



The Beacon

Newsletter of St John's Church, Workop

May 2025

*A message from Sue Dawson,
one of our Church leaders*

INIDE
THIS
ISSUE

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Dawson 1
writes...

Town
Centre 2
Chaplain

Make your 3
voice
heard
(Watchmen)

3

Smile a 4
While

Contact
numbers

'March winds, April Showers bring forth May flowers' is the saying. We had the winds but not the rain, yet still we see the benefits in our gardens and in our surroundings. Springtime is a good reminder of the wonder of Gods creation and the journey we are on, as we look at the beauty of nature in the world in which we live.

We can admire the intricacy of each section of a bluebell, the beauty of the trees as they open up to all the different shades of green, we can watch as the lambs play in the fields knowing this all part of Gods plan.

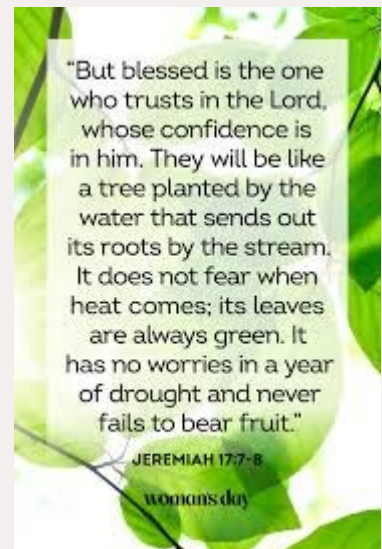


Just before Easter we were told that there is a vague possibility that alien life might be found 176,000 light years away this blew my mind as I realised we only know the very smallest part and size of God's work as Creator.

Yet our amazing Creator God is available to each one of us, to know personally - another fact that is mind blowing, unless of course we simply accept in faith and believe in Him. No matter what, He loves you, He loves me and He is in charge.

So lets put our trust in Him, in the knowledge that he knows the future and the next steps we will be taking as we move forward together at St Johns.

Sue Dawson



Town Centre Chaplain

Richard Backhouse shares about his role

FOCUS

on Worksop
Town Centre
Chaplain



"Nearly 2 years ago, my wife Anne spotted an advert for training in 'Contemporary Chaplaincy'. I applied and found myself doing town centre chaplaincy in Worksop - mainly on Wednesday and Saturday mornings.

I am on friendly terms with quite a few of the market stallholders and several of the barbers; occasionally this leads to spiritual discussions.

One of the stallholders often gets me to mind his stall for a few minutes. Another got me to talk to a man he was concerned might not get back home. A conversation about heaven - and how we may enter - resulted; the old man took it in and got home safely.

A teenaged girl living in rented accommodation was from a Christian home, but felt people in her home church judged her. She knew Jesus was coming back soon and didn't want to be left behind; she didn't have a Bible, so I gave her an NIV Luke's gospel. Next time I saw her she said she was reading a chapter each evening with her friend.

On two consecutive Saturdays last June I seemed to have good conversations about the Lord with nearly everyone I spoke to—at least a dozen in total—men and women, older and younger.

Most of what happens is because people pray for me, asking the Lord to work through me and to give me boldness. I ask believers to pray about particular needs that I come across.

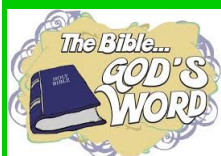
Richard is a member of Poplars Church. Look out for him when he's on duty—he wears a High Viz tabard. I'm sure he would always welcome encouragement from a fellow Christian.

And there's more....

Aswell as Richard's roving presence, other regulars share good news with Worksop people.

Ursula sits with her FREE bookstall near Boots on Wednesdays and at other times. She gives away free books on exploring the Christian faith and is willing to chat to enquirers. She says there is quite a lot of interest from teenagers passing by on their way from school. She is happy to give them a free Bible or Gospel booklet.

Also the team from Green Pastures (our Mattersey connection at Sunday @ 6 and who run our Thursday Drop-in) are in town on Tuesdays talking to, and sometimes praying with, needy people and the homeless.



The word 'Watchman' in biblical terms means somebody whose duty is to keep vigil, often on a tower or wall, for a king, over a city etc.....

A modern day 'Watchman' operates in a whole different environment, but the same principles apply. Who are today's Watchmen (and women) and what threats are they watching out for? As Christians we are aware of eroding morals, attacks on family life, education, and freedom of expression. Sadly, we feel powerless as individuals to do anything to oppose progressive change, even if we know we should.



The encouraging news is that there are a few organisations that keep watch over society changes, and actually challenge injustices, bad laws and ungodly activities. I will highlight just one of them that we have had dealings with over the past few years;

CitizenGo, an international association, who monitor large organizations like the EU, UN and WHO (World Health Organization) and challenge woke agendas that are not in line with Christian ideals. How can they do this, and with considerable success in some cases? They have a following of over 18 million subscribers, and regularly ask them to sign petitions which they are in agreement with.

So yes, stem the flow of injustices etc. Do have a look at their website and consider signing up to receive emails of their ongoing conflicts. I finish with a supporting scripture, Luke 12:51 and 52.

Chris L

Check out the CitizenGo website to see what they are currently involved in. If you agree to get their messages to your phone you can add your support to any petitions you agree with at the click of a button. This is an easy way to lobby your MP if appropriate. They do ask for donations and occasionally we support in this way. But you are not obliged to send them money.

THE ONLY THING
NECESSARY FOR THE
**TRIUMPH
OF EVIL**
IS FOR GOOD PEOPLE TO
DO NOTHING

Smile a While

Beware if you're travelling to foreign climes this summer...

Notice seen in a hotel bedroom (country anon.)



Guests should announce the abandonment of their rooms before 12 o'clock, emptying the room at the latest until 14 o'clock, for the use of the room before 5 at the arrival or after the 16 o'clock at the departure, will be billed one night more.

And from a menu....

Fried children sandwiches
roast cattle and boiled sheep

~

Fried chicken babies,
fungus cream
and grilled cattle bowels

~

Sweat from the trolley



Regular Weekly Diary

SUNDAY SERVICES

10.30 am Morning Worship
+ Kids, Church

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



Contact Point

Tuesday 10.00—12 noon
Coffee Morning

Wednesday 1.00 pm Mothers' Union
(1st Wed'day of the month)

7.00 pm
Lifeline Praise and Prayer

OR Life/Home Groups

Friday 7.00—8.30 (alternate weeks)
Games Night for all ages

Saturday 10.00—12 noon
Church open to all

**For more details of the above ask one
of our leaders**

Church Office:
Overend Road, Worksop S81 1QG
[usually open Friday a.m. from 9.30—12 noon]
Tel: 01909 472595
Email: office.worksopstjohn@gmail.com
Church Website:
www.stjohn'schurchworksop.co.uk
Heritage Website: <https://worksopspire.org>



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