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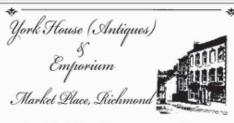
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**READERS** 

Mr Scott Lunn 01748 826895 2 Hurgill Road slunn@richmondschool.net

#### **PASTORAL ASSISTANT**

Mrs Jennifer Patrick 850693 1 Roper Court, Richmond

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#### **CHURCH OFFICERS - ST MARY THE VIRGIN, RICHMOND**

Mayor's Warden	Mr David Frankton	823531	8 Allans Court
Rector's Warden	Dr Peter Trewby	824468	24 Hurgill Road
<b>Director of Music</b>	Mr Chris Denton	07817 386070	chrisjdenton@gmail.com
Bell Captain	Mrs Susan Welch	823700	8 Maple Road
Head Verger	Mr Leonard Scrafton	824106	14 Pilmoor Close

#### **Parish Administrator**

Claire Murray 07394 947819 pa.richmondhudswellparish@gmail.com

#### **OFFICERS OF THE PCC (AND OTHERS)**

<u>Vice Chair</u>	Gillian Lunn	as above	
Secretary	Sharon Digan	07791 426659	12 Pike Purse Lane, Richmond
Treasurer	Paul Carnell		stmarys@paulcarnell.co.uk

<u>Assistant Treasurer</u> Claire Murray 07394 947819

<u>Magazine Editor</u> Jim Jack 07754 283161 <u>stmarys.maged@gmail.com</u>

Magazine Distribution Keith Robson 07866 325843

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## N.B. Each church is open for public worship as shown, subject to Diocesan distancing guidelines; all are open for private prayer.

Please continue to check the web-site regularly for up-to-date details.

#### CHURCH SERVICES - St MARY THE VIRGIN, RICHMOND with Hudswell

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion Third Sunday

10.00 a.m. Parish Communion Every Sunday apart from 3rd Sunday

Worship for All (including communion) 3rd Sunday

4.00 p.m. Youth Church First Sunday each month

Café Church 3rd Sunday (every 2 mths—Jan, March etc)

Fun-Key Church Last Sunday each month

6.30 p.m. Choral Evensong Second Sunday each month

Free to Be 3rd Sunday (every 2 mths—Feb, April

etc)

9.15 a.m Holy Communion Every Wednesday

NOTE; unfortunately, Holy Communion in Holy Trinity, Market Place, Richmond

every Thursday at 10.30 a.m. IS STILL SUSPENDED

#### PARISH OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, DOWNHOLME

## **CHURCH OFFICERS**

Reader Mr George Alderson 68, Brompton Park, Brompton on Swale DL10 7JP 07487 257646

Church Warden<br/>OrganistMrs Jean Calvert823001Thorpe Farm, Reeth Road, RichmondOrganist<br/>Church Treasurer John Horseman2 Hurgill Road, Richmond6 Echlinville', Hudswell, Richmond

PCC Secretary Mrs Liz Kluz 825411 8 Cornforth Hill, Richmond

#### **CHURCH SERVICES AT DOWNHOLME**

9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer Every second Sunday9.30 a.m. Holy Communion Every fourth Sunday

## THE PARISH OF ST EDMUNDS, MARSKE

### **CHURCH OFFICERS**

Church Warden<br/>OrganistMrs Ruth Tindale823371Skelton Lodge, MarskeOrganistMrs Jennifer Wallis8229301 School Terrace, MarskeTreasurerMr Peter Coates07801521954Orgate Farmhouse, Marske

peter.coates54@hotmail.co.uk

PCC Secretary Mrs Liz Kluz 825411 8 Cornforth Hill, Richmond

### **CHURCH SERVICES AT MARSKE**

11.00 a.m. Holy Communion Every Sunday except 2nd (& 5th) Sunday

11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer Every 2nd ( & 5th) Sunday

## EDITORIAL from stmarys.maged@gmail.com

This month saw the celebration of Paul Sunderland being 'installed ' as a Deacon in this benefice—a significant time in the life of the church and we look forward to being part of and supporting his work in our churches. Our church life took a few more tentative steps forward with more services able to take place; Fun-Key Church continued, Free to Be resumed; Café Church also re-appeared and Keith Miller's group also re-started activities, albeit in a new venue. Alongside this, the benefits of on-line offerings continued to be seen for those unable to be present in church. On the wider front, our schools continued to work hard to offer education in a different but equally effective way.

Part of the role of our magazine is to reflect life in our wider community. For me, one tragic event stood out which involved community and church. The immensely sad death of Dave Clark shook family, friends and the community to the core. I worked with Dave in the first five of his 23 years at Richmond School. He had big shoes to fill in terms of the affection and respect in which his predecessors were held. Yet he more than filled them, gaining respect without seeking it, popularity without courting it, being demanding of the best that each could give by constantly modelling this in his professional and personal behaviour. Success for him was being the best you could be. He could inspire, cajole, disagree with warmth but always upheld the importance of self-respect being the platform on which a 'successful' life is built. Do please read the poem which his son, Calum, read at the funeral—'the Man in the Glass' which is printed later in this issue. Forget the gender issues please- - it was written in 1934—but see the message which was Dave's driving force.

Jan and I could not be in town at the time of the funeral, but due to the work which Scott, Gillian and the boys put in to internet access, we were able to sit, side by side, on a bench on a Caledonian hillside, looking out over the ancient woodlands of Scotland—Dave's beloved homeland and mine— with leaves turning to red and gold and burnished by the rays of an autumnal sun. We became a small part of a most moving service. As the strains of Dougie MacLean's love song to his home country 'Caledonia' died away and later Martin read the opening lines of psalm 121 'I shall lift up mine eyes unto the hills...', the positive benefits of internet communication were laid before us as we felt curiously at one with all that was happening in our home town. The moistness in the eyes on that remote hillside, with a blue sky and the silhouette of other hills beyond, bore testimony to this.

We found on our return that hundreds of people had taken time from their day to walk down to the route—from the school which he served so well to the church where his passing was marked in the funeral service. They stood in respect, in

gratitude and in fondness for a man who probably never truly realised how many lives he had touched directly through his pastoral leadership, through his teaching, through his voluntary extra-curricular work and to the cycling and rugby fraternities. He was a role model without ever seeking to be one. He simply lived to his principles and these were embedded in his work in the school whether working with colleagues, parents or, most important of all, the young people of the school. All of the current group stood with their teachers in silent respect and love as the cortege passed

At 6'5" and a former U21 Scottish Rugby international from the borders farming town of Duns, he had a commanding presence but his natural default was a ready smile, even a whistle around the corridors, a fierce loyalty to the school and the students in his care even when having to point out where behaviour had strayed beyond the boundaries of acceptability! He helped many young people to believe in themselves, and the fact that a number of the same young men and women whose lives he had touched took time off work and travelled the length of the country to stand with townspeople on that sad yet celebratory route to St Mary's was a small 'thank you' for Dave's inspiration.

He had planned for a retirement with Jane, his family and friends in 2021 which he will not see. Whilst he will not be at the postponed wedding of their younger daughter Hannah, his presence will be there. But that he achieved so much in and for our town and area speaks volumes about the man who was so proud of his family and whose family must be so proud of him. Evidence of the appreciation of his life was acknowledged by the people of all ages who lined the route, by the 250+ of us who joined the service on line and by the 7,800 views on Youtube—

Thus St Mary's had the privilege of being the place where his service of commemoration and committal was held—a place where the community and the parish can come together. I finish with the words of St Francis of Assisi which I placed in last month's magazine—words which have, I believe, such relevance to a life so well lived and tragically lost.

Rest in peace, Dave. Alongside the many who have paid tribute, it was a privilege to have known you and worked with you. Thank you.

REMEMBER when you leave this earth, you can take nothing with you—nothing that you have received, only what you have given: a full heart, enriched by honest service, sacrifice and courage

St Francis of Assisi

Thank you to our growing list of people who are contributing to our magazine—and to the team of people who deliver almost 200 copies.

DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER EDITION—15th NOVEMBER



# Martin's Message November 2020



#### A reflection on the Covid-19 crisis from Bishop Nick

When the pandemic began and we went into lockdown in March I indicated that the collapse of our diaries, routines and assumptions about life brought us into line with the experience — the normality — of most people across the planet. The stripping away



of these assumptions and certainties is painful, but can also be a gift. We are not now in a temporarily changed world; we are in a different one and we are all in the same place. First, a bit of Bible ...

When the people of Israel were led out from over 400 years of captivity in Egypt they had to spend 40 years in the desert learning to let go and prepare. They had to let go of expectations of what life might hold, however good or bad that might have been. They had to lose patterns of living, communing, worshipping and organising. As we know, their first instinct was to go back to what they had known – romanticising the past, being disorientated in the present and fearing the future. And all of this was natural. Which was why they needed a generation in the middle of nowhere before they could be ready to enter a new land and establish ways of living together that were significantly different from what they had hitherto known. (It is not incidental that they had to shift - mentally, physically and socially – from being a passive underclass to being the shapers of a new society for which they would be held both responsible and accountable).

In the words of Kosuke Koyama, they took 40 years to learn that "people don't live by bread alone". The point is that we find it very challenging to live in the desert, knowing what we are 'post', but not knowing what we are 'pre' (as it were). It is immensely challenging to stay with it whilst yearning for what has gone and being responsible for what we are going to have to make in the future.

I don't think it is pushing the point to suggest that this illustrates something of where we find ourselves as a church now. So, what do we do next? Well, there is a further hint in the Bible that might help us out here...

Like the people of Israel, we are called to be faithful, but it is not primarily about us. Like Moses, we might be unaware of the bigger picture of history — only discernible after many years in the future — but have to do our best to live through the uncertainties of today, shaping what we can and helping people to look

beyond the immediate challenges. This is how God's people have been asked to live and lead throughout history. How are we to use our imagination, intelligence and Spirit-led wisdom to lead our communities into the future – honest about the inhibitors, but unafraid of uncertainty?

This is now our task. This is the future. It is the norm. And we have the opportunity to help shape what is to come by working together, praying for one another, looking to the interests of those who struggle and those who thrive, being patient and giving space to all who share this time with us. We are to be **drawn by hope, not driven by fear.** 

#### **Our Annual Meeting**

As you will know, due to the lockdown the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) for both parishes of our Benefice had to be postponed. Bishop Nick issued a 'measure' allowing parishes to delay their meetings until no later than the end of November. He also allowed meetings to be held remotely, introducing the possibility of 'blended' attendance, in person or online, as with our services.

For Richmond with Hudswell, our meeting will be on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November, straight after the 10am service. For Downholme and Marske it will be on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November.

For Richmond with Hudswell as we elect our Churchwardens we will be acknowledging with our gratitude the many years of dedicated service given to that role by David Frankton. I am delighted to say that David has kindly agreed to continue as Deputy Churchwarden, thus enabling us to benefit from his wide experience.

We will also be electing three new PCC representatives and three Deanery Synod representatives, all for a three-year term. We are most grateful to Sarah Love, Alastair Lunn, and Jennifer Patrick who will be stepping down after extended terms on the PCC. Thank you, one and all.

For Downholme and Marske, where the congregations are living proof that 'small is beautiful', as we re-elect our omni-competent Churchwardens, Jean Calvert and Ruth Tindale, and our faithful PCC members. We will welcome Phil Ham into his new role as Treasurer at Downholme.

We are so grateful to each member of our PCCs for their willingness to serve in the governance of our churches. Do please hold them in your prayers as we all move into an uncertain future – **drawn by hope, not driven by fear.** 

With every blessing,

Martin

## Services at St Mary's On-line or Dial-In

St. Mary's Church, Richmond invites you to join us for worship. We are thankful to be back in Church each Sunday morning for the 10am Communion Service and also Wednesday for the 9:15am Service. We are still offering Compline daily at 9.00 pm and this is available online or via our Dial-In Service. We continue introducing more services when the social distancing allows e.g. Free to Be has resumed and choir/group singing has also restarted, adding another dimension to the worship.

If you feel unable to return to Church at this time, (and the possibility of new restrictions is also in the background) there are a number of ways in which you can connect with us via the internet or through our dial-in service over the phone. If you chose to join us online, you can find all the instructions on our website: www.richmondhudswellparish.org.uk (Previous services on YouTube)

If you chose not to use the internet, our Dial-in service may be ideal for you. It's really easy, all you need to do is dial this telephone number: **0131 460 1196** (the cost of the call will not be any more than a local call). You will then be asked for the meeting ID and Password. These are shown below and you need to use the correct one for the service you want to attend. You will be able to sign in up to 15 minutes before the service is about to start (the service will never start early).

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<u>To join</u>		Meeting ID	<u>Passcode</u>
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Wednesday 9.15 a.m services		818 9876 3021	836664
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It is also timely to remind readers of the phone-line introduced by The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, called 'The Daily Hope'. This is a **24-hour free telephone** line which allows you to connect with pre - recorded prayers, hymns and much more. **Dial:** 0800 804 8044

Archbishop Justin said: "I want to urge people to spread the news about this service. If there is someone you know who is particularly struggling, give them a call and let them know about 'the Daily Hope' service. I'm going to phone a friend; will you join me?" So, if you take up Archbishop Justin's challenge, or join the congregation of St. Mary's online or through Dial-In, you are very welcome.



If you have any questions, please contact: Curate, Paul Sunderland on: 07989 178196





## We have laid to rest those who have died.



Harry Manuel 13th September Dave Clark 21st September

## May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.

Let my name be ever the household word that it always was.

Let it be spoken without effort, without the ghost of a shadow in it.



#### In Flanders Field

In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row, That mark our place; and in the sky The larks, still bravely singing, fly Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae



John McCrae was born on November 30, 1872. A Canadian doctor and teacher who served in World War I, he is best known for this memorial poem, chosen to accompany our cover photograph and the article on the work of the Royal British Legion He died on January 28, 1918

#### LOYAL DALES VOLUNTEERS

Every November, we are accustomed to the second weekend being occupied by the Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance on the Saturday evening, followed by the national Act of Remembrance at the Cenotaph on the Sunday morning. At both events, members of the armed and auxiliary services, past and present, are prominent in their participation.

In the weeks leading up to the weekend, the sale of poppies becomes part of the annual commemoration. But this annual focus on the work of the legion every November is a reminder of the unseen work which goes on over the whole year—work which is supported by over 170,000 legion volunteers.

This year will be different; the profile will be lower, the big events smaller in scale, the fund-raising inhibited by the distancing required to combat coronavirus. But the work goes on—and the Richmond branch of the Legion is often one of the most effective nationally at raising money through the poppy appeal each year. What does the legion and its volunteers do and how is it changing to meet the ever changing environment in which it works?

Founded in 1921, the British Legion brought together three organisations—the Comrades of the Great War, the National Association of Discharged Sailors and Soldiers and the National Federation of Discharged and Demobilised Sailors and Soldiers—to act as a voice for the ex-service community. It also incorporated the fund-raising department of the Officers' Association. Although established and run by Britain's ruling class, it had genuinely broad appeal and succeeded in bringing people from all backgrounds to-



gether at a time of unrest and disillusionment in the aftermath of the Great War.

A royal charter followed in 1925 which brought with it not only patronage from the Royal Family, but a genuine and heartfelt commitment to support the organisation actively. Membership grew quickly after WW2—to a high of 3 million in 1950. However, as has been increasingly evident with the publicity attached to recent commemorative events, the passing of many veterans of the two world wars has meant that membership nationally and locally has fallen continuously.

Whilst remembrance of human sacrifice (not only death but also life-changing injuries for participants in war and the impact on their families) is central to the mission of the organisation, the annual Poppy appeal is equally pivotal in the legion's fundraising work. It is only through continued and continuous support through giving that the work of the legion in supporting services and ex-services families can carry on.

The ever-widening range of high-profile charitable giving appeals has made the Legion's task more difficult every year. The advent of COVID has presented a big challenge to national and local organisations alike to secure the income for future and on-going work. As the Legion website (www.britishlegion.org.uk) insists 'We're not going anywhere' - a pledge to be there as long as they are needed.

#### What does the Legion do nationally?

The Royal British Legion uses its funds to organise support to the Armed Forces community in a number of very practical ways. They run a small number of care homes for older veterans as well as supporting a care network to help ex-service personnel and their families to live safely at home—either through practical support or advice and guidance. Currently there are six care homes across the UK although these, like all other care homes face increasing practical and financial challenges. There are charges for these services. However, financial sup-



**Legion Care Home** 

port is available, both for care home residence and for alterations to veterans' own homes to enable them to maintain a more independent life style.

The work of the Legion in **promoting physical and mental well-being** has increased in recent years as a result of Armed Forces involvement in such conflicts as Iraq

and Afghanistan. The legion either directly funds or supports recovery centres, helping wounded, injured and sick personnel to either return to duty or adapt to civilian life. Helping families with travel, accommodation and supporting the attendance of family members of participants in the Invictus Games (sadly cancelled this year) is just one example of the smaller but significant amounts of financial help offered. Crucially, they also maintain a crisis support team on the ground every day.



Rehabilitation in action

The legion also sees it as important to ensure that the losses of the two great wars are not the sole focus. They seek to support veterans of conflicts since 1945 in which injury or loss of life has been sustained in service of the country. In this area, such facilities as the Phoenix Centre, sadly closed recently, were a real reminder of the damage which the most recent of conflicts have inflicted on members of our armed forces and their families.

The legion also seeks to **offer financial and employment advice**, expert **guidance on housing, pensions and citizens' rights** and support and advice to families where **inquests or inquiries** are involved following the death of someone in service.

It can be seen therefore how vital the Poppy Appeal is as a national high profile period where the Legion's work can be publicised and money raised to ensure the existence of these highly valued services. Whilst the legion runs fund-raising activities throughout the year (often in London and the South of England), it is the Poppy Appeal which has a 'reach' across the whole country and is seen locally, where the Richmond branch of the Royal British Le-



The Act of Remembrance at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, in more normal times

gion has consistently been one of the most effective fund-raisers in the United Kingdom.

#### The Local Legion

The cascade of poppies captured in lan Short's cover photograph is a local reminder for us all of yet another part of our yearly round which will not be the same as we have known it. Whilst this striking and much-applauded installation signals that the appeal goes ahead, its nature will change this year.

Laurence Lines, Secretary of the Richmond (Yorkshire) branch of the Royal British

Legion is fully aware of the difficulties which the coronavirus outbreak has presented at both local and national level. The Richmond branch has always been grateful for and proud of the outstanding support which the local community has given to its work. Richmond's place at or near the top of the legion's County fund-raising table in recent years has been achieved by dint of the placement and collection of 140 poppy boxes throughout the area, by the on-street collections in which volun-



teers and veterans have always played an active part – whatever the weather. But their effort has also tapped into the support and generosity of the people of our area in which there has been a long-standing connection with the armed forces.

'We will still be able to have our gazebo collection point near the Green Howards Museum,' he confirmed,' but the allocation of poppy boxes has been reduced to 50 due to collection restrictions resulting from virus control regulations and advice.' The crucial point, however, is that the appeal is going ahead both locally and nationally, even though COVID has disrupted the normal activity with which we are familiar at this time of year.

It is likely that some veterans who usually collect may not be able to do so due to lockdown restrictions and collections themselves will be subject to the COVID regulations, but there is a determination to make this year's appeal and the remembrance events which are the culmination of the appeal period as effective as possible. The return of the 'poppy net installation' to the town this year is a symbolic reminder of a number of aspects of the legion's work through branches such as Richmond.

'The poppies themselves were all hand knitted, not just by members but by volunteers from the community and other friends of the organisation living further afield.' Laurence points out. 'Those poppies came from people everywhere, across the whole country.'

This willingness to contribute goes far beyond the raising of funds to the heart of the act of remembrance itself. Over recent years, we have not only lost all of the surviving forces from World War 1 but also the numbers of World War Two veterans is significantly diminished. John Jeffries, veteran of Arnhem, was laid to rest following a funeral service in St Mary's as recently as September. Major Roy Tyler MBE is another Arnhem veteran sadly no longer with



III-fated raid on the bridge at Arnhem 1944

us. The sacrifices of not only those who lost their lives in those two conflicts but those whose lives were irrevocably changed as a result of physical and mental damage sustained to maintain a free, democratic country are of huge importance and need to be honoured, acting also as a part of history from which all nations should learn.

Laurence also points out other differences which are already known about in this year's Act of Remembrance. The newly appointed local chaplain, our own Rector Martin Fletcher, will not be able to lead his first Remembrance Service at St Mary's. This has had to be cancelled, along with the traditional march past. However, a static Act of Remembrance will still take place at 11.00 a.m. in Friary Gardens. The Civic party, Branch members and the public will be able to lay wreaths as usual.



 ${\color{red} \textbf{Legion standards march past, Ypres}} \ , \\ {\color{red} \textbf{2018}}$ 

#### How can we still support?

There are ways in which people can make their support known locally. Through visiting www.britishlegion.org.uk, we can:

- i) donate and download a poppy to display in your front window and show support
- ii) if you really can't find a local collection box to keep Richmond at the top of the table (it's not a competition but nice to emphasise Local support!) you can buy a poppy on-line through the web-site.
- iii) Poppies in the Post: simply go on-line to complete a form and receive 20 free poppies through the post to distribute to friends and request (secure!) a donation (do this by 31st October to ensure delivery before Remembrance).
- Iv) do a Poppy Run—or persuade a younger relative or friend to do so in exchange for a donation.

Instructions for all of these activities are on the national web-site. It will be interesting to see if your own local fund-raising through personal poppy sales or virtual runs can be channelled back to the legion via our own local Richmond branch!

#### Will there still be national events?

Currently there will be a Festival of Remembrance broadcast by the BBC but no live audience. There will also be a national Act of Remembrance at the Cenotaph but it is likely to be significantly curtailed due to the need to protect the health and welfare of participants, many of whom are in the highly vulnerable age group.

But the work goes on and, as local Branch Secretary, Laurence Lines, points out, "When all's said and done, we're the military and we solve problems. I'm convinced that we'll look back on this in a few years time and feel we've done a



Festival of Remembrance Royal Albert Hall 2017

good job and become stronger for it.' With determination like this, it's another local group of volunteers who need and deserve our backing



War graves and memorial, Thiepval, France



Richmond Branch wreath at Menin Gate, Ypres, 2018

## A TIME OF OUR LIVES—Teaching in Botswana (part 2)

In this second part of a three part recollection, BRETT OVERIN continues his account of life teaching abroad with his wife, SANDRA. Taken from weekly letters he wrote which have formed a journal of their experiences at Moeding College, opened in 1962 by the London Missionary Society in the town of Otse on the edge of the Kalahari desert. Brett tells of aspects of the teaching were very different from life in the UK—and some which were surprisingly (and perhaps questionably) similar.

Independence Day in Botswana is well-timed – it's on my birthday and it's a national holiday! In the morning we climbed up Otse Mountain (just behind the school and the highest point in Botswana) with some students and staff and the views were indeed breath-taking; it was a bit of a slog in the heat but well worth it. In the afternoon we played volleyball (staff v. pupils)."

"The exams started this week. The Form 3 Junior Certificate began on Wednesday, the Cam-

Botswana

ATLANTIC
CCEAN

AFRICA

CONSTRUCTOR

CONTRACT

bridge exams begin on 9th November. The Form 4 end-of-year exams begin on 12th November. The atmosphere in school is getting pretty studious. I have joined Sandra in giving extra lessons - in the evenings for my Form 5 class, Tuesday 8 - 9pm. The piano tuner will soon be arriving from Jo'burg on his seasonal tour of Botswana so there's hope for the Piano Club yet. "

"It's been very warm indeed this week. The highest so far was on Thursday when the temperature reached 36.5 degrees. Fortunately it rained during the night that followed so it cooled a little. There has been quite a bit of cloud around and that night in fact there was a pretty impressive thunderstorm. We knew it was hot on Thursday - the previous evening a colleague of ours had been developing film in the darkroom and had had a few problems with the water - it was coming out of the cold tap at 28 degrees!

"There are no half-term holidays - it would take some students a full week to travel home and back! In particular we have a sizeable group of Zimbabwean refugees, all boys, who come from the Refugee Camp at Dukwe, north-west of Francistown. They are sent here by the BCR (Botswana Council for Refugees) and their journey is a difficult one. Some in the 2nd and 3rd Year are already in their early twenties."

"We have had rain this week – a good thunderstorm on Wednesday which followed the hottest day of our stay so far - 37.5 degrees. We had three cold baths each that day. The temperature has been lower since, with quite a few clouds

around but today it was back to the normal cloudless sky and scorching sun."

"The children's names do cause us some difficulties. See if you can work out how to pronounce these: MPHOYAONE, KEORAPETSE, REFILOEHAPE, KETLAANTSHANG, GADIETSIWE - and are they boys or girls? Some students have very English names like Simon, Bryan, Bruce, Morris, Elisabeth and Gertrude.

There is a "Scheme and Record of Work Book" for each class where you set out the



work you intend to do, term by term and then every fortnight a record of what you actually did, together with any comments. My two Form 4s which I have for Language have followed the same programme, which has cut down the amount of lesson preparation. I was given an indication of the 'dosages' per fortnight (in composition, comprehension, summary, grammar) and a pile of textbooks - and

that was it. I had the previous teacher's notes in the Record Book to carry on from, so it was quite straightforward.

The exam questions are very similar to the ones they would be asked in England although I imagine question 5 on the Geography paper would be more difficult for them here. It reads: "Briefly explain the meanings and effect on a beach of the following: (a) swash (b) backwash (c) longshore drift (d) constructive waves. 99% of these students have never seen a beach!

Some of the students' English compositions are fascinating. I set one recently entitled "Lucky Escape" but ended up complaining as I read the fifteenth tale of running away from a lion!"

### **Speech Day**

"The main event on the Moeding College calendar has got to be Speech Day/ Prizegiving! The staff were requested to assemble in the Staff Room at 3.15pm to proceed to the Assembly Hall. A list was published giving details of seating positions, in order of seniority. "Seniority" is determined by length of service. Needless to say, we were in row 5 of 5! On the notice it also said that members of staff were invited to wear academic dress. .We realised too late that on the British Council baggage list were not included "Two academic gowns, black; two hoods, erminetrimmed". We knew we had forgotten something!"

In the evening, there was a party organised by the younger Batswana teachers. Everyone paid 5 Pula for meat (except us vegetarians) and took something to drink.

The difference was that this party took place in the bush – still in the school grounds, though. And were they organised!

A mobile generator supplied power for the stereo equipment which would have filled a football stadium, there were electric lights in the trees and a pit had been dug over which a steel-mesh "grill" was placed to barbecue the meat. They use an Afrikaans word for this barbecue - "braai".

One other item of news is that the new Form 3 syllabuses have not been printed yet because the Government Printers were too busy printing Christmas cards for important people!"

#### **Getting Sorted**

On Monday, we attacked the Maths storeroom which Sandra has taken over to house the Maths library and keep all the resources for the Maths Club. You can imagine what it was like – dust, cobwebs, dead insects and piles and piles of outdated, unusable books. We got absolutely filthy but the place is looking pretty good now..

This week we've had problems with water. Two of the three pumps have been on the blink and we haven't had proper running water for about ten days. Water Affairs are doing their best, although it's only our end of the school that's affected. We seem to be the worst off because our house was the last to be built and so last in the line, even after the Girls' hostel. The only way we have managed is by getting up at 5am (30 minutes before the girls) and filling the outside tank, bath and every other container we can find. We do the washing then as well, just a little bit every day and also water the seeds and essentials in the garden.

The afternoons this week have been spent supervising the clearing of the Sports Field. Squads of students armed with spades and rakes spent 1½ hours every afternoon clearing the "grass" off the track – in temperatures of 90°F. They did a really good job. Now there's hardly any grass – mostly sand. The running track, such as it is, will eliminate the possibility of any records being broken. Most of the



students will run in bare feet. If the sand doesn't burn their feet, the thorns will get them. Practices start tomorrow.

## Lost contacts -can you help, please?

When lockdown began, Keith Robson and his intrepid team of deliverers, tried to make sure that everyone who normally collected their magazines from church would have them delivered. However, we have no contact details for S. Bennett and Rosemary Bell. Can anyone help by letting us know how they can be contacted? Please e-mail stmarys.maged@gmail.com

#### A TIME OF OUR LIVES

For the past two years, St Mary's has been blessed by the attendance of two members of the Royal Army Medical Corps, LIEUTENANT COLONEL MIKE SMITH and CAPTAIN HANNAH SWAFORD- and latterly by the utterly gorgeous, Arora Hasri Gloria, born here during lockdown as an unexpected bonus to us.

In this month's personal reflection, Mike describes his own Christian journey which is both astonishing and inspirational and how Hannah became part of that journey. We are privileged to share the story of this time of his—and Hannah's—life.

#### The Power of 'Ten' and Other Steps on a Christian Journey

Mike's father came from a strict Baptist family, his mother was a non-practising Methodist, and although Mike was christened and taken to Sunday school – which he liked, his was not really a background of faith.

Mike went up to Cambridge, with a niggle that something was missing from his life. There, he had exposure to many faiths — Jewish, a Muslim convert ...so there were many conversations, from which Mike decided he was a Christian. He went to medical school, followed by a short hospital stint, and then to Sandhurst Military Academy, where — as a medic on the Commis-



Sandhurst Military Academy

sioning Programme – he was classified as a professional, as were padres and lawyers.

One of the padres was John Macgregor and another was Tony Dalton, whose wife was a diabetic nurse. He was an Anglican and he and Mike were deployed together to Germany with the Second Royal Tank Regiment. Mike went to Iraq as Lead Battleground GP and Tony was with him. He conducted a sort of Alpha course – not all to Tony's taste, at the end of which there were six military personnel to be confirmed, including Mike. Unfortunately, the Armed Forces Bishop could not come out to conduct the Confirmation. What followed was reported in *Christian Today* in December 2008 (*reported by kind permission*).

### "Christian Today, 2008

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu, held a special confirmation service on Monday for a medical doctor on Christmas leave from service in Iraq. Captain Dr Mike Smith, a medical officer with the 1st Battalion Royal Regiment Fusiliers, was confirmed during a special service held in the chapel at the Archbishop's official residence, Bishopthorpe Palace.

Captain Smith, 27, from Ellesmere Port in Cheshire, was posted to Iraq on 15 May and only recently returned to the UK on leave. He is due to return to active service on 26 January 2009.

Dr Sentamu said: "Today is a celebration of the fulfilment of the prayers of many people. I was firmly opposed to the UK invasion of Iraq but once the soldiers were deployed, I have been praying for them and their families. It is an honour to be able to confirm one of our serving armed forces, and a particular joy to do so at Christmas as we celebrate the coming of Christ into the world."



Captain Smith said, "Being confirmed is something I've been meaning to do for a long time. When I was posted to Iraq I found myself physically closer to the whole Biblical story, which made it much more real for me. It re-awakened my desire to be confirmed and to journey on in my faith.

"It was great to be confirmed here at Christmas after being away for seven months. It feels really special. I was meant to be confirmed along with other members of the armed forces earlier this year, but was unable to attend the service. My army chaplain, Padre Tony Dalton, knew I'd be staying with family in York and put in a call to the Archbishop's office who said he would be delighted to conduct the service."

Captain Smith, who qualified as a General Practitioner four years ago, has served with the 1st Battalion Royal Regiment Fusiliers for seven years and was sponsored through his medical training at Cambridge University by the army. He added, "One of the men I was commissioned with at Sandhurst was Father John McGregor. I bumped into him whilst on service in Iraq and both he and my padre have been an excellent support and help to both me and others serving there."

Incidentally, Archbishop Sentamu wears Archbishop Oscar Romero's cross and gave Mike a copy of Oscar Romero's book of prayers as a gift. Archbishop Sentamu had high regard for the Military, and, as it was Christmas, included stol-

len on the lunch menu. It was certainly a one-off Confirmation service.

Mike commenced a series of postings - Germany, Alton in Hampshire, Bramshot - and a High Anglican Church to attend, accompanying a member of the family. Military colleagues questioned how a "scientist" could be "a man of faith" – but Mike had already established that faith is not something to be proved by science.

On reflection, Mike recalls this was not a good time in his own life. As a GP, he knew – and knows about - empathy, tries to practise it, and understands how learning from the past shapes the future,



Archbishop Oscar Romero

how one must turn threats into opportunities, play to strengths. More importantly, he knows the power of forgiveness and that he has received it.

Mike managed to maintain his faith through his own personal rocky patch. He was

posted to Colchester (where the Garrison hosts the Military Prison) and then, of all places, to Folkestone. Although there was no opportunity to attend church, he did have an invaluable chance to learn from the Buddhists and the Hindus of the Royal Gurkha Rifles. He met the Gurkha commanding officer, an officer called Lee Roberts, whom he found inspirational, (Lee had previously overcome adversity from injuries sustained in Afghanistan), and also Christopher



Gurkha Rifles on parade

Kinch, both of whom were members of a small Christian community.

A theatre of war beckoned and Mike was deployed to Afghanistan as the senior GP. One of the team, Channing Day, a female medic whom he had not had time to know well, was killed. Almost straight after that, Mike was called upon to identify the body of a close friend, Ed Drummond-Baxter, who had also been killed on patrol. Upon repatriation, Mike was asked to read at the funeral. Hindus, Buddhists and Christians were represented at the funeral, and the tradition of walking out over fire was observed – keeping the tradition that the soul of the deceased cannot follow.

Lee and Mike were next deployed in Brunei where faith was self-directed, then to New Zealand. On return to the UK, Mike was based in Deepcut but commuting to Liverpool, not the easiest of circumstances, Combined with difficulties at home. Mike was adrift and with a difficult year to come.

He began training for the Athens Marathon but broke his leg, which led to six months in plaster and three months off work. Then he had a call from the Philippines on Good Friday to say that his father had suffered a life threatening fall so Mike flew out on

the same day as his crutches were rendered unecessary to look after his father and arrange repatriation. His father survived although his injuries were life changing. Although personally "on the bottom", Mike knows the power of prayer helped his father to pull through.

Now "clinging to the wreckage", Mike prayed fervently that he would be sent some-



Athens Marathon start

one to love him just as he was and asked God specifically. He remembered the "Footprints" analogy when God "carries" us. He also thought about Peter walking on water, losing his nerve and his faith, and beginning to sink. Mike hung on. He hung on without regrets, realising that it was negative. He tried to forgive and forget, and to learn when it is not for him to forgive – but for others.

Life then took a turn for the much, much better, indeed an answer to prayer - enter Hannah. Both raw for different reasons, they met through work and a personal friendship developed, including long dog walks together. It was April 2018 and the person for whom Mike had prayed ("Love me just as I am") had arrived.

Mike arrived in Catterick and came serendipitously to St Mary's on a Sunday morning when Rector-to-be Martin was visiting. At long last, the worship and community at St Mary's were right. He and Hannah each wear meteorite crosses, blessed by Martin in the Green Howards Chapel before Hannah was posted to South Sudan. Mike went to Oman, which was marginally less dangerous.

While separately deployed, they used to discuss Bishop John's book "Ten" by text and Bishop John and his writings became important to them, as has been Martin's supportive and caring ministry as their relationship grew and blossomed. Mike says that St Mary's has been inclusive, lovely and welcoming.

Plans were made; a new house commissioned in Hampshire and postings for September 2020 confirmed. Then came Covid-19. Mike has been acting as Senior Adviser to 3(UK) Division and the Field Army. Some of the Catterick team were involved in developing Nightingale (Harrogate) Hospital.

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He had to remain in Catterick, and Hannah raced up to join him before the imminent and inevitable imposition of lockdown. Wedding plans have been curtailed and fore-shortened but a most wonderful bonus has been the arrival of Arora and the joy that she, too, has been brought to church at St Mary's.

Mike knows that there will be positives from the Covid-19 pandemic –he is very positive about the power of prayer and maybe that is something which we can all take from his extraordinary and life- changing journey – hand our lives to God and pray for his help and guidance.

Oh – and worshipping at St Mary's is a huge help too! God speed to Mike, Hannah and Arora.

-00000-

#### Fire in church

The town's fire prevention officer was conducting a health and safety course at the local church. The officer said to the minister: "Now imagine this: it is a Sunday morning and you have a number of people, spread socially distanced, throughout your church building. Some are in the choir stalls, some are in the kitchen, and some are in the nave. Suddenly, a big fire breaks out. What are the first steps you would take?"

The minister thought carefully for a moment. "Really big ones," he said.

#### **NEWS FROM THE PEWS**

JEANETTE SUNDERLAND, wife of our newly installed deacon, Paul, relates her own experiences of a welcoming church and looks to re-launch our welcoming team with a warm invitation to offer your time, your smile, your welcome to people crossing the threshold of St Mary's.

#### THE PATH OF WELCOME

I will never forget my very first Welcome to St. John's, Clayton. We had popped in because we saw they were having an art exhibition one Saturday, only to be greeted by a larger than life (figuratively speaking) Barbara, or Babs as we soon lovingly grew to call her.

She warned her fellow volunteers, 'We've got newbies, don't scare them off!'

Needless to say, everyone was lovely, and we found ourselves back in church the following day for our first Sunday service with them.

As we approached the forbidding solid wooden doors, we peered in to be met by another friendly, smiling face;



St. John's Church, Clayton

Yvonne. Yvonne greeted us and reassured us, 'You can sit anywhere'. We went for the safe option and sat at the back.

St. John's was blessed with great, newly built community rooms, where we were assured we would find a cuppa and biscuits after the service.

We ventured through and stood, once again, near the back, thinking 'No-one is going to talk to us.' But there appeared Yvonne; she was kind and friendly and introduced us to other people (back in the day when you could chat to others in groups without face masks and the like). We felt welcome! We came back week after week. Everyone became our church family.

Welcoming became a passion of mine, which developed into a volunteering role. A role that found me sorting rotas, coming up with new ideas and organising name badges so we were instantly recognised.

One of my favourite parts of the role was wandering down the long path (not dissimilar to the path here at St. Mary's, although St. John's was a much easier gradient) to walk with those with kids in buggies, someone negotiating crutches after a hip operation, or Babs in her electric wheelchair being looked after by a carer.

Reaching out, chatting, lending a helping hand as they got to those solid wooden

doors brought the church outside; the welcome reassuring and friendly, an open door for them to enter through to sit and meet with God.

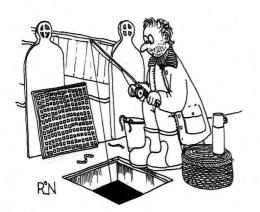
Covid, as we know, has affected our services, some people are still shielding. If you would like to be part of the welcoming team here at St. Mary's, I'd really love to hear from you. You don't have to do it every week—like I said, I love rotas! And, if you are still shielding but would like to continue welcoming, or join us once we are 'out the other side', then do still let me know. Everyone is important, including those who need to stay safe at home.

Covid has also had a huge effect on the role of sidespeople in church. With initially low numbers coming back in to church, the Churchwardens did a fantastic job of welcoming people back. Happily, congregation numbers are steadily increasing. For the foreseeable future, as we are not using books and remain in our seats for communion, the role of Sidespeople will be very much that of welcoming. If you would like to be appointed as a sidesperson at the annual meeting on 15th November, please do let me know.

As we emerge from lockdown, I will be looking to amalgamate many of the roles which have worked so well here at St Mary's. If you have been on more than one rota, please be assured that you can offer to volunteer for any number of the roles as you wish. We will ensure that no overlapping will occur.

You don't need to know everyone, I certainly don't. All you need is a friendly face (or really smiley eyes during Covid!) You can catch me after service, or call 07812019243, or email <a href="mailto:jabbsey54@hotmail.com">jabbsey54@hotmail.com</a>.

Jeanette Sunderland



Quarantining in church had its drawbacks. Two days in, the biscuits were gone, and Rupert was hungry.

## 200 Club Winner

## Congratulations!

The October prize winner was no. 200
Frank Faulkner

Look out for the November draw.

#### From the Mothers' Union

Our Mothers' Union is supporting an international campaign against gender-based violence. It takes place each year from **25 November** (International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women) until **10 December** (International Human Rights Day). Please pray for this campaign



Significant dates throughout the campaign include:

**November 25** – International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women

November 29 – International Women Human Rights Defenders Day

**December 1** – World AIDS Day

**December 5** – International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development

**December 6** – Anniversary of the Montreal Massacre, which is observed as the National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women in Canada

**December 10** – International Human Rights Day and the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Throughout the campaign, Mothers' Union joins with around 6,000 organisations from approximately 187 countries who participate in the campaign, to raise awareness of, and call for an end to, gender-based violence in all forms and in all societies. There is often a theme for the campaign but as of the production of this pack (September 2020) this has not been announced.

As part of the campaign this year we will be holding our first Global Day which is centred around the disturbing figure that "1 in 3 women worldwide have experienced domestic or sexual abuse" and that Mothers' Union, as a leading women's organisation, believe this to be unacceptable.

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence campaign is an extension of the day-to-day grassroots work of Mothers' Union. MU works alongside communities to help end gender-based violence and to support those affected by it, every

gender-based violence (GBV) is any act of violence or abuse which is directed at an individual or group on the basis of their gender.

It is important to note, therefore, that both women and men can be made targets of gender-based violence. However, it has been widely acknowledged that the majority of people affected by gender-based violence are women and girls, as a result of unequal distribution of power in society between women and men. Further, female victims of violence suffer specific consequences as a result of gender discrimination.

#### Free Resource Pack

The Mothers' Union national organization has issued a free 28 page pack which has a variety of useful contacts, advice and helpful activities which people can use throughout the campaign and beyond. It includes contacts for helplines for both men and women, a draft letter to MPs in support of planned legislation, advice on listening to possible victims and what to do and not to do. Whilst much of the information is specific to the campaign, there is also material which is of value to anyone who is in a position of working with potentially vulnerable people as part of a volunteering role. The Right Reverend Rachel Trewick, Bishop of Gloucester, is leading the Church of England response to legislation currently passing through Parliament. Margaret Clayson will supply a copy of the draft letter to MPs and/or write on behalf of the branch to make our local views known at a national level. Please contact Margaret Clayson (822631) for more information—MU member or not.

The pack is available to anyone from www.mothersunion.org. On reaching the website, click on 'Resources' and scroll down to the bottom of page 1 for 'Mothers' Union 16 Days of Activism Pack 2020'.

#### A Call to Help - St Theresa of Avila

Christ has no body now on earth but ours, No hands but ours, no feet but ours,

Our are the eyes through which

Christ's compassion is to look out to the earth.

Ours are the feet by which

He is to go about doing good.

And ours are the hands by which He is to bless us now.

### A prayer from the MU Resource Pack

Lord of justice and mercy, draw us close to those who hurt. Let us reach out our hands in your name to share the sorrow and lessen the pain.

Lord of justice and mercy, lengthen our strides to march for good. Clothe our feet with your living Word to trample the works of unrighteousness, for the kingdom of God to prevail. Amen





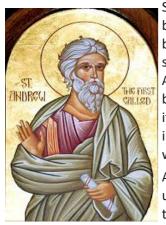


#### SOME FACTS & FIGURES ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

- In the year ending March 2019, in the UK and Ireland, 2.4 million adults aged 16 to 59 had experienced domestic abuse within the last year.
- In the UK and Ireland data published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) show 80 women were killed by a current or ex-partner between April 2018 and March 2019 a 27 per cent increase on the year before.
- The UK police receive a call every minute about domestic abuse; 89 percent are about a woman being abused by a man.
- 20% of children in the UK have lived with an adult perpetrating domestic violence.
- The overwhelming majority of domestic abuse cases are not prosecuted; in the UK only 8% of domestic abuse-related crimes reported to the police will end in conviction
- Globally, only 1% of adolescent girls who have experienced forced sex, reach out for professional help.
- Only 77 countries have legislation that explicitly criminalises marital rape
- 23 percent of women in high income countries, 25 percent in the western region and 8 percent of women in the south-east Asia are abused each year.
- At least one in three women globally will experience some form of genderbased violence at some point in their lifetime
- Violence against women can damage the health and wellbeing of a women from physical health consequences such as chronic pain syndromes, induced abortions and disabilities to mental health consequences such as PTSD and depression.
- It's estimated 650 million women and girls alive today were married before their 18th birthday. Child marriage often results in early pregnancy and social isolation, interrupts schooling, limits the girl's opportunities and increases her risk of experiencing domestic violence.
- In the EU, 1 in 10 women have experienced some form of sexual violence since the age of 15, and 1 in 20 have been raped. Just over 1 in 5 women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence from either a current or previous partner
- Women aged 15-44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, car accidents, war and malaria

#### FOR ALL THE SAINTS

Having focussed on the patron saints of the other three home nations of the UK earlier in the year, we turn our attention this month to the patron saint of Scotland—St Andrew—whose commemorative day falls on the last day of November. Of the four saints, he was the closest physically to Christ as he was one of the original twelve disciples, but, as with St George, it is not immediately clear what the link is between a person living in the Middle East hundreds of years ago and a country in the British Isles. As with the other saints, there is both a story and myths and legends which have grown up around the character. It is fairly well-known that the distinctive Scottish flag with its white diagonal cross set on a blue background is a representation of the way Andrew died. But what else do we know? And is there any link at all between our saint and the home of golf?



Saint Andrew, also known as Andrew the Apostle, was born in Bethsaida by the side of the Sea of Galilee, it is believed somewhere between 5 AD and 10 AD. His chosen name has Greek origin, meaning 'manly' or 'brave'. Although he lived in Hebrew lands, it appears to have been a common name in this area which, although inhabited largely by Jewish people, had been subject to Greek influence over many years. Indeed, the Greek language was spoken inthis area as well as Hebrew..

At the time of Christ's ministry, he was living in Capernaum and , like his brother Simon Peter, was a fisherman by trade. His first calling was as a disciple of John the Baptist, but , as the gospels of both Matthew and Mark re-

count, Jesus saw them engaged in their work as he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, spoke with them and called them both to discipleship. Thus Andrew was one of the first of the twelve apostles. Interestingly, Luke's account mentions only Simon Peter to start with by name, initially saying that he had companions in his boat, only mentioning Andrew by name later. In John's gospel we are told that Andrew introduced Simon Peter to Christ—therefore the first of the apostles.

Whatever the sequence of events, the reality was that Andrew seems to have been closer to Christ than others . Indeed, the Byzantine Church gives him the name '*Protokletos*—'the first called'. He is named as being present at some of the key times of Christ's ministry e.g. one of the four disciples who came to Jesus on the Mount of Olives to ask about the signs of Jesus' return at the "end of the age."

After the crucifixion of Christ, Andrew travelled widely, preaching in Scythia, along the Black Sea coast and is said to have travelled to Kiev and to Novgorod, as well as teaching in Thrace. He is credited with founding the See of Byzantiium (later Constantinople, then Istanbul) in AD 38. Little wonder then that Scotland does not have

any sort of 'exclusivity clause' on his patronage! Ukraine, Romania and Russia also have him as their patron saint —as does the Russian Navy.

He also preached in Achaea where he met his end in 60 AD as a Christian martyr in the town of Patras. Although early texts say that he was bound to a Latin cross (the same shape as that used for Christ's crucifixion), a later tradition has become the accepted version, namely that Andrew requested to be crucified on an X-shaped cross as he was not worthy to be put to death in the same way



'Crucifixion of St Andrew' Frans Francken II

as Jesus—and bound, not nailed. This later version 'stuck' - hence the martyrdom of Andrew is always depicted as using the diagonal cross, or 'saltire', as used on the Scottish flag.

#### Andrew and the Scottish connection

Andrew's remains were originally kept at Patras. However, according to one legend, a monk at Patras, St Regulus, had a dream in which he was told to hide some of the bones and then, in another dream, to take the hidden relics 'to the ends of the earth' for protection. Taking a kneecap, upper arm bone, three fingers and a tooth from Andrew's remains, he is said to have set sail westwards in the direction of the end of the known world (remember flat earth and Noah's trip towards Tarshish—now Cadiz) and kept going.

He was eventually shipwrecked on the coast of Fife in Scotland where he built a shrine for the bones, on the site of the town now known as St Andrews. A fine tale—and, indeed, the relics did arrive at St Andrews, but probably via the hands of an Augustine Mission to Britain in 597 AD and then onwards to Fife by Bishop Acca of Hexham when he was driven out of the abbey there to the Pictish country north of the Firth of Forth in 732AD.



**Town of St Andrews** 

One hundred years later, the Pictish king Oengus II was fighting an army of Angles in East Lothian, south of the Forth. Heavily outnumbered and facing defeat, he prayed,



vowing that he would make Andrew the patron saint of Scotland if victorious. On the morning of the battle, legend has it, the clouds above the battlefield are said to have formed a large X shaped cross. Inspired by this sign, Oengus won a famous victory and honoured his promise. The white cloud cross against the blue sky was later replicated in the design of the Scottish flag..

An alternative dispute-related explanation is also offered. In 664 AD, when the decision to follow the Roman Christian lead rather than the Celtic Christian lead offered by Columba at the Synod of Whitby, it was realised that St Peter outranked Columba in the ranks of the saints. By choosing Saint Andrew as their patron saint at the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320, the Scots were formally attributing their conversion to Christianity to Andrew, 'the first to be an Apostle.'

The feast day of St Andrew, 30th November, is recognised by Eastern and Western churches alike. However, as with St Patrick, the celebration of the day was started by people born in Scotland who had made their new home in America. In 1729 the 'St Andrew's Society of West Charleston' was founded by some wealthy Scots-born Americans. It became well-known for helping widows and orphans in the area. A New York society was founded in 1756—a charity set up to support the poor and needy of the town and the oldest surviving charity in the United States today. Although there is a music hall tradition of identifying a Scots characteristic as

mean-ness, societies such as this and



Badge of the St Andrew's Society—Latin inscription means, 'Charity, Fellowship; Scholarship'



Cross carved on post near fireplace (Hidden Teesside website)

the philanthropy of wealthy Scots paints

a much different picture—a picture which ties in with a national support for community and education.

If you are ever visiting an old house in Scotland, or indeed parts of Northern England and see the cross of Saint Andrew carved on or near the fireplace, it represents the superstition that this would prevent witches from flying down the chimney to enter the house to cause trouble.

As well as being a national patron saint of more than one country, Andrew is recognised as the patron saint of singers and fishermen—but not golfers. They don't have one!

#### THE CHURCH ABROAD

Readers who visit other countries (or did so before COVID) may often have visited churches in the towns or villages they travel through in the course of their journeying. ALAN JUDGE has offered two accounts of such visits made in the past, the first of which is printed below, with another to follow next month. What about your own experiences of such visits? Do please write in with your thoughts and photos of what you have

#### **Experiences of Visiting Churches in Other Countries**

One learns lots from our continental churches.....not only about their physical properties but also about the clergy and the congregation.

During my time working in the travel industry from the age of 18, I was fortunate to spend a part of each year, holidaying in Mallorca ( my children have said "get a life dad").

The capital, Palma, has an impressive Catholic cathedral, La Seu, built in the Gothic style and overlooking Palma harbour. The Anglican church of St Phillip and St James is on the edge of the city centre and has a large enthusiastic congrega-



tion. On one occasion we were there for the Palm Sunday Service which had the added attraction of a real donkey to head the procession. We were not sure where the starting point was but when we saw two ladies carrying large bags of carrots we knew we were in the right place. Unfortunately the donkey owner had got the wrong Sunday and failed to appear so we paraded anyway and it was a very enjoyable experience even minus the donkey.

Deia in the mountains is famous as the home of the writer Robert Graves who is buried there in the cemetery. Nearby Valldemossa has many lovely buildings and

courtyards. Much of its fame derives from a short visit made by Frederic Chopin and George Sands to the village in 1838 where they stayed in the local monastery in great discomfort!

In the North East of the island is Pollensa and down on the coast Port de Pollensa where I have attended the Anglican services in the Catholic church Parroquia Nuestra Senora de Los Angeles over several few years.



The rector at that time was Rev. Mel Smith who began the service in robes and because it was so hot greeted you as you left in shorts and T shirt. Unfortunately his wife became ill and they had to return to the UK. His replacement caused so much concern to the Catholic clergy that after 28 years of having the use of the church for a communion service each Sunday morning, the Anglican community were given three weeks notice.

However there was a silver lining and that was that the ex-patriate community rented a shop unit in the town and converted it into a small church that they could use 24/7. So it all worked out for the best.

The piece de resistance is that after the service the congregation and the clergy go to the nearest Spanish bar to meet up, chill and enjoy a few drinks! We have met so many ex-patriatess and had a great time swapping our life stories.

\*\*Alan Judge\*\*

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#### TRAIDCRAFT-STILL OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

Traidcraft was founded in 1979 as a Christian response to poverty by challenging the deep injustices which are embedded in global trade. For over fifty years, it has worked with supporters of all faiths and none and with farmers and artisans whatever their creed, ethnicity or religion.



The TRAIDCRAFT shop is still open—in fact, we never close. The new TRAIDCRAFT catalogue is now available and includes Christmas cards and lots of ideas for gifts, including food hampers, festive treats, crafts, clothing as well as household products. There is also a selection of Gifts for Life—a little different and having the added advantage of being easy to send by post to friends and family.

Unfortunately, it will not be possible to have the usual Christmas Shopping Day at the Walker residence. However, please do contact me for a catalogue. This obviously allows you to shop in the comfort of your own home without worry—and, at the same time, support people throughout the world who have been affected by the COVID pandemic.



If you would like a catalogue, or indeed purchase items, please ring 01748 812015 or e-mail <a href="mailto:remwalker7@gmail.com">remwalker7@gmail.com</a> to place an order. Most of the food items are always in stock. Orders can be collected or we can deliver. Payments can be made using cash, cheque or bank transfer.

\*\*Rachel Walker\*\*



# WILLIAM'S WALKS November 2020



This month, WILLIAM GEDYE, organiser of the Richmondshire Walking For Health programme, has sought out a walk a little further afield from Richmond with a trip to Middleham in Wensleydale for its starting point. If you tackle it early in the month on a fine, sunny day, you may still be blessed with the last embers of the dying fires of Autumn in the diminishing leaf canopy on the trees. A great walk at any time of year, why not take some physically distanced exercise in this part of what many call 'God's Own Country.'

**Start/Finish** – Middleham Market Cross

Ordnance Survey: Map OL30 Yorkshire

Dales Northern & Central Areas

**Distance:** 4 Miles

**Difficulty:** moderate with a few inclines.

Slippery sections after rain.

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Leave the market cross in Middleham

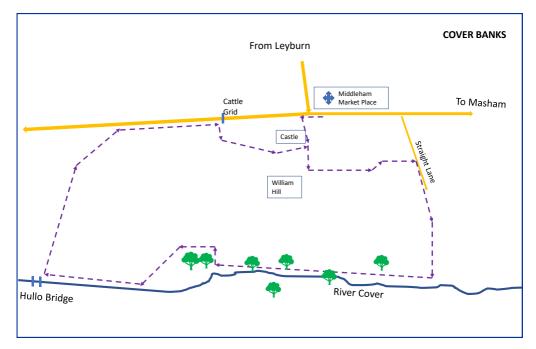
and walk up the road towards the gallops turning immediately left before the café, up to the Castle wall. Keep to the left of the Castle and head up the track towards William Hill.

Turn left after the house on the left and follow the path along the back of the allotments.

Keep to the wall on your left and follow the path down to Straight Lane. Turn right along the lane and follow it into the fields and keep straight on descending towards the River Cover.

Just before the river, take the foot gate to the right and follow the riverbank along ,passing the fine stepping stones. This lovely riverside path meanders through the woods and fields until you reach the end of the field and path.

At this point there is a lovely picnic spot on the limestone pavement by the river.



Turn right and follow the path up the hill briefly and keep left along the edge of the wood high above the river. Go left over the stile and follow the well used path back to the riverbank and on to Hullo Bridge.

At the bridge go over the stile and turn right following either the steep path or lane up into the fields. Follow the wall on the right and look out for a stile and path which leads up to the road.



Turn right and follow the riding track towards

Middleham and at the end of the unfenced section turn right through the stile.

Turn left and follow the well marked path back to Middleham through the fields

This is a Richmondshire Walking For Health route. For more information email: walk.for.health@btinternet.com

"If you are in a bad mood go for a walk. If you are still in a bad mood, go for another walk." – **Hippocrates** 

"When you have worn out your shoes, the strength of the shoe leather has passed into the fibre of your body. I measure your health by the number of shoes and hats and clothes you have worn out." – Ralph Waldo Emerson

#### NOTES FROM OUR PAST

Two offerings this month. The first comes with an apology to JANE HATCHER and to readers who were left high and dry in mid-sentence last month in the article about Charles Dodgson (Lewis Carroll). Owing to an error on my part in preparing the magazine for print, I lost virtually a whole paragraph in the set-up process—and then missed the mistake on the final proof read. The article is offered, in full, below.

Following this, Jane tells a story which was prompted by the events in this country following the death of George Floyd in the United States and relates to an entry in our own parish registers from 1818. In her article about Marske Church earlier in the year, Jane told of the singing prowess of a Jamaican servant at Marske Hall, one John York. Sadly, there is no name to identify the individual whose departure from this life is recorded in the parish registers.

#### Lewis Carroll—revisited

There have been many press articles about efforts to find new uses for the former Richmond Grammar School building on Station Road. Several times the *York-shire Post* has included the information that it was attended by the author Lewis Carroll. A good story, but unfortunately mistaken!

Lewis Carroll was the pen-name of Charles Lutwidge Dodgson (1832-1898), whose father, Rev Charles Dodgson (1800-1868), held various ecclesiastical posts in this area. In 1843 he was appointed rector of Croft-on-Tees, in 1852 became a canon of Ripon Cathedral, and then from 1854 was also Archdeacon of Richmond.



Charles Dodgson and his wife, the former Fanny
Lutwidge, had a large family of eleven children, ten of whom were born at
Daresbury in Cheshire, the living the father held before Croft. The couple's first
son was their third child, whom they named Charles Lutwidge Dodgson. Born on
27 January 1832, he was thus aged eleven when the family moved to the large
brick rectory at Croft in 1843.

The Dodgsons' large family had greatly stretched their finances, and they had educated their children at home in Daresbury. However, the move to Croft in 1843.increased their income, and soon they were able to send Charles junior away to school. They chose one not too far away from Croft, Richmond Grammar

School, then under its headmaster the younger James Tate, son of his more famous father who had moved to London as a Canon of St Paul's Cathedral in 1833.

The boy, like others from outside Richmond, boarded with the headmaster's family in his home, Swale House. The Grammar School was then still based in the old building, on the north side of the churchyard. A small structure, it dated from the school's re-foundation under a charter of

Queen Elizabeth I of 1567. So this was the school building attended by 'Lewis Carroll'. He was there about two years, from 1844, until he moved on to Rugby School in 1846, and then Christ Church College, Oxford.

It was some years later, in 1850, that the new grammar school building was opened on Station Road. Called the 'Tate Testimonial', it was



a memorial to the school's greatest headmaster, the elder James Tate (1771-1843).

\*\*Jane Hatcher\*\*

# From the Parish Register

In early June this year, for the first time for several weeks, Covid-19 had a rival

news item dominating the national press - the statue of a prominent Bristol slave owner being toppled from its plinth during protests against the cruel police treatment of a black American man which led to his death. The video of the event undoubtedly struck a chord in the national conscience of Great Britain as well as the United States of America.



It reminded me of a simple entry in the Richmond Parish Registers which, I hope I am correctly interpreting, shows our Georgian forebears in this town as acting in a humane and honourable way to an unfortunate black individual. The entry itself is somewhat stark, though not worded offensively: it records the burial, on 13 March 1818, of "A poor stranger blackman, name and place of abode unknown".

Imagine what led to this entry. Someone found a dead body, somewhere within the town limits, of a black male. It was not uncommon for people travelling through an area to collapse, to simply lie down and die, perhaps beside a road-side hedge. The term 'stranger' occurs quite often in old parish registers.

The local authorities had to deal with such a person whom they had no way of

identifying, by implication poor, and travelling to an unknown destination on foot.

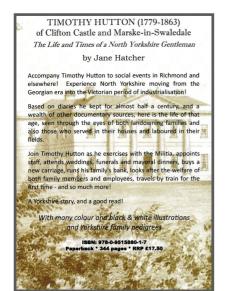
By 1818 Richmond folk would know that some people had black skins. After all, the Act to abolish the trading of slaves had eleven years previously been passed after a lengthy campaign. Indeed a member of a Richmond medical family, Christopher Bowes, had returned to practise in the town having worked as a naval surgeon on ships involved in the slave trade. Several local families had acquired black serv-



ants who were well looked after and fashionably dressed. Perhaps this poor individual had been less fortunate, and had run away from a household where he had been ill-treated, and without any means of sustenance, had simply starved to death.

Whoever he was, it seems to have been decided that this unknown stranger should be afforded a decent Christian burial in Richmond churchyard. The Rector of the day, Rev Christopher Goodwill, entered the record in the parish register himself and, as there are no records of the church authorities meeting the cost of the burial, it seems likely that the Rector would pay the gravedigger out of his own pocket. Goodwill, Rector for 32 years from 1789, and a highly-regarded Richmond official, was a man now in his sixties. There is a rather obscure monument to him, up on the wall opposite the north door of St Mary's.

\*\*Jane Hatcher\*\*



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#### JUST PUBLISHED

You will recall that Jane has generously donated ten copies of her latest fascinating book to the Church, with all proceeds going to Church funds. There are just a few copies still available on this offer. Simply text **07754 283161** or email **stmarys.maged@gmail.com** with your name and contact details (payment of £17.50 on delivery). **ALL OF YOUR PAYMENT WILL GO TOWARDS OUR CHURCH FUNDS.** 

Castle Hill Books are also stocking the book for general sale, Also at £17.50.

#### PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

Last month, MARK BERESFORD-PEIRSE offered some thought which were prompted by John Lennon's song 'Imagine'. Extending this, Mark offers his thoughts on how faith offers antidotes to fear and uncertainty

One of the undercurrents which drives people apart is fear; fear of difference, of being taken advantage of or put down; fear of failure or loss of faith; fear, basically of being rejected rather than loved. Fear makes us aggressive, putting up our fists either physically or emotionally.

The best antidotes to fear and division are faith, hope and love. Though love is the greatest of the three, I think that hope takes a lot of beating. Real hope, not wishful thinking, opens us up to life and to people, and also to God, who is its source. A hopeful heart is able to trust that He does care and knows us through and through, and that we are safe with Him. Hope springs eternal within us, but is even deeper than this; it's the grain of the universe. As Gerald Manley Hopkins puts it, in 'God's Grandeur', "there lives the dearest freshness deep down things."

That's why we can trust that good can - and, in the end, will— prevail over bad, in ourselves and in the world. It's the direction of the flow of the Spirit. The hope that belonging to different groups or sects from other people doesn't need to push us a part lies in the belief that we are all valued by God and that he is forever pouring his Spirit into us and into every bit of the life of the world.

Mark B-P

#### The Man in the Glass

When you get what you want in your struggle for self And the world makes you king for a day, Just go to the mirror and look at yourself And see what that man has to say.

For it isn't your father, or mother, or wife Whose judgment upon you must pass. The fellow whose verdict counts most in your life Is the one staring back from the glass.

He's the fellow to please – never mind all the rest For he's with you, clear to the end. And you've passed your most difficult, dangerous test If the man in the glass is your friend.

You may fool the whole world down the pathway of years And get pats on the back as you pass,
But your final reward will be heartache and tears
If you've cheated the man in the glass.

Dale Wimbrow

## News from Hudswell

This article has guite a lots of news about our feathered friends. Early in the lockdown, a Hudswell resident who lives opposite the pub noticed a lot of cigarette ends on his front lawn. Since the pub was closed, it was unlikely that smokers would be congregating there and leaving their dog ends on his lawn. He cleared them up, only to find another scattering of cigarette ends in the same place the next morning. A couple of days later, the mystery was solved. There is a cigarette ash box fixed to the wall of the George and Dragon, and a blue tit was seen leaving the box. She flew across the road and deposited a cigarette end onto the lawn! The process was repeated several times, leaving another pile of dog ends. At this point the bird must have been satisfied that the box was ciggie free. Over the next few days, the blue tit was seen bringing moss, sheep's wool and feathers into the box.

According to the British Trust for Ornithology, blue tits start searching in February for a warm, safe place to nest. They require a clear flight path to the nest's

entrance hole, and the site must be relatively inaccessible to predators. Obviously, the pub's ash box must have fitted all the requirements. Eggs are usually laid in early May, one at a time, usually first thing in the morning. Then the female incubates the eggs for about two weeks. No one in the village knows how many chicks had arrived, but the adult birds were seen flitting in and out, bringing food by the end of May. The fledging event went unobserved, but there were still two chicks in the nest at the end of June. One was found in



Feeding time for blue tit fledgling

the middle of the road, unable to fly, by the pub landlady. She popped the chick back in the box, and it had flown away the next day.

Our local National Trust ranger has observed several bird species doing well in lockdown. Pied flycatchers in Hag Wood and garden warblers increased, and it has been a good year for tawny owls and kestrels. I have also spotted plenty of curlews, some at very close quarters!

The monthly coffee mornings are still suspended, and October is usually the Macmillan raffle morning. Instead, residents dropped off donations to the organisers, raising £165. The village is still pushing for improved Broadband,



Pied flycatcher

and traffic, parking, speeding and drainage are all on going issues. Two areas of wild flowers have been planted at each end of the village, by the Hudswell signs. The Little Shop continues to serve us well. We can now place bread and quiche orders every Wednesday and Friday. The weekend opening hours have altered, now being 9.00-12.00 on Saturday mornings, but no afternoon opening. Instead, the shop is open Sunday mornings 10.30-12.00. Our pub offers a good and varied food menu, either eating in or take way. Hudswellians also benefit from free delivery on take away meals.

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# Poetry Please—from Downholme

#### The First Lesson

Hear more than you say as you pass through the day
And you'll then be a happier soul.
You may see with your eyes what men try to disguise
But your ears will reveal their heart's goal.

Hear more than you speak as you pass through the week
And you'll then have a different view.
The accent alone will reveal the true tone
Of the heart, whether troubled or true.

Say less than you hear as you pass through the year You will then be more suited to learn.

The tongue may betray what the heart wants to say But the ears are what help you discern.

Hear more than you talk as you go for a walk
And you may well begin a new life.
The sound of the heart is revealed. A fresh start
Takes the place of the stresses and strife.

Seal the tongue behind lips when you go out on trips
And set free all your hearing and sight.
At close of the day when you kneel down and pray
You will thank the almighty for night.

George Alderson
Submitted by Jean Calvert

# Our Church at Marske—a most historic place

Each of the churches in our benefice has features of great historic interest. Although elements of St Mary's date back several hundred years, the entire buildings at Downholme and Marske carry echoes of times long since gone, telling the story of their past through their design, ornamentation and furnishing. In this article, LIZ KLUZ, recounts how the evolution of St Edmunds' can take us back almost one thousand years

#### St Edmunds' - The Church in the Wild Wood

Our little church at Marske is often described by visitors as "simple" or "plain" and maybe that is how some folk see it but there is more to St. Edmund's than you might imagine.

The establishment of the first place of worship at Marske is undocumented but there is a link to St. Cuthbert which pushes the date back some 1100 years!

With the threat of further Viking invasions in the year 875 A.D., the monks from Lindisfarne Priory fled the island carrying the bones of St. Cuthbert from place to place for the next seven years before being given a church in Chester-le-Street. However, the possibility of new raids in the late tenth century forced the monks to take the precious relics on the road again, this time to Ripon where they remained for a few months before being taken to Durham which became their final resting place. Quite when the monks passed through Marske with their precious cargo cannot be pinpointed but it is known that his body rested there for a while.



In his book "English Forests and Forest Trees" the Tudor antiquary, Sir Henry Spelman, presents a list of ancient forests still in existence at the time of Queen Elizabeth and the forest of Applegarth (between Richmond and Marske) is mentioned on that list. It is reasonable to assume that the forest extended to Marske and beyond providing an excellent hunting ground for the Norman earls at Richmond.

The Domesday Survey of 1086 has no record of Marske although the surrounding villages of Marrick, Fremington, Grinton, Reeth and Downholme are included so we must assume that the area was still forested.

A Norman church was built at Marske in 1090, possibly on the site of a much earlier place of worship, and the footprint of that building is the same today. The main doorway on the south side of the building is Norman as

Two of the pillars have foliage carved around them and if you look beneath the hymn board the carved head of a man can be seen. There is a second carved head at the back of the church, in a similar position to the first one, which is of the same period. Are these the likenesses of two of the craftsmen who worked on the construction of the new building or of their Norman patrons? I like to think so.







It is not known when the forest surrounding the church was first cleared and a village established but in 1341- 42 an assessment of the agricultural value of each parish in England, called the Inquisition of the Ninths, was made. Marske was recorded as having 17 carucates of cultivated land which had been destroyed during raids by the Scots. A carucate was the amount of land a team of eight oxen could plough in a year, ie. 120 acres, so with 17 carucates under the plough it suggests that the population of Marske was significant by 1341.

Attacks on cattle by wolves continued to be a problem well into the fourteenth century and in many places livestock had to be taken into shelter every night. As late as 1369 wolves were still to be found at Marske according to William Edwards M.A. in his book" The Early History of The North Riding".

We are fortunate to have records of baptisms, going back as far as 1597, safely stored in the North Yorkshire Record Office as well as many other documents of interest.....but that's for another time...watch this space!

Nine-year old Joseph was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday school.

"Well, Mum, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his engineers build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joseph, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked, somewhat alarmed.

"Well, no, Mum. But if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!

#### A RECIPE FOR ENJOYMENT

## Carrot & Orange Soup—an Autumn Warmer

A soup for carnivores and vegetarians alike! Soup made to this recipe has been served on a number of occasions at catered functions in church, most recently at the 2019 Plant and Produce Sale, where it was well received. It's a recipe which doubles—or even quadruples—up easily and the soup can be portioned up and put in a freezer for enjoyment on a later occasion.

## **Ingredients**

2 oz butter

1 leek, sliced

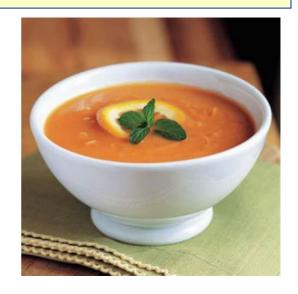
12 oz carrots, grated

1 clove garlic (crushed)

Grated rind and juice of 1 orange

1.25 pt vegetable stock

6 fluid oz single cream



### Method

Melt butter in a large pan; add leeks, grated carrots and garlic (optional)

Cover pan and cook slowly for 10 mins, stirring occasionally.

Add orange rind & juice, vegetable stock & seasoning

Bring to the boil, then cover pan & simmer 10-15 mins (until carrots are soft).

Puree in a food processor until smooth

Stir in cream & re-heat gently without boiling.

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The garlic can be omitted without spoiling the soup—or the surrounding atmosphere—if required. Addition of some parsley never goes amiss! If serving to impress, you can add a small swirl of cream to each serving, a sprig of parsley or mint—even a slice of orange.

#### All in the month of November

500 years ago, on 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 1520 that the Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan sailed into the South Pacific and named the waters the Pacific Ocean.

200 years ago, on 28<sup>th</sup> Nov 1820, that Friedrich Engels, German socialist philosopher and social scientist who collaborated with Karl Marx to found modern communism and co-write the Communist Manifesto.

100 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> Nov 1920, that following World War 1, Britain and France held ceremonies to dedicate a national monument known as the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior. The British monument is at Westminster Abbey in London.

100 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 1920 that Bloody Sunday took place during the Irish War of Independence. 31 people were killed in a day of violence that began when the IRA shot dead 14 British soldiers in Dublin. The British then opened fire on a Gaelic football crowd, killing 14 people. Three Irish prisoners held in Dublin Castle were also killed.

80 years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> Nov 1940 that German Luftwaffe bombers virtually destroyed the city of Coventry, including its medieval cathedral.

80 years ago, on  $15^{th}$  Nov 1940 that all the Jews in Warsaw were transferred to the Warsaw Ghetto – about 400,000 of them.

60 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov 1960 that a British jury cleared Penguin Books of obscenity for publishing D H Lawrence's novel Lady Chatterley's Lover. This event is often considered the beginning of the permissive society in Britain.

60 years ago, on 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 1960 that John F Kennedy was elected as the 35<sup>th</sup> President of the USA.

40 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> Nov 1980 that American TV soap opera Dallas revealed 'Who shot J.R.' after keeping viewers in suspense for eight months.

30 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 1990 that Mary Robinson became the first female President of Ireland.

30 years ago, on 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov 1990 that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher announced her resignation. She was succeeded by John Major on 28<sup>th</sup> Nov.

25 years ago, on  $20^{\rm th}$  Nov 1995 that, in a frank interview for the BBC, Princess Diana admitted that she had committed adultery

20 years ago, on 7<sup>th</sup> Nov 2000 that George W Bush was elected as the 43<sup>rd</sup> President of the USA, though the result of the election would not be known for over a month because of disputed votes in Florida.

15 years ago, on  $30^{\rm th}$  Nov 2005 that John Sentamu became Archbishop of York. He was the first black archbishop in the Church of England.

#### FROM A RECTORY GARDEN

As autumn draws on, I am finding it increasingly difficult to locate MIS-TER Jack Finney. Clearly shaken by his falling tree experience, he no longer inhabits Robert Willance's gravestone as frequently, although he maintains he's been inspired by Jane Hatcher's local history jottings and has uncovered dramatic new evidence about Willance's demise. I suspect all will be revealed in due course. Meanwhile, three legged Lucky seems to run round in circles more frequently - hardly surprising, you might say. However, signs of curling smoke wafting upwards from the blackened chimney stack on the allotment shed showed me it was time for baggins I crept in cautiously, to find MISTER Finney poring over a personal fitness book loaned to him by the Rector. Having rejected cycling as his personal way forward (a suggestion made by the good Rector) in his drive for immortality through fitness, Jack was peering at a page on trampolining. When I enquired tentatively about why trampolining in particular, he told me the tale of a vicar he had worked for on an appointment in the South of England (anywhere south of Ripon). Persuading ol' Lucky to sit, and grasping his fat bacon sandwich, he proceeded to tell me the tale.

## The Fate of the Trampolining Vicar—or Leaps of Faith

'Course it all started with that trampoline, yeh. This vicar's church 'ad let out it's hall to an over eighties keep fit group and leapfrog team. An' he were thinkin' that, at part of 'is pasteurised misshun, he should get a bit fitter and join in.

So, the ol' vicar were readin' his 'Church Times' and wonderin' how he could keep fit without leavin' the vicarage compound... I mean vicinity. Suddenly, he perks up and reads out an advert he'd spotted. 'Give your sermons a bit of a bounce! Surprise your

congregation by perorating from one of our Ecclesiastical Trampolines. Fully adjustable for the elderly and brittle boned when reading the lesson or for bishops of more generous proportions. A boon when replacing light bulbs. Delivered next day as a home assembly kit.'

Well, his nibs were convinced that this were just what he needed and he gits on his mechanical phone and orders a large and very expensive trampoline. Next day, it arrives in bits. 'Finney,' he sez. (That's why I left -never MISTER Finney wiv 'im –



get's to yer eventshully). 'Finney, come and give me a hand.' So we laid the bits out on the vicarage terrace to assemble. Well, wiv a spanner the size of one of them outa a doll's house and a bloomin' Alec key and a dozen blood blisters, we got it together.

'Course, his nibs bein' all confident, didn't order a safety net as he said he'd be far too

good to need one (and besides, I fink he wanted the over eighties group to see him better when he were showin' off.)

Well, when it were all assembled, we all three stood back to hadmire our work and me and ol' Lucky, we could see that his nibs were dyin' to have a go. He said he'd watched them Ruski gymnasticles on the tele and were goin' to show them a thing or two – as if

they'd be watchin'. Pah! (It would serve them right for makin' folks poorly with that Nabokov poison. Well, I said, they should try me ol' darlin's fish pie – it'd have the same effect.)

Anyways, he said he would nip indoors an' put on 'suitable attire for the hoccasion. Five minutes later, out he come wearin' what he said was his great grandad's swimmin' suit



when he were a lifeguard on the South Coast. Well, it were one of them blue and white stripey Hedwardian affairs with straps over the shoulders and 'Property of Brighton UDC' on the back.



Mind you, that vicar's great grandfather, bein' a proper lifeguard an' all, were a lot more bulky than the vicar when he were skippin' down Brighton beach flexin' his mussels, twirlin' 'is muffstash an' winkin' at all the girls! Well, let's just say that the bathin' suit were a generus fit on his nibs' ribs.

Me and ol' Lucky tries not to laugh – although he did give a bit of a 'heh,heh' – so the vicar gits a chair outa the rec-

tory and climbs up on the trampoline, but he slips on the edge and gits his legs around them bungee things. Anyways, he gets himself hextracted and starts walkin' to the middle of the trampoline, going creak, creak, creak.

Then he bends his knees and goes 'poing' and were lifted all of an inch into the air. So he tried it again. Poing! Poing! And up he went a couple more inches. He were beamin'

away but on every bounce, his costume was movin' in a different direction from the rest of his body. Anyways, he did a few more 'poings' and then declared he were goin' for gold and try for a Guinness Book of Records multi-somersault to put vicars everywhere on the map and get 'isself on Breakfast tele. Well, me an ol' Lucky just blinked at him and ol' Lucky went 'Heh, heh' and shook 'is head.

OFFICIAL ATTEMPT

The vicar said that he knew what the problem was; he needed a bit of ballast like them hot air balloons, so he disappears into the shrubbery and comes back with two huge boulders. Then he disappears into the rectory and appears on the bedroom windersill with a boulder under each arm. Me an' o'Lucky could see what he was goin' to do and thought about goin' for help but decided to

stay—in case there were a disaster.

Well, the vicar wobbled a bit on the windersill and said "I can see Brighton Beach from here." Then, with a shout of 'Germolene', he stepped out inter space. Down he came like a sack o' spuds and hit the trampoline with an almighty 'POING!' The mat nearly touched the ground and then everything froze in time for a second an' we saw the petterfide look on the vicar's face. Well, he let go of his boulders and shot back straight up in the air from where he had come.

The boulders meanwhile bounced off, horizontal like. Me and ol' Lucky ducked just in time and they flew over us inter the churchyard. Meanwhile, the vicar were still bouncin', his little legs goin' round like me ol' darlin's egg whisk. Every bounce, he got higher and higher and each time he landed and hit the trampoline, his stripey bathing costume sagged a bit more.

Well, we knew that the Ladies Sewing Circle were due to meet at the rectory at any time but me and ol' Lucky couldn't do nothin' about it bein' inker..' inekerpass..., er, helpless with laughter.

But then heaven intervened in the shape of Mrs Vicar. Hearin' the 'poings,' she stuck her head out a the bedroom winder. She took in the sitterashun and, as his nibs approached the winder on one of 'is 'poings!', she reached out ter grab him by his straps. But he were too far out to reach.

Time were runnin' out to save the vicar's embarrassment. Me and 'ol Lucky could see the Ladies Sewing Circle coming down the drive singin' 'Knit one, purl one, lah di dah di

dah.' But Mrs Vicar, she were quicker (there's a pome in there somewhere!) She runs down to is' nibs humberella stand and grabs his crook – the one with the A team stickers on it – and she leans outer the winder an' grabs 'im round the neck. There were a shriek from the vicar as she yanks him

inside, just as the ladies arrived at the door. The only sign of what 'ad 'appened were that the vicar an' his ol' swimming costume finally parted company. The redundant fabric landed in the rhododendrum bushes.

So me and ol' Lucky cleared off to the shed for some well-earned baggins. Now, the local butcher 'ad sent ol' Lucky a treat to chew on , just like Hamilton's does 'ere! Told him it were a bishop's jaw bone so Lucky were made up.

Next day a notice appears in the church porch;

'Trampoline; free to a good home.' We never did hear a bouncy sermon..but we did 'ave a laff.



"Given the state of our heating system, you'd think the vicar would be all for it!"

#### INFORMATION POINT- ALL ARE WELCOME.

There are a number of groups which used to meet on a regular basis as part of the church family before lockdown. As things ease, some are looking at ways of meeting but nothing is fixed as yet. These groups which cannot meet at the time of writing are still listed below. Situations may have changed since we went to print. Please check our website or use the contact number for information.

However, some one-to-one support is still operating , using telephone or Facetime/Skype contact

## AFTER THE CARDS AND VISITORS

Bereavement is a very difficult time for the spouse/partner left behind.

Starting again on your own is even more difficult.

Carrie and friends would like to help you with the next step.

#### WE ARE STILL AVAILABLE THROUGH TELEPHONE CONTACT

Please phone **Carrie on 850103** if you would welcome any more information. The approach is very informal and relaxed

# PASTORAL CARE— A CONTINUING SERVICE

The St Mary's Church community wishes to do all we can to support, listen and love all in our parish whether members of our church or not.

The Pastoral Team at St Mary's have established a **Prayer Circle** at St Mary's. If you have something which you would appreciate prayer for, whether for yourself or for someone you care about, we would be privileged to pray about it. No prayer request is ever too small or trivial. Whatever you wish to share, in confidence, we will support you in prayer.

To ask for prayer you can either telephone, email or text Rev Martin on 821241, <u>fletcher martin@yahoo.co.uk</u> or 07762 440094; or Paul Sunderland (07989 178196) paul.sunderland@leeds.anglican.org—or speak to any member of the Pastoral Team and they will place your prayer in the circle. Please be assured your requests are confidential.

◆ To be a praying member of the circle or a member of the Pastoral Team, please speak to Rev Martin or Paul. They would love to hear from you.

# St Mary's Groups Waiting to Resume—continued

# **Bible Study Groups**

These groups were suspended whilst engaged in the Lent course. . Your group leaders will stay in touch with you over this. There is fuller information on page 39 of last month's magazine, contributed by Scott Lunn

You can also seek information from the Church web-site or your group leader.

#### **KNIT2GETHER**

A weekly knitting, crocheting and hand sewing group. This group usually meets in the coffee shop/restaurant at Greyfriars every Friday between 10.30 a.m. and noon. All will be made very welcome when meeting restrictions are lifted.

Please check the church web-site or contact Claire Murray on 07737482611 for further information when the lockdown is over.

#### **EDGES OF FAITH**

A new group whose inaugural meeting was unable to take place will now seek to start after the summer, depending on national circumstances.

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# Sudoku - Easy

		4	1					
		9	4				2	
		2	6			3		8
	6		8	4	3		9	
2	8	5				4	3	1
2 4 3	9		2	1	5		8	
3		6			9	5		
	2				1	9		
					4	8		

## Sudoku - Medium

6						2		4
			3				6	
	1			4				50
		9				7	8	
		2	1		5	6		8
	8	4				1		
				2			1	
	5				7			
4		8						3

# Word Search

#### St. Andrew

This month Scotland remembers one of the very first disciples of Jesus. St Andrew is honoured not for any mighty deeds of his own, but for his love of introducing people to Jesus. He went straight off and introduced his brother Peter to the Saviour, and followed that up by bringing Nathanael/Bartholomew to Jesus. 'Better Together' seems to have been his slogan, too! 'We have found the Messiah!', he told them, unable to keep the good news to himself. Andrew's connection with Scotland dates back to the claimed translation of his remains from Patras in Achaia to Scotland in the eighth century. The church in Fife where these remains were buried became a place of pilgrimage during the tenth century. All of this may be no more than pious legend, but that St Andrew was highly regarded in Scotland

Scotland

disciples

Jesus

**Andrew** 

honoured

Peter

Nathanael

Bartholomew

Messiah

Saviour

**Patras** 

Archaia

eighth

remains

translation

Fife

pilgrimage

. . .

tenth

pious Id

patron

saint

introducing

love

place

		Р	L	E	Α	N	Α	Н		Α	N	L
S	Ε	L	Р	1	C	S	1	D	Α	O	G	0
N	O	Α	Р	Н	Н	Α	N	L		Ν	R	V
I	D	C	Α	Ε	N	Α	R	Т		M	Η	Е
Α	Α	E	Т	D	L	R	Α	C	Ε	Α	Τ	S
M	M	Α	R	Τ	P	L	U	S	Н	Ν	Η	Α
Ε	U	Ε	0	U	S	D	S	O		Α	G	R
R	W	C	N	N	0		F	Α		Ν		Т
Ε	S	R	Α	R	Α	Ν	S	J	R	V	Ε	Α
В	Α	R	Т	Н	0	L	0	M	E	W	Α	Р
Н	Т	N	E	Т	C	T	Н	Н	Т	S	U	S
Р		L	G	R		М	Α	G	E	Ν	U	V
F	I	F	Ε	S	S	U	0	I	Р	Н	Ν	S

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For further information, please contact either Mrs Christine Bellas, Oak Tree View, Hutton Magna, Richmond, DL11 7HQ or our Rector.

#### **Puzzle Solutions**

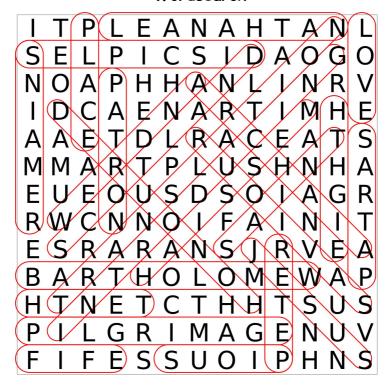
# Sudoku — Easy

8	7	4	1	3	2	6	5	9
6	3	9	4	5	8	1	2	7
1	5	2	6	9	7	3	4	8
7	6	1	8	4	3	2	9	5
2	8	5	9	7	6	4	3	1
4	9	3	2	1	5	7	8	6
3	4	6	7	8	9	5	1	2
5	2	8	3	6	1	9	7	4
9	1	7	5	2	4	8	6	3

## Sudoku-Medium

6	9	3	7	1	8	2	5	4
2	4	7	3	5	9	8	6	1
8	1	5	6	4	2	3	9	7
1	6	9	2	3	4	7	8	5
7	3	2	1	8	5	6	4	9
5	8	4	9	7	6	1	3	2
9	7	6	4	2	3	5	1	8
3	5	1	8	9	7	4	2	6
4	2	8	5	6	1	9	7	3

# Wordsearch



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