



ILLINGWORTH MESSENGER

Where Church and Community meet together
Illingworth Moor, St Mary's & St Malachy's



The truck was travelling from right to left at 70mph. The driver swerved to miss an animal crossing the road and struck the barrier. The vehicle then somersaulted twice and flipped itself around. Both people in the vehicle were unhurt apart from a few scratches and bruises. The animal was saved. Why is this picture on the front page of the church magazine you might ask? Turn to page 25 for the answer. I hope it has the same effect on you as it had for me. *Justin*



Pentecost
22th June



Father's Day
19th June



Printed by the Illingworth Messenger Trust for the Churches and People in Illingworth

DISTRIBUTED FREE

Dear Friends,

Minister's Letter

Have you ever noticed that it's totally impossible to be a Christian? Just take a look at these instructions from Jesus to his disciples: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (John 13:34); "You must be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect" (Matthew 5:48); "Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, and pray for those who mistreat you" (Luke 6:27-28); "As the Father sent me, so I send you" (John 20:21). How are you doing so far?

If we find Jesus' commands too hard, perhaps the Apostle Paul and other New Testament letter-writers will make things easier for us. How about: "Imitate me, then, just as I imitate Christ" (I Corinthians 11:1); "Since you are God's dear children, you must try to be like him. Your life must be controlled by love, just as Christ loved us and gave his life for us" (Ephesians 5:1-2); "Submit yourselves to one another because of your reverence for Christ" (Ephesians 5:21); "The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had" (Philippians 2:5); "Be tolerant with one another and forgive one another whenever any of you has a complaint against someone else. You must forgive one another just as the Lord has forgiven you" (Colossians 3:13); "Keep yourselves free from the love of money, and be satisfied with what you have" (Hebrews 13:5)? They don't make it any better, do they? They just emphasise and develop what Jesus had already said.

Even when we desperately want to do all these things and more things commanded by Jesus, recommended by the apostles, approved by our own hearts, we find that our human nature gets in the way and we fall short. But before I make you all thoroughly miserable, I want to say that this is only one of the realities that's at work in us.

The other reality is the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit, whose purpose is to be in us and enable us to do the things of Jesus. Such is the amazing grace of God through our Lord Jesus Christ. He calls us to follow him and be like him, and provides from himself the resources to do so. No one puts it better than Graham Kendrick: God is at work in us, his purpose to perform, building a kingdom of power, not of words; where things impossible by faith shall be made possible; let's give the glory to him now.

Though we are weak, his grace is everything we need, we're made of clay, but this treasure is within; he turns our weaknesses into his opportunities, so that the glory goes to him.

As Pentecost Sunday comes around again, may it be our desire to be filled afresh with the Spirit, that we may live to God's praise and glory.

Rev John Filsak

If people fancy having their face and voice on the telly, then there are is an opportunity coming up.

The BBC is recording 'Songs of Praise' at Halifax Minster on Monday evening, June 13 (7.00 to 10.30), for two editions of the programme.

There will be a live broadcast on BBC1 of the Pentecost service from Halifax Minster on Sunday, June 12 (10.00-10.59 am, I think). Congregation members will be welcome. **John.**

WANTED - WANTED - WANTED - WANTED - WANTED

Magazine Editor for this great magazine

Unfortunately, due to a promotion at work which brings with it a lot more work commitments, I will be unable to carry on in the role of magazine editor after the next edition.

If there is anyone who might be interested, please contact Michael Nicholl on (01422) 246045 or myself.

I would happily help anyone in the short term whilst they settled in and will answer any queries about the position. This is a great magazine to do and is well read, but sadly, with extra duties at work, I just haven't got the time.

This would suit someone with a bit of free time, who believes in God and enjoys looking around the internet for interesting items. There is also a website, just for church magazine editors, which is full of useful items and you will be given access to it. I will help anyone as much as is possible. I am lucky to have two proof readers and they have both said they will happily continue.

God's Grace

There once was a man named George Thomas, pastor in a small New England town. One Easter Sunday morning he came to the Church carrying a rusty, bent, old bird cage, and set it by the pulpit. Eyebrows were raised and, as if in response, Pastor Thomas began to speak. . . .

"I was walking through town yesterday when I saw a young boy coming toward me swinging this bird cage. On the bottom of the cage were three little wild birds, shivering with cold and fright. I stopped the lad and asked, "What do you have there, son?" "Just some old birds," came the reply. "What are you going to do with them?" I asked. "Take 'em home and have fun with 'em," he answered. "I'm gonna tease 'em and pull out their feathers to make 'em fight. I'm gonna have a real good time." "But you'll get tired of those birds sooner or later. What will you do then?" "Oh, I got some cats," said the little boy. "They like birds. I'll take 'em to them." The pastor was silent for a moment. "How much do you want for those birds, son?" "Huh?? !!! Why, you don't want them birds, mister. They're just plain old field birds. They don't sing. They ain't even pretty!" "How much?" the pastor asked again. The boy sized up the pastor as if he were crazy and said, "\$10?"

The pastor reached in his pocket and took out a ten dollar bill. He placed it in the boy's hand. In a flash, the boy was gone. The pastor picked up the cage and gently carried it to the end of the alley where there was a tree and a grassy spot. Setting the cage down, he opened the door, and by softly tapping the bars persuaded the birds out, setting them free. Well, that explained the empty bird cage on the pulpit, and then the pastor began to tell this story:

One day Satan and Jesus were having a conversation. Satan had just come from the Garden of Eden, and he was gloating and boasting. "Yes, sir, I just caught a world full of people down there. Set me a trap, used bait I knew they couldn't resist. Got 'em all!" "What are you going to do with them?" Jesus asked. Satan replied, "Oh, I'm gonna have fun! I'm gonna teach them how to marry and divorce each other, how to hate and abuse each other, how to drink and smoke and curse. I'm gonna teach them how to invent guns and bombs and kill each other. I'm really gonna have fun!" "And what will you do when you are done with them?" Jesus asked.. "Oh, I'll kill 'em," Satan glared proudly. "How much do you want for them?" Jesus asked. "Oh, you don't want those people. They ain't no good. Why, you'll take them and they'll just hate you. They'll spit on you, curse you and kill you. You don't want those people!!" "How much? He asked again. Satan looked at Jesus and sneered, "All your blood, tears and your life." Jesus said, "DONE!" Then He paid the price. The pastor picked up the cage and walked from the pulpit.



Join us on our journey of Faith, at any of the services. Everyone is welcome.

Service times of Masses at St. Malachy's

Saturday for Sunday: 6.30pm
Sundays: 9.00am and 11.00am

Baptisms by appointment



Tea and coffee available after the 11.00am Mass each Sunday. St. Malachy's is a Fair-trade Parish. For contact details, please see the back page.

St. Mary's

For more information about St. Mary's, please contact Rev David Fletcher Tel: 01422 349844. Thank you.



ILLINGWORTH MOOR METHODIST CHURCH

Services during June 2011 will be led by:

- 5th June** at 10.30am Parade and Family Service led by Mrs. Susan Watson.
- Mount Zion at 2.45pm Service of Holy Communion.
Rev. Ian Coverdale.
- 12th June** at 10.30am Service led by Hymns & Hers Group.
- 19th June** at 10.30am Trinity Sunday . Rev. Albert Gayle.
WORLD CHURCH SUNDAY.
With Holy Communion
- 26th June** at 10.30am Rev. Judith Satchell.

1st Friday in June at 11.40am
Short Service before lunch



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26a Illingworth Road. (former Pennine Housing Office)

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& Fridays 9.00am to 12 noon.

St Malachy's Church Hall

after 9.00am & 11am Mass on Sundays,

Illingworth Moor Methodist Church

Fridays 11 am to 1.00 pm

St Malachy's Walks

If you would like to join us you will be made most welcome. Walking boots and suitable clothing are essential. For more information, please contact Philip or Pat at 01422 259761 or e-mail us at pp.moran@blueyonder.co.uk



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Art of letter writing dying out

More than a quarter of all seven to 14 year olds have not written a single letter in the past year. One in ten has never written a letter in their entire life. Yet about half of them in this age group regularly send emails or leave messages on a social networking site.

World Vision, who commissioned the recent poll, found that child education experts are concerned at these findings. It seems that many children are leaving primary school unable to even set out a letter. As one expert says: "If children do not write or receive letters, they miss out on key developmental benefits." A hand-written letter is more personal than an electronic message any day.

Thursday's Young at Heart Group

Meet at Illingworth Moor at 2.00pm

For more information contact:

June Bedford on Hx 248011

Did you know? St Mary's Church runs a small charity shop on Turner Avenue South. It sells clothing, bric-a-brac and second hand goods of excellent quality.



Why don't you pop in for a coffee and a chat?

Mon & Tues

8.30am - 12 noon

Items are always required and pick up can be arranged if necessary.

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THORNTON COTTAGE HOMES

158, Thornhill Road, Rastrick, Brighouse, HD6 3AW

A VACANCY exists on the Board of Trustees of Thornton Cottage Homes. The charity exists solely to look after the interests of the Almshouses and their residents and is governed by seven trustees, each of whom may serve for four years. Anyone who is interested in becoming a trustee should obtain further details from:

Mr. Alun Jones, 132, Bradley Road, Bradley, Huddersfield HD2 1QY

WANTED

Heath Stroke Club

We are looking to appoint a part time Admin Support Assistant for 6 hours per week preferably over three days. This would be a temporary contract initially for 6 months. Duties would include filing, typing, photocopying, petty cash, banking, record keeping. Anyone interested should contact the Manager at the club on 01422 330320.



Heath Stroke Club **Coffee Morning & Cake Stall**

Wed 22nd June 10.30am,
all welcome.

Further **Coffee Morning & Cake Stall**
dates for your diaries;

Wed 31st August ; Fri 21st October;
& Wed 7th December.



We are located on Manor Drive, in the ground floor of Heath United Reformed Church (opposite the old hospital)

PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT OUR WORK AS ALL PROCEEDS ARE USED FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR CLIENTS AND ARE MOSTLY USED FOR DAY TRIPS OUT.

Fathers and daughters

A young father was taking care of his baby daughter while his wife went to town shopping. He decided to go fishing and he had to take the toddler along. "I'll never take her along with me again!" he told his wife that evening. "I didn't catch a thing!"

"Oh, next time I'm sure she'll be quiet and not scare the fish away," his wife said. The father said gloomily. "No, it wasn't that. She ate all the bait."

Father's Day
19th June



North Halifax Youth and Community Group

@ the Illingworth Sports and Social Club,

Keighley Rd, Illingworth, HALIFAX, HX2 8AR

Ring 07857114841 or 07952856044 for more information

Senior Youth Club Tuesdays

4.45 pm - 6.45 pm

**For young people
aged 11 - 16 yrs old**

Junior Youth Club Wednesdays



4.45 pm - 6.45 pm

**For young people
aged 7 - 11 yrs old**



**Come along and have some fun!
Make new friends!**

WHAT'S ON...

EVERYONE WELCOME

AT ILLINGWORTH MOOR METHODIST CHURCH



'GOOD AS NEW SHOP'

**MONDAY
WEDNESDAY
FRIDAY**



**11 am
till
4 pm**

ALSO...

Carer / Toddler Group - Mondays - 9.30 am - 11.30 am

Paula and the team have got lots of fun ideas, so come along and join the fun! For more details please contact Paula on 07902 319708



BOYS' BRIGADE - MONDAYS

Anchor Boys 5 - 7 years (6.15pm - 7.30pm)
Junior Section 8 - 10 years (6.30pm - 8.30pm)
Company Section 11 - 18 years (7.30pm - 9.30pm)

For more info, please contact Captain Andy: 01484 718717

TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

on June 7th. at 2.30 p.m. Speakers on 'The Beamsley Project' will be Mr. & Mrs. Tomlinson.

EVERYBODY welcome and refreshments served

GIRLS' BRIGADE - WEDNESDAYS

Explorers 5 - 7 years (6.00pm - 7.15pm)

Juniors, Seniors & Brigaders:

8 - 18 years (6.45pm - 8.30pm)

For more info, please contact Captain Andrea: Hx 249794



HYMNS & HERS



MUSIC GROUP

**HYMNS & HERS (Choir Practice) - Thursdays
7.30pm to 8.30pm**

We get together to worship God through modern and not-so-modern music. You don't need to be an accomplished singer, just enjoy the music.

FRIDAYS



We are indebted to those who continue to help us to provide lunches. A cooked lunch will be available on the first and third Friday of the month at 12 noon. The cost is £3, followed by Bingo, Raffle etc if you wish.

On other Fridays a light lunch will be available, e.g. either soup or toasted currant tea cake or sandwiches followed by a sweet – at various prices.



Shoppers '20 minutes' Service

Held on the 1st Friday of each month with Rev Paul at 11.40am



CREDIT UNION with St Malachy's -

At Illingworth Moor every Friday from 11.00am - 1.00pm

Want to save as little as 50p a week? This helps to get you into the savings habit. If you have problems with big money institutions, the Credit Union can help you start from where you are right now.



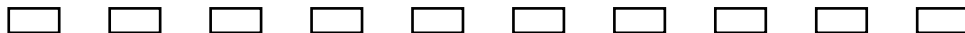
MESSY CHURCH held on the first Friday in the month for children from 3.15pm to 5.00pm
- Games, Songs, Films, etc.
Tea – led by Rev. Paul

SUNDAYS

Sunday Worship & Sunday School at 10.30am

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US
AT ANY OR ALL OF THE ADVERTISED EVENTS.**

More details: Rev Paul (Hx 244418)



Saturday 25th June

Come and join us at our **FREE** Film Club At 2.30pm, presenting

**Shrek
Forever After**

Refreshments Available



46th Long March for Christian Aid

This year Easter was very late and followed by the Royal Wedding and another Bank Holiday weekend. I do not know if this is the reason but the number of Walkers for this year's event was less than half of last year. However after hearing about the work of Christian Aid from Alex Jones and encouragement from the Deputy Mayor Cllr. John Hardy 106 walkers set off in good heart. The night was dry and still with a slight chill later so not too bad.

This year's route went via Pellon, Moor End, Upper Mixenden and Bradshaw to Queensbury stopping at West End Methodist Church. They continued towards Halifax and on Claremount Road to Godley Bridge where 7 of them returned to YMCA having completed a half marathon. The rest continued through Hipperholme and down to Bailiff Bridge for another rest at Ebenezer Methodist Church. From there to Brighouse and straight on to Bradley and Dewsbury Road to Upper Edge Baptist Church before the final leg back into Halifax.

The small number of walkers does not mean that we needed fewer Helpers. That need remains the same however few they are so we are very grateful to the roughly 100 volunteers who provided directions, refreshments and clerical support on the night as well as the Raynet and HT Direct First Aid groups. As usual we were stretched thinly in the middle of the night so could always do with more marshals between 3.00am and 6.00am as the walkers become more widely spaced.

Sadly the number of walkers has resulted in a lower amount of sponsorship but we hope to have raised £6,000 when it has all been handed in.

Elizabeth Brook

With Trinity Sunday (19th June) in mind and the complexity of people understanding or explaining the Trinity, here is a great quote:

Tell me how it is that in this room there are three candles and but one light, and I will explain to you the mode of the divine existence.
- *John Wesley*

Ebenezer Church, Hx - Food Drop-In Update 14th May, 2011

Today we gave out 119 parcels of the homeless/needy (10 of which were to new clients) and had 34 volunteers. What a busy day at the Drop In today!! Quite a hectic one but as always a day full of blessings!!

Last week I asked if anyone could collect some plastic bottles for us, well Kate one of the management team is going to visit a plastic bottles project which Gram Seed put us in touch with and she will be able to fetch a few down so that we can carry on for two or three weeks. This still left us with the big problem of how to get enough for the rest of the time ... well today I was chatting with a gentleman from the firm who gives us our sugar supply every week and it is looking as if they will be able to bring us a decent sized load of plastic bottles down. PRAISE GOD!! The people of Calderdale are just wonderful!! And while I have been chatting on the phone with the staff at the bottle manufacturers they are really being so helpful and trying so hard to give us the best items for our need and are giving us the first 1000 free of charge!! And this is to help people who are not even from their area. So now it's like the Good Samaritan as well as the Feeding of the 5000!! It is a long time since we have seen the shelves in the stock room so empty ... but, yet again we had enough to cope with today's demand so no one went away without a parcel.

Items we are desperate for are:

Tins of meat	Tinned fruit	Jam	Deodorant
Tins of fish	Tinned meals	Coffee	Soap
Pasta sauce	Washing up liquid	Cordial	Rice
Baked beans	Cooking Oil	Rice Pudding	Toilet rolls
Peas & Carrots	Micro Pasta/Rice	Dog/Cat food	Biscuits
Any tinned veg	Washing powder	Noodles	Instant mash

Other items also needed are:

Soup	Tomatoes	Toothpaste
Beans	Cereals	STRONG carrier bags

Please note we have a good stock of pasta, tea bags and hair conditioner and are not needing any more of these items for a while. Ebenezer Methodist church will be open for deliveries every Wed evening 7 – 8 and Sat morning 9.30 - 11.45 and Thur 10.00 until approx. 2.00pm.

Clients who have requested prayer today are:

Dermot	David	Chris	Mark	Horace
Ben	Norman	Mark	Brian	Cyril
Adam	Darryll	Richard	Bah Baroun	Alan
Antony	Bryn	Edward	Josephine	Kathryn
Catherine	Ade	Susan	Tracey	Margaret

Thank you to you all for your support for this amazing project,
Jennie.

Person Centred Spiritual Codes Of Practice

As part of my job, I am legally responsible to follow the codes of practice, as laid out by the General Social Care Council. In brief, it covers protecting individuals, promoting their interests, establishing trust, and to be accountable for the quality of mine, and others, working practices. It does seem a shame to me that they actually have to be written down as they sound like common sense to me. You go to work, do the best that you can, and care about what you do.

With this in mind, is there a responsibility to the churches for a Spiritual Codes Of Practice? My reason for this question is due to people whom I meet, who ask me where is God in their lives, or at least, where is He when they need Him most?

I am involved in church magazines covering 8 churches, 7 of which I am their editor, so I have come into regular contact with many church folk over the years. The churches have all, in one way or another, been beacons for Christianity, and the commitment by some for pastoral care is second to none. But what happens if you are not in the church family, or have moved away from the church due to personal indifferences, where is God or the spiritual support you need?

I know that there are many who regularly attend church who struggle for getting any free time due to work and family commitments. I know that people are unable to do more through being less mobile or disabled. Quite often, churches families are made up of a few people doing a lot, and a lot of people doing nothing. Precious fellowship times are spent with committees trying their best to just balance the church finances, never mind making a profit which they can use for good causes.

What would Jesus do?

With the label of Care Worker, a Parent, Bus Driver or as a Christian, people have pre-conceived ideas of what one is, and they are normally quick to criticise and take a lot of time to praise. Some famous person was once quoted as saying, "It takes a lifetime to earn a good reputation and a moment to lose it". Never has a truer word been said. But there is a great divide between the pre-conceived idea and the reality, due to the fact that we are all human. Apparently, a

Christian has eternal patience, a heart of gold, a perpetual desire to do good and the durability to be used as a doormat without ever complaining. That is what a lot of people see as being a Christian, but obviously is unattainable, or very, very, rarely.

On the inside of my front door, there is a plaque, which states, "Friends welcome anytime, family by appointment". People laugh at it but the words ring true, for my family and the wider church which is a Christian family. You can choose your friends but not your family! The church family is made up of many people with varying talents, but congregations can be seen as dysfunctional as different groups within the churches have different agendas, just like the disciples, who had different views on what Jesus should do and how he should act, as well as which sort of people were 'worthy' of helping. Several times in the Bible Jesus admonished them.

If you were walking down the street and saw a dirty penny on the floor, would you pick it up? How much would the coin be worth before you invest your effort into retrieving it. Unfortunately human instinct has inbred us all to have different valuations of the same thing. But imagine if the penny was a person, or someone's worry or hardship, what would it be worth to you then? (See page 4 for a great story on what things are worth)

With the churches having a 'Spiritual Responsibility' for the church members and the wider community, do churches need to have a 'Spiritual Duty Of Care' statement? The banks have done after they lost touch and trust with the population to try and regain their reputation. They outline what they aim to do and to what standards they will do it. Does Christianity need one?

In my work, the politically correct phrase is Person Centred, meaning that everything I do must be centred around the person. I find out what they want or need and then support them in a way that they have chosen to do it. It does not mean that I do it my way, or disregard what they want. I listen to them, and follow their wishes even if I think they are wrong, as long as there is no danger to them or to others. This can be quite difficult to do as we are all inbred with ideals and we all have different assessments to what is needed.

With my job there are no time limits, if someone is having problems I have to stay with it, even if it goes on for years. In normal life there

seems to be an unwritten rule about how long something stays 'important', and sadly, when things do not fit in with the general consensus of the wider group, the troubled person's wishes or troubles are deemed unimportant. In my opinion, this is where the Spiritual Duty Of Care statement would 'kick in', and fill the void.

If I fail in my job, the people I work for know how, and who, to contact to still get help. There is nothing like it for the churches, but surely needs to be, because every time someone feels let down by the church, it can create a chasm between the person and God, and this is not what the churches are meant for.

As I wrote earlier, everyone remembers the bad bits. Over the years, Christianity has bashed itself up enough with several different denominations stating that they are the true way forward and the ONLY way to heaven, not to mention the Crusades!! Imagine if the internet was available then.... the news headlines would be shocking.

So, I am hoping that the church in general promotes the Spiritual Duty Of Care idea, even in a virtual form, as it would hopefully bring more people to the church, and stop people falling through the cracks. I also hope that the church families become more person centred, as this is my own belief that Jesus wants us to be. I believe that churches and ministers should be more approachable, more caring and more dedicated to people in a person centred way.

The churches do enormous good, day in, day out, (see survey on page 17), and this article is not about the churches in general, or saying that churches are failing or bad. This article is not to name and shame, because I know that if I was stood in front of Jesus and He started to write in the sand some home truths about me I would be thoroughly ashamed. This article is for the people who slip through the cracks.

Below is the Code of Practice for Care Workers, and all I have changed are the words 'Service Users' to 'Human Beings' and 'Social Care Services' to 'Christianity'.

How about if Christians MUST:

1. Protect the rights and promote the interests of all human beings;

2. Strive to establish and maintain trust and confidence of human beings;
3. Promote the independence of human beings while protecting them as far as possible from harm or danger;
4. Uphold public trust and confidence in Christianity, and;
5. Be accountable for the quality of their Christian work and take responsibility for maintaining and improving their knowledge and skills.

Obviously, these are my own opinions and I know that I have been a bit long winded in trying to get my message across, for which I apologise, but I get so frustrated sometimes when things go wrong or left unattended that it makes me wonder if I still want to be part of the 'Christian' group, although for me there is no other sensible option because I do truly believe that God exists and He is here to help us, or at least be with us through the bad days, giving us some comfort and occasionally a helping hand.

Justin

I would be grateful for any feedback which I will try and publish in this magazine. Thank you.

The results of the National Churches Trust Survey, of the estimated 47,000 churches, found that these buildings play a key role in local life as venues for volunteering and community activities – but need support in undertaking repairs and maintenance. **Here are just some of the findings of the survey:**

More than 90% of the UK's church buildings hold a service at least once a week; More than 50% are regularly open to the public beyond their worship services. 1.4 million members of church congregations volunteer in any capacity in their church building along with an estimated further 200,000 people from the wider community. Nearly half of the UK's church buildings are used for arts, music and dance activities. More than half of the UK's church buildings facilitate activities such as nurseries, youth groups and additional activities for young people. More than two-fifths of the UK's church buildings are used for support services such as homelessness, drug & alcohol misuse, finance & debt, parenting & mental health. For further information about the National Churches Trust and to download the full report visit www.nationalchurchestrust.org

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23							24				

Across - 1 Military tactic used by Joshua to attack and destroy the city of Ai (Joshua 8:2) (6) 4 Place of learning (6) 8 'When Moses' hands grew — , they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it' (Exodus 17:12) (5) 9 Unpleasant auguries of the end of the age, as forecast by Jesus (Matthew 24:7) (7) 10 Stronghold to which girls in King Xerxes' harem (including Esther) were taken (Esther 2:8) (7) 11 Where Saul went to consult a medium before fighting the Philistines (1 Samuel 28:7) (5) 12 Propitiation (Hebrews 2:17) (9) 17 Turn away (Jeremiah 11:15) (5) 19 So clear (anag.) (7) 21 'I have just got — , so I can't come': one excuse to be absent from the great banquet (Luke 14:20) (7) 22 Long weapon with a pointed head used by horsemen (Job 39:23) (5) 23 Musical beat (6) 24 What the Israelites were told to use to daub blood on their door-frames at the first Passover (Exodus 12:22) (6)

Down - 1 Fasten (Exodus 28:37) (6) 2 Art bite (anag.) (7) 3 'The people of the city were divided; some — with the Jews, others with the apostles' (Acts 14:4) (5) 5 Contend (Jeremiah 12:5) (7) 6 Possessed (Job 1:3) (5) 7 Sheen (Lamentations 4:1) (6) 9 'You love evil rather than good, — rather than speaking the truth' (Psalm 52:3) (9) 13 Large flightless bird (Job 39:13) (7) 14 They were worth several hundred pounds each (Matthew 25:15) (7) 15 'A — went out to sow his seed' (Matthew 13:3) (6) 16 How Jesus described Jairus' daughter when he went into the room where she lay (Mark 5:39) (6) 18 The part of the day when the women went to the tomb on the first Easter morning (John 20:1) (5) 20 Narrow passageway between buildings (Luke 14:21) (5)

12th June - Pentecost/ Whit Sunday

Pentecost took place on the established Jewish festival of Firstfruits, which was observed at the beginning of the wheat harvest. It was exactly 50 days after the Passover, the time of Jesus' crucifixion.

A feast day to celebrate the country's wheat harvest does not sound exactly world-changing, but that year, it became one of the most important days in world history. For Pentecost was the day that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit - the day the Church was born.

Jesus had told his apostles that something big was going to happen, and that they were to wait for it in Jerusalem, instead of returning to Galilee. Jesus had plans for his apostles - but he knew they could not do the work themselves - they would need his help.

And so the apostles and disciples waited in Jerusalem, praying together for several days. And then on that fateful morning there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues - to the astonishment of those who heard them. The curse of Babel (Genesis 11: 1- 9) was dramatically reversed that morning.

That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell the apostles and disciples of Jesus: and the Church was born. The Christians were suddenly full of life and power, utterly different from their former fearful selves. The change in them was permanent.

Peter gave the first ever sermon of the Christian church that morning: proclaiming Jesus was the Messiah. His boldness in the face of possible death was in marked contrast to the man who had denied Jesus 50 days before. And 3,000 people responded, were converted, and were baptised. How's that for fast church growth!

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Rapture: Harold Camping issues new apocalypse date

The evangelical broadcaster who left followers crestfallen by his failed prediction that last Saturday would be Judgement Day says he miscalculated. He said it had "dawned" on him that God would spare humanity "hell on Earth for five months" and the apocalypse would happen on 21 October. Mr Camping said he felt "terrible" about his mistake. But he said he could not give financial advice to those who spent their life savings in the belief the end was nigh.

Mr Camping had predicted that on 21 May, true believers would be swept up to heaven while a giant earthquake would bring destruction for those left behind. His independent ministry, Family Radio International, spent millions of dollars on broadcasts, billboards and campaign vehicles to publicise the prediction. Some followers donated their life savings or simply gave away their worldly possessions as the day approached. Many expressed bewilderment and shock as the day came and went with no sign of the global cataclysm. "I've been mocked and scoffed and cursed at," said Jeff Hopkins, a retired TV producer in New York state who spent some of his savings customising his car to showcase Mr Camping's warning. "It's like getting slapped in the face."

'Not accurate

Mr Camping had not been seen since Saturday until he appeared on a show on his Open Forum radio show, broadcast from Oakland, California, on Monday to give a 90-minute sometimes rambling presentation that included a question-and-answer session with reporters. He said that when his prediction had failed to materialise he felt so terrible that he took refuge in a motel with his wife. He said sorry for not having the dates "worked out as accurately as I could have". Over the weekend, he said, he had returned to the scripture and it had "dawned" on him that a "merciful and compassionate God" would spare humanity by compressing the apocalyptic destruction into a shorter time frame. But he insisted 21 October had always been the end-point of his own chronology - or at least his own latest chronology, as a previous prophecy that the apocalypse would strike in 1994 also failed to come to pass.

Asked if he had any advice to offer those who had given away their material wealth in the belief the world was about to end, Mr Camping said they would cope. "We just had a great recession. There's lots of people who lost their jobs, lots of people who lost their houses... and somehow they all survived," he said.

Bible fever overtakes Bieber fever on Facebook

The Bible has pipped pop-star Justin Bieber to take top spot in the *Facebook* popularity charts, for people actually interacting with what they have become fans of. The Bible is also proving more popular than Man United and Real Madrid.

All Facebook, the unofficial Facebook resource, has recently announced that the all-time best-selling book in the world has overtaken Justin Bieber in the ranking table.

Name	#Interactions
1. The Bible	905,125
2. Justin Bieber	872,809
3. Manchester United	632,811
4. Mario Teguh	627,859
5. Real Madrid C.F.	623,348

With over six and a half million fans, the Bible Facebook page not only beats Bieber – who regularly reads the Bible himself – but Manchester United and Real Madrid FC who are two of the world’s biggest clubs.

The Bible page is part of the worldwide work offered by Bible Society and United Bible Societies which works in over 200 countries and territories around the world. Ben Whitnall, Digital Advocacy Officer at Bible Society says: ‘People would not necessarily put the Bible and Facebook in the same sentence. But a recent week’s rankings list, which places the Bible in the number one spot, shows that Christians are engaging with social networks and using them as a means of communicating about the Bible. It’s really encouraging to see that the two can co-exist.’

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A Trip Down Memory Lane

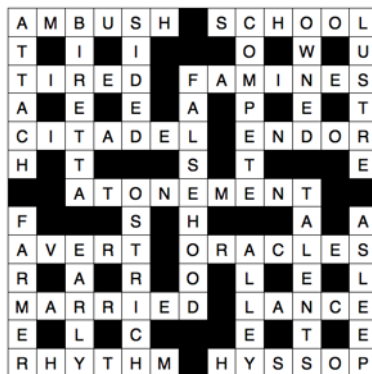
Local History: Did you know that there is a local group which meet together every month to discuss local historical things? The group is '**Beechwood Road Local History Group**' and they meet on the first Monday in the month at 6.30 pm at St. Andrew's Church in Beechwood Road. Everyone with any interest and/or knowledge about the area are most welcome. One member, David Craven, has researched local interest items from the Evening Courier archives held at the Central Library in Halifax and on this occasion the following item dated 28th May 1934 is related.

Illingworth Lock-up

'Let him that stole steal nomore: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.' This appropriate Biblical quotation is to be found on the old Illingworth lock-up.

At one time there were several of these local gaols in the district, and the one at Illingworth, which was built, we believe, early in the 19th century, served the large township of Ovenden. It has not been used as a prison for many years, and is at present occupied by the local Co-operative Society.

An interesting story is told of how silk thieves used to make use of the prison as a hiding place for their ill-gotten spoils. About a hundred years ago, there was a gang of silk thieves operating in the Ovenden district. They broke into the mills, a number of which had then been established in Ovenden and Wheatley, and, having got their plunder, which at that time was of considerable value, they would make their way to the prison, removed some slates from the back of the roof and stuffed in the silk until they could dispose of it. Another hiding place of which they made use was one of the tombs in front of Illingworth Church.'



Kindly submitted by Irene

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Barbara Walters, of 20/20 (huge US TV programme), did a story on gender roles in Kabul, Afghanistan, several years before the Afghan conflict.

She noted that women customarily walked five paces behind their husbands. She recently returned to Kabul and observed that women still walk behind their husbands. Despite the overthrow of the oppressive Taliban regime, the women now seem happy to maintain the old custom.

Ms Walters approached one of the Afghani women and asked, 'Why do you now seem happy with an old custom that you once tried so desperately to change?'

The woman looked Ms Walters straight in the eyes, and without hesitation said:

'Land mines.'

If God isn't done with you,

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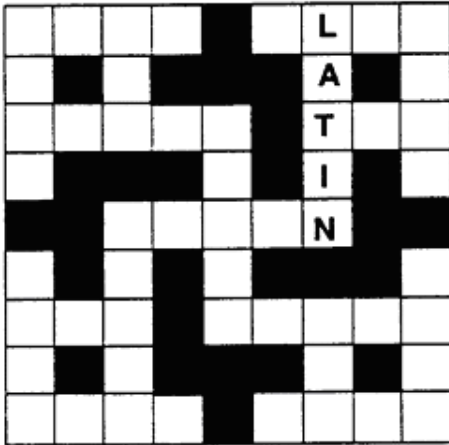
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Fix a Word



Fix the words given below into their right places on the grid. A word has been inserted to start you off.

3 Letters

- AID
- TAX
- NOD
- ONE

4 Letters

- PLOT
- VINE
- VIAL
- EACH
- TEXT
- ASIA
- HOST
- REBA

5 Letters

- ADDER
- IDOLS
- JABIN
- JUDAS
- RABBI
- LATIN

Did you manage to find the mistakes in the picture of Hannah in last month's magazine? Here are the answers: Samuel having a beard, leg of jeans, goat lead not connected, bunch of flowers, tyre tracks, Temple steps missing, clock, suitcase, sandal missing.

Find the Letters

The names of two Old Testament characters appear in each of the squares.

After finding which letter is missing, can you name the characters?

1

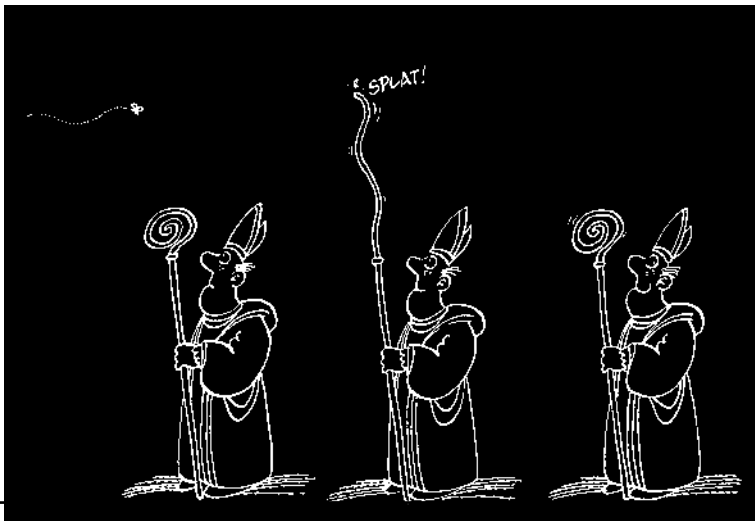
O	S	A
H	J	O
P		U
H	S	E

2

A	E	H
H	I	N
E	H	A
O	K	

3

S	A	O
H		R
M	S	A
B	M	E



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Magazine Contributions & Deadline for the July/August Double Issue

All contributions to be submitted by Sunday 12th June 2011 please, as late submissions may not be inserted. The magazine should be ready for distribution by Wednesday 22nd June. Thank you.



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