



The Beacon

Newsletter of St John's Church, Workson

June/July 2025

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A message from Rosemary Arnott one of our Church leaders

'Come Rest Awhile'

These words of Jesus spoken to his disciples during a busy time of ministry would have been music to their ears.

As we approach summer our thoughts may turn to holidays and the desire to have a break from our usual routine.

From the beginning of time, God gave us a pattern of one day of rest in seven. For many Christians this became Sunday, a day for worship, fellowship & relaxation. But where that is impossible it is good to have at least one day to rest from our regular work.

We can also 'rest awhile' every day by spending time with the Lord, reading the Bible, praying and listening to His voice.

Jesus and the disciples would have been familiar with the words of Psalm 23 in which David wrote about the 'Lord being my shepherd' -v 2-3 'He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams. He renews my strength. He guides me along right paths.'

Jesus needed times of rest and refreshment so that he could fulfil God's purpose for him on earth and that is true for us too, if we are to live life to the full.

Rosemary Arnott

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## *The Lord is my Pacemaker by Toki Miyashina a Japanese writer*

*'The Lord is my pacemaker – I shall not rush.  
He makes me stop and rest for quiet intervals:  
He provides me with images of stillness which  
restore my serenity.*

*He leads me in ways of efficiency through  
calmness of mind, and His guidance is peace.  
Even though I have a great many things to  
accomplish each day,  
I will not fret – for His Presence is here:  
His timelessness, His importance will keep me  
in balance.*

*He prepares refreshment and renewal in the  
midst of my activity,  
By anointing my mind with his oils of  
tranquility.*

*My cup of joyous energy overflows.  
Surely harmony and effectiveness shall be the  
fruits of my hours;  
For I shall walk in His house forever'.*





## A Blast from the Past.....

Most of our readers will know that during the **Spire Repair Project** last year we were blessed to have a very generous grant from the Lottery Heritage Fund. This was conditional that we research the Church's History and share our findings with the community.

Helen Richards was appointed to fulfil this task and she unearthed lots of facts we didn't know about the history of our parish. She recently gave a talk at our **Tuesday @ 10 Café** which was founded during the Project. Many members of the community came to share their memories of the church in past years. Below is an extract from her talk which even our most senior members didn't know before.

### How Did Overend Road get its name?

In his 'Centenary History of St John's Church' (Straw. W 1967) William Straw mentions that George Hounsfield, a Sheffield businessman and landowner who was looking to develop the Elms estate in Worksop, was asked for his assistance in securing a suitable site for the new church.

Mr Straw suggests that George Hounsfield was one of the *'Sheffield moneyed people beginning to take an interest in the town'* following the coming of the railway, but George also had a pre-existing connection to Worksop as his parents had married at Worksop Priory in 1804.

The site eventually chosen for the New church was purchased by Lady Milton, just south of George's landholdings. In acknowledgment of her generosity Lady Milton was invited to lay the foundation stone.

George died in 1870, leaving his wife Maria a wealthy widow. Maria's father was one of Birmingham's first two MPs, and her brother later held the same seat. Maria then married William Overend MP in 1871. William had been a longstanding friend of George and was a Queen Counsel, chairing the Sheffield Inundation inquiry and the commission into the Sheffield Trade Union outrages.

The new Mr & Mrs Overend made their home at West Retford House, now the West Retford hotel, where you can see the portrait of an unnamed lady who bears a strong resemblance to the portrait of Maria Hounsfield (nee Schofield, later Overend), held by Sheffield Teaching Hospitals Trust in acknowledgment her generous support of numerous Sheffield medical charities.

Worksop remembers Maria through the name of Overend Road.

**PS**

I have also just received the long promised photo of the silver trowel presented to Lady Milton at the foundation stone laying ceremony in spring 1868.

We had hoped to have sight of an image in time for last September's celebration event but I understand it took some locating from amongst the Foljambe family's possessions.



(Image of silver trowel by Lord Liverpool)

### TUESDAYS @ 10

Join us in the church hall for coffee, and a chat

Occasional talks of local interest

ALL WELCOME

"It's always summer somewhere."  
- LILLY PULITZER



*Karen Balston writes on behalf her grandson. Lewis*

Lewis arrived in UK in November 2024 from Melbourne, Australia. His plan was to explore the area around Worksop and also to meet relatives to build on the family history he has already discovered. He soon realised that you can visit a new city or place of interest and be back for your evening meal without having to stay overnight. Distances are so much greater between cities in Australia.

So, with the help of a Young Adult railcard and a Trainline 'app' on his phone he began to travel. On one of the early trips he did was to visit a friend of his dad in Cardiff. She took him to Coychurch where we used to live and later he met up with some of the Balston family to share family history details.

Our neighbour who travels to different places with work has dropped off Lewis at Manchester, Cambridge, Oxford and Durham. Then he gets home by train.

The fact that there are old buildings all over the place, many still lived in, fascinates him. Cathedrals are especially good places for history visits and after a family trip to York where he did the Tower tour in York Minster he is looking for more towers to climb. Oh yes, he has been up inside the one at St John's and Lincoln, and is looking forward to finding more.

Now he is off to Cornwall for a while, so there will be more travel news to come.



**Lewis with Emperor Constantine in York**

Lewis says, Thank you for all of his birthday greetings and thank you also to those who shared his Games Night party. He really enjoyed it all.

An ANTIDOTE to all the BAD news that fills our TV screens  
is to have a regular dose of GOOD NEWS

There are numerous ways to get inspiring verses or  
longer readings or Bible Studies straight to your phone.

APPS such as:

Daily Bread, UCB, Lectio 365, Premier Christian Radio 'Voice of Hope' booklet,  
The Bible in a year with Nicky Gumble online etc

TV & RADIO

Songs of praise, TBN channel 66

Christian music on CDs, Premier Christian Radio, UCB Radio

YOU TUBE

Keswick Convention  
Worship and talks



FRIDAY 11TH JULY 9.15—11.15

Energy Advice drop-in pop-up stall  
from the Citizens Advice Bureau  
in the Lounge

OPEN TO ALL

## FUN SCIENTIFIC FACTS

Giraffes are 30 times more likely to get struck by lightning than people

Your brain is constantly eating itself

A chicken once lived for 18 months without a head

The fear of long words is called Hippopotomonstrosesquippedal

Snails have between 1,000 and 12,000 tiny teeth all over their slimy tongue

Platypuses sweat milk

Your brain burns 400–500 calories a day

“  
A perfect summer  
day is when the  
sun is shining, the  
breeze is blowing,  
the birds are  
singing, and  
the lawn mower  
is broken.

JAMES DENT

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## Contact Point

Church Office:

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Church Website:

[www.stjohn'schurchworksop.co.uk](http://www.stjohn'schurchworksop.co.uk)

Heritage Website: <https://worksopspire.org>

## SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30 am Morning Worship  
+ Kids, Church

6.00 pm Sunday @ 6.00  
Informal service in the  
Church Hall Lounge



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