

# **GROVE VINE**

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

**December 2014 / January 2015**



**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) 0113 258 3509
- 10.20 J Team (tots to 12s) 0113 258 8803
- 10.30 Worship
- 6.00 Worship (alternate Sundays at Central Methodist Church)
- 7.30 Studio Dance SNYG 0113 258 9093

### **Monday**

- 9 -12.00 Pre-school (2-under 5s) (Funding 3-4yrs) 0113 239 0335
- 12.00 Luncheon Club 0113 258 3807
- 1.30 Network Women's Fellowship 0113 258 9448
- 6.15 Beavers 0113 216 9006
- 6.15 Cubs 0113 216 9006
- 7.45 Scouts 0113 216 9006
- 7.45 Flower Guild (3rd Monday in the month) 0113 258 4520

### **Tuesday**

- 9.00-9.30 Prayer Group in the Quiet Room 0113 258 8803
- 9 -12.00 Pre-school (2-under 5s) (Funding 3-4yrs)  
0113 239 0335 and 12.00 – 3.00 Pre-school as above.
- 10-11.30 Coffee in the Centre Small Hall 0113 258 3568;  
Quiet Room available for prayer. Jean Kemp's hand-  
made greetings cards are available on the first Tuesday  
of each month
- 6.00 Rainbows (5th Horsforth) 0113 259 0555
- 6.15 Brownies (5th Horsforth) 0113 258 3670
- 7.45 Guides (5th Horsforth) 0113 202 9010

(Continued inside back cover)

## Looking over the roundabout...

I realise that I can't see any of the horses in the small field between manse and ring-road. Yes, it is misty and drizzling a little, but all four (including the foal) are hidden from sight behind the trees, not the weather. Between them, they are making a VERY loud racket, neighing away for no very apparent reason. This is, I suppose, a version of the Cheshire Cat from Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. They have all disappeared, leaving behind nothing but their voices.

Sometimes, those who feel themselves to be invisible can be found to have very loud voices indeed.

This coming year will hold a General Election, and if Christians fail to be heard, they can hardly complain if they are treated as invisible.

The Advent heralds the coming of a child to an unmarried mother of no fixed abode, the tale of a family turned into political refugees by Herod, hiding amidst the economic migrants who filled up the dusty quarters of ancient Egypt's cities.

When people complain about refugees, whose side do you think Jesus is on? When they complain about economic migrants, they would do well to think of Christ's playmates.

If we are not heard, then we deserve to be invisible. If we are heard, then the voice of the brothers and sisters of Christ can roar a demand for justice, for refuge, and – even – welcome.

A Happy Christmas to all God's people, no matter who, no matter where.

*Ali*      *(Rev Alistair S Jones)*

### **Thought for the month**

In 1925, the poet and theologian Charles Williams [a friend of C.S.Lewis] was asked what he thought it meant to live the Christian life. Williams replied: 'Love, laugh, pray and be intelligent.'

*Revd Peter McGeary*



## Stewards on Duty

### December

7th	Carole Abel and David Buckley
14th	Michael Wallis and Caroline Turner
21st	David Buckley and Margret Shingler
25th	John Bussey and Michael Wallis
28th	Margret Shingler and John Bussey

### January

4th	Caroline Turner and Carole Abel
11th	Carole Abel and David Buckley
18th	Michael Wallis and John Bussey
25th	Caroline Turner and Michael Wallis

## Welcome!

We believe that first impressions count, and the welcome that visitors, and regulars, receive on entering the church on Sunday mornings is part of our efforts to make everyone feel at home.

There are a few spaces on the rota for Porch duty. If you would like to help, or help more!, please let me know. I hope to finalise the list for the January to June rota by the middle of December, but there is room later in the year as well. *Keith Whitham 0113 258 6316*

## CHARITY WINDOWS 2015



<u>Dates</u>	<u>Charity</u>	<u>Co-Ordinator</u>
Jan/Feb	NSPCC	Juliette Kitchen
Mar/Apr	CRUK	Pauline Quick
May/Jun	Dogs for the Disabled	Kath Ashby
Jul/Aug	Mucopoly Sacchardosis MPS	Gordon and Mary Mellor
Sep/Oct	Shoe Box Appeal	Carol Hoyle
Nov/Dec	Oxford Place Children's Centre	Gill Jewell

## **National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children.**

NSPCC helps children who have been abused or are going through abuse. They work with Social Services and with Childline. If they have to, they move the child out of that home and into a foster home until they are eighteen years of age. In 2011 NSPCC launched its All Babies Count campaign. In 2012 the charity was awarded a PRCA award for its Don't Wait until you're certain campaign. The charity does not get very much funds and we need to not only raise money but also raise awareness so that we can stop abuse before it becomes too late!

Spending is focused on child protection advice and awareness campaigns - like the award winning Underwear Rule campaign and the Childline School Service.

*Juliette Kitchen*

## **St. George's Crypt**

Thanks have been received for the soap and toiletries etc. given over the year. Please keep up the good work and pass items to Carole and Phillip Abel or Ricky Hearn who will pass them on.

*Carole Abel*

### **NATIVITY SERVICE**

**At 10.30 on 14<sup>th</sup> December**

at The Grove Church, Town Street, Horsforth



Small angels and shepherds will be most welcome!  
Do dress up the children, or you may like to meet in the Main Hall at 10.15 where a few head-dresses will be available.

There will be toys and activities for children in the Main Hall after the Nativity part of the Service.  
Juice/tea/coffee and biscuits will be available.

*More information contact Jean Orton: 0113 258 9093*

## Carols Old and New

Christmas is steeped in tradition, and many of our hymns and carols have been around for a very long time. But good new items keep on appearing, and some of them become very popular. We need only look in *Hymns and Psalms* (1983) to find examples.

**'See him lying on a bed of straw'** (*H&P* 118) is now a huge favourite. It is said that Michael Perry wrote both the words and the music for an end of term concert in 1964, when he was still a student. Maybe it was even completed in a hurry, yet now it is sung all around the world. Its appeal is surely the combination of simple words with a cheerful melody in calypso style (new to us at that time). The same formula of easy words with a catchy tune applies to **'Come and join the celebration'** (*H&P* 97). Valerie Collison wrote both words and music for this children's carol in 1972.

Then there are two items often included in the Advent section of hymn books. **'The Angel Gabriel from heaven came'** (*H&P* 87) took a long time to become accepted in hymn books. The tune, based on a 'traditional' carol melody from the Basque region of Spain, is attractively lilting rather than lively, but it is just right for Sabine Baring-Gould's words (published as long ago as 1922). I remember that this carol was being sung regularly by choirs in the 1950s, but it didn't appear in hymn books until much later. And now it's a very firm favourite. There's a very different story behind **'Long ago, prophets knew'** (*H&P* 83). Fred Pratt Green wrote the words in 1970, in response to an appeal for an Advent hymn to fit an existing tune (called THEODORIC). So the lively tune came first - from *Piae Cantiones* (1582) - and you can't find carol music much older than that!

But there are other new hymns in *H&P* with new tunes which have fared less well. There's **'Born in the night'** (*H&P* 95) for example, with words and music by Geoffrey Ainger (first appearing in 1969 in *Hymns and Songs*). And there's **'Child of the stable's secret birth'** (*H&P* 124), with words by Timothy Dudley-Smith and two tunes to choose from. Neither hymn has been sung much at the Grove. Is it the case that they don't have good enough tunes? Is it that they stray too far from the Christmas story? Or are there other reasons for their comparative lack of success?

But now we should surely all be wondering what new delights await us in *Singing the Faith* (2011)? Which new items are set to become really popular? Here are two likely candidates. **'It was on a starry night'** (*StF* 206), with words and music by Joy Webb, has already become popular with choirs in both church and school. The words focus on Christmas Day, and the tune is lively enough. And then there's **'Good news, good news to you we bring'** (*StF* 201), with words and music by Graham Kendrick - always popular with many people. But there's lots more than those two examples from *StF* for us to try out in the coming years.

*Tony Orton*

## **Solutions to the November Bible Word Search**

Adder, ant, antelope, ass, badger, bat, bear, bee, buzzard, calf, camel, caterpillar, cormorant, cow, crane, dog, dove, eagle, ewe, fox, gazelle, goat, hart, hawk, heron, horse, hyena, ibex, jackal, kid, kite, lamb, leopard, lion, locust, moth, mule, osprey, ostrich, owl, ox, pelican, ram, rat, raven, sheep, sparrow, spider, stork, swallow, swine, wolf, worm. The obvious follow-up question is - where do the names occur - and in what contexts? Note that the list was never intended to be a comprehensive record of all the creatures mentioned in the Bible.

*Tony Orton*

## **Affordable Art Sale Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

Howard Carlisle Watercolour Classes..... 100 local artists and their work. All proceeds in aid of Cancer Research UK Everyone welcome. Admission free, refreshments available in aid of Grove Pre School.

*Gordon Mellor*

## Carols in Hall Park, Horsforth



**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 4.00 -4.30pm**

Horsforth Churches Together will once again be hosting a short carol service in the park. With the bandstand lit up with fairy lights and Horsforth Leeds Brass playing there will be a festive atmosphere for all to enjoy.

This year there will be a donkey near the Nativity scene. Children will be invited to come dressed as Mary, Joseph, a shepherd, wise man or angel. Every child will receive a glow stick to light up their song sheet whilst tea, coffee, hot chocolate and mince pies will help to warm the adults. There may be some adults in nativity costumes who will walk up Town Street after the event to share more Christmas joy with those they meet.

If you are able to offer a packet of mince pies (shop made) for the event please contact Jean Orton.

## **A Mother's Meditation on Christmas Eve.**

I can't put my children's presents in their beds for they still aren't asleep. So I thought I'd spend some time sitting quietly while I'm waiting.

I sometimes think that no one can possibly know how busy parents are at Christmas; how much work and planning go into just one day of celebration.

Is it worth it?

If all my preparations are done out of love then they can lead to the God of love.

If they are done out of duty, or even resentment, then the true

meaning of Christmas is lost. All the trimmings become an end in themselves like a beautifully wrapped – up box with nothing in it.

Let me always prepare Christmas for them with love and remember that time is short to give children happy memories.

They have gone to sleep at last!

I've put the presents, various interesting shapes, at the end of their beds.

I'M EXHAUSTED!

I don't know how I am going to keep awake tomorrow.

But perhaps that in it self is a reminder of Christmas. It is more important to give than to receive. Perhaps in the giving, in someway I cannot see, I may find God after all.

*Carole Abel*

## **What's On**

Sunday 7th December	10.30 Toy and Parade Service
Wednesday 10th December	7.30 Horsforth Churches Together Carol Singing in local pubs etc. Meet at the Queen's Arms.
Saturday 13th December	10.00-4.00 Affordable Art Sale Main Hall Grove Centre 4.00 – 4.30 Horsforth Churches Together 'Carols in the Park' near the band stand
Sunday 14th December	10.30 Nativity
Sunday 21st December	6.00 Carol Service
Wednesday 24th December	6.00 Christingle
Thursday 25th December	10.30 Christmas Day Service

## Wednesday

9 -12.00 Pre-school (2-under 5s) (Funding 3-4yrs)  
0113 239 0335  
and 12.00 – 3.00 Pre-school as above.  
2.00 Line Dancing 0113 258 7444  
6.00 Rainbows (14th) 0113 239 0335  
6.15 Brownies (14th) 0113 250 4907  
7.30 Wednesday Break (fortnightly) 0113 225 2734  
8.00 Explorer Scouts 0113 258 0882

## Thursday

9.30 – 11.30 Tots & Tykes (0-4yrs) 0113 293 8458  
11.00 Bible Fellowship 0113 258 3239  
6.00 Cubs 0113 216 9006  
6.15 Beavers 0113 216 9006  
7.45 Scouts 0113 216 9006  
7.45 Grove Ladies Group (1st and 3rd Thursdays)  
0113 258 2520

## Friday

7.45 Choir Rehearsal 0113 258 9093

Walking Groups: **Thursday** 0113 258 6579  
**Saturday** 0113 258 4520

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## From the Editorial Group

**Note that the Editorial Teams alternate..... n.b. the February Issue will be prepared by Gill Jewell and you should send items to her no later than 5pm on Wednesday 21st JANUARY.**

Gill Jewell [gillpj.63@gmail.com](mailto:gillpj.63@gmail.com) 0113 278 9438  
Gordon & Mary Mellor [jgkm64@gmail.com](mailto:jgkm64@gmail.com) 0113 258 6199  
Paul & Jenny Redfearn [home@paulandjen.co.uk](http://home@paulandjen.co.uk) 0113 281 8808

***Please include dates up to Sunday 1st March 2015.***

***Email (copy as an attachment) would be appreciated!***

Premises Manager: Alan Firth  
43 New Street, Horsforth, Tel: 258 2742 or 07985745525  
[grovebookings@gmail.com](mailto:grovebookings@gmail.com)  
Off duty from Saturday noon and all day Sunday

Registered Charity No 1129305  
<http://www.grovemethodist.org.uk>