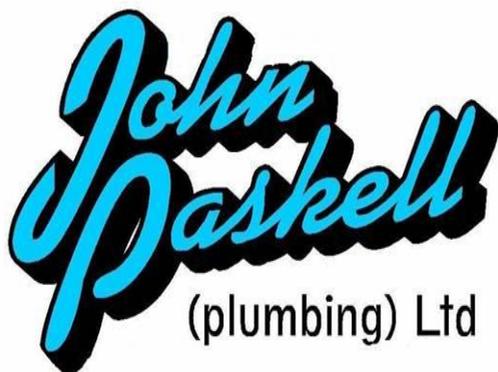


The magazine of the Barnsley Group Pastorate



SPRING 2015





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Dear friends

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory. (Romans 5:2)

You know that feeling you get when you have screwed up, again? I don't mean trifling mistakes that anyone could have made, I mean the wilful, deliberate choice to be selfish that you recently made. The momentary enjoyment of whatever it was you wanted followed by the feeling that your worst fear is true; that you are not worthy of love; that even if people do love you they are misguided because you know that you are not good enough. You tell yourself to pray because you know that God loves you anyway, but somehow it feels like it is not enough; that His love is a vague sort of

Good
Friday



grandparently love that just glosses over everything that is wrong in your life.

We have just entered Lent, a period of self

examination, fasting, praying, penitence, doing something different, resisting temptation. At the end of Lent, as we know, is Easter Day when Jesus overcame death on the cross where he died for all our sins.

Jesus' death on the cross demonstrates something to us that nothing else could: He knows how bad it is, He knows how painful it is but He did what He did willingly. If you can bring yourself to believe that He fully understands all of your sins and yet still loves you so much that He was willing to be tortured to death, just so that He could have a friendship with you - if you can believe this, you are saved. Eternal life is yours. Alleluia!



Items for the Summer 2015 LINK need to be with me by Sunday 10 May). Thanks.

Your friend and minister

Nick

(Cover photo: RHS Harlow Carr)

HAPPY
EASTER

WEST MELTON'S GREEN TIPS CORNER

By Helen Owen

Numbers 23 & 24 Soothe coughs naturally and Let's Twist again

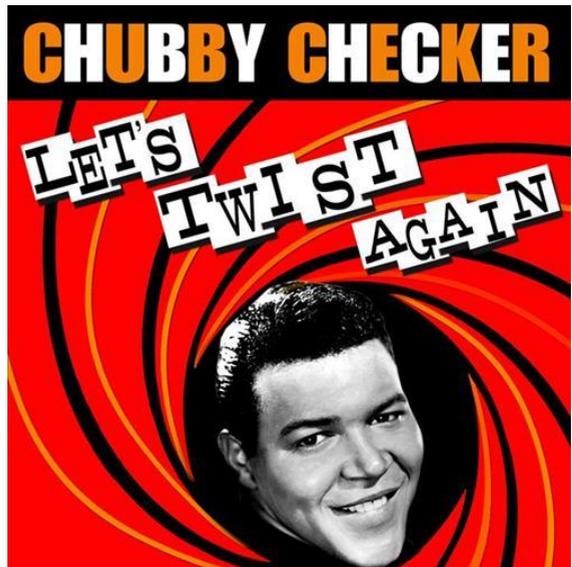


Soothe coughs naturally

For a cheaper and natural alternative to shop-bought cough mixture, soothe sore throats with an infusion of organic honey and lemon in hot water. The honey will relieve irritation and has valuable antimicrobial properties.

Let's twist again

Wash glass jars and reuse them to store leftover food in the fridge, or the contents of a tin after it has been opened. A cheap alternative to plastic and Tupperware (other storage containers are available!) that's easy to recycle or give glass jars to Ann Peace for her jam and marmalade making.



Group Pastorate Services 2015

We meet together for worship,
fellowship and food
three times a year.

TRINITY - 22nd MARCH

CLAYTON WEST - 28th JUNE

WEST MELTON - 11th OCTOBER

*These services will start at 11.00am and
will, as usual, be followed by a time of
fellowship as we eat lunch together.*

YOU ARE ALL WELCOME.

PLEASE PUT THESE DATES
IN YOUR DIARY NOW

TRINITY AGE-WELL

Trinity Age-Well meets every Wednesday from 10.30am till 1.00pm. They enjoy a varied programme which include theatre visits, visits to garden centres (in fact to anywhere where they can get a cup of coffee!) and pubs for meals. They also do craft activities and chairbics (led by Margaret Saxton)

Last September they went to York for the day. The following is their account of this day.

Trip to York by Age-well

The day we went to YORK. Our first meeting after the summer break was an early bus trip to



York and Acaster Malbis. We arrived in York on time. The



coach parked by the river-side, so we walked on to a cafe that was under the bridge. The cafe was actually not open but a kind young waiter allowed us to sit



at the tables and wait; whilst waiting the Autumn leaves came tumbling down. Coffee was enjoyable. The weather was good not too cold and no wind. A short walk along the river side got us to the boat moored just a

little further from the cafe.

Fortunately there was no queue as the boat had been hired for the Yorkshire Rose Coach Company. Jean and I bravely went upstairs to sit in the open, the rest sat at a table downstairs, finding a corner seat at a table. Val decided that she would like one of the



boats moored by the river. We enjoyed the scenery; passing the Bishop's Palace, men fishing and the country-side.



Arriving at Acaster Malbis, we walked across the car park to the Ship Inn for our lunch. The meal which was a carvery was very good with plenty of choice.

It was enjoyed by all age -well and the others on the trip. A photo stop after lunch before boarding the boat back to York. Another visit to the cafe whilst Fiona went for a walk. A comfort stop needed a mortgage before taking the coach back home. A good time was had by all. In December they went to The Norman in Monk Bretton for a Christmas dinner.



In February this year they paid another visit to Rob Royd for coffee.



1965 - Oh! What a Year That Was by Joyce Jones

Okay, so the popular television programme was actually called *That Was The Week That Was*.

But what a year that was at West Melton. Everyone seemed to be getting married.

Of course this means that 2015 sees Golden Wedding anniversaries for four couples in our church:

Margaret and Brian Marchant - 20th March

Ann and Les Peace - 17th April

Norah and John Paskell - 12 June

Susan and Malcolm Andrews - 4th September



CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL

It really was a good year, wasn't it!

Into the Ark - Wordsearch



Aardvark, Alligator, Ape, Armadillo, Bear, Cat, Cheetah, Chicken, Chimpanzees, Chipmunk, Cougar, Cow, Crocodile, Deer, Dog, Donkey, Eagle, Elephant, Elk, Gazelle, Goat, Gorilla, Hyena, Jaguar, Japheth, Lemurs, Leopard, Lizards, Llama, Mice, Mule, Orangutans, Peacock, Peahen, Pig, Rabbit, Raven, Red panda, Rhinoceros, Rooster, Sheep, Snake, Sparrow, Squirrel, Swan, Tiger, Wives, Zebra

Continuing on the wordssearch theme -

A picture for you to colour



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John Ellis and David Grosch-Miller, Moderators of General Assembly, John Proctor, URC general secretary and David Tatem, secretary for ecumenical and interfaith relations, affirm the important contribution to national life made by members of the Jewish and Muslim faiths in the United Kingdom.

“Amid reports of security concerns in some of our Jewish and Muslim communities in Britain, the United Reformed Church is keen to emphasise our high regard for both of these faith groups – the Jewish people, with whom we share a common heritage in the Hebrew scriptures, and the followers of Islam with whom we are glad to collaborate in various projects and communities around the land. We strongly affirm and welcome the important contribution to national life made by members of both faith traditions.

“We also place on record our wish to work for community cohesion and well-being in places where Christians and adherents of other faiths live side-by-side, and we rejoice in the positive and practical ways in which many of our neighbours reciprocate this concern.

“As a people of faith, we honour the integrity of other faith communities in this island. As we confess Jesus as Prince of Peace, we shall speak and work for peace, as part of our contribution to the common good.”

For more information about our denomination please visit:

www.urch.org.uk

Have you got a favourite hymn?

HOW GREAT THOU ART!

This hymn was chosen by Ann Fox of West Melton (*Do folk in the other two churches really not have a favourite hymn?*)

This hymn was written by Carl Boberg in 1885 in his home country of Sweden. It was written in Swedish and later translated into Russian. The words we have today were translated from Russian by Stuart Hine in 1953.

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee,



*How great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to
me,
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

When through the woods and forest
glades I wander,
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the
trees;

when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze;

But then I think that God, his son not sparing,
sent him to die - I scarce can take it in
that on the cross, our burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away our sin;

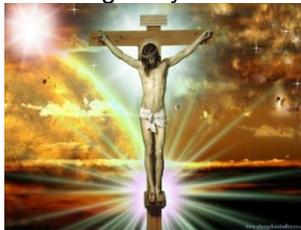
When Christ shall come with shout of
acclamation
and take me home - what joy shall fill
my heart!
Then shall I bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim: My God, how great
thou art!



A meditation from *On Autopilot?* By Nick Percival based on the hymn: O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder...

O Lord my God
You are present everywhere
I look in awe at everything
Your hand has made.
Your power is displayed
Throughout the universe,
In the stars and moon,
Rain and snow,
Thunder and lightening.
Power so great it is
Difficult to comprehend it,
And yet at the same time I see
Your gentleness
In the woods and forest glades
In which I hear the tuneful birdsong,
And the babbling brook.
Feel the gentle breeze
On my face.

Powerful and serene are
Within my comprehension
But how can I understand
That you sent your son
To die for me?
He bore my burden on the cross
For me, for everyone,
So that when Christ comes again
In glory to take us home
How joyful and humbled we shall be
As our lips proclaim
How great you are!



Trinity Players – Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs

Probably our best pantomime yet. It just seems to get better and better every year! Oh yes it does! The show was performed on January 16, 17, 18, 23 & 24th. 7 shows in all, many of which were sold out. I would like to thank **Phil Johnson** for the photos on the following pages from the show. I really have no idea why I was cast as Bossy (the use of the names in the Disney film is prohibited) neither do I understand why John Parker was cast as Grumpy. Surely the idea is that we should have to act!







Wildlife in your garden.

This time we feature birds seen and snapped in the garden of Irene and Cedric Lancaster. I am not very good at identifying birds but am told these are Kestrels.



And this one →
is a male Greater Spotted
Woodpecker



Cedric and Irene's garden must be a haven for wildlife. If you spot any in your garden take a photo and it will be featured in a future edition of LINK.

A recipe for spring:

FISH PIE

Ingredients:

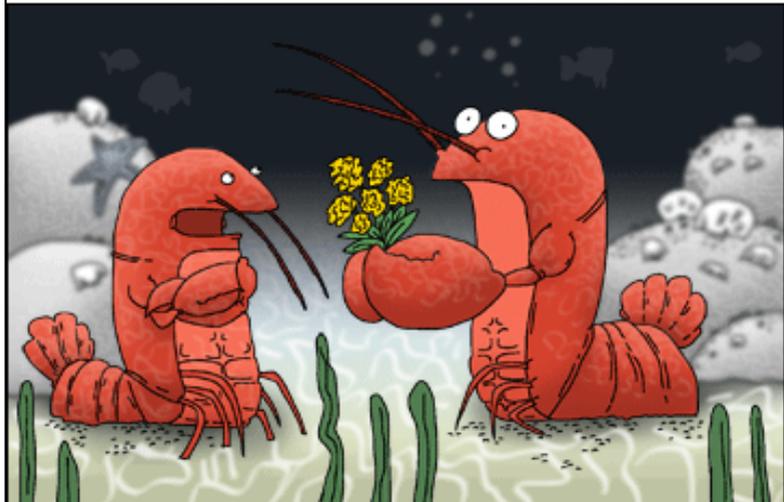
250g bag washed leaf spinach
450g small new potatoes
2 eggs
300g skinless, boneless white
fish fillet, cut into large chunks
100g half-fat crème fraîche
juice ½ lemon
1 tbsp olive oil



And this is what you do:

Heat oven to 220C/fan 200C /gas 7. Tip the spinach into a colander sitting in the sink and tip the potatoes into a saucepan. Bring a kettle full of water to the boil and pour enough over the potatoes to cover and slowly pour the rest over the spinach to wilt it. Bring the potatoes to the boil and cook for 8-10 mins until tender, then drain and roughly mash.

Leave the spinach to cool, then squeeze out excess water with your hands. Scatter the spinach over the bottom of 2 individual or 1 small ovenproof dish leaving two gaps for the eggs. Crack the eggs into the gaps, then season with salt and pepper. Distribute the fish over the spinach and eggs. Spread over the crème fraîche and drizzle with the lemon juice. Loosely spoon over the potatoes, drizzle over the olive oil, then bake for 20-25 mins until the top is crispy and golden and the sauce is bubbling at the sides. Leave to stand for a few mins, then serve straight from the dish.



LOVE IS NOT SHELLISH



WE WANT TO GO TO HEAVEN TOO, YOU KNOW

REGULAR ACTIVITIES IN OUR CHURCHES

Clayton West

Sunday	Worship every week at 3.00 pm. Communion is included in the service on the 1 st first Sunday of each month
Friday	Baby and Toddler Group 1.00pm - 3.00pm (<i>in term time</i>)
Saturday	Coffee Morning on the 4 th Saturday each month 10.00am

Trinity (Barnsley)

Sunday	Worship every week at 10.30 am. Communion is included in the service on the 3 rd third Sunday of each month
Tuesday	Bible Study at 7.30 pm
Wednesday	Age-Well (<i>over 50s club</i>) every week 10.30am-1.00pm Trinity Players every week at 7.30pm

West Melton

Sunday	Worship on the 1 st (<i>inc. WHIZZ KIDS</i>) and 4 th Sundays at 10.30am and on the 2 nd & 3 rd Sundays at 3.00pm. Communion is included in the service on the 3 rd Sunday of each month
Tuesday	Fellowship evening (<i>varied programme</i>) 7.30pm on the 4 th Tuesday of each month
Wednesday	Little Stars 9.30am every week (<i>in term time</i>)
Saturday	Men's Breakfast at 8.00am on the 3rd Saturday each month



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Rev. Nick Percival BA
19 Longdale Croft
Barnsley, S71 2QT
Tel: 01226 771277

Mobile: 07986668032

Email: revnickp@yahoo.co.uk

Group Treasurer:

Mr. John Paskell
1 Giles Avenue
Wath on Dearne
Rotherham, S63 6SG
Tel: 01709 879224

Email: john@paskellplumbing.co.uk



Trinity
Farrar Street
Barnsley
S70 6BS



Clayton West
Church Lane
Clayton West
Huddersfield HD8 9LY



West Melton,
Melton High Street
Wath on Dearne
Rotherham S63 6RG

Church Secretaries:

TRINITY:

Mrs. Fiona Weighton-Smith, 18 Normans Way,
Sandal, Wakefield, WF2 6SS Tel: 01924 253010
Email: isabelsmith655@talktalk.net

CLAYTON WEST:

Mrs. Betty James, Winter Hill Farm, Bank End
Lane, High Hoyland, Barnsley, S75 4BB
Tel: 01226 382820

WEST MELTON:

Mr. John Paskell. *(As above)*

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