 ***VINE LEAVES from***

***ST. LEONARD’S, WORTLEY***

***APRIL 2024***

***‘DATES FOR YOUR DIARY’***

**FORTHCOMING SERVICES AT ST. LEONARDS**

**SUNDAY 7th APRIL Holy Communion with Rev. John Leach at 11am**

**SUNDAY 14thAPRIL Institution and Induction of Rev. Chris Herbert**

**by the Bishop of Sheffield at 6.00pm**

**SUNDAY 21st APRIL Holy Communion with Rev. Chris Herbert at 11.00am**

**SUNDAY 28th APRIL Morning Praise at 11.00am**

**SOCIAL EVENTS**

**THURSDAY 11th APRIL Art Exhibition Presentation of Prizes to the children and a celebration of all their hard work at 6pm**

**WEDNESDAY 24th APRIL Vestry Meeting & CHURCH AGM from 7pm. All welcome**

**THURSDAY 2ND MAY The church will be in use as a Polling Station for the Local Elections**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY** **1-3pm** **Tea & Chat group in Church**

**Thanks to Leonard's Friends our historic Church is open for all to visit and to explore every Wednesday between 11am and 3pm.**

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***CHURCH CHAT***

St. Leonards will continue to host the colourful display of artwork produced by the children of Thurgoland Primary School until Thursday 11th April when there will be an evening of celebration and prize giving to the winners to round off the exhibition. The art on display has been done by children representing every year in the school and is, as always, imaginative and impressive. If you haven’t been to have a look already please do call in Wed.3rd (11am-3pm), Sat. 6th (11-1pm) or Wed 10th (11-3pm} April. A big thank you Mrs. Davis for bringing all the art to St. Leonards and organising such an attractive display.

**Jay Johnson - see the obituary in ‘News from the Belfries’** We too mourn the passing of Jay, a regular, loyal member of our valued team of bell ringers and a frequent supporter of St. Leonards’ many ‘social events’. She will certainly be missed by us all**.**

**After a wait of nearly a year, during which we have gratefully welcomed many visiting clergy to lead us in our weekly worship, we look forward to welcoming the Rev. Chris Herbert to Wortley on Sunday 14th April 2024 at 6pm at St. Leonards, Wortley**

**ALL WELCOME**

**NEWS FROM THE BELFRIES**

**OF ST. LEONARD’S and ST. PETER’S**

**WORTLEY TOWER NEWS**

**Obituary – Jay Johnson**

We were sad to hear of the sudden unexpected death of one of our ringers this month. Our friend Jay Johnson. Jay was a regular Sunday service and practice night ringer. Jay helped with church events, selling craft items and helping to serve refreshments. Jay also paid for our ringing simulator in memory of her late husband Pete. We will be having a new commemorative plaque made to say it is in now in memory of Pete and Jay.

After practice when we were in the pub Jay would have her regular pint of Guinness and tell us about the latest battles with her car which she was convinced was beeping and misbehaving on purpose to annoy her. Many in the wider ringing community knew Jay as she did attend other practices as far away as Eckington. She will be missed, RIP Jay.

**Quarter Peal Book**

We have another addition to our ringing room and to the historical records of Wortley ringers. Dawn has gifted us a Quarter Peal Record Book. She has researched back through the records of The Ringing World and Bell News to find all the quarter peals rung on our bells since they were installed in 1893. These are now written in the book, one page for each quarter peal and they form a fascinating historical record. Quarter Peals, like Peals are usually rung for a reason and the footnotes record the events. On church open days and heritage open days we will have the peal and quarter peal books on display.

**A Peal to Celebrate the Licencing of Rev Chris Herbert**

On Sunday afternoon 14th April a peal will be rung by members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers to mark the occasion of the licencing of Rev Chris Herbert. It will take about 2 hours 50 minutes and be rung in the afternoon. Our team will ring the bells prior to the licencing service in the evening.

**Wortley Arms**

Going for a drink at the pub after practice has been part of ringing for many years. With the departure of Jamie and temporary closure of the pub we moved to Wortley Club and found ourselves being part of quiz night. We have been made very welcome, thank you to the Club and thank you and good luck to Jamie with his new ventures.

**TANKERSLEY TOWER NEWS**

**Inspection by John Taylor Bell Foundry of Loughborough**

Following on from the work carried out to get Tankersley bells ringing full circle in the last couple of years the Diocese Bells Advisor recommended we have them inspected for safety by the professionals at the bell foundry. On Friday 22nd February we were pleased to welcome David from Taylors to carry out an inspection. He was impressed with the heritage nature of the installation and agreed that as it is a rarity to find a set of bells still in their original state with the original fixtures and fittings. Unlike usual inspections ours was to see how we can conserve what we have so that the heritage continues to be looked after and used. Churches usually ask Taylors to advise on how to overhaul and modernise a set of bells.

David did not find anything that was a concern. The moving parts are worn and the clappers not ideal, but the work done is sound and the bells can continue to be chimed on Sundays and rung full circle occasionally.

David did recommend the stays were changed. Stays are long pieces of Ash timber bolted to the headstocks that allow the bells to remain in the up position between sessions of ringing. Our stays are too big and too robust. They are there to break if a bell is overpulled to prevent damage to the frame and bearings. Ours may not break before something else does. Andrew has obtained new thinner Ash stays which will be fitted this month. The old stays will be retained in the tower for display on open days and heritage days.

**Learn to ring with us. At either Wortley or Tankersley – Telephone Andrew our tower captain on: 07733005526, email:** **wortleytower@gmail.com** **or** **tankersleytower@gmail.com** **There are Facebook pages for Wortley and Tankersley bell ringers, Instagram feeds for both and Wortley ringers have an Twitter account now just called X, @Wortleytower. Andrew will reply to you and arrange a visit, tower tour and training sessions.**