A photograph of sunlight filtering through large green leaves, creating a bright starburst effect in the center. The leaves are in various shades of green, from dark to light, and the sunlight is a bright yellow-white. The overall mood is bright and natural.

trio

The Parish Magazine of Abbeydale
and Millhouses

Easter 2022

Parish of Abbeydale and Millhouses

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Valuing People

Caring for His World

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Margaret Minns 274 7372
Trio Editor: Pat Jackson 281 7557
pat.jackson@blueyonder.co.uk
Trio Advertising: David Crosby 453 9615
davidcrosby85@yahoo.co.uk

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Until a new full-time priest is appointed there will just be a **SUNDAY** Service

10.00 am Parish Communion

usually with music *and*

alternating between

Holy Trinity and St. John's

SEE PAGE 12 for dates

*This service can be followed on 'Zoom'
or by phone — details p.12*

FOR other CHURCH EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES SEE PAGES 13 & 23

For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals, plus bookings for church buildings, halls and the Parish centre, please contact the church office

htmillhousesoffice@yahoo.co.uk

or **Bev Ramsey 0114 249 0377**

*(In an emergency, contact the Revd. Dr. Angie Lauener
236 2188)*

CHARITY NUMBER 1142485

From our Associate Priest.....

I really enjoyed the TV series 'Around the World in 80 Days', starring David Tennant as Phileas Fogg. In the closing scene of the last episode, Phileas and his two travelling companions strode together into the future, joyously proclaiming "To friendship!"



Their strong friendship grew because they had travelled together for 80 days of adventures and many challenging times. At various points, they argued, disagreed and positively disliked each other. At significant times, they supported each other and saved each other's lives. In all of this, there was a growing mutual understanding as they learnt more of their 'back stories'. This led to appreciation and acceptance, even admiration at times, and their relationships strengthened.

Dinah Craik, nineteenth century novelist and poet wrote this about friendship:

A friend is one to whom one may pour out the contents of one's heart, chaff and grain together, knowing that gentle hands will take and sift it, keep what is worth keeping, and with a breath of kindness, blow the rest away.

In this edition of TRIO, the theme of our articles is 'Friendship'. We hope you will enjoy reading about different kinds of friendship, including international friendships that have been built up in the global Community of the Cross of Nails, brought together by the shared values of seeking peace and reconciliation. We also give information about the charity Sheffield City of Sanctuary, which we are supporting this year with our Lent Appeal – a practical way of offering friendship to asylum seekers coming to live in our city of Sheffield.



City of Sanctuary
Sheffield

Creating a Culture of Welcome

As this issue of TRIO is published, we will be at the start of Lent and will journey towards Easter in our church services and events. This is also a time to remember the disciples journeying with Jesus in his last weeks and days on earth before his crucifixion and resurrection. Friendships must have developed during this time with Jesus and each other, as they got to know each other, shared hopes and fears, felt great sadness at the death of Jesus and tremendous joy when they heard about his resurrection. It intrigues me that one of those disciples, Judas, the one who betrayed him, is called 'Friend' by Jesus. In Matthew's gospel, we read that Judas went over to Jesus and kissed him, and said 'Greetings, Rabbi', to identify Jesus to those who wanted to arrest him. Jesus then said to him, 'Friend, do what you are here to do'. Experts explain that in the Bible, this term is used when the person being addressed is in the wrong. I like to think that it is not an accusation but rather, an expression of concern for the betrayer, who at that time is not fully aware of the consequences of their actions. We know that later Judas deeply regretted what he had done. This would certainly fit in with Jesus' intention to share God's message of forgiveness and unconditional love for all, that no one is 'beyond the pale', whatever they have done. This is what we celebrate at Easter – the joyful truth that God wants to bring the possibility of new life for all.

We warmly invite you to any of the events and services that will be taking place in our churches during Lent, Holy Week and Easter. We advise that you also check our website for up-to-date information on venues and times:

<https://www.amchurchsheffield.co.uk>

as we expect to begin major building works in St. John's church sometime in March.

On behalf of the parish of Abbeydale and Millhouses, may I wish you a peaceful, blessed and holy Lent and a happy Easter.

Angie.



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“A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother.” Proverbs 18:24

Joseph Scriven was born in Ireland in 1820. He was educated at Trinity College in Dublin, and was engaged to be married to his Irish sweetheart – then tragedy struck. The day before the wedding his promised bride was accidentally drowned, and he was plunged into the deepest of sorrow.

Trying to escape his immense sorrow, he went across the ocean to Port Hope, Ontario, Canada. He put thousands of miles between his familiar Dublin home and the difficult memories it carried.

Joseph became a live-in tutor to a wealthy family and soon found a man who was to become his best friend, James Sackville.

In 1855, Scriven’s received word that his mother was seriously ill. Unable to be with her, he wrote a poem entitled, *“Pray Without Ceasing.”* He kept a copy of the poem in his desk drawer and put it out of his mind.

Joseph fell in love a second time. He met a beautiful woman named Eliza Catherine Roche, daughter of a Canadian Royal Navy Lieutenant . Tragedy struck again. Six weeks before they were to be married, Eliza contracted tuberculosis and died.

With these two tragic blows, Joseph determined to give himself to helping others. The twenty-five year old Scriven took a vow of poverty, vowing to give his life to the physically handicapped and financially destitute. He sold all his earthly possessions and gave away his income to needy people. He preached at the local Baptist Church and overcame his sorrow by losing himself in helping others.

Scriven, with his sparkling blue eyes and the face of an angel, spoke to everyone he came in contact with about the love of Jesus. People would often ask if they could hire him to cut wood for them to which he would respond, “I only help those in need and ask nothing in return”

In 1886, at the age of 56, his body was worn, his mind weary with disappointment, and he was no longer living with the Pengally family. His friend, James Sackville, took him to live in his home. Joseph was very ill and wanted his friend James to write down his last will and testament. James went to Joseph’s desk to get paper and pen and found the poem that Joseph had sent to his mother so long ago.

“Where did you get this poem?” James asked. Joseph told him that it was a poem he wrote to his mother before she died. Joseph said, *“The Lord and I did it between us”*.

“Joseph’s condition worsened. One day James went to Joseph’s room found it empty. A search was made Joseph’s body was found near a shallow creek. In his delirium, Joseph had staggered down to a nearby creek. They found him on his knees, in a position of prayer, face down in six inches of water, drowned. He did not live to see his song carried to every corner of the globe.

James sent Joseph’s poem to a Christian newspaper and it was published. For some time its authorship was unknown, being sometimes incorrectly attributed to Dr. Horatius Bonar. The poem was set to music by C.C. Converse, an attorney who worked to compose church songs, and quickly found its way into nearly every hymnbook since then. Later, Scriven became recognized as the author of the hymn that has blessed so many thousands of believers.

Two decades later, the great American evangelist, Dwight L. Moody, came across the song and believed it to be the most touching modern hymn that he had ever heard. It was Moody who gave the song a national platform.

Joseph Scriven died on August 10, 1886. His tale would hardly seem to warrant a page in church history were it not for one fact: he is the man who wrote a hymn that must rank among the ten best-known and most-beloved of all time. That hymn is:



***What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!***

Have we trials and temptations?

Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged—

Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful,

Who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness;

Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,

Cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge—

Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?

Take it to the Lord in prayer!

In His arms He’ll take and shield thee,

Thou wilt find a solace there.

Abridged from www.enjoyingthejourney.org

Man's Best Friend

As soon as we hear the saying "man's best friend" we know that it is a dog we are talking about. Although to be fair the term should be "Human's best friend" or even "Lady's best friend" as originally back in the late 1600's the only sort of dog that became remotely close to being a companion were Lap-Dogs kept by ladies! The rest of the dog population were either used for hunting or for defence. "Not fit for a dog" or "as sick as a dog" are terms that show how lowly dogs were thought of. But slowly and surely dogs became an integral part of human lives, not only working along side us but being as dependent on us as we are on them.

The phrase "man's best friend" has been attributed to an American Lawyer named George Graham Vest. In 1870 he defended a man in the American Supreme Court whose dog named Old Drum was killed by his neighbour for trespassing. Vest argued that the neighbour had taken the life of not just a pet but of a family member. He stated "The one absolute, unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world – the one that never proves ungrateful or treacherous – is his dog.



A statue of Old Drum outside the court rooms at Warrensburg Missouri

Although this writing appeared in a Journal 50 years earlier.

**The faithful dog - why should I strive
To speak his merits, while they live
In every breast, and man's best friend
Does often at his heels attend.**

The New York Literary Journal 1821.

So maybe he found this quote and adapted this in his argument. Anyway, he won and the man who lost his dog was compensated!

What has happened since? There are more dogs kept as pets in America than the total population of people in Britain! Dogs are an essential member of the family and in Britain 33% of households own a dog. They have become an integral part of everyday life.



I grew up with a dog (my first border collie), bought to encourage my father to walk after a serious illness. I am convinced we had an extra few years with my father because of the faithfulness of our wonderful dog. After my father's death he spent every night sleeping on the floor next to my mother's bed with the occasional trip into my room to give me a hug (yes, he crept on to my bed!). He led my mother and I through the grief experiences nudging us gently back into the World without husband and father with his constant reassurance. He was my best friend through dark and fun times. My second dog came my way when my husband and I returned from two years working abroad. My husband was adamant he was allergic to dogs, "well if you are then dear, we will need two houses!". He wasn't, and he was devoted to her as much as I was.

Concluded on next page

Since then, we have had a stream of four legged friends bringing joy into our family life. The heartbreak of saying goodbye to a family dog at the time is unbearable, it is a grief that is all consuming, but when I said a sad farewell to what was going to be our last dog I lasted 6 weeks before I realised that there is no way I could ever live without a devoted dog in our home!

Dogs are not only just family members, but they also hold an enormous work role part in everyday life. Their superior sense of smell and hearing and agility have allowed us to train them to perform tasks that for many people give them independence, the service and assistance and therapy work dogs. Other types of dogs are more suited to 'Search and rescue', saving countless lives. Herding and sled dogs perform tasks which are difficult for us to do alone. Detection dogs, police dogs and war dogs help to keep us safe from human dangers. Recently, one of the most amazing tasks that are being trialled and used today is a dog's ability to detect cancer and the signs of an oncoming seizure.

So, what is the future for our four-legged canine friends? Maybe one day they will be able to cook us sausages without eating them first! Or maybe they will just always be content to stay by our sides, to cheer us up when we are down, to make us laugh, and to be generally our best friend.

Liz Frost



At last! Exciting news about the Re-ordering of St John's Church!

Work has continued behind the scenes on the re-ordering, (*Church of England 'speak' for revamp!!*), of St John's church, with several meetings arranged during February. **It is hoped that work will start on site in early March 2022.**

The meeting with the contractor and architect will survey the crypt and decide what strengthening and support works are required for the raised areas beneath the pews to be taken out and the floor of the church to made level.



St. John's as it is now.

Later a pre-contract meeting is scheduled, at which hopefully the contract will be signed by our church wardens for work to commence.

The crypt will need to be cleared of things which have accumulated over many years, and a plan worked out for removal and disposal of the pews, which are to be replaced by comfortable cushioned chairs to create a multi-use space. It is envisaged that this can be used for worship, musical concerts and recitals, meetings and other events for the benefit of the whole community.

Work is expected to take about three months, and during this time Bishop Pete has given permission for services to be held, either in St John's church hall, or at Holy Trinity.

Andrew Horsfield

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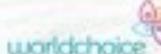
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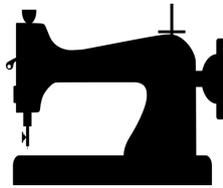
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The sewing machine, the sewing machine is a girl's best friend.....



**'Ohhh, the sewing machine, the sewing machine
A girl's best friend
If I didn't have my sewing machine
I'd a-come to no good end
But a bobbin a bobbin and peddle a peddle
And wheel the wheel by day
So by night I feel so weary that I never get out to play.'** *

I have been sewing and knitting since being a very small girl and was given a small toy sewing machine at the age of five or six. Despite getting frustrated by the cotton frequently getting tangled, I was able to use it to make many fashion ensembles for my dolls. As I grew, mum allowed me to use her old mechanical Singer and later even became proficient at using Singer treadle machine which we had inherited from a relative.



Child's toy sewing machine, 1950

I was introduced to electric sewing machines when I moved to secondary school. (In those days girls were taught sewing and needlework whilst the boys did woodwork) I was amazed to be able to use such expensive "high end" machines such as Bernina and Viking. For my 13th birthday Mum and Dad bought me a very basic electric, unnamed model sewing machine. Throughout the sixties I made many of the new fashionable mini dresses and progressed to making a formal tailored suit for interviews and even my own wedding dress. But I longed for a more sophisticated machine that had a "swing needle".



Treadle machine

In 1972 I was working as a ward sister supervising and teaching student nurses at the Sheffield Royal Hospital when I had the opportunity to return to college to train as a clinical teacher. This meant more studying but, joy of joy, working regular shifts and a small increase in salary. Having passed some challenging examinations, I decided to reward my efforts and invest in a new sewing machine.

I found exactly what I wanted in the old and trusted Sheffield department store, Cole Brothers. The Elna machine cost £106 pounds and so to spread the cost I decided to take out a hire purchase agreement. However.....

The accounts clerk informed me that this was not possible as I was married and that meant that my husband would have to sign the official documentation.

As an ardent feminist I was furious but no amount of explaining that this was to be my machine and the payments would be made by standing order from my own personal bank account, could persuade the person to change the rules. I had to capitulate and hubby agreed to accompany me back to the store to sign on the dotted line!

For fifty years the Elna and I have had a very fruitful partnership until....at the beginning of the Corona virus lockdown. I was making face masks for friends and family when it refused to work. I scanned the internet for a new machine but decided that I was too emotionally attached to my Elna and didn't want the bother of relearning to use a new machine. I booked an appointment for it to be repaired. The feedback from the mechanic was devastating, as he informed me that replacement parts were no longer available to repair this "Vintage" machine.

After collecting my beloved Elna I wandered into the show room and succumbed to a demonstration of a modern computerized machine. I was very unsure but was persuaded to purchase a machine with the promise that I could drop in at any time for help and guidance. And... Guess what? I love it! It works on the same essential principles of all sewing machines but the advance of technology and design have made the machine so easy to use. Its lighter to carry and even has a self-threading needle system, both improvements necessary as one get older! So, the new sewing machine has become my NBF (new best friend)

The moral of my story from a Christian point of view is that change is never easy for people. The good news is that, the essential Christian message never changes; Jesus was born for us; Jesus lived a human life for us; Jesus died for us; and Jesus rose from the dead for us. However, the world and society are changing and the traditions and rituals of worship which we find comforting and emotionally attached to, may no longer be appropriate for the people of today. The Covid crisis has given Church members the opportunity to step aside for a short while, to reflect on the past, to try to save what is of value and essential to our worship and to consider new and better new ways of serving others and our communities.

Paula Hancock

***THE SEWING MACHINE SONG**

From the film

"The Perils of Pauline" (1947)

As performed by Betty Hutton can be seen on

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=999ph8iRT4o>

Make new friends but keep the old, one is silver, the other gold.

When I was about nine, I had an autograph book, which was a popular thing at the time. We collected famous autographs if we could but also got everyone we knew to write little verses or draw something in it. Among the things written in mine was *"Make new friends but keep the old, one is silver the other gold."* At the time I thought it was a bit trite and old fashioned but it stuck in my mind.

My oldest friend and I met because we confirmed at the same time and joined the same group of young people to get together for coffee after the Sunday evening service at church. That became a group of real friends, who spent time together and supported one another but we two were especially close. We shared our faith, a lot of adolescent angst and giggled through our teenage years.



We split up for further education, but wrote copious and sometimes hilarious letters and visited

each other, often creeping into halls of residence usually sleeping on one another's floors. We eventually ended up in the same place again and shared a flat for the best part of two years. I was there for her when she couldn't decide whether he was 'Mr Right' and she was there urging caution when I thought I had found my 'Mr Right'. (We both had, and long and happy marriages followed).

When we married we ended up in different places but kept in touch through letters, phone calls and visits. (Fortunately our husbands got on well too!) With that kind of friend you can meet and just pick up where you left off. We always travelled to be there for one another's significant occasions.

Latterly, as well as the odd visit, we met up three or four times a year in between where we lived. We didn't do much – had coffee and chatted, moved to a restaurant for lunch and continued chatting. Finally afternoon tea and, yes, more chat before heading home. Covid put a stop to that and though we spoke on the phone, it wasn't quite the same.

When she died recently I realised what a huge gap there is in my life. You can't replace a friend who, long before your husband or children, knew all your faults as well as the good bits about you. who was there for you and had so many shared memories. I've had, and still have, many friends over the years but the message in my autograph book was right – this kind of friendship is pure gold.

J.W.

Looking for somewhere to meet ?

Many groups use our premises for regular meetings and 'one-off' events, but there are still a few sessions available at both Holy Trinity, St. John's and the Parish Centre. **Ring or email H.T. office – details on page 2**

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Forging international friendship....

The International Litany for Reconciliation with the Community of the Cross of Nails.

Our parish has a Cross formed from three nails which is often placed near the chancel step during Communion services. The Cross was presented to us when we became members of the Community of the Cross. You may know that once a month a small group of members of the parish meet outside by the War Memorial at St. John's to say the Litany of Reconciliation. It only takes a few moments and the Litany contains brief but important prayers which are being said at the same time by other members of the Community of the Cross of Nails.



The name Cross of Nails has its history in WWII when German bombs destroyed St. Michael's Cathedral in Coventry. In the midst of the rubble, a priest took three large roofing nails forged in the Middle Ages and bound them with wire.

What is this Community and its international Litany? How did it come into existence?

The Community of the Cross of Nails is a network of international organisations which meet on the first Friday of each month. The meeting is held via video conference and as the Parish of Abbeydale and Millhouses is a member some parishioners attend each month. It is a time for reflection and prayer with other members of the community throughout the world. The Litany was written by Canon Joseph Poole in 1958.

The organiser and co-ordinator of the monthly meetings is Oliver Schuegraf, priest of a church in Germany. He organises and leads the Litany but also invites other members to lead. On one occasion, it was Angie and Mike who led it. At the start of the meeting members introduce themselves and give a little information about themselves, about their church or organisation. Representatives are from the UK, Germany, Poland, Holland, Austria, South Africa and the USA.

It is lovely to hear about each participating member's involvement. A teacher from Austria talked about the work with her pupils, the CCN representative at Coventry Cathedral talks about organisations and activities with which they are involved. In York an inner city Church of St Martin's hold services in a now partially restored bombed church and work in the community and city centre

It is lovely to hear about each participating member's involvement. A teacher from Austria talked about the work with her pupils, the CCN representative at Coventry Cathedral talks about organisations and activities with which they are involved. In York an inner city Church of St Martin's hold services in a now partially restored bombed church and work in the community and town centre.

The zoom meeting ends with reflection, prayer and finally the Litany of Reconciliation.

Mike Morton-Thorpe and Pat Marshall



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The poster features a background image of a sunset over a body of water, with the sky transitioning from blue to orange and yellow.

Lent Appeal



City of Sanctuary Sheffield

Creating a Culture of Welcome

We are delighted to be supporting Sheffield City of Sanctuary as our parish Lent appeal in 2022 and grateful to Blessan Babu for telling us more about it at our Shrove Tuesday Lent Appeal launch at St. John's church hall on 1st March. The charity has a number of projects all aimed at helping asylum seekers in Sheffield. It includes an attractive meeting place in Chapel Walk called 'The Sanctuary'.

The Sanctuary aims to rise above the unjust constraints placed on people seeking sanctuary by providing a beautifully designed space in the heart of the city that is safe, welcoming and supportive. Visitors to the Sanctuary are welcomed by our volunteers and offered a hot drink and a calm place to sit, where they can participate in conversation groups and other social activities and find out about more about activities and opportunities around the city. It is a place where people are welcomed and listened to, and a place where people can discover the best of Sheffield as a City of Sanctuary.



The Multi-agency Drop-in: multiagency hub of advice, information and solidarity

The Asylum Journey: a comprehensive guide to services and resources at each stage of the asylum journey

The Sheffield Project for Refugee INtegration and Growth (SPRING): A unique collaboration of six organisations helping refugees settle into the local community.

The Refugee and Migrant Forum and Service Providers Group: Two groups bringing together people working for the rights of people seeking sanctuary in Sheffield.

More details on the City of Sanctuary website: <https://sheffield.cityofsanctuary.org>

Revd. Dr. Angie Lauener

Donations can be left in an envelope available at the back of Holy Trinity and put in the wall safe at the side of the carpark door. Please mark the envelope 'Lent Appeal'. Or contact David Crosby, details on p2.

Sunday 10th April

6.30pm Holy Trinity

Readings &

Music for Passiontide



A big *THANK YOU* for continuing to support our *recycling* and 'The Grace Foodbank'. We are still collecting towels, stamps, hearing aids (non-NHS) and electrical leads, plus good quality children's books. These can be left in the collecting box at the back of Holy Trinity or contact Pat Jackson, Editor, (details on p2), who will arrange collection.

The collecting box is emptied regularly. (N.B. There will no box in St. John's during the reordering!)

Worship at Holy Trinity and St. John's

During the interregnum it is not possible for us to hold as many services as we would like, but both churches are open during the week for private prayer, H.T. 10am-4.30pm, St. J's 10am - 4pm

March

Sun 13th 10am St. J
Lent 2
Parish Communion
N.B. H.T. if re-ordering begun at St.J
Matthew Rhodes

Sun 20th 10am H.T.
Lent 3
Parish Communion
Emma Percy

Sun 27th 10am St. J's Hall
Mothering Sunday
Parish Communion
Parish team



Sun 24th 10am St.J's Hall
Easter 2
Parish Communion
Ian Maher

May

Sun 1st 10am H.T.
Easter 3
All-Age worship
Chris Stebbing

Sun 8th 10am H.T.
Easter 4
Parish Communion
Parish Team

Sun 15th 10am H.T.
Easter 5
Parish Communion
Parish Team

Sun 22nd 10am St. J's Hall
Easter 6
Parish Communion H.T.
Ian Maher

Thur 26th
Ascension Day

Sun 29th 10am H.T.
Easter 7
Parish Communion
Ian Maher

April

Sun 3rd 10am H.T.
Lent 5 Passiontide
All-Age worship

Sun 10th 10am H.T.
Palm Sunday
Parish Communion
H.T. 6.30pm
Readings & Music for Passiontide



Tues 12th H.T. 7.30pm
Holy Communion with healing

Thurs 14th
Maundy Thursday t.b.a.

Fri 15th H.T. 10am 10.30am
Good Friday
Morning Prayer
Walk of Witness - start at H.T. end at Mother of God
2 - 3pm Stations of the Cross



Sun 17th **Easter Sunday**
H.T. 10am Parish Communion
Bishop Tim Ellis

June



Sun 5th 10am H.T.
Pentecost
Queen's Platinum Jubilee
All-Age worship

Sun 12th 10am H.T.
Trinity Sunday
Parish Communion
Parish team

Sun 19th 10am H.T.
Trinity 1
Parish Communion H.T.
Parish team

Sun 26th 10am St. J's Hall
Trinity 2
Parish Communion
Helen Blackburn

Our 10am service is available through zoom. The link remains unchanged:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6745323083?pwd=eitkeVdiODV4S1NpRzJvV0ZxbTd6UT09>

Meeting ID: 674 532 3083 Passcode: AMCHURCH

For up-to-date information please contact the Parish Office, email or visit the website:

details on page 2

Parish Charitable Giving 2021

The Parish has a policy of allocating 10% of voluntary income to charitable objects. In addition, appeals are made to church members and the community for special appeals throughout the year. *We thank everyone for their generous giving:*

Cathedral Archer Project:	£936
Medecins Sans Frontieres	£997
Christian Aid	£1,806
Children's Society	£1,593
Embrace:	£1,000
Changing Faces (UK):	£1,000
Open Doors :	£500
Save the Children (Afghanistan)	£500
Christian African Relief Trust	£500
Room to Read (UK)	£500
Mission Aviation Fellowship :	£500
Support Dogs, Sheffield:	£250
Send a Cow	£500
Goodwill Childrens' Village (India)	£250
Transport 17 :	£250
Soulroots	£250
South Yorkshire Eating Disorder Association	£250
Grace Food Bank	£581
The Oakes Holiday Centre	£250
Camphill Village Trust	£250
Pakistan Family support	£1201
Total	£13,989

The Parish also supports the Grace Food Bank with regular collections of food at our church buildings.

We invest in the Sheffield Credit Union to support families with affordable loans.

We are a Fairtrade Church and hold a regular Traidcraft stall in our churches.

You are invited to donate to our charitable causes :

Write a cheque payable to Ab-beydale and Millhouses PCC, mark your envelope with the charitable cause and send to 41, Rushley Drive,

A Friendly Face

During this time of interregnum, as we wait for a new priest to be appointed, the friendliness and dedication of Angie and Mike has been a constant in a time of change. They have been supported by a number of visiting clergy who have helped to lead worship in our two churches. It has been very reassuring to see some familiar friendly faces and some not so familiar, but equally friendly faces too.

Bishop Tim (Ellis), who has had a long association with our two churches often came to preach during Peter's ministry. He came back to Holy Trinity to preach to us a few weeks ago. In his usual positive and upbeat way he had a cheery word and a friendly smile for everyone. He also delivered a powerful and meaningful sermon and I would like to share with you a story he told.

A Cherokee elder was teaching his young grandson about life.

"A fight is going on inside me," he said to the boy. "It is a terrible fight and it is between two wolves. One is evil - he is anger, envy, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, self-doubt and ego. The other is good-he is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, friendship, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith.

This same fight is going on inside you - and inside every other person too."



The boy thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather, "Which wolf will win?"

The elder simply replied, "The one you feed."

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Preparing to stay friends after marriage

Bran Cranwell

Some years ago, before I was ordained, I was saddened when a couple I knew quite well broke up and divorced. It transpired that one of the main, (but not the only), reasons was that the wife wanted children and her husband did not. What amazed me was that I discovered they had not discussed this before they married.

When I first came to Sheffield in the early 70s from Africa I discovered there was a Training Group functioning in the northern churches where clergy and other interested church members met quarterly and shared various training methods they had found to be successful. Having been in the training business both in business life and in the church in Africa, I quickly joined in. It was here that I first heard of people running marriage preparation, (for couples intending to marry), and marriage enrichment groups for couples who had been married some time.

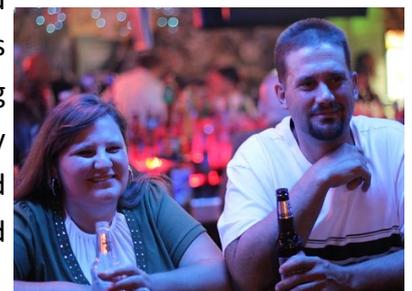
Hazel and I attended a residential marriage enrichment group for 3-4 days ourselves at one stage and very helpful it turned out to be. But when I started as a parish priest I found some puzzlement in a few couples, (especially those already living together and perhaps with children), who felt that attending a preparation group was unnecessary, and that they knew each other well enough already. Obviously in a parish I was not able to have more than a couple of hours with couples but after running such groups several times over 15 years I found the groups I ran were much appreciated and the separate evenings I ran providing 30 minute talks from a solicitor, a financial advisor and a district nurse were much appreciated and frequently resulted in action within a day or two.

The personal groups that I ran in the vicarage with Hazel had two parts. I would first give out a simple questionnaire for each couple to answer about their partner which included such questions as when is his/her birthday? Favourite colour/food? TV programme? etc. They would then be given a few minutes to check answers with their partners and invited to share results with others.

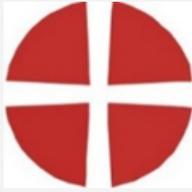
The second paper was more personal and I emphasised that none of the information need be shared with anyone else unless they wished. It included such questions as intention for a family, and their likes dislikes or irritations about their partner, how important decisions will be made, management of money, and so on. They were then invited to share what they had written with their partner, but after that only needed to talk about any aspect that they felt comfortable about with the other couples.

I was constantly amazed at how often people shared quite intimate results. One of the most memorable was a young woman who said to the group "I don't understand this. He says I frighten him at times" There was a hush. I said nothing, Then another man in the group said "*Well we only met an hour ago and you scare the pants off me!*"

There was laughter all round but then followed a wide ranging and frank discussion on this subject that gave very helpful information both to the original speaker but also helped others. The satisfying thing for me was the number of times I was phoned within a few hours or days to say that a couple had later spent hours at home talking about things they knew they should have discussed before.



Concluded on next page



NEWS FROM MILLHOUSES METHODIST CHURCH



Warm greetings for Lent and Easter to our friends at Holy Trinity/St John's Ab-beydale and all in the community of Millhouses. Looking back to our Christmas Tree Festival, many thanks to all who supported it in any way and for the gifts which enabled us to send a worthwhile donation to our chosen charity, St Luke's Hospice.

Please see our website, www.millhousesmethodistchurch.org.uk for full details of our services during the next three months. Below are details of some significant highlights in the Christian calendar:

Mothering Sunday, 27th March, 10.30am Revd Dr Claude Kimpinde

Palm Sunday, 10th April, 10.30am Mr David Green

Maundy Thursday, 14th April, 7.00pm, 'Last Supper' Communion, Revd Dr Claude Kimpinde

Easter Sunday, 17th April, 10.30am Dr Jenny Bywaters

In May 2021 I wrote an article for TRIO about an on-going journey from John O'Groats to Land's End. My husband John and I had started the journey in 2013 but I had been bitterly disappointed to have to stop after 500 miles, because of stress fractures in my feet. Still holding on to disappointment, in 2017, I set about trying to complete the journey in stages. At the time of writing I still had 135 miles to go. People have asked whether I eventually completed the challenge...and YES I did. On a lovely sunny day in August last year, I finally walked to the finishing post at Land's End. Completing just over 1000 miles was a very emotional occasion. I was expecting to shed a joyful tear as I finished but I was not quite ready for the wail I let out! It is hard to explain just how special the sense of achievement is to me.

This issue of TRIO is about friendship. I had so many friends urging me on in my endeavours. I was greeted at the end by family, but also by friends from St Just Methodist Church. Most of all I pay tribute to John, who is not just my husband, he's my best friend. His love and encouragement throughout, made the journey very special.

Glynis Smith

Conclusion from previous page

When these discussions finished I would then go through the marriage service with these couples and arrange rehearsal dates.

The 30 minutes with each professional also often produced quick action especially when it came to the subject of making a Will. The comment most frequently heard was "We don't have much. What's the point?" The solicitor would then ask if they have or intended to have children, and would then point out that in the event of their joint deaths (say in an accident) if they had only a verbal agreement with a relative or friend to look after the children, social services would have to put the children into care while they checked on the suitability of the new foster parents. This could take several weeks. If it is in writing there is no delay.

The other legal aspect with which most were entirely unfamiliar was what happens to the estate if both die in the same accident and there is no will and no heirs. If it cannot be established as to which of the couple died first then the law

says the elder is presumed to have died before the younger so the younger person's family inherit. This would cause some consternation if a young couple were in the process of, or had just bought a home (which has to include life insurance), and had no heirs. "You mean her/his mother would inherit the house?" I would hear. Panic!

Sadly, in the 1980s Church House Westminster decided to disband the Area Training Groups as an economy measure, even though they employed only one person as a co-ordinator and the Area Training Groups funded themselves. In doing so they followed a common practice in the less well managed industries who always see training as an easy option for cost cutting, just the opposite to Japanese industry. Whether things are any different today to when I was at college I don't know, but as training of this practical nature was not covered in training college it means most clergy do not know of it or have the chance to participate, But surely such subjects are an essential part of ministry.

Fellowship, Friendship and Family

The church hall at Holy Trinity has been the centre of fellowship and friendship in the community for nearly 60 years, and is still looking as good as ever!

Here are just three examples of the different groups which use the hall on a regular basis for the well-being of local people.



Trinity Tots

There have been groups for parents/carers and pre-school children at Holy Trinity for many years - indeed I attended "Pram Club" with my children in the late 1960s. The name and format have changed over the years, but the aims are the same - to enable people with young children to meet, and play in a safe and friendly environment. A group of helpers, mostly from the church family, "facilitate" the activities and prepare refreshments, giving the participants time to get to know one another. Many people in the area move from elsewhere, so our Tots groups are an opportunity to meet new people and make friends. I know of many friendships that were made at the groups many years ago and are still going strong today.

It is a pleasure, and very rewarding, to help this to happen.

Pat Kirbyshaw

Dance/Fitness

I have had the great fortune of delivering Dance fitness classes over the last 32 years in a variety of halls, and Holy Trinity at Millhouses has been a regular home for a class the longest.

Every Tuesday morning the Keep Fit participants, who are now like a family, all arrive to be put through their paces for an hour of Fun and Fitness to a selection of music. People can leave their worries at home and concentrate on themselves. Enjoying the music, the movement, and all the benefits it brings.

After the slight hiccup called Covid, this was halted quite quickly back in March 2019 and classes ceased overnight. But in true tradition we rallied the troops and learned a new way of delivering a class remotely on Zoom. We met online weekly for exercise. Moving our furniture to one side so we could enjoy a class once again and see our Keep Fit family again, even if briefly.

Luckily we are now back in the Hall and enjoying our classes with vigour and excitement. Some people may say that it is Just a fitness class. But it is more than that. We are a group who enjoy dance fitness but we also have made true friendships over the years meeting for group meals, outings and also some of us being in the team in our Dance fitness displays. They are always offering support and kindness to each other. We are a true Keep Fit Family.

The Keep Fit Association has been very important in my life. Through testing times the ladies have helped each other pull through, with their dedication, their laughter, their endurance, their kindness and resilience.



Thank you to all and Keep Fit,

Michelle

Ballet

Every Monday and Wednesday, Holy Trinity Church Hall becomes a ballet school. Students arrive, change, and have classes to train classical ballet technique in a fun, nurturing environment. Hallam Dance has used the hall since 2000, and in the past 5 years has been run by myself, alongside our wonderful pianist Phil Croft.

Week to week, it's heartening to see the students progress in their lessons. Many students start by bringing along a school friend, and soon connect with the rest of the class to form lasting bonds. On the other side of the sliding doors, parents catch up on the week, or take shifts sharing lifts. From our youngest mixed class of 3 year-olds, to our oldest seventeen year-olds, the classes take on a social form beyond the technicalities of dancing.

In my broader work around Yorkshire, I've seen how friendships in the ballet studio can branch into school and home life; practising the new step of the week on the playground gets other children involved, or putting on a living room show can really make Gran's day! I think past the initial technical training, and of course the physical benefits of any exercise, local ballet classes are a unique structure on which to build relationships.

I started my ballet lessons here with Karen Taylor when I was very young, and attended professional training through my teenage years at the Academy of Northern Ballet. On a personal level, I was the only boy in my classes before my Leeds training, so it's exciting to see more boys starting our lower levels! Having studied for a certificate with the Royal Academy of Dance, and returning to Hallam Dance in 2015, I'm so glad to be able to give back to the school I started with.

Thank you to Holy Trinity Hall for being the first home of ballet for many young local dancers.

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More international friendships

Sheffield – Germany

Some readers may be aware that Sheffield and Bochum, (Germany), have been 'twinned' since 1950, hence Bochum Parkway at Norton and in Bochum there is a Sheffield Ring Road. Bochum, in the industrial area of Westphalia, like Sheffield, grew rapidly with the development of steel. Now it has a much broader diversity of industries. Over the years many and various different groups have linked and visits been exchanged, including ones to our parish.

Ruth Deas, a long-serving member of Holy Trinity Church choir until her death about 10 years ago, made several trips to Bochum with City Council members as the official interpreter. (*Ruth lectured in German and French at Sheffield University*). Ruth, who was Sheffield Guide County Commissioner, arranged for 12 Girl Scouts from Bochum to join Holy Trinity Guides at the 1977 Guide and Scout International Jubilee camp at Chatsworth. The visitors were then given hospitality with the Holy Trinity Guides in Millhouses. The following year a return trip was made to Bochum with the Guides and leaders enjoying living with German families and also spending time in 'camp' at a lodge deep in the Black Forest.

During lockdown Abbeydale Rotary decided to use 'zoom' to make international links and where better to start than Bochum! Abbeydale's President, Steve Walker, wrote in their April 2021 newsletter:

"It was late October (2020) when we sent our first letter to the Bochum-Renaissance Rotary Club in Germany, hoping that they would be receptive to our invitation to the possibility of Twinning. Having left the European Union, the on-going effects of the worldwide pandemic and now everyone talking on Zoom, or other on-line meeting tools, what better time?

This could bring with it positivity, a welcome friendship, and a long lasting bond.

Our introduction was well received and we have had several joint meetings with an interesting and convivial atmosphere. On the strength of this we have built a relationship and we are sharing ideas and projects.

Thanks to the hard work of Ken (Abbeydale) and Jörn (Bochum) they have embraced the Sheffield Young Artist exhibition/competition and have started a Bochum Young Artist and we will have exhibits from both Cities at future events. „

The friendship between the two Rotary clubs has continued to grow and Julia Massey posted this on the Abbeydale Facebook on 12th February 2022.

Yes, another Zoom quiz night! But this was international. Last night was a wonderful social evening with our twin Bochum-Renaissance Rotary. Contestants were mixed and put into five breakout rooms and fed the questions in English and German by Chat. Questions related to both nationalities. Unsurprising, German participants could answer both German and English based questions whilst Abbeydalers struggled with English related questions! Going through the answers when we were all back together was hilarious with the question masters accepting winning votes for many. Thank you to quiz masters Stefan and Steve for the questions and Stefan especially for all the translations and running the breakout rooms. We look forward to the "return" match in May when Bochum R come to Sheffield.

A group of Rotarians from Bochum are coming to Sheffield in May, staying in this area and being hosted by Abbeydale Rotarians. A return visit to Bochum is planned for 2023.

P.M.J.



Bergbaumuseum Bochum



Bochum City Hall

Lonely.... Bored.....

No friends.. ???

Sadly these words are frequently heard from people of all ages - and not just the elderly and immobile.

Within our Parish of Abbeydale and Millhouses we are richly blessed with a wide range of clubs and activities for people of all ages, interests and abilities, many of which use our church premises – see page 23.

There are also several 'Friends Groups' active in the area, such as



Friends of Ecclesall Woods (F.E.W.)

friendsofecclesallwoods.org.uk

Friends of Millhouses Park

(F of MP). friendsofmillhousespark.org

Friends of Dore & Totley Station (F. of D&T.S) [www.facebook.com>groups>FoDaTS](http://www.facebook.com/groups/FoDaTS)

Beauchief Environmental Group (B.E.G) www.beauchief-environmentgroup.co.uk

Whilst the work of these groups is focused on preserving and developing their specific areas, real and lasting friendships between the volunteers are inevitable, which is a bonus.

Having a common interest or goal is the basis for other local groups such as **Trefoil** and **Rotary**.



Trefoil, (which meets monthly in St. John's 94 Room), is open to any adult who is prepared to make a Promise which is similar to that made by Guides and Scouts.

Some of the Trefoil group have been friends for years through being Unit leaders for Brownies and Guides, whilst others have recently joined simply for the fun and friendship. As with Guides and Scouts, the group enjoys an amazingly varied programme including quizzes, speakers, craft sessions, garden parties, visits, walks, discussions, games, even the occasional ten-pin bowling.... And frequently food!! **Contact details on p.23.**

There are two **Rotary** clubs, (again open to adults of any gender), in this area - Abbeydale and Vulcan. Abbeydale meet every Wednesday, usually at lunchtime, at Abbeydale Sports Club whilst Vulcan are currently still using 'zoom' for their weekly evening meetings. Rotarians make a pledge to 'Serve to save lives' and do this by working on local community projects and raising funds for international ones, such as 'Aquaboxes' and 'End Polio Now'.

Rotary
PEOPLE OF ACTION



Aquabox



Like Trefoil, Rotary meetings and social events provide the opportunity for real lasting fellowship and friendship.

Amongst Abbeydale's current local community projects are helping Ecclesall Primary School build an eco greenhouse, canal clearing at Tinsley and collecting books for an inner-city primary school. They also work with **F.E.W.**, (clearing brambles), **F. of M. P.** (upkeep on the sensory garden), **F. of D&T S**, (providing and maintaining the seat by the carpark), **B.E.G.** removing Hymalayan Balsam and with the **U3A** in clearing the ponds a Whirlow Brook Park.

SO DON'T sit at home being bored and lonely.... Just contact a group of your choice and make new friends!



Regular Parish Activities – for special events see p.13



Holy Trinity & St. John's
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A stall is held regularly after the 10 am
service in both churches

Carers and Toddlers

Thurs 10.00am Tots - HT
Contact: Pat Kirbyshaw - 236 2643
Frid 10.00am Carers and
Toddlers - St. J's
Contact: Lucy Wilson - 073 9982
1677



Thursday Lunch Club - at St. John's for the elderly and lonely



**Urgently needs volunteers
and cooks.**
Contact: Jane Blockeel
0114 236 6861
Tblockeel@aol.com

Mon 4.30pm **Rainbows** — St. John's 249 4113
Mon 6.00pm **Brownies** — St. John's 07588
240224
Tues 5.30pm **Rainbows** — H.T. Church Hall 235 0370



Trefoil Guild

Meets on the third Monday each month in
the 94 Room at St. John's at 7.45pm
Contact: Pat Jackson 281 7557

Parish Centre - Dobcroft Rd

Monday 6.45 pm Cubs
7.30 pm Explorers
Thursday 7.00 pm Scouts
Friday 6.15 pm Beavers



Contacts: Andrew Bullock (Beavers & Cubs)
ajbullock@blueyonder.co.uk
Jeremy Holmes (Scouts & Explorers) 0770 344 1613
jeremypiglet@gmail.com

Handbells



Mondays 2 pm 94 Room St. John's
Contact Margaret Ibbetson 236 4184
New ringers warmly welcomed

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Mothers' UNION

3rd Wed in each month at 2.15pm
94 Room St. John's
Contact 0114 274 7372

Church Choir

Practices are currently held at
9.30am Sunday, i.e. before the
10am service
(see calendar p14 for venue!).
New members welcome



Contacts: see Music Directors, p2



COFFEE MORNINGS
are hoping to resume again
soon
See website calendar or
contact: Val Wiley 236 0726

St. John's Snooker Club

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or experienced, any age
or religion



The club meets at back of the church hall
(Abbeydale Road South)

on Mondays at 6.30pm

Contact Michael Minns on 0114 274 7372



*Come and have a go
at.....*

INDOOR Carpet BOWLS

Where? St John's Church Hall
When? Thursday afternoon 2—4pm

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Contact: Audrey Cutts 236 0613

Summer Edition of TRIO

DEADLINE for articles

Friday 29th April 2022

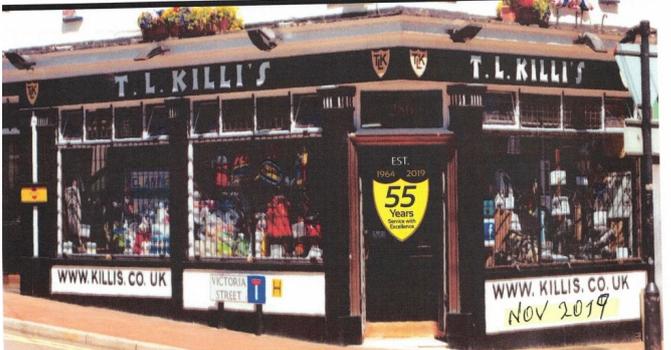
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