

June 2026

Parish News

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds



CHRIST CHURCH NEW MILL

a place to worship, question & grow

RS  M MUSIC SUNDAY

THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC



Christ Church, New Mill HD9 7ER

Sunday 14th June 2026

11:00am

Choral Matins

With traditional
hymns for all.

Christ Church Choir
sings music by Pitoni,
Sanders, Stanford,
Howells, Britten and
Rutter.



Join in our worship and
experience the liturgy that has
been handed down through
generations since 1662.

<https://newmillchurch.org.uk>



www.newmillchurch.org.uk

Pastoral letter...

Green Pastures Ahead

The world's turned green! I'm not alluding to spring but to another seasonal change – the Church has now entered the Trinity Season, and all our vestments and altar frontals will be green until Advent. Sean was always fond of the 14th century Russian icon known as the Rublev Trinity as an image of our trinitarian God. It depicts three figures sitting at table and is an illustration of the incident in Genesis (Chapter 18 verses 1-15) when Abraham offers hospitality to three strangers. The story has come to be seen as an Old Testament prefiguring of the Christian doctrine of the Trinity – three distinct 'persons' but one God. The icon is particularly potent as it is an image of fellowship, especially since that fellowship is around a table.

This made me think of the new world that we have just entered in the local church. On Pentecost Sunday last month, the benefice of East Upper Holme Valley came into being. It comprises three congregations – a trinity which, like Rublev's image, is a fellowship, and most especially a 'table fellowship' united in the breaking of bread and sharing of wine. Like the image in the icon, and the persons described by the doctrine of the Holy Trinity, the three congregations retain their individuality and yet they are a fellowship. Scripture tells us that humanity was created in the image of God, and as God is a trinitarian community, that suggests that humanity at its most perfect – that is, when the image of God is most realised in it – when it is a community. If our three congregations can work well together, recognising our distinctive characters, gifts and strengths, and complementing and supporting each other in our lives of mission and service, yet committed to fellowship (especially the table fellowship of our monthly joint services!) then we will be imaging the Holy and Undivided Trinity.

Thinking of our trinity of congregations caused me to reflect on its three different patronages, and their appropriateness to the future into which we have entered. '**Holy Trinity**', of course, should continually remind us of God as community and encourage us to reflect that fellowship within the benefice and also outwardly to a world sorely needing a vision of unity in diversity. For some years now I have been encouraging an abandonment of the tag 'doubting' for '**St Thomas**'. All he did was ask for the same evidence the other disciples had

received! Far better to think of him as 'seeking Thomas'. At Christ Church we have long claimed to be 'a place to worship, question and grow' and St Thomas should remind us of the importance of asking questions – even awkward ones – in order to grow. Something less often quoted than Thomas's call for evidence, are his words when Jesus announced his intention of heading for the dangerous territory of Judea. John records Thomas saying, 'Let us also go, that we may die with him.' (Chapter 11, verse 16). Having St Thomas's in our benefice might also remind us of the courage needed to follow Jesus wherever he may lead us. Finally, '**Christ Church**' should be an ever-present reminder of whose Church all our churches really are. My twin granddaughters often contend over ownership of items, crying out 'Mine!' Some things are, but many are in common ownership! Their parents are trying to teach them, 'It's not yours. It's *ours* – for sharing.' Having Christ Church in our trinitarian benefice should remind us that none of our churches is 'mine', or even 'ours' but all are Christ's – and they are definitely 'for sharing'!

Steve



Parish Directory

Vicar	There is no vicar in post at the moment. Please contact one of the Churchwardens in the first instance.	
Churchwarden	Allison Coventry	07761 418877
Churchwarden	Judy Taber	01484 687001
PCC Chair	Geoffrey Lockwood	01484 688487
PCC Secretary	Lesley Kiddell	07957 190274
Treasurer	Stephen Howes, 17 Bellgreave Ave, New Mill	01484 684734
Priests	Revd. Ailsa Brooke	
	Revd. Lorna Allies	
	Revd. Dr. Steve Dixon	
	Revd Di Ellerton	
	Revd Bill Henderson	
	Revd. Canon Peter Ingram	
Planned giving	Stephen Howes, 17 Bellgreave Ave, New Mill	01484 684734
Pastoral Worker	Jill Allsopp, 1 Lingwood Close, New Mill	01484 688105
Fundraising Sec	Jane Rodgers, 37 Sheffield Road, New Mill	01484 684745
Organ/ Choir	Geoffrey Lockwood,	01484 688487
Safeguarding	Kate Gaunt	07910 564223
Room Letting	Allison Coventry	07761 418877
Cleaner	Meriel	
Baptisms	Janet Abbott	01484 682539
Garden of Rest	Catherine Kenyon	
Bell Ringing	Wynford Carter, 12 Orchard Road, Kirkheaton	07739 369332
Flowers	Revd. Ailsa Brooke	01484 883278
Parish News Editor	David Lunn	editor@newmillpc.org.uk

News from the PCC of Christ Church, New Mill

Sunday May 10th 2026.

During the service, it was announced that the Reverend Sarah Cawdell is to be the new Incumbent of the Holme Valley East benefice which includes Holy Trinity Hepworth, St Thomas's, Thurstonland and Christ Church, New Mill. This is wonderful news. Catherine Stephenson and I have met Sarah and we all look forward to working with her in the future. Along with her husband, Simon, I'm sure she will be made to feel very welcome in all 3 churches. Sarah's licensing will be 7th August 2026 at 7pm. More details to follow in the next magazine.

Following the service was the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) chaired by Dr Geoffrey Lockwood (Vice Chair of the PCC):

The minutes from last year's meeting were accepted.

The Church Wardens, Judy Taber and Allison Coventry were re-elected unanimously and a vote of thanks was given for all their hard work over the last year.

The Electoral Roll Officer (Lesley Kiddell) reported that the Electoral roll had been revised and there are now 106 names on the roll. Thanks to Lesley for her hard work on this.

The Annual report was circulated amongst the congregants staying for the meeting and Geoffrey Lockwood summarised this. All projects had been overseen and managed by the PCC including the Solar Panel installation, Electric heaters in church and discontinuation of the use of gas in church.

The Interregnum had been managed well and there were no safeguarding issues. Many thanks, in particular to Geoffrey Lockwood and Richard Plant for all their hard work but, of course there are many others involved and the thanks of the PCC go to everyone who has contributed in any way to the smooth running of the church and the projects over the last year.

Stephen Howes (Treasurer) gave an overview of the accounts of the church over the last year. These are attached to the Annual report (of which there are several copies left in church for anyone to read).

The Financial report was accepted unanimously.

The election and re-election of PCC members went ahead and a full list is show on the opposite page.

Lesley Kiddell was elected as PCC secretary and we thank her for taking on this role.

Allison Coventry (Church Warden)



Hepworth Branch

The Mothers' Union is appealing for toiletries for women and babies taking shelter in a Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership refuge.

For women : Shampoo ~ Shower Gell ~ Body Lotion ~ Moisturiser ~ Toothpaste & Brush ~ Pair of briefs ~ Soap ~ Flannel ~ Deodorant ~ Comb ~ Hand Cream

For babies : Nappy sacks ~ Baby Wipes ~ Baby Wash Baby Lotion ~ Toothbrush & Paste ~ Teether ~ Toy

This appeal closes on Friday 5th June.

If you can help with either appeal, donations can be left in Hepworth church where they will regularly be collected. All donations are much appreciated.

PCC Members on 10th May 2026

	Name	Status		Post
1	(vacant)			Vicar
2	Dr Geoffrey Lockwood	Member	2026-2029	PCC Vice Chair Musical Director
3	Judy Taber	Ex Officio		Church Warden
4	Allison Coventry	Ex Officio		Church Warden
5	Catherine Stephenson	Ex Officio		General Synod and Deanery Synod Rep
6	Chris Wilkinson	Ex Officio		Deanery Synod Rep
7	Simon Beaumont	Member	2025-2028	Junior Church
8	Jane Rodgers	Member	2026-2029	
9	Janet Abbott	Member	2025-2028	Baptisms Coordinator
10	Stephen Howes	Member	2026-2029	Hon. Treasurer
11	Richard Plant	Member	2025-2028	Building Committee Chair
12	Sarah Branson	Member	2026-2029	Community Garden Liaison
13	Sandra Cowie	Member	2026-2029	
14	Peter Kiddell	Member	2024-2027	
15	Lesley Kiddell	Member	2026-2029	PCC secretary
16	Jordan Webster	Member	2026-2029	
17	Alison Richards	Member	2026-2029	



Key to Sunday Services

Said Communion uses modern words, but has no hymns or other music.

Family Communion (usually the 1st Sunday of the month) will aim to have activities or interest for children in addition to adults; the choir and music group will usually lead the singing.

Family Service (usually the 3rd Sunday of the month) is similar to Family Eucharist but does not include Holy Communion.

Matins is a traditional service using the words of the Book of Common Prayer (1662).

Holy Communion uses modern words with traditional music led by the choir.

Morning Prayer is normally said in church every Monday at 9.00am.

Informal Communion takes place weekly at 10.00am on Wednesdays in the Gallery Room and is followed by coffee.

All are welcome at any of the services - just come along and try one. Refreshments are served after most services.

Readers and Intercession Leaders for June 2026

7th June: First Sunday after Trinity 11.00: Family Communion	Genesis 12:1-9 OR Hosea 5:15-6.6 Romans 4:13-25 Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26	Reader: Brenda Barnes Intercessor: Lesley Gale
14th June: Second Sunday after Trinity 11.00: Choral Matins for Music Sunday	Genesis 18:1-15; (21:1-7) OR Exodus 19:2-8a Romans 5:1-8 Matthew 9:35-10.8, (9-23)	Readers: David Brooke, David Kaye Intercessor: Geoffrey Lockwood
21st June: Third Sunday after Trinity 11:00 : Family Service		
28th June: Fourth Sunday after Trinity 10.00: Joint Service at Hepworth		

June Services at St Thomas', Thurstonland

Sunday 7 June	10am Family Service
Sunday 14 June	9.30am BCP Holy Communion
Sunday 21 June	9.30am Family Holy Communion
Sunday 28 June	10.0am Joint Service at Hepworth

Calendar for June 2026

	Wed 3	10am	Informal Communion
	Thurs 4	10.30am	Coffee and Cake at St Thomas', Thurstonland
7 June First Sunday after Trinity 11am Family Communion	Wed 10	10am	Informal Communion
	Thurs 11	2.30pm	Afternoon Tea at New Mill Club
14 June Second Sunday after Trinity 11am Choral Matins on Music Sunday	Sun 14	1pm	Hepworth Church Gardden Party in Hepworth churchyard. Admission free. Ends 4pm.
	Wed 17	10am	Informal Communion
21 June Third Sunday after Trinity 11am Family Service	Tues 23	6pm	Hepworth MU Meeting. Faith Supper at Holy Trinity Church and work on bags for PDAP refuge
	Wed 24	10am 12.30pm	Informal Communion Welcome Lunch in the Gallery Room
28 June Fourth Sunday after Trinity 10am Joint Service at Holy Trinity, Hepworth	Wed 1 July	10.00am	Informal Communion
Regular weekly meetings Monday 7.30pm: Choir Practice Wednesday 10am: Gardening Group in the Community Garden Friday 7.30pm: Bell Ringing in the Tower All services and events are at Christ Church, New Mill, unless otherwise stated			

June Services at Holy Trinity, Hepworth

Sunday 7 June	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 14 June	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 21 June	9.30am Holy Communion
Sunday 28 June	10.0am Joint Service at Hepworth

Christ Church, New Mill - A Demonstrator Church

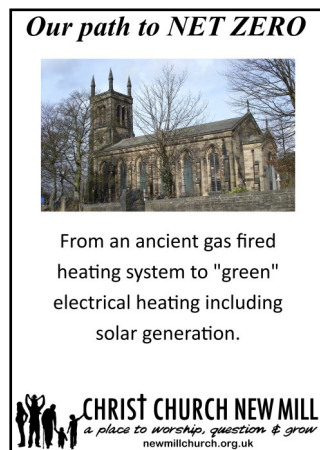
If you are a regular at Christ Church, you will be very much aware of our new heating system, perhaps lamenting the demise of the ancient gas boiler system that previously gave us a homely warm church except when it was icy outside and it struggled to beat the cold. There were two main reasons why we needed to change things. The first reason was that our gas boiler had been obsolete for some years, and could fail at any time, leaving us with no heating at all. It's thanks to the efforts of our service engineers over the years that have kept it going for so long. The second main reason was the rise in energy prices that started around 3 years ago - whilst up to that time we had no serious financial problems, it was clear that the expenditure on gas needed to heat the church each weekend (in winter the heating would need to be full on for 24 hours in order to raise the temperature to a useable level) would within a few years bankrupt us at our current income figures.

So we had to come up with a strategy to reduce our costs whilst maintaining some heating.

We were also influenced by our Christian need to care for our planet. The Church of England's policy, quite rightly, is to aim for "Net Zero Carbon" (if in doubt, google it!) by 2030. That meant not replacing our boiler with a newer gas boiler. After much discussion and investigation, our aim became to install solar panels on our roof, with a battery to store solar energy, then install electrical heating. Furthermore, the electrical heating would be aimed at heating the people, not the building. 24 hours of heating at 70kW power (which is what our gas boiler produced) is equivalent to 1680 units (kWh) of electricity, and, yes, it made the air, walls and furniture in the church all warm. However with modern infra-red electrical heaters, we would be running at 40kW power for around 2 to 3 hours each weekend, a total of around 100 units, focussed as far as possible on the people sitting in church. The solar panels can produce free, clean power at up to 23kW in bright sunshine, and we buy our mains electricity from a company that guarantees its supply to be "green" too - actually from north sea wind farms.

We are aware that there are some areas in church which are still cold, and that the new system heats from above downwards which is not always ideal - but we are working to improve this where possible. However we are proud that we are no longer putting out a huge amount of carbon dioxide into our atmosphere, and we have achieved a very low (if not zero) carbon footprint already.

We are grateful for the donations that people have made towards the capital expenditure on this project, and we are arranging an event to recognise this, which will be later this year. We have been successful in



The front cover of our "Demonstrator Church" booklet.

obtaining significant grants too (without which the project could not have been considered). One of these was a substantial amount from a couple of Church of England funds, and in return for this funding, we had to agree to become a "Demonstrator Church". That means that we have to make our experience available to other churches and organisations wishing to do similar things. In order to comply with this, we have produced a booklet describing the whole procedure (planning, obtaining various permissions, getting professional advice, designing the system, assessing the impact etc.). This booklet is available to download from <https://newmillpc.org.uk/DemonstratorChurchBookletV6.pdf> , and it contains much more detail than the summary above.

We are also arranging a couple of open days in church, when visitors can see what we have done, and ask questions. The second of these is likely to be in September when the church will be open for Heritage Day (more details later), but the first is coming up - on Saturday June 20th, 10:30am to 2:30pm. If you're interested in finding out more about what we've done, do please come along to church then.

Geoffrey Lockwood.

Steve's Book Review

Living Buddha, Living Christ

Thich Nhat Hanh. 1996. London: Rider

Thich Nhat Hanh (1926-2022) was a Vietnamese Buddhist monk, peace campaigner, prominent promoter of mindfulness, founder of many monasteries, an international speaker and teacher and a major influence on Western Buddhist practices. Being Vietnamese, he had every reason to feel animosity towards Christianity. French missionaries had played their part in the colonization of Vietnam, and the forces of 'Christian' America had bombed his people in the name of 'protecting' them. Nhat Hanh was exiled from South Vietnam in 1966 for his opposition to the war, and for refusing to take sides. However, despite these negative experiences of Christianity, Nhat Hanh came to see the profound likenesses between the Ways of Christ and the Buddha and regarded Jesus as his spiritual ancestor alongside the Buddha. He associated with Thomas Merton and Martin Luther King (the latter nominating him for a Nobel Peace Prize), and it was through meeting individuals who lived out the compassion of Jesus that Nhat Hanh was able to engage with Jesus and the Christian tradition. It is that 'living' aspect of faith that is key to his book. The 'living Buddha' of his title is the Buddha alive in his followers today, as the 'living Christ' is Christ living in modern followers of his Way.

Openness and dialogue are vital to his approach. For these to work, all parties must be open to be changed, and fully present to one another, listening deeply. Mindfulness facilitates being 'present' and, using Christian imagery to explore the point, Nhat Hanh maintains that the meditation which promotes mindfulness is vital to both Christianity and Buddhism. 'The miracle is not to walk on water. The miracle is to walk on the green earth in the present moment,' he tells us, and also that

'When mindfulness is in you, the Holy Spirit is in you.' (Chapter 2). In terms of doctrine, Nhat Hanh claims Buddhists have no problem with Jesus being both divine and human as they reject all such dualities. However, it is the life and teachings of Jesus that are more important for him than this doctrine and other issues such as the resurrection and questions of eternal destiny. Practice is key and is supported by working in community – being part of a sangha is as important for a Buddhist as being part of a church is for a Christian. Both traditions see individuals as being limbs of one body. And for both, the presence of love in the community is the mark of its authenticity.

The kind of openness and dialogue Nhat Hanh advocates in interfaith relations is central to his work for peace more generally. Again, he turns to Christian concepts in expressing this, citing 'resist not evil', 'turn the other cheek', and 'love your enemies'. He claims 'When you are able to love your enemy, he or she is no longer your enemy. The idea of "enemy" vanishes' (Chapter 6). For Nhat Hanh, love and understanding are essential for any kind of future for humanity, and he regards the definition of love in 1 Corinthians 13 as very close to Buddhist teaching on love and compassion. I read this book as part of a year spent exploring Buddhism and I found that, as Nhat Hanh points out, dialogue with other traditions can lead to rediscoveries within one's own and that most boundaries between traditions are artificial. As Nhat Hanh puts it: 'Truth has no boundaries. Our differences may be mostly differences in emphasis.' (Chapter 9).

Steve Dixon



Music Scene

June 2026



Music plays an important part in the lives of almost everyone, whether it be listening actively to music, performing it, or experiencing it in the background. This has been recognised the world over, and in 1982, a special day was set aside originally in France as World Music Day, to be celebrated on 21st June (the longest day, the summer solstice). This has continued each year, now known in the UK as "Make Music Day". Going back to 1974, the International Music Council declared that International Music Day would be celebrated on October 1 every year, but this seems to be less well remembered here now.

As we all know, the church has a calendar which changes from year to year, in that for instance Pentecost was on May 24th this year, having been June 8th 2025, and will be May 16th 2027. The Royal School of Church Music designates a particular Sunday each year to be "Music Sunday", but chooses a convenient date around June 21st which doesn't clash with other church festivals, and also allows church choir members who may also be members of secular choirs with concerts on Make Music Day to take part in both those concerts and a celebration of church music. This year, Music Sunday will be June 14th, and here at Christ Church, where it coincides with our usual Matins service, our choir will sing a full Choral Matins, with choral settings of the responses (by John Sanders), the canticles (Te Deum by Herbert Howells, Jubilate by Benjamin Britten), an anthem ("I will sing with the Spirit", by John Rutter), and there will be hymns for all to sing. Do please advertise this, and come along for a joyful celebration of music in worship.

I'm writing this whilst away on holiday. Last Sunday, I attended morning service in a very large church which has had a long tradition of choral music, has a highly qualified energetic organist and choirmaster, and a large and loud 4-manual organ that was rebuilt quite recently at a 5 figure sum. The Communion service setting was a Mozart Latin mass, sung really well by the singers present - half a dozen or so junior choristers, two or three adult ladies and just one tenor and one bass. I spoke to the organist afterwards - they have had a similar experience to us at New Mill in that numbers have dwindled, especially since Covid. Moreover, they had a recruiting event for children the previous day, with activities for children (which weren't all musical) - but it attracted just one person. It's really sad that people these days are so reluctant to commit to organisations that provide team activities for young people, be it scouts/guides or

church choirs. Here at Christ Church we had a large junior choir (around 20 children) in the 1960s; a dozen or so when I took over as organist in 1971, and this was maintained until after 2000. With the departure of our last few juniors to university, we now have none, but I would love to build up the numbers again while I still have some energy left!

Geoffrey Lockwood.



Dates for your diaries

Saturday July 4th, 2pm - Holme Valley Orchestra
"Big TV Pub Quiz", Huntsman Inn, Greenfield
Road, Holmfirth.

Saturday July 11th, 7:30pm- Kyiv Classic
Accordion Duo, Christ Church New Mill.

Saturday July 18th, time to be confirmed -
Holmfirth Choral Society "Sing to the Queen"
Summer concert, Christ Church, New Mill.

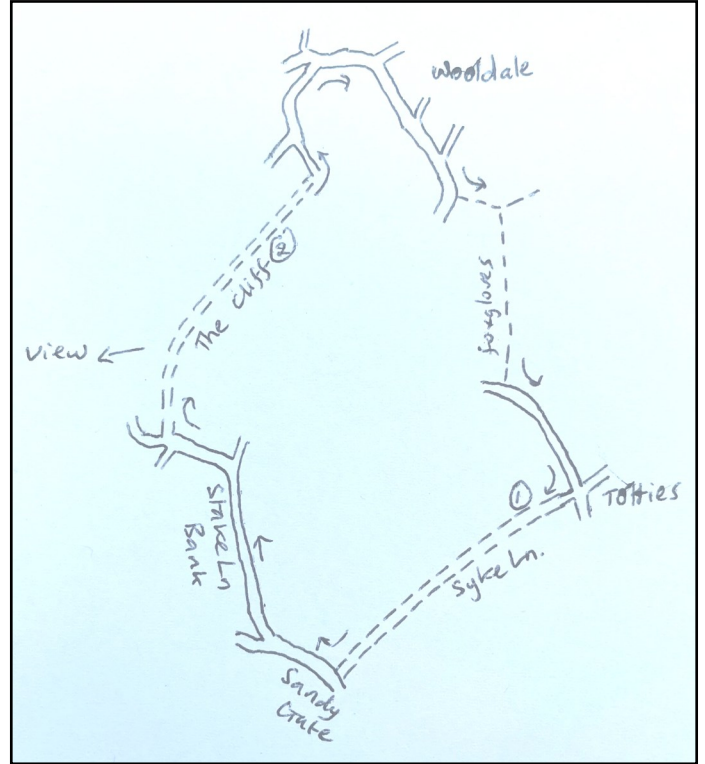
Holme Valley Rambles

61. Flowers of the valley: Foxgloves

The essentials: 2.5 miles / 300' easy climbing

June heralds the arrival of foxgloves in the valley. They are prolific in the verges of paths and lanes, and 2026 promises to be an excellent year for this beautiful biennial!

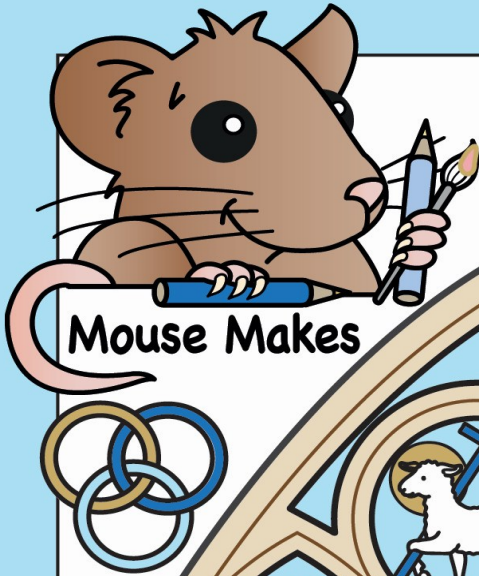
This month's walk starts at Wooldale. From close to the Wooldale Arms, take the path from the turn in the road. Soon, you will need to take the right-hand branch. The path emerges into a field where there will be foxgloves a-plenty along the wall. When you rejoin the road, turn left up the hill to Totties. Totties offers the possibility of a pitstop at the café at either nursery.



From the road junction at Totties, follow Syke Lane which quickly becomes a path. At the end, turn right onto the road, and then take the right-hand fork along Stake Lane Bank. There are super views to your left up the Holme Valley for the rest of the way. Turn left down Cliff Road, and then follow the track along the Cliff back to Wooldale.



Children's Page
(for all ages)



"May the grace of the Lord
JESUS CHRIST and the
love of **GOD** and the
fellowship of the
HOLY SPIRIT be
with you all."

2 Corinthians
13:14

V	O	V
H I W	I S D	U D E
V E N L R	J Y I A M	T R U T H
S L A E P L G	A C G O D J M	T H A H S R I
H A L D O O R	L R O C K U A	O S P O W E R
E M E W O R D	M E L O R D J	U L F L I F E
P B R E A D W	I A B B A G E	P O W Y N D R
H L A L P H A	G T D E B E S	A W I S D O M
E E M C G J Y	H O Y R F E T	D B E P B V C
R M E H O E K	T R A H A T Y	V W T I R E O
D M I R S S T	Y G H O I E F	O I E R E F M
S A V I O U R	V S W L A R A	C T R I A I F
P N E S N S U	O H E Y E N T	A N N T T R O
O U N T L O T	J E H O V A H	T E A C H E R
M E S S I A H	I K I N G L E	E S L G I F T
R L G B F I S	S H I E L D R	D S G U I D E
K E O M E G A	S A V I O U R	T H E L P E R
JESUS • CHRIST	GOD • FATHER	HOLY SPIRIT
SON • SAVIOUR • LORD EMMANUEL • MESSIAH SHEPHERD • LAMB • WAY TRUTH • LIFE • DOOR BREAD • WORD • HEALER VINE • ALPHA • OMEGA	ABBA • LORD • JEHOVAH YAHWEH • ALMIGHTY HOLY ONE • SAVIOUR ETERNAL • CREATOR KING • MAJESTY • JUDGE SHIELD • ROCK • I AM	GIFT • HELPER • WITNESS COMFORTER • GUIDE ADVOCATE • WISDOM POWER • TRUTH • BREATH LIFE • ETERNAL • DOVE WIND • FIRE • TEACHER

COFFEE AND CAKE

AT

ST THOMAS'S THURSTONLAND

Come and join us for coffee,
cake and chat in the Church
Room

Thursday 5th June
10.30am to 12 noon

All proceeds for church funds

The story behind the HYMN: Lord, for the years

*Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided,
urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way,
sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided:
Lord for the years, we bring our thanks today.*

*Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us,
speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze,
teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us:
Lord of the Word, receive your people's praise.*

*Lord, for our world where men disown and doubt you,
loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain,
hungry and helpless, lost indeed without you:
Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.*

*Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us –
self on the cross and Christ upon the throne,
past put behind us, for the future take us:
Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.*

By Timothy Dudley Smith

This well-loved hymn was written in 1967 by the Revd Timothy Dudley Smith, who later became Bishop of Thetford. He later confessed: "I wrote it on a train when I was very pressed for time. I'm thankful if something I write gets picked up, but I suspect anyone who does something in a rush later regrets that they didn't find time to apply the sandpaper a bit more!"

Dudley Smith had been asked to write a hymn for the centenary service of the Children's Special Service Mission, now Scripture Union, in St Paul's Cathedral. His commission was to write words that could be fitted to Jean Sibelius's *Finlandia*, as it was to be accompanied by an orchestra with this tune in their repertoire. And so – 'Lord for the years' was written.

Dudley Smith need not have worried about lack of time – his lyrics were a 'hit' in the cathedral on the day, and went on to become so well-loved that George Carey chose the hymn to be sung at his consecration as Bishop of Bath and Wells, and then again later, in 1991, on his consecration as Archbishop in Canterbury Cathedral.

The hymn continued to be widely sung and loved, until in 2002 Timothy Dudley Smith was asked to write an extra verse for it so that it could even be sung around the time of the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

Many of the words in the hymn were true for Queen Elizabeth herself. She would have celebrated her 100th birthday this April, and her 'official' birthday on the second Saturday in June. She did indeed thank God 'for the years Your love has kept and guided, urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way'...

And so indeed the 'extra' verse added for the Queen also held true:

*Lord for our hopes, the dreams of all our living,
Christ and his kingdom one united aim,
Rulers and peoples bound in high thanksgiving,
Lord of our hopes, our trust is in your Name.*

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£5 ADULT

THURSTONLAND & STOCKSMOOR
**SUMMER
FUN DAY**
SUNDAY 12TH JULY
1 - 5PM @ THURSTONLAND CRICKET CLUB
BRASS BAND PROCESSION FROM
THE ROSE & CROWN @ 12.30PM

RAISING FUNDS FOR:
THURSTONLAND FIRST SCHOOL
ST THOMAS' CHURCH
THURSTONLAND CRICKET CLUB

SPONSOR
OPPORTUNITIES
AVAILABLE!
CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK:



Holme Valley Orchestra
presents
THE BIG TV PUB QUIZ

📅 Saturday 4th July
🕒 2pm
📍 The Huntsman Inn, Greenfield Road, Holmfirth HD9 3XF

*Tickets: Adults £10
Under 16's free
Available on the door*



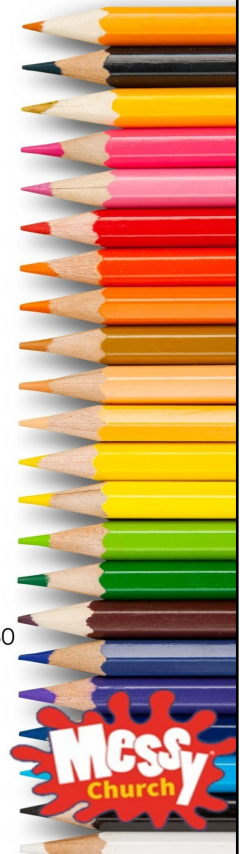
Join us for crafts, stories
activities and fun in the
Treacy Hall at
Wakefield Cathedral.

Upcoming Messy Cathedral
sessions for 2026:

Sunday 03 May 16:00-17:30

Saturday 06 September 16:00-17:30

For more information please email
gillian.bunn@wakefield-cathedral.org.uk
or call 01924 373923



HEPWORTH CHURCH

GARDEN PARTY

Café
Barbecue
Bar
Homemade Produce
and more...

Games
Bookstall
Live Music

Sunday 14th June 2026
Hepworth Churchyard
1.00 to 4.00pm Admission Free

Christchurch
Craft Group



The Craft Group meets on Monday
afternoons at 1.30pm in the Gallery Room
Everyone welcome.

For further information, please contact
Joanna or Sandra.



Stamps for the RNIB

There is a box in church for used postage stamps

Please cut them from the envelope leaving a 1cm (1/2 inch) border all round.

Janet Abbott will send them to the RNIB

Greetings card stamps welcomed!



Remembering G K Chesterton

Ninety years ago, on 14th June 1936, G K Chesterton died at his home in Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire. Novelist, short story writer, journalist, essayist, poet, social/literary critic and theologian, he is remembered for his stories about the priest-detective Father Brown.

Gilbert Keith Chesterton was born in Kensington, London, to an estate agent father and a Swiss-French mother. He was educated at St Paul's School before studying art at the Slade School and literature at University College, London. He did not get a degree, and his earliest ambition was to be an artist.

A conspicuous figure in both height and girth, he eventually took to writing, producing in all about 80 books, several hundred poems, 200 short stories, 4000 essays (mostly newspaper columns), and several plays. His literary preoccupations were initially journalism and social commentary, then literary criticism and lastly religion.

He was an apologist who spoke out for orthodox Christianity, initially from an Anglican standpoint, but after 1922 as a Roman Catholic. Using paradox, a sense of wonder and imaginative wit, he described the Christian faith as the one logical

answer to life's mysteries. His seminal book, *Orthodoxy*, written when he was an Anglican, was a key factor in the conversion of C S Lewis.

Chesterton married Frances Blogg in 1901, but the couple were unable to have children. A writer herself, Frances encouraged her husband and acted as his personal assistant. He survived a life-threatening illness in 1914 affecting his heart and kidneys and was unconscious for a long period before recovering, though he never regained full vitality.

His most widely known invented character was Father Brown, kindly protagonist of a series of detective novels later televised and recently rerun. Father Brown is an unprepossessing figure with a sharp mind who understands the intricacies of evil through hearing many confessions.



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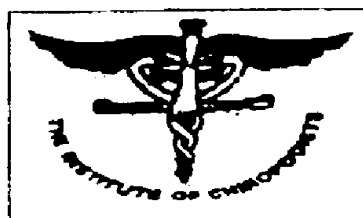
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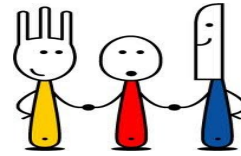
on the second Thursday
of the month

Thursday 11th June 2026

All Welcome. Cost £4

Further information or to request a lift Jane Rodgers
684745 or Rev Ailsa Brooke 883278

Welcome Lunch



Wednesday 24th June

at 12.30pm

in

The Gallery Room

**Please let a churchwarden know if
you would like to attend or sign up
at the back of church**

For the July Edition of Parish News

**Please keep Parish News lively and topical
by letting us know about events that have
happened or are being planned. Progress
reports, ideas, opinions, experiences, don't
wait to be asked—drop me an email. All
your contributions are welcome.**

editor@newmillpc.org.uk

**Deadline for July issue :
Monday 22nd June 2026**

**Please note: the easiest submission formats
for us to work with are e-mail, Word,
Publisher and JPEG, but we have been
known to type out articles if you still use a
pen!**

Many thanks (ed).

Promoting

a safer church

The care and protection of
children, young people and
adults involved in Church
activities is the responsibility
of everyone who participates
in the life of the Church

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for children, young
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Tail piece



Several women visited a sick elderly lady from their church. After a while, they rose to leave and told her, "Well, don't worry, we will keep you in our prayers."

The old woman replied: "Actually, if you would just wash the dishes in my sink, I can manage the praying."