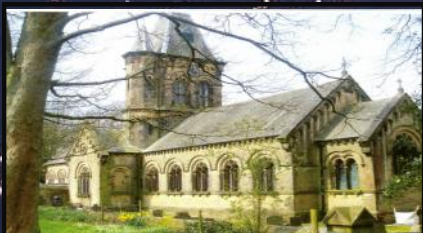


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**MELTHAM**

**PARISH MAGAZINE**

**JANUARY 2018**



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**St. Bartholomew's, Meltham; Christ Church, Helme;  
St. James, Meltham Mills; St. Mary the Virgin, Wilshaw**

**VICAR OF THE PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING**

**Interregnum**

**enquiry email address - parishofchristthe king@gmail.com**

**CLERGY in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING**

Assistant Priest Rev. Dennis Shields 850074

Assistant Priest Rev. Peter Rolls 340342

Assistant Priest Rev. John Radcliffe 348806

Assistant Priest Rev. Judy Kenworthy 851158

**AUTHORISED READERS in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING**

Mandy Aspland 851789 Hester Deacon 657069

Nigel Priestley 852005 Chris Ryan 851528

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER**

(vacant)

**PARISH TREASURER**

Pam Murgatroyd 349857

**AUTHORISED PASTORAL MINISTERS in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING**

Christine Bleasdale 305553 Christine Woods 852268

**CHURCH OFFICIALS in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING**

**ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S**

**Churchwarden** Alistair Storey - 851498 **Safeguarding Officer** Ann Halstead 316422

**Secretary** John Mitchell 850684 **Treasurer** Peter Blackburn 850128

**ST. JAMES'**

**Churchwarden** Jenny Mathers 850839 **Safeguarding Officer** Mike Still - 854889

**Secretary** Alison Whiteley 319295 **Treasurer** Richard Walker 850214

**ST. MARY'S**

**Churchwardens** Kim Howe 852811 Clive Pearson 844289

**Secretary** Monteena Shepherd 663318 **Treasurer** Peter Pearson 850488

**Safeguarding Officers** Vicky Ramsay

**CHRIST CHURCH**

**Churchwardens** Pat Radford 851480 Irene Harrop 664163

**Secretary** Janet Rockett 851424 **Treasurer** Jenny Hill 850274

**Safeguarding Officer** Janet Rockett 851424

## A letter from your Clergy

A Happy, New, Peaceful and Prosperous Year to all our readers! 2018, a year of change for our Parish of Christ the King, Meltham. One Vicar has gone and next our Curate, Charlene, is moving into "Bible Belt". Our love and prayers go with her at the beginning of her new ministry in Ackworth, not only for Charlene but Chris and Owen as well. Bon Voyage and keep in touch.

Well the New Year 2018, New Year's Eve, I don't mean when we make New Year's resolutions, these only get broken don't they?! But New Year's Eve is a great day to think about the year ahead and the resolutions you might chose to make. It's worth pausing today and asking a simple question of any New Year's resolutions you may be thinking of making, or already have made, the question is this 'in what way will this bring life to me and others?'

When God's people were setting out on a journey several centuries before the birth of Jesus, God offered them a choice, as He does in our lives today, if we let Him. The invitation ends with the words "therefore choose life". Your Christmas journey is a daily invitation to choose life, that's what makes it exciting.

Choosing life is choosing to live by faith, hope and love, letting those life changing gifts shape what you are and what you do. Choosing life is choosing to remember that you are not on your own, knowing that you journey with others, and with the friendship and strength of God's Holy Spirit. Choosing life is seeking to live more fully, enabling those around you to flourish. Choosing life is choosing to say yes to the life that Jesus offers! (Taken from Justin Welby's 'God with us')

God treats you the way one mother treated her young son, Jamie. She didn't like the thought of Jamie walking to his first year at infants school unaccompanied, but he was too grown up to be seen with his mother. "Besides" he explains, "I can walk with a friend". So she did her best to stay calm, quoting Psalm 23 to him every morning 'Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life!' One day she came up with an idea, she asked a neighbour to follow Jamie to school in the morning, staying a distance lest he notice her. The neighbour, happy to oblige, she took her own toddler on morning walks anyway. After several days, Jamie's little friend noticed the lady and the child. "Do you know who that women is who follows us to school?" "Sure" Jamie said, "that's Mrs Goodnest and her daughter Marcy. My mum reads about them everyday in Psalm 23. She says 'Shirley Goddnest and Marcy shall follow me all the days of my life.' Guess I'll have to get used to them."

You will too! God never sends you out alone.

Yours in Christ, John Radcliffe

## ST BARTHOLOMEW'S JANUARY 2018 ROTA

DATE	ALTAR FLOWERS	SIDESPERSIONS	COFFEE	CHURCH OPEN
7th January	Mr & Mrs Stafford	Mrs M Hardy Mrs S Wood	E Radcliffe J Gilleard	6th Mrs S Gregory
14th January	Mrs M Hardy	Mrs J Swallow Mrs A Woodings	C Ward J Collison	13th Mrs V White
21st January	The Schofield Family	Christian Unity Week	Service at Methodist Church	20th Mrs G Taylor
28th January	Mrs & Mrs A Ball	Mrs B Jennings Mrs F Whittaker	M Hardy S Wood	27th Mr N Webb
4th February	Mr & Mrs B Gregory	Mrs C Ward Mrs Radcliffe	M Thorley B Wadsworth	3rd Mrs B Furniss

## ST MARY'S JANUARY 2018 ROTA

Date	Service	Readings	Prayers
7th January	11.15am HC	Angela	Kim
14th January	10.30am joint service at Methodist Church	N/A	N/A
21st January	11.15am Morning Worship	John	Kim
28th January	11.15am Morning Worship	John	Jacqueline
4th February	11.15am HC	Angela	Kim

## ST JAMES' ROTA - JANUARY 2018

Date	Time	Service	Preacher	Leader	Celebrant	Reader
7th January	9.30am 5.00pm	Morning Worship  5 Alive	Nigel Priestly	Hester Deacon		Team
14th January	9.30am St Bart's	Holy Communion / Charlene's last service				None
21st January	10.30am at Methodist Church	Week of Christian Unity Joint Service				None
28th January	9.30am St James'	Holy Communion	P Rolls		P Rolls	C Woods

## CHRIST CHURCH ROTA - JANUARY 2018

Date	Flowers	Intercessions	Side Person	Altar Server	Coffee	Reader
7th January	Pat R	Clergy	Kevin	Jenny	Christine	Jenny H
14th January	Monica	Clergy	Kevin	Christine	Monica	Irene
21st January	Vacant	Clergy	Kevin	Janet	Eileen & Sheila	Pat
28th January	Cyril	Clergy	Kevin	Jenny	Moyra	Janet
4th February	Eileen	Clergy	Kevin	Christine	Janet	Moyra

**PLEASE NOTE** If anyone would like to place flowers on the altar in memory of a loved one, please call either Eileen Hague on **851164** or Margaret Tunnacliffe on **850724** **Thank you**

## READINGS IN THE PARISH JANUARY 2018

<b>Date/Day</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>1st Reading</b>	<b>Gospel</b>
7th January	The Baptism of Jesus	Genesis 1.1-5	Mark 1.4-11
14th January	Jesus calls Philip and Nathanael	1 Samuel 3.1-10 (11-20)	John 1.43 - end
21st January	The Wedding at Cana	Genesis 14.17-20	John 2.1-11
28th January	Jesus and John the Baptist	Malachi 3.1-5	Luke 2.22-40
4th February	The Word Became Flesh	Proverbs 8.1, 22-31	John 1.1-14

## SERVICES IN THE PARISH JANUARY 2018

<b>Date</b>	<b>St Bartholomew's</b>	<b>St James</b>	<b>St Mary's</b>	<b>Christ Church</b>
7th January	9.30am HC	9.30am Morning Worship 5.00pm 5Alive	11.15am HC	11.15 HC
14th January	9.30 HC			
21st January	9.00am Said Eucharist	10.30am Week of Christian Unity Joint Service—Methodist Church		
28th January	9.30am Morning Worship	9.30am HC	11.15am Morning Worship	11.15am HC



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## **COMMUNICATION DURING VACANCY**

**PARISH NUMBER: 01484 850050**

**Parish Email: parishofchristtheking@gmail.com**

**Website: www.melthamparish.co.uk**

**Diocese Website: www.leeds.anglican.org**

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS: 01484 850050**

**Monday to Thursday 9.30am-12.30pm**

### **OUTSIDE OFFICE HOURS:**

For all general enquiries please call during our parish office hours:

**01484 850050 Mon to Thurs 9.30am –12.30pm.**

### **“CHURCH DROP IN”**

**Thursday evenings 6.00pm-7.00pm**

**St Bartholomew’s Church, Meltham.**

For Baptism/Weddings, arrangement for Banns or any other non-urgent enquiry please attend our “Church Drop In” where you can speak to a member of the clergy, church warden, or member of the pastoral team.

**FOR FUNERALS AND ALL URGENT ENQUIRIES PLEASE  
CALL:**

**Irene Harrop (Church Warden) 07963605866**

**--- THANK YOU ---**

# LICENSING SERVICE



Dear All,

You are all warmly invited to...

My last service in the parish of Christ the King Meltham which will be a Eucharist on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 9.30am St Bartholomew's Church.

My forthcoming Licensing Service on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm at St Cuthbert's Church, Cross Hill, High Ackworth, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF7 7EJ

Our new address will be: The Rectory, Cross Hill, High Ackworth, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, WF7 7EJ

I hope to see you there.

**God's Blessing Charlene**

## Parish Child Protection Officer (CPO) / Safeguarding Officer Required

The Parish Child Protection Officer is the key link between the diocese and the parish concerning child protection and safeguarding matters. They will have an overview of all parish activities involving children, young people and vulnerable adults and will monitor the implementation of diocesan guidance.

For more information and to receive a full job description, please speak to **Pat Radford - 01484 851480**

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## Reverend Charlene Moving On

She came to be our Curate  
And soon became our friend,  
Such a pity our relationship  
Did ever have to end.

She brought her husband, Chris, along  
And Owen is their son,  
To Meltham they arrived together  
And all our hearts they won.

We knew she wasn't permanent,  
We knew she couldn't stay,  
But hoped that she'd stay longer,  
That God would find a way.

Well, God made His decision,  
And Charlene is to go,  
But Chris will come and work with us  
To see the Centre grow.

So we stay in Interregnum,  
A sorry state for sure,  
But Charlene helped us at the start  
Now who could ask for more.

So as Charlene's journey starts again  
And she moves to pastures new,  
We wish her happiness and more,  
Good luck from me and you.

By Pam Muragtroyd

*Best  
Wishes*



The Stage Company - Meltham is delighted to announce that their next production will be...

### **PETER PAN THE PANTOMIME!**

It will take place at Meltham Church Hall in February 2018.

The story begins when Peter Pan (the boy who never grows up) visits the nursery of the Darling family to search for his lost shadow. He befriends the children and takes them on an adventure to Neverland where Pirates, Indians, Mermaids and the lost children add to the excitement!

The Panto will be full of colour, music, comedy and excitement so look out for posters and fliers.

The previous two years pantomimes have been 'sell outs' so make sure you get your tickets early to avoid disappointment!

The show runs from Wednesday 14th - Saturday 17th February. The performance times are as follows:

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 7.15pm,  
Saturday Matinee 1.30pm and Saturday evening 6.00pm.

Tickets are available from the Flower Box, Meltham or by calling 01484 684998

Ticket prices are Adults £7.00 and Concessions (OAPS & under 16's) £5.00

Look forward to seeing you there!



## **PRAYING DURING THE INTERREGNUM**

It is really important that during our time of interregnum, we pray regularly for our Church and for the appointment of our next Vicar. You may wish to use this prayer:

**God our Father,  
you have welcomed each one of us in Jesus  
and called us to be his body in this place.  
Send us your Holy Spirit,  
at this time of uncertainty and change,  
to fill us with vision and energy;  
make us faithful in prayer and worship,  
that we may be true to our calling  
to bring new life to our community.  
Guide with your heavenly wisdom  
those who are to choose a new Incumbent for this parish,  
that the one whom we receive  
may be a wise and gentle shepherd of your people:  
ready to serve us with joy, to build us up in faith,  
and to lead us by example in loving obedience to your son,  
our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

### ***St Bartholomew's Women's Fellowship***

The January meeting of the Women's Fellowship will take place on Tuesday 30th January at **2.00pm** (please note new time) in the Church, followed by the Annual General Meeting.

The tea ladies are Elaine Crabtree and Kathleen Cockcroft.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the Christmas Fayre!

Cath Moulson

**A great big...**

*Thank You!*

Thank you to everyone for their support of the "Crisis" coffee morning. Once again a fantastic team made up of church members past and present, OCC volunteers and supportive friends worked hard to make it a success. It was lovely to see so many visitors and there was lots of conversation and "catching up". This year we showed some photos of "life on the street" which certainly proved a talking point and we know that one of the team is already making plans for new things for next year. The kindness of so many people makes this event a pleasure to organise. Due to everyone's generosity, we raised £3,731 for the charity and also supported the work of "Friends of the Holy Land", OCC and the Welcome Centre.

Alison and Richard Whiteley

## **CHURCH DROP IN HOUR**

**Church Drop In Hour** takes place at  
**ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH,**

which is the large Church in the centre on Meltham on Green End Road  
HD9 5NW.

Church Drop In Hour runs weekly between  
**6.00PM AND 7.00PM ON THURSDAYS.**

Arrangements for Banns, Marriage, Baptism or any other non-urgent matter  
may be made between these hours.

When you arrive you will be greeted by a member of our congregation, there  
will be tea or coffee available and if you bring your children with you,  
we can direct them to the toy box while you make your arrangements/  
enquiries.

Please note that when making arrangements for a Wedding, it is important  
that we meet both you and your partner.

*We look forward to meeting you!*

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## Moist Date Loaf (Irene's well sought after recipe!)

### Ingredients:

4 Weetabix  
1 cup of chopped dates / prunes  
1 cup of sugar  
4 tbl spn butter (60g)  
1 teasp bicarbonate of soda  
1 egg  
1 cup of self raising flour  
1 and a half teasp baking powder  
A pinch of salt  
1 cup of boiling water  
Half a cup of chopped walnut and pecan nuts

(if you don't have American cups measure, just use the same cup for all ingredients)

### Method:

1. Preheat oven at 160 degrees
2. Loaf tin lined
3. Large bowl into which you crumble the Weetabix
4. Add sugar, chopped dates / prunes, butter and bicarb
5. Pour a cup of boiling water in and leave to soften for 5 mins
6. Add SR flour, egg and mix together well. The batter will be thick
7. Add chopped nuts
8. Pour into loaf tin and bake for 45 mins or until done
9. Leave to cool in tin



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## **ST MARY'S REPORT**

This month has seen two of our lay members step forward to lead our worship. First on Sunday 19th November, Jacqueline France took a service of Morning Worship and spoke about using our abilities, time and money in God's service and to further His kingdom. Shirley Langrick read the lessons, Kim Howe offered prayers and Elizabeth Pearson was organist.

On Sunday 26th November there was no service at St Mary's as we attended the United service at Helme, to mark the Feast of Christ the King.

The following Sunday was Advent Sunday—the first Sunday of the new church year.

Churchwarden Kim Howe, led a service of Morning Worship for the first time. She spoke about getting ready for visitors and of how we should use Advent as a time to prepare for the coming of Jesus. Elizabeth was organist and we thank her for making a beautiful Advent wreath. Judith Moore lit the first candle on this, Shirley read the lessons and Rev Judy led the intercessions.

Last Sunday there was a service of Holy Communion. The second candle on the Advent wreath was lit by Martha and Betsy Addy as we remembered the prophets and Rev Judy was assisted at the altar by Peter Pearson. Our organist, Elizabeth, read the lessons as well as playing and Rev Judy led the prayers. The theme of the service was the message of John the Baptist—REPENT AND GET READY. There was a choir rehearsal after the service as we prepared for the carol service on December 17th.

We hope you have all had a good Christmas and may we take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Blessed New Year.

## **BELL HOUSE REPORT**

On Wednesday 6th December a Carol Service took place at Bell House. The residents enjoyed hearing again the story of Christmas, as told through our carols and Bible readings. Rev Judy led the service and built up a Nativity scene, adding Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus, an angel, the shepherds and the wise men as the service progressed. We had a lovely time and our thanks go to all the staff at Bell House for all they have done over the to look after the ladies and gentlemen in their care. (The Christmas decorations were fabulous!)

## **UNITED PARISH COMMUNION AT CHRIST CHURCH, HELME**

Rev Charlene Smith was celebrant at a united service to mark the feast of Christ the King, which is our patronal festival. She was assisted at the altar by Rev Dennis Shields and Rev Peter Rolls who also read the lessons. Lay Reader Hester Deacon gave the talk, Rev Judy led the intercessions and Jane Collins was the organist. This was Rev Charlene's last united service with us, before she moves to be the Vicar of Ackworth, so it was quite special to us all. Our thanks go to Christ Church, Helme for making us so welcome and for the coffee and cakes that they provided following the service.

*FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS*

*Marriage, a Gift of God in creation and a means of His grace*

*Olivia Diana Guest & Liam John Ailsby*

*Frances Georgina Smith & Benjamin Howell Phillips*

*Baptisms - We welcome you into the Lord's Family*

*Axel James Warman*

*Lois Deliza Bamforth*

*Funerals - May they rest in peace*

*Brenda Holden*

Anyone wishing to have their loved ones names included in the book of Remembrance at St Bartholomew's please contact Jean Collison : Telephone 851816 (there is a small fee of £5 for church expenses)

Marriages and Baptisms, to be arranged :

Ring (01484) 850050

or email: parishofchristtheking@gmail.com

**REQUIRED PLEASE FOR AN ART PROJECT:**

1) Any Old or Unwanted Cameras, Camera Equipment and Accessories in any condition and even if broken.

2) Any old rolls of film, even expired ones.

*Please contact Revd Dennis on 01484 850074 or 078 1234 9202.*

*Many thanks.!*



### Helme Hall

have their service of

#### **Holy Communion**

On Thursday

25th January 2018, 2.00pm

in the lounge.



All are welcome

### Greenacres

#### **Songs of Praise**

Tuesday 9th January 2018

At 1.30pm

#### **Holy Communion**

Tuesday 23rd January 2018

at 1.30 pm

All are welcome

### Bell House

have their Holy Communion service

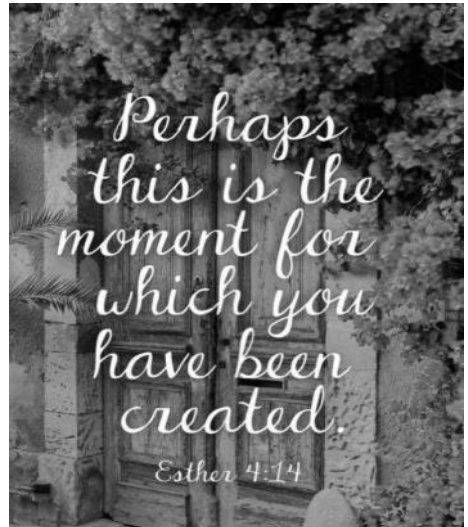
on

Wednesday

3rd January at 10.30am

In the Lounge

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A few from Denis A...

It wasn't like this when we were young (this contribution is priceLESS in my opinion)

Now our phones are wireLESS, cooking - fireLESS,

cars - keyLESS, food - fatLESS,

tyres - tubeLESS, dresses - sleeveLESS,

youth - jobLESS, leaders - clueLESS,

relationships - meaningLESS, attitudes - careLESS,

babies - fatherLESS, feelings - heartLESS,

education - valueLESS, children - mannerLESS,

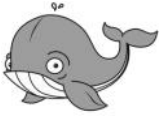
Government - mindLESS, we are speechLESS!

This contribution is worthLESS, and not as first stated, regardLESS of what some may think.

HopeLESS might be a more suitable summary.

Think that's it, more or LESS!

If you want to have a trim figure, daily exercise, a stable diet and no alcohol are essential requirements—yet a whale swims all day, eats only fish and only drinks water but is STILL fat... where's the logic in that?!



Now that I'm older here's what I've discovered - I started out with nothing, and I still have most of it. These days I spend a lot of time thinking about the 'here after'. I go into the kitchen to get something, and then wonder what I'm 'here after!'

To one and all—Happy New Year!

**Meltham Churches Together**  
**'Praying with and for our community'**

**In January we will be praying in**

**St Bartholomew's**

St. Bart's 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan (St. Marys)

St. Bart's 10<sup>th</sup> Jan. (Quaker)

St. Bart's 17<sup>th</sup> Jan. (Christ Church)

St. Bart's 24<sup>th</sup> Jan. (Baptist)

St. Bart's 31<sup>st</sup> Jan. (St. Bart's)

**All welcome!**

**200 Club**  
**DECEMBER winners were**

**£200 631 Mrs E. Shaw**

**£10 226 Mrs B. Furniss**

**£10 565 Mrs B. Brabiner**

**£10 431 Mr J. Halstead**

**£10 219 Mrs J. Lawton**

**£10 384 Mrs M. Tiffany**

## CHURCH HALL DIARY FOR JANUARY 2018

### WEEKLY BOOKINGS:

Every Tuesday	Pilates	10.00am
	'Good as Gold' -	
	With Pam Cox	2.00pm
	Slimming World	5.30 and 7.30pm
Every Wednesday	Zumba Gold	10.00am
Every Friday	Baby Sensory	10.00am
	G & S Rehearsal	7.45pm

### MONTHLY BOOKINGS:

1st Tuesday	Women's Institute	7.30pm
2nd Wednesday	Flower Club	7.00pm
1st & 3rd Thursdays	Cloverleaf Club	1.00pm - 3.00pm
2nd Thursday	Over 60's Club	2.00pm
Last Tuesday (Church)	Women's Fellowship	7.30pm

### SATURDAY COFFEE MORNINGS - Doors open 9.30am

6th January	Church Hall Coffee Morning
(BRING ALONG YOUR UNWANTED CHRISTMAS GIFTS AND LET US AUCTION THEM TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE CHURCH HALL ROOF)	
13th	Mason's Lunch—no coffee morning here but one at the Methodist Church
20th	St Bart's Coffee Morning
27th	Meltham Memories Coffee Morning

### OTHER BOOKINGS

Sunday 14th at 9.30am	Final Service of Rev. Charlene Smith in St Bart's followed by tea / coffee & cake in the Church Hall.
26th January	G & S Society AGM 7.00pm

Please note that all bookings for the Church Hall should be made with Pam Murgatroyd to avoid disappointment or duplication.  
Contact details : 01484 349857 or 07761 393502 [pammurg.mgt@gmail.com](mailto:pammurg.mgt@gmail.com)



## HELME LADIES

For the past 12 months or so, my husband Mel has been putting together a Powerpoint Presentation called (appropriately enough) 'Mel's Orkney Story', which he has been wanting to do for some time and because his Orkney slide show was 25 years outdated. He agreed to a first showing to our group on November 7th and it went down well. The story begins with our unplanned sojourn across the Pentland Firth in 1966 with our bikes and camping equipment, how we both fell in love with these islands and have just visited them again in 2017—our 12th time. The presentation covers the fascinating history of the islands, from the Neolithic period including the current archaeological dig on the Ness of Brodgar. The invasion and settlement by the Vikings, the turmoil caused by the Earls of Orkney, the story of Scapa Flow in the first half of the twentieth century and the significant events since the second world war. What comes across are the beautiful landscapes in which the sea is almost always present, the wonderful lighting due to unpolluted skies and the brilliant sunsets. Mel closes his show with a wonderful sunset which we experienced as we were celebrating our Golden Wedding Anniversary in 2015. We were sat in a lovely restaurant by the window overlooking Loch Harray as the sun was setting. It got better and better! Mel kept popping out between courses to take photographs and the best was the one between our main course and pudding. That photograph now sits in our lounge and is a reminder of Orkney and our 'romantic' evening.

Our meeting in Helme Church of 21st November was a rehearsal for the Christmas Carol Service and Luncheon on the 5th December. We have introduced a new twist into the Order of Service where Bible readings have been replaced with Christmas poems. This seemed to be well received by our members. The Rev. Judy Kenworthy has also accepted our invitation to lead the proceedings for which we are so grateful. Finally, we planned the luncheon which will be soup, hot turkey sandwiches, cakes and tea & coffee, at a price of £4.00 each, with a vegetarian option if required.

Some 75 people came along to Helme Church for our Christmas Carol Service and Luncheon on the 5th December. Naturally we were delighted with so many in attendance which was comforting to our group. Rev. Judy Kenworthy was a delight to have leading our service along with Jean Collison who performed marvellously on the organ. We sang lots of our favourite carols with the poems being read out by members in between. The poems proved to be a success with a theme portraying our modern lives in a consumer led society and how we needed to put this to one side and find space to appreciate the true meaning of Christmas.

The food afterwards was excellent and every mouthful was relished with enthusiasm. The ladies had done a brilliant job with catering and there was a mountain of home-made cakes with which to finish. And at the price we charged this must be the best value around. It was a lovely occasion too and by mid-afternoon everyone was satisfied. The rapport came to an end and our guests drifted away happy.

Hazel Gibson (Leader) Contact telephone—01484 852711

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# INSPIRE



## **INSPIRE 2018—NEW WINE EVENT**

Last year I went to 'New Wine'. A Christian conference actually held in the North. It was a great 3 full days of lovely fellowship, inspirational teaching, shared stories, prayers and discussions around specific issues which directly affect us 'up north', great worship time and fabulous company.

The venue is a fairly remote farm 'Hollybush' (known as Christian Miracle valley) between Thirsk and Northallerton. Hollybush is also a camping and caravan site with the usual facilities. B&B places are nearby or people can come for a specific day.

Unfortunately last year there was little food available for campers on site other than snacks but hopefully this might be addressed this year.

**This year's dates are Friday 17th - Tuesday 21st August 2018**

I am planning to go camping again with my sister and possibly my son and family.

I think it would be a good experience for members of our Parish to be away together with the opportunities for getting to know each other better and thinking about the development and growth of our Parish of Meltham. I offer to coordinate this so if you are interested please look at the website and let me know. Campers can then be together in the same village. Last year there were over 1500 people with about 200 children and 100 teenagers extremely well nurtured. Great for all the family.

Best wishes  
Jane Collins  
01484 854142 or 07731 649487

Website - [www.new-wine.org/events/inspire-2018](http://www.new-wine.org/events/inspire-2018)



*Congratulations to Denis and Elizabeth (Betty) Sykes!  
Who will be celebrating their 75th Wedding Anniversary.  
They were married at St John's Church, Blackpool, on  
30th January, 1943.  
Denis was serving in the R.A.F as ground crew in Black-  
pool at the time.  
They are now both living at Greenacres Care Home.  
Best wishes to them both!*

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Sun	10am-730pm	



/thefoxmeltham



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## **Testimony Time...**

**@ For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.’ Jeremiah 29:11 NIV**

I have been a Christian for many years, and so often we give God credit as Amelia did in last months issue for how he intervenes, changes us and takes us from a dark or unknowing place to being in a knowing relationship with him.

However, God’s grace and guidance does not stop there, as I think this very abridged story of how we moved to Meltham shows.

As a family, Debbie and I were both “Sussex born and bred” we had however for many years wondered about moving out of Sussex. Why, for many reasons, not least that we are the types of people that have restless feet. Also in part living in Sussex is a high cost area and we had often thought about moving to an area where the cost of living was not so high. In addition for us as rural folk the housing development in Sussex was massive, the small town we lived in literally quadrupled in size from little over 10,000 to 40,000 in twenty years, and this is not an isolated case.

We had over the years considered at different times that there were 3 areas in the country that we would like to move to, if we ever did move out of Sussex. The West Country, East Anglia, and Yorkshire.

In 2010 I had reached a stage in my career as a specialist nurse, where I am one of only about 150 at that time in the country, I also felt ready for one last promotion to a more senior role. However, with this level of speciality Career opportunities are few and far between. In addition, at that time my job in Sussex was looking very much at risk, redundancy, and having to leave the speciality I loved and take another nursing role was looking a real possibility.

I was not really looking for another job. However one night I was “surfing the net” and felt inspired to have a look at the NHS jobs website, there was a job in Huddersfield, Yorkshire advertised that was not only my speciality, but also the promotion and challenge I felt ready for.

Well getting the job was the easy part. Moving a family and my elderly and increasingly dependant mother, to the other end of the country, plus achieving this without too much disruption to our daughters schooling, (she was just about to start her GCSE’s) needed a lot more planning and faith.

Space does not permit me to fill in all the detail and every bit of God’s guidance and provision, if I did it would fill a book. However, suffice to say having taken the job at one point it looked like I would be travelling back and forwards to Yorkshire for 3 years.

Then the following February we came to the decision and some of the obstacles dropped out of the way, that if we could organise the move so that our daughter could start at her new school in September at the start of her GCSE course we could do it.

One long weekend in April instead of me travelling to Sussex, my wife and daughter travelled up. To be introduced to her new school (Royds Hall), we chose one near where I worked so that we could live anywhere, and also to look at houses to rent. I had lined up 5 that were suitable all over Huddersfield and district, one in Meltham.

By the Sunday night we were sitting in a restaurant debating the various attributes of the various houses, and our daughter said, “its the one in Meltham isn’t it? Because we are already talking about it as though it is ours”. We thought ‘Yep she’s right’. The next working day I put down the deposit.

A few weeks later my wife was bringing my mum up to look for a place for her to rent. Me Mr. Super confident, did not worry about this bit. How hard can it be to find a suitable flat or bungalow for one elderly person to rent for a few months? Well having looked in my spare time for 2 weeks, 2 hours before I was due to meet them off the train at Mirfield, I had 3, non of which was really suitable. In desperation I went into our village financial advisor and said don’t suppose you know of anywhere do you? “no sorry”. I had been home 5 minutes and when the phone rung. “Were you the guy who was asking just now about a place to rent? Well I have had an idea, one of my customers has a bungalow they may be interested in renting out, let me make a phone call”. It was literally just up the road from us and perfect. Sorted!!

(Continued on next page)

We now just had 2 houses in Sussex to sell and the need to find a 4 bedroom house with a Granny annexe somewhere in Kirklees! And there aren't many of those about, at a time when property was not selling.

Both our houses in Sussex sold within 6 months and 2 weeks of each other. We then spent an entire weekend, looking around Kirklees for a suitable house and by the Sunday night we said to each other, God must be having laugh at our expense, here we are driving around looking at houses, and He is saying what are you doing? I have shown you the perfect house just up the road from you and opposite your mum's bungalow and you are still looking!! Okay God we get it!

Over the time we have been here there have been many challenges and times when we have wondered did we do the right thing moving to Yorkshire? At those times we have been able to go back to God's amazing provision and know we are in the right place, and yes Meltham now feels very much like home.

Maybe this story has inspired you to want to know more about God and his provision, for you. If so, how about giving Nigel priestly a ring or an email and registering your interest in the Alpha Course.

Happy New Year – Mike Still

*(If you have a testimony that you would like to share of what God has done in your life then please email it into - [parishofchristtheking@gmail.com](mailto:parishofchristtheking@gmail.com))*

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## Epiphany House Blessing

### Chalking the Door:

An Epiphany House Blessing 2018

The wider Church has a custom of blessing  
homes on the  
**FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY: JANUARY**  
**6<sup>TH</sup>**

to ask God's blessing on our homes and those  
who live or visit them.

It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest  
in our home, our comings and goings, our  
conversations, our work and play, our joys  
and sorrows.

A traditional way of doing this is to use chalk  
blessed during our Epiphany liturgy and  
write above the doorway to the house,  
**20 + C + M + B + 18.**

The letters C, M, B have two meanings.  
They are the initials of the traditional names  
of the three Magi:

Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar.

They also abbreviate the Latin words  
'*Christus Mansionem Benedicat*' 'May Christ  
bless this house'.

The + signs represent the cross and 2018 is the  
year.

If you would like your home to be blessed this  
feast of Epiphany,

please contact Revd Charlene

Tel: 01484 851334 or email:  
[charlene.smith1979@gmail.com](mailto:charlene.smith1979@gmail.com)

*Charlene*

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## St. Bartholomew's Roof

It is with great delight that I can report the news that we have been given permission to start the much needed roof repairs at St. Bartholomew's.

As most of you will know, we have been bidding for funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund to help us out with the cost of this work.

By the time you read this we will have announced the HLF have given us the funding and work will commence on 15th January 2018, and is expected to be completed by 29th June 2018.

This news has been long overdue , we were massively disappointed to be turned down in our first request but all's well now. My sincere thanks go to all those who have donated to the fund and I hope the work will not be too much of a hindrance.

Peter Murgatroyd - Assistant Churchwarden

### **Magic and Mirth at Meltham Church Hall!**

Wondering how we could entertain our seven and ten year old grandchildren on a Saturday evening, we went along to the 'Music Hall' held in the Church Hall, which was organized by Peter and Pam Murgatroyd to raise funds for research into Alzheimer's disease.

What a treat! We, together with our grandchildren enjoyed a most varied and entertaining evening with singing, recitations, magic and monologues. Every item was light hearted and often hilarious and led by our very able compere John Mitchell (brandishing a gavel and sporting a bowler hat) we laughed and clapped our way through the evening and the time just flew by. We all enjoyed our delicious pie and peas supper supplied by Michael Pogson in the interval, and fortified, returned to our seats for the second half.

Special thanks go to Peter and Pam Murgatroyd who not only organized the evening but also took part; to the artistes Richard Ryden, Helen Bamforth, Dorothy Foster, Richard Styan, Norman Mellor and his accompanist, the Magician and his assistants - not forgetting James Bamforth who accompanied some of the items and entertained us during the interval. You are all stars!

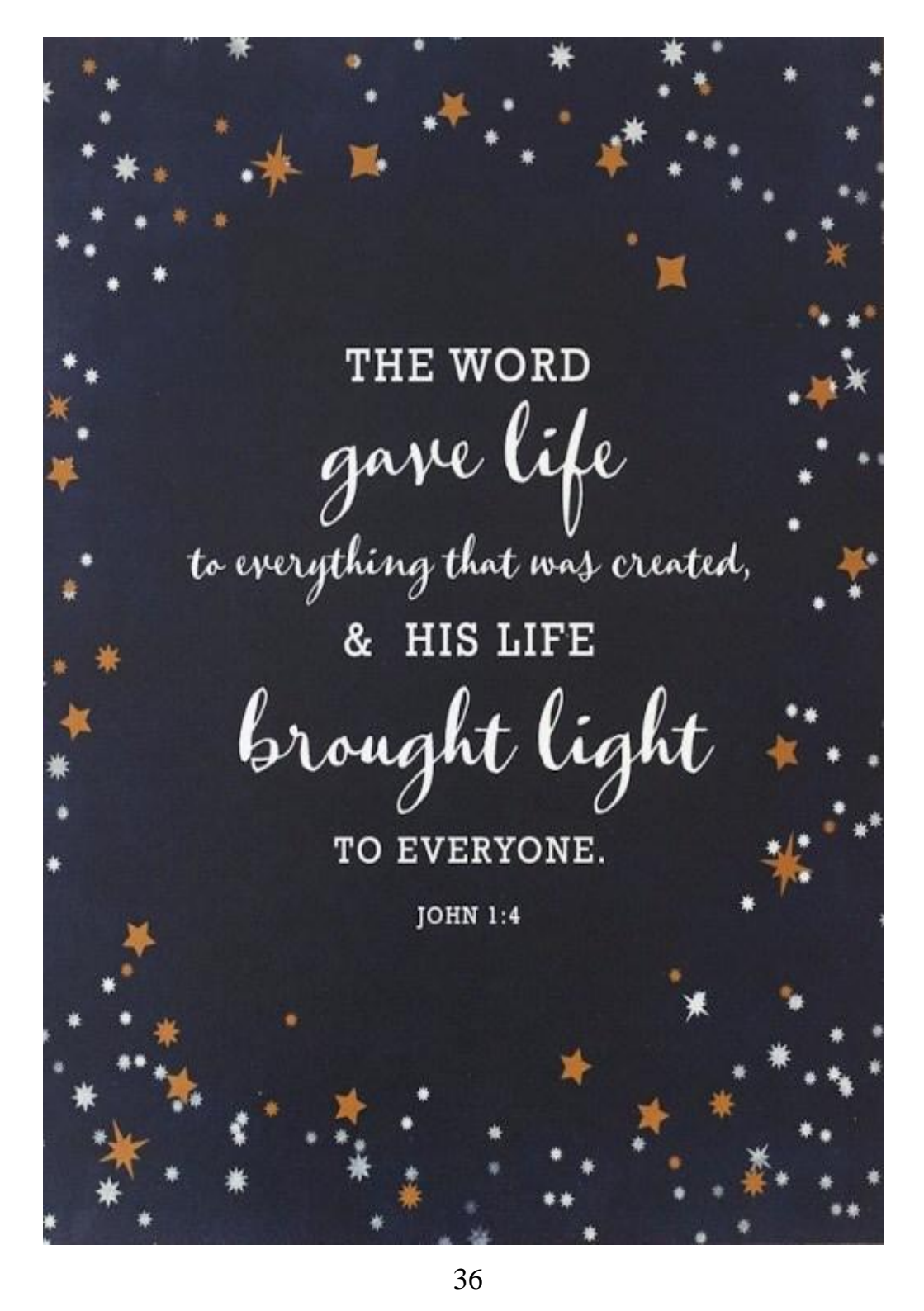
Almost £500 was raised for 'Alzheimer's Research' – a splendid result.

Jean Burhouse

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JOHN 1:4