

**Dear Friends,**

September and October are months in which we celebrate harvest festivals - a time to thank God for abundance of food and wealth. It is also a time to reflect on our shortcomings especially in contributing, directly or indirectly, to scarcity in other parts of the world.

We use various ways to help us achieve the most in our results, be it business or community life. Being fruitful is the greatest agenda in every part of life in this world. As a gardener, I have tried to achieve abundance in the crops I grow by the use of plant feeds, composts, etc. In so doing, I have tried to turn most of my kitchen and garden waste into compost in order to use them to achieve a better produce in the years ahead.

Interestingly, the bible also talks of fruitfulness in many ways including personal lifestyle and relationships. One example is Jesus' advice to his followers in John chapter 15 verse 5 which states,

*"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing".*

Dependence on Jesus helps one to bear spiritual fruits. Dependence on Jesus can help us achieve good results in life and can also help us to live a life that will leave a lasting imprint in the lives of people who come our way. Such acts includes sharing a smile, giving a hand, visiting a person in need, having a listening ear, giving to someone in need, or sharing your life experiences. The list is unending.

As we celebrate harvest, let us consider what actions in our lives we can improve upon or use to bring abundant life in people.

God bless.

**Frank**

# THIS AND THAT

*Thank You Thank You Thank You Thank You*

## NSPCC

Thank you to all who supported the Annual Open Day held at 'Colindale' a grand total of £825.00 was raised.

Our next event will be a "Mulled Wine and Mincepies" event later in the year. Watch this space for details nearer the time.

Sue Erskine (Sec)

## Shoe Boxes

These need to be filled and ready to send off by the end of October. There are forms in the Churches saying what to put in to make these fun and heart warming for the very needy people in Romania who will receive them. Ready filled boxes or goods to put in these can be taken to the churches as soon as possible please. Don't leave it till the last minute!

## REQUESTS PLEASE

This year's Lead-in to Christmas will be held in church on Saturday 3 December at 7.30pm. In response to audience feedback, the programme will take the form of popular favourites and this is your chance to influence the content. So, if there is an item that you particularly enjoy, be it a reading, a sketch, an organ piece or a song, please let Ean Taylor or Barbara Perry (Tel: 853031) know by the end of this month.

*Coffee Morning*

on

**Saturday 22nd October**

**10.00am - 12 noon**

in Aid of Church Roof.

Tickets £1 from Wendy Taylor and  
Barbara Perry (853031)

Please come and support us.

## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

of

Sprotbrough Music Society  
will take place in the  
Church Hall at

**7.30pm on 13th October 2011**

*To be followed by a musical quiz*

*Everyone welcome.*



The  
Children's  
Society

## Wine & Wisdom 2011

Make sure you get your ticket for the  
Wine and Wisdom Quiz

*The evening is on*

**Friday 14 October 2011  
at 7.00 for 7.30pm**

**in St Mary's Church Hall.**

**Tickets priced £7 each  
includes supper and glass of wine  
(maximum of 8 in a team)**

*If you are not in a team yet, buy a ticket and we will try  
to arrange for you to be with congenial people*

Tickets from Betty Holden (852366)  
or Victor Hext (854467)

*Now brush up your History, Geography, Music, Literature,  
Entertainments, General Knowledge... or anything else that  
you might be questioned about????*

## EXPLORING ART AND ARTISTS

**Starts Friday October 7th & every 2 weeks**

**1.30pm in the Stable, Main Street**

*Fully Illustrated with discussion*

**Tutor: Rachel Holland M.A.**

WEA Course Fee £60 for 10 meetings

## PERUVIAN EVENING

**SATURDAY 15th OCTOBER 6-8pm**

**Sprotbrough Methodist Church**

**Talk and photos of Helen Smyly's  
recent visit to Peru on a Traidcraft**

**Meet the People Tour**

- Peruvian Handicrafts
- Peruvian Style Food
- Fair Trade Stall

**EVERYONE WELCOME**



**It can't be the  
Christmas Fayre already?**

**No, not yet!**

**It's on the 26th November,  
but we need your help again!**

Now the summer holidays are nearly  
over, it's time to have a clear out.

We need good quality toys, nearly new /  
collectibles and tombola prizes (for all  
ages)

Help us to make this annual event an  
even greater success.

Anything need collecting?.....Give us a  
call: *Issy 570431 or Helen 785240*

Watch this space for  
further news and requests

Many thanks



PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT OUR  
**CHARITY OPEN DAY**

IN AID OF

**ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK**

Charity No: 1077089

**SATURDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2011**

**10AM - 4PM**

THE GOLDSMITH CENTRE, SPOTBROUGH RD,  
DONCASTER, DN5 8BP



PAMPER TASTERS AND NAIL ART FROM  
LOCAL HOLISTIC THERAPISTS

**ALL TASTERS £5 EACH**



LOTS OF CRAFTS, GIFTS AND CARDS  
AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE AT  
REASONABLE PRICES

**FREE ADMISSION**

**REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE ON THE DAY**

For further information please contact  
Mrs. Doreen Marsh, 01302 851795

## *Bishop's Letter...*

### **The Need to Proclaim a Better Way**

My mind has been turning back to the need to teach our society the Ten Commandments.

I wonder how many people could name even five out of ten? Take a moment to grab a pen and see how many you get right. You can check your answers in Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5.

The Ten Commandments are not the whole of the Christian gospel by any means. But they are a good starting point for learning God's standards for what is right and what is wrong. Each one is a life-giving rule for individuals and for a healthy society.

Think for a moment about the last of the Commandments: "You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbours wife, or male or female slave, or ox or donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbour."

The tenth commandment aims to build contentment and appreciation of what we do have. There is to be no peering over the garden fence and longing for what belongs to someone else. That contentment is a great treasure.

But in Britain we have built our society on discontent and on coveting what we do not have. Much of our economy is driven by the engine of the advertising industry. Millions of pounds a year are invested in making us covet and stoking the fire of discontent in our hearts.

When that happens, greed becomes king and life gets completely out of proportion. So many of the ills of our society can be traced back to this root of greed. Our personal and national finances are overextended because we covet what we do not have. Some of the riot and disorder we saw over the summer was driven simply by greed: wanting what we do not possess.

The Church needs to proclaim a better way. As we celebrate Harvest this October, we remember and help others to remember that this life is God's good gift. We give thanks and help others to give thanks for all the good things we have been given. We proclaim the need for fairness and equality in our society. Appreciation and justice are the antidote to the virus of greed. We need to learn and to teach what it means to have enough; to be content; to live a just life.

To covet the lives and possessions of others is wrong and against God's law. We need to say so.

**Bishop Steven**

# CHRISTOPHER'S SENSORY BUS

As many of you will remember, after the loss our son Christopher in 2006, the "Christopher David High bibic Memorial Fund" was set up and St Mary's adopted this as the nominated charity for their Lent Project in 2007. bibic is a registered charity and through it's intensive therapy programmes, helps children with neurological and genetic conditions such as autism, ADHA, Down's syndrome, developmental delay, cerebral palsy and many more.

bibic became our lifeline when Christopher was diagnosed with non specific developmental delay and still remains a big part of our lives. To date, we (friends, family and colleagues) have raised over £10,000 and in April this year, we were informed that with the money, bibic had procured a large van which they were in the process of transforming into a sensory bus. The aim of this sensory bus is to travel the length and breadth of the country, providing support to families free of charge. The bus is not yet complete, it is awaiting re spray and obviously funding is required to keep it mobile. We were asked to name this bus and chose quite simply, 'Christopher's Sensory Bus'.

As a family, we continue to raise awareness of the work bibic undertakes as sadly, it still remains undiscovered amongst many. Over the last few years, various events have contributed to the 'Christopher David High bibic Memorial Fund' with the next being the 'Bupa Great Yorkshire Run 2011', on 9th October. Our good friend Vicky Collinson from Bentley is running in this half marathon and you can sponsor Vicky who is raising money for Christopher's Sensorty Bus by visiting her 'Just Giving' page which is [www.justgiving.com/Vicky-Collinson](http://www.justgiving.com/Vicky-Collinson)

We wish to thank you all for your continued support.

**Rachael, David & Charlotte High.**

## A Numbers Game

Did you know that July 2011 has 5 Fridays, 5 Saturday and 5 Sundays a phenonemon that happens just once in 823 years? This year we're also going to experience four unusual dates.

1.1.11, 1.11.11, 11.1.11, 11.11.11 and that is not all. Take the last two digits of the year in which you were born... now add the age you will be this year, the results will be 111 for everyone in the whole world.

From the July "Dalesman"

## Peru

In August this year I joined a group of 15 people on a Traidcraft Meet the People Tour to Peru. "Meet the People" is a very apt name, as in addition to the spectacular scenery of the Andes and the wonders of Machu Picchu, my chief memories will be of the warm and friendly people and the welcome we received everywhere, especially on our three home stay visits.

Our trip started with a two and a half hour flight to Madrid, then a 12 hour flight to Lima, where we met our Peruvian Tour Guide, Efrain, who travelled with us, looked after and entertained us for the two weeks we were in Peru.

The first and last days of our tour were spent in Lima, where we visited the offices of Minka and Allpa, Traidcraft's two direct trading partners in Peru, and COCLA who supply coffee, tea and cocoa to Cafedirect.

The other twelve days were a splendid variety of travel and visits, We travelled by plane, train, bus, minibus, boat and tuk tuk, and sometimes on foot. We stayed mostly in hotels, hardly ever two nights in the same place. One night we spent in lodges or tents in the rain forest, one night in lodgings with families in the Andean Highlands, and one night with families on Taquile Island on Lake Titicaca.

We saw small scale coffee production, from the berry on the tree to drinking the coffee (which was delicious), had a go at picking tea, we saw and had a go at making calendula ointment, making ceramic whistles, ploughing with oxen, digging with an Andean spade, spinning alpaca wool, knitting and weaving, rowing a reed boat on Lake Titicaca, coffee tasting at COCLA and jewellery making.

Besides all this we visited several Inca sites including the iconic Machu Picchu, had an amazing all day train journey through the Andes, and a very moving visit to a kindergarten for orphans and street children in Cusco.

At all our home stays and visits we had a hugely warm welcome. We were treated to lovely Peruvian home cooking, musical entertainment and dancing. After dinner our hosts brought out traditional Peruvian clothes and dressed us up and invited us to join their dance.

The people we met were generous and spontaneous and full of humour. There is no welfare state and they survive by hard work, enterprise and strong family and community ties.

We will be having a Peruvian evening at Sprotbough Methodist Church on October 15<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm, when I will show photos of the trip, and there will be displays of Peruvian handicrafts, more information about the work of Minka, Allpa and COCLA, a fair trade stall and Peruvian style food and music.



## The Venerable Bob Fitzharris, Archdeacon of Doncaster, is to retire on 31 December 2011

Bob has served the Diocese with great distinction over many years as Curate of Dinnington, Vicar of Bentley, Area Dean of Adwick-le-Street and, of course, as Archdeacon of Doncaster since 2001. He is known, loved and respected across the Diocese and has played a key role in his care for the people and property of the Diocese, as Chair of the Board of Education and in countless other ways. Bishop Steven Croft writes: "I have personally valued his immense wisdom, grace and patience in the first period in my time as Bishop."

Bob and his wife, Lesley, will continue to be part of the Diocese and plan to live in Finningley after retirement.

There will be an opportunity to express our appreciation for Bob's ministry and mark the end of his time as Archdeacon of Doncaster at a special service on Wednesday 14 December at 7.30pm in Doncaster Minster. Please note the date in your diaries and let others know who may want to join us on this special occasion. Everyone is welcome.

Please remember Bob and Lesley in your prayers as they begin this next part of their journey.

## THE DWARF SPORTS ASSOCIATION

On 5th August we organised our 5th Annual Charity Golf Day at Doncaster Golf Club, for The Dwarf Sports Association. We had 32 teams from all over the country participate, from Scotland, Aylesbury, London, Launceston, Newport(Wales), Manchester as well as support from many local Doncaster companies.

We had sponsors for each of the par 3 holes and thanks to the generosity of the players and sponsors we raised a record magnificent amount of £6,675!

We held a disco, raffle and auction with a signed Lee Westwood shirt which raised an amazing £500! Thanks to all who participated, it was a wonderful day and the amount raised will go towards some great activities to support dwarfs inclusion in sport.

Next year the event is on Friday 3rd August.

Annie Morris

## A Sprotbrough History Trail

### TOLL BRIDGE HOUSE

At the bottom of Boat Lane near the bridge the house and toll gate were erected when the first bridge was built in 1849. The payment of tolls was discontinued in 1888 - the house remains. It now belongs to Sheila Bury - the painter.

### BOAT FARM

On taking the road to the right of the toll house we arrive at what was Boat Farm. The house was erected in 1843 on the site of the ancient Ferry Boat Inn. It was one of the improvements carried out by Sir Joseph William Copley and his coat of arms adorns the front of the house. On completion it was renamed 'The Copley Arms'. About 1870 the license was surrendered and it became a dwelling for Boat Farm. Sir Walter Scott is said to have stayed at the Ferry Boat Inn at the time he was writing his celebrated novel 'Ivanhoe'. It has now been renovated and is called 'The Boat Inn'.

## Alzheimer's Prayer

Dear Lord:

*Please grant my visitors tolerance of my confusion,  
forgiveness for my irrationality,  
and strength to walk with me  
into the midst of memory my world has become.*

*Please help them take my hand and stay awhile,  
even though I seem unaware of their presence.  
Help them to know how their strength  
and loving care will drift slowly into  
the days to come, just when I need it most.*

*Let them know that, when I don't recognise them,  
I will ask them to keep their hearts free of sorrow for me.  
For my sorrow, when it comes,  
only last for a moment and then it's gone.*

*And finally, Lord,  
please let them know how very much their visits mean.  
How, even through this relentless mystery,  
I can feel their love.*

Amen  
(Author unknown)

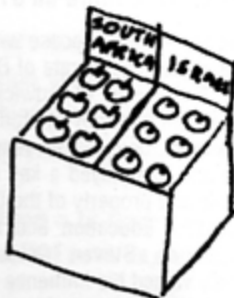
Copy for the magazine's November edition should be handed to the Editor, Betty Brockman, Copley House, Park Drive, Tel: 852046, NO LATER THAN Monday 10th October 2011 please.

Enquiries about advertising should be made to Vivien Jenkinson, Tel: 859453.

# Mr. Sprot's Page

Hello Children,

Next time you go to the supermarket, look at all the fruit and vegetables and the labels to see where they were grown. You will be surprised to read how many different countries are mentioned. We are lucky in this country that we all have enough to eat. We celebrate the fact that we are never hungry by having a Harvest Festival, to thank God for our food.



Here is a puzzle for you to do. On the left is a list of countries where we get some of our food. On the right is the food from that country, but the letters have become mixed up. See if you can sort them out to discover which food comes from which country. The first one is already done for you.

ZIMBABWE

SNEAB BEANS

HOLLAND

BERMUUCC

PORTUGAL

SKEEL

THAILAND

ROCN

SPAIN

CRAIGL

ITALY

NONOIS

KENYA

EAPS

ISRAEL

SROAEGN

SOUTH AFRICA

PPLEAS

When you have done, check your answers at the bottom of the page, then try and find all the countries on the map.

**See you next month,**

**Love, Mr Sprot.**

Answers: CUCUMBER, LEEKS, CORN, GARLIC, ONIONS, PEAS, ORANGES, APPLES.

## Churches Together in Sprotbrough

### October: The Month of the Bible

In this, The Year of the Bible, October will be the Month of the Bible when the 400th Anniversary of the King James Bible (KJV) will be acknowledged.

Sprotbrough Park and Sprotbrough Road Methodist Churches will both have the text of the KJV on their screens during each main service in October and those taking services will be aware of its presence. St Mary's will make arrangements for the KJV to be available too, at its main services, and sermons will bear this in mind.

In addition, there will be one weekday event in each week in October in the **Sprotbrough Park Methodist Church** focusing on the KJV.

#### Thursday 6 October at 7.30pm

*Barry Parker will set us thinking on **Words We Have Loved**: an introduction to the KJV's revelation of the nature of God.*

#### Wednesday 12 October at 7.00pm

*The Revd Frank Okai-Sam will lead prayer, using KJV as a stimulus.*

#### Wednesday 19 October at 7.30pm

*The Revd Canon J Thomson will discuss **Reading the KJV***

#### Wednesday 26 October at 7.30pm

***The Procession to Calvary and the Passion of Christ.** A reading of the KJV version of the event by Victor Hext, illustrated by the Brueghel painting from Nostell Priory and other works of art, and reinforced by the singing of relevant texts by a singing group.*

## CHATROOM 4 THURSDAY

*Chat Room 4 Thursday invites anyone in the community to attend at the Methodist Church Hall, Park Drive, on the fourth Thursday afternoon each month between 2.00 and 4.00pm for a social afternoon, including a talk, tea and cakes. The following have been arranged for the autumn and all are welcome.*

#### Thursday 27th October

*Poetry with Pam (not Ayres - Hankinson!)  
Pam Hankinson*

#### Thursday 24th November

*Public Transport in S. Yorks to 1986 and current transport system.*

*Cllr. Mick Jameson - Chair Integrated Transport System*

## Harvest Service

There will be our usual appeal for non-perishable gifts of food to be given to M.25 (The unit for the homeless & rehabilitation in Doncaster) Your gifts will be presented at the 10.15am service.

## Memorial Service - Sunday 30th October, 6.00pm in St. Mary's Church

As in the past the names of people you wish to be remembered in prayer will be read out. If you would like to have individuals remembered please fill in the forms - available in the churches - and hand it in before the 25th October to either the Clergy or Church Stewards/Wardens.

## Sunday t-Time

Sunday t-Time is a time when families, especially those with young children, can meet together for worship in an informal way. At each of the meetings there is a story linked to a parable or theme from the bible followed by a time of activities. These take place in St Mary's Church or Church Hall allowing everyone to choose how they spend there time.

In October there will be meetings on 2nd and 16th October.

## The Sunday t-Time Team