernard John Lowde	(2003)
3rd	Ethel Rhodes	(1981)
4th	Ivy Sollis	(2001)
5th	Francis Garbutt	(1978)
	Arthur Marlow	(1942)
8th	Lucy Alice Holdsworth	(1973)
9th	Tommy Smith	(1981)
10th	Ronald Brown	(1990)
12th	Dorothy M. Larking	(1974)
13th	Doris Hester	(1984)
14th	Betty Presland	(2000)
	Josephine Lowde	(2003)
16th	William Preston	(1980)
20th	Sidney Holgate	(1980)
21st	Alice Hartley	(1979)
26th	Ida Emsley	(1987)
28th	Win Brooksbank	(1999)
31st	Arthur Chilvers	(1982)

# **ST. SAVIOUR'S PARISH CHURCH FAIRWEATHER GREEN**

Website: [www.stsavioursfwg.org.uk](http://www.stsavioursfwg.org.uk)

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