



Grasshopper



St. John the Baptist, Hey Apr 2017
Receiving and Sharing the Love of God Everyday

Report from The Parish Priest To the Annual Parochial Church Meeting 1 January - 25 September 2016

Sadly this will be my last report as your Parish Priest. I retire, today, Sunday 25th September 2016 and so it would seem right that I report for the final time on the months for which I have been responsible.

Looking back over the years to February 1999 when I was licensed as "Priest in Charge" of the single Parish of St John the Baptist, Hey or Lees so much has changed and yet so much has not changed.

What has not changed is the commitment of a relatively small group, the membership of which has changed over the years, who have worked so hard for the parish in a great variety of ways. The commitment of the treasurer and Wardens has been and continues to be outstanding; those who have taken responsibility for the youth, whether Uniformed or Sunday school; those who have been PCC members; those who have sometimes single handed organised and run social events; those who have built or maintained the buildings and heritage; and of course there are all those who have run rotas etc, etc. To all those who have "stepped up to the plate" I offer my heartfelt thanks. I could not have done anything without your support and hard work. Parishes like Hey cannot function unless folk offer themselves to share the burden - please consider what you can do to further the Mission and Ministry at Hey, there is a part for everyone to play.

So much has changed over the years. People have come and gone both by virtue of the passing years and as others meet a need at a specific time in their lives. I pray and sense that I leave a more welcoming and inclusive community in which people feel safe to be who they are - indeed who God created them to be.

The building has changed from the refashioning of the back of church (no second set of internal main entrance doors in 1999 - just the big solid ones letting all the heat out!), replacing of the front path (twice - we finally got it right!) to restoration of the Reredos and the general good quality of ongoing maintenance. The Liturgy has changed from ASB to CW the latter remaining a constant since the early 2000s but the addition of different forms of worship (the Word Service and Thursday evenings) and the inclusion of the Music group while managing to retain a robed choir. The greater inclusion of Lay participation in and indeed leading worship. When Bishop Stephen Venner licensed me one of the things he told me was "get the share paid" so with thanks to the generosity of so many we have paid our way, balanced our books, given to charity for the last 15 years.

Sometimes it is tempting to look back with rose tinted glasses to "the good old days" but I am not sure the "good old days" ever existed - life is constantly changing around us. We must strive to retain the best of what is good but feel free and liberated to let go of things that are failing and try new, sometimes scary, things as we adapt to the changing needs of society and our world. To stay static is the beginning of the end - look around at churches that have closed because they didn't change. Let Hey continue to thrive and be a vibrant, relevant, exciting place to worship and be part of.

But what of 2016 so far? For me there has been a sense of finality as I conducted my last Easter, last baptism, last wedding, and today will be my last Eucharist but the pace of life has continued as normal.

Stephen, our curate, completed all that was needed in order for him to seek his own incumbency and he was quickly grabbed by a parish in Rochdale. So as we celebrated the Queen's 90th Birthday on the 12th June we bade farewell and good luck to Stephen and his family. I would like to record our thanks to all that he gave to Hey over his time as curate. He certainly challenged a lot of us and made us reflect not only on "how" but also "why" we / I did things in a particular fashion / way. A major contribution he brought was his energy and enthusiasm not least in encouraging the Thursday evening worship to grow and expand

into something different and exciting. We wish them well in Bamford.

The Mission Action Plan has also become a reality - thanks to those who have put it together but particularly to Steve Croft who will be the MAP Champion and ensure that it remains a living and relevant document and plan for action at Hey. It will help the parish focus beyond itself to the needs of a community and a world which cries out in pain.

The parish has also been blessed with the addition of three lay members of the congregation who have trained as Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs). It was a great joy for me to see Denise Elstub, Chris Jones and Sam Thinnesen licensed at the Cathedral in my last few days in the parish. A great joy has been to see Denise at Hey with Zion school leading Assemblies and really taking my place as the face of St John's Church until a new person is appointed. We have also a new music sound system and the fixed retractable screen which has enhanced the worship beyond measure. Thank you to our ALMs, all our musicians, choir and organist.

The PCC also appointed a part time Administrator in Barbara Ballantyne and provided office space in the hall so over the last two months I have been able to hand over to her the management of and the day to day running of the Parish. I do appreciate that some people have questioned the need to pay somebody "after all the wardens can do it". I am afraid that over the years I have been at Hey the level of accountability and legal responsibility has increased beyond imagination and therefore paperwork (or electronic paper work) has boomed. I am not sure, until you have done the job, that anyone can understand the number of hours each day I have spent just keeping on top of things. The reality is that if things are not to fall through gaps and as clergy are busier with multiple parishes then the role of administrator is critical to a parish or a cluster of parishes if they are to function well. Barbara knows the parish and people and with Jason Robinson looking after the vestry and organising clergy cover then my hope is that you will barely notice I have left.

I want also to pay tribute to Revd Paul Robinson. He has been a good colleague and a great friend and I am very aware that although he works full time, is an Army Padre and has a family he still gives without any complaint freely of his time to duties at Hey. There will be an expectation by some that he "just takes over from Richard" - that is not the case and it must not be allowed to happen. He must not be put upon to fill all the gaps - the Archdeacon is clear in saying that NSM clergy should do no more during an interregnum than they did before the vicar left. So please treat him kindly and don't allow him to do too much. Thank you Paul for all that you do and will continue to do for Hey.

Thank you to everyone for their work over the years, to those who are taking on new roles and responsibilities - good luck to all who will lead the parish through the interregnum. What I am absolutely certain of is that new and wonderful things can and will happen here but it needs all to be part of that exciting journey. So I repeat that cautionary story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have. So the question is what part will you play in taking the parish forward?

My final words to each and every one of you - thank you for your friendship and love, for your acceptance of me for who I am, the good and bad bits, and for allowing me to share moments of great joy and deepest sadness in so many of your lives over the last 17½ years - it has been an honour and a privilege - thank you.

Richard

25th September 2016

*If you wish to read **Crux** the Diocese of Manchester newsletter, you will find a link to it on the newsletter page of our web site: st-john-hey.org*

Day by Day Scheme

4 April	Mum's birthday - The Jones
11 April	Jean & Tom Needham's wedding anniversary
12 April	Remembering with love Ronnie & Flora Giles
13 April	Loving memories of my Darling Barrie
19 April	Norma & Bill's Wedding anniversary
21 April	In loving memory of Barbara Hawkins

Thank you to all those who are helping to ensure the future fabric of our church by supporting the Day by Day Scheme.

Recent Entries in our registers

Holy Matrimony

Please pray for those planning weddings at Hey this year

Sat 17 th June	Alex Arundel & Sarah Hilton
Sat 5 th Aug	David Clarke & Laura Miller
Sat 26 th Aug	Tom Dransfield & Emma Shepard

Flowers for February

29th In loving memory of Bill

Street Prayers

<i>Week</i>	<i>Street</i>
2 April	Railway View & Jackson Street
9 April	Station street
16 April	Sloane Ave, Temple Close & Dyson Grove
23 April	St John Street & Bradley Fold
30 April	Rowlands Way & Sunfield Way

Prayers for these streets will be offered in Church on the Sundays shown

Any requests for specific prayers
please ring the parish office 626 3630

Let us witness to the presence of the church to all in Hey Parish

Holy Baptism

March 5 Ivy Sue Lindup
Daughter of Michael Lindup & Melissa Royales

March 12 Thomas William Lowe -
Son of Adam Lowe & Michelle Sawbridge



Ivy



Thomas

Hey War dead March 1917

Pte Percy Punchard, aged 28, died 25.3.17: 38704 21st Battalion Manchester Regiment, from 18 Melrose Street, Derker, Son of Herbert. Buried at Douchy les Ayettes, Arras, France.

The 21st (Service) Battalion (6th City) was a Pals Battalion, formed in Manchester in November 1914 by the Lord Mayor and City. After training and some early action, the Battalion was placed in the 7th Division. The front line was quite fluid during this time, and dead from both sides were buried honourably by their enemies, in "foreign" graveyards. Douchy les Ayettes is a WW1 British Cemetery begun in 1918 with bodies of men from a number of German graveyards scattered over the area south of Arras. Pte Punchard was originally buried in Gomicourt, Moyenneville or Sapines German Cemetery.

Pte Herbert Cleaver, aged 20, died 31.3.17: 45827 12th Northumberland Fusiliers, of 25 Conduit Street. Son of Mr & Mrs Cleaver, he is remembered on the Arras memorial, France as he has no known grave. The 12th Northumberland Fusiliers fought in the Battles of Loos, Albert, Bazentin Ridge, Flers-Courcelette, Morval, and the First Battle of the Scarpe, and Third Battle of the Scarpe.

In March 1917, the Germans began to retreat to the Hindenburg Line. The Manchesters and the Northumberland Fusiliers, fought in the flanking operations up to Bullecourt during the Arras offensive.

Hey War dead April 1917

9.4.17 **Pte Samuel Hayes**, aged 25, 33332 1 East Yorks Reg, from 36 Dixon Street, Waterhead, Son of Thomas & Ruth buried at Cojeul St Martin sur Cojeul Arras

St. Martin-sur-Cojeul is a village about 8 kilometres south-south-east of Arras on the D33. Cojeul British Cemetery lies about 1 kilometre south of the village.

The village was taken by the 30th Division on 9 April 1917, the day Pte Hayes was killed, lost in March 1918, and retaken in the following August.

9.4.17 **Pte Bernard Horsfall**, aged 21, 414193 2 Canadian Machine Gun Corps from Oldham Road, Springhead, Son of Asprilla, buried at Ecoivres MC Mt St Eloi, Vimy. Pte Horsfall joined the family business in Canada, then enlisted with his Canadian friends in Aldershot. He was a machine gunner. The Canadians famously combined their entire forces at Vimy, and using new tactics, took the ridge from the Germans, including one Cpl Adolf Hitler. Pte Horsfall was killed with a shrapnel wound to his neck. Ecoivres is a hospital cemetery about 5 miles behind the front line at Vimy.

12.4.17 **Pte James Lees**, aged 26, 1906 1 Kings Own R Lancs, from 43, Dunham Street, Crossbank, son of John & Hannah Lees, remembered on the Arras Memorial B2. One of three brothers killed. Pte Lees was killed during the First Battle of the Scarpe 9–14 April 1917 The major British assault of the first day was directly east of Arras, with the 12th Division attacking Observation Ridge, and trenches into the German lines, south of Vimy Ridge sector, SE of Arras.

23.4.17 **Pte Edward Dunkerley** 27421 16 Manchester Reg, and

25.4.17 **Pte Fred Cocks** aged 23 38231 7 Yorks Reg of 17, Bridge Street, Springhead, Son of Fred & Elizabeth, one of two brothers killed, are also remembered on the Arras memorial. They were killed in the Second Battle of the Scarpe, 23-25th April 1917. At 04:45 on 23 April, following two days of poor visibility and freezing weather, British troops of the Third Army (VI and VII corps), attacked to the east along an approximate 9 mi (14 km) front from Croisilles to Gavrelle on both sides of the Scarpe. Again, many objectives were taken, but the Germans counter attacked on 25th, when Pte Cocks was killed.

The Arras memorial records the names of 45,000 soldiers and airmen who have no known grave.

Bible Readings

2 Apr Fifth Sunday of Lent

Ezekiel 37.1-14

Or Romans 8.6-11

John 11.1-45

9 Apr Palm Sunday

122 Isaiah 50.4-9a

Matthew 21.1-11

10 Apr Holy Monday HC 7.30

Isaiah 42.1-9 or

Hebrews 9.11-15

John 12.1-11

11 Apr Holy Tuesday HC 7.30

Isaiah 49.1-7 or

1 Corinthians 1.18-31

John 12.20-36

12 Apr Holy Wednesday HC 10 & 7.30

Isaiah 50.4-9a or

Hebrews 12.1-3

John 13.21-32

13 Apr Maundy Thursday HC & Watch 8 pm

Exodus 12.1-14 and

1 Corinthians 11.23-26

John 13.1-7, 31b-35

14 Apr Good Friday Stripped HC 2pm

Isaiah 52.13-53.12 and Ps 22

John 18.1- 19.42

15 Apr Easter Eve

Vigil readings
Romans 6.3-11

Matthew 28.1-10

16 Apr Easter Day

Acts 10.34-43

John 20.1-18

23 Apr Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2.14a, 22-32
John 20.19-31

30 Apr Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2.14a, 36-41

Luke 24.13-35

7 May Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 2.42-47

John 10.1-10

Diary Dates

Major events during World War 1 will be shown on their centenary date

Sun 2 Apr	The Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide)	
	8am	Holy Communion – Book of Common Prayer
	9.30am	Parish Communion Bishop David Presiding
Wed 5 Apr	10 am	Holy Communion - BCP
	11am	Holy Communion at Oakdene
Thu 6 Apr	7pm	Come & Praise!

WW1 - US declares war on Germany. Troops begin to mobilise immediately.

Sun 9 Apr	Palm Sunday	
	8am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Parish Communion

WW1 - The Battle of Arras. The British successfully employ new tactics of creeping barrages, the 'graze fuse' and counter battery fire.

WW1 - Death recorded on this day a century ago and named on our memorial: **Private Bernard Horsfall Private Samuel Hayes**

Mon 10 Apr **Holy Monday**
10am Oils at Cathedral
7.30pm Holy Communion with address

Tue 11 Apr **Holy Tuesday**
7.30pm Holy Communion with address

Wed 12 Apr **Holy Wednesday**
10 am Holy Communion
7.30pm Holy Communion with address

WW1 - Death recorded on this day a century ago and named on our memorial: **Private James Lees**

Thu 13 Apr **Maundy Thursday**
8pm Commemoration of the Last Supper followed by Vigil

Fri 14 Apr **Good Friday**
9.30am Come to the cross (service for young people)
Noon The Litany
12.30pm Churches Together Service of Witness
Reflective music
2pm Liturgy of the Day

Sat 15 Apr **Holy Saturday**
7 pm Vigil readings
8.30 pm Resurrection Eucharist with renewal of Baptism vows

Sun 16 Apr **Easter Day**
8am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion

WW1 - The Second Battle of Aisne begins as part of the 'Nivelle Offensive'. Losses are horrendous, triggering mutinies within the French Army.

Tue 18 Apr Hey with Zion term starts

WW1 - Death recorded on this day a century ago and named on our memorial: **Private William Bardsley**

Wed 19 Apr 10 am Holy Communion
11am Holy Communion at Millfield

WW1 - The Second Battle of Gaza begins in Palestine. The plan consists of nothing more than to throw troops against well prepared Turkish positions. It is eventually called off due to mounting casualties- a loss of 6,000.

Thu 20 Apr 7pm Come & Praise!

Sun 23 Apr **The Second Sunday of Easter**
8am Holy Communion
9.30am Parish Communion
Followed by APCM

WW1 - Death recorded on this day a century ago and named on our memorial: **Private Edward Dunkerley**

Tue 25 Apr

WW1 - Death recorded on this day a century ago and named on our memorial:

Private Fred Cocks

Wed 26 Apr 10 am Holy Communion

Thu 27 Apr 7pm Come & Praise!

Sun 30 Apr **The Third Sunday of Easter**

8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

11.15am Baptism Lees

Mon 1 May *Bank holiday*

Wed 3 May 10 am Holy Communion - BCP

11am Holy Communion at Oakdene

WW1 - Death recorded on this day a century ago and named on our memorial:

Private William Hague

Private George Mellor

Private John Kenworthy

Second Lieutenant Harvey Farrington Street

Thu 4 May 7pm Come & Praise!

Sun 7 May **The Fourth Sunday of Easter**

8am Holy Communion - BCP

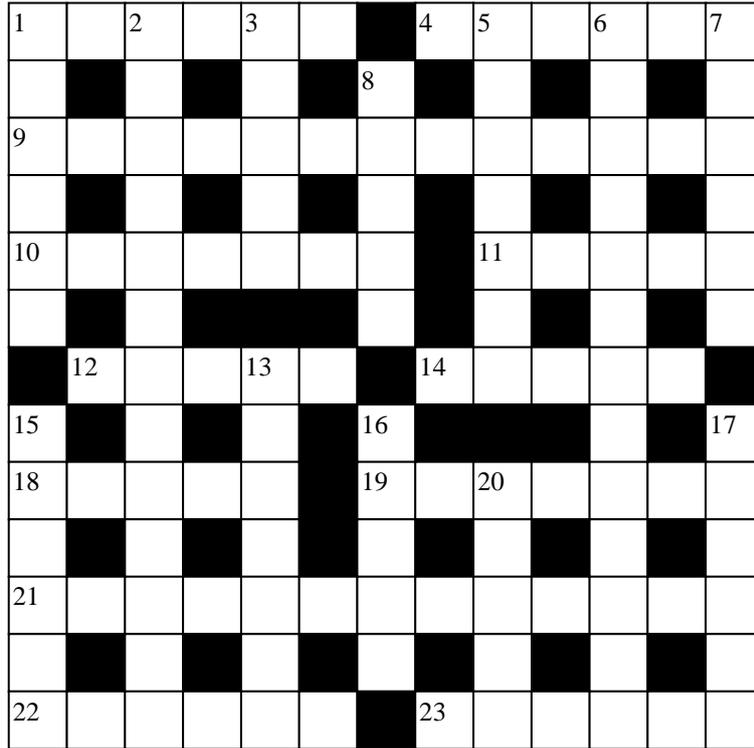
9.30am Parish Communion

11.15 am Baptism Brown

Contacts at St John

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APRIL CROSSWORD



CLUES

ACROSS	DOWN
1. Playground balance (6)	1. Extremely good (6)
4. In short supply (6)	2. Voting list (9,4)
9. Pirates' treasure (6,2,5)	3. Sports stadium (5)
10. Take back (7)	5. Dispenser of medicines (7)
11. Bury (5)	6. Moral opposites (5,3,5)
12. Teenage infatuation (5)	7. Total without omission (6)
14. Be a candidate (5)	8. Outer garments (5)
18. Greeting (5)	13. German cake (7)
19. Old metro (7)	15. Dissertation (6)
21. Overdo with lots of cooks (5,3,5)	16. Causing to scratch (5)
22. Produce no noise (6)	17. Imaginary or fictitious (6)
23. Distressing and sad (6)	20. Fossilized resin (5)

Solution to March crossword. Across: 1.Tension,8.Aviary,9.Tip-offs,10.Rural,11.Stop press,14.Tacks,17.Opine,18.Strum,20.Interests,23.Resin,24.Diagram,25.Canine,26.Legends. Down: 2.Exists,3.Scoop,4.Offer,5.Oversteer,6.Barrack,7.Cyclist,12.Prominent,13.Evict,15.Ostrich,16.Present,19.Strand,21.Top drawer (5),22.Eagle.

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