

FOCUS



July 2024

FREE: Please take me home.

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds

**The monthly magazine of the Emmanuel
Benefice, Berry Brow Methodist Church,
and Netherton Methodist Church.**



Where did you get that hat??

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July Church Services

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 7 July | 10.00am Morning Worship South Crosland Church
10.00am Holy Communion at Netherton Methodist Church
10.30am Morning Worship at Berry Brow Methodist Church |
| 14 July | 10.00am Morning Worship at Armitage Bridge Church
10.00am Morning Worship at Netherton Methodist Church
10.30am Holy Communion at Berry Brow Methodist Church |
| 21 July | 10.00am Holy Communion at South Crosland Church |
| 28 July | 10.00am Holy Communion at Armitage Bridge Church
10.00am Holy Communion at Netherton Methodist Church |

Every Wednesday at St Paul's.

9.15 Morning Worship, 30 minutes of worship and prayer. All welcome.

Every Thursday at St Paul's

5.20 Christian Meditation. 30 minutes of Quiet Contemplation. All welcome.

June Mid-week Services

Please contact Stella or Barbara for details.

Diary Dates

20 July : Final date for copy August Focus, 12 Noon.

The copy must be with the printers so that Focus will be in church on 28 July.

Items received after this time will probably miss the cut.

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Clergy Page
Focus Magazine July

Dear Friends

Turn off the TV news, cancel your daily newspaper and stop looking at the social media on your smartphone.

The state of our world at the moment is dire and we are daily bombarded by explicit details of just how bad things are.

To make matters worse we now have a general election looming large and so are confronted at every back and turn by politicians desperate to woo us for our votes by making promises we know they cannot hope to keep.

So if your resilience is waning and your resolve dissolving, lay down in a dark room with a damp cloth over your head and stay there until it all goes away.

OR

As Christians aren't we deliverers of hope?

Isn't a fundamental role of being a Christian to bring hope to a troubled world.

In order to do that we must first have a genuine hope in our hearts, in our minds and in our soul.

If we do, then that hope will radiate out from us like the sun's rays.

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It will be infectious and will lift the spirits of all those with whom we have to do.

So how do we ensure that we have genuine hope in our hearts, in our minds and in our soul?

Well, we can bemoan the fact that there are serious wars raging in the world and we can worry that they will escalate and that they might affect us more directly.

OR

We can pray for peace, contribute to the defence of the oppressed by sending money and goods, take in refugees, write to our MP, attend peace rallies, join peace movements etc.....

We can bemoan the state of the NHS

OR

We can pray for the NHS, write to our MP, take better care of ourselves, volunteer, raise funds etc.....

We can bemoan the present preoccupation with wokery and militant minorities turning our world upside down

OR

We can pray for common sense to prevail, we can stand up for our convictions, we can write to our MP, we can tangibly support those who raise their heads above the parapet, we can join those movements that protect the rights of ordinary people against those who would erode them etc.....

We can bemoan the state of politics in our country

OR

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We can pray for our politicians, we can make sure we vote and encourage others to vote, we can show solidarity with those who gave their lives in the D-Day Landings and beyond, to defend our democracy, volunteer, write to our MP, stand for election etc

As Christians we are called to be proactive rather than reactive, to be active rather than passive.

Christ challenged the status quo at every turn and as his followers we are called to do the same.

He took a small boy's picnic and turned it into a banquet.

In the same way, he can and will take our seemingly insignificant efforts and turn them into something powerful and meaningful.

Jesus was an agent of change, powered by the Holy Spirit

We too are called to be agents of change.

We too are powered by the Holy Spirit.



**It's better to
light a candle**

**Than complain
about the dark**

With love — in Christ

David

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Coffee Morning

Holy Trinity Church holds a coffee morning on the second Saturday of each month at South Crosland Junior School, Moor Lane, Nethererton. The June coffee morning raised £205.00; thank you to everyone for supporting this event. We donated the monies raised to South Crosland Junior School.

The next coffee morning will take place on Saturday 13 July 2024. The funds raised at this coffee morning will be donated to Motor Neurone Disease Association.



June Pop-up Shop

Thanks to many willing volunteers the pop-up shop was a great success; £786 profit was made. The scouts also had a very successful morning selling bacon butties and hot drinks. Thank you to everyone who attended but particularly thank you to the volunteers who's many hours of sorting, pricing and ironing were so vital.

The next pop-up shop dates are 28 September and 9 November so please put the dates in your diaries.



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Many, many thanks to all of those who attended our breakfast on Saturday 18th May, and to all who contributed in any way, shape or form. Together, we have raised over £600, without knocking on a single door!

A steady stream of customers kept the kitchen and food deliverers busy, and a delicious looking selection of cakes was available to eat in or take home. The Loom café in Honley (Dixon and Franks) again supplied us with a voucher for first prize in the raffle, which provided a good addition to our fundraising.

Unfortunately, our numbers were a little down on last year. A few of our regular supporters were unable to attend due to ill health or holidays. Catherine Day did, however, use her persuasive powers to encourage a few passers-by and many of the men attending a choir rehearsal upstairs to join us for bacon sandwiches or coffee and a cake, which boosted our numbers and takings.

At Netherton Methodist Church, the day after the event, we announced a total of £580. Following the service, our funds were further enhanced by contributions from people who had been unable to get to us. We must try to remember to offer lifts in future, as I'm sure that they would have loved to join us on the day. (I think that was a note to self!)

Thanks again – our current total, at time of writing, is a marvellous £620, plus donations which have gone straight to Christian Aid.

We pray that these monies will be put to good use, helping some of those far less fortunate than ourselves.

Helen Hales

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Pizza and Burger Evening

Because of the success of the Pizza and Burger evening which we held last September it was decided to repeat the event.

Children from our Junior Church, their parents, grandparents, and helpers from the Easter Craft workshop came together in May at Sons of the North, Armitage Bridge for an early evening get together.

Twenty-four adults and seven children were given a warm welcome by the staff who provided us with delicious pizzas, burgers, sausages, pasta, and salads – not forgetting the chips!



It was a particularly busy evening as there were several other groups, but the staff coped admirably, and the room certainly had a “buzz”!

Even though we had a wide age range, it was an enjoyable evening for everyone - the children enjoying the large space and the

freedom to move around. They also participated in the colouring opportunities available – lots of dinosaurs and unicorns!

Judging by the noise we made and the conversations taking place, it could be said that a good time was had by all.

Our next get together will be the Annual Family Picnic on Sunday 14 July at Beaumont Park, 12.30pm onwards.

Why not come and join us?

Melody

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Almond, Cherry and Raisin Slab Cake

Rub together 6oz Self raising flour
4oz Margarine
Add 6ozs Demerara sugar
2ozs Ground Almonds
1oz Chopped glace cherries
1oz Raisins

Mix together with one egg; to make a stiff dough. Add 1 tablespoon milk approximately. Press into a swiss roll tin.

Bake at 180°C approximately 25-30 minutes, until golden brown.

Stella Bowman

Armitage Bridge Ringers

Following our article in the May Focus, more information has been supplied by John Atkinson of the Beverley Handbell Ringers thus: - Archive records indicate that ABHR were formed in 1869 consisting of 11 ringers and conducted by Henry Pogson. They competed in the handbells competition at Belle Vue Gardens at this time. The band also entered in 1870 being conducted at this time by Alfred Shaw.

In 1871 the band won 4th prize (14 bands entered), conducted by Seth Coldwell who also conducted in 1872 and 1874 when they won 3rd prize in a line-up of 15 bands.

From 1869 to 1871 the secretary of the ABHR was Alexander Lockwood, succeeded by George Boys in 1872. It seems the team disbanded after their success in 1874 as they disappeared from the scene, George Boys apparently conducting for several other bands.

It wasn't until 1913 that the name of ABHR appears on contest lists once more entering the Yorkshire Association of Handbell Ringers, coming a creditable 2nd place in the 2nd section. The conductor was noted as Mr J. Dyson. Running up to the Great War William Henry Wood ran the group

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before disbanding until 1986 when a new band was formed under the stewardship of Pauline Murray, we assume this came to an end at the time of the fire as it appears one chest of bells was lost.

The competition pieces played in contests which ABHR took part would indicate that the bell set was significant. A "Long Set" of 5 octaves would certainly have been used and would probably have been about 160 bells in total when purchased from Mears and Stainbank of the Whitechapel Bell Foundry.

Yorkshire Association Inter Branch Striking Competition

Returning to tower bells, 4 of our ringers were selected to represent the Western Branch of the YACR in the 8-bell striking competition at Gargrave on Saturday May 11th, Sally, Lorraine, Oliver and Alan linked up with Carole and Peter Kirby from Lightcliffe plus Andrea and Alex Wain from Huddersfield Parish to ring in this competition against other teams from all over Yorkshire including York, Leeds and Cleveland.

The test piece for all teams was 209 changes of Grandsire Triples which we had been practising at St. Peters for a number of weeks. So it was, that early one bright sunny morning, we wound our way north, picking up members of the team on the way.

Anyone who knows Gargrave will appreciate the first problem is getting parked which, we managed up the road and over the river at the railway station. As we all made our way to St. Andrews church for bacon butties, a cup of tea and the all-important draw at 10:30am by association ringing master Malcolm Turner. We were 2nd out of the hat after Cleveland. With the judge in place all was ready to settle some nerves by getting underway.

Listening intently to Cleveland we were sure that if all went well, we could improve on their creditable performance. As they descended from the tower, we offered our congratulations ascending the tower ourselves to ring our piece. 20 minutes is allowed for each team to try ropes for length, ring a practice piece and by signalling to the judge by ringing 2 bells 4 times ring the test piece. Alex conducted the test piece which

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takes about 8 minutes to complete. At the end we stood our bells satisfied that we had done as well as we could. We relaxed by the river with a picnic lunch while we listened to the remaining ringing, we would have to wait until the tea and meeting at Kirby Malham to hear the results.



The judge commented on the performance of each team as he heard it. "Team 2 rang with dignity, a well-meant piece of ringing that had long periods with no errors" Total faults 29. That put us a clear 10.1/4 faults in front of the nearest team. We had won! Alex collected the trophy on our behalf from the YACR President Andrew Slade amid whoops of delight and congratulations from the other teams.

Lorraine and Alan

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Well Dressing, Armitage Bridge



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July 2024 Readings.

Sunday 7th July – Trinity 6 – 2 Corinthians 12: 2-10 and Mark 6: 1-13

Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Creator God, you made us all in your image: may we discern you in all that we see and serve you in all that we do; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 14th July – Trinity 7 – Ephesians 1: 3-14 and Mark 6: 14-29

Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Generous God, you give us gifts and make them grow: though our faith is small as mustard seed, make it grow to your glory and the flourishing of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 21st July – Trinity 7 – Ephesians 2: 11-end and Mark 6: 30-34 & 53-end

Pray for the Day (Collect)

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday 28th July – Trinity 9 – Ephesians 3: 14-end and John 6: 1-21

Prayer for the Day (Collect)

Gracious Father, revive your Church in our day, and make her holy, strong and faithful, for your glory's sake in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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This magazine may be read in full colour on our webpage!

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THE EMMANUEL BENEFICE HUDDERSFIELD
"Offering love and service to our communities in Christ's name."