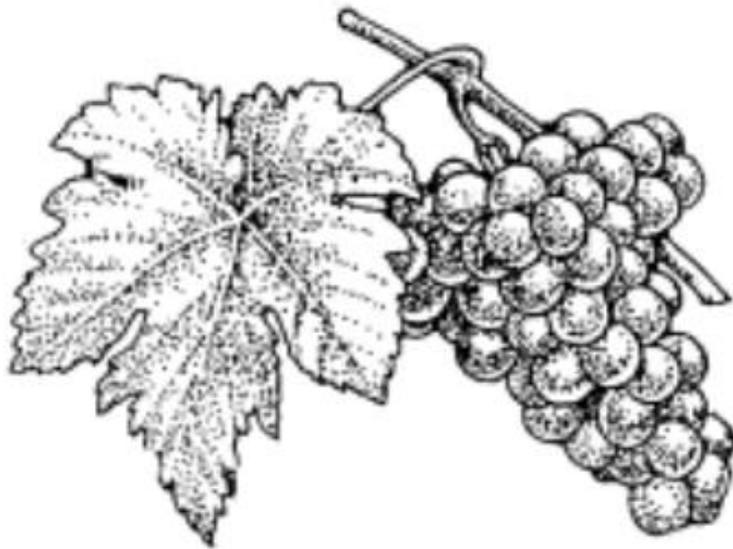


GROVE VINE

**The Magazine of
Grove Methodist Church
Horsforth, Leeds**

November 2011



**The Grove Methodist Church is called to respond to the
Gospel of love in Jesus Christ and to live out its discipleship in
worship, service and mission**

Minister – Rev Alistair Jones

Phone: 0113 258 2678 or email: alistairjones@live.co.uk

Regular events

Sunday

- 10.20 Creche (0-3yrs) 216 0678
- 10.20 J Team (tots to 12s) 258 8803
- 10.30 Worship
- 6.00 Worship (alternate Sundays at Central Methodist Church)
- 7.30 Studio Dance SNYG 258 9093

Monday

- 12.15 Luncheon Club 258 3807
- 1.30 Network Women's Fellowship 258 9448
- 6.15 Beavers 258 1814
- 6.15 Cubs 258 2836
- 7.45 Scouts 228 9968
- 7.45 Flower Guild (3rd Monday in the month) 258 4520

Tuesday

- 9.00-9.30 Prayer Group 258 8803
- 9.00-12.00 and 12.00-3.00 Pre-school 258 9093
- 10-11.30 Coffee in the Centre small hall 258 3568; quiet room available for prayer. Jean Kemp's hand-made greetings cards will be available on the first Tuesday of each month
- 6.00 Rainbows (5th Horsforth) 259 0555
- 6.15 Brownies (5th Horsforth) 258 3670
- 7.45 Guides (5th Horsforth) 202 9010

Wednesday

- 9.00-12.00 Pre-school 258 9093
- 1.30 Line Dancing 258 7444
- 6.00 Rainbows (14th) 258 5519
- 6.15 Brownies (14th) 250 4907
- 8.00 Explorer Scouts 258 0882
- 7.30 Wednesday Break (fortnightly - 225 2734)

(Continued on inside back cover)

Pumpkins and Bonfires, Plot Night and Fireworks, Mischievous and Trick-or-Treat.....

You have to wonder what they are all for, don't you? Our hilltops have been alight at this time of year long before any gunpowder was stowed beneath parliament. Long before Jesus, even. These nights mark the Celtic New Year, and all work around the ideas that were held here more than 2,000 years ago.

At New Year, there were bonfires to feast by at the close of the agricultural year. The barrier between our world and the world of spirits was believed to be thinner than usual, so you made masks to scare away demons and malevolent ghosts. People practised mischief on each other under the guise of such beings.

Guy Fawkes? Johnny-come-lately!

It is important to remember that we are simply the latest generation in this land. Our customs are handed down and the reasons for them are often forgotten or obscure.

Christmas customs are no less liable to this, are they?
The Yule log? The Christmas tree? Mince pies? Lords-a-leaping?

You have to wonder what they are all for, don't you?

Every Christmas custom is an add-on. Christmas wasn't even a fixed date until 386AD, and then only in some parts of the church! We have added bits from many pagan traditions. We have invented and accrued traditions ourselves. The importance of Christmas is not measured by how you celebrate it, but by WHY you celebrate it.

As the days draw shorter and the chill weather surrounds us, shall we try to remember what it is we are doing? Not buying presents for everyone, not preparing a meal beyond the dreams of gluttony, not tuning up for carol singing, but rejoicing for the most amazing gift that has ever been given. Immanuel, God-with-us.

Ali (Rev. Alistair S Jones)

From the Editorial Group

Thank you for your interesting articles and reports. Keep them coming. In the previous issue we stated that the Grove Vine would no longer be placed on the website. Following the Church Council Meeting, this policy has been reversed and this issue will appear on the web. **Please note that the editorial teams alternate.....so, the December/January issue will be prepared by Philip and Gill and you should send items to them no later than 23rd November. Feb. items to Margaret, Gordon and Mary.**

Philip Abel pcabel@talktalk.net 258 7744

Margaret Bosomworth margaret.bosomworth@ntlworld.com 228 4777

Gill Jewell gilljewell@aol.com 278 9438

Gordon and Mary Mellor jgkm64@gmail.com 258 6199

Flower Rota for November



- 6th Scouts & Guides, Mrs C Hoyle and Mrs C Sumpter
- 13th Mr & Mrs P Maud and Mr & Mrs N Kaye
- 20th Mrs J Douglas and Mrs C Hearn
- 27th Mrs M Allen and Mrs S Galbraith

Church Family News

Please remember in your prayers: Ros Ansell, Brian Ball, Joan Benson, Pat Blackah, Mollie Burrows, Tony Emmott, Mary Hart, John Hardaker, Robert Lawson, Dorina Overson, Stan Ramsden, Peter Reasbeck, Margaret Reasbeck, Petra Rogers and her family, Chris Shagouri, Eileen Stones. Let us also remember the Hoyle family and others recently bereaved, friends who are housebound, and those who are caring for loved ones, who all need our prayers and help at this time.

From the Church Registers

Funeral: 20th October 2011 – Mr Wilfred (Wilf) Hoyle

Sunday Services in November

6 th	9.00	Rev. Ali Jones – Holy Communion
	10.30	Mr Philip Maud – Scout & Guide Sunday
	6.00	United Service at Central
13 th	10.30	Rev. Ali Jones
	6.00	Rev. Ali Jones
20 th	10.30	Mrs A Mughal – World Church
	6.00	United Service at Central
27 th	10.30	Rev. Ali Jones - Holy Communion
	6.00	Churches Together United Service

If you are unable to get to church because of transport problems, please phone the Hearn's on 281 8176; they will be happy to arrange a lift for you.

Stewards on Duty

Nov 6 th	John Bussey Margaret Bosomworth	Nov 13 th	Kay Bassett John Bussey
Nov 20 th	David Buckley Betty West	Nov 27 th	Cynthia Hatton Gordon Mellor

Oxford Place Children's Centre

The Centre is to have fundraising stalls in the entrance of Oxford Place Church on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday (21st to 24th November) – 10am to 2pm. If you are in Leeds, do pop in and support this effort.....and have morning coffee/lunch too (see Jenny Jones article on page 7).

Carole Abel

THE GROVE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The Grove Community Centre, New Street

Saturday 19th November

10.15am to 1pm

Opened by D'ukes

Raffle

Book Stall

Refreshments

Wooden Crafts

Christmas Crafts

Tombola

Transfer Tattoos

Phoenix Greeting Cards

Pickles, Preserves & Pates

Santa's Grotto

Costume (Bling) Jewellery

Cake Stall and Lucky Jars

Guess the weight of the Cake

Bric-

a-Brac

Jamie at Home (Jamie Oliver Cook/Tableware)

News from Oxford Place

Many of you have been asking when the cafe at Oxford Place Methodist Church (also known as Leeds Methodist Mission) is re-opening. Well the good news is that from 24th October the refurbished cafe has been fully opened and serving, amongst other things, the best soup in Leeds (as official tester I can honestly say it is superb).

Oxford Place had to close its cafe back in May when we realised we were losing money. God is amazing and a few days later we received an enquiry from St George's Crypt asking if we knew of any spaces where they could open a cafe. We are now part of a larger project where people associated with The Crypt learn catering skills, then work with us for a few months before being given an apprenticeship with Pret a Manger and hopefully go on to employment in the catering industry. It is a really exciting project and I am delighted to be involved.

The cafe will be open Monday–Friday, 10am–2 pm, and on other special occasions (e.g. Light Night, the Olympic Torch in Leeds, half marathons etc). Come and visit us any time.

The food is fantastic and the refurbishment means the cafe is almost unrecognisable. If you are in the city do pop into Oxford Place (between the Town Hall and the Courts) for a bite to eat – you can even pop by my office for a chat. I would love to see you.

Jenny Jones

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Toy Service Appeal

Families at The Grove have given generously of time, talents and gifts at Harvest time. Support is requested again on the 4th December! Toys brought to the 10.30a.m. Family Parade Service will be gratefully received and passed on to St George's Crypt in the Centre of Leeds. This will provide considerable help to families for whom Christmas may be a very difficult time.

The Church in Rodley



The Church in Rodley was opened in January 1973 in the building which was originally the schoolroom of Rodley Wesley Street Methodist Church. The Wesley Street Church building was demolished to form the car park, and the three congregations – Wesley Street, Rodley Ebenezer Methodist and St. Andrew’s Anglican – joined together in the renovated building. Joint services

were held, led alternately by Methodist and Anglican preachers, and the three groups gelled together very well. For a short time in the eighties and nineties the local Roman Catholic congregation held their services in our church early on Sunday mornings, before our service. We were very sorry when this was stopped, and the congregation found it necessary to worship in neighbouring villages. However, this situation has now reverted and Catholic Mass is celebrated in our church on Sunday afternoons at 4.15pm each week. This started at the beginning of October, and we are very happy to welcome our Roman Catholic friends back to our church.

Over the years we have had Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Ventures, but unfortunately, due to lack of leadership, all except the Cub Scouts have had to disband. The Church has a thriving Ladies Group, Playgroup, weekly Craft Class, and Prayer Meeting, in addition to various regular outside bookings such as yoga, pilates etc.

We are part of Churches Together in Leeds 13, and try to support the various services, outside witness events etc. which they arrange. Two of our ladies attend the committee meetings, and one has been appointed vice chairperson.

We have monthly Family Parade services, celebrating Church Anniversary, Mothering Sunday, Easter, Harvest, Toy Service and Christmas. Our harvest produce and toys are taken to support St. George’s Crypt and Mount Cross Mother and Baby Home in Bramley.

We are keen supporters of the toy box appeal – Operation Christmas Child, and our Ladies Group dedicates one evening in its programme to providing gifts and covering and filling boxes.

We try to keep our church premises bright and clean, and give a friendly welcome to any visitors to our services, and we cover every house in the village with the delivery of Church Christmas cards, which send greetings and information about Christmas events and services. Yet in spite of this, we seem unable to attract many to Sunday services from all the houses, apartments etc. which have been built in the area. Initially we were known as “Rodley Ecumenical Centre”, but as many people could not pronounce this, and a lot more did not know what it meant, we changed our name several years ago to “The Church in Rodley”, which is what we try to be to the people in the village.

Cynthia Quayle

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Fairtrade Choice

Reflecting on the article in the October Vine about Patricia Mutangili, a Kenyan tea farmer who reports the benefits that Fairtrade is bringing to her community, it is encouraging to remember that whenever tea and coffee is served at The Grove, support can be given to Fairtrade projects. The Church Council agreed some time ago to serve Fairtrade tea and coffee always as the first choice, with alternatives available on request. Although this might seem a small step on our part, every time we use these products, the Fairtrade premium is used to bring improvements to communities engaged in Fairtrade projects such as the Kenyan farmers based around the Ndima Tea Factory.

Janette Mawson

Grove Church Council October 2011

The meeting remembered in silence the late Wilf Hoyle who had been a Council member until earlier this year. The Minister welcomed new and returning Representatives of the General Church Meeting to this first meeting of the church year.

Matters arising from the previous meeting: it was reported that steps to repair the **Centre flat roof** at no cost to the church are still being taken; **documentation** relating to the sale of Grove House is in the church safe for future reference; a **plaque** in memory of Trevor Whitaker is to be dedicated at a future service. Discussion of other issues included the erection of the **sign** by Manse Capital placed alongside the church notice boards; the **Circuit payment** of £1000 per annum for the next three years in respect of nine parking spaces given by the church to the Circuit (a planning authority requirement) on a 250 year lease; the decision to purchase a real **Christmas tree** rather than an artificial one due to expense and storage difficulties. It was also noted that the initiative **Moving Forward Together** is an attempt to draw people who are currently on the fringe of The Grove Church and will involve consultation with a range of premises users in order to find out how the church might support them further.

Items raised by committees included:

A **prayer group** to be held before morning worship, production of a **pew leaflet** for use at weddings and discussions on moving the Easter Day evening **memorial service** to All Soul's Day. (Worship Consultation)

A proposed memorial service for **Poppy Busfield**, **membership classes** to be organised by the Minister and the availability upon request of the **prayer leaflet** 'The Grove Methodist Church Praying For Each Other'. (Pastoral)

Need for a **volunteer** to oversee notice boards at the front of the church, erection of a Centre **welcome sign**, and **data protection** issues linked to the inclusion of Grove Vine on the church web site. (Church Life)

The success of the three **Sunday lunches** organised by the Luncheon Club with £1000 in proceeds going towards church and other charities, the display of the **Christian Aid** Christmas gift list in

December and the new **store cupboard** in the kitchen completed with thanks to David Buckley. (Church & Society)
Preacher and speaker for **World Mission Sunday** on 20th November. (Joint Missions)
Signage along the frontage of the Centre, **solar panels** on Grove House, and the gift of a **piano** to be placed in the Small Hall. (Property)
The likely **surplus** of income over expenditure for the year ending 31st August 2011 at a time when there are **significant costs** for maintaining the premises. (Finance)

Under finance, the Treasurer pointed out that income for the year was £15,000 above that of the previous year and judged this to be a **fantastic effort** by everyone in the church. The meeting was also mindful of **long-standing property works** needing to be undertaken including roof repairs to Church and Centre and sanctuary refurbishment.

Other items acted upon included receipt of the **draft Annual Report** for the year ending 31st August 2011 that outlines work undertaken in pursuit of The Grove mission statement and the need to update the Methodist **Deed of Union** in the light of the distinction between presbyters and deacons. **Circuit staff** will reduce from 4 presbyters to 3 at the end of the year though there may be the appointment of a half time person for fresh expressions across the Circuit.

Under any other business:

Agreed that **evening services** between November and March 2012 are to be held in the Small Hall in order to conserve heating and lighting.

Agreed to include a package of information about Methodism on the church **web site**.

Acceptance of resignation of Chris Seller as **Publicity Officer** from the end of the church year and the need for a replacement.

Noted **Churches Together** Carols in the Park at 4.00pm on 10th

December and the Christmas Story told by Riding Lights Theatre Company at 2.00pm & 7.00pm on 11th December in St Margaret's Hall.

Peter Mawson, Church Council Secretary

Saturday 3rd December 7.30pm

Grove Methodist Church

The Leeds Methodist District Chamber Choir

The Wesley Singers

Presents a Musical Entertainment

For Advent and Christmas

Tickets £5 including refreshments

From Chris Seller 258 2662 and Carole Abel 258 7744



A Letter from Richard Kenwood Herriott.....

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the congregation at the Grove Methodist Church,

As many of you will be aware, I have been on a 6 month leave of absence as Music Director here due to health reasons. Firstly, I am indeed very touched that many of you have inquired as to my progress in conversation with my wonderful wife, Liz. I can confirm that I am improving and the health scare of July was short lived, however the emotional and psychological implications are still there and will take time to absorb.

After lengthy discussions with Liz, as well as a considerable amount of soul searching, I have come to the decision that I will step down as Music Director at the Grove Methodist Church effective January 1st 2012. It has been an immense privilege and pleasure to work with such a terrific and devoted and talented choir. It has also been an enormously valuable experience to work in such a rich and musically rewarding environment, and I leave this very unique and treasured part of my life with the fondest of memories.

I wish to thank Dr. Tony Orton, David Buckley and Rev. Peter Reasbeck for stepping in and it is without a doubt - in my humble opinion - that the music at the Grove is in the finest hands with these 3 remarkable musicians. I am finally most grateful to my wife, who has been enormously supportive in helping me arrive at this difficult but ultimately wise conclusion. God bless.

Richard Kenwood Herriott.

And Our Thanks to Richard.....

On the 6th November Richard is to perform at the Walter Hall, University of Toronto, in a memorial concert for Antonin Kubalek, who died in January this year in his home country, the Czech Republic. It is a great honour for Richard to be asked to do this, since the piece he is to play was written for and performed by Antonin Kubalek at a premier concert in 1983. Remembering and knowing of Richard's expertise, the composer, Walter Bucyznski has now asked Richard to play in memory of Antonin Kubalek.

We wish Richard every success as he continues his career and we thank him for his musical talent and his enthusiasm in bringing a range of music and musicians to The Grove. The concert series over the past seven years have brought numerous musicians to share their skills. In particular Richard has encouraged and supported a number of younger and “up and coming” groups, individuals and orchestras. The Ascension Singers who performed in September this year brought sublime music from a lively and highly talented group of musicians. Craig Ogden (of Classic FM fame), last April treated the audience to an amazing repertoire of guitar music. The City of Leeds Youth Orchestra and Wind Band have used their talents and dedication in music performed at The Grove and brought many of the audiences with them to experience the excellent setting of the Chapel and Grove Centre.

Thank you, Richard, for your personal musical talent and your efforts to share with The Grove wide and highly proficient musical experiences. We wish you well for the future.

Janette Mawson

Dedication of Plaque

On November 13th there will be a short blessing of the plaque in memory of Trevor Whittaker. Trevor was a loyal member of Grove Church who died tragically earlier this year. The plaque is placed in the Youth Club Window, where we remember our young people who also died tragically.

Jack Myers

£££ Bargain-Hunting at The Grove £££

Everybody enjoys getting a bargain! Mrs. Q and I benefited from a recent M and S sale and were delighted to carry off a few reduced items! When economic times are hard (and even when they are not) the church is in need of a bargain or two. Over the last twelve months a few members have been working hard to reduce the Grove's outgoings and I thought you might like to know the result.

The biggest savings have come from a decision to change our utilities providers. The cost of gas and electric supplies has rocketed in recent years (as everyone knows) and during the year ending 31st August 2010, we paid £14,222 in heating and lighting the church and centre! The Property Committee decided to do something about this and agreed to change our provider to the Utility Warehouse. The changeover was completed by November last year. Our Treasurer reported at the recent Church Council that the utility costs for the year ending 31st August 2011 were £10,458. **A saving in this first (part) year of £3,764!** If you add the payments that U.W. pay us under the Community Fund Raiser scheme, then the total saved is well in excess of £4,000! That's a bargain in anyone's language.

A further cost-saving was achieved when it was confirmed that we did not have to pay to get our bins emptied. The church has previously employed Biffa Waste Management to undertake our weekly collections at an annual cost of £936.00. We discovered that as a charity, Leeds City Council would empty the bins at no cost! Another great bargain! Add to this the decision to take out our B.T. telephone line and replace it with a 'pay as you go' mobile phone in the office, we've achieved another healthy saving.

I know that life is much more than bargain-hunting, but these considerable savings make it possible to use larger sums of the church's income to further our Christian mission in Horsforth and beyond. I hope that we can continue to use our financial resources wisely.

David Quick

Forthcoming Events - November

- Sat 12th Film Club at St Andrews – 2pm adm free (donations)
Sat 19th **Christmas Bazaar at the Grove Centre – 10.15am to 1.30pm**
Sat 26th Community Café Lunch at Trinity – 12 noon
Sat 26th Annual Dinner and Entertainment at Rodley, 7pm

n.b. On Remembrance Sunday 13th November at 7.30pm, David Robertson of Theatre in the Dales and Maggie Mash of Trio Literati will read from “84 Charing Cross Road” and actors from the Royal Armouries will perform “Only Waters Between” – a moving adaptation of WWI Memoirs. Rawdon Quaker Meeting House.

December

- Sat 3rd Christmas Fayre at Central – 10am to 2pm
Sat 3rd Christmas Fayre at Rodley – 2pm
Sat 3rd **Concert at the Grove – Wesley Singers – 7.30pm**

Regular events (contd.)

Thursday

- 9.30-11.30 Tots & Tykes (0-4 years) 293 8458
11.00 Bible Fellowship 258 3239
6.15 Beavers 239 7327
6.00 Cubs 258 9865
7.45 Scouts 216 9006
7.45 Grove Ladies Group (1st and 3rd Thursday) 225 2734

Friday

- 7.45 Choir Rehearsal 259 1580
Thursday Walking Group 258 6579
Saturday Walking Group 258 4520

Items for the December/January magazine should be submitted to Philip and Gill by 23rd November. Please include items up to 3rd February. Email would be appreciated!

Premises Manager: Alan Firth
43 New Street, Horsforth, Tel: 258 2742 or 07985745525
Off duty from Saturday noon and all day Sunday

<http://www.grovemethodist.org.uk/>

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