Network Magazine

Huddersfield Parish Church and the Methodist Mission





Apr/May 2015

THE CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT We discern that God is calling us to be Christ's faithful witnesses, growing in prayer, proclamation and partnership with others.

CONTENTS

	Page
Your Contacts	3
A Word from the Editor	4
Simon Says	5
Golden daffodils/spring	6
Annual Parish Meeting	7
The pew bibles	
Simon C's Page	14
New from the PCC	15
Minutes from the Diocesan Advisory Committee	16
Civic award for Huddersfield Parish Church	17
St Peter's diary for April/May	18/19
Café style buffet & entertainment	
Tax changes	
Crafters & Grafters	
Kids' Corner	27
Puzzle Pages	28/29
Huddersfield Parish Prayer Cycle	32
Huddersfield Mission Info/Diary	
The General Election	

MAGAZINE/WEBSITE CONTRIBUTIONS

All contributions to the church magazine and the website are welcome. The preferred method is by email, however any other means will be just as acceptable:

Email sp@spchadwick.force9.co.uk or for the website: graemeandsally@jb1980.freeserve.co.uk

PLEASE NOTE: Contributions please before the 15th of the month before to guarantee publishing in the next issue of the magazine.

YOUR CONTACTS

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E-Mail: huddspc@btconnect.com

Website: www.huddersfieldparishchurch.org

The Vicar: The Rev Canon Simon Moor

Associate Priests: Rev Anna Wallis

Rev Janet Sargent

Curate Rev Simon Crook **Wardens**: Alan Eastwood

Alan John + deputies

Treasurer: Anne John

Gift Aid Officer: Peter Chadwick
Organist: Stephen Smith
Choral Director: Daniel Roberts

Church Administrator: Paula Yeadon 01484 427 964

Magazine Editor: Peter Chadwick

Huddersfield Methodist Mission

Registered Charity Number: 1129144

3-13 Lord Street, Huddersfield HD1 1QA Deacon Gill Atkinson-Heck

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A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

So, what's happening in the next two months? We have Easter, St George's Day, Ascension, Pentecost, and Trinity Sundays. If that's not enough excitement we have the Tour de Yorkshire third stage through Meltham and Holmfirth on Sunday 3 May. We have an Annual Parish Meeting (Page 7) and we are hosting Election Hustings where we meet the local candidates for the General Election on Thursday 7 May (see back pages).

Would you like to donate a bible to a loved one? See Page 9.

And if you didn't know by now (where have you been?) we have been honoured with two awards. See Pages 16 and 17.

Happy reading.

Peter Chadwick, Magazine Editor

CONGRATULATIONS

Our congratulations go out to Vicki and Paul of the Keys Restaurant on the birth of their daughter in March. We wish them much happiness and not too many sleepless nights!



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Simon Says

Have you looked at any old photographs of yourself recently? Perhaps a photograph taken five or ten years ago, or even one from twenty or thirty years ago? Notice the changes over the years? Of course you do, but yet it is still the same you!

Each one of us begins our life as a single cell which has an inbuilt power to multiply. Today, your body has about sixty million cells and every single one of those cells is alive and has its own force field. And if you think that's mind-blowing, each one of those cells is recognisable as your own and it cannot possibly belong to anyone else but you. You are an absolute miracle.

The bad news is that every second of every hour of every day of your life, about five million of your cells die. Even if you are a quick reader, while you have been reading this letter, about fifty million of your living cells have departed from this life. But don't panic!! The good and amazing news is that your body renews itself, and all the cells have been replaced by new cells. The body is in the business of death and resurrection.

Every seven years or so, every single cell in your body will have died and been replaced by a new living cell. You are in a continual process of death and resurrection.

Given all of that, it's no wonder that we change with the years, but even the death of fifty million cells hasn't the power to destroy you. You continue to be the same "you" underneath all the changes. The reality of all of this is that we are actually dying every day and in our death is our newness of life. Surely if God can create such wonderful creatures who are forever dying and rising, we can hardly doubt his power to give life beyond the grave.

As we approach this season of Easter, why not get out your photograph album and take a look at how you've changed over the years. As you look at the photographs and ponder on the miracle of your physical body, it might help you to realise afresh the reality and the wonder of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, who by his death has given us new life – ALLELUIA!

May you have a wonderful and blessed Easter season.

Simon

Golden Daffodils/Spring

My own daffodils are currently coming into bloom, their golden heads about to burst. Their emergence from the darkness of winter has been slow but persistent; their glory will be a delight for weeks to come. No flower gives greater joy than the ubiquitous daffodil, partly because of its simple grandeur, but also because it is an annual reminder that winter is being replaced by spring. No one recognised this better than the poet, William Wordsworth:

"I wandered lonely as a cloud That floats on high o'er vales and hills, When all at once I saw a crowd, A host of golden daffodils; Beside the lake, beneath the trees, Fluttering and dancing in the breeze."

I suspect many an older reader will be able to recite the other three verses, having learned them by heart, in days when elocution was an essential part of the school curriculum!

There has been much debate on the exact location of Wordsworth's inspirational ten thousand, seen "at a glance, tossing their heads in sprightly dance." Grasmere, with its twin lakes of Rydal Water and Grasmere itself, is the likely scene, and his sister, Dorothy, talks of "a few daffodils close to the water-side at Gowborrow Park," If that indeed be the place, then rarely can there have been a greater understatement! But then, nature in general and daffodils in particular have the ability to enrich and enhance an experience.

I had a colleague who having served in a rather non-descript mining parish in South Yorkshire, was appointed as Vicar to Grasmere. He exchanged an industrialised and largely man-made environment for one of the loveliest places on earth "half-way to heaven!" I used to kid him. On a clear spring day, with trees bursting into foliage, lambs bleating in the fields and daffodils gloriously displayed in garden and roadside. And, even when days are not so bright, we can, like the Lakeland poet, bring to mind the beauty of the daffodil, when:

"They flash upon that inward eye Which is the bliss of solitude; And then my heart with pleasure fills, And dances with the daffodils."

Easter, which follows the meditative days of Lent and particularly the contemplative sorrow of Good Friday, is not unlike the Daffodil. New Life is being celebrated. May your happiness of Easter be enhanced by the beauty of golden daffodils.

Simon

Annual Parish Meeting

Sunday 19th April

If you are an Electoral Roll Member of the parish, the only requirement of you, is to attend the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) on Sunday 19th April after the morning service at 11:15am. This is opportunity and indeed your duty to mark the workings of Huddersfield Parish Church.

Those not on the role, but living in the parish are able to vote in the elections of church wardens and observe the wider meeting.

The reports to the Annual Parish Meeting, including the Audited Financial Report for St. Peter's will be available from Palm Sunday onward. Please take one to read and support the APM.

PCC Elections

Could you, would you serve on the Parochial Church Council (PCC) for St. Peter's?

Meeting monthly the council needs to draw differing individuals for a balanced path for the church. Please speak to one of the Simons or other clergy or indeed one of the wardens if you are interested.

Sidespeople

Greeters on a Sunday morning, givers-out of service books and offertory takers to the front after the 'Peace'; these are simple tasks that are within the scope of all the members of the congregation and taking a turn is a useful role to undertake – you will get to know a wider section of our church by taking part.

On a rota, you would need to keep an eye on your duty week and arrive at church before 9.30am each Sunday you are Sidesperson for that week.



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Bryan Hunt Senior Estate Administration Executive



Kanika Sohpal Associate Solicitor

The Pew Bibles

You will all be aware that we have had pew bibles around the church for some time; they were placed in church following work done by Marion before she took up her incumbency in Rastrick.

You may also have noticed that they have become rather tatty looking, hopefully as a result of being read! Also a number have been taken away, again hopefully to be used by the person for guidance and support. This is part of our mission work to the wider community, but is not an aspect that we can directly quantify.



At the February PCC meeting the Stewardship Group was asked to look at this provision and make suggestions. The feeling of the group was that the provision of bibles in church is important and relevant, but that the cheap paperback books that we had provided had not proved to be fit for purpose. This had not been anticipated, but we should be encouraged that they have been taken and used both in and out of church. Our solution is to provide hardback versions of the bible, which will look better in the pews and be more durable, but will still run the risk of being taken. This is something we have to recognise and accept in terms of our mission. The proposed bible version is the New Revised Standard Version and these can be purchased for around £10. It is thought that 14 to 16 are required to be spread around in the pews for congregation and visitors to use as needed. The Stewardship Group thought that members of the congregation might wish to help fund these bibles in memory of a loved one and for a donation of £10 we can purchase these and have a frontispiece placed in them to indicate the donor and person remembered. Please get in touch with Mike Bembridge who will be coordinating the project (directly or through the Parish Office) if you would like to help.

Thanking you in anticipation, M.Bembridge, Chair of Stewardship Group.



The Bacon Tree

Two Mexicans are stuck in the desert after crossing into the United States, wandering aimlessly and starving. They are about to just lie down and wait for death, when all of a sudden Luis says,

"Hey Pepe, do you smell what I smell. Ees bacon. I theenk."

"Is, Luis, eet sure smell like bacon."

With renewed hope they struggle up the next sand dune, and there, in the distance, is a tree loaded with bacon. There's raw bacon, there's fried bacon, back bacon, double smoked bacon; every imaginable kind of cured pork.

"Pepe, Pepe, we ees saved! Ees a bacon tree!"

"Luis, maybe ees a meerage? We ees in the desert don't forget."

"Pepe, since when deed you ever hear of a meerage that smell like bacon. Ees no meerage, ees a bacon tree!"

And with that, Luis staggers towards the tree. He gets to within 5 metres, Pepe crawling close behind, when suddenly a machine gun opens up, and Luis drops like a wet sock. Mortally wounded, he warns Pepe with his dying breath

"Pepe... Go back man, you was right, ees not a bacon tree!"

"Luis, Luis mi amigo... what ees it?"

"Pepe.. ees not a bacon tree. Ees.... Ees... Ees... Ees... a ham bush...."

This was sent to me by Michael Carlton who said "I bet you tried to do the accent didn't you?" Well did you?





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See www.snazzyaerobix.co.uk for details and timetables or call Sheila Frampton on 07789 275868

Simon C's Page

PRAYER

Next in my series of articles on prayer is an excerpt from The Reverend Richard Coles' Autobiography, "Fathomless Riches, or How I Went From Pop to Pulpit". This is not a book for the faint-hearted containing much graphic detail from Richard's time in the band "The Communards". It does however contain many raw and insightful glimpses into the human response to God:

"In the Sermon on the Mount Jesus teaches us how to pray. Go to your room, he says, and shut the door, and there pray to your Father who is in secret. In all of us there is such a room, with a tightly closed door, windowless. We want it that way, because in it we keep those things that shame us, the humiliations we endure, our foolishness and cruelty, the very worst of us. That's exactly where Jesus wants to meet us, and we dread it because his grace falls on us like a judgement; but in his revealing light we find not a misbegotten horror, like the Monster of Glamis, we find ourselves, nothing special, nothing dreadful." So do it. Set a time and a place. And sit with God. No distractions – just you and God. And ask God to lead you gently by the hand to the room inside yourself that most needs his presence.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On Good Friday, from 12:00 there will be multi-sensory Stations of the Cross. This form of devotion draws us deeply into the story of Jesus' crucifixion. People of all ages, old and young, families or singles, will appreciate this moving act of worship on the day that Jesus was killed.

WALK

I am planning a parish walk soon after Easter Sunday. We will park in a pub, do a 3 to 4 mile circular trail returning to the establishment for lunch (those who do not wish to walk can remain in the pub all the time). Let me know if you're interested so I can plan a suitable walk.

Simon Crook

Taizé

My family and I will be spending a week in Taize, the Christian community in France, next Summer (23rd-30th August 2015), if anyone is interested in joining us, please speak with Simon C.

NEWS FROM THE PCC

Bob and Margaret Livingstone legacy: The glass has gone for etching and leading so we will at last see some progress soon.

North Wall. This phase of the work is now completed, the scaffolding is down and the church is looking magnificent once again. Thus the awards we received in March. See Pages 16 & 17.

Youth Choir. We have generated some interest from the schools but so far no takers. The next step is to make a direct approach to selected schools.

Lighting in the church. You will have noticed that the church is now brighter than before. We have replaced some of the spot lights with brighter low energy bulbs, but the rest will need a faculty raising with the Diocese (in hand).

Car Park. Negotiations are underway with the developers of the Kirkgate Centre, who still want the land on which our car park is situated.

A-Board. We have agreed the design and lettering on the A-board and its stick-on bits and now await delivery.

South Porch Door. This still requires painting but it is now fully functional and is our main entry into the church when opening up.

Wish List. The PCC has, for some time now, been working from a 'wish list' of repairs, enhancements etc that need doing to the interior of the church eg the lighting, porch door etc. We are constantly reviewing this list so if any of you have any opinions on work we should be doing, let us know.

AGM. It's our Annual General & Parish Meetings on Sunday 19 April where we appoint our officials and our army of volunteers. If you fancy joining us in some capacity or other, talk to one of us.

Minutes from the Diocesan Advisory committee

From: PA Archdeacon Halifax

[mailto:pahalifaxarchdeacon@westyorkshiredales.anglican.org]

Sent: 18 March 2015 11:09

To: Simon Moor

Cc: Sylvia Johnson; Stuart Beaumont

Subject: DAC March - Huddersfield Parish Church

Dear Simon

At the meeting of the Diocesan Advisory Committee the following was discussed. Please find below a copy of the relevant minute.

5.10.1 Huddersfield Parish Church wins Huddersfield Civic Society's Annual Design Award

Stuart Beaumont explained that this had been an example of great collaboration between himself as architect and St Peter's, Huddersfield (Grade II). The work which is still ongoing had involved total reroofing, refurbishment of the west tower, conservation work to the internal plaster ceiling and extensive re pointing. The work had been partly funded from historic reserves and partly by English Heritage. The DAC offered their congratulations to Stuart Beaumont and to Huddersfield Parish Church for their hard work on this project which had made a real difference to the centre of Huddersfield.

Best wishes

The Venerable Dr Anne Dawtry DAC Assistant Chair

Civic Award for Huddersfield Parish Church

Tuesday 3rd March saw recognition for the works undertaken on St. Peter's Church over the last ten years.

Huddersfield Civic Society's annual Design Awards gave the accolade to Huddersfield Parish Church as the development which they felt has contributed most towards helping improve the quality and image of the town.

The final award given was also to St. Peter's Church as the overall winner out of five categories – Huddersfield Examiner Readers' Award, best refurbishment, best shop front, best new development and best residential.

The Vicar, Arthur and Barbara Nightingale and Stuart Beaumont (Architect) received the awards on behalf of the Church Wardens and PCC and they were presented to the congregation on Sunday 8th March at the 10.00am service.





Our own thanks and congratulations go also to Arthur Nightingale, who has been managing these projects on behalf of us all and the PCC for some years now. He has worked tirelessly and constantly obtaining the grants and funding needed for the refurbishments and liaising with the architect, the various builders and specialists and suppliers to keep the work on schedule and to the standard required by such a beautiful building. These awards are well deserved.

St PETER'S DIARY FOR APRIL/MAY

See the service sheets and the notice boards for details of venues, dates and times and also who to contact. The diary below is correct at the time of going to press, but please check nearer the time.

APRIL

Wed 1 11.00am Speaker and Debate
The Right Honourable Barry Sheerman
12.35pm Holy Communion
07.30pm Meditation
Thurs 2 MAUNDY THURSDAY

1 nurs 2 MAUNDY THURSDAY

07.30pm Service of Foot-Washing – at the Methodist Mission

08.30pm Stripping of the Church and Visit

08.30pm Stripping of the Church and Vigil

Fri 3 GOOD FRIDAY
10.00am Churches Together Walk of Witness
12.00noon Interactive Stations of the Cross
02.00pm Liturgy of the Cross

Sat 4 **EASTER EVE** 10.00am – 2.00pm Coffee Gathering 02.00 - 04.00pm Formal Confession

Sun 5 **EASTER SUNDAY**08.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Sung Eucharist – Preacher Bishop Jonathan
03.00pm Evensong

Wed 8 12.35pm Holy Communion

Sun 12 EASTER 2
08.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Sung Eucharist
03.00pm Evensong
Wed 15 12.35pm Holy Communion

Fri 17 07.30pm Café Style Buffet and Entertainment. See Page 20

Sun 19 EASTER 3
08.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Sung Eucharist
11.15am Annual Parish Meeting
03.00pm Evensong
Mon 20 07.30pm Election Hustings – Ho

Mon 20 07.30pm Election Hustings – Host -H.P.C.

Wed 22 12.35pm Holy Communion



Sun 26 EASTER 4
08.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Sung Eucharist
03.00pm Evensong

Wed 29 12.35pm Holy Communion 07.30pm Election Hustings – Host - New North Road Baptist Church.

MAY

Sat 2 10.00am – 2.00pm Coffee Gathering
Sun 3 EASTER 5
08.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Sung Eucharist

3.00pm Evensong
Wed 6 12.35pm Holy Communion

Sun 10 EASTER 6 08.00am Holy Communion 10.00am Sung Eucharist 3.00pm Evensong

Wed 13 12.35pm Holy Communion

Sun 17 **EASTER 7**08.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Sung Eucharist
3.00pm Evensong

Wed 20 12.35pm Holy Communion

Thurs 21 7.30pm Archdeacon's Visitation Sat 23 10.00am – 14.00 May Fair

Sun 24 PENTCOST SUNDAY

08.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Sung Eucharist
3.00pm Evensong

Wed 27 12.35pm Holy Communion

Sun 31 **TRINITY SUNDAY**08.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Sung Eucharist
3.00pm Evensong



Sun 7 June *** Next issue of the Network Magazine ***

Huddersfield Parish Church

Café Style Buffet & Intertainment

Friday 17th April 2015

7.30pm



Tickets £10.00 01484 427964



TAX CHANGES

From April, personal allowances increase:

Those born after 5 April 1948 from £10,000 to £10,600.

Those born between 6 April 1938 and 5 April 1948 from £10,500 to £10,600.

Those born before 6 April 1938 no change at £10,660.

Also from April, married couples in which one is a basic tax payer and the other is earning less than their personal allowance, the lower earner can transfer £1,050 of their tax allowance to their spouse who will then pay less tax.

If you are a registered gift aid donor then check that you will still be paying tax after April and if not let me or any church official know.

Peter Chadwick Gift Aid Officer



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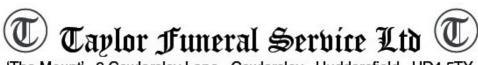
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Crafters and Grafters



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Next Coffee Morning Plus dates are:

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Q: What did one wall say to the other wall?

A: I'll meet you at the corner.

Q: What gets wetter the more it dries?

A: A towel.

KIDS' CORNER

Q: Why do bicycles fall over? A: Because they are two-tired!

PUZZLE PAGE

7						9	3	
	2		6	8	9		1	
1								
4	6						2	
			4					
		9			5			7
		2	7	9		5		
3		7		1				9
	1			5	6	8		3

Sudoku Just for a change, a

nice easy one for you beginners

8

5

32

X

Try to fill in the missing numbers (003).

Use the numbers 1 through 16 to complete the equations. Each number is only used once. Each row is a maths equation. Work from left to right. Each column is a maths equation. Work from top to bottom. *Answers last issue (002):*

7-1-9-10=-13 3+5-12/2=-2 11-8x6-13=5

4x16-15+14=63

 21
 -6
 12
 11

X

X

+

+

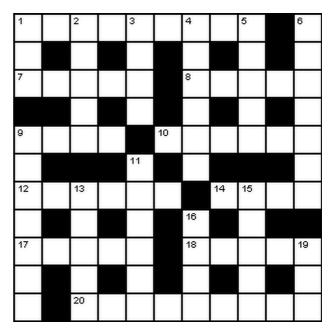
Across

- 1. Molecules (9)
- 7. Spear (5)
- 8. Arithmetical operation (5)
- 9. Light fog (4)
- 10. Reply (6)
- 12. Ploy (6)
- 14. Matured (4)
- 17. Debate (5)
- 18. Tip over (5)
- 20. Study of the universe (9)

Down

- 1. Buddy (3)
- 2. Parts of a ladder (5)
- 3. Mountain goat (4)
- 4. Dirge (6)
- 5. Tendon (5)
- 6. Made certain (7)
- 9. Tycoon (7)
- 11. Turn aside (6)
- 13. Molten rock (5)
- 15. Zest (5)
- 16. Japanese wrestler (4)
- 19. Plaything (3)

QUICK CROSSWORD

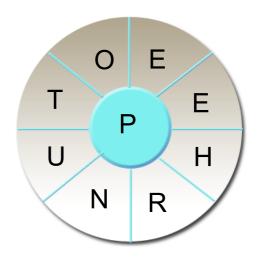


Answers to previous crossword

Across: 1 Aardvark. 8 Usual. 9 Areas. 10 Used. 11 Closer. 13 Tailor. 15 Open. 18 Olive. 19 Idiom. 20 Glossary. Down: 2 Acute. 3 Dill. 4 Arable. 5 Keeps. 6 Gastronome. 7 Tumultuous. 12 Bolero. 14 Icing 16 Prior. 17 Bias.

WORD WHEEL

How many words can you make from the letters in the wheel? Each word must contain the hub letter. Can you find a 9-letter word and at least 10 other words of four letters or more avoiding proper nouns?





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Our memories build a special bridge When loved ones have to part, To help us feel were with them still, And soothe a grieving heart, They span the years and warm our lives, Preserving ties that bind, Our memories build a special bridge, And bring us peace of mind.

Emily Mathews



Jennie Coxon Funeral Director 07379355

Registered in England No.

Huddersfield Parish Prayer Cycle

Below is a prayer cycle, the left hand column for the streets, the activity and the people within the parish boundaries, whilst the right hand column are the street names of parishioners who are on the electoral role as well as addresses of friends, relatives and concerns. Please use each column during the two months of this magazine - there are 31 entries in each columns (one per day), please use the extras in the shorter months.

PARISH STREETS

CHURCH ROLE AND CONCERNS

- 1. Vine Street
- 2. Wakefield Road
- 3. Ward Square
- 4. Water Street
- 5. Watergate
- 6. Westgate
- 7. Whitacre Street
- 8. William Street
- 9. Wood Street
- 10. Woodland Road
- 11. Zetland Street
- 12. Albert Yard
- 13. Albion Street
- 14. Alfred Street
- 15. Anchor Street
- 16. Ashgrove Road
- 17. Aspley Place
- 18. Back Cecil Street
- 19. Back Greenhead
- 20. Road
- 21. Back Queen Street
- 22. Back Spring Street
- 23. Back Union Street
- 24. Barr Street
- 25. Beast Market
- 26. Beaumont Street
- 27. Bradley Mills Lane
- 28. Bradley Mills Road
- 29. Broadway
- 30. Brook Street
- 31. Brooks Yard

Orchard Terrace HD4 Osbourne Road HD1

D. 1. G. LID 4

Palm Street HD4

Panmuir Place, Edinburgh EH3

Park Road, Elland HX5

Patterdale Drive HD5

Pole Gate HD7

Pole Moor Chapel HD7

Pyremont Road, London W4

Quarry Lane HD5

Oueen Street HU19

Rafborn Grove HD3

Rawthorpe Lane HD5

Richmond Court HD4

Ritson Wharf CA1

Runnymede Road NE16

Rydal Drive HD5

Scar House Lane HD7

Scar Lane HD3

Scar Lane HD7

School Lane HD7

Slade Lane HD6

Smithy Lane HD5

Somerset Road HD5

Sorbus Way HD8

South Shields NE34

Southgate HX5

Southway HD3

Spar Bottom HD8

Spinkfield Road HD2

Springdale Avenue HD1

HUDDERSFIELD MISSION INFO/DIARY

Huddersfield Mission is a faith based charity that provides support services to local people. Our Community Cafe provides good quality low cost food and is also where people can access support and advice on a wide range of issues. We have two advisers available between 10am to 2pm Monday to Friday and we run a range of activity groups in the afternoon: art, creative writing, music, cooking etc. During the winter we open the cafe in the evening to provide hot food and company.

We also have rooms available for hire for 2-300 people. We have special rates for charities and community groups with discount for long term bookings. You can follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/huddersfieldmission or to become a friend of the mission and occasional email with the latest news - just send us your email address to info@huddersfieldmission

Dates

Sundays 11:00pm Worship Service Mondays 12:30pm Mission Prayers

2pm to 3pm Space to Talk

Thursdays 2:00pm to 4:00pm Art Group

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- Calendars
- Notepads and booklets
- Photo Books
- Invitations
- Greetings Cards
- Laminating and Binding
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THE GENERAL ELECTION Thursday 7 May

The Church of England House of Bishops recently published a pastoral letter, that was directed towards the people and parishes of the Church of England but with the hope that others, who may not profess any church allegiance, will join in the conversation and engage with the ideas raised.

The purpose of the letter is to assist church members and others consider the question: "how can we negotiate these dangerous times to build the kind of society which many people say they want but which is not yet being expressed in the vision of any of the parties?"

A telling tweet from Jenny Jones (Baroness Jones of Moulsecoomb) "Regarding Radio 4 debate on Church meddling in politics, I dislike that on principle, but in Lords it's bishops who mostly speak for poor & vulnerable."

The Bishops' letter poses the question "how can we 'build the kind of society which many people say they want but which is not yet being expressed in the vision of any of the parties?" and expressed the hope for political parties to discern "a fresh moral vision of the kind of country we want to be" ahead of the General Election in May of this year.

Church members are encouraged to engage in the political process ahead of the General Election: "The privileges of living in a democracy mean that we should use our votes thoughtfully, prayerfully and with the good of others in mind, not just our own interests."

The letter also defends the right of the Church to enter into the political arena. It speaks along the lines of it not being possible to separate the way a person perceives their place in the created order from their beliefs, religious or otherwise. Indeed, the claim that religion and political life must be kept separate is a strange

comment as most politicians are happy enough for the churches to speak on political issues so long as the church agrees with their particular line.

However, the letter specifically avoids directing people to vote for any one political party, but instead encourages those in the Church to seek from political candidates a commitment to building a society of common bonds over individual consumerism:

"We are seeking, not a string of policy offers, but a way of conceiving and ordering our political and economic life which can be pursued in a conservative idiom, a socialist idiom, a liberal idiom – and by others not aligned to party."

In response to the letter Huddersfield Parish Church Monday 20th April and New North Road Baptist Church, Wednesday 29 are holding 'Hustings' – a chance to meet the candidates for the Huddersfield constituency. Along with Churches Together in the Town Center and Huddersfield Interfaith Council it is hoped to add a faith dimension to the debate, but the dates are for anyone who is interested in the democratic process and wishes to question one or other of the parties presence.

These two dates are the churches trying to facilitate debate in response to the House of Bishops pastoral letter:

Monday 20 April 07.30pm Election Hustings – Host –St Peter's.

Wednesday 29 April 07.30pm Election Hustings – Host - New North Road Baptist Church.

Huddersfield Parish Church

General Election HUSTINGS

Meet Your Candidates

Monday 20th April 2015, 7.30pm

Chair - The Bishop of Huddersfield The Right Rev'd Jonathan Gibbs



Andrew Cooper Green Party



Barry Sheeman



Itrat Ali Conservative



Rob Butler



Zulfiqar Ali Liberal Democrat



Mike Forster

Trade Unionist &

Socialist Coalition





