

# The Erringden Eagle

Mytholmroyd & Cragg Vale News August 2025 Visit our website

[www.erringdenbenefice.org.uk](http://www.erringdenbenefice.org.uk)

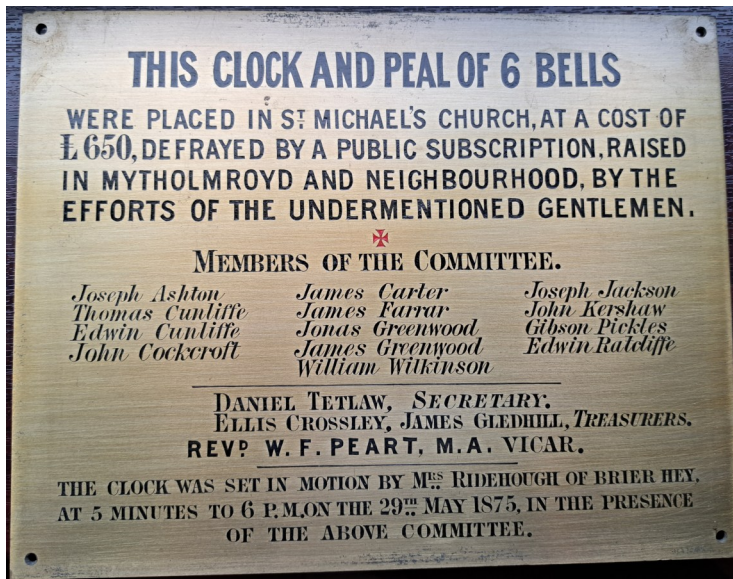


If you are on Facebook why not join the group 'Friends of the Erringden Benefice'?



How good it is to hear the bells ringing out on a Thursday evening and soon we will hear the clock chiming again during the day and evening. These photos are of a plaque that used to be in the clock room at St Michael's. It was taken to be cleaned when the clock was electrified by the gentleman who used to

wind it. It was returned by his grandson recently. The photographs are of David Helliwell and myself in front of the clock and infrastructure of a peal board in the ringing chamber, David's grandfather is named on the board.



## Events and activities in August

Date	St John's	St Michael's
Fri 1st		9am Benefice prayers
Sat 2nd		10am Coffee in Erringden Room 11am Gardening group - all welcome
Sun 3rd	9.30am Worship	11am Worship
Mon 4th		10.30am BREW
Tue 5th	12-3pm Cragg Community Hubbub	2.00pm Guild meeting —Talk on Trip to India 7.00pm PCC meeting
Wed 6th		
Thu 7th		
Fri 8th	<b>Cragg Fest</b>	9am Benefice prayers
Sat 9th	Cragg Fest	10am PCC Coffee Morning in Erringden Room
Sun 10th	9.30am Worship Cragg Fest	11am Worship
Mon 11th	2.30pm YCA	10.30am BREW
Tue 12th	12-3pm Cragg Community Hubbub	
Wed 13th		2.00pm Book Club
Thu 14th		10.30am BREW
Fri 15th		9am Benefice prayers
Sat 16th	Afternoon Tea at Cuddywood (see poster)	10am Coffee in Erringden Room

<b>Date</b>	<b>St John's</b>	<b>St Michael's</b>
Sun 17th	9.30am Worship	11am Worship Wives—BBQ and Silent Auction
Mon 18th	2pm Over 75s exercise group 3.30pm PCC meeting	10.30am BREW
Tue 19th	12-3pm Cragg Community Hubbub	
Wed 20th		
Thu 21st		8.00pm Wives — Forget-Me —Knot Trust
Fri 22nd		9am Benefice prayers
Sat 23rd		10am Coffee in Erringden Room Mytholmroyd Music Festival
Sun 24th	9.30am Worship	11am Worship Mytholmroyd Music Festival
Mon 25th		10.30am BREW
Tue 26th	12-3pm Cragg Community Hubbub	
Wed 27th		
Thu 28th		
Fri 29th	Whist Drive TBC	9am Benefice prayers
Sat 30th		10am Coffee in Erringden Room
Sun 31st	9.30am Worship	11am Worship

## **This is Shân's sermon on the feast of St Peter and St Paul:**

Peter and Paul were two of the greatest leaders of the early church. Peter, along with James the brother of Jesus, was the acknowledged leader of the church in Jerusalem, and as we've just heard, the early church believed that he was commissioned by Jesus himself to be the rock that the church was to be built on.

Paul founded churches across the non-Jewish world, the world of the Roman empire beyond Palestine, from where it eventually spread to every corner of the globe.

Without these two, there would not have been a church as we know it. And yet neither of them had a straightforward or an unblemished career, and both of them have a lot to teach us about forgiveness.

Let's start with Peter. We know more about Peter than about any other disciple, and a lot of what we know about him shows him getting things wrong, even though he always means to do right. He means to do right, but his faith isn't strong enough.

He is the disciple who tries to walk to Jesus across the water, but his courage and his faith both fail him and he starts to sink. When Jesus tells the disciples about his coming death in Jerusalem, Peter doesn't have enough faith in him to accept that he knows what has to be done. Instead, he argues, and Jesus gives him a harsh rebuke: 'Get behind me, Satan.'

It gets worse. Peter is one of those who fall asleep when Jesus has asked them to stay awake and pray, and when Jesus allows himself to be arrested in the garden of Gethsemane, Peter attacks the high priest's servant with a sword.

He is the leader of the disciples, and Jesus continually criticises them all for their lack of faith and slow understanding. And, his worst failure of all, after Jesus has been arrested he follows him into the High Priest's house, intending to die for him if necessary, but when he's put on the spot he denies even knowing him.

And yet, this is the man to whom Jesus says, 'You are the Rock on which I will build my church.' So despite his repeated failures, Jesus not only forgives him, but gives him this huge future trust.

So Peter shows us that there is no limit to Jesus's forgiveness, and that even though our faith in **him** is weak and unreliable, Jesus's faith in **us** is unlimited and certain.

But forgiveness isn't an easy, comfortable thing. It involves our facing up to our failures in love that hurt other people, our acts of selfishness, our giving in to temptation when we know we ought to fight it. Having faced up to them, we have to be sorry for them.

After he denied knowing Jesus, we're told that Peter went outside and wept bitterly. Some of us can do this bit really well, we're really good at torturing ourselves with remorse, even if we don't show it on the outside. But are we as good at the next steps? Because the next step is letting go of the guilt and the misery, it is accepting the new start that Jesus offers us.

If you're an Archers fan, you'll know that young mum Alice has been in agonies of remorse in case her alcoholism when her daughter Martha was a baby is the cause of Martha's behaviour problems now. And of course it might be, or it might not – no-one can ever know.

But the point is that Martha needs Alice to be her best self now – not a guilt-ridden, tormented mum but an active, loving and positive one – no matter how much Alice feels like wallowing in guilt. Peter denied knowing Jesus three times. But later he affirmed his love for Jesus three times. And love overcomes sin and guilt every time. It was his love that made him the rock on which Jesus built his church.

So Peter can teach us a lot about accepting God's forgiveness for ourselves. It's not just God's gift to us, but a duty, sometimes a very hard duty, that he imposes on us. But what about extending forgiveness to those who hurt us?

Let's look at what Paul's story can teach us here. He was a famous persecutor of Christians. He actually looked after the coats of the religious mob who killed Stephen by stoning him. He almost literally had the blood of Christians on his hands.

So it's easy to imagine how the Christian community reacted when he turned up claiming to have had a complete change of heart and to be a committed follower of Jesus now. Even though they knew God performed miracles – even though they

Luke tells us that the disciples in Jerusalem were afraid of Paul, because they didn't believe in his conversion. It took years of Paul proving himself by working tirelessly for Jesus in distant provinces far away from Jerusalem, as well as the testimony of respected disciples like Ananias and Barnabas, before he was really accepted and trusted by those in Jerusalem.

Perhaps some of them never trusted him – would **you** have forgiven someone who had directly caused the imprisonment and execution of your friends? And yet, that was what God told them to do. And because of that, the Christian church survived the destruction of Jerusalem and spread all over the Roman empire.

So from Paul's story we learn something else about forgiveness. God's forgiveness is immediate and unconditional, all you have to do is to turn to him. But what follows from that is the hard graft of showing through your actions as well as your words that you are a changed person.

It might take years, as it did for Paul. But forgiveness not only offers a new start to the person being forgiven; it also begins the process of healing for the person who forgives.

It's hard to forgive others, it's hard to forgive ourselves. Perhaps at the moment you can't forgive yourself, or you can't forgive someone else. It isn't something that can be forced, but don't be deceived – it **is** a sin to believe that someone, whether you or someone else, can never be forgiven or that they shouldn't be forgiven.

God's forgiveness is offered to everyone who's sorry and wants to do better in future – and that includes you and me, but also that person who's hurt or offended us so deeply. In Luke's words, we pray, 'Forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who sins against us.' **Amen.**

# **An invitation from St Mary's, Luddenden**

St Mary's are celebrating their  
Patronal Festival with a Choral Evensong  
on Sunday 17th August at 4.0pm.  
Some of our choir members will be joining  
their choir for this service.

There will be cheese and wine in Church  
after the service.

**All are welcome.**

16<sup>th</sup> August '25

AFTERNOON  
@ TEA

Cuddywood

CRAGG, VALE

HX7

5TB

3 - 5 pm

AFT TEA  
£5

Luxury  
tea  
£8

PROCEEDS  
TO

ST JOHN'S CHURCH'S LIFT FUND



10 ACTS PLAYING LIVE MUSIC IN 5 VENUES OVER 2 DAYS

# MYTHOLMROYD MUSIC FESTIVAL

SATURDAY 23RD AUGUST

SUNDAY 24TH AUGUST

4 1.00PM - 2.00PM

**BRADZ**  
SUPER FOLK, ROCK AND BLUES

3 3.00PM - 4.00PM

**JACKY'S FANTASTIC**  
SUPER FOLK, ROCK AND BLUES

2 5.00PM - 6.00PM

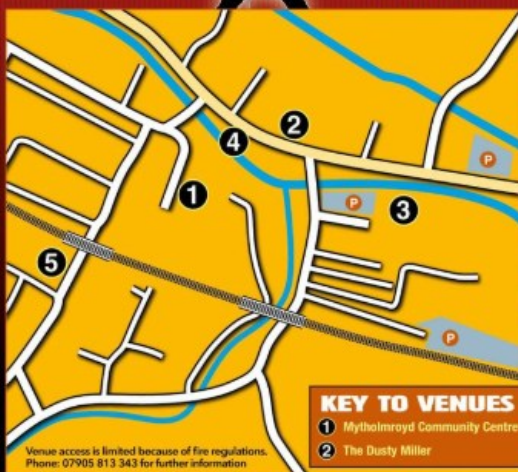
**THE LAND LUBBERS**  
12 PIECE GREAT FUN SHANTY WITH AN INDUSTRIAL EDGE

1 7.00PM - 8.00PM

**JUMP, JIVE & WAIL**  
THE VERY BEST IN JUMP JIVE IN THE STYLE OF LOUIS ARMIA

5 9.00PM - 10.00PM

**THE SAVAGES**  
ALWAYS GO DOWN A STORM - INFECTIOUS ROCK 'N' ROLL



1.00PM - 2.00PM

**BIG NOISE ACOUSTIC**  
POP, ROCK & SOUL COVERS WITH GREAT HARMONIES

3.00PM - 4.00PM

**SEAN O'SULLIVAN**  
ONE OF THE BEST ONE MAN ROCK SHOWS - ALWAYS POPULAR

5.00PM - 6.00PM

**THE BRADLEYS**  
GUITAR BASED ACOUSTIC DUO, 50S TO 60S

7.00PM - 8.00PM

**WILD TURKEY**  
FANTASTIC GUITAR 5 PIECE - ROCK COVERS

9.00PM - 10.00PM

**DARREN LEE**  
SUPERB VOCALIST  
PETER WORLD CHAMPION  
ELVIS TRIBUTE

## KEY TO VENUES

1 Mytholmroyd Community Centre

2 The Dusty Miller

3 St Michael's Venue (licenced bar)

4 Barbary's Bar

5 Mytholmroyd WMC

Venue access is limited because of fire regulations.  
Phone: 07905 813 343 for further information

8th 9th & 10th August



2025

Pub to raise money for charity.

Cragg Road, Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge HX7 5SQ  
(01422 885899)

<b>Rotas St Michael's</b>	<b>Stewards</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Prayers</b>	<b>Coffee</b>
<b>3rd August</b>	Vivienne Gloria	Eric	Jackie	Sandra K Gill J
<b>10th August</b>	Daphne Madeline	Geraldine	Roy	Nancy Gloria
<b>17th August</b>	Jenny Libby	Lesley	Christine	Madeline Sandra
<b>24th August</b>	Linda, Eric	Daphne	David	Jackie Kathryn
<b>31st August</b>	Mary, Pam, Louise	Christine	Margaret	Shiela Libby
<b>7th September</b>	Vivienne Gloria	Margaret	Daphne	Christine Margaret

<b>Rotas St John's</b>	<b>Stewards</b>	<b>Readers</b>	<b>Coffee</b>	<b>Communion assistant</b>
<b>3rd August</b>	Howard Ed	Sylvia	Viv	Pat
<b>10th August</b>	Sue Amanda	Ann	Sylvia	Julie
<b>17th August</b>	Geraint Anne B	Ed	Julie	Ann
<b>24th August</b>	Sue Howard	Geraint	Carol	Amanda
<b>31st August</b>	Anne B Geraint	Angela	Amanda	Sylvia
<b>7th September</b>	Sylvia Amanda	Pat	Viv	Ed

	Readings	Gospel
3rd August Trinity 7	Ecclesiastes 1.2, 12-14; 2.18-23 Colossians 3.1-11	Luke 12.13-21
10th August Trinity 8	Genesis 15.1-6 Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16	Luke 12.32-40
17th August Trinity 9	Jeremiah 23.23-29 Hebrews 11.29 – 12.2	Luke 12.49-56
24th August Trinity 10	Isaiah 58.9b-14 Hebrews 12.18-29	Luke 13.10-17
31st August Trinity 11	Proverbs 25.6–7 Hebrews 13.1-8, 15, 16	Luke 14.1, 7-14
7th September Trinity 12	Deuteronomy 30.15-20 Philemon 1-21	Luke 14.25-33

### **St. Michael's and St John's Prayer**

*Father God, you have done so much for us and given us so much.  
Hear us we pray, as we ask that you will pour your Holy Spirit on to  
us.*

*Give vision to our planning,  
wisdom to our actions,  
and power to our witness.*

*So that St. Michael's and St John's will grow in numbers,  
in spiritual commitment to you,  
and in service to Mytholmroyd and Cragg Vale*

Please send articles and detail of events for September to Margaret by  
15th August