

GROVE VINE

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

May 2016



**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)

Monday

- 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
- 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

Wednesday

- 2.00 Line Dancing 0113 258 7444
- 6.00 Rainbows (14th) 0113 239 0335
- 6.30 Brownies (14th) 0113 250 4907
- 7.30 Wednesday Break (fortnightly) 0113 225 2734
- 8.00 Explorer Scouts 0113 258 0882

(Continued inside back cover)

Looking over the roundabout....

the sky is clear and blue, the sun is shining, and all seems right with Horsforth's world. Naturally, that is far from being a fair representation of the truth, but....

In a few days we have elections, and in two months we have a referendum, and all sides are trying to demonstrate how wonderful life could be with them, compared to the dark clouds that accompany their opponents. Who to believe, and how to decide?

Well, for a start, don't believe anyone who tries to tell you that all is well. It isn't. Don't believe anyone who says they have a magic remedy to make things right with the flick of a switch. They don't. Don't believe anyone who says that they have a monopoly on wisdom and honesty. They really, really, really have not.

Life isn't about what is easy and comfortable. If it was, we wouldn't have a purpose for politicians in the first place. It is about what is painful and difficult, about ideals, and the sadness when we compromise them.

Sometimes politics is about doing the right thing for others even when it hurts us, about saying "They have suffered enough, maybe now it is someone else's turn." Sometimes it isn't about looking for the sun and the clear blue sky, but accepting that sometimes the world will be that little bit mottled for us, if others aren't going to live under rain clouds all their lives long.

God bless,

Ali

(Rev. Alistair S Jones MA)

Thought for the month

I remember what happened when I suddenly felt that God exists I came into the street, looked round at people and thought: 'God loves every one of these people. I will love them even at the cost of my life, because I want to be with God and not without him.'

Metropolitan Anthony Bloom

Church Family News.....

Please remember in your prayers: Joan and Brian Benson, Florence Bonfield, Mary Hart, Dorina Overson, Ros Revell, Kathleen Taylor, Christine Wilson, and Carol and Tony Emmott and their family.

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

Sunday Services in May

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---|
| 1 st | 9.00 | Rev. Alistair Jones – Holy Communion |
| | 10.30 | Mrs Sharon Brockson – Family and Parade |
| | 6.00 | United Service at Central |
| 8 th | 10.30 | Mrs Anne Blackburn |
| | 6.00 | Rev Jo Lightowler |
| 15 th | 10.30 | Mr Philip Maud |
| | 6.00 | United Service at Central |
| 22 th | 10.30 | Rev. Alistair Jones – Holy Communion |
| | 6.00 | Rev. Alistair Jones – Taizé style |
| 29 th | 10.30 | Local arrangement |
| | 6.00 | United Service at Central |

Stewards on Duty in May

- | | | |
|-----|------------------|---------------------------------|
| May | 1 st | Tony Orton and Kath Ashby |
| | 8 th | Caroline Turner and Philip Maud |
| | 15 th | Kath Ashby and Caroline Turner |
| | 22 nd | Michael Wallis and Philip Maud |
| | 29 th | Carole Abel and John Bussey |



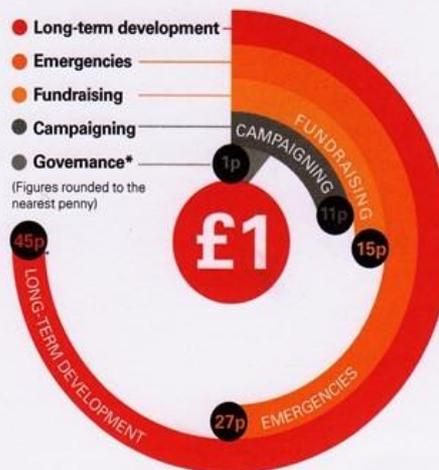
Guide to collecting and distribution

Christian Aid

- Christian Aid insists that everyone should be able to live a full life, free from poverty.
- We work with people of all faiths and none.
- We never give money to governments.
- We currently work in 39 countries with 568 local partner organisations, in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, and Latin America and the Caribbean.
- We are the official development agency of 41 church denominations in Britain and Ireland.

Find out more at caweek.org
or call **020 7523 2493**.

In 2014-15, for every £1 donated to us, we spent:



Of every £1 given in 2014-15, 84p was spent on direct charitable activity.

*Governance costs are costs associated with the general running of the charity, as opposed to those costs associated with direct charitable activity or fundraising.

Christian Aid at the Grove

Over the last 6 years the Grove collectors have increased our total. Last year we raised £2,145.56 – a wonderful amount. I am asking all present collectors to do it again!! PLEASE say you will. As you can see, all your hard work pays off and more can be distributed around the world. We do have some folks who can't do it through illness – so I am asking for “new” collectors to offer help. The red bags and info are on the table in the Narthex. Please ring me if you offer to help. Barbara 0113 2583807

The Lord's Prayer

Last month Gordon gave us a version of the Lord's Prayer from the New Zealand Prayer Book. This version is from the Dalit Resource Centre at the Tamilnadu Theological Seminary S. India "for use by Dalits and non Dalits together" and was used at the circuit Easter Offerings service at Hunslet last month.

Lord, who art with us always
Let your name be praised in the liberation of the oppressed.
Let the kingdom of the meek be established on earth.
Let your justice be established with the removal of all unjust forces.
We thank you for the power of pardon you have given to the poor, women and Dalit.
Bless us so that the oppressors repent and seek pardon.
Relieve the sufferings of the meek from those oppressive forces.
Praise the Lord, let his kingdom come. Amen

HORSFORTH GROVE LADIES GROUP

invites you to join them on

Thursday, 19th May at 7.45pm

when

Carla from Love4Bags at Otley

will bring a selection of her goods - Handbags, Purses, Jewellery & Accessories

Come and see the lovely selection and treat yourself or a friend

£1.00 – including tea/coffee and biscuits.

Chips in Newspaper

I had seen the adverts in the newspaper saying that all dogs must be chipped before 6th April but, not having a dog, had thought nothing more about it. Visiting my sister-in-law though, she announced that she had had "Jessie" (the dog) tagged at the vets the previous day. Before I put my brain into gear I stroked Jessie and said "Well, where is it?" - only to be told, of course, that you can't see it because it has been injected into the skin of her neck. The number is computerised so that if she gets lost she can be easily reunited with her owner. All this technology is hard to keep up with!

Relating this episode to my husband, a great devotee of science fiction, he said that there is nothing new in that. Wasn't it, in fact, the whole basis of a serial on TV that hit our screens half a century ago entitled "The Prisoner". For those of you who remember it, Patrick McGoohan was incarcerated in a sort of "Alice in Wonderland village" (actually filmed in Portmeirion, North Wales) and try as he might to escape from this so-called idyllic existence, he was always thwarted in his attempt to flee it. He had been invisibly chipped like all the dogs are now. At the end of the 13 episodes the great watching public seemed to be no wiser as to what it had all been about anyway.

A couple of days after this conversation another headline hit the business section of the newspaper: "In 10 years' time, a chip in your body will tell you what will happen the next day". Scarey! Seemingly the head of Ericsson, the Swedish mobile network giant has predicted this as a certainty. It's all too complicated for me to even begin to understand. We absorb so many day to day technological advances and we don't really understand how they work - yet we accept them.

Which brought me back to the April Parade Service at The Grove. We concentrated on the Easter story and how hard it was for the people at that time to take it all in and even now its difficult to understand how it all came about - a period of Joy (Palm Sunday) - terrible sorrow - and Great Joy (Easter Day). We accept so much that goes on in this modern world - how much more amazing is it that the Easter Story lives on 2000 years later. We don't quite understand perhaps, but we do accept it.

Rita Grainger

The Grove General Church Meeting (GCM), 2016

This annual meeting is open to anyone who has an interest in The Grove to discuss items affecting the church.

Under **Matters Arising** from last year's minutes, the meeting noted that **Circuit Reorganisation** was now more or less complete. However, the future remains uncertain; as numbers in some chapels continue to fall it is likely there will be closures. Shortage of ministers may require the appointment of a Lay Pastor or posts to be left vacant. Appreciation and thanks were given to Churches Together for the successful organisation of this year's **Good Friday Walk of Witness**.

Thanks were also expressed to retiring steward Carole Abel. Remaining stewards were re-elected unanimously for a further year and Cynthia Hatton agreed to act as Senior Steward. **Thanks** were also given to Linda Douglass (1 term) and David Whiteley (2 terms) who complete their terms of office as GCM Representatives to Church Council on 31st August. Linda Douglass was **elected** as representative for a second term and Carole Abel and Philip Abel each for their first.

The Church Treasurer drew attention to the **financial report** for the year ending 31st August 2015 showing a deficit of £7,760. The meeting was then provided with the Treasurer's **statement** for the current year to February 2016. At the present time nothing untoward was indicated by the figures. The Collections and Pledged Giving at £24,572, was slightly down on last year's amount. The church Current Account held £24,065, the Collections Account £2,653, the Charity Account £30,462, Leeds Building Society £1,000, and Manchester Methodist property office £1,923. The Secretary updated the meeting on the church's response to the Government's Employee Pension Auto-enrolment regulations that require the provision of a pension for church employees.

The agenda item 'Conversation on the **ministry and witness** of the church' began with thanks to Philip Abel who, in August, is stepping down as Church **Treasurer** after many years. He is to be replaced by Bryan Whitham. Thanks were also recorded to Christopher Turner who has tendered his resignation as **Independent Examiner** from the date of the GCM next year.

The meeting acknowledged The Grove's sixth **Annual Report** which was accepted with thanks. The Secretary read out a card of thanks from Duncan Stow who, as Churches Together Community Development and Outreach Worker, has received generous support from the church. The meeting acknowledged with appreciation, the many successful projects in which he has been engaged from Open the Book in local schools to the Farmers' Market, and from Gala events to the Horsforth Mission several years ago. Mrs Kemp received the support of the meeting to organise the **autumn bazaar** on 26th November and to put an appeal for additional voluntary help in Grove Vine.

A key point of group discussion focussed on the request from the Circuit that each church considers the **principle of Lay Presidency** in communion services. Whilst perhaps premature, the discussion was seen to be inevitable as the number of ministerial vacancies remaining unfilled across the Methodist Connexion is growing. In feedback the diversity of opinion within any congregation was recognised but all groups stressed the importance of being able to receive communion irrespective of who presides. The matter of the recipient's soul and heart were seen to be vital. Caution was expressed in the need to ensure appropriate lay appointments, necessary training and the possibility of pre-consecration of the elements by an ordained minister.

Under '**Any Other Business**' discussion was held on:

- A possible **Church Directory** – given the difficulties of Data Protection legislation there was no strong feeling in favour of its production.
- Opening the church for refreshments during the **Walk of Art**, 2-3rd July – providing there are sufficient volunteers it was agreed the church might open on Saturday 2nd July.
- Date of the **Annual Covenant Service** – in comparing the possibilities of September or January as the most appropriate date, Following discussion there was an overwhelming majority in favour of the Covenant Service remaining in September of each year.

The **2017** General Church Meeting is to be held in the Centre Main Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 26th April and all are welcome to attend.

Peter Mawson Church Council Secretary

WORD SPIRAL

| | | | | | | |
|---|----|--|----|----|----|---|
| 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: He is greatly revered.

1. The love of money is the root of all this
2. A sacrificial animal
3. A rare perfume from Gilead
4. Mother of Jesus
5. It links animals working in pairs
6. A food, then and now
7. Abraham's wife
8. So be it
9. The lifeblood of Egypt
10. An Old Testament book
11. She proclaimed that Jesus was the Messiah
12. There were seven churches in this Roman province
13. Father
14. A prophet
15. Son of Noah
16. A city of Lycia where Paul changed ships

Missing Words

And can you find the missing word from each of these hymn lines?

1. Brought it back when from death he passed.
2. Let every creature rise and bring honours to our King.
3. Visit us with thy salvation, enter every heart.
4. Life-imparting, heavenly Manna, Rock with streaming side.
5. Make us more than through thy deathless love.
6. Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its and power.
7. Every eye shall now behold him robed in dreadful
8. The arms of love that compass me would all mankind
9. Within the paths of e'en for his own name's sake.
10. Name of passing measure, saving us from sin and hell.

Tony Orton

Saints and Sinners

No doubt you were disappointed to read about the actions of certain footballers at the Cheltenham Festival races, coming so soon after the news about Maria Sharapova. The golfing world is still coming to terms with Tiger Woods' misdemeanours, and Mike Tyson's antics were terrible.

However all is not bad news on the sporting front. Did you know that Bernard Langer, the ex Ryder cup captain, holds a prayer meeting on the course before play starts on a Sunday? Well attended I understand.

Going back to yesteryear, who can fail to admire the stand of Eric Liddle, the Flying Scot, who would not run in the final of his race at the Paris Olympics because it was on a Sunday. (To see what happened watch the great film - Chariots of Fire.)

Much more up to date, the likes of Ian Botham has raised millions for charity with his walks, as have other sports men and women. Our own local lad James Milner now at Liverpool Football Club has made a substantial contribution towards the cost of the new sports pavilion at Horsforth Cricket Club. Well done to him. Unfortunately, bad news always makes the headlines, but we have good news to tell especially after Easter, which I am sure we are doing. God bless.

Brian Ball

John Wesley's Conversion May 24th 1738



In 1735 John Wesley's religious zeal resulted in his being sent by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (SPG) to evangelise the American Indians in Savannah, Georgia. But his attempts to convert the Indians were a disaster. He later said that he went to Georgia to convert the Indians and discovered that he himself was unconverted!

Back in England on the evening of May 24th 1738 he reluctantly attended a meeting in Aldersgate. Someone read from Luther's *Preface to the Epistle to Romans*. About 8:45 p.m. "while he was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation; and an assurance was given me that He had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death."

Margaret Wilks writes about her cousin

The Reverend Sam Doubtfire

There have been quite a few of Sam's poems published in the Grove Vine and I have been asked to tell you about his life.

Sam was born in Knottingley in 1933. He was baptised, confirmed and married at St Botolph's Church where he was a regular worshipper.

When he was about 30 years old he had a major operation and spent three months in hospital and six months convalescing. During that time he felt that God wanted him to be a vicar and this led to theological training in Edinburgh. He first served as a curate in his home church of St Boltolph's, followed by parishes in Ripponden, Keswick, North Reddish and Barrow-in-Furness, taking him into contact with many people and varying forms of churchmanship.

Incapacity led to early retirement in 1992 when a very active ministry suddenly turned into a nonactive lifestyle with time to sit and stare. This was when he started to write. He found it a very difficult time.

After years of ill health Sam passed away in February and he will be sadly missed by his wife Mary, two sons, four adopted children and many friends from all over the country. He was a lovely man and a true Christian.

Remember me

Remember me and light a candle,
let its flame reach out
So that Christ, the light of heaven,
can dispel all grief and doubt.
Some say death will end our story
written in the "sands of time,"
But Christ-faith tells me
that our story ends in God
and Love sublime.

Now as loving arms enfold me,
remember I shall pray for you
And share with you a blessed communion
as, with Christ, you journey too.



Carboy Charity Appeal – May/June 2016 Parkinson,s UK

This is in aid of research into Parkinsons – a progressive neurological condition which affects about one person in every 500. Most people who get it are aged 50 or more. Currently there is no cure but there are a range of medicines and treatments available to manage the symptoms of the condition.

Pauline and Ian Low

Messy Church



Many churches see Messy Church as a way of helping those who are outside or on the edge of the Christian community to come closer to God and to each other. It is usually held once per month and families come together to make things, share a meal and celebrate God together through activities, Bible stories, music and prayer. It aims to be a worshipping community of all ages, centred on Christ, showing Christian hospitality and giving people the chance to express their creativity, have fun and eat together. It is also an opportunity for people of all ages within the church to work together.

Here at The Grove we are hoping to start a Messy Church in September. We are hoping that many people will enjoy taking part and we should welcome offers of help from anyone. Our next planning meeting will be on Wednesday 15th June at 1.30 in the Minister's Vestry. More information from Jean Orton (2589093) or Ann Bailey (2586961).

Mission Aviation Fellowship



A letter has been received from MAF

“We really appreciate the kind gift of £300.23 given at the Horsforth Churches Together Good Friday Walk of Witness, Open Air Service and lunch which is allowing us to provide aid and share the joy of the Good News with many isolated people. Please thank all who contributed on our behalf.”

MAF is hoping to develop, rehabilitate and maintain airstrips in Myanmar in order to open up very remote areas to flight service which will help meet the humanitarian, medical and developmental needs of vulnerable communities. The Mountain roads can be very dangerous in bad weather. Please pray that God will bless their project in Myanmar.

What's On

- Sunday 1st May Friends of Hunger Hills Woods Bluebell Walk 2pm.
Meet at the children's playground on Hall Lane.
- Wednesday 4th May 7.30. Guides Fashion Show in the Main Hall Tickets
£5 from Sue Arnold or at the door.
- Wed 11th May 7.30pm Wednesday Break open evening in the Grove
Small Hall: Speaker Wendy Heald of the Salvation Army
- Wed 1st June “Bricks for Kids” Lego summer event (see p.15)
- Saturday 4th June MWiB Circuit Tea at Trinity Church, Bramley
2pm-4pm
- Monday 6th June 7.30pm Circuit Meeting at Lower Wortley

Regular Events (contd)

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 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

Bricks for Kids

On Wednesday 1st June there is to be a day's activity event for children of 5-12 years old in the Grove Main Hall, based on the computer game 'Angry Birds' and using Lego bricks. It runs from 9.00am until 3.30pm and costs £25 per child or if bringing a sibling or friend £20 each.

Children are asked to bring a packed lunch.

If interested contact Keith Moran on 07736298782.

From the Editorial Group

Note that the Editorial Teams alternate..... n.b. the June Issue will be prepared by **Paul and Jenny** and you should send items to them no later than **5pm on Wednesday 25th May.**

Please include dates up to Sunday 3rd July.

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Gordon & Mary Mellor jgkm64@gmail.com 0113 258 6199

Paul & Jenny Redfearn home@paulandjen.co.uk

Mobiles 07860 598075 and 07879 442649

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

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