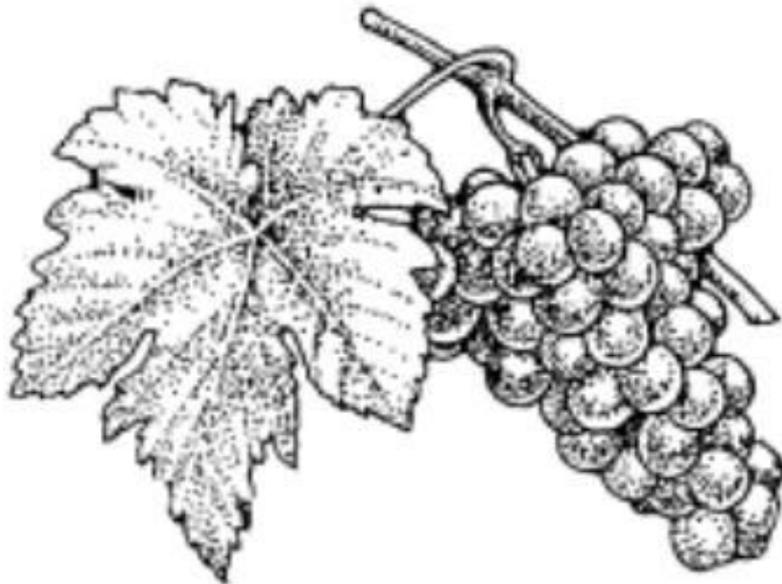


GROVE VINE

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

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) 07887387233
- 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) 07887387233
and 12.00 – 3.00 Pre-school as above.
- 10-11.30 Coffee in the Centre Small Hall 0113 4406480
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)

While Horsforth's hustings took place in St Margaret's Hall

twenty eight swimmers were being dragged from the Mediterranean. An unknown number, between 680 and 900, were no longer swimming.

Some say that we are a generous country, and so we could perhaps take 'a few thousand Christian' refugees. Some say 'show me bodies floating in water, play violins and show me skinny people looking sad. I still don't care.' (Both of these *are* direct quotations from a politician in one case and a nationally read columnist in the other.)

If we do take 'a few thousand Christian' refugees, then how would they look at those who claim to be Christians in this country, if they were the lucky few to be given refuge? Saviours, perhaps? I rather think that they would look on us as those who wash their hands of the blood of others. Not imitators of Christ, but in imitation of one of those who sent him to the cross.

By all that is holy, I hope that we care! I hope that we want people - of whatever nation and faith - hauled from the water that would otherwise be their grave. So where do these survivors go, I hear people ask? Well, about 36% go to Germany, 18% to France, 10% to Sweden, and 7% each to Italy and Britain. Aren't we in danger of being overwhelmed? That 7% amounts to 30,000 people a year, so in 20 years that would make an increase of 1% in our population. But we are densely populated, and we aren't a rich country, surely? We are the 53rd most densely populated country, with the 6th largest economy in the world.

I believe we should attempt to save Christians; and Muslims and Hindus and Sikhs and Yezidi and Baha'i and Jains and Jews and Buddhists and Confucians and Taoists and followers of Voudon and Santaria and each and every faith and all of those who practise none of them. So it is that we prove our Christianity.

Please remember: with prayer and the guidance of the life and teachings of Christ, **vote!**

Ali
Rev Alistair Jones MA

Thought for the month

God isn't looking for people of great faith, but for individuals ready to follow him.

James Hudson Taylor (Victorian Missionary)

Church Family News.....

We are sad to announce the death of Allan Lodge who died in April. His funeral was at Rawdon Crematorium on April 21st.

From the Church Registers

12th April Baptism of Thomas James Eric Douglass

Please remember in your prayers: John Ashby, Florence Bonfield, Stan Cleasby, Tony Emmott, Mary Hart, Nancy Mathers, Stan Ramsden, Margaret Reasbeck, Ros Revell, Kathleen Taylor and Christine Wilson.

We remember also others known to us who face a variety of difficulties, health problems, undergoing hospital treatment, bereavement, anxiety about loved ones and loneliness.

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Sunday Services in May

3 rd	9.00	Rev. Alistair Jones - Holy Communion
	10.30	Mr Peter Mawson - Family and Parade
	6.00	Rev. Alistair Jones
10 th	10.30	Dr Robert Moore
	6.00	United Service at Central
17 th	10.30	Prof. Richard Bushby
	6.00	Rev. Keith Hunt
24 th	10.30	Rev. Alistair Jones - Holy Communion
	6.00	Circuit Service at Grove - Rev. Godfrey Nicholson - Taizé
31 st	10.30	Rev. Dr. Albert Jewell
	6.00	United Service at Central

Stewards on Duty

May 3rd John Bussey and Margaret Shingler
10th Michael Wallis and Caroline Turner
17th Carole Abel and Kath Ashby
24nd Margaret Shingler and John Bussey
31st Michael Wallis and David Buckley

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Greet, Meet and Eat

On Sunday April 19th around 150 people from the prospective Leeds South & West Circuit met at Trinity Church, Bramley, for an afternoon of getting to know who and what's happening in some of the churches we shall be joining.

The afternoon began with short prayers followed by presentations from three churches and a 30 minute break for tea/coffee and cake so that we could talk to other people that we didn't know and look at the exhibitions and displays which had been put together by some of the churches across the area.

Another three presentations and singing by Farsley and West Leeds praise and worship group called Vision led into another time for meeting and eating before a final three presentations and closing worship.

Among the presentations we heard about Leeds West's Resource Centre; work with schools at our own St Mark's Church; a Circuit Youth Emmaus Group at Headingley & West; The Live at Home Scheme at Central ably described (at short notice!) by Peter Mawson and Mavis Jeffrey; Hyde Park Charity Shop and Café; Church Drop-In Centres in Hunslet and a spirituality centre in Leeds South called Oasis.

It was a good occasion although it was a pity that it clashed with Horsforth's Hustings meeting. It was also a shame that communications had not been as good as they should have been in that we as a church were not represented in the displays. However there will be other opportunities in the future when it is to be hoped that the Grove can play a fuller part in the gatherings.

Albert & Gill Jewell

WORD SPIRAL PUZZLE

1			2			3
	9			10		
	14			15		
8					11	4
			16			
	13			12		
7			6			5

Starting from 1, fill in the grid clockwise with four-letter words from the Bible, using the clues below. The last letter of each word becomes the first letter of the next to reveal the keyword across the middle, in the shaded boxes.

Keyword clue: Jesus Christ

1. Musical instrument - still used today
2. Travelling apostle
3. Jacob was tricked into marrying her
4. An animal part which was the origin of the trumpet
5. Rare and fragrant plant extract
6. Probably the roebuck
7. An upper one was the venue for the Last Supper
8. First gospel writer
9. Wise man or ruler?
10. A city of the Philistines or region in the news today
11. Man (first)
12. Common herb (we use it as well)
13. Poetical word for the cross
14. Son of Seth
15. Cloth worth its weight in gold
16. A mark of affection, even when on the feet

Tony Orton

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Scout Bulb Sale

An early warning that after a pause last year there will be an opportunity to buy bulbs this year. Details later, but whilst your crocus and daffodils are blooming you can look for gaps in your planting scheme in readiness. And please ask work colleagues and neighbours to do the same. Thank you.

Keith Whitham 9th Airedale Scout Group

Re-Cycle



I started last year to buy vintage lightweight bicycles to bring back to their former glory and ride them. When we lost one of our friends to cancer, her husband offered me her bike to restore and I hadn't the heart to tell him that it wasn't the kind of bike I wanted. I fixed it up then looked for a good home for it. That's when I discovered a charity, Re-Cycle, who had already sent over 60,000 'unwanted' bikes to Africa. When word got around, I was inundated with bikes and to date, I have given 16 a new and useful life.

In the UK, we usually have bikes for fun or exercise. In many parts of Africa, people don't have access to public transport and cannot afford bikes. Bicycles provide swift transport, access to education, health and income - especially for young women and children. Re-Cycle train the locals in basic maintenance skills and give selected others more comprehensive training so that they can open their own repair shops. For the full story, see www.re-cycle.org.

Re-Cycle don't have the staff to spend a lot of time repairing bikes but I do! I take any type of bike in any condition and repair and service them, sometimes using parts from those I can't fix. Some take a few hours, others a few days. Then I prepare them for shipping to the Re-Cycle HQ in Colchester for sending on to Africa.

If you have a bike which isn't used, any age, any condition, any type – I would love to take it off your hands. Just contact my sister Wendy Hartley on 01332 584520, or me (Peter Phillips) on 01943 817041 and I will collect it.

Many thanks.

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A group from Lister Hill Baptist Church is planning a trip to Mexico in the summer. They are hoping to work with a family already in La Loma. The Forsyth family are developing and establishing a pastoral care team with other churches in a very deprived area.

As a fundraiser a 1940s dance will be held at St Margaret's Church Hall on Friday 22nd May.

Tickets are £5 from Lister Hill Baptist Church 01132584506

General Church Meeting 2015

The General Church Meeting (GCM) of our Church met on April 22nd with over forty members and friends attending and 19 apologies.

Our Minister Alistair Jones opened with prayer after reminding us that as a church we are on the brink of change with the new circuit in September, but two things are constant in life, change and our Lord.

We now have a new database secretary in Keith Whitham and Mrs Ann Bailey is understood to be offering to help with the overhead projector.

David Buckley is retiring as a church steward and the chair thanked him for his dedication and hard work. The other stewards are continuing with Cynthia Hatton as senior steward. Two new stewards were appointed and welcomed, Philip Maud and Tony Orton. The minister read through the duties of church stewards.

Thanks were recorded to Brian Ball and Betty France who have completed their terms of office as GCM Representatives to Church Council. Kathryn Bussey, Janette Mawson and David Quick were re-elected for a second term of three years and David Buckley and Keith Whitham were elected to join them.

Philip Abel gave the financial report up to August 31st last year and informed the meeting of the situation up to March 31st this year. Although there is a deficit of just over £33,000 at present, expected income is likely to lessen it considerably or even wipe it out by the end of the year.

Conversation on the ministry and witness of the church then took place. The Annual Report for the previous year was adopted and grateful thanks given to all those involved in compiling and presenting it.

Discussion took place about the Pre-School safeguarding policy which was agreed by a majority and comparison was made with the Methodist Church policy which is displayed on the premises. Alistair informed the meeting that this was the strictest safeguarding policy of any other institution.

Philip Maud read an email from Shirley Crawford about how her work with children in Uganda is going. She again thanked the Grove for the money sent out to her and the difference it makes. (See next article)

It was also reported that we support 'All We Can', the new name for the Methodist Relief and Development Fund.

Alistair gave an update on Circuit reorganisation. The new Circuit will be called the Leeds South and West Circuit. There are going to be more opportunities for getting together following the first Meet, Greet and Eat occasion at Bramley Trinity with possibly a day coach trip to Scarborough, taking up the offer of using Methodist church premises, to celebrate the start of the new Circuit. Everyone will be invited!

Gill Jewell spoke about the recent Good Friday Walk of Witness and the disappointment felt by so many concerning the changes in organisation so that only thirty people were asked to 'process'. This was thought to be inadequate for a Walk of Witness and might give out wrong messages about the state of the churches in the town. It was stated that the police had sent an invoice for around £400 for an escort. This was felt by the meeting to be something that the churches might share in order to promote our witness. The police had also indicated that such a walk must be only two abreast on the pavements. After much discussion it was proposed to send a letter to the Churches Together in Horsforth asking that it be reconsidered for next year.

There followed a discussion about the feasibility of using 'Extended Communion' when there are not enough ordained staff to take communion services regularly in all the churches. It was explained that this is allowed by the Methodist Church under strict conditions, the superintendent giving permission for individual local preachers, deacons and such who then have to undergo training. It has been used in our circuit when Keith Hunt had asked Mrs Blackburn to administer Communion at Farsley. Mrs Blackburn spoke of the privilege she felt in having done so. Alistair stated however that it would be unlikely that The Grove would be in such a position for permission to be granted. He suggested that church attenders might need to go elsewhere for communion if times offered at The Grove were felt to be unsuitable.

Under Any Other Business Carole Able remarked how good it had been when Ann Bailey had asked the J Team to move into the front pew so she could talk to them. It was agreed that it was up to the leaders to decide whether to move J Team into these pews or stay in their current location.

Next year's meeting is booked for Wednesday 20th April 2016. Put it in your diaries!

Greetings from Uganda...

Thank you for the opportunity to update you on all I am trying to do here in Uganda and, once again, a HUGE thank you for your prayer support and your financial support. I could not do what I do without such support, I am grateful and do not take it for granted.



As most of you know I am living in the North of Uganda, in Gulu - which was the epicentre of a brutal and devastating 22 year civil war led by Joseph Kony, where abducting, brainwashing and training children to be child soldiers has left a legacy of highly traumatised people.

I volunteer in a number of areas where God has opened doors to share His love with the people of N. Uganda.

My role in Children of Hope - a children's home for 13 orphans, ended after two years caring for the children. The Government's policy is to relocate orphans in their village communities via foster or adoption plans.

I serve in the Juvenile Remand Home for approximately 40 teenage boys and occasionally a handful of girls. I provide medical clinics and spiritual support. A team of builders has visited from the UK recently and built a medical clinic, a much needed shower and longdrop toilet block for the inmates.

I serve my village neighbours' children ... having an average of 140 0-14yr olds at the weekends coming to my compound for sport, craft, reading, jigsaws, cuddles and general fun and mayhem, providing a welcome break from their normal empty lives. We provide clothes, shoes, toiletries and treats on a regular basis. I have been able to build up relationships with the families who are now trusting me with their children and seeking medical advice and support.

The church/ community centre in our village is being finished as I write (progress is on African time), and then the program for 'informal' learning activities for these children (who can't afford school fees) will commence. The £900 you so generously donated to provide for qualified teachers for this is safe in my Father's Heart Ministry Account in readiness for this purpose and will make a huge difference to the lives of my children.

I have a number of qualified teaching friends, who know far more about

teaching children than I do, and are interested in visiting to teach the teachers here and the volunteer staff we will need so I will keep you updated.

Plans for the Children's cancer home in Gulu are progressing (slowly ... again on Africa time). This is with Bless a Child Foundation, a children's cancer charity that I am helping out with. I have gained my Ugandan Nursing Registration which will allow me to help run the Home once we have the building renovated and equipped, and have children and carers in.

I have friends, who visited last year, who saw the need for a bore hole in my village as presently the children have to walk long distances to fetch water. We are hoping to raise the money needed by September.

These are some of the various needs which I use the gifts from the Grove to bless my neighbours and folk who God puts across my path. Your generosity and kindness is making a huge difference in the lives of these people and I am so grateful for your support.

I am returning home at the end of May and would love to come and share in person the pictures and stories of the difference you are making, but on behalf of my Ugandan friends, THANK YOU and may God bless you for your heart and concern for them.

Love and prayers, Shirls.

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Christian Aid Week 10th -16th May 2015 .

The Grove has always supported this special charity especially in the House-to House annual envelope collections.

Barbara Buckley would be very pleased to hear of any new friends who could volunteer to collect door-to-door during this special week in May.

Sunday Soliloquy

‘All things Bright and Beautiful’ – it’s cold in church today,
I mustn’t stop to gossip – I’ll get straight on my way,
Our Kevin’s coming for his tea and bringing his new girl
I want to do my best but my mind is in a whirl.

‘All things Wise and Wonderful’ – Ee! Is that Mrs Todd?
I haven’t noticed her in church since her husband lost his job.
I’ll call at t’shop and get some cream, they’ll have some I daresay,
I forgot to get it when I went to Tesco yesterday.

‘Holy, Holy, Holy’ – I hope my meat’s all right,
I’ve left it in the oven on a low to medium light.
We’re having roast beef, Yorkshire pud and something called mange ‘tous’
I bought it special for our Kev ‘cos these young ’uns like ’owt new.

‘Merciful and Mighty’ – Just look at Mrs Pratt,
She looks a bobby dazzler in her shocking pink straw hat.
I hope my Tom behaves himself and doesn’t show me up,
I’ll kill him if he wants a mug instead of china cup!

‘The Church’s One Foundation’ – I wonder if it’s true
What they’re saying about t’vicar – He’s going to Peru?
He’s been a good ’un, he’ll be missed – but ’appen they’re not right.
I wonder if I’ll get to watch Songs of Praise tonight?

‘She is his New Creation’ – it’s 11.22,
This service has gone on a bit – I hope it’s nearly through.
I have to peel t’potatoes and make a currant cake,

Our Kev doesn’t come so often and he loves it when I bake.
‘From Heaven He Came and Sought Her’ – must have a word with Polly,
I got caught in the rain last week and she lent me an old brolly.
Dear Lord, be with me through the week until I come again.
I always feel better when I’ve been to Church – ‘Amen’!!



By a member of Cookridge Poetry Group



Plan for the rest of 2015

Having been back in the U.K. for 4 months now, sharing our time between Jenny's parents' home in Rawdon and our home in S.W.Scotland, our other life in the Solomon Islands seems to belong to another world. People ask if it is hard to adjust, but life here is what we have always known. Life in the Solomon Islands is so different that we are not tempted to draw comparisons. Since we left Helena Goldie Hospital, no doctor has been sent to replace us. This leaves 25,000 people in the hands of the very capable nurses who have to arrange transfer by canoe or aeroplane for the more difficult cases if they can. This is a very significant time for them as the responsibility for running the hospital falls to the local people who hope to get a doctor from the Ministry of Health.

Although commitments back home and changing policies in the Methodist Church (moving away from long-term placements towards development roles) prevent us from returning to further long-term work at H.G.H. we are fortunate to be returning as short-term mission partners to help during this transition period. Jenny is returning on 1st June, immediately after the Methodists for World Mission conference at Swanwick where we will lead one of the workshops. Graham will join her for the month of August, after which we will return in time for Graham to start a year at a Bible college in Lancashire (not ministerial training!). Jenny expects to spend much of her time with her parents, but still hopes for further opportunities to serve in the Solomon Islands or in other developing countries.

Jenny and Graham Longbottom

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Donations to the charity carboy in May and June will be supporting the work of Dogs for the Disabled. This charity provides specially trained assistance dogs to adults and children with a wide variety of disabilities and conditions. Assistance dogs can build levels of independence and confidence, by helping with everyday tasks such as opening and closing doors, picking up dropped items and helping with dressing and undressing. Naturally the dog also becomes a 'friend for life' which benefits the whole family, bringing everyone closer through dog walks and outings and creating a positive change of focus away from disability.

Any change that you can spare in support of the wonderful, life changing work of Dogs for the Disabled would be received with heartfelt thanks.

Samantha Walker

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The editors are hoping to start a new series of articles written by YOU, our readers about your favourite house, much like the series of favourite gardens which ran last year. Please give it some thought and see if you can write about a house you may have visited or even a special house you enjoyed living in yourself. Photographs are welcome if taken by you or a friend (no copyright issue on those).

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What's On

Wed 6th May 7.30 pm Churches Together meeting at Cragg Baptist Church

10-16 May Christian Aid Week

Sun 7th June 6.30 pm Civic Service at Cragg Hill Baptist Church

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.
- 2.00 Line Dancing 258 7444
- 6.00 Rainbows (14th) 239 0335
- 6.15 Brownies (14th) 250 4907
- 7.30 Wednesday Break (fortnightly) 225 2734
- 8.00 Explorer Scouts 258 0882

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 (1st and 3rd Thursdays) 258 2520

Friday

- 7.45 Choir Rehearsal 258 9093

Walking Groups: **Thursday** 258 6579

Saturday 258 4520

From the Editorial Group

Note that the Editorial Teams alternate..... n.b. the June Issue will be prepared by Paul & Jenny Redfearn and you should send items to them no later than 5pm on Wednesday 27th May

Please include dates up to Sunday 5th July.

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