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For me, the life of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace ... is an inspiration and an anchor in my life. A role-model of reconciliation and forgiveness, he stretched out his hands in love, acceptance and healing. Christ's example has taught me to seek to respect and value all people of whatever faith or none.

- HRH Queen Elizabeth II, Christmas speech 2014

VICAR OF THE PARISH OF MELTHAM CHRIST THE KING

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Facebook Page: Parish of Meltham - Christ the King



Gracious God, we give you thanks for the reign of your servant Elizabeth our Queen, and for the example of loving and faithful service which she has shown among us. Help us to follow her example of dedication and to commit our lives to you and to one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

A note from the editor ...

Hello!

Welcome to the special Jubilee edition of the Parish Magazine, this month we have gone all out in celebrating the wonderful achievement of 70 years of service by HRH Queen Elizabeth II.

Also there are some interesting articles on RNLI (pg24) and the second instalment of bell ringing (pg 13) not only that, but there is the start of the new monthly feature of 'Eco Church' (pg 9) with a great idea on how to look after the local wildlife.

I hope you manage to get out and join in the Jubilee Celebrations, details of church service changes are on the centre page.

As always a big 'Thank You' to all who have contributed it is you who make this magazine what it is.

The next deadline for the **July /August double issue** of the magazine will be:

Friday 17th June 2022

Please send them via:

melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com or

via the vicarage letterbox. (150 Huddersfield Rd, HD9 4AL)

God Bless, Fiona.

Meltham Prayer Chain

Meltham Prayer chain has representatives from every church in Meltham and serves to pray for any need or difficulty.

Confidentiality is always respected.

If you would like to ask for prayers to be said, please contact

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Letter from your Vicar.

June is a busy month this year, almost like God is trying to show us what He is offering to us. First the steadfastness of HRH Queen Elizabeth on her Platinum Jubilee at the same time as Pentecost but also Trinity Sunday and Father's Day is on the same day on 19th June. All 4 reminding us of the love and strength of a father, the loyalty and service of the Queen and of course the ever working, ever presence of the Holy Spirit.

As a nation, in April we celebrated the Queen's 96th birthday. She is the longest reigning monarch in British history (70 years compared with Victoria's 63 years). Up until recently she attended church every week and did a full week's work!

It is her commitment to serving God and the nation which stands out in her life. Even before she became Queen, she made a promise, which she has kept for over 75 years: 'I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service' (21st birthday broadcast, 21 April 1947).

What is the secret of the Queen's consistency of character and service? In 2002 she said this: 'I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God.' Here are wise words from somebody who draws her strength from the Christian Faith and inspiration for those of us who want to make our lives count!

The Queen has been an example of joyful, wise, and generous service on behalf of others all her life. Six months before her coronation she asked the nation and commonwealth to 'pray that God may give me wisdom and strength to carry out the solemn promises I shall be making, and that I may faithfully serve Him and you, all the days of my life.' Clearly, God has answered those prayers!!

As we remember and celebrate each of these events may we too, look to dedicate our lives and faithfully serve Him, and others, in all we do.



God bless Reverend John (Vicar)



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GOING GREENER - Moving towards an Eco Church

"Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good" Genesis 1v31

Two years ago the General Synod of the Church of England –the General Synod is the governing body of the C of E - made the bold decision that all Church of England churches would be Carbon Zero rated by the year 2030 – that's in eight years!. 'God's people have a moral obligation to take good care of God's creation – it is the right thing to do'

All churches were to appoint an Environment Champion who would help keep 'Green Issues' on the agenda; 'nudge' the PCC in the right direction when looking at heating; lighting; building and garden maintenance and general energy usage. The Environment Champion is also supposed to encourage individual folk, myself very much included, to perhaps take a closer look at just how green we are, and how we can all do our bit to improve our own local environment.

I'm sure, like most people, I sort of know what we are supposed to do – turn the thermostat down; think sustainable energy; insulate the loft; recycle more; don't use' single use' plastic; cut down on car use; drive an electric car if you can afford it, eat less red meat; eat more seasonal fruit and veg; cut down on waste; use greener cleaning stuff and detergents - on and on the list goes! It's all very worthy and in the main not too difficult, but apart from the electric car, maybe, nothing makes my heart beat faster. Sometimes I even wonder if all this effort, and it is an effort, and a commitment, is really going to help solve the problem of climate change. We know it is the world governments and huge global corporations who can really bring about change and make a proper, long lasting difference.

However, doing something, even if it is quite a little something is much better than doing nothing! We literally have to be God's hands here in Meltham doing our bit to 'care for his creation'.

Over the next few months, if the Editor allows, I hope to find interesting information to share, some easy, 'doable' actions we can try, and look out for tips and hacks to pass on. I don't think I'll ever be gluing myself to the church railings in support of Greta Thunberg or the Extinction Rebellion movement but I may just approach 'Green' matters with a little more enthusiasm and seriousness!

Something to start with in the garden this summer – don't keep it all too tidy – have an area which is more rustic, where bugs and creepy crawlies can flourish. Sow a wild flower patch –the bees will love you. If you're really keen, how about a small wild life pond? Now **that** would be exciting!

God bless our efforts

Jenny Mathers - Environment Champion

Please continue to contribute to Meltham Food Bank

They especially need the following items:

Tuna, Coffee, Sugar, Semi Skimmed long life milk, pet food, washing powder, washing up liquid, Toiletries e.g shampoo, shaving cream, shower gel, toothpaste, soap and feminine hygiene products.

Drop into the bins at the Coop in Meltham and Netherton. Fresh & frozen veg welcome but these <u>must</u> be delivered to the <u>centre only</u>.



Financial donations are also welcome.

Post through the centre door, labelled clearly 'Food bank'. Mon - Fri 10—12.30.

WANTED FOR UKRAINE FAMILIES

Any donations of children's jigsaws will be gratefully received.

They can be dropped off at Meltham Library or collected by Pam Murgatroyd - 07761 393502 - pammurg.mgt@gmail.com

'Side by Side'

'Side by Side' is a small group run by volunteers who meet to offer friendship and support to people who are beginning to have memory problems or have recently been diagnosed with <u>dementia</u> or <u>Alzheimer's disease</u>.

The group, which has been running now for six years, meets every <u>Monday morning</u> from <u>10.00-12.00</u> at the <u>Methodist Church, Meltham.</u>



There is a small charge of £3.00

We aim to provide a relaxed atmosphere with opportunities to chat; share memories; enjoy a range of activities which all encourage conversation, confidence and generally have a good time on a Monday morning!

If you would like more information please contact: Judith Powell- 859460 or Jenny Mathers - 850839

Church Working Group

We are back and already getting started!! This is your chance to have a good chat and a laugh as well as helping to achieve a tidy church yard or graveyard.

Here are June's dates, so grab your flask or water bottle and join in.

Without hard work, nothing grows but so weeds. Gordon B. Hinckley

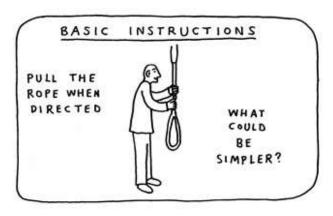
Saturday mornings from about 09.30 to 12.00.

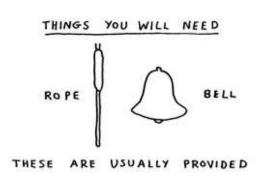
<u>11th June</u> - Calmlands Bush and undergrowth cutting.

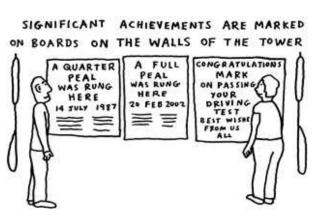
25th June - Helme Church yard.

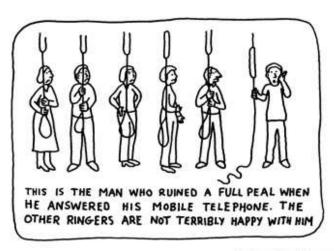
Feel free just to turn up, for all or a part of the session. As we are outside, it is always weather dependant, here's trusting for a long hot summer!

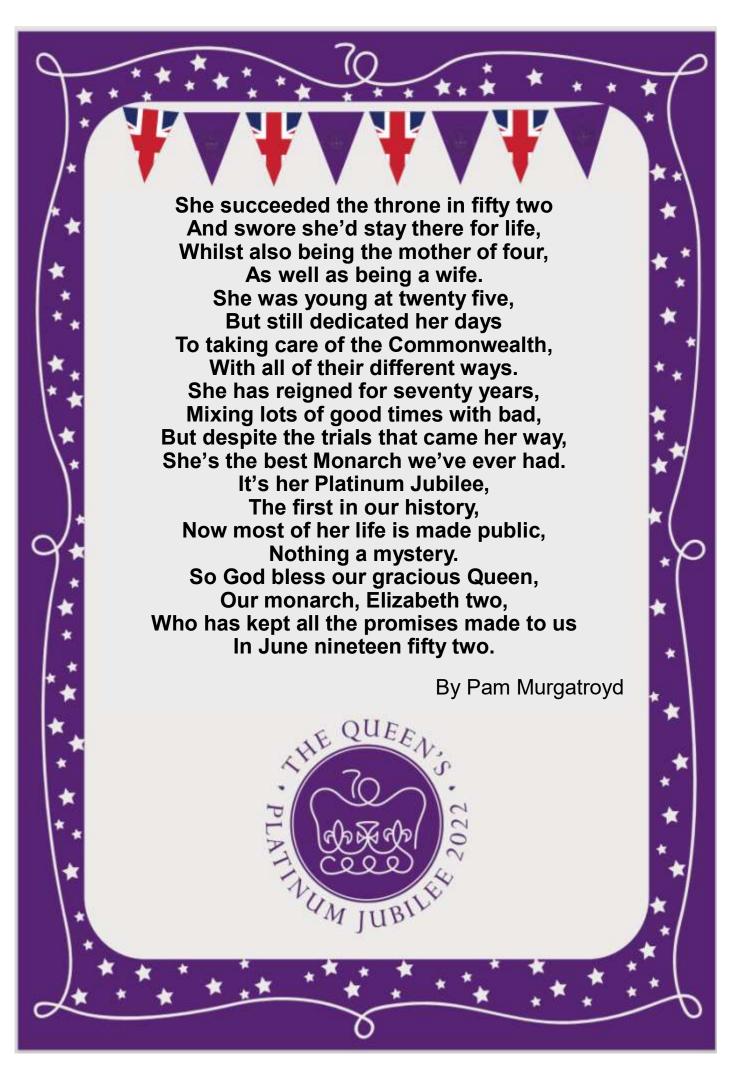
THE BELL - RINGERS











Boring Bells ?!

Ringing church bells may well seem like a fairly boring pastime to anyone who is not involved with it!

Certainly if you stood outside the tower watching ringers going in you may well think that it's just a bunch of old folk getting together!



BUT:

If you hang around a bit or at different towers you may well change your mind. There are young ringers as well as every other age group, and it can be exciting once you 'get into it'.

Most universities have 'ringing societies', and for students going to university it is a great way to meet up and enjoy sharing with your fellow students a common interest, usually not just the ringing but also the socialising.

Many ringers finish off a session with a beer (or two!).

So, for any youngster working towards their place at university bell ringing is a good way of meeting and joining a ready made social group.

Obviously if you can already ring you will be a very valued member of the group and be immediately 'in the thick of it' all.

For those with no interest in university life it is rewarding in so many ways; At a simple physical level it gives you a good cardio—vascular work out.

It is also good to help you physical strength and stamina, and I know from personal experience that it helps stretch my back (I'm getting old).

Bell ringing can also give you a very good brain work out. Even at the basic level the ringer has to think about what they are doing (the skills involved) and as you progress there are (if you wish) more intellectual exercises to contemplate. One of the important positives about being part of the bell ringing fraternity is, I believe, the social and friendship side that most ringers engage in.

We often hear these days about peoples mental well being needs caring for! Bell ringers are a ready made friendly and sociable group who, generally speaking, enjoy conversing with each other, very often over a beer or glass of wine following their weekly practice session.

We are a very friendly and sociable group and always ready and willing to welcome new members to our group.

If you want to know more or are interested in bell ringing, Practise is every **Thursday evening 7pm-8pm at St Bartholomew's church.**Beginners are welcome. Peter Murgatroyd is the Tower Captain.

Contact 07752746676

Advance Notice:

Tower Open day may be Saturday July 2nd. Meltham Memories Day!

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JUST FOR FUN!

Did you know, the word 'Queue' is just a 'Q' followed by 4 silent letters?

Did you realise that your fingers have fingertips, but your toes do not have toetips?

Why is it that when you transport something by lorry it is called "Shipment", and when you transport something by sea it is called "cargo"?

I'm told that when you drink a pint of beer you shorten your lifespan by 9 minutes. This being so, according to my calculations I died sometime in 1644!

When my great grandson was 3 years old I said to him, "After I've introduced your to salad, I'm going to Ineed your help with some computer stuff."

Café menu - Seniors Special Breakfast, £2.99, Two eggs, bacon, hash browns, sausage & toast.

- "Sounds good", I said, "but I don't want the eggs"
- "In that case, I'll have to charge you £3.99" said the waitress
- "You mean I have to pay for not wanting the eggs" I asked incredulously.
- "Yes "she said, "because you're ordering a la carte"
- "O.K I'll have the special then" I said
- "How would you like you eggs?" the waitress asked.
- "Raw, & in the shell" I said. After eating the remainder of the 'special' I took the two eggs home and basked a cake. In other words, "Don't mess with Seniors".

And Finally - We should remember that we are here on earth to do good to others. What the others are here for I've no idea.

God Bless one and all, Dennis A.

Don't mess with Children (Part 2)

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to 'honour' thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?' From the back, one little boy (the eldest) answered, 'Thou shall not kill'.

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. Trying to make the matter clearer, she said, 'Now class, if I stood on my head, the blood, as you know, would run into it, and I would turn red in the face'. 'Yes' the class said. 'Then why is it that while I am standing upright in the ordinary position the blood doesn't run into my feet?' A little fellow shouted, 'Cause your feet aren't empty'.

Farewell service for Bishop Jonathan as he heads to new role in Rochester. (taken from Leeds diocese website)



Huddersfield said farewell with a loud round of applause as Bishop Dr Jonathan Gibbs said goodbye at a special evensong service on Sunday 22nd May 2022.

Civic representatives at the town's parish church included the Mayor of Kirklees, Cllr Nigel Patrick and Jason McCartney MP for Colne Valley and worshippers were welcomed by

the Rt Revd Nick Baines, Bishop of Leeds.

A choir formed of singers from St Peter's, Dewsbury and Halifax minsters led the praise at the special celebration, which was also an act of worship.

In his final sermon, Bishop Jonathan thanked everyone in the Huddersfield Area for their support and partnership during his nearly eight years in post. He reflected on the difficult times we live in and how after coping with the Covid pandemic, everyone had emerged with hope from a "long winter", only to be met by the horror of conflict in Ukraine and looming economic hardship.

"But be sure that after Winter, Spring always breaks through," Bishop Jonathan said.

"We must tell people the source of our hope, which is that Jesus has risen from the dead, God is sovereign, evil will be overturned and that Jesus is with us always."

In a brief question and answer session with Bishop Nick, Bishop Jonathan said the highlight of his time in the Huddersfield Episcopal Area was working closely with parishes and communities who were committed to doing wonderful things for local people.

He said that and his wife Toni were looking forward to his new roles as Bishop Rochester and he joked that he was following the path of St Paulinus, by heading south as a keen missionary from the north.



Toni Gibbs, +Jonathan & +Nick pictured.

'Jubilee Sunday' 5th June

There will be a <u>Jubilee Celebration Service at 4pm at St James</u>' Church, Meltham Mills for the whole family to enjoy. Come dressed in Red, White & Blue if you can.

Other services will be at the usual times in the usual places as detailed below. However <u>St James' 9.30am service will **cancelled**</u> in preparation for the 'Party in the Park' at Robert Ashton park starting at 11am. (If you can help in any way please do let Mike Still or Alison Whiteley know (contact details on pg 4)

Weekly Sunday Parish Services for June.

You are also all welcome to join us any other week at any of the following weekly Services:

St Bartholomew's Church, Meltham - 9.30am

St James' Church, Meltham Mills - 9.30am (1st Sunday of the month is usually a 'Family Sunday' service)

St Mary's Church, Wilshaw - 11.15am

Sunday services at 11.15am have now resumed at Christ Church, Helme

Please keep an eye out on the Church facebook page: 'Parish of Meltham - Christ the King' for updates on services and events.

As a reminder **Sunday 29th May** there will be a **Parish Communion** at **10.30am** hosted by St Mary's, Wilshaw and worship will be led by St James', Meltham Mills. All are welcome as all four churches join together.

<u>Please Note:</u> As we will all be joining together, there will be <u>no</u>other services available that Sunday.



Women's Fellowship, St Bartholomew's.

We are having an outing to Tong Garden Centre on Tuesday 28th June. Leaving Meltham Church Hall at 10am and arriving back for 4.30pm. The cost is £18 per person, names to Catherine Moulson or Sue Gregory.

Be quick! There is only 20 seats available.



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St Mary's Report

What a happy time of year it is as we continue to celebrate, with joy our risen Lord and to enjoy warm sunny days, beautiful green trees and colourful flowers. - especially the bluebells that carpet the woods at this time of year.

Lay Reader Jacqueline France has led two of our services over the last month and Rev John Dracup the other two. As usual we have some people in church and some on zoom and we continue to pray for a few of our church family who are not very well at the moment.

Three of the services were Service of the Word and Rev John was celebrant at the communion held on 8th May. We have heard about Jesus' appearance to His disciples and to doubting Thomas, we shared a meditation on May Day as we imagined what it would be like to share a fish supper, on the beach, with the Risen Jesus. We were challenged to take risks and to do the unexpected as we do our best to follow Jesus. Also, we were encouraged not to pre-judge people or situations.

As I write this report our Flower Festival is just a couple of weeks away so as you can imagine there is a flurry of activity going on with cleaning, washing of pots, final plans for flowers and food to be ordered and for the floral displays. By the time you get this magazine it will all be over but, in the meantime, we hope you came along to enjoy the beautiful floral displays which depicted lots of different hobbies and perhaps enjoyed the united service on Sunday 29th May and shared some refreshments and a couple of displays in the Sunday School.

God Bless Rev'd Judy



Bell House Care Home

On Wednesday 4th of may the residents enjoyed a songs of praise service which was led by Revd Judy. We had a really good sing with plenty of hymns and listened to some readings from the Bible and some prayers all based on praising God

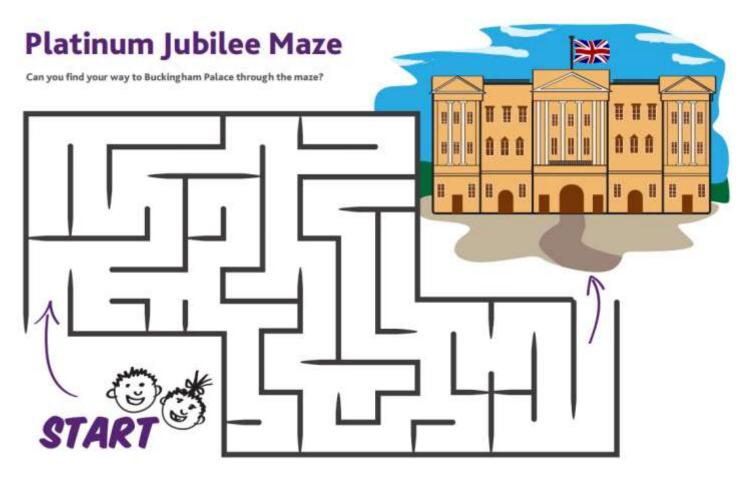
Meltham Family Pages

Jubilee Family Celebration

Sunday 5th June 4pm

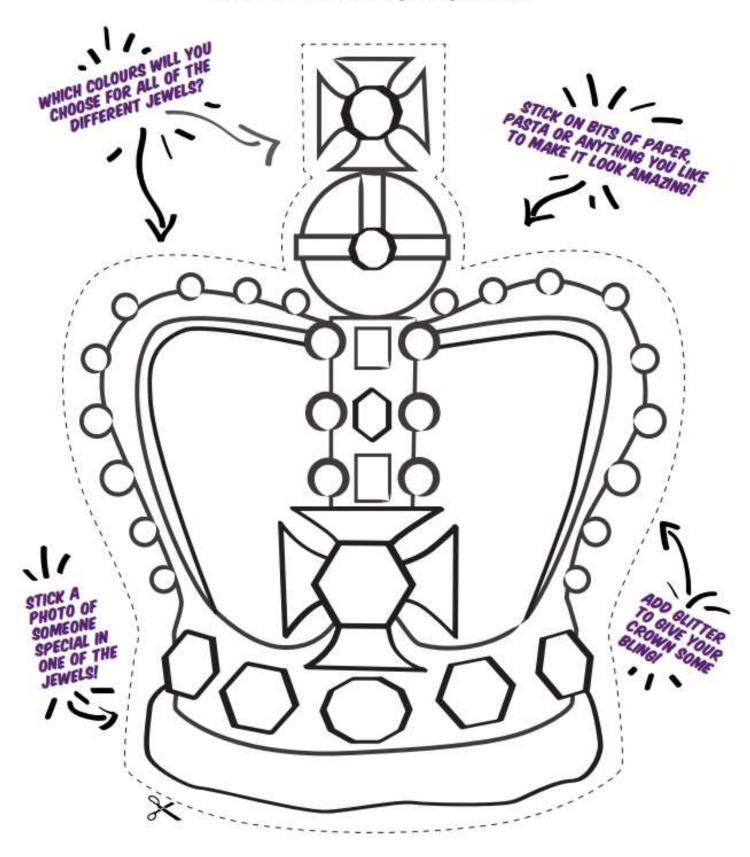
St James' Church, Meltham Mills

Come dressed in Red, White & Blue or just as you are!



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Helme Ladies Report

On Tuesday 12th April Helme Ladies had a morning of sharing recipes with tastes available. For some reason it was a depleted group, I myself was on holiday in the Outer Hebrides, so my information comes from those who were there.

A wide variety of cakes and biscuits were brought which were tried and tested family recipes. These were exchanged and copied, especially the ones they liked best. The Ladies then tried their best to eat all the goodies but, from what I was told, failed miserably. They had a bonus though in the 'doggy bags' they took home, and I was informed that they were all caked out!!

Our next meeting on 26th April was a talk by Pauline Robertshaw who has taught in different places around the World. She concentrated on her time in the Far East, Abu Dhabi in the early 70's, long before Dubai was the fascinating place it is today. Pauline was teaching reception children and the school day started at 8am and finished at 1pm, with a meal break half way through. She also presided over exams for older students where males and females were segregated.

We were shown examples of the clothing worn by men and women and although the women wore black gowns and covered their heads and faces, they wore the most gorgeous shoes embroidered in bright flowers and gold thread. It had been a most interesting talk and the questions carried on while we had our refreshments.

We held an auction on May 10th which was loads of fun. The table groaned with all the items up for grabs. Dorothy was wielding the gavel, Jenny was the financial wiz and Margaret was the runner. Where do you start with such a varied selection of items, well how about a pair of slippers, followed by a jumper and a fleecy jacket. Jugs and plant pots, how many do you want? Jewellery, scarves, jigsaws and so on, then we came to the bath products. How about some Miracle Cream and Anti-Wrinkle Cream both claiming to reduce ageing and wrinkles, we are going to be a beautiful bunch!!!

We pressed on through the lots, tea was not going to be served until everything had been sold. In the end we had raised £70 to add to our charity total.

This was our last meeting in the Church Hall for now, we shall be back in Helme Church for our next meeting which will be our plant sale.

Upcoming events:

June 7th Platinum Jubilee Celebration at Helme Church.

June 21st Day in Uppermill

July 5th Walk on the canal at Marsden with lunch at the New Inn







Saving lives at sea in Huddersfield with the RNLI

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) is seeking lifesavers in the Huddersfield area. The Honley and Brockholes RNLI Fundraising branch is looking for extra volunteers to join its friendly team.

Andy Ingham, Vice-Chairman, explained: 'There's a saying in the RNLI that you don't have to get your feet wet to save lives at sea. This is certainly the case for our branch; we might be miles from the coast, but we've been raising vital lifesaving funds for the charity for over 90 years.

'We recently marked the 40th anniversary of one of our proudest fundraising achievements in providing an inshore lifeboat to Newbiggin RNLI lifeboat station in Northumberland. This followed a successful campaign that was supported by the Mayor of Kirklees and the whole community.

'The lifeboat was named *Kirklees* and during its service at the station it launched 112 times and saved 75 lives.'

In a typical year the small but dedicated team could have a calendar of events which includes activities such as boat and tractor pulls, Gala concerts, agricultural shows, coffee mornings and talks to local community and school groups.

Andy added: 'We'd love to hear from anyone who would like to join our team and help us to continue to be able to save lives at sea.

'It's a great opportunity to put your skills to good use, gain some valuable voluntary experience and have fun and meet new people, regardless of how much or how little time you have to spare.'

To find out more, please contact 07884944118 or 07795204958



REGULATOR

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Weddings - A gift of God in Creation & a means of His grace

Baptisms - We welcome you into the Lord's family

Funerals - May they rest in peace

Monica Dixon, Angela Sykes, Ruth Holroyd

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)

To contact our vicar Rev John Dracup: 07983 937132 parishofchristtheking@gmail.com

200 CLUB: MAY Winners:

082	£50	Mr. M. Norcliffe
046	£10	Mr. M. France
735	£10	Mr. C. Brearley
198	£10	Mrs. A. Austwick
418	£10	Mr. H. Webster

Interested in the 200 club?

It costs just 25p per week (£13 pa). Prizes are £50 per month except June where it is £100 & December where it is £200. The prizes determined by the last 3 digits of the monthly premium bond draw.

For more info, please contact either:
Michael Farrel 07768258257
m.farrellphd@btinternet.com
David Earnshaw 341968,
C Moulson 850171

St Bartholomews Flowers

05/06/22	Mr & Mrs C Atkinson
12/06/22	W. Fellowship
19/06/22	Mr & Mrs Jennings
26/06/22	vacant
03/07/22	vacant

If you would like to put flowers on the Altar in memory of a loved one, we do have dates available.



Please contact: Catherine Moulson (850171)

Saturday Coffee Mornings

9.30am - 12pm at Meltham Village Hall, hosted by local organisations.



4th June - Christ Church, Helme

11th June - Friend to Friend

18th June - Hospice

25th June - Stage Co.

2nd July - Meltham Memories Weekend - St Bartholomew's

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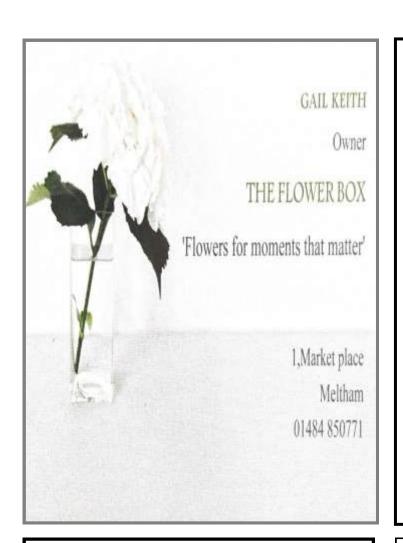
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Volunteer at the Library

by Pam Murgatroyd

Do you like to go to the Library, The place to take out free books? Why not volunteer to work there? It's much easier than it looks.

You have to be over sixteen,
But any age after that,
Come into the library in opening times
And stop one of us for a chat.

We are really a friendly group,
The shifts are four hours 'til it ends
And we're not just working for free,
The volunteers are all known as Friends,

If you have a few hours to spare You can make new friends in return, You'll get all the training you need, While you soak up the new skills to learn.



FRIENDS OF MELTHAM LIBRARY

asks

ARE YOU BETWEEN 12 & 16 years old?

HOW HAS COVID AFFECTED YOU?

Tell us your story in no more than 500 words as a story or poem, preferably by computer & emailed to the address below or handwritten and brought into Meltham Library.

Closing date for entries is: Monday 29th August 2022

There will be cash prizes for the winners, 2 age groups: 12-14yrs & 15-16 yrs (Parental consent must be provided)

Email entries as a PDF or Word Document to: pam.murg2@gmail.com

If handwritten, please bring into Meltham Library addressed to Pam Murgatroyd & include name and contact details



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Next Month the magazine is...

A Double Issue

Please send in any contributions for July and August by Friday 17th June to:

melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com



Photo taken by Val White. (2021)

MELTHAM SCARECROW FESTIVAL SUNDAY 5TH JUNE 2022 11am-4pm

FOLLOW THE TRAIL AND CHECK OUT THE BRILLIANT SCARECROW CREATIONS! (see our map overleaf)



FRIENDS OF ROBERT ASHTON MEMORIAL PARK PRESENTS

Party In The Park

Robert Ashton Park | 11am - 4pm | 5 June, 2022

