

MINISTER'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Just to complicate matters in my last months in the Leeds North East Circuit, I am teaching a course to trainee Anglican Readers and Methodist Local Preachers on a Wednesday evening. I did this last year, in the term between Christmas and Easter. This year's course, a module on the York St John University Foundation Degree in Theology and Ministry, is focused on 'Mission and Ministry'. It involves students in placement observation in their own or another church, analysing how their placement church operates in terms of mission and ministry. Not only is there preparation to do for the teaching, and the Wednesday evening commitment for 12 weeks, there's also the delightful prospect of marking assignments, at the end of May, and again at the end of July (probably in the last fortnight before we move)!

One of the consequences is that all the reading I can squeeze in has to be focused on the course I'm teaching. One example of that is an article by Professor J.D.G. Dunn, exploring patterns of church in the New Testament and linking that to what is currently called 'fresh expressions' of church. His article is called 'Is there evidence for fresh expressions of church in the New Testament?' and it's in the book *Mission-Shaped Questions: Defining Issues for Today's Church*, edited by Steven Croft, published by Church House Publishing.

I read carefully anything I can find by Jimmy Dunn. He was the New Testament Professor at Durham University while I was training, so he taught me a large proportion of what I know about the New Testament. He is also a Methodist Local Preacher, and has been involved in important work for the Methodist Church over the years.

Those are my reasons for quoting some challenging sentences from the end of his article. They're the kind of challenges we need to take seriously as we think about the future of Christianity in this time, but a Christianity which is recognisably in touch with the most precious parts of our heritage.

" ...

- A Christianity that has lost all sense of newness...is no longer Christianity as defined by the New Testament.
- A Christianity that cherishes no sense of intimate relation with God through Christ, that regards the Spirit as effectively shut up in the Bible or confined to the Church, and that treats the experience of the Spirit as essentially threatening, is no longer Christianity as defined by the New Testament.
- A Christianity that regards the maintenance of and faithfulness to tradition as its highest responsibility is no longer Christianity as defined by the New Testament.
- A Christianity that can think of church only as building and not as people, and that is not seeking new ways to be the people of God, to be church, is no longer Christianity as defined by the New Testament.
- A Christianity that defines itself less in terms of Christ and more in terms of ecclesiastical hierarchy and liturgically correct forms is no longer Christianity as defined by the New Testament.

In short, canonical Christianity is Christianity ever open to the Spirit bubbling up in Easter new life and Pentecost fresh expression" (p.64).

These remain challenging words as we keep looking forward to what we hope for, for us, for the Church and for the world, in the power of God's Spirit.

Yours in Christ,

Jane

WORSHIP IN JUNE

03	10.30	Rev. Jane Craske	Holy Communion
	6.30	Rev. Jane Craske	
10	10.30	Mr. Roger Richardson	United/Circuit Service
	6.30	Roscoe	
17	10.30	Rev. Diane Flynn	Holy Communion
	6.30	Rev. Jane Craske	
24	10.30	Rev. Jane Craske	Parade Service
	6.30	St Edmund's	Ecumenical Service

A BIG THANK YOU

The first few months of 2012 have not been the best of starts for the year, with Vi being poorly for quite a while and, more recently, myself starting to suffer with angina.

In all that time we have been blessed with the thoughts, prayers, visits, flowers and general concern of our Church family. I am particularly grateful to Liz, Barbara and Val for their care when I was taken ill in Church on 29th April.

What a wonderful, caring Church we belong to. Many thanks to you all.

Andrew Walker

LADIES GROUP

The Ladies Group meets fortnightly on Thursdays at 7.45 p.m. in the Youth Hall.

7th June Mrs Tucker “Underwear through the Ages”.
22nd June Annual Lunch/Dinner.

COFFEE MORNING EXTRA

By popular request we shall be holding another “Surplus to Requirements” stall at the July coffee morning (7th July).

Any items (including clothes) can be brought on the day or left in the box provided on the previous Sunday. We are not able to accept any electrical goods. Items left over will be taken to a charity shop unless you specifically ask for their return. Please mark such items before handing them in.

Jennifer Dalton

HELP FOR A SPONSORED SWIM

Thank you to everyone who has already helped after my request for sponsorship in the May Link. I wrote then that I am doing the Great North swim on Sunday 24th June - a one mile open water event in Lake Windermere - to raise money for SURF which is the spinal injury recreation fund at Pinderfields Hospital. SURF arranges social trips for both current and ex spinal injury patients. In 2010 a good friend of mine, who was a colleague of Howard Clinkard, was left paralysed after a surgical error and spent nearly 8 months in hospital. He and others have found these activities very beneficial as they adjust to their life changing circumstances. If you feel able to sponsor me please see the noticeboard in the lounge or Peter & Vivien Harper for the sponsor form. Thank you very much.

Helen Harper

WOOLLY APPEAL

During the war, at school, I was taught to knit. As part of the war effort the boys were taught to knit dishcloths whilst the girls learned to sew. When taking the lesson Miss Brown knitted khaki scarves (50 stitches) for the soldiers. Possibly to encourage us, she said the King knitted two lines of a scarf every night before he went to bed! (And I've seen, but can't remember where, something that hinted this might have been true.)

Be that as it may, I didn't knit any more until the church project which helped the White Rose Initiative with material things for their work in Romania. They appealed for knitted blankets and I thought I could use up the wool which Vivien no longer had any use for. Over the years I have knitted squares and joined them together to make blankets for Romania. When the White Rose Initiative closed down and I still had a couple of blankets I eventually discovered Oxfam took blankets and SOLD them. I thought I was going to be knitting for orphans in Africa but no – they are bought for a high price by people going to pop festivals. What's more – I can Gift Aid them. But I've run out of wool. Several ladies at Lidgett Park have kindly passed on their unwanted wool and all that has gone too.

So, please, has anyone any surplus wool they no longer require so that I can keep up production whilst watching the news (and other things) on TV without feeling guilty at having nothing to do with my hands?! It would be going to a good cause. Thank you – in anticipation.

Peter Harper

GREAT BRITISH BAKERS

Cakes and other goodies needed. On Sun 24th June when the Olympic torch comes to Temple Newsam there will be an ecumenical hospitality station where soft drinks and home-made cakes will be available under the 'More Than Gold' banner. The Salvation Army are organising the actual hospitality station and drinks. The Leeds District have been asked to supply buns, cakes, biscuits - preferably home-made. If you can help by baking, gathering baking from others in your church, or transporting them to a central collection point please let me know at audreywilks@btinternet.com by 31st May. Many thanks in anticipation of your help with this great opportunity for outreach.

Audrey Wilks Leeds (South) Circuit.

TREASURES REVEALED

Did you make the most of Treasures Revealed in Leeds this Year? Garth and I did. One thing is certain we have learnt a lot, talked to some interesting people and enhanced our understanding of the many different ways there are to worship God.

What better place to go on a wet Sunday afternoon than St Chads, Far Headingley. The Church has recently been re-ordered – and a good job made of it in our opinion. We hunted for mice on pews and chairs and of course saw many other things, as we were shown around, including the fine reredos and west window. Finally there was an organ recital on the newly refurbished Harrison Organ. Ethel Euler's son-in-law was the organist.

On the Tuesday we were two of eight who booked to go on a morning conducted tour of the United Hebrew Congregation synagogue. What a memorable experience. Built over 20 years ago it incorporates beautiful stained glass windows (mainly flowers as no graven images are allowed) from three demolished synagogues. You couldn't have had a better couple of guides, their knowledge was very comprehensive, and questions of all kinds were welcomed and answered fully. A scroll was brought out and the procedure, should a reader feel he had found a mistake in the script, was explained. Should the reader and another disagree on whether a mistake exists a boy is brought in and his opinion is the deciding one. If the scroll is correct the reading continues, if a mistake has been made the reading starts all over again from another scroll.

We appreciated being able to wander in Leeds Parish Church finding a plaque to Titus Oates and being shown two chairs from the decommissioned 5th H.M.S. Ark Royal that they are custodians of. Apparently Naval personnel always refer to it as the 6th Ark. The pulpit was high and bore carvings of Jesus annunciation, birth and baptism.

St Luke's Lutheran Church, Headingley is a converted coach-house and consequently very small. The feeling of God's presence was tremendous and one felt called to sit and pray. The stained glass windows were a joy and the church had items donated from various countries. Services are held in English, Polish, Latvian and German. After our visit we were invited into the adjoining house library which is used by the Bishop as a study. Various church workers live on the premises. The Bishop covers a very wide area of the North of England. Do you remember when their church was a converted terrace house in Roundhay Road, Harehills?

South Parade Baptist church was our next church. Again it has been re-ordered. The grade 2 listed building retains its beautiful wood pulpit and has

an impressive vaulted ceiling. To me, however it had no feeling of God's presence.

A warm welcome was extended to us at St Agnes United Church, Burmantofts where the congregation has increased to 40-50. I was interested to see the Burmantofts Faience Reredos and the memorial to the one time owner of the works. We also discovered the carved ladybird and had to think hard to recall that the words under the side stained glass windows came from the Te Deum.

I am now looking forward to next year and finding more places of Worship to drag Garth round! He says places of worship are more interesting than alleyways!

Joyce White

COFFEE MORNING



Our Saturday Coffee Mornings are always good fun, with people to meet, things to buy and delicious cakes to have with your tea and coffee. We recently had Sylvia Wright, visiting from India, to join us. Above you can see Val dishing out the coffees and Margaret and Dave meeting Sylvia.

If you don't normally come to our coffee mornings do try and make space for them. They are on the first Saturday of the month from 10 to 12 A.M.

11th ROUNDHAY BROWNIE GUIDES AND GUIDES

These Brownies and Guides meet on Monday evenings with Tracy Simpson. They will be celebrating the Olympics by following the “5 Ring Challenge” set up by the Guide Movement.

This involves learning the history of the Olympics, quite a task in itself.

They will follow the route, which the Olympic torch bearers will take, involving much detailed map work.

They will talk about the different sports, which they take part in, and others which they know of.

They will find the different venues for the different sports in and around London and work out how they would travel to them using the underground.

They will create a dance for the Opening Ceremony, design a sports kit for the athletes to wear and design and make medals for the winners.

After all that they will learn how to play “Crab football”, a sport which is new to them. It’s new to me too so get a Brownie or Guide to explain it to you once we get to July.

7 Brownies have just gone up to Guides, thus making a very strong Guide troop but leaving vacancies for any new Brownies to join.

Please remember our 11th Brownies and Guides in your prayers.

Pray that all this work they will be doing together will bring them closer together, helping them to bond, to care for one another and to be ready to help those who need it.

Pray that in the fun they have they will learn to be thankful and rejoice in their health and strength.

Pray for their leaders and families that they might set good examples for them and nurture them as they grow into responsible people.

Patricia Davies

QUIZ QUESTIONS

Gillian would be pleased to receive feedback about the quizzes, e.g. are they too easy/too hard, do you like the different types, would it be useful to put extra clues on the church noticeboard a week or two after The Link has been published (to get you going again if you've got stuck). Any and all comments welcome.

I think they are ingenious and about the correct standard. But I am aware that Gillian always sends me the answers so that if (when) I get stuck I can cheat a bit!

TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO THINK ABOUT OUR PLACE AS CHRISTIANS IN THE COMMUNITY

Welfare Reform

Tuesday 12th June 7.30pm at Leeds Church Institute (New Market Street)

A meeting is being held for churches to learn more about the welfare reforms that are being introduced and the impact they will have on people in our communities. Following a presentation, there will be the opportunity to discuss how we can respond, both as individual congregations and by working together.

Sue Hoey writes: "The aim is to present the changes that are happening in a way which is helpful to people who may not be aware of it, or know little about it. The meeting should be very user-friendly, making a complex issue accessible to all and then seek to explore if there are any ways in which church congregations can respond individually and together."

This meeting is being hosted by Leeds Churches Together in Mission. During the meeting there will also be feedback from local Churches Together groups on their current activities. For further information please contact Sue Hoey on 07946 085 575 or info@leedschurchestogether.org.uk

Unity in Poverty Action – City Tours

UPA's 'City Tours' involve taking small groups of individuals (eg. Churches Together representatives, housegroups, student groups etc.) to visit social action projects around the city. This can be based around an issue or locality. Most projects are Christian but not exclusively. The contact is Dave Paterson (davepaterson84@hotmail.co.uk).

You can read more about these tours, with some reports of groups' experiences, in the latest Unity in Poverty Action newsletter, which is in the church lounge.

Jane Craske

BOOK REVIEW by ALAN WITTRICK
The Shack by Wm Paul Young

This easy to read slim paperback is well worth a read, in fact I would suggest a MUST read. It had been recommended to me and I saw it by chance on the church bookstall which was a surprise as I didn't expect this type of book.

The book is a story, but one with a powerful and compelling vision of the nature of God. It starts with a horrible and horrendous tragedy for a family in America in which the reader is fortunately spared the gory detail. This difficult start raises all the normal questions about how a loving God can allow this kind of thing. However, what develops is a fantastic vision about the nature of God which is heartwarming and compelling. You will be moved and I suspect challenged about your current thinking of God. You may not understand or agree with the vision portrayed, but by the end I felt myself saying, if God is really like that, wow, then I want to respond and learn more about God's intention for his creation.

Go find the church copy or buy it yourself. This is a must read book.

Alan Wittrick

Alan could be right that this is a must read book. Donald (Nicholson) lent me a copy some time ago and when I returned it wisely asked "Did you find it an awe-full book or an awful book"? I doubt if you can be lukewarm about this story – you will love it or hate it. I generally agree with Alan on most subjects, except maybe about the relative football merits of The Canaries and Wolves, but I have to differ on this one. It is one of the most appalling books I have ever read, at several levels – and I have picked my adjective with care. Read it and decide for yourself.

DON'T MISS ROUNDHAY LIVE SATURDAY 23RD JUNE!

Soldiers Field, opposite Roundhay School, is once again the venue for Roundhay Live on Saturday 23rd June from 12.30 to 16.30.

This community event promises fun for all the family with a full programme of music, dance, sport and food. Make sure you're there!

Roundhay Live is organised jointly by REAP, Friends of Roundhay Park and Friends of Gledhow Valley Woods. It was held for the first time in 2011. "We initially intended it as a one off event to showcase all the organisations

and activities available to people in Roundhay but so many of those who took part or came along on the day asked us to run it again this year that we

decided to bow to popular demand,” said Pat Urry, Chair of Roundhay Live Organisers.

“Roundhay attracts a huge number of visitors each year because it is home to two of the biggest attractions in Leeds – Roundhay Park and Tropical World – but we also have a strong sense of our local community here. Roundhay Live is a great way to bring together all the various schools, clubs, societies, churches and sporting organisations so that we can all get to know each other better.”

For more information, please contact roundhaylive@reap-leeds.org.uk. You can also follow Roundhay Live 2012 on Facebook.

HOLIDAY FUN



I've been trying for ages to persuade you to send me your holiday photos and adventures. I'm trying to kick it off again with this picture of a handsome, young couple on the famous Madeira toboggan run,

THE RICH YOUNG MAN RIDES AGAIN

Dear Editor,

It is often said “the devil lies in the detail” but I think, when any opinion is expressed with regard to biblical stories that the devil is in the interpretation. Any good bookshop will have shelves of versions of the Good Book together with a myriad of interpretations of those versions by a wide variety of authors. No doubt the choice is even greater via the internet but Waterstone’s and the (still open) libraries are more than sufficient for a plodder like me.

So by references to various versions of the Bible in this house I give my views on Stan Pearson’s letter in the April Link, a letter which, incidentally, I consider pretty lenient on me.

I agree that there should be a condemnation of the incorrect use of wealth. Unfortunately we could discuss for a long time what constitutes wealth at its various levels and the way it is disposed of or distributed.

With regard to the rich young man can it be said that “his possessions were the most important thing in his life “ just because he went away sad? There is no record of whether the young man did or did not act on Jesus’s words but it seems to be generally assumed that he did not. However the young man’s questions were instrumental in giving us the well used, if not well followed, “eye of the needle” phrase.

As regards the removal of the merchants and money changers I accept that three of the Gospels refer to thieves and robbers but, in my opinion, the slightly more detailed account in John does not. In John’s version Jesus doesn’t want the Temple to be a market place. Another example of “you pays your money...”?

In the case of the parable of the Three Servants (Good News Bible) if the intention of the story was to concentrate on the virtue of trust as Stan suggests then I find the idea of being able to show trust by introducing a third party (i.e. a bank) a little confusing. The story also appears to suggest that the master would have accepted the bank deposit action and therefore, by implication, the servant would not then have been “thrown out into the darkness”.

Just to prove how difficult the New Testament can be try and reconcile the treatment/fate of the third servant, who apparently fails the trust test by only giving back that which he was given, to the Prodigal Son who, by any measure, is beyond trustworthy but yet who receives all rewards in front of his own trustful, loyal and hardworking brother. Are we considering two different masters here? Again interpretation.

I accept aspects of Stan’s views on the financial world, someone’s worth, great income differentials, rewards and penalties. However I consider that over the last three or four years the spectres (probably the wrong word as they are real) of greed - those that have the wealth, envy - those who wish

they had the wealth and hypocrisy – those who say that given the opportunity they would have been totally equitable and moral, have risen to the surface and are clouding our judgement on both financial and moral issues. The spectres, I believe, are worthy of more serious discussion but the Link is probably not the correct vehicle.

On a lighter note I would put my hand up to not being averse to “earning” £7 million a year for playing golf, even if this was deemed excessive in relation to the average weekly wage (approximately 500 times). Also I have yet to come across someone who has refused a promotion or major salary increase because they thought that they did not deserve it!

As I complete the draft of this letter the national news on Radio 4 informs me that a single picture has just been purchased at auction for 120 million dollars (including fees). Where does this obscene purchase (in my opinion) fit in with the general discussion on wealth and its ultimate use?

Colin Watson

**Passionate about mission and evangelism
Leeds & West Yorkshire Methodist Districts
Regional Mission & Evangelism Gathering**

**SATURDAY 29th September 2012 9.30am –
12.30pm**

**Central Methodist Church, Wesley Street,
Morley, Leeds LS27 9EE**

PRAYER AS MISSION

**(linking with our deepening discipleship theme,
and the global day of prayer)**

**Guest Speaker *Deacon Eunice Atwood*
*Former Vice President of Conference***

To book (£3.00 payable on the day) contact
ZebedeeM@methodistchurch.org.uk by 10th Sept.
For more info Stephanie@sjjenner.plus.com

PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE CHAIR OF DISTRICT

Resurrection Light

The Hepworth Gallery in Wakefield has attracted praise for its imaginative design, as well as some criticism (inevitably) for the extravagance of its building costs. As someone who grew up in Cornwall, very familiar with St Ives and the iconic Barbara Hepworth presence there, I experienced a great sense of connection between Cornwall and Yorkshire in this new gallery. In her work as a sculptor Barbara Hepworth explored the connectedness of landscape and human experience in profound and beautiful ways, most often through large scale smoothed and rounded shapes that also present the viewer with a challenge or a surprise. This is communicated within the gallery space, not only by the works displayed there but through the building itself. Indeed, some weeks after my visit, it is the delight of the building that has stayed with me.

Walking into the gallery space in late afternoon, I was forcibly struck by the quality of the light and its effect upon those of us within the space, as well as upon the exhibits. The gallery attendant commented that the nature of this light changes gradually through the year – when the days are at their shortest this west-facing window catches the rich colours of a sunset. At the time, I thought what a fitting memorial this is in itself for one whose work was inspired by the special quality of light, celebrated and loved by the St Ives school of painting. More recently the memory of that space, enclosed by sheer concrete walls, yet bathed in light pouring in through an enormous window, has come to mind as a symbol of resurrection.

The Church has always struggled to portray the resurrection in visible ways – quite rightly, as it is essentially something to be experienced. In a sense that is also what occurred in the gallery visit – it was the experience of being in this amazing light-filled space that has stayed with me as much as the visual impact. The sensation was one of deep well-being, hopefulness, delight, connectedness and surprise. These surely are the watchwords of resurrection – for each of us on our faith journeys, and for the Church in its many forms, on its journey into the fullness of Christ. Do they resonate with your own experience?

I can recommend a visit to the Gallery!

Liz Smith

Chair of Leeds Methodist District

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I listened with great interest to Sylvia Wright's talk after the project celebration dinner on the 14th April. As she spoke the love and concern for both her young charges, friends and colleagues and her enthusiasm and dedication were so very evident as only a "hands on" leader can project.

Through 30 years of painstaking care (but joyous if the smiling faces are anything to go by) young lives have been enriched and enhanced both physically and mentally to such an extent that, as reported, a number of these profoundly deaf children have achieved academic success, something unheard of in the past. It was also reported that the "in house" sign language was being developed for more general use within the district.

After hearing about the exceptional work being carried out by Sylvia and her dedicated staff at Tiruvanamalia a statement made early on in Sylvia's talk was both enlightening and disheartening. The statement was that profound deafness was often one of the physical results of intermarriage within the rigid caste system prevalent in that poor Indian state. For all Sylvia's magnificent work the Trust, unfortunately, appears to have a long running future in regard to a number of conditions due to intermarriage. Probably it is impossible to change the caste system but a concentrated international educational effort should be made to eradicate the practice of intermarriage. the results of which are unfortunately not confined to the profoundly deaf in Tamil Nadu district but which apparently impact on the paediatric wards in hospitals in the U.K. in areas with large Asian communities.

Colin Watson

Dear Editor,

In response to Colin's letter above I would point out that discrimination by reason of caste is now illegal in India. The problem of congenital deafness in Tamil Nadu is due to the high incidence of a recessive gene for deafness. When two people with the gene have children one in four of them will be deaf.

This gene runs in families. Marriage within extended families is common for two reasons. In rural areas there is a lack of mobility and young people will marry within a small community of inter-related families. Secondly marriage within the extended family reduces the amount of dowry that has to be paid and is therefore encouraged.

Barbara Dodman

A Jubilee Concert

Lidgett Park Methodist Church, Leeds

Saturday 16th June 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Yorkshire Evening Post

Brass Band

and The Wesley Singers

Tickets £7 including tea/coffee and biscuits

Pay on the door or ring 0113 266 0514 or 2619152

EXTRA QUIZ

A wee bit of space left so thought you might like another quiz. Once you have worked out Gillian's clue it is not so difficult (well Q.7 is a bit hard).

Each clue gives rise to two answers. The letters of each pair of answers can be rearranged to form one word. These words all have something in common (Clue: You might want to put these out at night.)

1. Zero, zero (3, 1)
2. She might breathe heavily after exercise. (3, 4)
3. These particles of stone sound a musical note. (4, 1)
4. On one occasion he did this sort of turn. (4, 1)
5. Behold a curtain! (2, 5)
6. He placed a digit in the mountain pass. (3, 3)
7. She talks wildly about the twelfth. (5, 1)

MAY PRAYER FOR CHANGE



This prayer appears in the magazines of Lidgett Park, St Andrew's and St Edmund's.

Diamond Bright

Diamond Hard

Diamond Life

The types of phrases used to describe the positive aspects of a variety of cutting and other machine tools, for example blades.

Intensify our light as we **shine bright for you**

Solidify our faith as we stand fast for you

Reinforce our commitment as we *live for you.*

Amen

In support of Ecuador's Rainforests
Sunday 17th June from 3pm to 5pm
St Edmund's Green Group invites you to
An Open Garden
At 40 The Avenue, the home of Jon and Jill Vogler
There will be Tea, Coffee and Strawberry Cream Teas
for sale
Books, Produce and Bring and Buy stalls
Entrance is £1

TOWN TRAILS - JUNE SPECIALS

Since we started our explorations of local towns last September thirty two people have adventured out! We have visited Wakefield, Ripon, Halifax, Holbeck, Pontefract, Bradford and Knaresborough so far, with many more being planned. During June I plan to repeat the visit to Pontefract, whose dates were inconvenient for some people and the visit to Knaresborough, which ended up being postponed. Here are the details: old hands and newcomers are equally welcome.

Thursday 28th June Pontefract

We shall go by train and come back by bus.

Meet at Leeds Railway Station near the ticket machines, at 10.45 for the 11.00 train. Buy a single concessionary ticket to Pontefract (Monkhill) - £1.50. Take your bus pass.

Take a packed lunch to eat at the Castle (either outside or else in the Visitor Centre). Entrance is FREE. There may be the chance of a teashop before coming home!

Due back at Leeds Bus Station at 3.30 or 4.00 p.m.

Warning wet grass. Distance about 2 miles.

Friday 29th June Knaresborough (part 1)

We shall NOT visit the Castle, the inside of the Parish Church nor the Museum. There will be no mention of Normans or the Civil War! We shall look closely at the architecture of the buildings and the way they combine to make the townscape. Distance about 2 miles, mainly on the level.

Meet at Moortown Corner for the 10.15 bus, number 36, or at Knaresborough Bus Station at 11.15 a.m. Bring packed lunch and bus pass.

If you would like to go please sign up on the Town Trails notice in the lounge, as each group will be restricted to a maximum of twelve.

Margaret Summerwill Tel: 2697895

THIS MONTH'S QUIZ by Gillian Clements

Each clue gives two words which are anagrams of each other. But the letters also give a third anagram which is unclued. (Example: He pines for the salts. (5) = MOPES, EPSOM. Third anagram = POEMS) The first letters of the third anagrams, when rearranged, give a Christian name to be found in the church directory.

1. Would you find this parasite in South Korea. (5)
2. The radicals went to rest for the night. (5)
3. The employer was certain (4).
4. You'd walk quite easily after eating this. (5)
5. Cut the harvest (4).
6. I consumed and drank it. (3)

Last month's solution

1. The unit of power had an edge to it. (4, 3) WATT, HEM = MATTHEW
2. A single emblem. (3, 5) ONE, BADGE = ABEDNEGO
3. I regret leaving the mountain. (3, 3) RUE, BEN = REUBEN
4. I had contract and lost. (1'1, 4) . I'D, GONE = GIDEON
5. About a magical rod. (2, 4) RE, WAND = ANDREW
6. Listen to the buzzing insect. (4, 3) . HARK, BEE = REBEKAH
7. He owns the fabrication. (3, 3) HAS, LIE = ELISHA
8. Leave out your old ... (4, 3)

MARGARET

CONTROVERSY CORNER REVISITED

Dear Editor,

“Controversy Corner” asked us about the popular hymn in “Singing the Faith” with the line “The wrath of God was satisfied”

1 thought immediately of Matthew 28 v51 –

“And behold the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom; and the earth shook, and the rocks were split.”

Next the words of this beautiful hymn came to mind:-by Frederick William Fry (1859-1939), (Salvation Army song Book No 317)

- 1) God's anger now is turned away
My sins are under the blood,
My darkness he has turned to day,
My sins are under the blood

chorus:- My sins, my sins are under the blood
My guilt is gone and my soul is free
My peace, my peace is made with God
The Lord has pardoned me.

Frederick William Fry became a Methodist local preacher in 1895 and was at various times society and chapel steward and secretary of the local preacher's meeting. As a boy he played cornet in the Wesleyan chapel orchestra in Alderbury and at the age of eight played the harmonium. He was the son of Charles William Fry the first Salvation Army bandmaster. The last word must go to Charles Wesley (1707 -1788).

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus and all in him is mine,
Alive in him, my living head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

Yes it is true the wrath of God was satisfied, as penned by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty.

Joyce Wood

I have had to edit Joyce's letter a wee bit as she actually gave the whole of the hymn and all the choruses. I apologise for this but it does not affect Joyce's theme in any way.

Dear Editor,

CONTROVERSY CORNER – WRATH OF GOD

My dictionary defines wrath as “violent anger, holy indignation, violence or severity”. Holy indignation seems much milder than violent anger. I suspect most people think of wrath as something stronger than indignation.

Which is better?

A. To follow a leader you love and trust and who loves you and wants what is best for you.

Or

B. To follow a leader you are scared of, where you do as you are told so as not to be punished.

Does Christianity want to promote the love of God or the fear of God?

Gillian Clements

BOOK REVIEW: by Gillian Clements

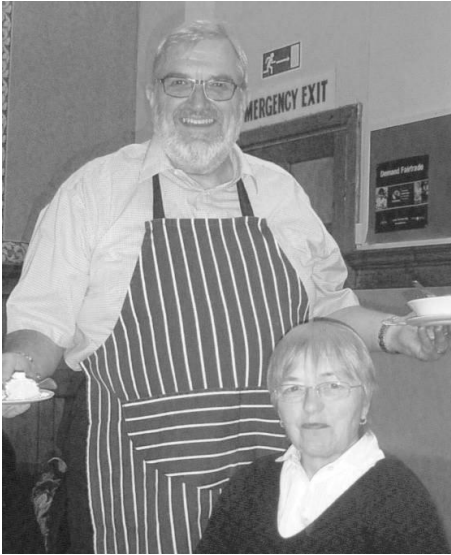
I have recently read two books on the same subject which I thoroughly enjoyed and can recommend. They are not books about Christianity but are about God's creation. I first read **Stephen Hawking's "A Brief History of Time"** (pub. Bantam Press 1988) and then **Manjit Kumar's "Quantum"** (pub. Icon Books Ltd 2009). They are written for non-scientists.

Hawking's book states the current ideas held by physicists of how the world is constructed (atoms, time, space etc). The first six chapters present a complicated subject in a remarkably straightforward way. The later chapters are a bit harder so I settled for getting the gist of what he was saying. Unfortunately, in the later chapters, he refers to God. I found these references irritating. I would have preferred him to stick to the physics. The book also includes three short chapters on Einstein, Galileo and Newton, which were most interesting.

Kumar's book looks at the history of the discoveries relating to quantum physics. You get a real insight into the lives and work of the scientists involved and how ideas develop. You also realise the deep philosophical problems which these discoveries engendered. Those elements of the book are just as interesting as the science. This book is quite remarkable. What goes on inside and between atoms is mind-blowing. It is decidedly weird and wonderful. After reading these books I think God has a sense of humour!

Book reviews are obviously like buses – you wait ages for one and then two come along together!

CHURCH PROJECT DINNER



On the right are our Guests of Honour; Tony Allinson, Chairman of The Sylvia Wright Trust and Sylvia herself.

When you come to a meal at Lidgett Park you don't only get a great meal you also get jolly waiters to add to the frivolity.

Despite appearances Howard managed to deliver the food without spilling it all over the guests.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN THE DALES

A Junior Church teacher was explaining the parable of the lost sheep to her class. She asked why, as he had all his other sheep safe, the shepherd was so concerned about the one missing sheep. A little lad shot up his hand: "well Miss, happen it were't tup".

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN LEEDS

The tale above seems a bit too good to be true. But what follows did certainly happen as I know the little girl concerned very well.

Young girl: "Daddy, can God and Father Christmas see everything?"

Dad: "Well some people say they can and some people say they can't".

Young girl: "Well God can. He's got six eyes, two at the front, two at the back and one on each side".

You do have to wonder what schools are teaching in RE these days.