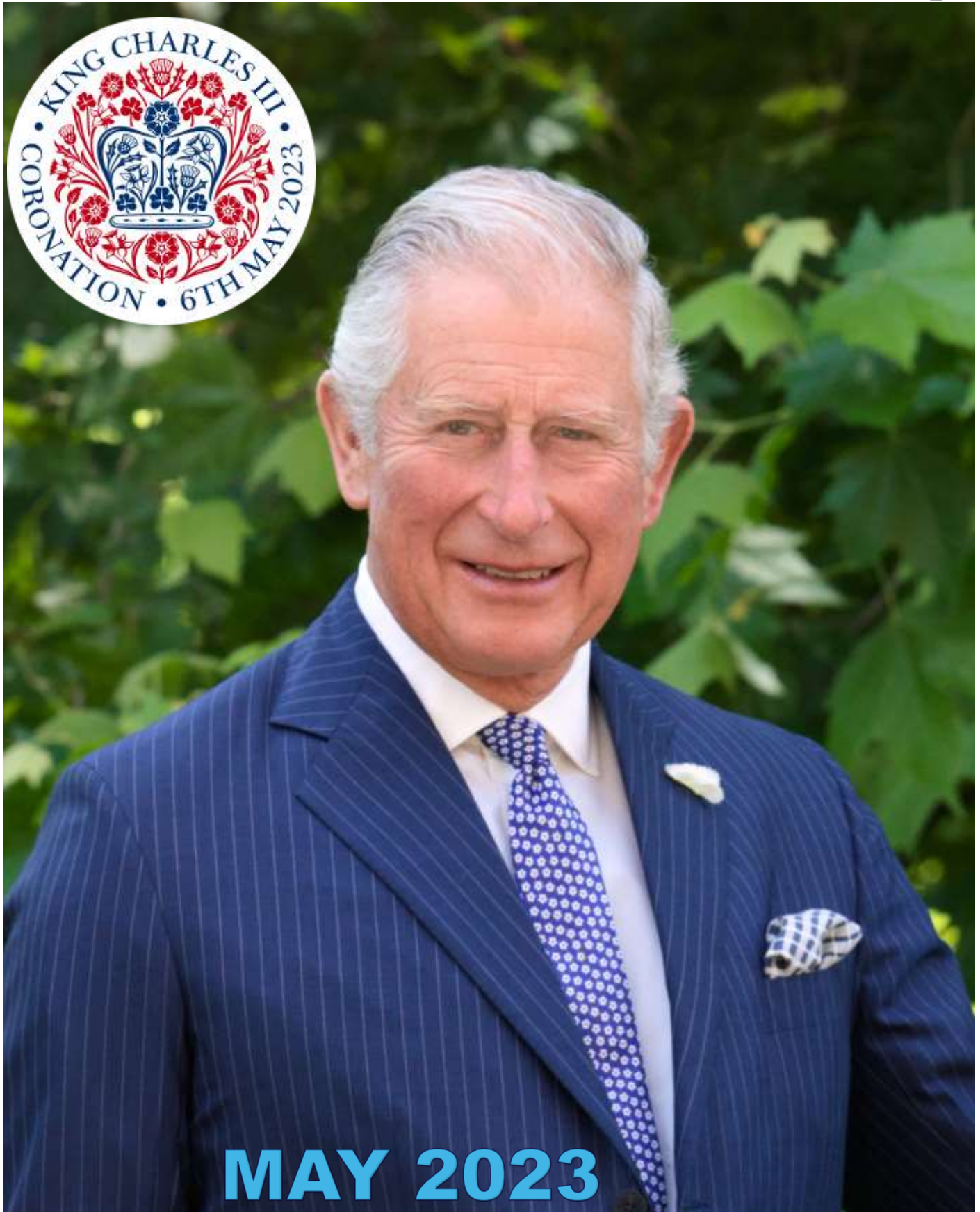


# THE PARISH OF MELTHAM

## CHRIST THE KING

50p



**MAY 2023**



# **CORONATION FUN DAY**



**MELTHAM CHURCH HALL**  
**SATURDAY 6TH MAY**



*Coronation being shown LIVE  
on the BIG screen*

*Coffee, tea and biscuits available from  
9:30am*

*Bring your own lunch*

*Children's crafts available 11am - 1pm*

*Fun Quiz*



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Before Pentecost the disciples found it hard to do easy things;  
after Pentecost, they found it easy to do hard things.

– *AJ Gordon*

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

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**melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com**

Or via The Vicarage, 150 Huddersfield Road, Meltham, HD9 4AL





## A Prayer for The King

Almighty God, the fountain of all goodness, bless our Sovereign Lord, King Charles, and all who are in authority under him; that they may order all things in wisdom and equity, righteousness and peace, to the honour of your name, and the good of your Church and people; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

## A note from the editor ...

Hello!

Welcome to the Coronation edition of the Parish magazine. Such a historical moment not to be missed.

We enjoyed a lovely Easter with all that was going off in the Parish please see the back pages to learn more.

Thank you as always for your continued support and contributions. See page 12 for more tips and ideas to keep 'Going greener'. You can also find out what has been happening at the Crossroads and Foodbank with a VIP visit (pgs 10-11) There is a new feature this month on recommended reading, (pg 13) if you have any please do let me know so I can include them in future editions.

Due to the half term school holidays, the next deadline of the magazine will be a little early:

**Friday 19th May 2023**

Please send them via:

**[melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com](mailto: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.

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Rev Peter Rolls      340342

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## **Letter from your Vicar**

Recently the Parish had it's Annual Parochial Church Meeting, here is the letter Rev'd John wrote to encourage us all as we continue to help 'sow the good seed'.

### **Sow good seed and sow it generously.**

In his parables Jesus often used images from farming to help those listening to understand how the kingdom of God works. These parables were used to give warnings and explanations but most often they were intended to offer encouragement and hope.

Several of these parables ask us to consider seeds. The tiny mustard seed that grows into a great tree like plant, the four soils in which some seed fails to grow, and the one in which an enemy sows' weeds in the same field as good seed. The simplest is in Mark 4:26-29, the farmer sows, the seed grows, ripens, and provides a harvest. In modern farming and in the many books available on Church growth we are encouraged to ask many complicated questions which "may" be relevant. However, Jesus only seems to ask, "did you sow good seed?" and "did you sow generously?"

The farmer in Mark 4 doesn't understand how it all works but, because he sowed the seed he can expect a harvest, he has hope.

Many people will have seen recent reports in the national media about Church of England attendance numbers. There is no shortage of doom and gloom if they are taken at face value, and they are a source of concern regardless of how we look at them. Nationally, there was a decline of 20% between 2009 and 2019, and our most up to date figures show a further post pandemic decline of 30% since 2019. Of course, some Churches have fared better than this, but others have fared worse.

We must take this situation seriously as our own parish is clearly not immune to the same long-term trends. However, we have had the joy and encouragement of seeing new people join our Churches which must give us good reason for continued hope.

If we want a harvest, we must sow good seed and sow it generously. I'm confident that this is God's message for the whole Church but more importantly I'm confident that this is God's message for the Churches of our parish right now.

### **Sowing the seed**

Our Parish has a long tradition of engaging with the needs and activities of the community and this has prepared the ground well, but we must not forget to sow the seed of the gospel.

Continued...



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...continued from previous page

Over the last couple of years, we have begun putting together a variety of new, fun events and activities. Having fun is essential if we are to engage with a new group of people, particularly younger people, but it's not just about fun. Many have been centred around key events within the Christian calendar and in all cases, we are clear that what we are doing we are doing as Church and in the name of Jesus.

A considerable number of people have engaged with these events and new relationships are beginning to form showing the seeds can grow. It is true that not all these people will wish to join our Churches, but some may, and all should continue to be welcome.

### Thank you's

I am enormously grateful to everyone who has helped to make this year a success. Especially our Church Wardens, PCC, and steering group members, and a very big thank you to all who are involved in leading and enabling our worship and many parish activities.

I often wish I could name everybody individually but that would not only make this report extremely long, but I also fear that I would inevitably miss someone and that it may be of those wonderful people who work tirelessly in the background. I'm sure everyone would like to offer their thanks to all of those people, including all those involved in finance, safeguarding, admin, and technology. All these people and many more play an essential part in sowing the seed and caring for it as it grows.

Please be assured that your contribution is greatly valued by myself, and by God.

God bless

Reverend John Dracup (Vicar)



### **On a Personal Note...**

It seems to be an annual thing now, around this time of year (Easter) for the last two years I have managed to come down with covid. Only this year seemed a lot worse than last!

Although currently on the mend, and feeling a lot better than I was, I would like to say a Thank you to everyone for their prayers and kindness shown to me and my family during this time.... 'Thank you' .

Rev'd John Dracup.

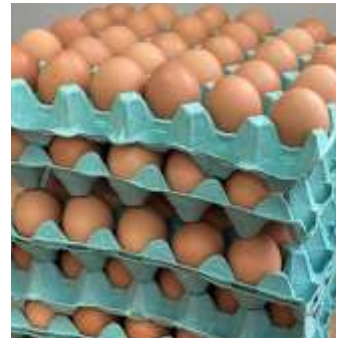
# CROSSROADS CENTRE



*'There is a time for everything and a season for every activity under heaven'.  
Ecclesiastes 3v1*

Another busy time at the Crossroads as Easter approached, and lots of new challenges, All areas of the Project were rushing to get things done.

In the Foodbank, generously donated Easter goodies, beautiful brown eggs and treats along with the food parcels were packed and delivered, with our hardworking drivers working overtime to make sure everything was delivered on time.



In the Warm space a variety of Hot cross buns were toasted and enjoyed (who has heard of chocolate orange hot cross buns and blueberry and lemon flavoured ones?) but still voted not as nice as Nigel's Flapjack!

In the Shop, window displays were being changed regularly and featured lovely Easter displays followed by the traditional blackout to commemorate the events of Good Friday.



In the Craft and Create group (which meets in the Centre each Thursday from approx. 10.15am till 12noon) it was all hands on deck to finish the gift bags which church members distributed on the Greenaway on Easter Saturday.

Thanks to them over 150 bags were decorated, filled, and given out.

Then a few days off, and maybe a time for a bit of rest and reflection.

Steven Cottrell the Archbishop of York writes in the Big Issue 'It remains true that the only thing in life we possess with any certainty is this moment now. Therefore, the challenge of life whoever we are, is to dwell in this moment joyfully and passionately and build a better future by caring for ourselves and for one another in the here and now'.

Maybe a tall order but something to aim for?

With our best wishes and thanks for your support from all our lovely hardworking volunteers.

## Crossroads Foodbank News



We like showing people round our premises... The slicker we become, the more confident we get in explaining to visitors that we're doing it right. This involves taking a new request over the phone, giving the benefit of the doubt to anyone telling us that they're in need, and explaining that we'll be engaging with them in the future to see if we can help them address issues which led to them approaching us. It's vital that we do this for two reasons. Firstly, we rely on charitable donations from locals, and if we don't exercise good stewardship of their money, these may dry up. Secondly, we'll never have the resources to support all potential clients all of the time.

Earlier this month, Mayor of West Yorkshire Tracy Brabin came to the Centre, in order to see how people manage with rising prices that her Mayor's Cost of Living Fund was helping out with. Although primarily here to see the facilities of the Centre, she spent time meeting volunteers beavering away in our warehouse, expressing a genuine interest in our operation, and spending over an hour with us. Charles III is popping by in the next fortnight... Only kidding – he's not coming until June !



Pride prevents many from coming forward, so it's necessary to go the extra mile in reaching out to people who are reticent in asking for support. A benefactor purchased a supply of varied goodies, school heads told us about certain households with children who may be struggling this Easter, so we delivered modest bags of treats, and made them aware that we're here to help them.



Life goes on, and we still have to appeal for foodstuffs, so we were at Morrison's on April Fools' Day asking for items. Spring had sprung, and we were overwhelmed by the public response – it's a chance for our willing helpers to meet and talk to the fount of kindness that our community is. We're so glad we're here in Meltham...

Bless you all

Chris Sinclair



## **GOING GREENER -** **Moving towards an Eco Church**

**‘And God saw that the world and all that was in it, was very good.’ Genesis Ch 1v 31**

At last spring really does seem to have sprung! The countryside is bursting with new life – what a joy to see the new lambs jumping for the sheer joy of being alive! Trees are thick with blossoms; gardens are full of colour; birds fill the air with song; bees and all other pollinators are loving it! The tadpoles in our small wild life pond are growing legs – they will soon be frogs!

Local allotments are being well prepared by their diligent workforce. There really are few things as satisfying as planting seeds and watching the seedlings and delicate young plants turn into lovely summer salads and gorgeous fruit and veg! Even if you don't have a vegetable patch, let alone an allotment, it's still quite easy to grow simple salad leaves and tomatoes in pots on the patio or decking. You'll enjoy them all the more knowing you have grown them yourself!

BBC Radio 2 has been running an excellent series, Let's Get Growing, to encourage everyone to get out and have a grow!! When we work hand in hand with nature and see the wonderful results, we do indeed praise our loving generous God for all His bounty!

Please, please make sure that any chemicals you use in the garden are kind to pets and to wild life. Slug pellets can cause such harm to hedgehogs. Check the labels carefully! Please be **very** sparing with weed killer. Doesn't the humble dandelion or buttercup deserve its day in the sun? Don't forget to leave some natural corners for wild life to flourish! More wild corners mean less digging!

It seems so much easier to think 'green' when the days are longer and the weather is warmer. Thermostats can be turned right down; much less energy is needed to keep us warm and clean; the sausage dog draught excluders can go back under the stairs for a few months!

Solar panels can really get on with 'doing their thing' - converting the heat of the sun into electricity! Even the mighty wind turbines look elegant and stately whirling their vast blades in the bright sunlight on the hillsides.

And let us not forget.... one more reason for optimism is that our new King, Charles the Third, has been a champion of all things Green for very many years. He has worked tirelessly persuading the world to live more sustainably; to farm organically; to protect our beautiful world and to care for all its wild life from the smallest insects to the greatest giants of land and sea. Perhaps world leaders will listen to him now and work together to solve the ever increasing problems of Climate Change

God bless King Charles and God bless us in all our efforts

Jenny x



## Time To Read

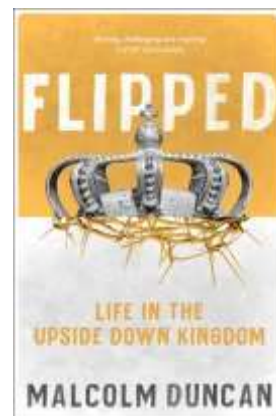
Have a spare minute of two and looking for a new book? Or maybe read a good one recently and want to share it... Here are a couple to get you going.

### **Flipped - Life in the upside down Kingdom**

**By Malcolm Duncan, SPCK, £7.99**

*Flipped* is the official theme book for Spring Harvest 2023.

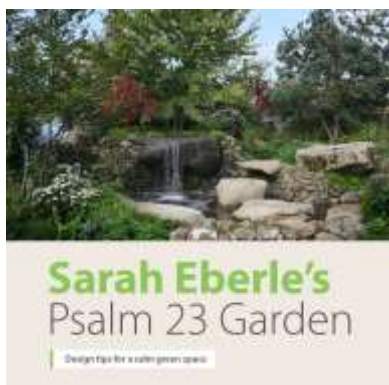
Christians are called to model a way of life that challenges the status quo and infuses the world with hope and possibility. We are to be people who see possibility where others see failure, beauty where others see ugliness and freedom where others see chains.



This is the Upside Down Kingdom, where the forgotten are noticed, the silenced are given back their voice and love is stronger than hate.

By exploring the teaching of Jesus, as recorded in the Gospel of Matthew, Malcolm Duncan in *Flipped* traces the key components of this new community, this life-giving way of living. He explores the five key discourses in Matthew and invites us to a radical new way of living and being centred around the reign and the rule of King Jesus.

The message is one that our churches need to hear - that God's Kingdom is unshakeable, local churches are its vanguard and Christians are its citizens.



### **Sarah Eberle's Psalm 23 Garden: Design tips for a calm green space** **By Various authors, Bible Society, £6.50**

In September 2021, Bible Society entered a garden based on Psalm 23 into the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. The garden was designed by Sarah Eberle, who has previously won 17 gold medals at Chelsea and Hampton Court Flower Shows.

If that wasn't enough, the Psalm 23 Garden won another gold medal as well as awards for Best Sanctuary Garden and Best Construction Award!

Therefore, the garden contains vibrant greenery and a peaceful water feature. This book contains full-colour photographs of features of the garden, and tips and advice on creating your own beautiful garden.

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## ST BARTHOLOMEW'S CHOIR REPORT - 2022



Things have been a little more normal this year following the Covid pandemic, though the new normal is not really the same as the pre-pandemic times. The lower number of choristers we now have left in the choir has meant it has been difficult to rehearse routinely and singing every week has not been possible – you could say we are now more of an 'occasional choir' and no longer have sufficient voices in each of the 4 parts to be able to sing the anthems and other items like we used to. As with many church choirs, we are particularly short of men, of which there are now only 3 remaining.

After the cancellation of the planned rendition of Stainer's Crucifixion in 2020, it was great to be able to finally sing it once more on Good Friday. As has been the case for a few years now, the choir was augmented with a number of additional voices for which we were grateful and we had a number of new faces too who joined us for the first time.

We were sad to lose one of our members; Geoff Crowther sadly passed away earlier in the year. Geoff had sung with us for many years both in the bass and tenor sections of the choir though hadn't been able to join us regularly since the pandemic due to ill health. We managed to get a good choir together to sing for his funeral, and also to sing at the funerals of two of our former members, Hadyn Webster and Norman Webb who also passed away at the back end of the year. We miss all those people who sang with us in years gone by, and it is good to still be able to hear their voices when we use the hymns from our CD recordings in the services.

Following the retirement of Walter Young, we decided to make a donation of £250 to the guide dogs charity. This was to give thanks for the 5 guide dogs that Walter had with him whilst singing in the choir over the years.

Going forward, it's hard to see whether choir will grow or just diminish further. Times have changed, and though we have had glimpses of the 'old times' this year when we have had lots of extra helpers in the choir, getting people to commit to anything on a regular basis is challenging, and nobody is getting any younger either. We may have to start to think (and pray) about what the future might look like for the singing and music here at St Bartholomew's.



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
JOIN THE  
CHOIR!**

As always, we would welcome new additions to the choir - potential new members should however not feel they have to commit to singing every week or even wearing a robe for that matter!

Simon K Ball - Organist and Choirmaster





## Coronation Fun Day

Saturday 6th May

Refreshments from 9.30am,

Childrens activities from 11am

The Coronation shown LIVE on the BIG screen

Meltham Church Hall (opp St Bart's Church)



### **The Coronation of King Charles III**

*By Canon Paul Hardingham*



On 6<sup>th</sup> May His Majesty King Charles III will be crowned alongside Camilla, The Queen Consort, in Westminster Abbey. How can we pray for him, as he approaches this important event? Paul says: *'I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.'* (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

*For God's presence* - to guide every aspect of King Charles' life as he prepares for his Coronation and future roles. At his Accession, he was proclaimed Defender of the Faith, the Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Charles has talked about *'the Sovereign's particular relationship and responsibility towards the Church of England - the Church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted.'*

*For God's wisdom* - as he provides leadership that will honour God and promote the wellbeing of our society. King Solomon prayed for wisdom for himself: *'So give your servant a discerning heart to govern your people and to distinguish between right and wrong.'* (1 Kings 3:9).

*For God's love* - to strengthen all relationships within the Royal Family; for reconciliation, understanding, forgiveness and good communication.

*For God's purpose* - to be fulfilled through the work of the King and Queen Consort and their family in the years to come. He has said: *'and whatever may be your background or beliefs, I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty, respect and love, as I have throughout my life.'*

#### A Prayer for the new King:

*Everlasting God, we pray for our new King. Bless his reign and the life of our nation. Help us to work together so that truth and justice, harmony and fairness flourish among us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*



## Parish Services for May

### Sunday 7th May

A short 'said' Holy Communion service - 9.30am  
St Bartholomew's Church

**'Coronation Celebration'** joint service - 10.30am  
St Bartholomew's Church

The above services are the only ones taking place in the parish, the remaining three churches will be closed just on this day.

You are welcome to join us at any of the following weekly services, from 14th May:

St Bartholomew's, Meltham 9:30am

St James', Meltham Mills 9:30am

(First Sunday of the month is usually a 'Family Sunday' service, except for May)

Christ Church, Helme 11:15am

St Mary's, Wilshaw 11:15am

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



## Care Home Services

### Greenacres

1:30pm for 2pm start. Tuesday 9th May - Songs of Praise

1.30pm for 2pm start. Tuesday 23rd May - Holy Communion.

### Helme Hall

1.30pm for 2pm start. Friday 26th May - Holy Communion



***These services are popular with the residents and it would be lovely to have a couple of helpers to help support these services.***

Please get in touch with Rev Denis Shields if you can be of help.

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# SCARECROW FESTIVAL

MAYDAY - MONDAY 1st MAY

The Scarecrow route will be from the roundabout at Morrisons, up Station Street to turn right into Westgate & up to Mill Moor Road to the Methodists then back down to Greens End Road & Green Street, back past St Barts to the junction and turn right up Holmfirth Road to CE School, back down Clarke Lane to Huddersfield Road as far as the Carlile Institute.

## **THE MYSTERY PLACE** **BY PAM MURGATROYD**



Where is that mystery place?  
The place where things go and they cannot be found,  
A place you can't find when you look around,  
Somewhere that says 'lost' but then usually found,

Where is that mystery place?  
Where do things go when they're lost?  
That letter you read, while still in your bed,  
It shouldn't be lost but filed instead,  
It's not in the house or the garden shed,  
But where is that mystery place?  
I've looked everywhere I can see,  
Under the cushions, behind the settee,  
There is just one thing that is baffling me,  
Where is that mystery place?  
Does this ever happen to you?  
Losing something that's lost for good.

When you searched everywhere as anyone would,  
When you've moved everything that you feel you could,  
But you can't find that mystery place.

Do these things have a place that they share?  
Somewhere that no one's aware,  
Under cushions and chair,  
We've all looked everywhere,  
So where is that mystery place?



## The Power of Music

'The Heads Up Choir' Singing with Dementia

It is widely accepted that music and especially song and singing can be enjoyed by everyone! In Meltham we have seen the popularity of choirs, bands and individual musicians. Side By Side Meltham, a group running very successfully since 2014 has included singing as part of the plan for weekly session. This group is for those with memory problems, mainly dementia.



The 'Heads Up Choir' is a new venture. Run by volunteers and a professional musician. The focus will be to give support to those who attend who are suffering the effects of memory loss.

We know that singing can improve behaviour, mood and cognitive function.

It will meet at the **Salvation Army Church at Lindley on a Monday**

The participants will be those people who have dementia and those who care for them. There will be a small charge of £3 to those who attend.

**STARTING 17 APRIL 2023 1pm-2.30pm**

**If you, or someone you know or care for, would like to come along you will be most welcome.**

For more information phone Emily on 07780681235.

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## **St Mary's Report**

On Palm Sunday all four churches came together for a Holy Communion service at St James' Church, Meltham Mills. It was good to share this time of worship and fellowship as we thought about Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

On Tuesday of Holy Week Lay Reader Jacqueline France led a Taize service at St Mary's at 6.30pm. This was a quiet meditative service with readings and prayers. The music group led the singing of several Taize chants and people left quietly at the end of the service.

Our thanks go to those who put up the cross by the church door. This was decorated but the stormy weather gave it a bit of a battering. There was also an Easter display in the church porch covering events from Palm Sunday to Easter Day.

It was good to share in a service of Holy Communion on Easter Sunday at St Mary's. This was led by Rev John Dracup who blessed the new Paschal candle for the coming year. Dylan Dunn lit this for the first time. We celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ in the prayers, hymns and readings and Rev John reminded us that, following the Resurrection of Jesus things may seem the same but they are different. This is because Jesus has saved us and through Him we have new and eternal life.

On Sunday 16th April Rev John was unable to take the service due to illness so Rev Judy stepped in to celebrate Communion. We are also grateful to Lay Reader Nigel Priestly who gave the talk about two of Jesus' disciples Thomas and Peter and about what happened next. Our thanks go to all who have led our worship, prepared PowerPoint presentations, read lessons, provided music, made coffee and led the prayers.

We hope you have all had a good Easter and that you didn't eat too much chocolate!.

## **Bell House Report**

Rev'd Judy led an Easter Communion service at Bell House on Wednesday 5th April. Seventeen residents and two carers heard the Bible accounts of the Easter story, read by Jacqueline France who also led the prayers and we sang two Easter hymns. Rev Judy spoke about Jesus' death and resurrection and how that gives up hope for the future and the promise of new life with God. We listened to "All in the April Evening" and everyone received an Easter card.

# DIMPS

*by Ville*

11 Station Street  
Meltham, Holmfirth  
HD9 5NX  
tel. 01484 850960

## Helme Ladies Report

On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 22 Helme Ladies braved the wind and rain to go out for lunch. We were booked in at Compo's for fish and chips. When we were all assembled the waitress came around for our orders of food and drinks, you can have cod or haddock, large or small (the large ones hang over the edges of the plates), curry sauce or mushy peas. But of course everything is freshly cooked, so while waiting the noise level was quite high, we all had two weeks gossip to catch up on. It was a bit quieter when we were all eating. We left feeling full having had a lovely lunch, but the waitress was feeling shattered, when we arrived she was 6ft tall, when we left she was 4ft 8in.

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April was our next meeting with the annual bring along a recipe with tasters. You should have seen the large amount of food, savoury and sweet, the choice was huge. In the midst was a beautiful chocolate cake which was very special, it was a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday cake. A first for Helme Ladies, one of our members was celebrating a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday so of course we all sang "Happy Birthday". It's a good job we didn't have 90 candles on the cake, I don't think we would have enough breath between us to blow them all out. After we had eaten our fill there was still a lot of food left so goody bags were given out along with the birthday cake. A good morning was had by all.

This year of 2023 is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Helme Ladies, so on 12<sup>th</sup> September in Helme Church at 10am we are having a celebration and past members are welcome to come along and join us.

### Upcoming Events: (10am Meltham Church Hall,)

May 9<sup>th</sup>      Play your cards right and Coronation Buffet.

May 23<sup>rd</sup>     Plant swap

June 6<sup>th</sup>      Walk – Marsden with visit to Holme Valley Mountain Rescue



## **Saturday Coffee Mornings**

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



**6th May** - St Bartholomew's Church

**13th May** - Active Movement

**20th May** - W.I

**27th May** - This will be held at the Methodist Chapel due to the production of Ruddigore in the Parish Hall .

**3rd June** - Christ Church, Helme.



On behalf of my family, I would like to thank every one for their kind messages /texts /thoughts and cards which were sent to us, both when Tom was ill and after he died in mid February. We went through a very difficult time, albeit short but it was a very cruel illness which he bore with dignity.

We gave him a brilliant send off at St Bart's Church which was packed with family and friends and huge thanks must go to Rev'd Dennis, Rev'd John for making this go so smoothly. Thanks also to Simon on the organ who sorted the hymns I wanted and the choir who so ably sang them. (When they didn't know all the tunes!)

Afterwards we went to Honley cricket club for refreshments and that is where we intend to scatter Tom's ashes; hopefully at a memorial cricket match in his honour.

Lastly huge thanks to Gwen and her team at Radcliffe Funeral Service for their caring and professional arrangements and Gail at The Flower Box for her inspirational 'Cricket wicket' flowers.

He will never be forgotten,  
Janet, Gillian, Anna & Jennie Rocket and families.



"Thank you all so much for your kindness and prayers during my recent period of ill health. I am so grateful to belong to such a caring church family. I'm glad to say I feel a lot better than for a long time. God bless you all.

Gini"



# 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

Tom Rocket, Mary Wainwright  
Martin Bottom,

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 : April Winners:**

702	£50 Vacant Number
862	£10 Vacant Number
035	£10 Mr. B. Shorter
975	£10 Mrs. P. Murgatroyd
106	£10 Mrs. P. Murgatroyd
139	£10 Mrs. J. Hilton

### **Want to join the 200 club?**

It costs just 25p per week (£13 pa).

For more info please contact either:

Michael Farrel 07768258257

m.farrellphd@btinternet.com

David Earnshaw 341968,

Cath Moulson 850171



## **St Bartholomews** **Flowers**

Flowers have been placed on the communion table in St Bart's Church by:

7th May	Mr & Mrs J Halstead
14th May	Mr B Shorter
21st May	Mrs S Ashton
28th May	Vacant
4th June	Mr & Mrs C Atkinson

We do have dates available if you would like to do the same.

Please contact:

Catherine Moulson (850171)

## **Please Be Aware:**

Previously Kirklees college printed our Parish Magazine. As I mentioned last month, they have now closed, we are in the process of finding another.

Please bear with us as we do so, this may result in delays, a price increase and/or a different look.

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**Can you do this Sudoku?**

Answer on pg 31

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# JUST FOR FUN!

By Denis A

I was reading the book of Proverbs in the Bible when the thought came to me that a few modern proverbs could do with updating.

- Don't bite the hand that...looks dirty.
- No news is... impossible.
- Where's there's smoke there's... pollution.
- A penny saved is... not much.
- Two's company, three's... the Musketeers.
- Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry... and you have to blow your nose.
- When the blind lead the blind... get out of the way.
- A bird in the hand is... going to poop on you.

The man at the SCS store told me the sofa would seat 5 people without any problems. I told him that I don't think I know 5 people without any problems.

## Denis A on Denis A.

It's ok to talk to yourself and ok to answer yourself, but bad when you have to repeat what you said because you weren't listening.

My body sometimes feels sore, but it is still working. I don't sleep well quite a lot, but I do wake up to fight another day. How many more days - I don't know.

My wallet is not as full as it used to be, but my stomach is.

I don't have all the tings I ever wanted, but I do have everything I will ever need.

On T.V I see people my age (89) climbing mountains and zip lining and here I am feeling good about myself because I got my leg through my underpants without losing my balance!

I'll need some help when the clocks go back again. I can't even remember where I got them from in the first place.

My life is by no means perfect, but it's my life, I'm reasonably happy and strive to bring a smile to someone's face by writing doting's in the magazine each month.

God bless one and all,

Denis A.

## Holy Week

What a busy week this was!. It began with a Parish Communion at St James', followed by St Bart's choir and guest singers singing Olivet to Calvary. This was organised by Simon Ball, and was enjoyed by many.

St James' also hosted five early morning meditations Monday to Friday. On the Monday evening Rev'd Dennis led the 'Stations of the Cross' at Christ Church and on the Tuesday evening Jacqueline France led a 'Taize' service at St Mary's. Maundy Thursday evening saw Rev John lead a Communion service at St James' bringing us to Good Friday. This was a beautiful sunny day allowing an outdoor Service of Witness to take place in St Bart's churchyard. This was organised by Church Together and was led by Rev John and Rev Andrew (Methodist Minister). This service was well attended as people from various churches guided us through Jesus' arrest and crucifixion with readings from the Bible. Easter hymns were sung. Following the service Meltham Methodist Church hosted a soup lunch with money raised going to Christian Aid.

On Easter Saturday there was an Easter Trail along the Greenway. The trail took children and their families from the Greenway to St James church by following a series of pictures providing clues which told the Easter story. Between 80-90 Easter eggs were handed to those children who completed the trail. It is estimated over 200 people came to St James' church and were provided with free refreshments, even dogs weren't forgotten. On the Greenway, coffees and teas were handed out and there were many conversations, some simply sociable, some very profound.

On Easter Day 40+ people attended the Dawn service at the Cock crowing stone followed by bacon butties, cereal and toast at the Church Hall. Bringing this special week to a close how wonderful it was to celebrate Christ's resurrection with services in all four churches, the first time this year! Alleluia Christ is risen, He is risen indeed, Alleluia!



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**Photos  
from  
around the  
Parish at  
Easter**

