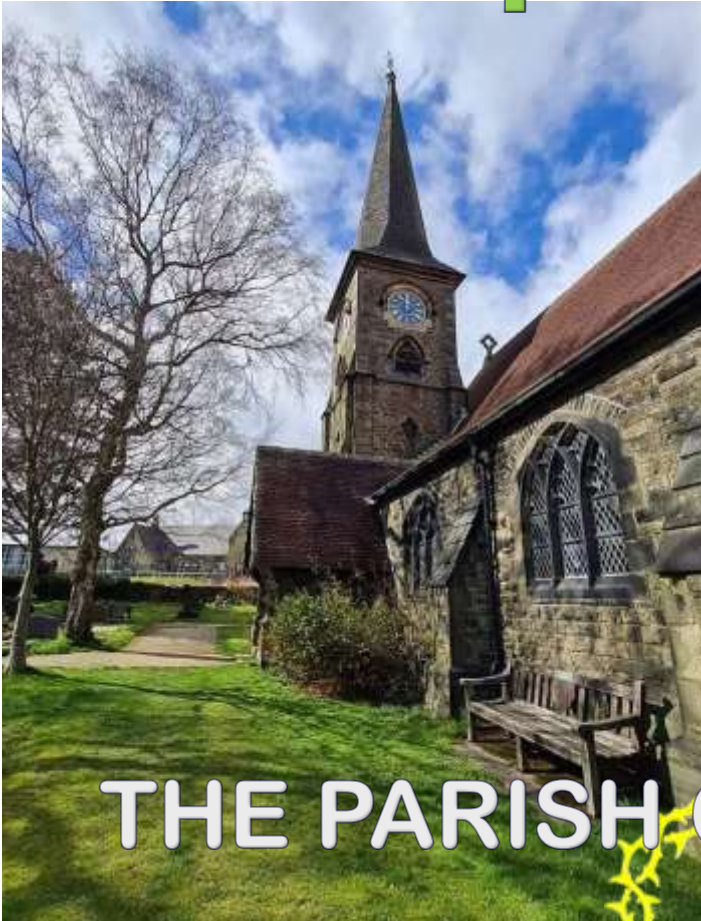


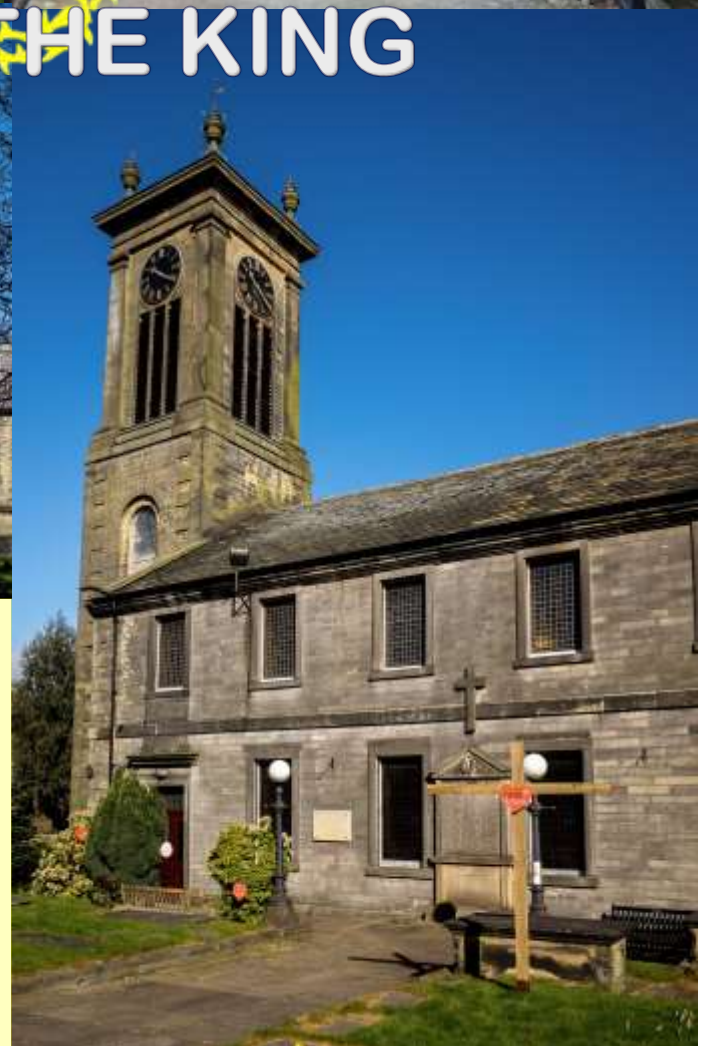
April 2023

50p



THE PARISH OF MELTHAM

CHRIST THE KING



**From Easter Day
each Church will be
open for the usual
Sunday service
pattern.**

www.melthamparish.co.uk

April - a time to reflect and celebrate

2nd April - 9.30am

All Age Family Communion at St James to celebrate Palm Sunday

Fun and engaging worship in a safe loving environment

Monday 3rd - Friday 7th April 7.00am-7.30am

Reflection on the events of Holy Week

in the stillness and quiet of St James

7th April - 11.30am

Good Friday outside St Bartholomew's

A Time of Reflection at the Cross

Saturday 8th April - 10.00am-3.00pm

Easter Trail for all Families

Grab a coffee and Start the Trail
on the Greenway

Sunday 9th April

Cock Crowing Stone

Top of Wessenden Head Rd

Easter Day Sunrise Service at dawn

Bacon Butties and Cereal in Meltham Church Hall

For details of Easter Sunday Services

www.melthamparish.co.uk

or call 07867951512

In this issue ...

Photo credit (right to left), Gail Shaw, Fiona Dracup & bottom pics John Steel photography all used with permission.	Cover
April a time to reflect and celebrate	Inside cover
Parish Officials	Page 4
A Note from the Editor	Page 5
A Letter from your Vicar	Page 7
Going Greener - moving towards an Eco Church	Page 9
Crossroads & Foodbank Update	Page 10 - 11
Toddler Church	Page 12
Philip's Apple	Page 13
What does Easter mean to me?	Page 15
Save the Date / Carehome Services / WhatsApp group	Page 16
Holy Week and Easter Services	Page 17
Meltham Scarecrow Festival	Page 19
'Heads Up' The Power of Music / Puzzle maze	Page 20
St Mary's Report / Bell House report.	Page 21
Helme Ladies Report / Lent Reflection	Page 23
Coffee Morning / Colour in / Notice.	Page 24
From the Registers / 200 Club / Easter Display	Page 25
Just For Fun	Page 30
Pictures around the Parish	Inside Cover
Coronation Fun Day	Back Cover

St Clement of Alexandria, wrote in the second century:
'Christ has turned all our sunsets into dawns!'

VICAR OF THE PARISH OF MELTHAM CHRIST THE KING

REV JOHN DRACUP: email: revjohndracup@gmail.com / 07983 937132

PARISH OFFICE CONTACT – email: parishofchristtheking@gmail.com

Website: www.melthamparish.co.uk / Diocese website: www.leeds.anglican.org

CLERGY in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

Assistant Priest Rev. Dennis Shields 850074

Assistant Priest Rev. John Radcliffe 348806

Assistant Priest Rev. Judy Kenworthy 851158

AUTHORISED READERS in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

Nigel Priestley 852005 Jacqueline France 01484 663867

Mandy Aspland 851789 Chris Ryan 851528

AUTHORISED PASTORAL MINISTERS in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

Christine Bleasdale 305553 Christine Woods 852268 Patrice Curtis 851498

Irene Harrop 01484 664163 Debbie Still 854889

CHURCH OFFICIALS in the PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING

Parish safeguarding Officer Richard Whiteley 319295

Parish Treasurer Ruth Murray-Webster 07974 943443

ST.BARTHOLOMEW'S

Churchwarden Alistair Storey 851498

Safeguarding Officer Ann Halstead 316422

ST. JAMES'

Churchwarden Alison Whiteley 319295 / Mike Still 854889

Safeguarding Officer Sarah Glover 854042

ST. MARY'S

Churchwardens Peter Pearson 844289

Safeguarding Officer Vicky Ramsay

CHRIST CHURCH

Churchwardens

Safeguarding Officer Janet Rockett 851424

All magazine enquiries.

melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com

Or via The Vicarage, 150 Huddersfield Road, Meltham, HD9 4AL

Facebook Page: Parish of Meltham - Christ the King

Prayer for Growth

God of Mission
Who alone brings
growth to your
Church,
Send your Holy Spirit
to give
Vision to our planning,
Wisdom to our actions,
And power to our witness.
Help our church to grow
in numbers,
In spiritual commitment
to you,
And in service to our
local community,
Through Jesus Christ
our Lord.
Amen.

A note from the editor ...

Happy Easter!

Depending on when you are reading this I hope you have/had a blessed Easter.

You may notice that the finished magazine may look a little different this month. That's because we are currently in the process of switching the printing from Kirklees college to another printers (yet to be determined) so the hard copy is my handiwork.

However I hope that does not put you off from reading some inspiring and informative articles like 'What does Easter mean to me' on page 15 and why there is a wooden apple on the Eagle in St James' Church (pg13)

Thank you as always for you continued support and contributions.

The next deadline of the magazine will be:

Monday 17th April 2023

Please send them via:

melthamparishmagazine@gmail.com
or

via the vicarage letterbox.
(150 Huddersfield Rd, HD9 4AL)

God Bless,
Fiona.



Meltham Prayer Chain

Meltham Prayer chain has representatives from every church in Meltham and serves to pray for any need or difficulty.

Confidentiality is always respected.

If you would like to ask for prayers to be said, please contact

Rev Peter Rolls 340342

Hester Deacon 657069



THE FLOWER BOX
'Flowers for moments that matter'

GAIL KEITH
owner

1 Market Place, Meltham, HD9 4NH
01484 850771

Holme Valley Pets & Supplies Ltd

Unit 10, Albion Mills, Miry Lane
Thongsbridge, Holmfirth HD9 7HP

Eve Burrows

Shop: 01484 689999

Mobile: 07907 630622

holmevalleypetsandsuppliesltd@gmail.com



LEONARD SENIOR (Crosland Moor)
PLUMBER & HEATING ENGINEER

ALL TYPES OF HEATING WORK - ESTIMATES

*34 Wilshaw Road, Wilshaw
Meltham, Holmfirth HD9 4DX*

Tel: 01484 852111



Letter from your Vicar

Two kings, a new bishop, and an AGM (our annual parochial church meeting)

These things may bring many thoughts and images to mind. For some there is interest or even excitement. For others disinterested confusion as they ask themselves “what’s it all about”?

As we head into April the Church is getting ready to celebrate Easter and the crowning of our heavenly king, Jesus. This brings to mind strange and disturbing images. Yes, we celebrate his resurrection on Easter Sunday, but first we must face the images of him being beaten, whipped, crowned with thorns, and crucified to death on the cross.

Jesus’s crowning on Good Friday is in stark contrast to what we expect to see at King Charles’ coronation on the 6th May. A cathedral with choirs, bishops, and hundreds (if not thousands) of dignitaries. His crown will be made of gold and encrusted with precious gems rather than Jesus’s crown of thorns. I imagine the crowds will shout “long live the King” whilst crowd around Jesus shouted “crucify him”.

In the Church of England, we recognise both Jesus and Charles iii as our king. And, regardless of the differing images of the two occasions, we hope for a particular similarity in attitude and approach to being king.

In chapter 9 of Mark’s Gospel an occasion is recounted when the disciples had been debating which of them was the greatest. Of course, they were rather embarrassed when Jesus asked them what they had been discussing. Jesus explained to them that in his kingdom leaders, including himself, would have to follow a remarkably different model from that of the rulers of the day. he said:

“Whoever wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else”.

We have also had the announcement on the 8th of March of the new bishop of Huddersfield, The Revd Canon Smitha Prasadam, who is currently Chaplain of St Albans, Copenhagen. I’m sure that her ordination as bishop will bear many similarities to the of the coronation of King Charles. It will take place in a great cathedral with choirs and pageantry, and I’m sure that all including us will be wishing her well.

Of course the most important thing for both our new king and our new bishop is that they enter into their new roles with the attitude of the servant king, Jesus. That they will seek to use their position’s, and the authority and privilege that comes with them, for the benefit of others.

I cannot promise that our annual meeting will have the same kind of pageantry but it will offer the people of our Churches, particularly those who offer to take up offices, join our PCC, or one of our steering groups, the opportunity to live out the same kind of calling. To serve God by putting other people before ourselves.

God bless, Reverend John (Vicar)



Pearson

FUNERAL SERVICE

Our family looking after yours when you need us most

Our reputation has been built on trust and recommendation, we pride ourselves in giving the highest standard of service. We help and guide family members through difficult decisions and legal requirements.

Each funeral is tailored to the personal requirements of the family and carried out with dignity and respect.

PROPRIETOR – CLIVE PEARSON Dip.FD, LMBFD, AMB.

- LICENSED AND QUALIFIED FUNERAL DIRECTORS
- SERVING ALL AREAS SINCE 1920
- NAFD & SAIF APPROVED PREMISES



Telephone 01484 844289 / 01484 688575

www.pearson-funerals.co.uk

Find us on 

PREPAID FUNERAL PLANS • ROLLS-ROYCE FLEET AVAILABLE • FUNERAL CATERING
FLORAL TRIBUTES • MONUMENTAL MASONRY • 24 HOUR SERVICE



GOING GREENER - **Moving towards an Eco Church**

‘And God saw that the world and all that was in it, was very good.’ Genesis Ch 1v 31

It’s difficult to believe I am writing for the April Magazine when looking outside there must be at least 10-20 cms of snow!! Very beautiful but hardly a harbinger of spring!! Just when we were thinking of turning our thermostats down a tad, the snow bomb fell causing disruption to transport, schools, weekend plans, sending us scurrying to find the thick woolly jumpers once again!

Hopefully, by the time you are actually reading this magazine, everything will be as it should be – warmer, sunnier days, spring flowers everywhere and the promises of hope, joy and new life about to be fulfilled once again as we celebrate Easter.

Have a very happy, joyful and greener Easter – think Fair Trade and sustainability when buying Chocolate Eggs, sweet treats, cards and flowers.

Now in case we forget:-

A few Eco tips for the month of April sent to us by the Diocese of Leeds:

In the Bathroom:

1. Spend less time in the shower. Spending one minute less in the shower each day will save up to £7 off your energy bills, per person each year. Heating water uses a lot of energy. (O dear, I used to love a nice deep bubbly bath.)
2. Turn off the tap while cleaning your teeth. The clean water that flows out of your tap needs energy in many stages of its processing and transporting before it reaches your tap –do not waste it. (I’ll do my best!)
3. Fit a water efficient shower head (if you’ve got a shower that takes hot water straight from the boiler or hot water tank) This will reduce your hot water usage whilst retaining the sensation of a powerful shower. (Super!)
4. Switch to Eco cleaning products which bio degrade in the sewerage system and don’t damage aquatic life in our rivers and seas. (There are now a lot of really pleasant products to choose from which smell nice -mmmm)

Stay clean and green!

God bless us in our efforts

Jenny



CROSSROADS CENTRE



“Well done my good and faithful servant(s)... Let’s celebrate together.

Matthew 25.23

In the Shop to celebrate World Book Day, free books were given for adults and children between the 2nd, 3rd and 4th of March,

This happy customer went each day and got a book for all the members of her family.



In the Foodbank we had a lovely visit from members of Meltham Pre School Playgroup. They had been reading the book ‘it’s a no money day’ by Kate Milner. Friends and family then donated food to the Foodbank which staff and children delivered. They then had the opportunity to look round the Foodbank
(See next page)



The Sewing bees got three new members who were warmly welcomed.

As a project we supported the Uniform Exchange as they distributed Warm Coats, hats, gloves . scarves etc to Kirklees children as needed.

Chris and Anne spent many hours sorting them and distributing them over several days.



We are looking forward to welcoming more people into the Centre as we develop a new meeting room in the basement.

More details to follow!

Thanks as always for your prayers and support.

Sue Priestley

Crossroads Foodbank News



Raising our profile within the community is vital. We don't receive any council or state funding – we spend big on staple foodstuffs, and we're aiming for self-sufficiency within the project. Donations of food and money keep rolling in, even after the season of giving, but there's never enough to rest on our laurels. We all need friends, and we can't make too many of them.

Bearing this in mind, we fired off a letter to our local MP Jason McCartney inviting him to come round and see what we do, and how we operate. The reply came back straight away, telling us that he'd be delighted to pop in on the 18th. The fact is, he could be useful to us, and we could be useful to him. After all, he's a helpful guy – he recently helped out with visa applications for a Ukrainian family who I'm hosting.

Good as his word, he duly turned up on one of his well-earned days off, and we gave him the lowdown on the Crossroads Centre with its varied facilities and the running of the Foodbank. Not content with visiting just to press the flesh, he was forensic in his questioning of what we do for our clients. We explained that we're not in the business of providing for people *ad infinitum* – we engage with clients early on, to see what we can do to help them help themselves. We don't like dependency – it takes the spirit away (neither can we afford it). One of our roles is to keep reaching out to the vulnerable, and he's now gone off knowing that he can signpost constituents to our service.

Suffer the little children to come unto me... and they came! More specifically, we were delighted to receive the toddlers from Meltham Pre-school playgroup earlier in the month for a tour. They'd had a story read to them called "It's a no money day", about a family who needed support with food. Friends and families gave them food to donate, which they passed on to us. Needless to say, they enjoyed their trip, helped put things away on our shelves, and our volunteers liked fussing over them! They're the next generation, and it's vital that they learn the merit and worth of helping those less fortunate than themselves. One day they may volunteer for us...

Bless you all

Chris Sinclair



TODDLER CHURCH

The Meltham Parish Toddler Church was started in September 2022 based at Helme Church. This location was deliberately chosen as being the best venue in that most church-based events and groups currently take place in the more central area of Meltham and we wanted to set up a church-based event that would be better placed to reach out to the families living in the northern part of the parish.

We called it “Toddler Church” for a specific reason because it is not a Playgroup or Mums & Tots Group. It is part of the life and ministry of Meltham Christ the King Parish and is a “Fresh Expression” of what church is because it is just as much part of church as what happens on Sundays and Wednesday mornings.

We have a very enthusiastic and talented Team who all bring their different gifts and expertise to the weekly Toddler Church sessions with each member contributing to providing a smooth and seamless 2-hour session. Each session includes playtime, a themed craft, Bible story time (with singing action choruses and prayer), snacks and then finishing off with singing nursery rhymes.

Since starting last September, we have been encouraged by the new contacts that have been made, and have welcomed a total of 20 toddlers, with 16 adults, over the 17 sessions that have taken place. Of course, they don't all come every week but we have had an average weekly attendance of 5 children each week and this has been a manageable number of toddlers and also enabled the team to chat with, and get to know, the Mums, Dads and Grandparents who come along.

Because of the rising costs of heating, with the reduction of church services on Sundays, we couldn't justify continuing to hold Toddler Church every week and so we decided during the first 3 months of 2023, to just hold a monthly Toddler Church event and these were special “Storytime”, “Pancakes” and “Mother's Day” events.

As the weather begins to warm up, and the snow becomes a distant memory, then we hope to re-launch Toddler Church on a weekly basis after Easter with vigorous publicity that will reach out to, and attract, more toddlers and their families to Toddler Church.

If I was to sum up the reason for, and motivation of Toddler Church, it is to “Tell People About Jesus” and this is just part of Meltham Parish's mission and outreach strategy.

Chris Dronsfield - Designated Leader



Philip's Apple

Recently, while visiting Peter Rolls we were reminiscing about St James church, in particular the apple on the lectern. Peter disappeared for ten minutes returning with an A4 sheet of information. He knew exactly what he was looking for and where it was. Peter's memories, additional information from others and help by email from Wendy Newby, our past church warden, results in the following story we would like to share with you all.

Maybe you have never noticed the beautifully crafted wooden apple at the feet of the golden eagle on the lectern in the sanctuary of St James's church? Maybe you have and wondered why it is there.

Philip Stead, was at the time, church warden of St James's.

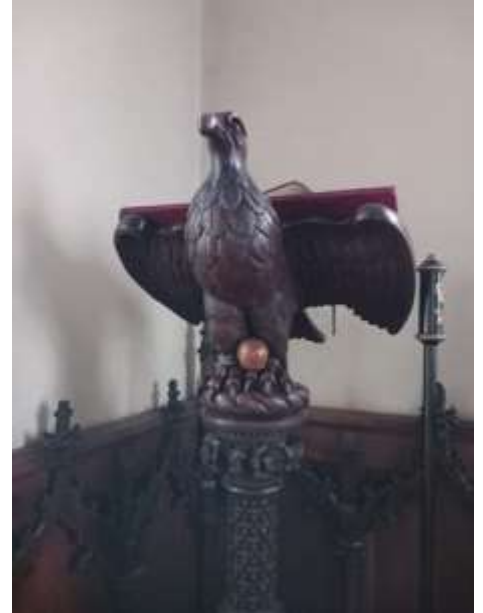
Wendy says "One Harvest Festival when our girls, Leah and Rebecca were still small, one of them, we think it was Leah as she had a special relationship with Philip, was walking around church with some apples.

She put an apple between the eagle's legs, called Philip over and said "Look Philip, the eagle has laid an egg!" Philip, dissolved into his inimitable giggles. Whenever it was mentioned in future years it could still make him laugh. We continued to put an apple there each Harvest time. I was asked to give a eulogy at Philip's funeral and used this little family story to exemplify Philip's gentleness, kindness and love of children, his deep knowledge and adherence to tradition but his willingness to make changes when they were right, and last but not least his wonderfully simple and innocent sense of humour".

When this story was heard at Philip's funeral, Raymond Lodge a member of St James's church had an apple turned in wood and vicar Jane Austin, agreed that it be permanently placed on the lectern. During a service in January 1999 the apple was dedicated to Philip's memory. Philip is, and always will be, a part of the fabric at St James' both physically and spiritually. As Raymond commented at the time, "One of the last gentlemen of Meltham, nothing Philip liked better than a story and I hope in time to come, the story of the apple will be told many times.

Peter Rolls and I, look forward to getting together again to reveal some facts about the candlesticks!

Jane Collins



Hair Design



Alison Dean

is your local hairdresser

29 Greensend Road

Meltham, HD9 5NW

Tel. 850234

Appointments not always
necessary

Glenn Cope Garage Doors

All types of garage doors

*Repaired, Automated,
Supplied and fitted.*

Phone Glenn

01484 647650

53 Lower Wellhouse, Golcar



DAVID MILLER

Internal & external painting & decorating
(City & Guilds qualified)
&



Garden maintenance



Also:

Tidying & jet washing paths etc.
Cleaning, ironing & general support around the house, including
delivering items to charity shops & the tip
Cat feeding whilst away



HONEST – HARDWORKING - RELIABLE

References and quotes available



Telephone: 844307
Mobile: 07789161232

(I am registered deaf, so texts or WhatsApp are preferred)

What does Easter mean to me?

Recently I was asked to write an informative post about the Christian faith and Easter for Ridley and Hall. This is the result. *(by Nigel Priestly)*

The world is an amazing place – so why aren't we happier?

Research suggests that despite the fact that there have been significant gains for many people in income, education and opportunities in comparison with previous generations, we are not as happy or content as we might be. A recent Harvard study shows that more than half the people who turn 50 want more meaning and significance in the second half of their lives.

I run a Zoom Alpha Course – it's a course to explore what the Christian faith is about. The first session addresses the question "Is there more to Life Than This?" It's a good question. Despite all the gains, this question remains unanswered for many. Working in a law firm can show us the best and worst of human behaviour – relationship breakdowns, battles over children, parents failing to care for their children, siblings fighting over their inheritance – or lack of it. We see so much injustice, disappointment, lack of forgiveness and despair.

Outside work, there are our own experiences of grief, sadness and anger – illness striking down relatives or friends suddenly out of the blue. Or our own personal failings – why did I do or say that?

Is this all there is? Is there no hope? Is death the end?

Easter for Christians is about hope and grace. We believe that there is a God-shaped space in our lives. We were all made to be in a relationship with God who loves us. How can He know what our lives are like? How can we know what God is like? We believe that Jesus is the Son of God – at Christmas we celebrate his birth to live among us. In his life he showed the nature of God – on the side of the poor, challenging the status quo, healing, forgiving the apparently unforgiveable, teaching about prayer and about the centrality of loving God our Father and one another. God delights in giving people a second chance

This teaching did not go down well with the religious and political authorities of his time. Jesus was arrested, tried unjustly, tortured and then on Good Friday suffered crucifixion – a terrible, painful death having his body nailed to a cross. The authorities believed that this have been the end of Jesus' influence.

It wasn't! Christians believe that on Easter Day Jesus was raised from the dead. He was seen by many. Death wasn't the end and it isn't for us. He had suffered the worst that humans can do and defeated it. So that's why we celebrate Easter.

We have an upside down view of the world – our worth is not measured by material gain. Meaning in life comes from knowing an always forgiving God who understands and has experienced our failings, our hurts, capacity for injustice and cruelty and wants to make us whole.



Coronation Fun Day

Saturday 6th May

Refreshments from 9.30am,

Childrens activities from 11am

The Coronation shown LIVE on the BIG screen

Meltham Church Hall (opp St Bart's Church)



Every group needs a WhatsApp!

Thinking of Springtime means grass growing and then needs cutting. Our loyal band of helpers have done so well over the last few years. But it would be so much easier to keep in touch with each other if we had our own WhatsApp group.



WhatsApp

Thinking this through a bit more, there are so many jobs that we do and need doing not just for the church property, but helping each other and the Community. Therefore I am hoping to form a Church Help WhatsApp. There will be no obligation, But an opportunity to make a difference.

For example someone might be looking at one of our buildings and think that it could really do with a spring clean. If we could get 3 or 4 to help we could do it in a few hours. Simple appeal on WhatsApp, and the jobs done.

If you would be willing to be on this Group please Text Mike on 07867951512



Care Home Services

Greenacres

1:30pm for 2pm start. Tuesday 11th April- Songs of Praise

1.30pm for 2pm start. Tuesday 25th April - Holy Communion.

Helme Hall

1.30pm for 2pm start. Friday 28th April - Holy Communion



These services are popular with the residents and it would be lovely to have a couple of helpers to help support these services.

Please get in touch with Rev Denis Shields if you can be of help.

Holy Week and Easter Services

Holy Week (Sun 2nd April to Sat 8th April)

- Palm Sunday (2nd) Olivet to Calvary, 4pm at St Bartholomews' Church
- Monday to Friday daily devotional 7am - 7.30am, at St James' Church
- Monday Stations of the Cross, 7pm at Christ Church, Helme.
- Tuesday Taize Service, 6.30pm at St Mary's Church, Wilshaw
- Maundy Thursday Communion Service, 7.30pm at St James' Church
- Good Friday Service of Witness 11.30am in St Bart's Churchyard, followed by soup lunch at the Methodist Church.
- Saturday Easter Trail 10am - 3pm starting on the Greenway (see details below)

Easter Weekend:

Saturday Easter Trail, Grab a coffee and start at any time from 10am to 3pm at the Morrisons end on the Greenway and follow the trail of the Easter story all the way to St James' Churchyard and if you complete it, you will be rewarded!

Light refreshments will be available in the church for a well earned rest afterwards.

Sonrise Service, 6:15am, Crock Crowing Stone, Wessenden Head Road (be there before ready for the Sunrise)

HE IS RISEN! Join together for this very special time. It really is worth getting up for! The sunrises at 6:15am so you need to be therefor then. A short reflection focussed on the discovery of the empty tomb for about 20 minutes.

Then afterwards for bacon butties & cereal in the Church Hall, (across from St Barts Church)



Weekly Parish Services

You are welcome to join us at any of the following weekly services
(from Easter Day onwards)

St Bartholomew's 9:30am & St James' 9:30am

Christ Church, Helme 11:15am & St Mary's, Wilshaw 11:15am

- The first Sunday in the month service at St James' (9.30am) will be a Family Sunday service where people of ALL ages can join in the fun.

COMPUTER HELP!

- ✓ Home Visits
- ✓ Virus & Spyware Removal
- ✓ PC Setup & Installations
- ✓ Repairs & Maintenance
- ✓ Wifi & Internet Issues
- ✓ Data Recovery
- ✓ 7 Days a Week
- ✓ Systems Re-Loaded



Windows PC, Iphone & Android Viewing
Installation and Setup Available

Contact Paul Mob: 07976952392

Email: paul@buildcomputers.co.uk

ideal carehomes



Greenacres | Huddersfield Road, Meltham HD9 4AL

01484 855 393

SCARECROW FESTIVAL

MAYDAY - MONDAY 1st MAY

Question?

WHAT DO YOU NEED FOR A SCARECROW FESTIVAL?

Answer -

LOTS & LOTS OF SCARECROWS

The Scarecrow route will be from the roundabout at Morrisons, up Station Street to turn right into Westgate & up to Mill Moor Road to the Methodists then back down to Greens End Road & Green Street, back past St Barts to the junction and turn right up Holmfirth Road to CE School, back down Clarke Lane to Huddersfield Road as far as the Carlile Institute.

If you do not live on the route, you can still make a scarecrow to be placed on the route, but still registered to you and be entered into the competition for the best in each category.

THE CATEGORIES ARE:

SINGLE JUNIOR, SINGLE SENIOR,
JUNIOR GROUP, SENIOR GROUP, BUSINESS.

PLUS - NEW THIS YEAR

PRIZES FOR THE BEST HUMAN SCARECROWS

JUNIOR (under 16) & SENIOR (under 100)

ALL ABOVE ARE FREE TO ENTER BUT MUST BE REGISTERED
TO BE IN THE COMPETITION

ENTRY FORMS AVAILABLE FROM THE LIBRARY, SHOPS, PUBS & CAFES
OR CONTACT: PAM on 07761 393502 / 01484 349857

pammurg.mgt@gmail.com

The Power of Music

'The Heads Up Choir' Singing with Dementia



It is widely accepted that music and especially song and singing can be enjoyed by everyone! In Meltham we have seen the popularity of choirs, band's and individual musicians. Side By Side Meltham, a group running very successfully since 2014 has included singing as part of the plan for weekly session. This group is for those with memory problems, mainly dementia.

The 'Heads Up Choir' is a new venture. Run by volunteers and a professional musician. The focus will be to give support to those who attend who are suffering the effects of memory loss.

We know that singing can improve behaviour, mood and cognitive function.

It will meet at the **Salvation Army Church at Lindley on a Monday**

The participants will be those people who have dementia and those who care for them. There will be a small charge of £3 to those who attend.

STARTING 17 APRIL 2023 1pm-2.30pm

If you, or someone you know or care for, would like to come along you will be most welcome.

For more information phone Emily on 07780681235.

JJH PLASTERING

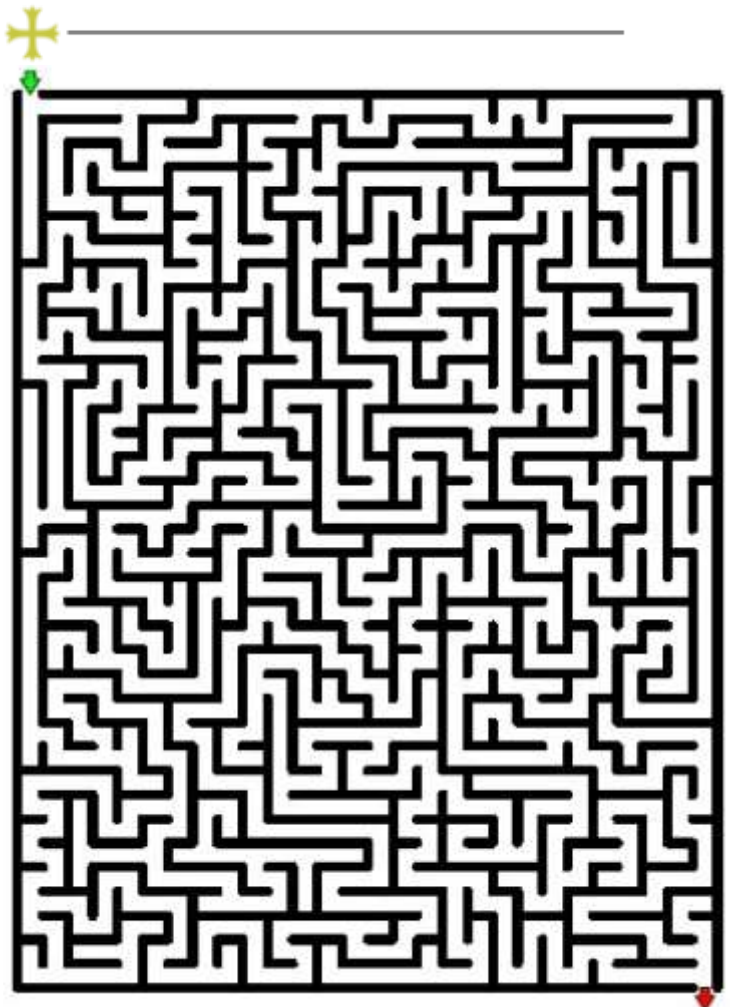


Free quotations : over
skimming and boarding :
small jobs welcome :
Based in Meltham

See work on 'Joshua Horvath'
Facebook page.


Call: **07395 301771**

Email:
JJHPLASTERING@HOTMAIL.COM



St Mary's Report

We have had a busy month and a happy one with Amber and Nathan's wedding on Saturday 4th March. They were so fortunate with the weather as it was dry and sunny but very cold. Amber was given away by her mum Susan and she had four bridesmaids and two flower girls. They all arrived in a stretch limo the likes of which has never been seen in our sleepy little village before! The best man was Graham Nicholson and witnesses were Alice Shaw and Nathan's grandad Adrian Davies. Ameya was the ring bearer

and Nathan's dad Carl and Amber's dad John took part in the candle  ceremony. The church was beautifully decorated with spring flowers and we offer Nathan and Amber our best wishes for a long and happy marriage.

As well as this happy occasion we held our annual coffee morning in Meltham on Saturday 18th March in the church hall. There was a raffle, cake stall and tombola and it was very busy. Thanks to everyone who helped on the day, to all who provided things for the stall and all who supported it. We raised £365 after expenses for church funds.

Thankfully we avoided the snow for both of these!!

On Sunday 5th March Rev John led a service of Holy Communion in church. Capt. John Smith gave a talk about " Asking, Seeking and Changing" and on 19th March Lay reader Nigel Priestley led a Family Service for Mothering Sunday. Rev Judy gave the talk and with the help of Bonnie and Dylan we discovered "The Secrets of the Heart" and compared the love of our mothers and carers, our mother church and God's love. The music group accompanied the hymns and the children gave out posies of daffodils to the ladies in the congregation. There were no services at St Mary's on 12th and 26th of March giving us the chance to go to either St Bartholomew's or Christ Church.

Our thanks go to all who read the lessons, lead prayers, to our musicians, to those who join us on zoom and those who prepare the services. May we take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and blessed Easter.

Bell House Report

A service based on the theme of Love took place at Bell House on Wednesday 1st March when we heard a reading from 1Corinthians 13. Rev Judy took the service and gave the talk and Jacqueline France led the prayers. It was the first time Jacqueline had come to help and she was made very welcome. We sang three hymns finishing with everyone's favourite "All things Bright and Beautiful.

DIMPS

by Ville

**11 Station Street
Meltham, Holmfirth
HD9 5NX
tel. 01484 850960**

Helme Ladies Report

28th February, the last day of meteorological Winter, saw us all meeting to have a Beetle Drive. The tables and chairs were set out and the fun began. There were lots of laughs but also expressions of frustration, “there are no sixes on this dice”. You had to have a body before you could build your beetle, therefore you needed a six. When beetle was called you added up the number of body parts you had, the winner on each table moved up a table and the loser moved down a table.

On one round when someone shouted beetle another lady had just shaken a six for a body, or you could have had nil points. After a few rounds the scores were added up and the winner announced, with two tying for second place. Then it was time for tea or coffee and some delicious homemade biscuits.

On the 14th March we had an illustrated talk by Richard Ryden, some of you may have seen it. When he arrived at the Church Hall, he was carrying this enormous television, which was soon set up on a table. His show about his life was fascinating, entertaining and hilarious, starting with pictures of him as a baby with his Mum. There were episodes during his growing years that had been recorded on photographs, like the time he and his friends were building lorry carts and pinched the wheels from a pram. The photo showed the pram, with baby, on top of a load of bricks. There were pictures of his father’s 1921 wagon, which was used to deliver the vegetables he had grown. He ended with photographs of a visit he made to Ravenseat, showing him making balloon animals for Clemmy. We had a wonderful morning of laughter at his antics and all I will say is that Photoshop is a very useful tool.

Helme Ladies usually meet Tuesdays in the Church Hall at 10am.



Lent Reflections.

Those of you who know me will know that over the years, there is more and more of me! Years of trying to deny myself the things that I know are not good for me have had little effect. And I always decided that God didn't much care if I was fat or thin – that he loved me anyway. But – pre-diabetes made me think again. This year, spurred on by a discussion about making things a spiritual practice at Lent Group, I decided that I would make improving my health a spiritual practice, rather than one that I struggled with on my own. It's amazing what God does when you let him in. The chocolate I craved and craved for years – I can't imagine eating now. I've learned that when you let God in – it works! How daft that it took me 60 years to realise that I didn't need to do everything in my own strength. Look forward to seeing less of me and my blood sugar levels being normal again.
Ruth

Saturday Coffee Mornings

9.30am - 12pm at Meltham Church Hall, hosted by local organisations.

1st April - Meltham & Meltham Mills Band

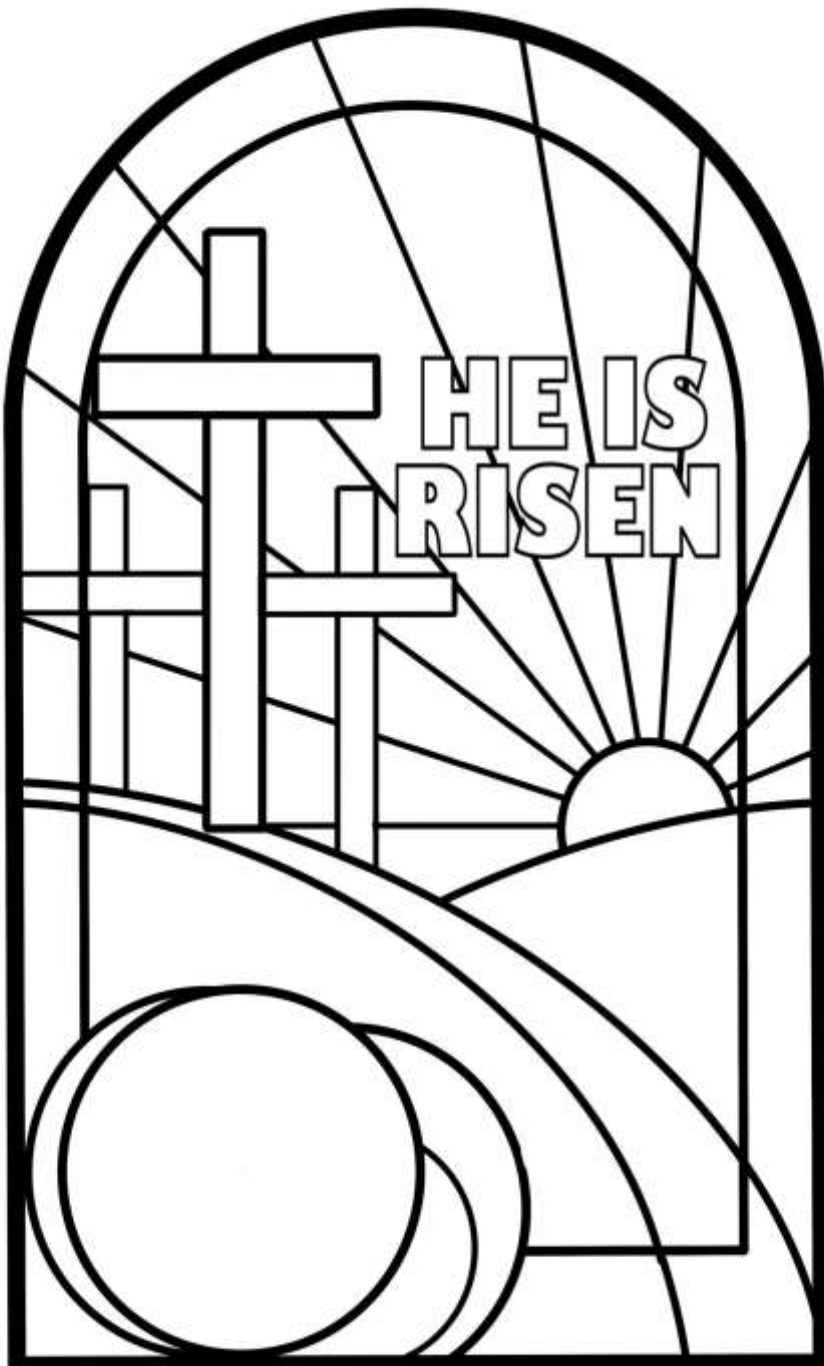
8th April - Christian Aid.

15th April - Meltham Shoebox (T4U)

22nd April - Over 60's

20th April - Gilbert & Sullivan

6th May - St Bartholomew's Church



"Police? This is St Mary's Ladies' Knitting & Vigilante Circle. We've detained two gents trying to nick the church silver."

Please Be Aware:

Previously Kirklees college printed our Parish Magazine. As I mentioned last month, they have now closed, we are in the process of finding another.

Please bear with us as we do so, this may result in delays, a price increase and/or a different look.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Weddings - A gift of God in Creation & a means of His grace

Nathan Clemence + Amber Billbrough

Baptisms - *We welcome you into the Lord's family*

Funerals - May they rest in peace

Christopher Hawksworth,
Mary Wainright,

Joan Smith
Martin Bottom

Anyone wishing to have their loved ones names included in the book of Remembrance at St Bartholomew's please contact Jean Collison : Telephone 851816

(there is a small fee of £5 for church expenses)

To contact our vicar Rev John Dracup: 07983 937132 parishofchristtheking@gmail.com

200 CLUB : March Winners:

187	£50 Vacant Number
508	£10 Mrs. S. Farrell
380	£10 Mrs. M. Tiffany
498	£10 Mr. A. Johnson
410	£10 Mr. P. Kaye

Please Note!

Will any members of the 200 Club who pay their subscriptions to David Earnshaw please let David have the money at his address--168 Wessenden Head Road, Meltham.

Alternatively let Catherine Moulson or Michael Farrell have their subscriptions.

Michael Farrel 07768258257

m.farrellphd@btinternet.com

David Earnshaw 341968,

C Moulson 850171



St Bartholomews Flowers

Flowers are a lovely way to remember loved ones or to celebrate that special occasion.

2nd April	Lent, No Flowers
9th April	Easter Flowers
16th April	Mrs Crowther
23rd April	The Lodge Family
30th April	Mr & Mrs P Jackson
7th May	Mr & Mrs J Halstead

If you would like to put flowers on the Communion Table in church we do have dates available.

Please contact:

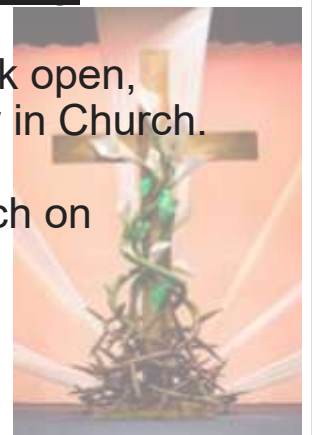
Catherine Moulson (850171)

St Bartholomews' Church Easter Display

To celebrate Easter and every church being back open, St Bartholomews' would like to do an Easter display in Church.

If you would like to help, please meet in Church on
Saturday 8th April at 10.30am

Please bring with you any flowers or items you would like to include.



SERVING FAMILIES SINCE 1929

Taking the greatest care

in and around Holme Valley and Huddersfield

Funerals
Prepaid Funeral Plans
Memorials



We're here for you anytime.

Whatever your wishes or budget, we can provide a funeral to suit you.

T. W. BIRKS & SON FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Woodhead Road
Holmfirth HD9 2PR
01484 683322

317 Meltham Road
Netherton HD4 7EX
01484 665115



dignityfunerals.co.uk/local

We're proud to be a Dignity Funeral Director, providing exceptional services to families across the UK.



RADCLIFFE FUNERAL SERVICE

INCORPORATING F. LINDLEY & SON

16 Westgate,
Honley,
Holmfirth,
HD9 6AA.
01484 662324

The Lindens, New Road,
Kirkheaton,
Huddersfield,
HD5 0JB,
01484 535853

www.radcliffefuneralservice.co.uk

Gwen, Andrew and James Schofield



Golden Charter
Funeral Plans 



An Independent family business established 1964

CHIROPODY & PODIATRY 4U

Treatments

- Hard skin removal
- Corn removal
- Nail cutting
- Ingrowing toe nails
- Cracked heels
- Verruca treatments
- Fungal nails
- Biomechanical issues



Home Visiting service



To book an appointment please call: 07500 464 474

All Podiatrists are registered with the HCPC and the Royal College of Podiatry, DBS checked and fully insured.

For further information please email:
chiroprandyandpodiatry4u@gmail.com

Andrew P. Lockwood

MInstChp. CCM (Sheffield)

Chiropodist

All Foot Ailments Treated

CORNS - CALLOUSES (Hard Skin)

VERRUCAE

ATHLETE'S FOOT. Etc

Home Visits—Prompt Attention

Telephone: 01484—687632

Mobile: 07971—355078.

HOME HELP
Personal Care
Shopping
Preparing meals



15 years experience
CRB checked
References available

Ring Sue on 07712 458555

HUGE SAVINGS EVERY WEDNESDAY

*FOR THE
OVER 60s*

15% OFF EYE EXAM
UPGRADES

20% OFF PRESCRIPTION
GLASSES



Terms and conditions apply, please ask in store for details.



Family Ethics,
Family Values

Telephone: 01484 656156 (24hrs)

TAYLOR FUNERAL SERVICE

Funeral Homes at:

The Mount
2 Cowlersley Lane
Huddersfield
HD4 5TY

Dene End F.H.
North Road
Kirkburton
HD8 0RW

www.taylor-funerals.co.uk
PRE PAID FUNERAL PLANS AVAILABLE



Do you need help with your
cleaning and shopping?

Are you, or do you know an elderly
person?

Reliable, Trustworthy Person
available

For details and to discuss your
needs ring SARA

On: 01484 845535

Electrician

*Do you find it difficult to get
someone to come and do a
small job?*

- ◆ Extra Lights
 - ◆ Additional sockets
 - ◆ New Fuse Boards ◆ Rewires
 - ◆ New installations
 - ◆ Fault finding and Repairs
 - ◆ Qualified Electrician
 - ◆ Fully Insured ◆ Reliable Service
 - ◆ Tidy Work ◆ Free Quote
 - ◆ Flexible Hours
 - ◆ Reasonably Priced
 - ◆ Satisfaction Guaranteed
- I will assure you of a quick response, and a reasonably priced service...

Call Terry on: 01484 941029

or 07454 474759

info@TLElectricalHD.co.uk



JUST FOR FUN!

By Denis A

Have you heard? A shop assistant at Morrisons fought off a would be armed robber with his labelling gun. The police are now looking for a man with a price on his head.

What happens if you get scared half to death, twice?

If you boiled your funny bone, would you become the laughing stock of the community?

As I've grown older, I've learned that pleasing everyone is impossible, but annoying everyone is a piece of cake.

Did you know that Morrisons had to remove 10,000 milk and other items from their store? The labels had to be changed from "Open here" to "open at home".

Did you know bread is like the Sun. It rises in the Yeast and sets in the waist.

It must be a busy night at Stonehenge when the workers have to move all the stones forward one hour.

I will never help anyone again..... EVER!. I think I'm too kind hearted, or I'm too naïve. When we had snow and bitterly cold weather in March, I took a man into my home out of the kindness of my heart. I felt sorry for him. Poor thing, he was standing stiff & frozen out in the cold. How long he'd been there I don't know, but his morning he had vanished. Not a word, not even a 'thank you' for sheltering him and what's more he'd peed all over the floor. - That's the 'thank you' I get for being good to people? I am now going to warn my friends to watch out for this man. He is heavy set, wearing nothing but a scarf, an old hat and a day pipe stuck into a miserable looking mouth. He has a carrot like nose, two black eyes and his arms are stick skinny. DON'T bring him into your house! What a mess he made on the floor.

They can't get much worse than tis, or can they? At least I tried. June used to think I could be very 'trying' at times. God Bless one and all. Dennis A.

I have this son...

One day a Jewish man named Leo heard from his son attending university: "I've decided to become a Christian, Dad." Leo panicked. The only thing he could think to do was call his rabbi.

"Funny you should come to me with this problem, Leo," says the rabbi. "Not two years ago my son came to me with the same speech. I had no idea what to do. I panicked, and the only thing I could think to do was go to God."

"What message did you get from God?" asked Leo.

The rabbi laughed. "God said to me, funny you should come to me with this problem ..."



Photos from around the Parish
On Friday 10th March it snowed A LOT here are the lovely pictures from around Meltham.

St James' Church, picture to the right taken at night and below taken the following morning.





CORONATION FUN DAY



MELTHAM CHURCH HALL
SATURDAY 6TH MAY



*Coronation being shown LIVE
on the BIG screen*

*Coffee, tea and biscuits available from
9:30am*

Bring your own lunch

Children's crafts available 11am - 1pm

Fun Quiz

