

**St John the Divine  
Rastrick**

**Your Parish Magazine**

**£1.50**



**February 2025**

**Parish of St John the Divine, Rastrick**  
**St John the Divine, Gooder Lane, Rastrick, HD6 1HN**

**Vicar**

Rev'd Michelle Petch - 01484 710538 - vicar@rastrickbenefice.org.uk

**Churchwardens**

David Marshall - 01484 718182 - mars42@hotmail.co.uk

Hilary Cartwright - 01484 537399 - hilarymccarthy54@gmail.com

**Licensed Lay Minister**

Alan Hoggard - 07756 035591- alanhoggard@btinternet.com

**Pastoral Minister**

Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - janehearsen83@gmail.com

**Safeguarding**

Jane Hearson - 01484 968774 - janehearsen83@gmail.com

**Health & Safety**

Please contact the Vicar or a Churchwarden.

**Hall Bookings**

Christine Whitaker - 01484 710952 - bookings@stjohnsrastrick.org.uk

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**PRAYER FOR OUR CHURCH**

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 churches to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment  
to you, and in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

## WHAT'S GOING ON HERE

Here is a list of regular activities which occur in our church.

Please contact Group Leaders for details of their activities.

### Sunday Services in Church

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion (1st, 3rd & 4th Sundays)

11:00 a.m. Holy Communion or Morning Worship (2nd Sunday)

10:30 a.m. Joint Benefice Service (5th Sunday as announced)

### Mondays in the Community Hall

6:00 p.m. Rainbows and Brownies

7:30 p.m. Guides

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Monday Meet - 50 Archbell Avenue

7:00 p.m. Beer & Banter Men's Group (Various Mondays, monthly  
at The Four Sons, Clough Lane) - Alan: 07756 035591

### Tuesdays in Church

2:00 p.m. Mothers' Union (3rd Tuesday in the month)

### Tuesdays in the Community Hall

12:00 noon Community Lunch (1st Tuesday in the month)

1:30 p.m. Reminiscent Cinema (1st Tuesday in the month)

1:00-2:30 p.m. Tai-Chi

6:30 p.m. Cubs

8:00 p.m. Scouts

### Wednesday Service in Church

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion (2nd and 4th weeks in the month)

### Wednesdays in the Community Hall

Time Wednesday Nighters (1st Wednesday in the month)

Varies in the Sturrock Room.

### Fridays

7:30 a.m. Morning Prayer (by Zoom). Alan:07756 035591

*Rev'd Michelle writes .....*



As February begins we celebrate Candlemas, remembering Jesus being presented in the Temple by parents Mary and Joseph forty days after his birth. The old prophet Simeon recognised Jesus as the promised Messiah, taking him in his arms and declaring him to be, 'a light for revelation to the Gentiles' (Luke 2:32).

It's good to be reminded of the light that Jesus brings, not only because of the physical darkness at this time of year but because of all the darkness we see all around us through wars, selfishness and the brokenness of our world.

This celebration is a pivotal moment in the church calendar, marking the end of the Christmas season. Before we turn our attention to Lent and begin the journey once again with Jesus to the cross, we now have a few weeks to pause and reflect. In fact, as Easter is late this year, the whole of the rest of February falls within this in-between time.

As always though the life of the church rolls on, and there is much to get involved in. For example, if you've not joined the *Moving On course* yet there is still time. Groups are meeting on a Monday afternoon, Thursday evening or Saturday morning. See the leaflets or ask myself or Alan Hoggard if you'd like to know more.

In our worship during February we've a guest speaker from the Central Foodbank coming to talk about their work, we've a special service celebrating the work and witness of the Mother's Union, and another healing service is planned. Whatever you are able to get involved in, my prayer is that we will all be encouraged to shine as lights in the world, following the example of Jesus, and to the glory of his name.

With my prayers and every blessing

*Michelle*

## SERVICES AND CHURCH INFORMATION

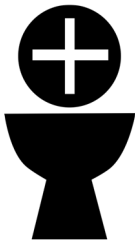
### SERVICES at St. JOHN'S - FEBRUARY

Sunday 2nd Feb. - 11:00 - Candlemas - All Age Holy Communion

Sunday 9th Feb. - 11:00 - 4th before Lent - Holy Communion

Sunday 16th Feb. - 11:00 - 3rd before Lent / MU - Holy Communion

Sunday 23rd Feb. - 11:00 - 2nd before Lent - Holy Communion



### MIDWEEK COMMUNION SERVICES - FEBRUARY

Wednesday 5th - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 12th - 10:30 - St John's

Wednesday 19th - 10:30 - St Matthew's

Wednesday 26th - 10:30 - St John's

### FORTHCOMING UNITED BENEFICE SERVICES

- ◇ Wednesday March 5th - Ash Wednesday - 7:00pm. St John's
- ◇ Sunday April 6th - Holy Communion - 10:30 - St Matthew's
- ◇ Thursday April 17th - Maundy Thursday - 7:00pm. - St Matthew's
- ◇ Friday April 18th - Good Friday - 7:00pm. - St John's

Please join Rev'd Michelle live on St John's Facebook page for Morning Prayer at 8.30am every morning Tuesday to Saturday,



or you can catch up later in the day on Facebook or via the link on the home page of our Website.

## PRAYER PAGE

Do you have a favourite prayer,  
or have you come across a special prayer recently  
which you'd like to share?

This month's prayer was chosen by Jane Hearson.

Father help me to live this day to the full,  
Being true to you, in every way.

Jesus help me to give myself away to others,  
Being kind to everyone I meet.

Spirit, help me to love the lost,  
Proclaiming Christ in all I do and say."

*From Lectio 365*

St John the Divine, Rastrick  
A service of prayer and thanksgiving for

**Healing and Wholeness**  
**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 4pm**

An opportunity  
to give thanks for, to pray for and to receive prayer for:  
Our community, our world, for others and for ourselves.

For further information contact Alan 07756035591

All welcome

## Prayer Ministry



Prayer Ministry is offered monthly during the 11am Parish Communion Service.

An opportunity to bring concerns, people and situations before God in prayer alongside someone else.

Please come to the main door of the Lady Chapel after receiving communion if you would like to take part.

Upcoming dates are as follows:

Sunday 23rd February

Sunday 16th March

Sunday 18th May

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Phil 4:6)*

## Daily Lectionary Readings February 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27-Jan</b>	<b>28-Jan</b>	<b>29-Jan</b>	<b>30-Jan</b>	<b>31-Jan</b>	<b>01-Feb</b>
Psalms 40 Hosea 2.18 – end of 3 1 Cor 9.15-end	Psalms 34 Hosea 4.1-16 1 Cor 10.1-13	Psalms 45 Hosea 5.1-7 1 Cor 10.14 – 11.1	Psalms 47 Hosea 5.8 – 6.6 1 Cor 11.2-16	Psalms 61 Hosea 6.7 – 7.2 1 Cor 11.17-end	Psalms 68 Hosea 8 1 Corin 12.1-11
<b>03-Feb</b>	<b>04-Feb</b>	<b>05-Feb</b>	<b>06-Feb</b>	<b>07-Feb</b>	<b>08-Feb</b>
Psalms 1 Malachi 1.1 John 13.1-11	Psalms 5 Malachi 2.1-16 John 13.12-20	Psalms 119.1-32 Malachi 2.17- 3.12 John 13.21-30	Psalms 14 Malachi 3.13–end 4 John 13.31-end	Psalms 17 Nahum 1 John 14.1-14	Psalms 20 Obadiah John 14.15-end
<b>10-Feb</b>	<b>11-Feb</b>	<b>12-Feb</b>	<b>13-Feb</b>	<b>14-Feb</b>	<b>15-Feb</b>
Psalms 27 Joel 1.1-14 John 15.1-11	Psalms 32 Joel 1.15-end John 15.12-17	Psalms 34 Joel 2.1-17 John 15.18-end	Psalms 37* Joel 2.18-27 John 16.1-15	Psalms 31 Joel 2.28-end John 16.16-22	Psalms 41 Joel 3.1-3, 9-end John 16.23-end
<b>17-Feb</b>	<b>18-Feb</b>	<b>19-Feb</b>	<b>20-Feb</b>	<b>21-Feb</b>	<b>22-Feb</b>
Psalms 44 Ecclesiastes 1 John 17.1-5	Psalms 48 Ecclesiastes 2 John 17.6-19	Psalms 119.57-80 Ecclesiastes 3.1-15 John 17.20-end	Psalms 56 Eccles 3.16 – end 4 John 18.1-11	Psalms 51 Ecclesiastes 5 John 18.12-27	Psalms 68 Ecclesiastes 6 John 18.28-end
<b>24-Feb</b>	<b>25-Feb</b>	<b>26-Feb</b>	<b>27-Feb</b>	<b>28-Feb</b>	<b>01-Mar</b>
Psalms 71 Ecclesiastes 7.1-14 John 19.1-16	Psalms 73 Ecclesiastes 7.15-end John 19.17-30	Psalms 77 Ecclesiastes 8 John 19.31-end	Psalms 78.1-39* Ecclesiastes 9 John 20.1-10	Psalms 55 Ecclesiastes 11.1-8 John 20.11-18	Psalms 76 Ecc 11.9 – end 12 John 20.19-end

Join Michelle on line Tuesday - Saturday: <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivinerastrick>

Download App 'Lectionary: from the CofE'

<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer>

Other reflections:

<https://www.ucb.co.uk/word-for-today>



## HAND TO MOUTH MINISTRIES



Hand to Mouth is a Christian charity that works in over 60 schools throughout Kirklees, Calderdale, Bradford, Wakefield, Sheffield and the Diocese of Leeds.

We run lessons in schools, which may include Godly Play, story telling, puppets and art work alongside an Amazing Journey.

We also run staff training.

### Prayer Requests:

- Pray for our volunteers, especially for their health during the winter months.
- Pray for work in our new schools next term and positive relationship building with the staff.
- Pray for encouraging responses from our mail out to the primary schools and special schools across Kirklees and Calderdale.
- Pray for contact with other faiths and denominations to widen the impact of our work in schools.

### Dates for your diary:

Next prep day: 11th February 2025

Prep days happen at our base at Huddersfield Mission, Lord Street.

Our volunteers help us prepare materials for us to take into school such as cutting templates, packing activity bags, etc. We would love to see new helpers! Get in touch for more information.

Save the date: Saturday 24th May 2025

We are celebrating our 25th Birthday with a Family Fun afternoon.

More information to follow!

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025  
**Friday 7 March**

A service for everyone! Organised by the Brighthouse & Rastrick Group of Churches

There will be a Service to mark the

**World Day of Prayer**

on **Friday 7th March**

at **2.00 pm**

In the Salvation Army Citadel,  
King Street,  
Brighthouse,  
HD6 1NX

**Everyone is  
very welcome**



**Cook Islands** *I made you wonderful*



**INFORMED PRAYER PRAYERFUL ACTION**

24-7 365 Days a year Prayer movement Ecumenical International Women-led

[wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk)

Registered Charity Number 233242

## St. JOHN'S RUCKSACK CLUB

**The Calder and Hebble Walk :** 15th February

**Distance:** short of 6 miles

**Leader:** Mick Hollingdrake

**Contact:** 07989759661

**Depart from Church:** 9.30am



**Walk Description:** Flat walking along riverbank and towpath with historical features and wildlife, following the river Calder and the Calder and Hebble Canal and taking in Horbury lagoon.

### CHURCH FLOWERS



If you would like to donate to church flowers in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion, there is a yellow A 4 list on the notice board above the biscuit table at the back of church where you can add your name.

£25 would be a lovely gesture but smaller amounts would be acceptable.

Please put your donation in an envelope, write 'Flower Fund' on top and hand it to Cherry.

Thanks

*Barbara*



## MU MATTERS

**Mothers' Union Matters.... here at St John's, around the corner and across the world!**

The MU Wave of Prayer was to be held on Wednesday 8 January in our Lady Chapel at St John's. However, on the day, we were presented with very icy and slippery roads and pavements and we decided to postpone the service until the MU AGM on Tuesday 4 February 2025. The Wave of Prayer Service includes prayers and reflections for MU Branches across the world and they enlighten us all to the life and culture in some of our link Parishes in Africa and the Solomon Islands.

On Tuesday 21 January the MU Branch went out for their "Christmas Lunch in January"!!! We went to the Royal and Ancient. The event signalled an end to 2024 and the start of a new year and a new set of challenges in 2025.

On Sunday 16 February the MU will play a more prominent part in the Morning Worship Service and we will bless our new Branch Committee and the MU programme for the year ahead.

We will be taking the opportunity to enrol Gillian Clough as a new Member and to present a moving sketch on domestic abuse.



*World Day of Prayer*

On Friday 28 February, although this is not an exclusive MU event we are leading a short reflection in the Conference Suite on Psalm 139 at 2.00 pm. This will be a prelude to the World Day of Prayer Service which is being held in the Salvation Army Citadel at 2.00 on Friday 7 March, where the MU has played a significant part in its organisation.

On Thursday 6 March the MU will once again be at Railway Bridge View to lead a craft session under the guidance of Gillian Clough. It will be well within everyone's capabilities and we will have fun following Gillian's directions and helping out the residents and ourselves. Come and join in.... we start with a short reflection and a hymn... often with singing All Things Bright and Beautiful as the residents' request!

Coming onto the horizon is the MU Commissioning Service to be held in Wakefield Cathedral on Saturday 15 March. This will be a wonderful and stirring Service seeing myself commissioned as Diocesan President and Jennifer Guy as a General Trustee for the Leeds Diocese, as well as Rev'd Michelle recommissioned as Area Chaplain.

As ever, everyone is welcome to all of these events, and if you want to know more about the MU just ask me or any of the Members..... no commitment, just be willing to have fun and friendship with others!!

*With love,  
Julia*

Donations from other branches



*Hats which Ann has taken for the homeless*



*Knitted teddies for the baby bank in Heckmondwike.*



## MISSIONS AND CHARITIES

### Mara

Melina, the Link Officer has sent us this update:

The Diocese of Mara is doing well, and we thank God for His help. I appreciate your continued support, especially in establishing communication with some parishes from Leeds. Although some have not yet responded to our emails, I believe that, step by step, we will make progress.



Nyakiswa Parish linked with Rastrick will soon have a new pastor because the previous one has been transferred to Buhemba Parish. This has slightly delayed the work of renovating the church, but it will resume once the new pastor arrives.

Funds from Lightcliffe have now arrived and will soon be used for Nyamatatare Parish and Nyamatatare Primary School. I also received communication from the parish linked to Issenye through Peta Moffat, and we have started corresponding.

Nyasura Parish has also received a new pastor, and I trust he will be proactive in building the relationship with Elland Church. I had hoped

that this year would focus on strengthening communication with our partner parishes, as it is disheartening to see the connections we've built over the years weaken. We are happy that parishes are supporting each other but without getting in touch that connection will perish.

Wrenthorpe Parish Linked to Bwasi has supported the church to put electricity last year.

Mount Pellon is also active as we received fund last year and Gesarya were able to plaster outside walls of the Church.

Our schools are also doing well. We began the new academic year on January 13, 2025. Both Issenye and Bunda Girls' schools are performing well academically. In the Form Two results, Issenye ranked second in the Serengeti district. God has been good to Issenye despite many challenges, including a shortage of students, and yet it continues to excel academically. Let us keep praying for the school.

Bunda Girls' students also did well last year, securing first place in the Form Four examinations. Kindly pass on our heartfelt greetings to Peta Moffat for her great efforts in supporting Issenye School, especially in increasing student enrolment. This year, Issenye expects to have 165 students, up from 138 last year.

The Safe House is also doing well, we have 32 girls at the moment.

Melina

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## **APPEAL FROM BRIGHOUSE CENTRAL FOODBANK**

The Foodbank is running low on carrier bags again, so if you have a stash at home and you'd like to put them to good use, please could you bring them in for us? We are looking for clean bags, that are in good condition, of a standard size (nothing very large or very small). You can drop them off at the Foodbank on Fridays, between 9am and 3pm, or pop them into the food collection point in church and we'll collect. Thank you

*Rachel Owens*

Foodbank Manager



# Coffee and Conversation

**Next Date:  
Friday 28th February  
12:30 -1:30**



**Come and join me each month  
for lunch/coffee  
in The Platform Café  
Railway Bridge View**

**Very informal - may include:**

**exchanging news**

**prayer**

**a discussion around the Gospel reading  
for the following Sunday**



## MOVING ON

**Moving On!** is perfect for people who want to grow in their relationship with God, it's for anyone who just wants to move on.



Feeling as though you are in a rut, or living a life of highs and lows? Not sure where you are going in your life?

Seven sessions based around a video that include input and thought-provoking personal stories “down to earth and honest”.

Whether you go to church when you can or not much then this course is for you if you are willing to consider.....

- the benefits and challenges of being a follower of Jesus
- being an active member of church
- Christian worship
- growing your relationship with God
- explore the Trinity and the Holy Spirit
- Christian stewardship
- being wholehearted disciples



Mondays 2pm @ 50 Archbell Avenue HD6 3SU

Thursdays 7pm @ St Johns (Conf.Suite)

Saturdays @ St Matthews

For further details contact Alan 07756035591

## What the Vicar got up to last month

Just a selection...



Newcastle  
with Anne Ward.

Huddersfield Episcopal Area Celebration of Epiphany  
as part of the Weekend of Celebration:  
'Seeing God do a New Thing'



Wrote the  
'Thoughts for the Week'  
in the Echo/Courier  
this month

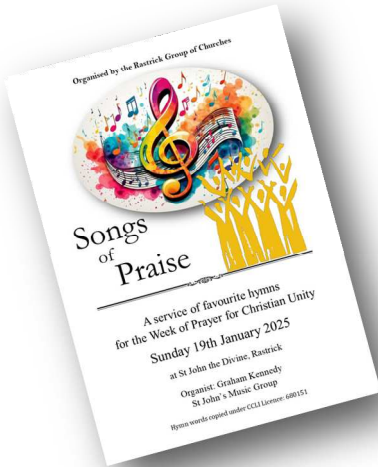


Part of the team leading  
the Moving On course.

Participated in the  
'Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe'  
film and discussion Saturdays.



Organised the Rastrick  
Churches Together Songs of Praise



MU Christmas Lunch in  
January



Coffee & Conversation at  
Railway Bridge View

## GLEDHOLT MALE VOICE CHOIR HUDDERSFIELD

# A RUSTLE OF SPRING



Musical Director: James W Morgan

Accompanist: Jane Robertson

With our guests

## CLIFTON HANDBELL RINGERS

this concert is supported by Go-Ahead Travel

Sunday 2nd March at St. John's Church, Rastrick, HD6 1HT

Commencing 3.00 pm Tickets £12, available from:

Choir members, St John's Church,  
on-line at WeGotTickets/Gledholt,  
on the door or scan the QR code.





## Music News

The most musical event at St John's in January had to be the wonderful Churches Together Songs of Praise on the 19th!

Everyone who has spoken to me about the service since has said what an uplifting occasion it was, and I wholeheartedly agree! The introductions by the representatives from the churches and groups were varied, interesting and all made us think, or smile, or feel encouraged.



...and what a SING we had! From my position sitting with the Music Group, I had the benefit of the full sound of the Rastrick Voices (complete with 4-part harmony when appropriate) coming at me from the front two rows of the church, from where they led the singing!

It was also a pleasure to play with the Group, and how lovely that Frances was able to join us again. I'm hoping she enjoyed herself enough to play and sing with us again when it's possible.



Graham Kennedy played for the organ hymns, and we had the full benefit of our refurbished organ - we 'let it rip' in the final hymn, "Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son"!

Now in February, as we approach Lent and then Easter, we'll be thinking about very different music. What an important part music plays in our worship and spiritual life!

I feel so privileged to be a part of it.

*Pam*



## ECO CHURCH



**Eco Church News** by John

**A huge milestone**, not just for the Eco group but for the whole church!

I'm delighted to announce that we've been awarded Silver, which means we have measured up to Eco Church's criteria in five different areas with a 50% score on their survey. Some of the questions relate to the way our whole congregation is making changes, and we have been able to answer 'Yes' to several of these. Thank You for supporting us!

We're mindful that the Church of England has pledged that its churches will be carbon neutral by

2030. We need to continue our eco-journey, so hey ho, we have much work to do – but it's rewarding!

**The CAN Bill** – a disappointment but not a defeat. Thank you to everyone who followed the link and emailed their MP. In parliament today (24<sup>th</sup> January), the majority of MP's present voted to adjourn the bill. The timing has been unfortunate, with the government's eyes on President Trump's accession and its implications, and on the poor state of the UK economy.



# SKIRCOAT REPAIR CAFE

BIN IT? NO WAY!

**WHAT DO YOU DO WITH**

a cd player that no longer opens?

a toaster that no longer works?

a jumper with moth holes?

**REPAIR CAFE IS**

repairing broken items together,

professional advice,

encounters and inspiration,

a place to have a cuppa and catch up

**COSTS?**

A voluntary contribution

All Saints Parish Hall, Godfrey Road

skircoatrepaircafe@gmail.com

Sat JAN 18<sup>th</sup> • Sat MAR 15<sup>th</sup> • Sat MAY 17<sup>th</sup>

1:30 – 4:30 PM (last entry 4pm)



CLOTHES • FURNITURE • ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES • TOYS • ETCETERA  
repaircafe.org/en

A CELEBRATION OF

# SIMON & GARFUNKEL

AS HEARD ON  
**BBC RADIO**

PERFORMED **LIVE BY**  
**TIM CHU & IAN BAILEY**

The UK's **NUMBER 1 NON TRIBUTE SHOW**



★★★★★

*"Tim and Ian moved between harmonies and shared vocals like a gestalt entity, with all the vocal nuances, dynamics and phrasing that make S&G so unique while finding their own take on the material. Absolutely first class."*

★★★★★

*"A stunning blend of observation, interpretation, and perfect vocal synergy."*



**SATURDAY 8TH FEB 2025**

**ST JOHN THE DIVINE RASTRICK HD6 1HT**

**Doors 6.45pm Show starts 7.30 / Refreshments Available**

**Tickets £15 (cash only) From Ryecorn Wholefoods 33/35 Bethel St, Brighthouse or Scan QR Code above**

**Or email [bookings@stjohnsrastrick.org.uk](mailto:bookings@stjohnsrastrick.org.uk) for general details.**

**[www.classicsingersongwriters.co.uk/sandg](http://www.classicsingersongwriters.co.uk/sandg)**

Tickets also available from church



# The Men of the Churches of Rastrick

Host



**Pie and**

## Beer and Banter 2025



## Mondays at The Four Sons, Rastrick 7pm

- 17<sup>th</sup> Feb – The High Dales Way – Paul & Ken
- 17<sup>th</sup> Mar – Lenten Juggling – Daryll Hackett
- 28<sup>th</sup> Apr – Wire-in Calderdale - Paul Thompson

All Men Welcome

Further Details call Alan 07756035591

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## Monday Meet 2pm – 4pm

At the home of Shirley Stow, 50 Archbell Avenue HD6 3SU

An informal gathering with the opportunity to unpack the bible readings from the previous day, talk current issues and tackle everyday dilemmas, drink coffee and eat cake

### Faith, fun and fellowship

For further information or to confirm location call  
Shirley (01484-714209) or Alan (07756035591)

All welcome

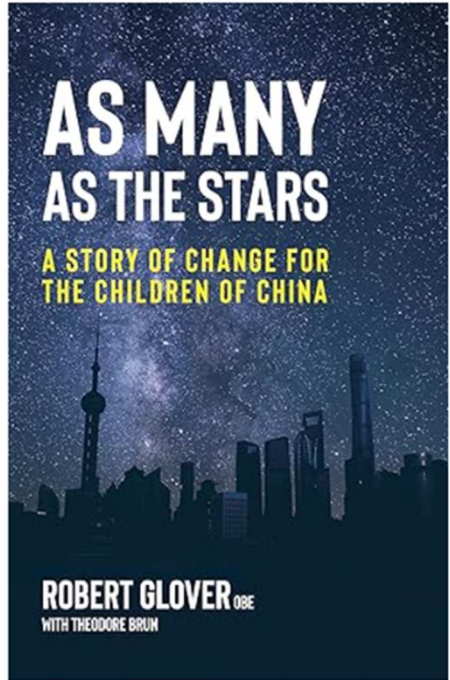
## A Faith-building Story

### A Faith-Building Story

Is God still working supernaturally today? Can I feel proud of what the church and Christian people have achieved? Can I trust Him that He really does care about the least and most vulnerable in society?

This is the most inspiring story I've heard for a long time. It tells of how one man moved with his wife and six young children from the UK to China to follow God's call. Robert Glover was a social worker in the East of England who went on to radically transform Chinese government's policy on care welfare. In conversations with the Chinese government Robert fought to show that family-based fostering and adoption was a better alternative to the system of state-sponsored orphanages. You can buy the book on Amazon, but if you'd like a quick resume, please click on these links to my blog site, [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#), each of which takes about 5 minutes to read. Part 2 contains a link to an hour-long documentary, 'Children of Shanghai', narrated by Bear Grylls.

During 'lockdown' we attended an online mini-conference about ministry among children, at which Robert was a speaker. Our impression of him was just as in his book; that of a humble man who cares about the individual, through whom God has accomplished wonderful things.



*John Hearson*



## PCC SNIPPETS

The IOCS group are committed to the Vestibule project for the church even though we have not been awarded a couple of grants that we applied for.

We feel that the works are important not only to retain heat and save us money but will also enhance the entrance area. We also are showing our commitment to the eco status of the church as another battery will be added to link with our solar panels.

Details of the project can be seen on the information board in church, for further details speak to David James , Alan Hoggard or myself.

There is a copy on the board of the document from the diocese relating to our application for a faculty ,this is also on our web-site and on our external notice board. Any objections to the proposal should be sent to the diocese by the end of January .

*Hilary*

## **ELECTORAL ROLL - Advance Notice**

As required under the Church Representation Rules, I will be preparing a new Electoral Roll for St John's in readiness for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 11 May 2025. Membership of the old Electoral Roll will not be carried over to the new one. Anyone wanting to be on the new roll will need to fill in a new application form. I will be distributing these in the coming weeks. I'd be very grateful if you could complete it and return it to me promptly. If you know of anyone not currently on the electoral roll who would like to apply to go on the new Electoral Roll please let me know.

*Rosemary Lake*

Electoral Roll Officer



"Every single child is captivated by him and even the adults loved the show!"

# Half Term Family Magic Show

Wednesday 19th February 2025  
Show Time 2pm (Doors Open 1:40pm)



**St Johns Community Centre**  
Rastrick, Brighouse  
HD6 1HN

Book your Tickets:  
[spikebonzo.com/Tour](http://spikebonzo.com/Tour)

Ticket  
QR code



## ROCHDALE

Rochdale: what do you know about this town; maybe that Gracie Fields once the most famous singer in the world was born here or maybe that the origins of the Co-operative began here, but what else? My neighbour and I decided we would go and find out so off we went, bus to Halifax, then a bus to Rochdale, whose route on the A58 takes you over Blackstone Edge Pass (not sure if this is the right name). Wonderful! Just worth the trip to see the world laid out before you - amazing.

We arrived and made our way round the corner from the bus station and stood in awe - a wonderful square with this magnificent building, part Gothic, part Victorian, huge, not knowing what it was, thinking it might be the town church, but it was the town hall, so we decided to have a look. So much to see; the rooms decorated beautifully with Rennie Mackintosh paper, historic artifacts on display, a recording of events of the history which included a huge fire which destroyed part of the building. So much to see; we spent 2 hrs just looking at a small part of its building and history. If you want an afternoon out, this is a place to visit. There is also a very nice café.



*Photo: Wikimedia*

We didn't get to the Co-op museum or have a wander round its town square. So will have to go again. It's quite a little statue of Gracie Fields for such a famous lady.

*Cherry*



# Coffee & Cake

An opportunity for all Organisations to make a little money by hosting a Coffee & Cake morning in church on the 2nd Saturday in the month, 10.00 - 12 noon. Church will provide Tea and Coffee. You will just need milk and cakes - 2 people can host this event.



**Dates available:** April 12th, August 9th,  
September 13th, November 8th, December 13th.

This is a good opportunity to meet together for a good natter.  
Please contact: Cherry if you are interested: 07816 757334

## Rastrick Beer Festival



Plans are starting to be formulated to resurrect the beer festival which ran so successfully for 9 years before the pandemic. This was a great

community event and brought people together from the Brighthouse and Rastrick community and beyond and was well known as the 'friendly' beer festival. So for Friday 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September there will be a beer festival in the community hall.

At this stage I am looking for 'expressions of interest' from anyone interested in helping to set-up and promote the festival, ideas, marketing skills and willing hands would be very welcome. Please get in touch if you or know of others who may be interested in getting on board.



Cheers

Alan Hoggard email: [alanhoggard@btinternet.com](mailto:alanhoggard@btinternet.com)  
or phone 07756035591



# Eco Church - Swap Stall

The next  
Eco Church  
Swap Stall  
will be on:  
**Sat. 15th & Sunday 16th March**



## COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next Community Lunch  
will be on Tuesday 4th February, 12:00  
Followed by the Community Cinema



## COFFEE & CAKE

The next Coffee & Cake  
will be on Saturday 8th February, 10:00 - 12:00



## COFFEE & CONVERSATION

The next Coffee & Conversation at Railway Bridge View  
will be on Friday 28th February, 12:30 - 1:30



## AFTERNOON TEA

The next Afternoon Tea  
will be on Saturday 24th May, in church. 2:00 - 4:30



## ***PUZZLE PAGE** by the Bat in the Belfry*

February and we are still in the throes of winter. Try these two whilst we await for Spring to arrive.



### **25 – 3 Watch the birdie**

Last month it was the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch. See if you can unscramble the following to identify 10 British birds.

- 1) REP FEARING CLONE
- 2) WARP WORKS, HA!
- 3) BEN TRIED GUN
- 4) WIPE ON, GOOD
- 5) DREGS CLOT
- 6) WIPE POT, MAID
- 7) LITTLE DOG TINA
- 8) W.I. PLAID GATE
- 9) GENE DO CREEP WORK
- 10) HUNGER GRILL



### **25 – 4 Yorkshire Quiz**

- 1) To which Saint is York Minster dedicated?
- 2) Which THREE British Prime Ministers were born in Yorkshire?
- 3) In which Yorkshire city would you find the Ferens Art Gallery?
- 4) Which Yorkshire race course is the largest circular flat course in Europe?
- 5) What did Harry Brearley invent in a Sheffield laboratory in 1913?
- 6) Although they are always associated with Haworth, in which Yorkshire village were the Bronte sisters born?
- 7) In which Yorkshire town was slavery abolitionist William Wilberforce born?
- 8) Yorkshire was originally split into three "Ridings", from which language does this come?





- 9) At which Yorkshire location was the first lighthouse in Britain built in 1427?  
 10) In which Yorkshire town was Rugby League formed in 1895?

### ***Last month's answers***

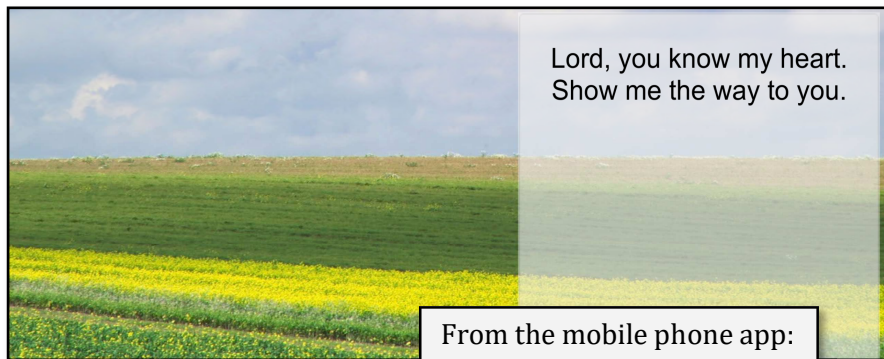
#### **25 – 1 January**

- 1) David Bowie 2) Doorways and Openings 3) January 25<sup>th</sup>  
 4) Australia 5) The visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus  
 6) 'January, February' 7) Charing Cross Station 8) 1983  
 9) Six (in a 3x2 pattern) 10) Pall Mall

#### **25 – 2 Mind Conundrums**

- 1) The horse operates a mill wheel and travels in a circular clockwise direction. The two outside legs will travel a greater distance than the two inside legs.  
 2) Clever Clara was reading a book that was written in Braille  
 3) Nine rungs will be above the water. As the tide rises, so too will the ship and the ladder

## **MORE NEXT MONTH**



Lord, you know my heart.  
 Show me the way to you.

From the mobile phone app:  
 '3-minute retreat'

## SHIRLEY...

### February Fourteenth – Let's Show Love to Everyone.

What a shock at the beginning of January to see everywhere covered with glistening white snow. It was fun for the children who were sledging, making snowmen and legally missing a few more days of school after the Christmas break! It wasn't very good though for commuters or the elderly who were encouraged to stay indoors to keep warm and not tempt fate by going out and falling! It wasn't good either for the homeless or those on low incomes for many reasons.



I was reminded during this time of how precious our homes are to us. Once we are home and close the door this is our castle or nest. We feel safe. Do we appreciate this luxury? With one twist of fate, we can lose it. It can be through loss of income, divorce or external disasters. We have seen those who shelter under bridges or curb side and those crying as floods invade their homes; those fleeing raging fires and hurricanes, and those seeking asylum from war torn countries. When I witness these things I thank God for His goodness to me, as He is weeping for those who are suffering.

I sincerely hope that February will be kinder to us. Perhaps it is time to plan a holiday or meet up with friends as the better weather approaches. Or even fly away to warmer climates now!

February fourteenth - I wonder how many of us will be posting a card to, or hurrying to the letter box to see if a card drops on the carpet from, a loved one? Let us know if you get one!

**February**, one thousand, nine hundred and thirty-five was notable because a baby boy was born. He was the first of three more babies born that year, who are part of our St John's family today! (There were others too in that year, still in our hearts, although sadly missed by us today). This generation has survived World War II, the better years

which followed and now today's uncertainties. My school Motto was, today). This generation has survived World War II, the better years which followed and now today's uncertainties. My school Motto was, "We Can – We Will"- it could be their Motto too!

As I get older, I am more anxious about our faith reaching the next generation coming to our churches.

**Hand to Mouth** is a Christian Charity, you may have heard them speak in St. John's, and I have arranged to go to their next prep day. The volunteers help prepare materials to take into schools such as cutting templates, and packing activity bags, etc. This is a way of reaching our young people, similar to our "Open the Book" volunteers, who would welcome helpers too, I am sure. If anyone would like to join me to see what goes on at Hand to Mouth, it is on **11th February 2025**. at their base: Rm 203, Methodist Mission, Lord Street, Huddersfield HD1 1QA.



I sincerely hope that February will be kind to us. Perhaps it is time to plan a holiday or meet up with friends as the better weather approaches. Or you could even fly away to warmer climates now – what are you waiting for?!

*Shirley*

**AND FINALLY....**

*Credit to the original artist  
(I believe it was on Facebook)*



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - February

## Monday 3th February *(and every Monday)*

Monday Meet - Shirley's 2:00 - 4:00

## Tuesday 4th February

Community Lunch 12:00

Community Cinema 1:30

MU AGM



## Saturday 8th February

Coffee & Cake 10:00-12:00

A Celebration of Simon & Garfunkel 7:30

## Tuesday 11th February

Hand to Mouth Ministries Prep day

## Saturday 15th February

Rucksack Club short walk 9:30

## Sunday 16th February

MU Special Service 11:00

## Monday 17th February

Beer & Banter - The High Dales Way - The Four Sons 7:00

## Wednesday 19th February

Spike Bonzo - Half Term Family Magic Show 2:00

## Sunday 23rd February

Prayer Ministry during the 11:00 service

Service of Healing and Wholeness 4:00

## Friday 28th February

Coffee & Conversation - Railway Bridge View 12:30-1:30

World Day of Prayer reflection on Psalm 139 - Conf. Suite 2:00

Please see page 17 for the times and venues of the 'Moving On' Course.

Items for the February magazine to: [stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnsrastrick.mag@gmail.com)  
by 9:00 a.m. Sat 22nd February please. Thanks.



Website : [www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsrastrick.org.uk)



Parish Calendar : <http://tinyurl.com/jcjrehp>



Facebook : [www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivine](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnthedivine)

### Wi-Fi

Network : everywhere

Password : anywhere