



The Parish Magazine

APRIL & MAY 2024

£1

www.melthamparish.co.uk



Photos of the first signs of Spring around the Parish



In this issue ...

Photo taken by Alison Whitely	Cover
Photos taken by various parishioners of Meltham Parish Officials	Inside cover Page 4
A Note from the Editor	Page 5
A Letter from your Vicar	Page 7
Going Greener - Moving towards an Eco Church	Page 9
Crossroads Update	Page 10 - 11
Meltham Mustard Seed Update.	Page 12
Choir Notes / Honley Male Voice Choir	Page 13
Update from Bell House Care Home /From the Registers	Page 15
Parish Communion services / Easter 2024	Page 16
Weekly services for April & May / APCM	Page 17
200 Club / Flowers / Coffee Morning	Page 19
Just for Fun	Page 21
St Mary's Report / Meltham Shoebox	Page 23
Helme Ladies Update	Page 24
Fifty Years Flies By	Page 25
Mothering Sunday / A mothers Poem	Page 30
Photos of the Easter Weekend	Page 31
Scarecrow Festival / Awaken 24.	Back Cover

To spend an hour worrying on our knees is not prayer. Indeed, there are times when it is our duty, having committed a problem to God in prayer, to stop praying and to trust and to do the necessary work to arrive at a solution

– Oliver Barclay

VICAR OF THE PARISH OF MELTHAM CHRIST THE KING

REV JOHN DRACUP: email: revjohndracup@gmail.com / 07983 937132

PARISH OFFICE CONTACT – email: parishofchristtheking@gmail.com

Website: www.melthamparish.co.uk / Diocese website: www.leeds.anglican.org

Facebook Page: Parish of Meltham - Christ the King

CLERGY in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

Assistant Priest Rev. Dennis Shields 850074

Assistant Priest Rev. Judy Kenworthy 851158

AUTHORISED READERS in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

Nigel Priestley 852005 Jacqueline France 01484 663867

Mandy Aspland 851789 Chris Ryan 851528

AUTHORISED PASTORAL MINISTERS in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

Christine Bleasdale 305553 Christine Woods 852268 Patrice Curtis 851498

Irene Harrop 01484 664163 Debbie Still 854889

CHURCH OFFICIALS in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

Parish Safeguarding Officer Richard Whiteley 319295

Parish Treasurer Ruth Murray-Webster 07974 943443

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S

Churchwardens: Ruth Murray-Webster 07974 943443

Stephen Asquith

ST. JAMES'

Churchwarden Alison Whiteley 319295

ST. MARY'S

Churchwarden Peter Pearson 850488

CHRIST CHURCH

Churchwarden Vacant

All magazine enquiries.

melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com

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

Prayer for Growth

God of Mission
Who alone brings
growth to your
Church,
Send your Holy Spirit
to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow
in numbers,
In spiritual commitment
to you,
And in service to our
local community,
Through Jesus Christ
our Lord.
Amen.



A note from the editor ...

Hello!

Welcome to our April / May Parish Magazine. My apologies for the lateness of this edition I thought best that as Easter was right at the beginning of April you wouldn't want to wait till June to hear and see all the great Easter Celebrations,

We have though got lots to tell you about so make sure you look out for the great things happening at the Crossroad centre (pgs 10 - 11), also the great work that is continuing with Meltham Mustard Seed (Pg 12), We have a poem too (pg 30) and did you know Nigel Priestly has been in Meltham for 50 years?! Well now you do! See page 25 to find out more.

I am so thankful for all your wonderful contributions for this edition. It has made my job so much easier and I think makes a fantastic issue. Please continue to send them in.

The deadline of the April/May magazine will be:

Monday 20th May 2024

Please send submissions 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

Christine Rolls 340342

Hester Deacon 657069



THE FLOWER BOX
'Flowers for moments that matter'

GAIL KEITH
owner

1 Market Place, Meltham, HD9 4NH
01484 850771

Holme Valley Pets & Supplies Ltd

Unit 10, Albion Mills, Miry Lane
Thongsbridge, Holmfirth HD9 7HP

Eve Burrows

Shop: 01484 689999

Mobile: 07907 630622

holmevalleypetsandsuppliesltd@gmail.com



LEONARD SENIOR (Crosland Moor)
PLUMBER & HEATING ENGINEER

ALL TYPES OF HEATING WORK - ESTIMATES

*34 Wilshaw Road, Wilshaw
Meltham, Holmfirth HD9 4DX*

Tel: 01484 852111



Letter from your Vicar

Before looking forward, I'd like to start by thanking all the many people who have been involved in the many successes that we have enjoyed over the last couple of months. We have had four successful Parish Communion meals with a meal after each. In February we had the beetle drive which was great fun (and my birthday), and many pancakes were mixed and cooked on Strove Tuesday at our pancake party. Of course, we mustn't forget Mother's Day on March 10th and all the work involved in making that happen, but this was all just in the lead up to Easter (who said that Christmas was the busy period?).

Reflections for Holy Week, Maundy Thursday communion, the service of witness and an hour at the cross on Good Friday, the Easter egg trail on Saturday, and Sunrise service followed by all four Churches holding Communion on Easter Sunday. This is quite a list and shows that the team effort in making "Church" happen involves a lot of people. I want to say a big thank you to everyone involved.

We celebrated Easter Sunday, but first we had to have Good Friday. Soon it will be Pentecost but, first we must have Ascension Day. People often say that the Church doesn't like change, but perhaps we shouldn't be too hard on ourselves. During the period of time between Good Friday and Pentecost the Apostles struggled too. None of them would have voted for Good Friday and on the day of Ascension they all wanted Jesus to stay with them, but the Church needed Pentecost just as much as we each needed Jesus's resurrection.

This doesn't mean that the change they experience wasn't difficult. The emotions each one of the disciples felt were real and deep. There was loss and pain, but there was also joy and hope.

Over recent years our Churches have experienced a period of change, some of which we wouldn't have chosen. The effect of our congregations aging, of Covid which exacerbated already existing issues, and more sharing of services which, while this has had some positive results, we should remember it was a response to the very considerable increases in energy costs.

The truth is that change is inevitable.

The question is how we will choose to respond to it?

There are questions that we as a Parish have known need to be asked and answered for many years. Perhaps we might wrap these questions together by asking "what does sustainability look like?" We all know that there are no easy answers and that there never have been. In fact, asking the question will inevitably lead to some very challenging conversations. However, I believe that over the last few years relationships between the people of our four Churches have grown in such a way that we are now able to ask that question. Most importantly that with God's help we can find an answer that leads to the kind of hope which is embodied in Easter and Pentecost.

On May 1st we will have our Annual Parochial Church Meeting at which Church Wardens, and new members of the PCC and our Church Steering groups will be elected. As we progress this challenging conversation please pray for all involved.

God bless, Reverend John Dracup (Vicar)



Pearson

FUNERAL SERVICE

Our family looking after yours when you need us most

Our reputation has been built on trust and recommendation, we pride ourselves in giving the highest standard of service. We help and guide family members through difficult decisions and legal requirements.

Each funeral is tailored to the personal requirements of the family and carried out with dignity and respect.

FUNERAL DIRECTOR – CLIVE PEARSON Dip.FD, LMBFD, AMB.

- LICENSED AND QUALIFIED FUNERAL DIRECTORS
- SERVING ALL AREAS SINCE 1920
- NAFD & SAIF APPROVED PREMISES



Telephone 01484 844289 / 01484 688575

www.pearson-funerals.co.uk Find us on 



PREPAID FUNERAL PLANS • FLORAL TRIBUTES
ROLLS-ROYCE FLEET AVAILABLE • FUNERAL CATERING
MONUMENTAL MASONRY • 24 HOUR SERVICE



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**

And suddenly it’s Spring! The mud has dried up; the trees are full of blossoms: the birds and bees are busy doing what birds and bees like to do! Winter is over. Life is renewed!

Once again God has fulfilled his promises with generosity and abundant grace. Year on year for countless millennia this promise has been renewed. The world has sustained all of its living creatures where ever they live. Every environment was perfect; every need was met; every living organism could flourish and thrive. God put us in the Garden of Eden. God gave us a perfect world. God gave us freedom of choice and now, because of the choices we have made, this beautiful world needs help.

We know it is our responsibility to cherish and protect our beautiful world for future generations. So, what more can we do?

We carry on ‘doing our bit’. We do have choices, we can choose to live more sustainably; to recycle more seriously; to shop more wisely; to shop more locally; to eat less meat to choose Fair Trade products; environmentally friendly household goods; be willing to pay a little bit more for these products because we know it is the right thing to do. Be frugal with the amount of energy and water we use. When it comes to elections look for the parties who do take ‘green’ issues seriously; see just how ethical some huge corporations are, who do they invest with?

The list goes on and on. Nobody said it was going to be easy, but spring time and Easter bring us hope – we can see renewal all around us. We just need to renew our convictions and do our best to cherish this little bit of the world where we find ourselves.

Keep up the good work
– God bless us in our efforts,

Jenny x



CROSSROADS CENTRE



Colossians 3:12

Therefore as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness. Humility, gentleness and patience

For several years now Crossroads has worked with different organisations in Meltham who share our common aims and help to make Meltham a special place to live.

The Meltham activity Directory started by the Walkers are Welcome group and put together by Alison Whitely, has become a useful guide to the many different groups who exist for people to join. It has now been taken over by Crossroads who update it regularly and ensure that digital copies are sent out to doctors, Social Prescribers, the Town Council, and Kirklees council who can circulate copies more widely than we can manage and who can signpost individuals to appropriate groups,

We have discovered how this knowledge shared with our partners Community Rural Plus and the Community Hub co-ordinators who work with schools and families, have helped many people to make new friends, learn and share new skills and begin to feel more settled, less lonely, and happier. One lady recently said about being part of a group which meets at the Centre that she never really settled in Meltham till she found this group of like-minded people to share her enthusiasms and pleasures in creating and gave her the opportunity to make new friends.

Churches, Church Halls and Community buildings have played a big part in providing venues for many of these groups. There are many opportunities to meet during the week for tea / coffee and refreshments in local churches where there is always a warm and friendly welcome and a listening ear.

Groups listed in the directory are adult social groups, groups for babies and young children and youth, Sports and fitness, Singing, Crafting and Gardening. All these aim to support others displaying compassion and kindness to those who attend.

If you would like a copy of the Activity Directory, please call at the Crossroads Centre and pick up a copy or provide your email address and we will send it direct.

Thanks as always for your prayers and support.

Sue Priestley

Crossroads Food Bank



I'm one of life's worriers. When there are no major issues on the horizon, I'll find something trivial to worry about...

Last month, we noticed a significant drop in the numbers of food parcels we sent out. For some time now, we've had a drive towards getting our clients to engage with our debt and benefits adviser. We're here to help out in the short term. The state has deeper pockets than us, and obligations. Maybe it's working, and people are getting the help they need, or are they? Do we need to make more effort in making everyone aware that we're here, and here to help? That's the worry.

I take a turn in manning the phone for requests from clients. I can hear a tone of reticence from some when they're asking us for assistance, and it's human nature. If you know, or come into contact with anyone who's struggling to make ends meet, then please, please urge them to speak to us – it's what we're here for. I'll explain how we work. If someone calls us, and asks for assistance, we'll help. If they're away from our area, we'll tell them where to go next time. If they return to us, we'll try to get them to engage with the adviser. We won't see anyone go hungry – we're Crossroads.

We continue to rely on the big-heartedness of our community for the support to keep us going, and sometimes it's plain touching. Every Spring, I go for annual trim to Meltham Barbers. My good friend Ali said that if we know of anyone who's going off for a job interview/ important appointment etc., then he'll sort them for free. It's just a brilliant example of how it works here – that's Ali, we're Crossroads, and it's Meltham. Enough said...

Bless you all, Chris Sinclair

Please continue to contribute to Meltham Food Bank

They especially need the following items:

Semi Skimmed or Whole long life milk, Canned meat meals, Tuna, Eggs, Breakfast Cereal, Jam. Other helpful items include: Coffee, Sugar, 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 must be delivered to the centre only.

Financial donations are also welcome.

Post through the centre door, labelled clearly 'Food bank'.

The foodbank is open **Mon-Fri, 10am - 12.30pm.**





MELTHAM CHURCHES TOGETHER MUSTARD SEED.

Just an update after the Meltham Mustard Seed bank account is finally closed and the charitable status ended. Thank you all for the great work we have managed to continue and see to a positive end as I felt at the Methodist Covenant Service in January. We must be encouraged by the amazing fact that some dedicated youngsters in Kyema want to continue supporting other orphaned children, who like themselves, needed support as young children. May God be Praised.

Meltham withdrew at the yearend 2023 and this is the latest information I have from Fred (Coordinator) in Kyema. He says they managed to pay school fees this January and have money to pay for the whole year and a few months beyond.

Between April and June 2024, they will be harvesting the Kyamaiso 2h (5 acres) and Kihagani 12h (30 acres) sugar fields, although currently they need more rain. They have a plan of adding more sugarcane fields to improve sustainability. The fields they already have, will yield 2 more harvests after this year, after which they may replant seed cane again.

Last year KMS purchased land on which they are going to build rentable housing as further income generation to support the project. They have agreed to begin construction by next year after saving school fees to cover the next five years.

After claiming the Gift Aid from donations to MMS we were able to make a fantastic final payment of £9,870.00 to KMS. It is a considerable amount to either help fund the school fees for about 18 months or invest in their income generation.

Fred said "Please send my gratitude to all MMS committee and supporters and affirm to them that the work you started of sustainability will continue and KMS will leave to stay because of your blessings towards it".

Personally, I will be keeping in touch with Fred and KMSYA and will be sending some monies during the year. If anyone wishes to receive occasional updates or are interested in contributing financially then please let me know now, so I can make a group email. Jane@collinsemail.co.uk

Thank you everyone for all your generous support since 1995.

Jane Collins on behalf of the MMS committee.

We were intending on singing Stainer's Crucifixion on Palm Sunday and had a good number of singers who had agreed to come and augment the choir. Unfortunately, after the first rehearsal, it became apparent that I had underestimated the number of rehearsals that would be required and I made the difficult decision to cancel it. Thank you to all those who had agreed to help out and apologies to those who had been working hard at home to learn it. Unfortunately, we no longer have enough core choir members who have sung it for years that are able to lead the others who are less confident and still learning it, meaning more rehearsals with everyone present would have been required for us to be comfortable performing it.



We offer our congratulations to our 'head boy' Denis Armstrong who recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Many Happy Returns Denis!

Simon Ball



Honley Male Voice Choir “Magic of the Musicals” Concert **- Live at the LBT! -**

20 July 2024 at the Lawrence Batley Theatre, Huddersfield from 7:30pm to 9:30pm

Join Honley MVC as they sing songs from some of the best loved musicals! Join them as they take you on a journey which includes music from Oklahoma, Carousel, Sweet Charity and Les Miserables as well as many other musical highlights!

Honley MVC will be ‘Live at the LBT’ for one night only and you can’t afford to miss this magical evening of musicals! Come and enjoy all that is good about the fabulous West End! Sit back and let the show begin with Honley MVC!

Tickets are priced at £18 (£15 concessions*) and are available from **www.thelbt.org** in person or by calling 01484 430 528.
Box Office opening times: Wednesday - Saturday, 10am - 5pm.

*Concessions, include persons over 60, under 16 and a complimentary ticket for carers attending with registered disabled persons.

Honley Male Voice Choir is one of the premier choirs in West Yorkshire and as a registered charity (No 1158453) relies on the generous support of people like you to bring the magic of choral singing to a wide audience. Your support means we can perform regularly throughout the year in aid of charities and local community groups, thereby meeting our overall charitable objectives.

Hair Design



Alison Dean

is your local hairdresser

29 Greensend Road

Meltham, HD9 5NW

Tel. 850234

Appointments not always
necessary

Glenn Cope Garage Doors

All types of garage doors

*Repaired, Automated,
Supplied and fitted.*

Phone Glenn

01484 647650

53 Lower Wellhouse, Golcar



DAVID MILLER

Internal & external painting & decorating
(City & Guilds qualified)
&



Garden maintenance



Also:

Tidying & jet washing paths etc.
Cleaning, ironing & general support around the house, including
delivering items to charity shops & the tip
Cat feeding whilst away



HONEST – HARDWORKING - RELIABLE

References and quotes available



Telephone: 844307
Mobile: 07789161232

(I am registered deaf, so texts or WhatsApp are preferred)

Update from Bell House Care Home

The residents enjoyed their worship on Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of Lent, the 40 days leading up to Easter.

We talked about the word Lent being a German word for springtime, and how people think of it as a spiritual spring cleaning. Cleaning out anything that gets in the way of our relationship with Christ and our service to him. We talked about Lent beginning with this symbol of repentance, with ashes from palm Sunday crosses mixed with oil placed on our foreheads. With our aim being to become more like Christ. As usual we did lots of singing and praying and shared a happy time together.

The residents enjoyed sharing their Easter worship with a service that looked at the Easter journey through art. A series of 6 pictures told the story from the last supper, into the garden, the lie, the trial, the cross and finally the empty tomb. After the story we shared communion and sang some special songs. It brought us together as one family and felt very special.

Lord Jesus

You died, you were put in a tomb, but then you rose again.

We praise you Lord of Life.

Death could not hold you, you broke its chains.

We praise you Lord of Life.

Come now and be with us always.

We praise you Lord of Life.

ALLELUIA!

Amen

Jacqueline France



FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

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

Liam Smith & Abigail Williams,

Baptisms - *we welcome you into the Lord's family*

Isabelle Catherine Glover (baptised December 10th 2023)

William Joseph Jarvis

Funerals - May they rest in peace

Keith Nayler

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 Rev John Dracup T: 07983937132 E: parishofchristtheking@gmail.com



Parish Communion Services

What a wonderful time of worship and fellowship we have shared in the Parish over the last couple of months. On Sunday 28th January the Parish of Meltham Christ the King came together at St James' Church to share Holy Communion. Rev John Dracup was celebrant and gave the talk about how God's people are drawn together in love and friendship. Chris Dronsfield led the service and assisted with the chalice, Hester Deacon read the lesson and Jenny Mather led some beautiful and thought provoking prayers. Simon Ball was organist and Richard and Alison Whitely operated the power point. Our thanks go to all at St James' who made us so welcome and provided a such a delicious lunch. On Sunday 25th February we came together once more at St Bartholomew's Church for a service of Holy Communion. Lay Reader Nigel Priestley led our worship and offered prayers especially for children living with war, poverty or in care. We watched a video about Rosi and Stu Bayford who work with a community in Brazil on behalf of CMS. Rev John presided at communion and gave a talk reminding us that Jesus' way is to bring peace and forgiveness through His grace and the cross. Simon Ball played the organ and piano, St Bartholomew's choir led the singing and Peter Blackburn read the lessons. We continued to share together over a beautiful buffet lunch provided by the church family at St Bartholomew's. How good it is to share together in unity. Thankyou to all who worked so hard to make these times together so special.

Rev Judy Kenworthy



Easter 2024

The weather forecast didn't look too good for the Easter weekend, but we shouldn't have worried, God had it under control. The Service of Witness on Good Friday was well attended despite the wind and forecast rain. But we were all glad we did make the short reflective service outside St Bart's church, that nicely set the tone of the weekend ahead.

Easter Saturday was the Easter trail, this has now become an annual event where families look out for pictures telling the Easter story while looking for letters to spell out this years phrase of 'Jesus died for all'. Adults were given a hot cuppa to start and children a small chocolate egg filled easter basket. Then they were rewarded at St James' Church with the same, only this time the egg was bigger! Lots of conversations were had and the sun shone and was the most beautiful day. Jaqueline did a little thought through 'Forest Church' which took the form of an Easter decoration. Each element represented Holy Week. E.g the Conifer represented Palm Sunday, Corn for Maundy Thursday, Thorns for the crown, stick for the cross, and the flower for the resurrection.

We didn't actually see the sunrise on Easter morning due to the thick fog that rolled in but it didn't stop it being a happy day especially with breakfast in the Church Hall afterwards. (See the inside back page for pictures.)

Parish Services for April & May

You are welcome to join any of the following weekly services,

St Bartholomew's, Meltham 9:30am
Second Sunday of the month is a 'Family Service'

St James', Meltham Mills 9:30am
First Sunday of the month is a 'Family Sunday' service

Christ Church, Helme 11:15am

St Mary's, Wilshaw 11:15am

Please Note:

- 'Family Sunday' services are where people of ALL ages can join in the fun together.
- **Sunday 19th May at 10:30am** is a Churches Together Service at St James' Church. ALL the churches in Meltham will join together in celebration of Pentecost. There will be NO other services on this Sunday

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.



Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Wednesday 1st May @ 7:00pm
Church Hall (opp St Bart's Church)
ALL are Welcome to attend.



Tel. 01484 859229 E: secretary@hdfhs.org.uk W: www.hdfhs.org.uk

Facebook: [huddersfieldfamilyhistory](https://www.facebook.com/huddersfieldfamilyhistory)

Instagram: [huddersfieldanddistrictfhs](https://www.instagram.com/huddersfieldanddistrictfhs)

Twitter (X): @HDFHS01


Did you know that you can find help to research your family history, and that it is right on your doorstep? The Huddersfield & District Family History Society have a suite of computers with access to Ancestry and FindmyPast and many willing and experienced volunteers to assist you at their research room in Meltham.

We are based in the modern building to the right as you go up to Greens End Garage, just after the Parish Hall on Greens End Road. We have an extensive family and local history library, with a range of books on the subject larger than any you will find in libraries around Kirklees. We can help with research in any part of the UK or beyond. If you feel like taking the first steps to what can be an addictive hobby, these are our opening times:

Monday to Thursday & Saturday	2.00 pm to 4.30 pm
Wednesday also	10.00 am to 12.30 pm
Friday	10.00 am to 12.30 pm

GARDENING SERVICES

From a seasonal tidy-up,
planting & trimming of hedges & bushes to staining fences & sheds.



For a locally-based, honest, reliable & competively priced service, call David on 07837 118671

Care Home Services

Greenacres - 1:30pm for 2pm start

Tues 9th April - Songs of Praise
 Tues 23rd April - Holy Communion.
 Tues 14th May - Songs of Praise
 Tues 28th May - Holy Communion

Helme Hall - 1:30pm for 2pm start

Friday 26th April - Holy Communion
 Friday 31st 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 events.

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



200 CLUB :
February & March Winners

951	£50	Mrs S Priestley	226	£50	Mrs J Armitage
057	£10	Mr D Glover	039	£10	Mr B Shorter
684	£10	Mr D Earnshaw	655	£10	Vacant Number
819	£10	Mrs C Ward	024	£10	Mrs J Hutson
699	£10	Mrs S Ashton	194	£10	Mrs J Horsman
			544	£10	Mrs R Murray-Webster

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
 Cath Moulson 850171

St Bartholomews Flowers

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

7th April	Easter Day		5th May	Mr B Shorter
14th April	Mrs S Crowther		12th May	Mr & Mrs J Halstead
21st April	The Lodge Family		19th May	Mrs S Ashton
28th April	Mr & Mrs P Jackson		26th May	Vacant
			2nd June	Mr & Mrs C Atkinson

Flowers are a lovely way to remember loved ones or to celebrate that special occasion. If you would like to put flowers on the Communion table in church we do have dates available if you would like to.

Please contact:
Catherine Moulson (850171)

Saturday Coffee Mornings

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

6th Apr - Meltham & M. Mills Band.	4th May - Willow Garden Club
13th Apr - Meltham Town Council	11th May - Meltham Moor PTA
20th Apr - Over 60's	18th May - NO COFFEE
27th Apr - G&S Society	25th May - Christ Church Helme
1st June - Meltham Wildlife	



DIMPS

by Ville

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

JUST FOR FUN!

By Denis A

If you are in your allotment with a friend, don't tell them any secrets. Remember - Potatoes have eyes, the corn has ears and the beanstalk.

Today I'm wearing Pink, (no I'm not gay) to raise awareness of people like me who forget to separate their red laundry from their whites.

I used to wear khaki coloured pants. Sometimes I couldn't find them in the wardrobe & I thought I had lost them. Nowadays, if I can't find my 'khakis' it means I can't start my car.

Fred was up in court for not paying for his Double Glazed Windows. The judge asked, "Why haven't you paid anything for over 12 months? Fred replied, "The Double Glazing Salesman told me that "What I save on my heating bills would mean that the new double glazed windows would have paid for themselves in twelve months.

I used to think that drinking too much was bad for me, so I gave up drinking.

The waitress in the pub came over to me and said, 'I see your glass is empty sir, would you like another?' I answered, "Why would I want two empty glasses?"

Do you think that the idea of living a long like appeals to everyone? The idea of getting old certainly doesn't appeal to me at the age of 89 (I think that's 90 now Denis!) Oh dear, I've just remembered Mum lived to be 103. I certainly won't be receiving a telegram from the Queen. I've just realised that the older I get the better I used to be.

Enough is enough, God Bless one and all, Denis A.

Thinking ahead to
the Annual
Parochial Church
Meeting....



THE VICAR, OUTVOTED BY THE PCC
APPEALS FOR A PENALTY

COMPUTER HELP!

- ✓ Home Visits
- ✓ Virus & Spyware Removal
- ✓ PC Setup & Installations
- ✓ Repairs & Maintenance
- ✓ Wifi & Internet Issues
- ✓ Data Recovery
- ✓ 7 Days a Week
- ✓ Systems Re-Loaded



Windows PC, Iphone & Android Viewing
Installation and Setup Available

Contact Paul Mob: 07976952392

Email: paul@buildcomputers.co.uk

ideal carehomes



Greenacres | Huddersfield Road, Meltham HD9 4AL

01484 855 393

St Mary's Report

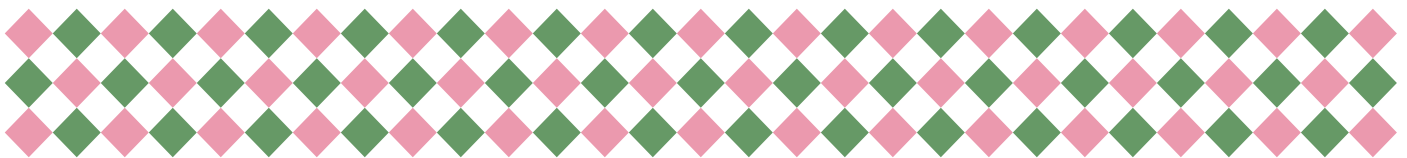
There was no service at St Mary's on 28th January to give us the chance to attend the Parish Communion Service at St James' Church. On 4th February there was a Service of Holy Communion when we welcomed friends from Helme, Meltham and on zoom. Jacqueline France led this as we thought about Jesus the Word of God and the Light of the World. Rev Judy Kenworthy was celebrant.

The following week Captain John Smith led a Service of the Word and took for his theme The Transfiguration. Rev John Dracup led "Breakfast Church" on Sunday 18th February when we enjoyed bacon butties as we thought about what the good news of Jesus means to us and how we feel about sharing that good news with other people. There was no service at St Mary's on 25th February and we joined the rest of the Parish at St Bartholomew's instead.

Sunday 3rd March saw a good congregation share Holy Communion which was led by Jacqueline who also offered the prayers. Rev Judy was celebrant and gave the talk reminding us that the world may think what Christians believe is foolish but that what we believe comes from God and that it is God's power that is at work in us transforming our lives and making us powerful witnesses for Jesus in an indifferent world.

The Mothering Sunday service took place in the church and was led by Rev John. He spoke about how life is a bit like a jigsaw and you don't see the finished picture until all the pieces are in place. The children helped him to build up a jigsaw illustrating the qualities of a good Mum and of our Mother Church. Posies of flowers were blessed and the children gave them out to the ladies in the congregation.

Our thanks go to all who lead our services, read lessons and provide music and PowerPoint, those who attend the services in person or on zoom and those who provide a welcome coffee and wash up. May we take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful and Happy Easter and may God bless you and keep you.



20 years of Meltham Shoe Box Team

We will be celebrating with an Afternoon Tea at St James' Church, 15th June.

Please see Judith Powell for tickets as soon as possible due to limited numbers.

Email: judithandpaul@icloud.com or M: 07954784317

Friday shoebox team meetings begin again on 10th May.

Helme Ladies Report

The wind was howling, and the snow was drifting down, so not many turned up for our next meeting on 16th January. Our speaker had to cancel due to work commitments, but she would come at a later date, so we were having a 'Beetle Drive'. If you have never played beetle before you are missing out, it is great fun and a laugh a minute. We had two ladies who had never played before so after explaining the rules we got underway. To start you must have a body, by shaking a 6 on the dice, well we had shrieks and groans and 'there is no 6 on this dice'. We had so many laughs and in the end, we had two people sharing top place. It was a good job I had multiple prizes; the winners received a Cadbury's Cream Egg to get them in the mood for Easter.

Our next meeting on 30th January was our Annual General Meeting, where you come along and have your say about how well Helme Ladies was being run or not as the case may be. It didn't take long to get through all the business with the officers and committee remaining the same as they were willing to continue. The year's programme was discussed, and all dates filled. All that was left to do was to settle down with coffee and biscuits and have a really good natter.

On the 13th February we were playing 'Bag Whist', don't ask me how to play it because I don't know. Those in the know explained what we had to do and away we went. If you know how to play whist you have a good start, it's all about the pair that win the game choose a prize out of the bags of the losing pair, and then the losing pair give the winning pair a prize from their bag. Then you all swap places and begin again. As usual it was all shrieks and laughs which is what we are all about. Then it was down to coffee and biscuits and a good catch up on all the gossip. January and February are funny months due to the weather, so you don't want to book a speaker in case we have a lot of snow or freezing conditions, where people cannot get out and about. You just hope that by March the worst of the winter weather has passed.

On the 27th February it was quiz time again, this time 'Jenny's Body Parts', and no she wasn't showing any body not even a finger. Jenny was the person who brought the quiz and a good one it was too. The questions were very good and had you thinking very deeply as to what body part it was meant to be. There was also lots of laughs as you would expect when a load of women get together, and also lots of gossip to catch up on. This time the winner received a Twirl bar, but I think she had an advantage over the rest of us as she used to be a Nurse. We finished with the usual coffee and biscuits and reflected on what Helme Ladies is all about, a group of people all having fun together.

Upcoming Events:

Apr 9th	Play Your Cards Right
Apr 23rd	Talk by Suzanne Calvert – More Healthy Tips
May 7th	Talk by Clive Pearson
May 21st	Uppermill Garden Centre

Fifty Years Flies By! By Nigel Priestly

On the 17th March 2024 I got out of my car in the Car Park at St James Church to find Captain John Smith waiting for me. He had an envelope with a card in his hand. Somehow John had found out that virtually to the day, 50 years ago in March 1974 I had moved to live in Meltham. There was a sheet in the card showing what was happening in the world half a century ago, what was the Number 1 record, which team was doing well at football. It didn't cover what was happening in church!

50 years ago having finished my legal training at Warwick University I had wanted to stay in the Coventry area. I had been attending a church at Potters Green in Coventry Diocese where renewal was taking place. A team of Christians with a whole new approach to worship had come to Coventry from Houston Texas, invited by the Bishop. Their music was beautiful – there was a music group with a cello, a violin and guitars. It was a time when Youth Praise ruled - but the music from The Fisher Folk could not have been more different. ...So I wanted to stay.

But God had other plans. Despite numerous applications, I couldn't get a job in the area. With some reluctance I applied for a job in Huddersfield at what then was the largest law firm in Huddersfield and I got it.

Rev John Morison was working as Youth Chaplain in Coventry Diocese. He had been vicar at St James before he got this job. He suggested that I go and see his successor and his wife– and ask them if I could move into the Vicarage.

They didn't know me – and they'd never had someone come to live as part of their family before. But that didn't put them off! It seemed right to them. In March 1974 I came to live at St James Church Vicarage with Rev Eddie and Pam Roberts and their two daughters, Catherine and Helen. I had no desire to leave Coventry. I'd probably only ever been to Meltham half a dozen times in my life before I moved in. But God knew what was best for my life.

It was a remarkable time where God was so clearly at work. The Youth Group known as The Cellar Dwellers met in the Vicarage cellars. New songs were being written by youth group members. Young people were coming to faith including Captain John. He wasn't the only one to join the Church Army after the youth group's time ended – there were another two. And I met Sue!

However, it wasn't just young people who God was working with. God was stirring in new ways amongst the congregation. There was a Bible Study every Friday and sometimes Half Nights of prayer with all age ranges taking part. We learnt new songs and experienced the Holy Spirit in new ways. Christine and Peter Rolls were at the heart of leading the changes in the way we worshipped.

Eddie Roberts believed that the test of a good leader was how many leaders he grew whilst he was there. He passed the test. I became a lay reader when I was 24 years old. God certainly knew what was best for me and I've never looked back.

SERVING FAMILIES SINCE 1929

Taking the greatest care

in and around Holme Valley and Huddersfield

Funerals
Prepaid Funeral Plans
Memorials



We're here for you anytime.

Whatever your wishes or budget, we can provide a funeral to suit you.

T. W. BIRKS & SON FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Woodhead Road
Holmfirth HD9 2PR
01484 683322

317 Meltham Road
Netherton HD4 7EX
01484 665115



dignityfunerals.co.uk/local

We're proud to be a Dignity Funeral Director, providing exceptional services to families across the UK.



RADCLIFFE FUNERAL SERVICE

INCORPORATING F. LINDLEY & SON

16 Westgate,
Honley,
Holmfirth,
HD9 6AA.
01484 662324

The Lindens, New Road,
Kirkheaton,
Huddersfield,
HD5 0JB,
01484 535853

www.radcliffefuneralservice.co.uk

Gwen, Andrew and James Schofield



Golden Charter
Funeral Plans 



An Independent family business established 1964

CHIROPODY & PODIATRY 4U

Treatments

- Hard skin removal
- Corn removal
- Nail cutting
- Ingrowing toe nails
- Cracked heels
- Verruca treatments
- Fungal nails
- Biomechanical issues



Home Visiting service



To book an appointment please call: **07500 464 474**

All Podiatrists are registered with the HCPC and the Royal College of Podiatry, DBS checked and fully insured.

For further information please email:
chiroprandyandpodiatry4u@gmail.com

Andrew P. Lockwood

MInstChp. CCM (Sheffield)

Chiropodist

All Foot Ailments Treated

CORNS - CALLOUSES (Hard Skin)

VERRUCAE

ATHLETE'S FOOT. Etc

Home Visits—Prompt Attention

Telephone: 01484—687632

Mobile: 07971—355078.

JJH PLASTERING

Free quotations : over skimming
and boarding : small jobs



welcome :

Based in Meltham

See work on 'Joshua Horvath'
Facebook page.

Call: **07395 301771**

Email:

JJHPLASTERING@HOTMAIL.COM

HUGE SAVINGS FOR THE OVER 60S EVERY WEDNESDAY



**20% OFF COMPLETE
PRESCRIPTION GLASSES**

**15% OFF EYE EXAM
UPGRADES**

**BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT
TODAY CALL 01484 907090**

**1-3 Station Street, Meltham,
Holmfirth, HD9 5NX**

EAR WAX REMOVAL FROM JUST £35.00



**HEARING LOSS?
EAR ACHE?
BLOCKED EARS?**

IT COULD JUST BE WAX

**WE OFFER SAFE EAR WAX
REMOVAL BY IRRIGATION IN
ONE OF OUR BRANCHES OR
IN YOUR HOME**

**Microsuction and Electronic
Irrigation
Home visits available**



**1-3 Station Street, Meltham, Holmfirth,
HD9 5NX Tel; 01484 90 70 90**

**30 Peel Street, Marsden, Huddersfield,
HD7 6BW Tel; 01484 76 88 88**



Family Ethics,
Family Values

Telephone: 01484 656156 (24hrs)

TAYLOR FUNERAL SERVICE

Funeral Homes at:

The Mount
2 Cowlersley Lane
Huddersfield
HD4 5TY

Dene End F.H.
North Road
Kirkburton
HD8 0RW

www.taylor-funerals.co.uk
PRE PAID FUNERAL PLANS AVAILABLE



Do you need help with your
cleaning and shopping?

Are you, or do you know an elderly
person?

Reliable, Trustworthy Person
available

For details and to discuss your
needs ring SARA

On: 01484 845535

Electrician

*Do you find it difficult to get
someone to come and do a
small job?*

- ◆ Extra Lights
 - ◆ Additional sockets
 - ◆ New Fuse Boards ◆ Rewires
 - ◆ New installations
 - ◆ Fault finding and Repairs
 - ◆ Qualified Electrician
 - ◆ Fully Insured ◆ Reliable Service
 - ◆ Tidy Work ◆ Free Quote
 - ◆ Flexible Hours
 - ◆ Reasonably Priced
 - ◆ Satisfaction Guaranteed
- I will assure you of a quick response, and a reasonably priced service...

Call Terry on: 01484 941029

or 07454 474759

info@TLElectricalHD.co.uk



Mothing Sunday (10th March)

Family communion service in St Bartholomew's. What a lovely morning we had. Lots of people in church. Mike Still was leading the service and prayers and Rev John did the sermon and what a good appropriate sermon it was. The story of Moses, as a baby and his mum Miriam was the theme. We made boats out of paper and the vicars son Isaac did a demonstration and offered help for those of us who needed it. The children handed out jelly babies to the congregation which we put in the boats we'd made. Wouldn't have wanted to put mine in water. It was good fun and we remembered the story and what courage Miriam showed putting her baby in a boat down the Nile to save his life!!!! Lisa was helping with the children and supervising what was going on. The hymns and prayers were good and again appropriate to Mothing Sunday, We wrote a prayer on pictures of daffodil heads (see right). Rebekah, the vicars daughter, assisted Mike with some of the Communion prayers and then the children came round with small bunches of daffodils for everyone. Then tea and biscuits and a chat. Lovely family get together .

Jill Horsman

I should not have chastised my toddler

I wrote this poem a long time ago, but was reminded of it after Rev. John's talk at Wilshaw on Mothing Sunday and we were discussing, after the service, how difficult it is to exercise 'tough love'.

Hopefully, it conveys a mother's feelings on going to bed herself, after she has put her child to sleep.

I SHOULD NOT HAVE CHASTISED MY TODDLER

Careful creeping up creaking stairs;
Listening on a lonely midnight landing.
The swift as starlight kiss
On moon - blonde hair.
My tears fall on your cheek;
Shed for my raised-voice reprimanding.

Sleep your entitled sleep of innocence;
Dream your fairy dreams of childhood.
I stand in a cold light
Shivering penitence.
Bitter tears on your cheek
Cry shame on my cross, flawed motherhood.

Dorothy Jones



Mothers Day Flower Prayers - St Bart's



Parish Beetle Drive - 10th February

Service of witness & lunch - Good Friday (below)



(Above) Easter Forest Church part of the Easter Trail making an Easter decoration.
 (Right) Sunrise Service at the Cock Crowing Stone. Easter Morning.

SCARECROW FESTIVAL

MAYDAY - MONDAY 6th MAY

This is an Olympic year, in Paris. So the theme will be sports or French. (but this is not compulsory)

There will be more entertainment for the children, with Meltham Scouts on the Doctor's car park, Meltham AFC at Meltham CE School, all supporting the usual fun & games at the Fire Station.

The route will be much as last year but scarecrows will be clearly signposted.

There will be 3 free scarecrow Making Workshops before the event from 4.30pm on Wednesdays 17th, 24th April and 1st May at the Fourth Fiend.

More information will be made available in due course but if you would like to be involved please contact Pam Murgatroyd on pammurg.mgt@gmail.com

**YOU are invited to join
The Dracup family at the
Awaken event over the
August Bank Holiday
weekend on Lincolnshire
showground.**

**Faith, Family and Fun are
the key aims and it doesn't
disappoint.**

**It's a great opportunity to
join together as a parish
family, build up our faith and
have fun in the process.**

Speak to the Vicar for more info!

awaken
Family ● Faith ● Fun

23rd - 26th August 2024
LINCOLNSHIRE SHOWGROUND

awakenevent.uk