



INSPIRE

St John's Church
Ranmoor, Sheffield

July/Aug
2024
£1.00



**Scissors
Paper
Stone**

St John's Church, Ranmoor

**Scott Engering
the geological detective
examines the stones of St John's**



**Saturday 6 July
4.30pm**

Tickets £3
From TicketSource
U18s and students FREE

St John's is built of stone from across Europe.
Scott's knowledge of the geology of Yorkshire and the
properties of the stones that make up our buildings,
is second to none.

Come and hear Scott present his findings from his
close examination of the church.

Scott Engering: Often known as Sherlock Stones, Scott shares his knowledge
of building stones in South Yorkshire. Do visit his blog, The Language of Stone,
illustrated by his beautiful photographs:

<https://thelanguageofstone.blogspot.com/>

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.

Contents

- Foreword - 4
 - Pastoral Care - 5
 - Any Questions - 5
 - From the Editor's Chair - 7
 - Scissors, Paper, Stone - 8
 - iPads and the Choir – 12
 - Eco Church : Where's Wally? - 13
 - Young People's Pages -16
 - Church Calendar - 18
 - Parish Registers - 21
 - Christian Aid - 22
 - Restaurant Review: Turnip and Thyme - 23
 - Rambling On - 26
 - Quiz - 29
 - Contacts - 31
 - Groups and Activities - 32
 - Contributing to Inspire - 34
- Cover photo by Philip Walshaw

Large print versions of Inspire are available

Foreword



I wonder how you mark sabbath in your life? How you mark out time that is different, spacious and renewing – time that is holy. Recently, Cathy and I spent some time in a hotel in the Netherlands. It had a lovely spa. The dress code in the spa was no clothes. That’s probably an image you could do without! But on the Sunday we were there, there was a sign up to say that swimming costumes should be worn.

Marking sabbath time is more complicated than it used to be. I have a friend in Scotland who remembers that when he was a child, the swings in the park were chained up. Nowadays, Sunday is much like every other day. Many people work and most things are open and available. Modern technology does not respect sabbath time. So we have to consciously create sabbath space.

All of us need sabbath time. Time to switch off. Time to rest. Time just to be and enjoy the wonderful world that God has given us. If the good Lord needed to rest after six days of creation, then surely we must too. Not in a joyless, doctrinaire way but in a way that is good for our minds, bodies and spirits. Constant activity is not good for us or for our planet and as people of faith, I hope we can model sabbath for others. And of course, joining others in worship is a great way of marking sabbath.

As well as finding regular times in our week for sabbath, there are often times in the year when things are quieter. Perhaps when the sun shines and there is time to smell the roses. I hope that these months of July and August will bring you sabbath time and that we can all experience God’s renewing love.

Shabbat shalom,
Matthew

Pastoral Care

July is the time of year when we step back and acknowledge the many ways in which we at St John's support and care for each other. Much of what happens in Pastoral Care takes place informally between people but there is also a more structured side to our Pastoral Care activities: this includes the many volunteers who prepare and serve the Wednesday lunches; those who collect people and bring them to Sunday services; those who send cards to people when they are in hospital; those who cook and deliver meals when people are unwell; those who take Holy Communion into the local Care Homes and those who visit and support members of the congregation at home or on the phone.

On Sunday 15th September, we will be having a lunch in the Parish Centre after the morning service to thank everyone who has contributed to our pastoral care during the past year. This lunch invitation is also extended to anyone who would like to find out more about getting involved in any of our pastoral care activities. Do talk to me or Barbara Wozencroft or other members of the Pastoral Care group for more information, but make sure you put lunch on 15th September in your diary and come along to find out more.

Janet Atkinson

Any Questions?

St John's is delighted to be hosting the BBC Radio 4 programme *Any Questions?* On 15th November. Please put this in your diaries and invite your friends. Details of how to book tickets will be released nearer the time.

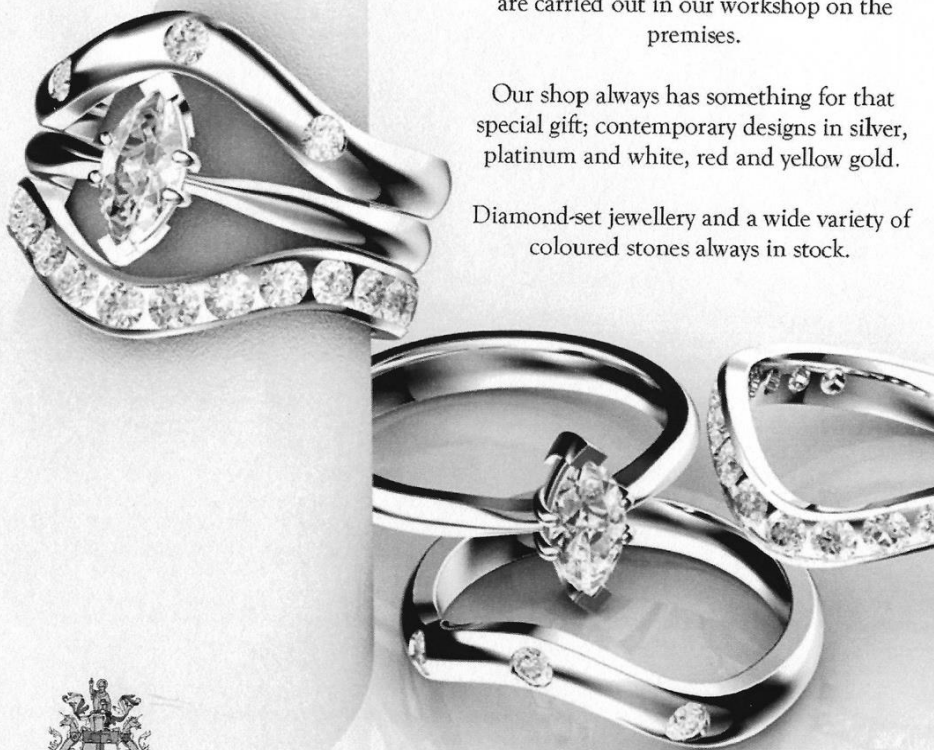
McAvoy & Beardsmore

Jewellers & Goldsmiths

From simple repairs to bespoke pieces, using traditional techniques and the latest Computer-Aided Design software, all tasks are carried out in our workshop on the premises.

Our shop always has something for that special gift; contemporary designs in silver, platinum and white, red and yellow gold.

Diamond-set jewellery and a wide variety of coloured stones always in stock.



A Member of
The National Association
of Goldsmiths

Tel: 0114 230 7078
210 Oakbrook Road, Nether Green, Sheffield S11 7ED
www.mcavoy-and-beardsmore.co.uk

From the Editor's Chair



Since I started wearing my shorts for “Summer”, apart from a short sunny spell in late May, it hasn’t really been shorts weather. I wasn’t tempted back into wearing trousers but throughout the dreary weather, a ditty that I learnt a long time ago was running through my head (I think they call it an ear worm these days):

*“When that I was and a little tiny boy,
With a hey, ho, the wind and the rain,
A foolish thing was but a toy,
For the rain it raineth every day.”*

It takes me back to my schooldays and many of you will recognise it as a song by Jeste (the Fool in Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night). It does seem as though it’s been raining every day recently, but in reality it hasn’t and the alternative title to Shakespeare’s play is apposite. *What you Will* is what you make of it and I get frustrated with people whose movements in life appear to be dictated by the weather forecast app on their mobile phones and influences you into thinking *What you Won’t* be doing!

One of the messages from Twelfth Night is that all revels and festivities are short-lived intervals in life’s daily grind. As Longfellow reminds us “into our lives some rain must fall” and we might have to face things that may inconvenience us or dampen our spirits, even rain on our parade, but after every storm there is a rainbow. Reflecting on the recent 80th Anniversary commemoration of D-Day, and the optimistic post-war forecasts that “*there will be better days ahead*”, let us hope that the wind and rain will finally give way to more clement weather.

I hope you all have an enjoyable Summer whatever you choose to do and, of course, whatever the weather!

Philip Walshaw

Scissors Paper Stone

Blog 9: Our Spire



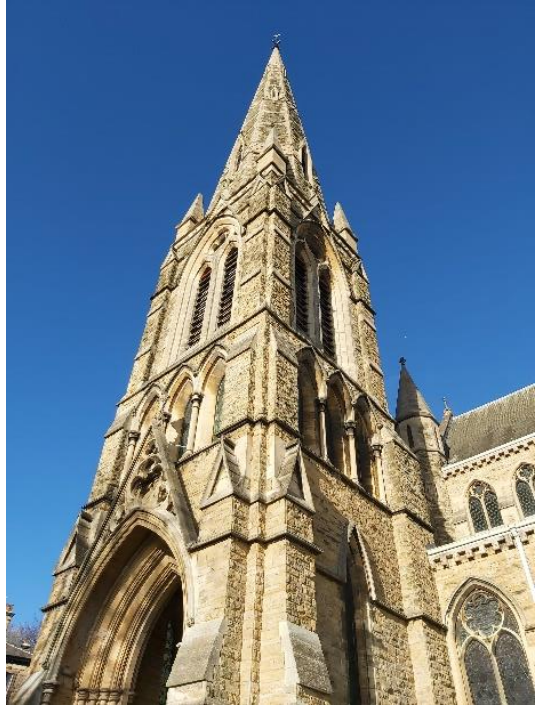
One of the mysteries of our church is that if you are running past it for the 120 bus or striding towards Attilio's for a mid-day sandwich, it is easy to miss the imposing building altogether. It can seem tucked away from everyday life on a little hillock and surrounded on three sides by trees. Yet, from the hills and

valleys on the west of Sheffield, miles or half a mile from the church, it is clearly visible. It rises above the Victorian and Edwardian suburbs and the treelined streets and is, even for those who have nothing to do with the church, a defining component of a landscape which seems unchanging and much-loved.

It is the spire that makes its mark on the City of Sheffield, not the rest of the building. Yet, as we now know, it is the spire that is the building's greatest weakness. The only part of the first church to survive the fire of 1888, its survival seems to suggest the spire's permanence but where fire failed, chemistry succeeded. The fatal combination of limestone and sandstone in the spire meant that over the last 150 years the materials that it is made of have caused it to disintegrate. Limestone should never be placed above sandstone on the outside of a building. When wet,

limestone gradually leaches calcium carbonate. When this seeps into sandstone it gradually crystallises causing the sandstone to burst apart. So why did our architect, Edward Mitchel Gibbs, use this combination? It is possible he was following the lead of that great founder of Victorian Early Gothic, George Gilbert Scott. Thirty years earlier, in the 1850s, Gilbert Scott designed what is said to have been his favourite creation: All Souls, Haley Hill in Halifax.

Gibbs worked in Leeds and Sheffield and Flockton, who took him into his Sheffield architectural practice, had trained under Gilbert Scott. Was it this chain of influence that inspired many of our church's early Gothic features: the slender columns, the relatively simple tracery and, above all, the delight in what is sometimes called structural polychromy. This is the use of different coloured stones to emphasise certain structural features in a building. Our spire looks like a copy of Scott's creation in



Halifax which suffered even more disastrously from the mix of limestone and sandstone. The problems faced by the guardians of All Souls were so great that it is no longer a functioning church but preserved, for its beauty, by the Churches Conservation Trust.

Yet, when we look up at our spire we can see why the architects of both All Souls and St John's were seduced by the interlacing of different coloured stone. Limestone is less crumbly than sandstone – more Cheddar than Lancashire. This means that the shapes cut from it can be sharply defined. Looking up at our spire we can see that the whiter

blocks of limestone etch the spire's shape against the sky. In between the network of limestone lies the yellowy infilling of sandstone which lightens the whole effect and gives the construction that sense of lift-off - one of the great thrills of looking upwards at it from close by.

I found a visitor one day, doing just that – standing outside the church, craning his neck to look at the spire beyond the inverted umbrella of scaffolding that now prevents church goers from being struck by lumps of sandstone. He introduced himself as Roderick Hughes. He had himself been a chorister at St John's in the mid twentieth century. He revealed that he had a close family connection with the spire. His great grandfather had put the cockerel and the weathervane at its topmost point. Roderick, both a musician and an engineer, had come from a family of builders. His ancestor had come from Harrogate to seek work in Sheffield just as the building boom on the west side of Sheffield was gathering pace. It was a source of family pride that his nerve and his skills had contributed to this well-known local landmark.



I shared Roderick's family history with a group of children who were waiting patiently while their parents were rehearsing for a concert. The music being sung was in celebration of the man who paid for the spire and first church to be built: John Newton Mappin. While their parents were singing, Sally Booker and I

took Sam, Arthur, Iris, Toby and Polly out on to the green in front of church. It was one of the few nearly sunny afternoons this spring. Sally had provided binoculars for us to look at the spire to see if we could find the golden cockerel that should be spinning around in the wind and

that Roderick's relative had placed there. Though there was a light breeze there were no flashes of gold as the cockerel spun round – we hope that in the church's restoration we will be able to restore his plumage. But we could see the weather vane change position and Gibbs' creation of white limestone and golden sandstone shone. Against the fast-moving little clouds the whole spire seemed to spin upwards.

I am grateful to Iris for capturing that afternoon when the spire seemed invincible and to Polly for helping us all to look carefully at patterns of white and gold that define and destroy it.

These first six months of the Scissors Paper Stone project have caused many of us to look more carefully at the building in which we worship. It is my hope that all this looking will help increase our understanding of the way our church was



built and can be preserved. The geologist Scott Engering will be talking to us on Saturday July 6th about the nature of the many kinds of stone that Gibbs used to create St John's. Only such understanding will help us save our church from collapse or from being conserved simply as an empty monument to times past.

Mary Grover

iPads and the Choir

by Philip Collin



You may have noticed in recent months that some members of the choir have been processing in and out of the choir stalls carrying iPads or other tablets. This is not a large-scale breakdown in discipline with people doing Wordle or following live text cricket commentary during the sermon or

anything like that, rather that we have begun the process of moving from paper copies of music to using electronic copies, with the intention of being pretty much paperless within the next year or so.

There are many reasons that we are doing this but the main three are for reasons of (i) storage space, (ii) convenience and (iii) accessibility.

Firstly, the plans for renewing and improving the building include a reordering of the vestries so that the choir vestry becomes a useful rehearsal space - currently all rehearsals take place in the church as there isn't space in the choir vestry, not least as a large proportion of the space is taken up by storage of sheet music.

Secondly, at the moment we have 37 adults and choral scholars, 17 Choristers and 7 Juniors regularly singing plus 5 organists who play regularly. The logistics of ensuring the right music is in the right hands at the right time and ensuring that it remains in good condition is enormously complicated and time-consuming.

Thirdly, for some services we have found that singers are having to juggle around 10 or more pieces of paper. This can be difficult for some for various reasons and so hopefully this will help us to be more inclusive. Much of the music we sing is “Public Domain” because the composer has been dead for more than 70 years which means that his or her copyright (which passes to their estate on their death) has lapsed. For many years there has been a community of amateur editors who have been making editions of out-of-copyright music and posting online for people to freely download and reproduce. We use a lot of these editions and will undoubtedly save considerably on printing costs. For music that is in copyright, it is slightly more complicated but increasingly publishers sell digital copies of their music with a restrictive license so you can print (or share) a certain number of copies but no more.

The plan is that where choir members have their own tablet, they will bring them in and use them in rehearsals and services and the music department will buy a number of tablets for those who don't have them. If you have a tablet that you no longer use (with a 10 inch screen or larger), please consider passing it on to the music department. Even if it's a bit old or slow, we may be able to use it. If you want to know more, feel free to ask me or a member of the choir.



Eco Church Group: Where's Wally?

by John Green

You or your children/grandchildren may be familiar with this picture puzzle where, in a sea of people and faces you are challenged to find “Wally”. He is a lanky young man in a striped top and beanie hat with large glasses. It can be surprisingly difficult to locate him and the thought occurs that maybe he isn't there. Jigsaws can have a similar effect, in the

search for a colour, pattern or just a hole to fit the shape. Even poems have been written about the idea of absence:

“Yesterday upon the stair, I met a man who wasn’t there”
(*“Antigonish”* - Hughes Mearns)

I’ll leave you to finish it but all these thoughts about absence were prompted by an Australian book my daughter lent me. It’s a Christian book: *A Nature Lover’s guide to seeing God* by Bob and Evelyn McDonald. It’s in landscape A4 format, with beautiful photographs from nature on one side and a reflection, bible passage and prayer on the other (see note 2). It’s really all about searching for God in the natural world - a passion of mine. The first image is of the Milky Way in a dark sky area. The stars look amazing but it is the shape of the spaces between them that is the focus of the reflection. The shapes created by an absence of stars have great significance for the indigenous people of the continent. They change shape through the year and have been given names and meaning. One example is a dark area that gradually takes on the shape of an emu and the people know that’s it’s then the season to collect emu eggs.

The bible passage for this reflection is from Psalm 8: v1-8 “When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars.....”. There is much more I could write about in the contents of this book but into all my thoughts stepped Bishop Richard Blackburn. Whilst we are pleased to see him and Helen in the pews at St. John’s, he is often away helping at other services, as a retired Bishop.

One such was Ascension Day when he came to St. John’s to preside at a moving Confirmation Service when Sophie, Thomas and Jack, our newest members, were confirmed. Richard preached about our faith being “constructed around key experiences of absence”, prompted by Ascension Day when the imagery is about Jesus no longer being with us, physically and the Easter story of abandonment on the cross and the empty tomb - “He is not here”.

There is a great deal more I could write about in this sermon, but I'll just include two other thoughts about the paradox of the absence of God. The poet/priest RS Thomas wrote:

"It is this great absence, That is like a presence, that compels Me to address it"

And a reminder of the reply from the Rabbis of old to the question: "How do we know there is a God? Answer: "because he keeps disappearing". Without wanting to write another sermon, I'd better explain what all this has to do with Eco-Church, to which the answer is - everything. Some may recall the book published 60 years ago by Rachel Carson - called "Silent Spring" in which she describes her experience of the sudden absence of birdsong in Massachusetts USA. The cause was the introduction of DDT insecticide in crop spraying. Effects can be direct on humans and animals but are mainly on insects.

I had a holiday job one year in the 60s, working for Fisons, who did crop spraying with light aircraft. We students were dressed in white overalls and acted as field markers for the pilot. We worked upwind but inevitably the wind did change so I sometimes wonder if my lung problems originate from that exposure. No insects means no food for the birds, which is why we have been trying to create insect food sources around church, with the wildflower area and a blossoming fruit tree.

This book started the Ecological movement and absence is still part of the story - albeit as a remedy rather than a symptom. Absence of excessive travel, use of fossil fuels and plastic are our personal contributions to net-zero. I'm writing this half way through the General Election campaign and there has been a distinct absence of views from the politicians about the Climate Crisis. Policies around achieving net-zero carbon are beginning to emerge but they don't seem to see it as a vote winner. It's up to us to challenge this when the canvassers knock on our door or we attend hustings. If you are an RSPB member you will have had an email recently about lobbying your local candidates.

As the old saying goes - "Absence makes the heart grow fonder" - but it also makes the world much safer.

John Green

Young People's Pages

Here's something that you might want to do this Summer – with or without the help of an adult!

How to make your own bird feeder



What you need:

- dry ingredients
- bird seed
- cooked rice
- grated cheese
- dried fruit
- bread/crumbs
- chopped nuts
- lard or suet)
- hard cooking fat

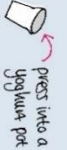
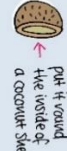
- a pine cone, coconut shell or yoghurt pot
 - string
- Use an old yoghurt pot for this, and always recycle after it's been used

1 Mix all the dry ingredients together in a bowl



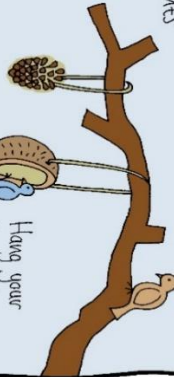
2 Add the fat and give it a good mix around

3 Choose your feeder

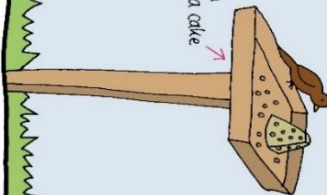


If you need to melt the fat to help an adult

Hang your feeder where you can watch birds without disturbing them



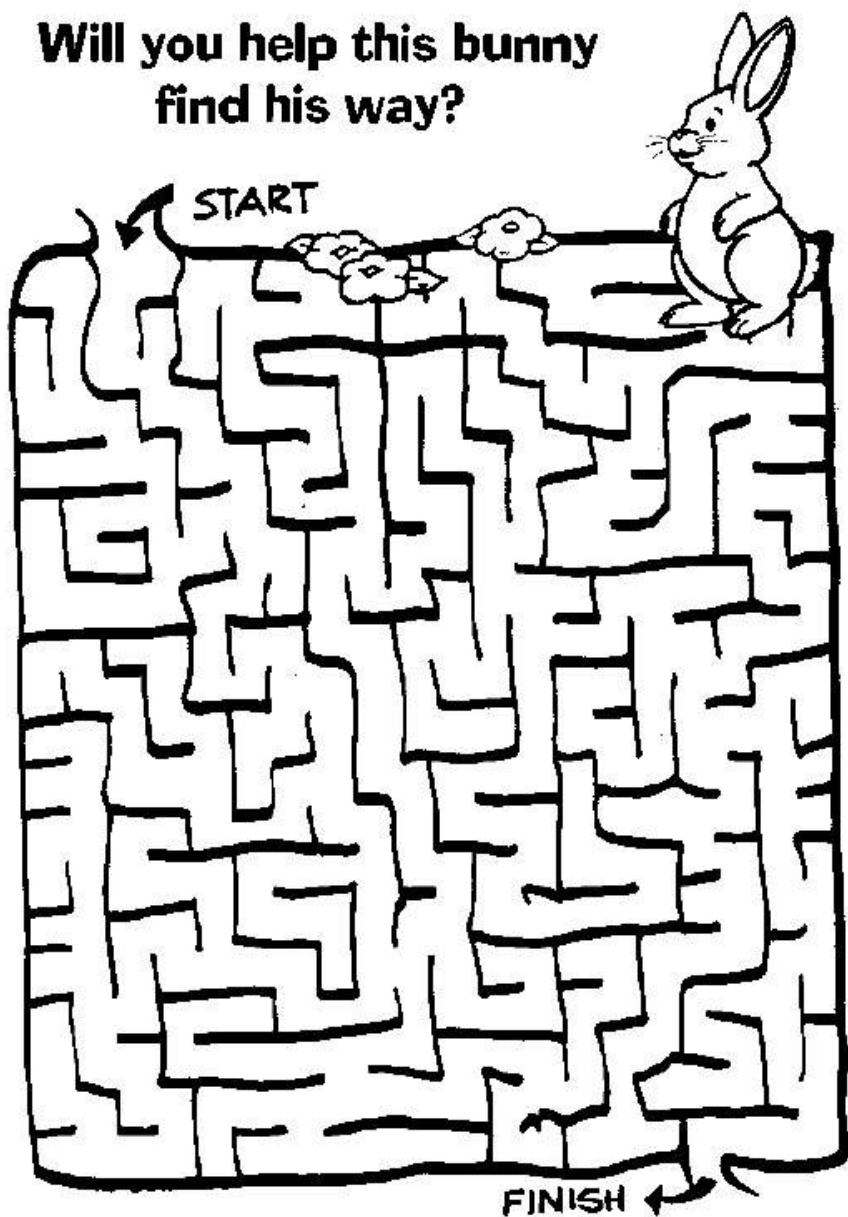
4 Hang your feeders with string (you may need to make holes and the string in before adding the mix)



www.wildlifewatch.org.uk

Illustration: Corinne Welch © Copyright Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts 2015

Will you help this bunny
find his way?



ST JOHN'S CHURCH, RANMOOR
CALENDAR – JULY AND AUGUST 2024

Wednesday 3rd July

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

12.30pm Lunch Club

5.30pm Choral Evensong with Choristers

Thursday 4th July

10am Toddler and Baby Group

Sunday 7th July – 6th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am All Age Service

6.30pm BCP Communion

Wednesday 10th July

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

12.30pm Lunch Club

5.30pm Choral Evensong with Choristers

Thursday 11th July

10am Toddler and Baby Group

Saturday 13th July

7pm Abbeydale Singers Summer Concert

Sunday 14th July – 7th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Choral Evensong

The choir will break until September

Wednesday 17th July

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

12.30pm Lunch Club

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 18th July

10am Toddler and Baby Group

Sunday 21st – 8th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

Monday 22nd July

7.30pm PCC meets in the annexe

Wednesday 24th July

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 28th July – 9th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

Monday 29th July

7.30pm Sanctuary in the side chapel

Wednesday 31st July

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 4th August – 10th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 7th August

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

12.30pm Summer Lunch Club

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Saturday 10th August

Noon- Marriage of Dan Rawley and Emily Matkin

Sunday 11th August – 11th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

12th – 18th - *Choir Visit Truro Cathedral*

Wednesday 14th August

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

12.30pm Summer Lunch Club

5.30pm Evensong

Sunday 18th August – 12th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 21st August

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

12.30pm Summer Lunch Club

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 25th August – 13th Sunday after Trinity

10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Evensong

Wednesday 28th August

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

12.30pm Summer Lunch Club

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Other services during the week:

Holy Communion: Every Wednesday at 11.30am in the Parish Centre

Choral Evensong: Evensong Wednesdays at 5.30 pm (Choral Evensong every other week in term time, see Music List for details)

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 – please book with the Parish Office

Sunday Social: Meets straight after the morning service on the 4th Sunday.

Please book with the Parish Office.

Our Sunday Services are always in Church and on YouTube

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 Billy Lingard who was baptised at St John's recently.

**Please remember those who have died recently:
Fiona Nettleship**

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the friends and families of those names listed.



C Paul Fox MPTA MIMIT

Piano Tuning ~ Repairs ~ Quality Used Pianos

35 Storth Park Fulwood Road
SHEFFIELD S10 3QH

ironframe269@gmail.com

www.sheffieldpianotuner.co.uk

Tel: 07889 759265





Christian Aid Week May, 2024: A Big Thank You

To everyone who helped with the Christian Aid Week Appeal this year, we send a very big thank you.

This year's appeal was for help to those affected by climate change and famine in Burundi, and to support them in their efforts to grow their food and their businesses. We featured Aline, who with the help and advice which Christian Aid was able to bring, was eventually able to build her own house and grow her business sufficiently well to be able to sustain her, even in the most difficult of circumstances.

Here at St Johns a wonderful week of events was organised to highlight the need for generous giving. Thanks go to Claire Webber, our administrator, who printed the publicity, to Pauline Heath, who helped co-ordinate everything, to a team of musicians organised by Sarah Beardsmore who gave an inspiring concert, and many people who assisted at stalls for the Big Brekkie! Among them were Susan and Philip Walshaw who organised another highly successful Plant Sale, and the Guides and Brownies with their sweets and tombola.

The concert raised £410.90, and the Brig Brekkie £1,000. Pauline Heath also met the 70k sponsored challenge, and raised £560 in sponsorship. In addition, donations were received through the envelopes and the card machines. The total is a magnificent £3,335.26! So, to all of you who took part, supported, and gave so generously we say a very big "THANK YOU".

Janet and Malcolm Anker

And a very big THANK YOU to Janet and Malcolm for all their untiring efforts in everything they do.

Restaurant Review: Turnip & Thyme, 740 Ecclesall Road, Sheffield 11



When I first arrived in Sheffield as a tender young student in the “Swinging 60’s”, one of my greatest memories was the “free food” supplied on a Thursday night by various of the city’s hostelryes. My favourite purveyor of these essential elements to student life was the long gone, and much lamented (by me anyway) – Raven Tavern. This was a vast pub residing in munificent splendour at the top of West Street near Fitzwilliam Street. I seem to be becoming rather carried away with all this reminiscence - which actually has nothing to do with the review -which may or may not appear in due course. All those who enjoy an element of local nostalgia, keep reading – all who don’t, perhaps re-read the vicar’s letter for some light relief!

All this Thursday stuff was based on G - who and had just finished re-decorating the bathroom this Thursday - suggesting we depart the household chaos and have a relaxing evening meal at one of our favourite restaurants. Seemed a reasonable idea - especially as being a Thursday it was possible to make some sort of effort in producing a restaurant review of wherever we decided to go, and incorporate a bit of self-

pleasing nostalgia incorporating free food night etc.as an introduction! After some democratic discussion it was decided that a visit to Turnip & Thyme restaurant on Ecclesall Road would be a good idea. Actually the last visit to this establishment was pre-Covid - so was this pretty decent emporium still firing on all cylinders?

The Meal (part one)

No problems with the booking. Seemingly Thursday dining in Sheffield still seems to present the pre-Friday pay day financial problems reflected in my long gone (and much lamented!) student days. I guess a 6.30pm booking is pretty early, but a completely empty restaurant was still surprising. Greetings from sundry members of the establishment (probably delighted we had actually turned up!) were good - coupled with an offer to choose any table available (namely all of them!) Reading the last paragraph, it seems as though I'm leading up to an evening of gloom. Not the case! Read on and (hopefully) beams of soporific light and pleasure will permeate the stygian gloom of negative perception. Before delving into the beams of light etc. a mention of the history of Turnip & Thyme is probably apposite. The establishment (a modest 32 covers) is owned and run by siblings Robert and Louise Moore, who acquired the establishment (previously Swanky's bistro) in 2019. Robert cooks - Louise works front of house. The reputation for quality dining has been a constant (Trip Adviser, Sheffield Star, word of mouth - pun not intended) - plus sundry awards from various professional culinary critics – all of which are extremely lavish with their praise).

The Meal (part two)

At long last (to use a well-worn cliché) - the meal. Well not quite! Forgot to mention relaxing libations ordered and served by an enthusiastic (lonely?) waiter who talked us through the “Menu Specials” displayed on the ubiquitous white board, whilst producing a glass of lager (unknown make - £5.95) for me, and a “medium” 175cc glass of Merlot (£7.25) for G. From the “Specials” board I decided to start with the Cod Croquettes (£10.50) with the suggestion that G could share this dish which would be financially economical - and allow for the potential of sharing (perhaps!) a pudding. This worked well as the dish itself presented as four fairly generously proportioned egg-shaped croquettes with a

breaded outer casing enclosing flakes of cod in a skilfully blended mixture of multiple herbs. A simple but very tasty first course.

For the main course I continued with the fish theme choosing Sea Bass on a bed of grated new potatoes and spinach (£21.95) which was very good. The poached fish was excellent - combining well with the potato and spinach base. G decided to have the fillets of duck breast – pan fried with a thyme and ginger rosti, parsnip puree and Heritage (me neither!) carrots, accompanied by a red wine and cherry sauce. This again was quite a tour de force - at a pretty steep £29.95)! The final element (pudding) chosen, via democratic discussion, was an in-house prepared Bakewell slice accompanied by a scoop of caramel ice cream (£8.95). This was described as sweet and tart (not sure what the “tart” bit was) but the overall effect was pretty good.

Verdict

Great meal, good ambiance, excellent service. Would I go again? Absolutely - although there is an amount of serious “foodie” competition from a couple of other restaurants in this rather small area of Ecclesall Road.

Roy Stanley

John Heath & Sons
AN INDEPENDENT FAMILY BUSINESS

Sometime.....

You will probably have the responsibility of making funeral arrangements. No one looks forward to this responsibility, but the death of a family member or a friend brings with it an obligation that must be met. These are people who can help you meet this responsibility. We have been helping people combine the different aspects of a funeral service for over one hundred and thirty five years.

**Premises at Earsham Street | Ecclesall Road | Stannington | Meadowhead
Crookes | Ecclesfield | Deepcar | Penistone | Hollinsend | Eckington**

Day or Night (0114) 272 22 22

www.JohnHeath.co.uk
Pre-paid Funeral Plan Service available



By using this advertisement to make families aware of our services, it is inevitable that we reach homes in which there is illness or sorrow. If this is so please accept our sincere apologies.

Fast and honest quotations for...

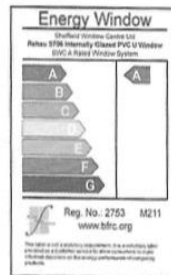
Quality Windows, Doors, Porches,
Conservatories, Orangeries, Stained
Glass, Fascias, Soffits & Guttering



...from Sheffield Window Centre - the leading local company

If you're thinking about getting a quote but don't want any sales pressure, look no further than Sheffield Window Centre

- No Pressure Sales - We quote in writing, by post, after a brief visit and never use pressure to sell our products - we wait for you to decide.
- Save money on your heating bills by installing our energy efficient windows.
- We are a reputable family business, established in 1975.
- SWC manufacture virtually everything we install here in Sheffield.
- All of our installations are guaranteed for 10 years.
- During installation our fitters clean up thoroughly at the end of each day.
- 70% of our new business is from customer recommendations.



For a FREE, No Obligation Quotation call us on

0114 281 3333

And remember... Sheffield Window Centre operates a
COMPLETELY pressure free service, so give us a try!

Call us on: **0114 281 3333**

www.sheffield-window-centre.co.uk



Showrooms at: 7 Rockingham Street, Sheffield, S1 4EA & 216/218 Oakbrook Road, Sheffield, S11 7ED

Rambling On

with Philip Walshaw



I regularly travel down the A57 to Ladybower and, when passing over Cutthroat Bridge, I often wonder how it got its name. It used to be approached on a dangerous zig-zag bend until the road was evened out, with the old road now used as a lay-by. However, history reveals there were more dangers to behold that apparently gave the bridge its lurid name. It goes back to an event in 1635. At that time, it was a packhorse bridge along the pony track crossing over the Pennines between the important manufacturing centres of Sheffield (which, as we know, was established as the major site of cutlery production outside of London) and Manchester.

On a moonlit night in 1635 a packhorse team led by a Robert Ridge were crossing the bridge when they saw a man floundering around in the rocky stream below. His throat had been slit, no doubt by robbers after his wares and any money he may have been carrying, and the men rushed to his aid. He could not speak and so they took him to the nearby

mansion of Bamford Hall where it was hoped a surgeon might be able to help him. Unfortunately, the man died a couple of days later, still unable to speak or even gesture, and so his killer was never found. The name Cutthroat Bridge stuck and so it has been known by this name right up to the present day...but history sometimes has a habit of repeating itself. And in 1995, another murder was committed at the same scene, with a beheaded body hidden beneath the bridge and its head found in Bedfordshire.

Not, perhaps, the greatest introduction to a walk, but at least it satisfied my curiosity. Our four mile walk (which hopefully will be free of incident) starts from the afore-mentioned lay-by near Cutthroat Bridge. Follow the path up from the lay-by which will take you to the bridge without having to walk alongside the busy A57 road. Take care crossing the road, go through the gate at the side of the bridge and follow the wide path that will take you gradually uphill to Whinstone Lee Gap below Derwent Edge, where you will be rewarded with the wonderful view pictured above. Turn left and follow the path over the ridge, with fine views of Bamford Edge, Ladybower Reservoir and Win Hill to be seen along the way.



You will come to a point where the path becomes somewhat rocky and fairly steep downhill and it appears that the road from Bamford is disappearing beneath you. Soon you will come to a point where the path veers right on a gently sloped path, so don't be tempted to take the short cut. When you reach the bottom of the path, turn left and follow it alongside a wall that eventually goes behind the Ladybower Hotel. After going through a gate, you have the option of turning right and visiting the Hotel or turning left up a path that leads you back to Cutthroat Bridge through the Ladybower Wood

Nature Reserve, which is designated as a Site of Specific Scientific Interest. It is one of the few remaining examples of upland sessile oak woodland in the Peak District and there are many types of moss, lichen and liverwort which enjoy the damp climate. If you have time, the patience and wherewithal, there are 44 species of lichen to find!

After you've done this, or run out of time (or patience) continue up the path that leads you out of the Reserve onto open moorland. Keep to the path on the right that leads you back to Cutthroat Bridge and safety.



Advertise in St John's Ranmoor monthly magazine—Inspire

Have you considered advertising in Inspire the St John's Ranmoor magazine?

Inspire is an A5 size publication published 10 times each year read widely in our local area. Over 300 copies are distributed monthly around the Ranmoor Parish and beyond and the magazine is emailed to over 500 people per month!

Advertising spaces can be quarter, half or full page. Discount for Parish Centre Users.

If you start part way through the year the rate would be reduced pro rata.

For further details please contact Peter Marrison

wpmarrison@btinternet.com or on 07581 888068.

www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Pub Quiz:

compiled by Philip Walshaw



The answers to the clues below are public houses in Sheffield. A prize awaits the person who submits the most correct answers. A bonus point will be awarded for identifying the pub featured. 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, 14th August, 2024 (so you will have had plenty of time to visit them all!).

1. Cheerful chappies (5,5,4)
2. Sounds like he's getting up (6,3)
3. Polished half of our City (5,5)
4. City dwelling (10,5)
5. Retail unit not open (6,4)
6. Seat in the greenhouse? (9,4)
7. Can't see primate (5,6)
8. Boss of power generator? (4,2,5)
9. Outwit and evade (3,3,4)
10. Needed for building houses (6,4)
11. Nearly everyone allowed in this pub (3,3,3)
12. Starters for Leslie and Carol (6)
13. Travelling around rebuilt hopes (10,5)
14. Ron stamps around this pub (9)
15. County with strange rams (7,4)

Answers to June Quiz: 1. Cockroach 2. Ladybird 3. Earwig 4. Grasshopper
5. Leatherjacket 6. Daddy long legs 7. Thrip 8. Butterfly 9. Praying mantis 10. Stag beetle
11. Pond skater 12. Water boatman 13. Caterpillar 14. Dragonfly 15. Lacewing

Entries were received from: Janet and Malcolm Anker, Ruth Cheshire, Pam and Ian Dall, Michael and Rosemary Hannon, Lynn and Steve Lawless, Barbara and Peter Wozencroft.

The winners were Barbara and Peter Wozencroft, who receive a box of chocolates.

Contacts at St John the Evangelist, Ranmoor

Vicar: Revd Canon Dr Matthew Rhodes (07754 068391)
matthew.rhodes@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Assistant Curates: Revd Alison Wragg (0114 2301199)
alison.wragg@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk
Revd Peter Das (07824 067966)
peter.das@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Lay minister: Janet Noble (Children's Minister)
0114 2301199 (Church Office)
footsteps@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Children and Families Worker:
Claire Eaton
0114 2301199 (Church Office)
claire.eaton@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 2301199)
finance@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

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

Safeguarding: safeguarding@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Church Groups and Activities

Children and Young People:

Footsteps (for children up to Y6)

Janet Noble 0114 2301199

footsteps@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

REACH (for young people Y7 and up)

Revd Canon Dr Matthew Rhodes

07754 068391

matthew.rhodes@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Study Group:

Sandra Green

0114 2309180

biblestudy@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Flower arranging:

Sandra Green and Jackie Lowe

0114 2303999

flowers@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Music:

Philip Collin, Director of Music

philip.collin@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

or music@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Bellringers:

Tower Captain

Richard Noble 07834 154637

towercaptain@ranmoorringers.org.uk

Secretary

Gill Platt Hopkin

secretary@ranmoorringers.org.uk

Wednesday Lunch Club

contact Claire Webber - Parish

Administrator

Uniformed organisations

Ranmoor Guides:

ranmoorguides@gmail.com

Ranmoor Brownies:

Jenny Woodhouse -

ranmoorbrownies@gmail.com

36th Ranmoor Group Scout Leader and
general enquires including Hall Hire
at Benty Lane:

Michael Holmes 07802 860556

Michaelholmes1@gmail.com

Beavers (6 to 8 yrs) meet Mon night:

Heidi Adcock heidi.adcock@me.com

Cubs (8 to 10.5 yrs) meet Wed night:

Nea Maycock nea@ranmoorscouts.com

Scouts (10.5 to 14 yrs) meet Tues night:

Simon Maltby

simon@ranmoor-scouts.com

District Explorers (14 to 18 yrs)

meet Friday night:

Liam Foster

liam.foster@cheshirescouts.org.uk



Bents Green Nurseries

*Spring is on its way!
Early season bedding-
fruit bushes, trees*

H.T.A. Gift Vouchers Sold and Redeemed

Tel: 230 4101

Well worth a visit



From Ringinglow Road, turn opposite the 'Hammer and Pincers'
up Muskoka Drive, turn 2nd left into Muskoka Avenue to end of cul-de-sac

JMALCOLMWILD Antique & Modern Clock & Watch Repairs

by Fellow of the British Horological
Institute

*Specialist in the repair of
Grandfather, Bracket & Carriage
Clocks
Clocks and parts manufactured*

WANTED:
Mechanical Wristwatches,
Pocket Watches & Clocks
in any condition

12 Norton Green Close,
Sheffield S8 8BP
Telephone: 274 5693



Alyson Nicholson Catering

Cordon Bleu Cook

*Specialising in Dinner Parties,
Cocktail Parties, Buffets
and Family Occasions*

71 Riverdale Road,
Sheffield
S10 3FE

0114 263 0458 · 07721 365 721

Inspire

Contributors	Janet and Malcolm Anker, Janet Atkinson, Philip Collin, John Green, Mary Grover, Matthew Rhodes 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 September edition is Wednesday, 14th August, 2024.

Disclaimer:

The views expressed in this magazine are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily shared by the publisher. We reserve the right to amend articles submitted for publication. Articles submitted may be posted on our website unless you specify otherwise. The publisher does not accept any responsibility for goods or services bought from advertisers in this magazine.

Subscriptions:

You can collect or we can deliver Inspire if you live within the local area. We can post Inspire to you; we will make a small additional charge for this to cover the cost of postage. If you would like to subscribe, please send your contact details to the Parish Administrator at the following address: Inspire Subscriptions, Ranmoor Parish Centre, 5 Ranmoor Park Road, S10 3GX. Once we have received your details, we will contact you.

EADON LOCKWOOD & RIDDLE

ESTD 1840



New Year, New Home?

Are you living in *S10* or *S11* and want to sell your home? Perhaps you want to let out your property? Or maybe you're looking for your next forever home?

Our negotiators and valuation experts have a wealth of local knowledge in these areas, and alongside our traditional values and excellent customer service - we're the agent for you!

Did you know that we have been awarded the Gold Award in the Best Estate Agent Guide 2023!

Approximately 25,000 estate and letting agencies have been assessed on their marketing, results and customer service in order to differentiate the best agencies in the UK.

Only 5% estate and letting agencies in the UK have been awarded the 'EXCEPTIONAL' status (that's us!). So why not call one of our branches now to speak to a member of our team?



SHEFFIELD

0114 268 3388
sheffield@elr.co.uk

BAKEWELL

01629 700699
bakewell@elr.co.uk

ROTHERHAM

01709 917676
wickersley@elr.co.uk

HATHERSAGE

01433 651888
hathersage@elr.co.uk

LETTINGS

0114 268 9900
lettings@elr.co.uk

FOR THE DAY AND ALL THE DAYS TO COME...

A child arrives....



A marriage begins...



A life ends...



We are here for you.

JUST ASK...

St John's Church, Ranmoor

0114 230 1199

administrator@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

RANMOOR PARISH CENTRE

Newly
Refurbished
Rooms in 2020

Rooms to Hire from as little as £10 per hour.

Discount available for charities, people living in the Parish of St John's, 1/2 and full day hire.

For more information and availability contact:

0114 230 1199 or email: administrator@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Ranmoor Parish Centre offers a tranquil location for various types of groups including music and singing, yoga, performing arts, meetings, pre school classes and various other occasions. Located in the leafy Sheffield suburb of Ranmoor, we are less than three miles from both the city centre and the beautiful Peak District National Park. Public transport links to and from the city are excellent. Contact us for more information or to take a tour visit our website. www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

Ranmoor Parish Centre,
5 Ranmoor Park Road,
Sheffield, S10 3GX
www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

