The Link Magazine Minister: Revd Tanya Short Tel: 0113 266 6791 tanya.short65@gmail.com Web Links: Lidgett Park: https://lpmc.uk Shadwell: <u>https://lpmc.uk/Shadwell/index.php</u>

# April 2024

Editor: Stan Pearson Tel: 0113 2736463 *sbpearson@gmail.com* 

#### **MINISTER'S LETTER**

Easter, that wonderful time of the year when we can remember the sacrifice of Jesus for each of us and celebrate our risen Saviour all in the same weekend!

I remember 9 years back in one of my previous churches, having an Easter egg hunt in the service for the children. Before the service, and before people arrived, some of the Sunday school teachers hid foil wrapped chocolate eggs around the church. When it came to the part of the service where the children took part in the hunt, there was much fun and laughter as the one by one the eggs were found. The service then continued.

Some 3 years or so later, the church was having a Spring clean and we used scaffold to reach the high parts of the church to dust etc. Upon looking down at the church, I noticed quite high up, something shiny on top of one of the pillars, and you've guessed it, it was an Easter egg never found from the Easter egg hunt all those years before. Strangely though, nobody fancied eating it!!!

But this made me think. How often have we been given the gift of Jesus at Easter and never unwrapped Him? How many Easter services have we attended and never tasted the glorious riches He has for each of us because we've never unwrapped Him, or maybe never even found Him?

So, what is this gift?

'For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.' [John 3:16-17 NIV]

The gift then, is eternal life!

And unlike Easter eggs, the gift of Jesus never goes out of date or perishes; the gift of Jesus lasts forever. May each one of us unwrap Jesus this Easter and fully experience His love and grace.

#### Easter blessings, Tanya

#### TO AN EARLY DAFFODIL

Thou yellow trumpeter of laggard Spring! Thou herald of rich Summer's myriad flowers! The climbing sun with new recovered powers Does warm thee into being, through the ring Of rich, brown earth he woos thee, makes thee fling The green shoots up, inheriting the dowers Of bending sky and sudden, sweeping showers, Till ripe and blossoming thou art a thing To make all nature glad, thou art so gay; To fill the lonely with a joy untold; Nodding at every gust of wind to-day, To-morrow jewelled with raindrops. Always bold To stand erect, full in the dazzling play Of April's sun, for thou hast caught his gold.

WORSHIP IN APRIL Lidgett Park (also on zoom):			
7 April	10.30	Revd Tanya Short	
14 April	10.30	Mr Andy Birkett	
21 April	10.30	Revd Tanya Short	Holy Communion
28 April	10.30	Mr Paul Spencer	
	18.30	St Edmund's Church	Ecumenical
Shadwell:			
7 April	9.30	Ms Mary Patchett	
14 April	9.30	Mr Tom Alexander	
21 April	9.30	Mr Ted Britton	
28 April	9.30	Revd Tanya Short	Holy Communion
Messy Church:		3rd April 2.00 - 4.00 pm at Shadwell 4th April 10.00 - 11.30 at Lidgett Park	
Teddy Praise:		Lidgett Park Thurs 18th April at 11.30 am	

#### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year's service was on Friday March 1st at St Edmund's church and was attended by about 50 people. Sadly, because Margaret Lee's funeral was very soon after, there were few people there from Lidgett, and those of us who did take part had to rush off at the end so weren't able to mingle over refreshments. The service was prepared by women from Palestine, and because the war there began after the service was prepared a special additional prayer had been written to add to what was already there. It was all very thought provoking, and a reminder of how fortunate we are living in this country at this time. Next year the service comes from the Cook Islands.

#### Pat Nolan



SHADWELL METHODIST CHURCH Tuesday 9th April 10.30 - 1.00 Cafe with Bacon Butties

Saturday 27th April 10.00 -12.00 Cafe with Quiches.

# Harmony & Humour—



entertainment for an April evening by

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### SHADWELL METHODIST CHURCH

Main St, Shadwell, LS17 8HN

# SATURDAY 13<sup>™</sup> APRIL, 2024 at 7.00pm

#### Admission £10 including refreshments

Tickets can be purchased at the door or reserved by contacting Emelia 0113 289 2147 emeliadp@gmail.com

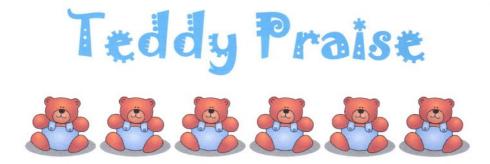
**Concert in aid of Meeting Point Café, Harehills** 

#### HISTORY QUIZ. - Answers on page 21

- 1. Queen Alexandra, who died in 1925, was the widow of which English king?
- 2. What was Walt Disney's first feature-length cartoon?
- 3. What was Elvis Presley's first record?
- 4. What honour was bestowed on the island of Malta in 1942?
- 5. How old was Martin Luther King when he became the youngest man to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964?
- 6. What was the name of the spacecraft that took the first man, Yuri Gagarin, into space?
- 7. In which year was Margaret Thatcher first elected Prime Minister in Britain?
- 8. In the world's first ever recording, what nursery rhyme was recited by Thomas Edison?
- 9. In which town or city in England at the Iffley Road stadium did Roger Bannister become the first man to break the four-minute mile?
- 10.Which two countries signed a "Peace Agreement" at Camp David in 1978?
- 11.In the Bible, who was the Hebrew prophetess who helped the Israelites conquer the Canaanites?
- 12.Who was the first wife of King Henry VIII of England, whom he divorced in 1533?
- 13.In the Bible, Elijah was driven from Israel by which woman?
- 14.In which country was Marie Antoinette born?
- 15. Which year saw Nelson Mandela released from prison?

With death there is the pain of loss, the pain of separation, and there is the promise of eternal life, and the two things can't be separated.

#### Frances Dominica



Join us with your under 5's in sharing songs and active stories about Jesus in the church at Lidgett Park. All are welcome, for fun and laughter with a simple activity to take home. Bring your teddy along too! Thursdays 11.30am for 15 minutes on: March 21<sup>st</sup>, April 18<sup>th</sup>, May 16<sup>th</sup>, June 20<sup>th</sup>, July 11th





# **MESSY EASTER**

## AT SHADWELL METHODIST CHURCH WENDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL starting at 2-4pm AND AT LIDGETT PARK METHODIST CHURCH THURSDAY

4TH APRIL starting at 10-11.30am



You're invited to join us for crafts, songs and stories, friends & fun

For children aged 4- 11 years old (younger siblings are welcome!)

Messy Church is a family event so please bring an adult with you to church! A donation of £1.00 per child would be great!

#### MARGARET LEE. 4<sup>th</sup> October 1939 – 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024.



Margaret has always lived in Leeds. Her parents were Walter and Lily Gunby and she was the younger sister to her brother Graham. They lived in Oakwood. She attended Gledhow Junior School then went onto Allerton High School where she did her O levels. It was here that Margaret gained her nickname Sausie. At school Margaret loved sausages and would eat any that no one wanted, hence she was known as

sausage, then to be shortened to Sausie!

Margaret along with went with her friends to Trinity Methodist Church on Roundhay Road where she attended Sunday School and Guides, and the Youth Club. Here she met John at Trinity Methodist Youth Club. They married at Trinity in 1964 and honeymooned in Cornwall.

Margaret always wanted to go into Nursing but after school she entered the world of work first at Martin's Bank, then Northern Assurance. She left Northern Assurance when she had Victoria, then followed by Andrew.

Margaret still continued with her love of guiding, becoming a guide leader, taking baby Victoria with her on a guide camp. She later became Assistant District Commissioner.

In 1972 the family moved to Roundhay so that Victoria could attend Talbot Road Primary School. It was at this time Margaret started worshipping at Lidgett Park, the children attending Sunday school and where many lifelong friendships began.

While the children were young Margaret helped support the family by making pressed flower cards. Victoria and Andrew remember going down to woods with Mum, both armed with bags and filling them with wildflowers.

On Tuesday evenings Margaret also played the piano for a local dance school, Victoria getting free lessons, with Andrew preferring to play in the back garden of the dance school – that was until Margaret and Victoria went home and, forgetting Andrew was in the garden, left him there – that has never been forgotten! Tuesday evenings in their home were known as Portuguese fish night, a recipe Margaret discovered that could be made in the slow cooker while she was playing the piano. In the family many things seemed always to happen on Portuguese fish night!

As Victoria and Andrew grew Margaret began to work part time at Parkside Care Home. Twenty years later, after much hard work, she was the manager of the care home. She had trained hard and become a trainer to her staff in many areas. Although she didn't go into nursing, she was doing something she loved, caring, helping, and loving others.

Margaret retired at 60 from Parkside care home, and it was very shortly after that she volunteered with the RVS / Care Connect, a charity dear to her heart. She served for 24 years helping others and only retired 6 months ago.

Margaret like to knit and loved to garden, a real passion that she got from her mother. She was also a long-distance gardener. When Victoria's Garden looked particularly lovely her friends would say 'has your mum been to stay?' She could always be found weeding – whatever the season or weather!

An integral part of Margaret's life was Lidgett Park Methodist church. Over the years she has served others and lived out her faith in many ways, from teaching in Sunday school, being the drama group pianist, being part of the Young Wives group, and later the Ladies group, and of course in the flower ministry. No words can capture what a wonderful wife and mother she was. Margaret was a lovely hands-on granny to her grandchildren; Abigail, Alistair, Izzy and Sophie, and was always kind and caring, ready to help out both in Scotland and Tockwith, having fun with quizzes and games and sitting on the sofa with bags of cherry lips and midget gem sweets. She was a real giggler, and she was funny; the house was full of laughter often with a bit of mischief!

She lived her life to the full. She was always busy in a selfless way, treating others with tolerance and patience. She always just wanted to help other people and she will be greatly missed.

#### Based on the eulogy at Margaret's funeral Ed,

#### ANSELM, Archbishop of Canterbury 1093-1109

Easter more commonly falls in April than in March, and so my article for the month is usually on a subject related to Easter or Holy Week. But this year, with Easter Sunday being on 31 March and Pentecost (Whit Sunday) consequently on 19 May, April has no major liturgical feasts. This therefore gives me the opportunity to write about Anselm, one of our most significant and distinguished Archbishops of Canterbury. We keep his feast-day on 21 April, the day of his death. Thomas Becket, in 1163, requested of Pope Alexander II that he be canonized, partly, no doubt because of his outstanding contributions to theological scholarship and philosophy, but also, I suspect, because, Thomas saw him as a fellow-combatant in the ongoing powerpolitics of King versus Archbishop. As in Thomas's case, this led to Anselm going into exile, although he was spared the martyrdom which was the climax of Thomas's struggles to uphold the independence of the church. In fact, there is no surviving record of Anselm's canonization following Thomas's request. If indeed it happened then, it would have been a very early instance of formal papal canonization since before the twelfth century all saints were recognised by tradition and popular

acclaim, rather than being subject to a legalistic procedure. Nevertheless, Anselm was thereafter listed as a saint in the records of Canterbury and elsewhere, and his sanctity was confirmed by Pope Alexander VI in 1494 or 1497. Such was his contribution to Christian thought that he was proclaimed a Doctor of the Church by Pope Clement XI in 1720.

Anselm was born c. 1033 to moderately high-ranking parents in Aosta, but he went to France in 1056 and in 1059 entered the monastery of Bec in Normandy, where Lanfranc was head of its outstanding monastic school. Having been born in Pavia, Lanfranc was Anselm's fellow-countryman, which may have been a factor in Anselm's choice of Bec. When, in 1063, Lanfranc was summoned by Duke William (as he then was) to head his new monastery of St Stephen in Caen, the monks of Bec elected Anselm to replace Lanfranc as Prior and head of the school, despite his young age. Under him, the school's reputation increased further, and in 1078 Anselm was elected Abbot. Meanwhile, Duke William had become William I of England (William the Conqueror) and in 1070 appointed Lanfranc as Archbishop of Canterbury. Anselm, who visited England guite often on church business during Lanfranc's rule, was chosen by the Canterbury Chapter to be their archbishop when Lanfranc died in 1089, but William II appropriated Canterbury's lands and revenues, intending that no one should be archbishop in his lifetime. A near-death illness, which William understood as divine punishment, led him, in 1093, to agree to Anselm's appointment. Anselm set various reforming conditions, but subsequently his continuing promotion of the rights of the church led to two periods of exile, in 1097-1100 under William II, and in 1103-1107 under Henry I.

Anselm wrote several of his major works while he was at Bec, and he produced further substantial studies during his two exiles. He is regarded as being a leading figure of the international intellectual movement known as Scholasticism which, instead of simply seeking to understand Christianity as revealed truth, sought to explore and explain it as a rational system. His theological and philosophical achievements mean that he is generally regarded as having one of the most penetrating intellects between the great giants of St Augustine of Hippo and St Thomas Aquinas.

#### Joyce Hill

#### TWO SIDES TO MOST STORIES

Having, as usual, read with interest the whole content of the February 2024 issue of 'The Link' I have to say, with support from other readers, that I found the piece 'Of Faith She Knew no Need' somewhat unfinished as to its message. On the one hand we have the well documented life from childhood to grandparenthood of the elderly Mrs Brown who, apparently, has lived the whole of that life in the same village. A life strongly influenced by devout parents and close connections to the Church and its teachings which, through her faith and promises, she successfully endeavoured to uphold.

On the other hand, we have a youngish, recently moved into the village, Mrs Green, who has had, on the face of it, the misfortune of belonging to a wealthier social class. It is rather presumptuous and dismissive on such scant information to say that Mrs Green's family and friends 'have no need of faith', or not had any challenges or been tested in their lives because of their outward appearance of the apparent wealth difference between Mrs Brown and Mrs Green's family. How can anyone judge the validity of friendships within Mrs Green's circle on such limited observations?

On her Sunday walk to church did Mrs Brown acknowledge Mrs Green and her children in any way, or did she pass by on the other side? Had Mrs Brown extended any invitation 'as a good neighbour' to Mrs Green to become more integrated into village life? If so, had she been rebuffed.

Was the village suspicious of 'incomers' which made Mrs Green's family quite isolated? It does happen. Was the village a one denomination church area? We are told how Christianly good Mrs Brown is but to highlight her faithful life in comparison to the

meagre "facts" on Mrs Green's family shows a lot of artistic licence.

#### Colin Watson

I think you are making too much of this Colin. It is simply a story to illustrate the idea that faith is often strengthened if it is tested. No doubt you could write a different story about hidden tragedy in Mrs Green's life with a different message (for example, not stereotyping somebody by their appearance) but the sad truth is that as societies become more affluent and less exposed to material hardship then we see a decline in church membership. (I write this in the expectation that you will point out to me many other reasons why there should be this correlation). **Ed**.

#### LADIES GROUP "OPEN" Meeting – Friday 19th April at 10.30am in the Community Hall

It has been agreed that the meeting of the Ladies Group on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April will be OPEN to all as we have received a number of requests from male members of the congregation wishing to attend what promises to be an interesting morning. The speaker will be Jane Ellis who will be asking "How well do you know Leeds?" The usual charge of £3 will apply, to cover refreshments and expenses. We look forward to welcoming everyone.

#### Anne and Hazel

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We need people to either knit or crochet red poppies to decorate the outside of the Church in time for Remembrance Sunday this coming November. Patterns are available. Also, does anyone have any red wool (double knitting) they can donate. **Doreen Aldrige.** 

#### A LOST ART

To converse or not to converse is a question we now need to ask ourselves. For there is a simple reality, that conversation with our neighbour is a dying art, a consequence of electronic communication dominating, and a need for safeguarding at all times.

But amongst the elderly from habit and perhaps unfamiliarity with electronic communication, the art of conversation still exists. It is seen on the public buses in the countryside as they pick up passengers from the little villages, so creating a trusting community.

Sadly it is not possible in towns and cities where conversation is rightly looked on with suspicion and so often becomes about seeking money, in truth for some addiction. And in the home many of the calls have a sales or fraudulent purpose.

Some people simply prefer to be silent lost in their own thoughts or find conversation difficult.

For the Christian there is prayer with their heavenly father. What of the commandment for the Christian to love their neighbour as they love themself?

Conversation is precluded by the constant need to be on a mobile device and so the next door neighbour is almost unknown, and conversation on public transport or indeed anywhere is unusual. But there can be times when conversation is sought by somebody who wants to talk to someone who will listen, though they do not give advice, and may never be seen again. It can be suggested to them that they contact the Samaritans, who are people who have been trained to listen, without giving advice, in such conversations. What is concerning is that in many Christian churches there is no welcome at the church door, no conversation, no feeling of warmth within the congregation. And these churches can decline and close. Methodists are known for their friendly welcome. Let us always ensure that we are welcoming to friend and stranger alike when they walk through the door of our Methodist church.

#### Tom Alexander.



#### COULD YOU BE A PASTORAL VISITOR?

LPMC would love to grow their pastoral visitors team. Being a pastoral visitor involves...

- Visiting and actively offering opportunity for discussions about life events, current issues and concerns and keep contact with the church community.
- Supporting someone with a particular task but not personal care or personal affairs (e.g. talking through a particular situation that is worrying someone, signposting them to appropriate services and/or requesting spiritual support from the Minister)
- Supporting others family members not on pastoral lists
  if required
- Offering prayer if required.
- Working as part of a pastoral team

Pastoral visiting is ministry in action, showing God's love and care and bringing the church community to people's home, it is a very valued ministry.

If you feel that maybe you could be part of the Pastoral team and would like a conversation, please see either *Rev Tanya, Val Faint or Daphne Barton.* 

#### WHAT IS GIFT AID?

We are often asked, "Are you Gift Aided? A lot of people still say "No" without knowing what this actually is. Basically, this is FREE MONEY. Someone once said "There are only two things certain in Life, Death and Taxes. (Benjamin Franklin). Most of us pay various taxes in many ways. Gift Aid is a way of using this fact to benefit a large number of Charities and Organisations. If you pay Income Tax which at least matches your Church giving, then Lidgett Park can reclaim from the Government 25% of your giving. That is it.

In these days of higher prices in almost everything, everybody needs to make best use of their money. The Church is no different. One of our biggest outlays is fuel, and everyone has seen the huge price rises in this area. Gift Aid is purely a way of benefitting our income at no cost what so ever to the giver. If you are interested in joining our Gift Aid family, please see me in Church or give me a ring. My details are as so....*Malcolm Speed phone* **2689506**.

#### 'MESSY VINTAGE'



Being 'church' with older people in our congregations and community.

At our March Church Council I introduce the idea of Messy Vintage . Messy Vintage is Christ-centred and creative, full of

celebration and hospitality and open to all, aspiring to include people of all ages while specifically reaching out to older people. A typical session involves, a Bible story, a hand -on creative activity, a short celebration with a story / reflection song and prayer and refreshments. Hospitality, of course, comes not only in the form of food, but in being welcomed and generous of spirit and love. Messy Vintage is a church that creates a sacred space. It is where participation is encouraged, not perfection sought, and where the sound of singing and laughter throngs the air.

I wondered if this is something we could offer at LPMC, monthly or quarterly, on a week day afternoon? It would need a small team, those happy to sit alongside, those helping with refreshments, even those happy to transport. I am very happy to lead. If you think you might like to be part of a group exploring this idea, please speak with me.

#### Every blessing, Tanya

#### THINGS TO HIGHLIGHT

*Betty Ashton* - from 18th March my new email address will be: <u>bettyashton1@outlook.com</u>

**John Lee and the family** thank you all for your support and your generous donations in Margaret's memory, £1000.00 is being sent to the RNLA. *Every Blessing, Tanya* 

Julian Meetings – a group at St Ed's are keen to re-start Julian meetings which used to take place pre-pandemic and were ecumenical. The first new meeting will be Thursday 11th April, 2.00pm in St Ed's. That first meeting will discuss whether that monthly time slot is suitable for everyone.

**Oasis Pancake Party** – up to now we have raised  $\pounds$ 1,500 for Oasis and have built 3 bore holes. Grateful thanks go out to those who helped and those who donated so generously. *Mary Patchett* 

#### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Reproduced with the permission of the BBC

It turns out the Mothering Sunday photo of the Princess of Wales had been touched up a bit. I confess to not being horrified. After all, since when did a mother and her three young children sit facing the same direction for a long period, looking happy, relaxed and at peace with the world?

Surely the whole genre of photographic portraiture is inherently artificial. It's not uncommon at a wedding to wait with the other guests for a half hour, while the happy couple look amorously and spontaneously at the camera in a hundred poses till they can never smile again. We all go along with this convention of twodimensional permanent cheerfulness. Yet everyone knows it's not real. 'Smile for the camera.' You wouldn't need to be asked if you were actually smiling already. So much for saying 'The camera never lies.'

A camera is a remarkable piece of technology. I wasn't the most conscientious student of physics, but I do recall making a pinhole camera. On one side was the outside world – of trees, cars, buildings, people. On the other side was a camera film. In between was a piece of cardboard. At the centre of the cardboard was a tiny hole. Somehow the light from the world outside came through that tiny hole. It produced an image of trees and buildings on the camera film, some inches beyond it. But the image was the wrong way up, because light travels in straight lines.

That pinhole is fascinating. In his letter to the Colossians, St Paul describes Christ as 'the image of the invisible God.' It's like he's saying, Jesus is that pinhole. He takes all the light that enlightens the world, all the science and politics, all the wonder and struggle, and turns them upside down. He overturns every image and reality and certainty the world ever had.

You could call this transformation artificial, because artifice is that which seeks to reconstrue things, rather than leaving the world alone. Every family portrait is artificial, because it reshapes a household according to an idealised, cheerful image of itself. In the same way, photography itself is an artifice, because it selects one moment, from a single angle, and abstracts it from the context of the whole.

Christ's turning the world upside down is an artifice in a different way, because it too denies that simply leaving the world to itself is enough. The realm Christ came to embody is not an idealised two-dimensional family portrait, but an upside-down kingdom in which we see the world from a very different angle. That doesn't just alter a photo. It alters everything.

#### Rev Dr Sam Wells - 13/03/2024

#### PROJECT UPDATE APRIL 2024.

Thank you all for your support of our March Coffee Morning which raised the magnificent sum of £363 for PAPYRUS.

At the April Coffee Morning (April 6<sup>th</sup>) we are again offering Bacon Butties, available from 10am. Do please join us!

Margaret Farrar On behalf of the Project Group.





#### ANSWERS:

- 1. Edward VII
- 2. Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs
- 3. That's all right (mama)
- 4. The George Cross
- 5. 35
- 6. Vostok I
- 7. 1979
- 8. Mary Had a Little Lamb
- 9. Oxford
- 10. Egypt and Israel
- 11. Deborah
- 12. Catherine of Aragon
- 13. Jezebel
- 14. Austria
- 15. 1990

Jesus chose the way and the lifestyle of the storyteller, the parable-maker who fashions a new creation out of the holy materials of the only creation that we all share in common: the birds, the lilies of the field, the fishes caught, the fig tree in bloom, the sheep versus the goats, the leaven in the bread, the mustard seeds of the world, and the rains that fall on the just and unjust alike.

#### Matthew Fox





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