



INSPIRE

St John's Church
Ranmoor, Sheffield

October
2022

£1.00





Ranmoor Organ Recitals 2022-23

6th October

Philip Collin

(St John's, Ranmoor)

2nd February

Derek Grover

(St John's, Ranmoor)

3rd November

Julian Gunn

(St John's, Ranmoor)

2nd March

Peter Siepmann

(St Peter's, Nottingham)

1st December

Peter Heginbotham

(Sheffield)

4th May

The Organists of St John's

Organ Music from Yorkshire

12th January

George Parsons

(St Catherine's, Wakefield)

1st June

Darius Battiwalla

(Leeds City Organist)

All recitals begin at 8pm

Entry is free with a retiring collection towards the maintenance of the organ.

www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

St John's Church

Ranmoor, Sheffield

Parish Office, Ranmoor Parish Centre,
5 Ranmoor Park Road, Sheffield, S10 3GX

Tel: 0114 230 1199

Website: www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

St John's Church is a community whose vocation is to extend to all people the same welcome that we ourselves have received from God in Christ. Our worship, enriched by our strong musical and choral traditions, is at the heart of our community's shared life. The gospel calls us to lives of discipleship, informed by reflection and marked by care for one another, by a passion for justice, and by a commitment to the service of our local and wider community.

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Cover photo by Philip Walshaw: Looking up to White Edge, near Longshaw

Large print versions of Inspire are available

Foreword



In I write this in the days following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We are very conscious that we have lost a great Queen, the mother of the nation. Someone who has always been there. Providing constancy in a rapidly changing world. Though none of us knew the Queen well, her death feels surprisingly personal. As if we have lost a member of our family. We pray for His Majesty King Charles III as he takes on the great burdens of office that the

Queen carried so well and for so long.

The Queen has had a profound impact on many people in this country and around the world. She was able to make the individuals that she was speaking to feel that she was entirely focused on them, whatever their station in life. Her Majesty has probably met more people than anyone else in history. And in her seventy-year reign she seems always to have remained curious about people and things. Keen to learn. Willing to adapt to a changing world while maintaining a remarkable stillness and sense of continuity. I know we will miss her for that.

Through times of sadness and times of celebration, Her Majesty has always been with us. From the Second World War and all the wars since. At the cenotaph and in moments of commemoration. The Queen has also been there in times of great joy of course. Occasionally revealing a wonderful sense of humour. Who can forget her mission with 007 at the Olympic Games in 2012 or her tea with Paddington Bear when we celebrated her Platinum Jubilee?

In all of this, Her Majesty has been sustained by a deep personal faith. The Queen grew up in a time when such things were rarely spoken of. But from the millennium onwards, Her Majesty became more open

about her faith in Jesus Christ. In her Christmas message of 2002, she said: “I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings, and to put my trust in God... I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel.”

In 2008 she said: “I hope that, like me, you will be comforted by the example of Jesus of Nazareth who, often in circumstances of great adversity, managed to live and outgoing and sacrificial life.”

Like Jesus, the Queen knew what it was to live for others. She has done so ever since she made that broadcast from Cape Town on her twenty first birthday. Though the Queen was the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, Defender of the Faith, she understood her need, like the need of all of us, for confession and forgiveness. And the need to draw strength and inspiration from Jesus Christ. As we look back on her long reign and her huge dedication it seems that only by the strength of God could she have achieved all that she has.

We have so much to thank the Queen for, not least the wonderful example that she has set for her son, His Majesty Charles III. Though we mourn her passing deeply, I am sure she would want all of us to look to the future with hope and say, God save the King.

Matthew

David Booker

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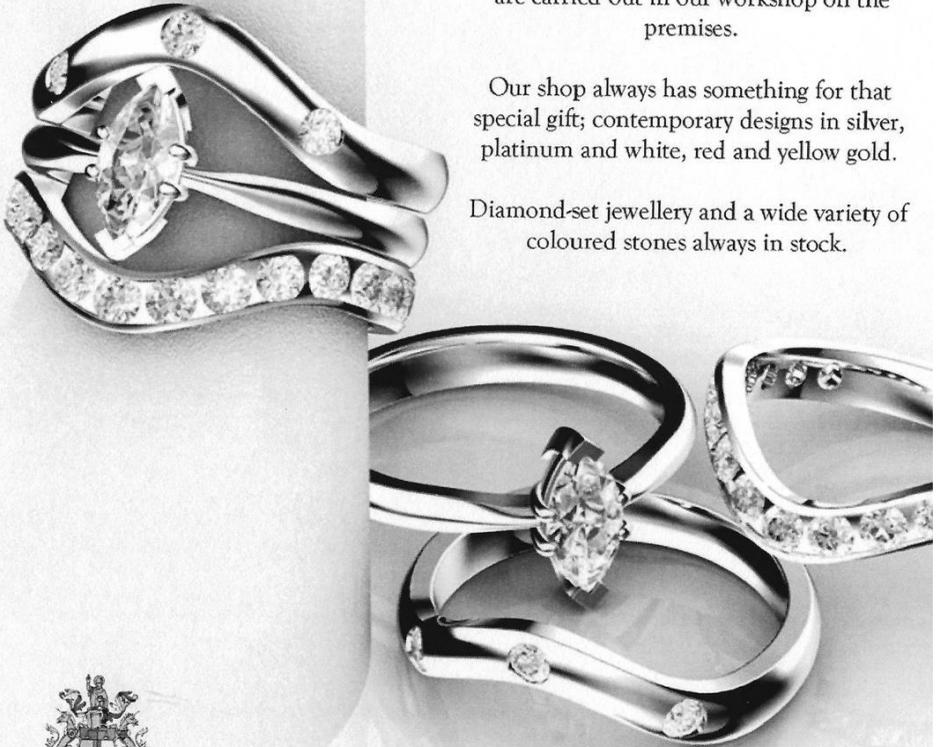
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From the Editor's Chair



By the time you read this, I will have put my trousers on! Yes, it's that time of the year and I have managed to maintain my tradition of wearing shorts from April to September. And now it's time to start wearing my rugby shirts with a tee shirt underneath to keep me warm (a sign of old age, I know, and what happened to string vests?). I'm not making light of the problems that we will face in the colder months ahead of us (and the central heating hasn't gone on yet!) but I don't possess a jumper and

it might be a wise purchase this year.

On reading Matthew's Foreword, it reminded me of a book written by Catherine Butcher and Mark Greene in 2016 entitled "The Servant Queen and the King She Serves". It focuses on the Queen's own words to draw out the central role her Christian faith and the bible played in her life and work. It is well worth reading.

Memories of her Late Majesty the Queen:

Many of you may have seen or met the Queen, so Claire and I thought that it might be nice to get people's memories of the Queen and document them, either as an article in the next issue of this magazine or in a special booklet as a commemorative piece from Ranmoor.

Please send your contributions to Claire by Wednesday 19th October, 2022: administrator@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Philip Walshaw

Escape to the Country

by Brian and Sandie Parfett



Greetings from Kent. So much has happened over the last few months. Somehow the end of August has arrived, and we are all looking ahead to Autumn colours and trying to find some good news in our ever-changing world. God has blessed us by finding new friends and enabling us

to join interesting groups. We helped at the village dog show, have been to the art exhibition and have bought tickets for the village barn dance. We regularly attend the Saturday mornings coffee and cakes in church, try to get past the bakers (but usually find ourselves inside) and are regulars at the monthly country market.

Our reason for moving here though was to be closer to our family. We have been with our great nephews to the rare breeds sanctuary, exhibitions at Rochester cathedral, the Spa Valley Railway and next weekend are meeting at a tractor and farming open day. We have enjoyed buying fruit from local growers and have managed to grow our own tomatoes and peppers.

Since moving back to southern England, having spent 40 years in Sheffield, we are beginning to realise that we are not on holiday. Neither of us have ever lived in a village before, but we are beginning to get to know people and have joined several organisations, including St Mary's Church. The people are friendly (yes southerners who talk to each other) and there is lots going on in the community.

Earlier this month we received a generous cheque from St John's. We understand that some artwork had been commissioned as a farewell gift for us. But, sadly, the artist has had several health problems over the

past year. The gift is very generous, thank you to everyone who contributed. We have some walls in our lounge that would benefit from having pictures displayed, so we plan to find some local artwork to fill the spaces.

With love,
Brian and Sandie

CHRISTMAS CAKES AND PUDDINGS

I know that summer is barely over and Christmas is still three months away but I am taking orders once again. I am trying to hold the prices the same as last year, which might mean less profit for St John's, but I think we have enough extra expense at the moment.



Cakes:

8" (20cm) £14

6" (15cm) £12

Puddings:

Approximately £3 per serving

Please let me know asap if you would like one (or more!) or by the end of November at the latest. My mobile number is 07557 052858 My email is gillianstanley@hotmail.com

Thank you,
Gillian

Chorister's Diary of a Choir Tour

by Lily Beardsmore



This summer, the choir of St John's went on tour. We sang in Exeter Cathedral from 15th-18th August, then travelled to Bristol to sing at St Mary's Redcliffe from 20-21st August. The trip was lots of fun.

Monday 15th August

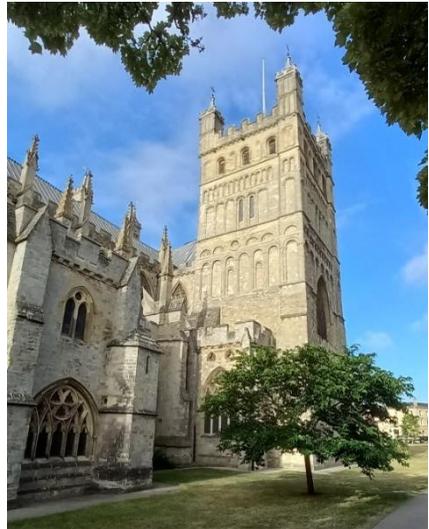
Today we all made the journey from Sheffield to Exeter. It was a really long way and took over 4 hours. We arrived in Exeter Cathedral School which was our home for the week. Then we went straight to the Cathedral to begin rehearsals. We practiced in the choir school but it was a bit small for so many singers. We had a break, then at 4pm we went into the choir stalls to practice for our first service. The Cathedral was enormous and the stalls were really far apart.

The organists were up in a loft way above the Cathedral floor. Four organists came on the tour, taking it in turns to play for services. Our first service was a communion service for the Feast of the Assumption. The altar rail kneelers were a lot harder than we expected! The service went really well but, although it was raining, it was very hot. After the service we went straight to get some dinner then headed to our bunk beds to recover from a long day.

Tuesday 16th August

We started the day with breakfast in the cathedral school, there was a choice of cooked or continental.

Then at 9:30 we went for our rehearsal in the school sports hall. We practiced for 2 hours including a chorister only rehearsal in one of the classrooms. As it was raining, the choristers booked to go bowling in the afternoon. We had two lanes, one for older choristers and one for the juniors. The two winners were Hester and Lucas.



By the time we got back we went straight to the cathedral for practice in the stalls. It was evensong which meant we had psalms that night and in Exeter they sing lots of psalms! Derek conducted the choir that evening. After the evening service we were invited to the Precentor's house for drinks and most of us went. Back at our accommodation, the Beardsmores were making a chilli for everyone to eat that night. It was delicious.

Wednesday 17th August

On Wednesday we had another morning rehearsal. It was still really hot in Exeter so afterwards we went for iced coffee at the local art centre. In our free time that afternoon, many of us went to Exeter's museum RAMM (Royal Albert Memorial Museum). It was fun and interactive and we all enjoyed seeing the famous taxidermy giraffe named Gerald. That night the Juniors sang their first ever Evensong (they've only sung morning services at St John's). The music for choristers and adults was Leighton's Second Service; it was new to the choristers and wasn't easy.

Thursday 18th August

This morning we had our last rehearsal in the school. Then, as the weather was good, some people headed to the seaside for the day.

Before the afternoon rehearsal, we went to look around the cathedral. During World War II it was bombed and it was interesting to hear about the history. There are also lots of chapels, some of them are really small. That night we had our last



Evensong in Exeter and afterwards we celebrated with a meal together and quiz. Ruby, one of the sopranos who is also a trained chef, cooked dinner that night. Then we had a quiz night with everyone which was lots of fun. A few of the choristers did a composers round.

Friday 19th August

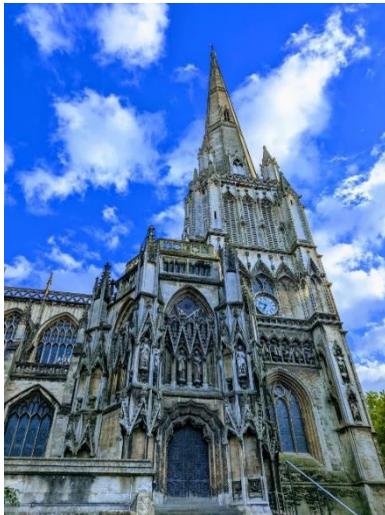
On Friday we packed up and headed to Bristol, saying goodbye to some of the choir who weren't coming on to the next part of the tour. In Bristol we weren't staying together and everyone had booked their own accommodation. We were staying in a nearby hotel and were very glad of air-conditioned rooms and en-suite showers after a week in school dorms. We didn't have any singing that day so had a chance to explore a bit of Bristol and my family went for a swim in our hotel's pool.

Saturday 20th August

We had a free morning so we decided to head to M-Shed, a brilliant free museum on the water in Bristol. We learnt lots about the history of Bristol and the people who had lived there. They also had a special exhibition about Bristol's acts on climate change – it was really interesting.

After lunch, we had a two hour rehearsal in the choir school at St Mary's, Redcliffe, our church for the weekend. It was under the church in the crypt and had lots of pillars and arches. Before Evensong, people from the church served us drinks and biscuits, we felt really welcomed.

Evensong that day included the Gibbons 2nd service with lots of solos – me and Mabel did the choristers solos in the Nunc. After Evensong lots of us went to a nearby pub for food and drinks outside by the river.



Sunday 21st August

Sunday was the final day of tour and it was a busy one with 3 services. The adults sang Matins whilst the choristers had a rehearsal in the Crypt Café. There was a short break then we went straight into the Eucharist service. The Juniors sang with us again and all of the children sang the first verse of the anthem on their own. The end of the service went a bit wrong though, because the adults went a different way out of the stalls to the children – thankfully it didn't matter. Lots of us had Sunday lunch together in a nearby pub and then we had a break before the rehearsal for



Evensong. The final service was impressive and included All Wisdom Cometh from the Lord - my dad sang the big solo and it was very moving. After the service, lots of us had the big journey home from Bristol but it was quicker than expected at less than 3hrs.

I really enjoyed the tour, it was a great way for the choir to come together. We had lots of fun performing in different places and spending time together. I'm already looking forward to the next one!

Every Alternate Wednesday

St John's Church, Ranmoor Foodbank Collection

Please bring your foodbank items to the **Parish Centre Office** on the following alternate Wednesdays between 10am and 12.30pm:

7th and 21st September

5th and 19th October

2nd, 16th and 30th November

Our Harvest Service is on the 25th September at 10.30am and all collections are for the foodbank



Items in need are - tinned fish, UHT milk, long life fruit juice, tinned fruit, shampoo, single toothbrushes.

We are appealing for **Hot Water Bottles** which can be included in the food parcels to help keep families warm during the winter months.

www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk 0114 230 1199

The World of Bees: the concluding part 3 of an article by Julian Sullivan

We left Part 2 of Julian's article finding out how to remove the crown board, the ceiling of the top box of the hive where honey is stored, known as a super. It was sealed with a substance called propolis, a powerful natural resin, collected from trees and plants and used to seal the hive...

Once inside the super, the hooked end of the tool helps in levering up a frame to check for honey content and most importantly to see if it is sealed.



Typically there are 10 frames in each super box and each hexagonal cell in the honey comb of a super frame contains nectar. When the water content is reduced to around 18%, the bees make a wax cap to seal the contents which we know as honey. The bees do this so that the stores will not ferment but remain a source of food through winter, keeping them alive. Honey with a water content of over 20% is not technically honey and may not legally be sold as such. It is likely to

ferment and only be of use for baking honey cakes. For bees, fermented honey equals tummy trouble.

If it is getting noisy in the corner of the pub, our beekeepers may be arguing about who's round it is, but they may have touched on the subject of how much honey to take from their hives at harvest time.

Some say, take it all and feed them sugar syrup through the winter months, while others may want to leave it all for the bees as they obviously need it for a secure passage through to spring. Another group will want to leave their colonies a super full of honey plus anything the bees have stored in the lower brood box, where the nest is situated. They argue that bees always collect more than they need for survival, so will harvest only what is surplus to requirement. This Spring, I found that my bees had used up most but not all the honey in the supers, but had plenty in the lower brood boxes, so we had indeed only harvested from their surplus in the previous season.

The lower brood box of a hive is larger than the storage box or super which sits on top during the season. The brood box is so called because this is where the queen will spend her life, laying eggs which will develop into adult bees. In this respect the brood is like a nursery, where the bees progress through the typical life cycle of an insect. The brood is cared for by young newly emerged bees for the first three weeks of their adult lives. It is fascinating to look carefully through the brood nest, seeing newly laid eggs, developing larvae and sealed pupae. This shows the queen is in good form, moving around the hive, especially early in the season, allowing the bees to increase in numbers. A typical hive will contain between 15,000 to 60,000 worker bees depending on the time of the season. There are three castes of bees: One queen; a few hundred male drones and the majority female workers.

The brood box will be the main focus of any inspection as described above. Having given a few light puffs of smoke around the entrance to calm the bees on sentry duty, we work from the roof down and after checking for honey in the super(s), they are lifted off one by one and placed on the aforementioned upturned roof to keep them off the ground. Across the top of the brood box is a metal grill with enough space between the bars to allow the passage of worker bees up into the storage area of the super frames, where the cells are filled with nectar. It is called the queen excluder as the queen cannot squeeze through the bars so is confined to the nest where she will lay eggs on the brood frames. As we carefully remove the queen excluder, we are heading down into the heart of the colony, to see what is going on.

Operating from the back of the hive, away from the entrance, we will find 11 frames in the brood box and, as we go through them, we can build up a three-dimensional picture of the brood nest itself. Each frame is a cross section which we lift out carefully one at a time, and observe what is happening. In a healthy colony, the first few frames will be filled with sealed stores of honey and pollen brought in by the flying bees. Think of pollen as essential protein for the growing young. On frames 3 or 4, we will see the beginnings of the brood itself, roughly oval in the centre of the frame, with nectar and pollen around the edge. As we progress through the next frames, the oval will increase in size and we will find all the stages of growth from eggs, to larvae to sealed pupae, depending on how the queen has laid her eggs. Working on these frames will be the house bees in their first three weeks of life after hatching. They perform all the essential housework chores such as cleaning, feeding young, fetching, carrying and storing all the goodies brought in by the flying bees who are in their second three weeks or so of life. The big challenge for the rookie beekeeper and for more experienced ones too, is finding the queen, to check she is in good condition. To make this job easier, the queen can be marked on top of her thorax with a special pen, often with different colours for different years to help identify her age.

A good queen, young and well mated will lay upwards of 2000 eggs per day at the height of the season. She is essential for the wellbeing of the colony and will produce pheromones which control the activities of the workers. The qualities of the queen determine the character of the hive. Ideally, we would like a queen to be good tempered, productive and hardy to withstand variations in the weather, in the hope that her offspring will take after her. There is more to be said about queen bees but I will leave you with this thought: How did that enticing jar with a beehive label, sitting on the breakfast table, come into being? We'll ask our beekeeper friends, still occupying that corner table in the lounge bar of The Queen's Arms.

**ST JOHN'S CHURCH, RANMOOR
CALENDAR – OCTOBER 2022**

Saturday 1st October

12.30pm Marriage of Mollie Flannery and James Shaw

Sunday 2nd October – 16th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am All Age Worship and Animal Service

11.45am Macmillan Coffee Morning after the morning Service

6.30pm Holy Communion

Wednesday 5th October – 10-12.30pm

Foodbank Collection

Saturday 8th October

7.30pm Come and sing Fauré's Requiem and
St Nicholas by Benjamin Britten.

Tickets on sale from the Parish Office or Eventbrite

Sunday 9th October – 17th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

Saturday 15th October

Archer Project Sleep Out - Ranmoor

Sunday 16th October – 18th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Parish Communion with Baptism

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Monday 17th October

7.30pm PCC meeting in the annexe

Wednesday 19th – 10-12.30pm

Foodbank Collection

Friday 21st October

1pm Marriage of Rebecca Slater and William Evans

Sunday 23rd October – The Last Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 30th October – All Saints Day

10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Monday 31st October

7.30pm Sanctuary

Other services during the week:

Holy Communion: Every Wednesday at 11.30am in the side chapel

Choral Evensong: Wednesdays at 5.30pm

Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am in Church and on ZOOM

Footsteps: A Sunday school children's group that meets during the Sunday morning service.

Children are welcome at all of our services.

Lunch Club: meets every Wednesday in the Parish Centre. All Welcome

Our Sunday Services are always in Church and on Facebook Live

www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk 0114 230 1199

administrator@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

The Parish Office is open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 9.30am-2.30pm

Parish Registers

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING COUPLES WHOSE MARRIAGES

TOOK PLACE HERE RECENTLY:

Rees Carter & Amy Locking, Thomas Mark McDonald & Paige Elizabeth Baldwin, Rosemary Grace Henry & Robbie Brian Ensor, Gillian Dudson & Stephen George Wesley Mellor, Charlotte Rose Klein & Tom Scott, Beverley Belcher & Christopher York, Joseph Brown & Charlotte Roper-Marchand.

WE THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF THE LIVES OF THESE CHILDREN WHO WERE BAPTISED HERE. MAY YOUR BLESSING OF PEACE AND

JOY BE WITH THEM AND PROTECT THEM ALL OF THEIR DAYS:

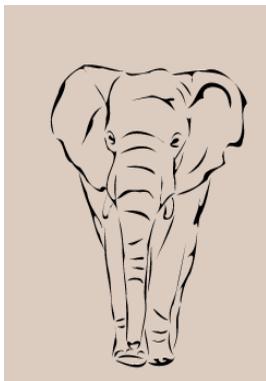
Theodore Dooley

WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:

Molly Lewis, Pam Wilkinson, James Anderson, Mavis Excell-Morgan and Dr Michael May

Young People's Page

Episodes 29 and 30 of the Adventures of the Elephant and Mouse:



"So what do I do again? Asked the mouse. You just step here, then here, then here, and then you spin," the elephant repeated as patiently as it could. "And that's the dance?"

"That's the dance." The elephant nodded.

"Do you understand now?"

"Yes." "Are you sure?" "No."

The elephant sighed a little more loudly than it intended to. "Sorry," muttered the mouse. "Your spin at the end is getting much better, though," the elephant assured it. "No, it isn't." "It is!" the elephant cried out. "I was really impressed!" "Really?" "Really!" The mouse, somewhat mollified, came out of its sulk. "Did you like the little flick I did at the end?"

"It was beautiful." The mouse allowed itself a modest, little smile. "Came up with that myself," it said.

"You," the elephants aid to the mouse, "are my favourite person to laugh with." "That's good." And the mouse smiled.

"Because you're my favourite person to laugh with as well."

"Do you think other people laugh as much as we do?"

"Maybe not..." the mouse admitted. "But then again, not a lot of people are all that funny."

"True," the elephant sighed. And then: "It's a good thing we are."

"Absolutely," agreed the mouse.





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-  See your child develop eye tracking, hand-eye coordination and motor skills.
-  Encourage babbling and early speech.
-  Help your child explore props, instruments, textures and colours
-  Bond, interact and have fun with your child, and make friends with other new parents in a friendly, relaxed environment.

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<https://bookwhen.com/sheffieldmusicbugs> Or contact Claire on 07525627835.

We can't wait to welcome you to Music Bugs!

Quiz: Districts of Sheffield

compiled by Philip Walshaw



The answers to the clues below are Districts of Sheffield. A prize awaits the person who submits the most correct answers. In the event of a tie, a winner will be chosen by a lucky draw. Send your entry by email to jpwalshaw@gmail.com or by post to 19 Cairns Road, S10 5NA to reach me by Wednesday, 19th October.

1. Outer Rim (6,4)
2. In between circle and gleam (10)
3. Yell back around cow (6)
4. Grumpy supply of workers (9)
5. Drab conversion in front of meadow (9)
6. Dazzling team (10)
7. Irate cleric (6,5)
8. Embers rekindled in front of bird (10)
9. Score mixed up with kick off initially changed (7)
10. Coach house with backward facing room (5,4)
11. Cake with everything (9)
12. Mend the lot (7)
13. Ode singer rearranged (9)
14. Clear glass pinnacles (7,5)
15. Golf club dwelling (9)

Answers to September Quiz (Lakes and Mountains):

1. Snowdon 2. Cross Fell 3. Canisp 4. Whernside 5. Tryfan 6. Great Gable 7. Scafell Pike 8. Ogwen 9. Kielder 10. Derwentwater 11. Haweswater 12. Ullswater 13. Rutland Water 14. Ladybower

Entries were received from: Pam and Ian Dall, Lynn and Steve Lawless, John and Brenda Staniforth, Janet Styant and Marion Taylor.

The winners were John and Brenda Staniforth, who receive a box of chocolates.

Children's classes at Ranmoor Parish Centre



Both our **minimovez** fitness and dance classes, and our **minimovez** preschool yoga classes are perfect for introducing your child to exercise in a fun and imaginative way. Please allow around 60 minutes per class. Both classes include tea/coffee, juice and biscuits!!! Just turn

up on the day or contact Steph Stepney on 07838 818743 or email info@minimovez.com for more information. website: www.minimovez.com

minimovez yoga classes: Mondays at 10am



Suitable for pre-school aged children from around 2.5 yrs+, these parent and child classes offer a fun and stimulating introduction to yoga for little ones. Using stories, props and music, we will go on an adventure every week, learning lots about ourselves – and our bodies – on the way!

*A warm up song and yoga stretches *A new yoga adventure every half term *A new yoga pose added every week *Yoga inspired action song *Relaxation and mindfulness *Positive feedback and a minimovez hand stamp *A stay and play time after the structured class



minimovez fitness and dance classes: Tuesdays at 9.30am



Suitable for all toddlers and pre-school children from around 18 months of age, each session is carefully designed to get little ones moving and so much more! Watch their creativity, confidence, physical and social skills develop week after week, and build confidence, so our classes follow a simple structure a solid foundation for an

active life. At this age familiarity and routine is key to building confidence, so our classes follow a simple structure which is aligned with the EYFS framework.

Restaurant Review: The Devonshire Arms, Beeley



I've always had a bit of a soft spot for the Devonshire Arms at Beeley. This goes back to student days when I first arrived in Sheffield, whence the hedonistic offerings of the Students' Union bar were enhanced by the possibilities of sprinting into Derbyshire at closing time (assuming someone actually had a car!) where alcohol consumption was allowed to continue beyond the draconian licencing regulations of said Students' Union bar - and all the other bars in our noble city for that matter.

For some unspecified reason the Devonshire at Beeley seemed to be a focal point destination, now sadly fading into the phantasmagorical concepts of a yesteryear memory. "Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?" Sorry about that, rather carried away by nostalgia. Actually, if you substitute "Devonshire" for "Romeo" you'll probably get the picture.

Anyway, back to the torrid summer of 2022 when the sun shone on our parched landscape, the thoughts of a pint of cooling libation dominated the waking mind, and a drive to Beeley's Devonshire Arms to imbibe a

pint of the above libation developed into a very prominent consideration.

The Meal

Sunny day (lunchtime), open top Mini Cooper (16 years old and still going well - careful driving and regular servicing!), G navigating, pre-booked table, potential Utopia! The Devonshire Arms has changed rather since my last visit. Somewhat more recent than the “rose tinted” days of student hedonism, having acquired a “Gazebo-like” structure with roof, but open to the atmosphere which proved excellent in the current heat-wave, but could be somewhat problematic in inclement weather. No such problems today so perused the “Outside Menu” (as opposed to the “Inside Menu”? –don’t ask!) which was provided by a very pleasant waitress. From proffered menu, and feeling rather peckish, I decided to attempt the “Full Monty”, no not a full display of naked turpitude – don’t be silly – merely starter, main and pudding from the modest choice selection. Forgot to mention drinks. Very abstemious actually (see all that rubbish about tempting libation etc in first, or second paragraph, can’t be bothered to check as I’m re-reading this stuff and becoming pretty bored) as we both decided to consume the local tap water (provided free) – why not, you don’t have to consume alcohol, or whatever, with every meal. Mind you, it’s not a bad idea to have a glass of the red (or white) with most meals don’t you think?

Moving away from the philosophy of vineyard appreciation, I decided to start with the Smoked salmon accompanied by “home cured” Beetroot, Dill emulsion and a tasty Oatcake (£10). Not particularly cheap, but an excellent variation on the “traditional” smoked salmon starter - the beetroot/dill combination worked really well. Salads don’t usually inspire much interest, do they? For me, the word “salad” evokes an image of limp lettuce co-habiting with soggy sliced tomato and embarrassing lumps of squirming cucumber offered at a post funeral lunch. So obviously, having made these astute observations on salad desirability, I decided to try the Fish Salad (a pretty steep £16.00) as a main course. Good choice! The fish was pan-seared Seabass with more of the ubiquitous salmon, (poached not smoked), plus a quantity of (one of my favourite food items) small brown shrimps. Of course, there was an

element of “salad” vegetation – crisp Cos lettuce, tiny fresh tomatoes, a smattering of spring onions – great combination. All funereal remarks (see above if you have no idea what I’m writing about) delete from your memory. Salads (if prepared correctly, with style and skill, really can be quite enjoyable!

Pudding had to be Bakewell tart (£10.00 –again not cheap) which arrived with a generous dollop of cherry ice cream. An admission. Mentioned the noble “no-alcohol with meal” bit earlier (again see above) but I’m afraid I succumbed to the temptation of a glass of sweet Muscat pudding wine (£5.60) in order to complement the local pudding delicacy. Worked well!

Verdict

Wonderful! All three courses were tasty, fresh, well presented and, no doubt supported by the general “non-standard” British warm sunshine, really hit the spot.

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Roy Stanley

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Rambling On

with Philip Walshaw



One of my favourite villages in the Peak District is Castleton, despite it being a tourist ‘honeypot’. Of course, I don’t consider myself to be a tourist; after all, I am a local, aren’t I? And talking about ‘locals’, it must have the highest number of pubs in one village and, fingers crossed, they seem to be surviving, despite the increasingly worrying current economic situation. Why do I like Castleton? As well as the church and Peveril Castle (not forgetting the six pubs!), it is surrounded by the great ridge stretching from Mam Tor along Back Tor to Lose Hill and beyond. I can even cope with the sight of Hope Cement Works – it gives the place a feeling of community and helps the local economy.

If you want to get away from some of the crowds and enjoy a gentle, flat two or three miles circular walk, here’s one that meanders into and out of Castleton with that glorious scenery as a backdrop. Drive, or walk up, from Castleton towards Treak Cliff Cavern past the left hand turning up to Winnats Pass and park near to the signpost on the right that directs you to the National Trust property that is Dunscur Farm.

Follow the metalled track to the farm, crossing the cattle grid (pictured) and what looks like Castleton’s equivalent of Clapham Junction, with its multiplicity of signage. Keep straight on, ignoring the intriguingly named Dirty Lane on the right (you will return along here). Turn right at the



farm, so you don’t trespass onto private land, and follow the path which eventually comes out onto Hollowford Road. Turn right and follow the road into Castleton, where you might be tempted to some form of refreshment. Continue through the village past the Visitor Centre and look for a

slightly obscured signpost on the right (opposite “Lucifer’s Backside” or, as they put it, the “Devil’s Arse” Cavern). Follow the narrow gennel that takes you on Dirty Lane alongside Odin Sitch (that eventually leads to the disused Odin Mine). Turn left at “Clapham Junction” back to where you started from or extend it to follow whichever signpost you choose.

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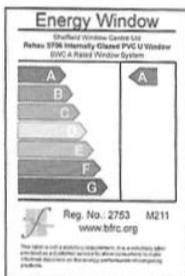
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Assistant Curates: Alison Wragg (07950 211128)
alison.wragg@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk
Matt Wood - Matt has moved to finish his curacy at Abbeydale and Millhouses Church. Matt can still be contacted via the Ranmoor Parish office on 0114 230 1199

Lay minister: Janet Noble (Children's Minister)
0114 230 1199 (Church Office)
footsteps@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Churchwardens: Mark Gregory and Pauline Heath
churchwardens@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Church and Parish

Centre Office: 5 Ranmoor Park Road, Sheffield S10 3GX
Opening Hours: 9.30am-2.30pm (Mon-Wed)

Administrator: Claire Webber (Safeguarding Officer, Electoral Roll Officer and PCC Secretary)
(0114 2301199)
claire.webber@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Finance and Gift Aid

Officer: Mark Dakin (0114 230 1199)
finance@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Treasurer: David Booker (07773 821125)
treasurer@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

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Church Groups and Activities

Children and Young People:

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Helen Clark or Sally Booker
0114 230 1199 (Church Office)

Footsteps (for children up to Y6)

Janet Noble
0114 230 1199 (Church Office)
footsteps@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

REACH (for young people Y7 and up)

Revd Matt Wood
07900 436762
matt.wood@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Study Group:

Sandra Green
0114 230 9180
biblestudy@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Flower arranging:

Sandra Green
Jackie Lowe
0114 230 3999
Flowers@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Music:

Philip Collin, Director of Music
philip.collin@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk
or
music@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk
(vacancy)

Prayer and Fellowship:

Bellringers:

Tower Captain

Richard Noble
07834 154637
towercaptain@ranmoorringers.org.uk

Secretary

Gill Platt Hopkin
secretary@ranmoorringers.org.uk
contact Claire Webber - Parish
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Jane and Steven Hides - 0114 230 3635

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Contributors	Lily Beardsmore, Poppy Hollingworth, Brian and Sandie Parfett, Matthew Rhodes, Gillian Stanley, Roy Stanley, Julian Sullivan and Philip Walshaw
Editor	Philip Walshaw: 07815 963807 jpwalshaw@gmail.com
Design	Philip Walshaw
Printers	PRINTWORKS Sheffield (www.printworksprint.co.uk)
Advertising	Peter Marrison: 07581 888068 wpmarrison@btinternet.com
Administrator	Claire Webber (0114) 230 1199
Publisher	Parochial Church Council of the Church of St John the Evangelist, Ranmoor, Sheffield

Contributing to Inspire:

As always you should feel free to contribute to the magazine: articles, news, photographs, and anything else that you feel might be suitable. Any contributions received after the date shown below will be considered for publication in the following issue. We cannot guarantee that everything we receive will be published.

The deadline for contributions to the November edition is Wednesday, 19th October, 2022.

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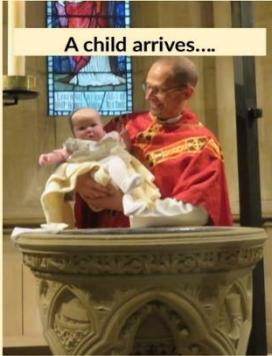
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