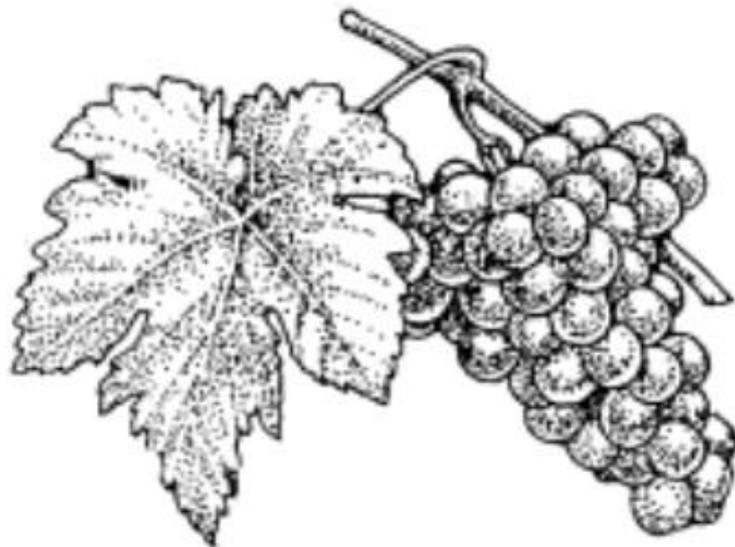


# **GROVE VINE**

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

**May 2013**



**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](mailto:alistairjones@live.co.uk)

## **Regular events**

### **Sunday**

- 10.20 Creche (0-3yrs) 258 3509
- 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**

- 9 -12.00 Pre-school (2-under 5s) (Funding 3-4yrs) 239 0335
- 12.15 Luncheon Club 258 3807
- 1.30 Network Women's Fellowship 258 9448
- 6.15 Beavers 216 9006
- 6.15 Cubs 216 9006
- 7.45 Scouts 216 9006
- 7.45 Flower Guild (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in the month) 258 4520

### **Tuesday**

- 9.00-9.30 Prayer Group 258 8803
- 9 -12.00 Pre-school (2-under 5s) (Funding 3-4yrs) 239 0335  
and 12.00 – 3.00 Pre-school as above.
- 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 (5<sup>th</sup> Horsforth) 259 0555
- 6.15 Brownies (5<sup>th</sup> Horsforth) 258 3670
- 7.45 Guides (5<sup>th</sup> Horsforth) 202 9010

(Continued inside back cover)

## Looking over the roundabout.....

I can see nothing particularly interesting or inspiring, nothing that strikes me as a fertile ground for wit. So let's use that very fact for inspiration.

Have you ever had a time when the whole of life seems flat, and you can't see a way forward? When the cornflakes don't crunch, the coffee doesn't zing, and the sun doesn't seem to illuminate one single thing?

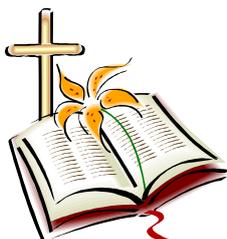
I'm not meaning true depression, something that we should all be alert to and supportive of, but simply an everyday dullness of feeling. At those times, what do we do? Just keep plodding ahead? Stiffen that old upper lip and keep on keeping-on? Pretend that everything is fine?

I have to tell you, at risk of sounding smugly devout, that is when I turn to the Bible. I hope that you realise I read it quite a bit anyway, but that is when I sink myself within it. I will skip from the Gospel of John (my favourite of the four) to Judges and Kings, on to Isaiah and off we head to Romans or Colossians. The world is there. A world of weeping and raging, or laughing and discovering, of cowardice and bravery, doubt and certainty, but most importantly, of humanity and God.

When you find yourself part of that story, it lifts you. Cornflakes? Hah – Chronicles is better!  
Coffee? Corinthians is more refreshing! The sun? In the Son is the true light of the world.

When in doubt, don't turn to a good book. Turn to the best one.  
God bless you,

*Ali (Rev Alistair Jones)*



## Church Family News

**Please remember in your prayers:** Kath Ashby, Renee Collinson, Tony Emmott, John Hardaker, Mary Hart, Nancy Mathers, Stan Ramsden, Margaret Reasbeck, Ros Revell, Richard Rodgers, Chris Shagouri, Eileen Stones and Christine Wilson.

## From the Church Registers

### Funeral

April 9<sup>th</sup> Margaret Hollingworth

### Wedding

April 20<sup>th</sup> Lucy Salter to Michael Crundwell (The Jewell's granddaughter)

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## Sunday Services in May

- 5<sup>th</sup> 9.00 Rev. Alistair Jones – Holy Communion  
10.30 Rev. Alistair Jones – Family & Parade  
6.00 United Service at Central
- 12<sup>th</sup> 10.30 Rev. Alistair Jones  
6.00 United Service at Central
- 19<sup>th</sup> 10.30 Rev. Peter Shilling – Holy Communion for Pentecost  
6.00 Rev. Peter Shilling – Circuit Service
- 26<sup>th</sup> 10.30 Mr John Connor  
6.00 Rev. Alistair Jones – Taize & Holy Communion

### **A Collect for Ascension Day (Thursday May 16<sup>th</sup> )**

Eternal and gracious God,  
grant that as we believe your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
to have ascended with triumph into your kingdom in heaven,  
so may we also in heart and mind ascend to where he is  
and with him continually dwell;

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and for ever. Amen.

## Stewards on Duty in May

- 5<sup>th</sup> Carole Abel & Margaret Shingler  
12<sup>th</sup> Margaret Shingler & David Buckley  
19<sup>th</sup> Kath Ashby & Gordon Mellor  
26<sup>th</sup> Betty West & Kath Ashby

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## From the Editorial Group

**Note that the Editorial Teams alternate..... so, the June Issue will be prepared by Gordon, Mary and Margaret and you should send items to them no later than Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.**

*Thank you to all our contributors this month. If you would like to contribute to our regular series or have something that you would like to share with friends at the Grove, please do let us know.*

Philip Abel [pcabel@talktalk.net](mailto:pcabel@talktalk.net) 258 7744  
Margaret Bosomworth [margaret.bosomworth@ntlworld.com](mailto:margaret.bosomworth@ntlworld.com) 228 4777  
Gill Jewell [gilljewell@aol.com](mailto:gilljewell@aol.com) 278 9438  
Gordon & Mary Mellor [jgkm64@gmail.com](mailto:jgkm64@gmail.com) 258 6199

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## Flower Rota for May

- 5<sup>th</sup> Mrs L Lidell; Mr & Mrs D Hodgson  
12<sup>th</sup> Mrs M Smith; Mrs J Redfern and Mrs E Ramsden  
19<sup>th</sup> Mr & Mrs E Douglass and Rev. P. & Mrs M Reasbeck  
26<sup>th</sup> Mr & Mrs G Hoyle; Mr & Mrs M Sykes

## **Letter from Eastbourne**

### **Christine & Alan Reid (Grove 1995-2009)**

From our third floor flat we have glimpses of the sea from the front windows, views of the South Downs from the back. Supermarket and church are 5-10 minutes' walk in one direction; the station and town centre 15-20 minutes in the other direction, with the seafront about 10 minutes beyond that. So we walk a lot.

There's plenty to do in Eastbourne: symphony concerts and chamber music, plays and an art gallery. A wide variety of restaurants: our "local" is a 12<sup>th</sup> century pub with a good menu and we also have Spanish, French and Turkish as well as the usual Italian, Chinese and Indian. Also lots of good venues for tea, coffee and cakes. And a beautiful seafront with about 5 miles of easy walking.

There are three U3A branches in Eastbourne; the one we belong to has over forty interest groups. I do Singing, Writing, Social History and Walking. Alan is still working but does usually join me on the walks. In addition, I lead a walk most weeks in one of the local parks – a scheme run by Age Concern to encourage older people to get some exercise.

We belong to a lecture group which lays on about 12 talks from autumn to spring. Recent speakers have included Terry Waite and Dame Beryl Grey; in April we're looking forward to hearing Roy Hattersley talking about Lloyd George.

London is only 1½ hours by train with a service every half hour so we enjoy occasional day trips to galleries and museums – recently the pre-Raphaelite exhibition at the Tate, and Ice Age art at the British Museum.

Alan and I are both quite involved with Greenfield Methodist Church. Alan is the Bookings Secretary and I'm a steward as well as Church Council Secretary. Greenfield is considerably smaller than the Grove but, like you, we have an ageing congregation with very few younger members. We have good music and are pleased to have adopted the new hymn book "Singing the Faith".

Later this year we're planning a family get-together (or "rely rally" as Australians call it) to celebrate various birthdays and anniversaries. Our sons and families - one from Virginia, the other from Henley - will be joining us, as well as my sister from Canada and our aunt who lives in Eastbourne. So we'll be 4 generations made up of 8 adults and 5 children.

Yes, life in Eastbourne is good!

## **The state of our Finances.....**

We have had quite a change in the state of our Finances here at Grove over the last three years, which all began with the Circuit reducing the number of staff to three, and a subsequent large reduction in our Assessment.

Over the next two years we were able to save a considerable sum in our Current account, and when Edward Hull left us £45,150 we then opened two savings accounts for this and our surplus income.

Because we are looking at various projects our Current account stands at £51,500 as well as our savings accounts of £67,000.

We have just put in a new permanent projection system in the Church which can be operated from the front pew downstairs or from the balcony. There is a new display board in the Centre car park and the Property committee will shortly be making a decision on the re-decoration of the Church.

All quite exciting, but this is all expenditure on our buildings so the Church council will also be looking at giving a regular payment to a Charitable endeavour – probably sponsorship for Shirley Crawford's work in Uganda.

Despite all this activity we must not let our attention be waylaid from our regular income and expenditure that enables us to maintain the day to day running of the Church. For the first six months of this year our Collections & Pledged Giving is £1,000 less than last year though it is a little early to see where donations, both externally and from church organisations will finish up.

We are constantly reminded that we are living in very restrictive financial times, and the Church Council is very aware of this, and of the giving and donations that members and friends are continually making to Church funds. We are grateful for these, and all those that are still coming in.

Thank you to everyone.

*Philip Abel, Treasurer.*

## Famous Methodists

### Sir George Martin d 1975

Sir George Martin was a member of a large family. His father was a



Methodist minister, travelling as he had to in those days from circuit to circuit so George saw much of the British Isles in his youth but principally the circuits were in the north of England. His first job on leaving school was to join the firm of Wilkinson and Warburton, who were traditional Victorian wholesalers dealing mainly, at that time, in English-produced textiles and selling them on to small retailers throughout the north of England. Mr Wilkinson and Mr Warburton had no heirs or

children so when they died George Martin made a bid for the company and purchased it outright. He was joined after the First World War by Mr Frank Marshall, his brother-in-law, and they successfully increased the business to become a major player in the textile distributing business in the UK before the Second World War. George Martin's business interests expanded vastly in the 1930s and he was a successful entrepreneur both in Yorkshire and elsewhere. He became a director of the local bus company, Wallace Arnold, and finished up as chairman of the Municipal Insurance Company in London.

In the 1930s Sir George Martin worked for the government at the time of the depression and started the Tyne Valley refurbishment and rebuilding scheme to encourage new industries in Tyneside, which had been badly hit by the slump. For his work as chairman of this organisation and for many other areas in which he contributed to the community in general he was knighted during the premiership of Stanley Baldwin. He was the chairman of the Leeds General Infirmary for many years, served on the Leeds bench and in 1943, together with other Methodists, was responsible for the foundation of the Methodist Homes for the Aged playing an active part in finding new homes for this newly established charity, which today is among the leading providers of care for old people in the United Kingdom, and leaving his home to the charity on his death in 1975. He supported many charities in Leeds, for instance the YMCA and an approved school in Adel.

Sir George Martin became Lord Mayor of Leeds, High Sheriff of Yorkshire, and in appreciation of his outstanding public service was awarded the position of Honorary Freeman in 1966 which granted him 'freedom of the city of Leeds'.

In his 70s he bought a substantial estate in North Yorkshire and a farm at Walkingham Hill near Knaresborough, where he used to spend his weekends and he thoroughly enjoyed seeing his pedigree herd of jersey cows, excellent sheep and marvellous arable land become a very successful farm in Yorkshire.

Apart from farming Sir George's hobbies concentrated on music, where he became chair of a newly established orchestra named the Yorkshire Symphony Orchestra, which sadly didn't last too long, but he took a great interest in classical music and concerts in Leeds right until his last days in his 90s.

In 1956 he founded the Sir George Martin Charitable Trust Fund and endowed it with certain shares which he owned. Much later, in his will, he gave the residue of his estate to the Trust and the assets transferred included his farm lands at Breckenbrough and Walkingham Hill, which were subsequently sold. The Sir George Martin Trust is a medium-sized family trust, which still operates and has given more than £4.5m to charities, mainly in Yorkshire, over the last 23 years.

*Adapted from a memo by P J D Marshall on the history of the Sir George  
Martin Trust*

(When we undertook our building project a few years ago we were in receipt of a grant from the Sir George Martin Trust of £5,000.)

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## **St George's Crypt**

A request please. St George's Crypt are very short of towels. Can you spare one either hand or bath size and in good condition? If so, please bring them to Chapel on Sunday 5th May or to coffee morning any Tuesday and I will collect them. Many thanks.

*Beryl Thompson*

## Favourite Hymns

In the April edition of the Grove Vine Tony Orton asked, "Do you have a favourite hymn?" We are delighted to print the first reply from Beryl Thompson and hope for many others.

The answer to Tony's question is YES and it has been the same one since 1960. It was in the summer of that year that I went on my first Student Christian Movement in Schools holiday. They were more commonly known as SCM camps but we did not camp. We stayed in schools throughout the country either boarding schools with beds (luxury) or on school floors in sleeping bags on palliasses. My first one was to Tewkesbury where along with other girls I stayed in a boarding school about 5 miles from the centre of the town. The 'staff' who looked after us were mostly student teachers or university students. We had morning prayers each day and throughout the day did various activities which included peeling potatoes!!!! We had a music group which naturally I went to. There were drama groups and writing groups along with many outside activities. At Tewkesbury, we slept in dormitories and once in bed and the lights were out, the staff came on to the landing to sing a hymn. Nearly every evening it was "The day Thou gavest Lord is ended". Since then, this has been my favourite hymn. To me the words are beautiful especially "As o'er each continent and island, the dawn leads on another day, the voice of prayer is never silent, nor dies the strain of praise away."

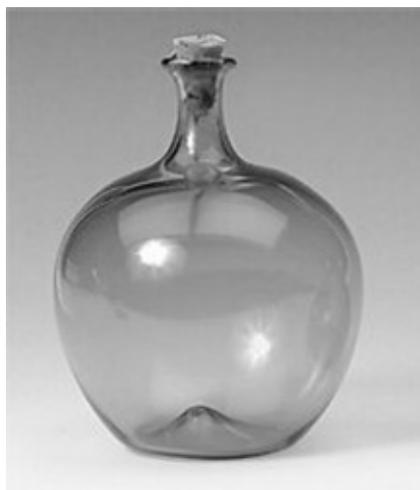


Unfortunately, it is not a hymn which can be sung at morning service so is not often heard. It is for me the best hymn and I have requested that it be sung at my funeral but not for a long time yet. My Dad's favourite was "Saviour again to Thy dear name we raise" and his Dad's (my Granddad) "Fill Thou my life, O Lord my God."

*Beryl Thompson*

*Ed's note: This hymn is always sung as a climax to the Women's World Day of Prayer service on the first Friday of March each year.*

## The Carboy Appeal – May/June



**Ganton Special School** is a school for children with severe learning difficulties and needs, emotional, physical and behavioural, situated on the edge of Hull and serving a large area both from Hull and the East Riding as schools with this specialism are few and far between.

Many children in the school for one reason or another have great difficulty in communicating because of physical and emotional problems and the arts are one way in which they can do this freely. They love music, drama and obviously, art. Much of their education is done through art. Even maths and science can be taught with a visual element, while history, geography and literature lend themselves easily to pictures, collages and models.

As you can imagine, to work in this way uses a huge amount of equipment, paper, card, paint, and apparently they need a store cupboard of glue!! Because their dexterity is also impaired in some cases they do use huge amounts of material but their supplies are finite. Sadly, they only receive the same allowance as an ordinary school and this is often not enough. This type of work, as well as educational, is also great therapy and therefore much needed.

**CAN U HELP?**

**IT WOULD PUT A MUCH NEEDED SMILE ON MANY FACES**



## News from the Solomon Islands

*Mission Partners Graham and Jenny Longbottom write: “In February Drs Dina & Zotei returned from their leave in India with their two younger children. Their eldest has stayed in India to pursue her education.*

“We are adjusting to new roles as Graham takes over as Medical Superintendent, freeing Dr Dina to concentrate on surgery. The United Church would like him to visit their other health care institutions to do surgery if money can be found for his travel. He continues to look after the maternity ward, Dr Zotei the paediatric ward & Jenny the general ward, with Graham concentrating on administration and some teaching at Helena Goldie College of Nursing. The hospital financial report was prepared ready for the Hospital & College Board meeting last week and this underlined how precarious the situation now is, with the monthly staff wages now greater than the grant from the government – our main regular income. We continue to explore ways to alleviate the financial situation. It was good to end the week with a picnic to a nearby small island with our hospital fellowship group. We enjoyed freshly caught fish cooked on the beach, eaten on plates weaved on the beach from coconut palm leaves. We also had rice, sweet potato and tropical fruit.”

Holy Week was remembered with meetings daily in the church led by different groups from the community. Then moving from the party atmosphere of Palm Sunday, through the sharing of bread & wine on Thursday, to Good Friday to where Jesus betrayed and crucified, reminding us how fickle human emotions can be. Jesus’ resurrection was celebrated with an early morning *Lotu* followed by the Easter breakfast with the patients. In the evening they showed the *Jesus* film and next day they followed the glorious events of that first Easter morning.

In April after weeks of preparation for the First Diploma Course Graduation at H.G.College of Nursing College the appointed day finally arrived and was a great success and enjoyed by all. The guest of honour was the Minister of Health, Charles Sigota, who was previously the Director of Nursing at Gizo Hospital and was closely involved with the work to establish the college from the original vision in 2005. The graduation ceremony took place in the large church building at Kokeqolo.

The graduands looked splendid in their blue gowns with yellow hoods. After several speeches from the invited guests there was the presentation of certificates & prizes, the singing of the farewell song and the reciting of the nurses' pledge holding individual candles.

This was followed by a feast for several hundred people back at the college, invited guests and graduands inside the hall and the others outside in the *tomoko* (war canoe) that had been built on both sides of the hall for the occasion. Both groups of guests were treated to *kustom* entertainment during the feast. After the feast, the graduands led by Derek Ivulu challenged the current 3<sup>rd</sup> year students to make a better *tomoko* for their graduation in 2014. This is a tradition at such occasions and is followed by the destruction of the front of the war canoe and the theft of food by the students receiving the challenge.

Unfortunately Jenny missed the ceremony as she was busy with patients, but she did manage to attend the feast. There was a farewell feast for the graduands (now probation registered nurses) and an opportunity for them to speak to the combined hospital & college community. They will return to their placements over the next few days.

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Friends and home and all forsaking,  
Lord they go at Thy command;  
As their stay Thy promise taking,  
While they traverse sea and land:  
O be with them!  
Lead them safely by thy hand.

*MHB 808 v.2 Thomas Kelly 1769-1854*

## First Grove Chapel marriage



This photograph is of my Great Grandmother Maria Ann Jagger who was the first bride to marry at our church. She married James Wardman whose father was the tenant of West End Farm, Horsforth. Maria was born on 24<sup>th</sup> November 1849 at Osgodby near Riccalt – where my daughter Nicola now lives! Maria was baptised on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1849 at the Wesleyan Chapel in Selby.

On 12th January 1870 Maria and James were married at the new Wesleyan Chapel in Horsforth.

They were presented with a Bible with the inscription:

*Presented by the Trustees of the Wesleyan Chapel Horsforth to  
Mr and Mrs James Wardman on the occasion of their marriage 12<sup>th</sup>  
January 1870.*

James did not follow his father into farming but became a carter and then coachman to a cloth manufacturer in Pudsey. This man then went to Saxony, Germany, to open a linen mill in 1873. He took along James, his coachman with wife Maria and baby son William (born 1871). While there four other children were born – Minnie 1874, my grandmother followed by Robert, Herman and Emma. They returned to England in 1879, settling in Pudsey where their last child Zilpha was born.

Maria died on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1928 and her funeral was at Church Lane Methodist chapel in Pudsey.

When I came to live in Horsforth after Malcolm and I married none of this information was known to me. My sister Margaret does family history research and found that I was now living just up the road from the place where my great grandfather James was born and brought up.

Isn't life one long list of coincidences!

*Kay Bassett*

## Missing Hymn Words Puzzle

Fill in the missing word in these lines from well-known hymns.

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light ..... hid from our eyes.
- 2 O measureless Might, ..... Love, while angels delight to hymn thee above.
- 3 There let it for thy glory burn with ..... blaze.
- 4 All the vain things that charm me most, I ..... them to his blood.
- 5 Are we weak and heavy-laden, ..... with a load of care?
- 6 Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us; all our ..... thou dost know.
- 7 And O what ..... of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!
- 8 He will my shield and ..... be as long as life endures.
- 9 He left his Father's throne above – so free, so ..... his grace.
- 10 Join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great ....., mercy and love.
- 11 Still from man to God eternal ..... of praise be done.
- 12 Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the ..... lifted high.
- 13 From ..... thou art God, to endless years the same.
- 14 Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest; sweet is the calm of ..... the blest.
- 15 And thy fullest ..... shed within its walls always.
- 16 Craftsman's art and music's measure for thy ..... all combine.
- 17 Where Jesus knelt to share with thee the ..... of eternity.
- 18 Thy time is now and evermore, thy place is .....
- 19 Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, ..... of love.
- 20 Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise: be thou mine ..... now and always.

*Tony Orton*

# My Favourite Garden

## York Gate Garden, Adel



As many of you may know I work as a volunteer at York Gate Garden in Adel, in Back Church Lane behind the lovely old Norman church.

York Gate, once a farm, was bought in 1951 by the Spencer Family, parents Frederick and Sybil and their son Robin so that they could keep horses for riding. Before long the creation of a garden took precedence over their interest in animals and they sold off the old

farm buildings and some land, leaving one acre for the garden and one field.

Frederick was the main architect of the garden in the first instance and created fourteen different 'rooms'; his wife and son employed their interest in antiques to furnish the garden with interesting features. The garden got much of its inspiration from other gardens, in particular Hidcote in Gloucestershire. Unfortunately Frederick died very suddenly of a heart attack in 1963 leaving Robin and his mother to continue the garden. Robin suffered the same fate as his father when only 47 in 1981, leaving Sybil on her own. She used to open the garden on a small number of occasions under the 'Yellow Book' scheme and employed a jobbing gardener to carry on under her instruction.

After a brief winter's sleep the garden wakes up with a beautiful display of snowdrops (S.Arnett), especially in the Dell and the Nutwalk, along with cyclamen and hellibores. This is followed by a carpet of aconites, pulminaria and spring bulbs, daffodils, narcissus tulips etc. before the full summer display which comprises many unusual flowers and shrubs as well as delphinium followed by phlox, dahlias, heleniums and many more. The Orchard, a remnant from farm days, is edged by a pond and a 'canal' sports lots of pond wildlife including tapoles and frogs and, if you're very lucky, the chance to see a dragonfly emerge from its pupa state.

The Front Garden has a traditional lawn edged by a 'hot' border of flowers in bright reds, yellows and oranges, and other beds which have a variety of different plants each year. The White Garden behind the house is influenced by Vita Sackville West's garden at Sissinghurst. Space does not

permit descriptions of all parts of the garden except to note the Paved Garden, the Herb Garden (currently being restored), the small Pinetum, Sybil's Garden redesigned in 2005 by Alistair Baldwin, and the small Cactus House, all of which have their own characters.

Sybil died an old lady of 94 in 1994 and the garden was left to The Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society (now known as Perennial) and it is open from Easter to the end of September on Thursdays and Sundays 2.00pm – 5.00pm and Bank Holidays from 11.00am - 5.00pm. This year for the first time it will be open on Wednesdays in June and July 2.00 -5.00pm.

We bade farewell to our long standing Head Gardener David Beardall at the end of last year only to welcome Martin Walker the renowned designer and builder of Leeds City Council's award winning gardens at Chelsea Flower Show and not least brother of our own Andy Walker! Martin's experience will prove a great benefit to York Gate both in general care and maintenance but also in providing a long term view of restoration and plans for the future. The volunteers are already benefitting from his teaching skills and the value he places on those who work in the garden for the simple love of it.

*Gill Jewell*

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## **COMMUNITY FUNDRAISER**

I am very pleased to say we now have 20 people on the CFR at the Grove, and we still receive 5% commission on their bills every month. Just recently a person joined from other companies for Gas/Elec, Homephone and Broadband. During the next year they will save £400 - £500 on their past utility suppliers. A fantastic saving.

### **BROADBAND**

Last month WHICH Magazine listed Utility Warehouse top company for best value for money and top for technical support and 2nd for speed of internet.

If anyone is interested in saving money for themselves and the Church, please contact Ricky Hearn for more details. Tel: 2818176

## Property Matters!

All of you know we have a Property Committee representing the Church in carrying out various duties to improve and maintain the buildings. What we don't always know is just what matters are being considered. Here is a list of just some of the current matters.

### Recently completed projects:

Centre car park notice board installed.

New general notice boards and information boards.

Researched purchased and had installed a new projector for the Church.

Had repaired a serious leak in the heating system which threatened to shut down our system altogether.

The ordering and supply of new chairs and tables for the activity room.

### Your property Committee are currently discussing and researching the following:

Re-decoration of the entire Chapel.

Looking at a more efficient and maintainable Church lighting system in keeping with the Methodist Church Environmental Policy.

Storage for our Pre-School.

Repairing of our beautiful stain glass windows.

Improving the audible experience of all users of the main hall.

Researching in conjunction with a Leeds university final year acoustics student, the improvement of the sound quality in the activity room by means of acoustic panels. The activity room has long been noted for its adverse acoustic qualities.

Discussing the possibility of some pew alterations to accommodate our less physically mobile Church attendees.

Church roof problems and repair.

These matters of course are in addition to the daily running and maintenance of the buildings by me in my role as your Premises Manager. The above lists just some of the projects the Committee are considering. There are also many more matters, some minor, some not so minor that come to Property for discussion and decision. The list could be endless. Some matters involve difficult decisions. These various matters can often involve a lot of time, work and study by your committee representatives. I

am blessed by having a great team who are ever willing to help.

The Property Committee is here to serve you. Don't ever hesitate to contact us if you have any concerns we can help with.

*“It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life, that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself.”* – **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

*Alan Firth  
Premises Manager and Property Chair*

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*This email was received from Bob Stansfield in response to last month's article about the Rev Dr Donald Soper:*

The piece about Donald Soper brought back memories of when I went to hear him at Oxford Place, Leeds in the 1950's There was a congregation of 2,000 hanging onto every word he spoke. At the end of the service he said something like 'Now I wonder how many of you have muttered - he's missed out the Lord's Prayer. Well I'm going to say it now. Not here but on the steps of the Town Hall next door and I invite you to come and join me.' The whole congregation did just that - all 2,000 of us lined up on the cascading steps of the Town Hall offering the Lord's Prayer . Unforgettable. I looked in at Oxford Place last year. Very modern looking but with about 40 seats in the worship area!  
Yours in the Fellowship and best wishes to all my 'old friends'.

*Thank you Bob. It's good to hear from old friends!*

## **Let the children come!**

The Grove Church and Centre aims to serve the community and it does this very well. You only have to visit the building on any weekday or evening to see just how many groups of all ages come and go, each with its own needs and offerings!

The Grove Pre-School is no exception. For more than 40 years young children have benefited from the love, care and sheer hard work of members and friends of The Grove. Families of the Pre-School children know that the Grove Pre-School is a Christian organisation and many over the years have attended Church events which have been suitable for young children and continued their links with The Grove and other Christian Communities.

The Pre-School committee members, who are responsible for the running and oversight of the Pre School, work alongside the very loyal and hard working small team of staff to provide a splendid safe and loving environment for young children. The Pre-School is known and well respected in the area. Horsforth Children's Centre has asked us to increase the number of children in our care as a direct response to the high quality of provision on offer.

Provision for “the public” always carries with it certain responsibilities as everyone who leads a group knows.

Safeguarding and Health and Safety requirements can seem endless. All groups are obliged to adhere to legislation and The Grove does its best to make sure that everyone who uses our premises is kept safe and well. Pre School is grateful to the many groups that use the Centre when young children are present, for their understanding of the children's particular safeguarding needs. It is also grateful to The Grove property committee for a number of modifications that have been made to meet safety requirements.

Unfortunately a major health and safety problem remains: storage. On such a busy site with so many thriving and worthwhile church led groups there is inevitably a difficulty in ensuring that each group has adequate storage of equipment needed for the group to function. Due to health and safety concerns of under stage storage for the bulk of its items needed on a day to day basis, Pre-School is experimenting with an alternative offer of

storage on the Centre stage. This involves lifting items on and off the stage which presents its own difficulties but at least might reduce the number of bumped heads, aching backs, necks and knees and dirty and dusty equipment. If any volunteers would offer to help lift the equipment on and off the stage or if anyone can think of any alternative storage, we would be delighted to hear from you!

The Pre-School is a happy, lively and loving environment to be involved with. It is a great asset to our Church and Community. If you would like to visit or help in any way do ask a member of the committee or staff and we would be very happy for you to visit - safely and healthily!

There is also an invitation to all friends to join us at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> June in the Centre for a fashion show - lots of good quality clothes for all the family at reasonable prices!

Church representatives on the Pre-School committee:

Janette Mawson  
Samantha Walker  
Jean Orton

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## **Easter Offerings**

- The Women's Fellowship, who organised the Easter Offerings envelopes this year for MWiB (Methodist Women in Britain) would like to thank all our friends who contributed to the collection for the World Mission Fund to be used for work that contributes to God's mission in 65 Partner Churches outside Britain and Ireland:
- Grants for particular requests from Partner Churches
- Training and support of mission partners to work with Partner Churches
- Nationals in mission appointments in Partner Churches
- Scholarship and leadership training (SALT) requested by Partner Churches

The amount so far (with Gift Aid to be added) is £244.95

## Scouting at the Grove (part 4)

I have received a message through the Group website from Bob Stansfield. The website has a “guestbook” page which allows any ex-member to send a message to me, which I can then add to the website if appropriate. It allows ex-members to get in touch with each other. Bob's message is the fifth since the website started a year ago, despite the total number of visits to the site running into the thousands!

Bob says “ *Just found the site via Grove Vine website. I joined the cubs in 1937 with John (Jacky) Maud . Gladys Barker was Akela, then to the scouts under Ted Honeybone and Ken Dickinson. They did well to keep things going during the war years. Ken led a camp at Silverdale in 1946. I went to Kandersteg in Sept 1947 by train all the way there and back. We had a run about rail ticket in Switzerland. The total cost was £25. I am grateful to the scouting movement for developing self confidence, resilience, honesty, integrity, service in the community etc. Dyb, Dyb, Dyb, We'll Dob, Dob Dob !*”

Thanks Bob. We stopped doing Dyb Dyb in 1966, but old habits die hard!

The message is useful. I have some photos of a camp at Silverdale, but no names I recognise, and no date, so my project has moved forward in one respect. I mentioned Ted Honeybone in the last article, and he kept the group going during the war years, as Bob says above, but also produced a publication called the NNL, the Ninth News Letter, which was typed by one Betty Maud, designed to keep in touch with older members who had left the area on war service. Some bits from that will appear in future articles.

I described the history project to the Scout Group Executive as “akin to a jigsaw puzzle without a picture to guide me”. I welcome further pieces of the jigsaw.

This article, and the others, with photographs, also appears on the website. Have a look, and send a message.....please?

[www.9thairedalescoutgroup.org](http://www.9thairedalescoutgroup.org)

*Keith Whitham  
Assistant Group Scout Leader*

## Forthcoming events

May 23<sup>rd</sup> 7.30pm Circuit Bible Study Trinity

### Regular events (contd)

#### Wednesday

9 -12.00 Pre-school (2-under 5s) (Funding 3-4yrs) 239 0335  
and 12.00 – 3.00 Pre-school as above.  
1.30 Line Dancing 258 7444  
6.00 Rainbows (14<sup>th</sup>) 239 0335  
6.15 Brownies (14<sup>th</sup>) 250 4907  
8.00 Explorer Scouts 258 0882  
7.30 Wednesday Break (fortnightly) 225 2734

#### Thursday

9.30 – 11.30 Tots & Tykes (0-4yrs) 293 8458  
11.00 Bible Fellowship 258 3239  
6.00 Cubs 216 9006  
6.15 Beavers 216 9006  
7.45 Scouts 216 9006  
7.45 Grove Ladies Group (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays) 258 2097

#### Friday

7.45 Choir Rehearsal 258 9093

Walking Groups: **Thursday** 258 6579      **Saturday** 258 4520

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*Items for the May Grove Vine should be submitted to Gordon or Mary by  
Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.*

*Please include dates up to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2013.*

*As usual Email would be appreciated!*

## Christian Aid Week 11<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> May 2013

The House to House envelope collections begin on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2013. The Grove have always supported Christian Aid very well and given most generously either by collecting and/or donation.

Existing collectors will find the distinctive red bags on the table in the Narthex; named and labelled with their chosen road/street. There will be bags without names; I am appealing to the congregation to take a bag and become a collector!! We are particularly short of collectors in the 'Victorias'

Please let me know which road/street you have taken or sign the sheet over the table.

In each bag there will be

- a. Collectors pocket guide which indicates the badge and certificate – please sign and display when collecting
- b. Gift envelopes, please encourage gift-aided signing.
- c. A4 poster for own window

When you have collected your (hopefully!) filled envelopes, please could you let Chris/Caroline Turner have them or myself.

The Turners have kindly said that they will count and bank the money for us. It is no easy task but we thank them.

I do hope that we can cover all the areas given to us. Let us pray that the amount collected exceeds last year's wonderful amount of over £1500.

Thank you for all your efforts in supporting Christian Aid and we look forward to a successful collection.

Any queries please ring Barbara Buckley 0113 2583807

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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