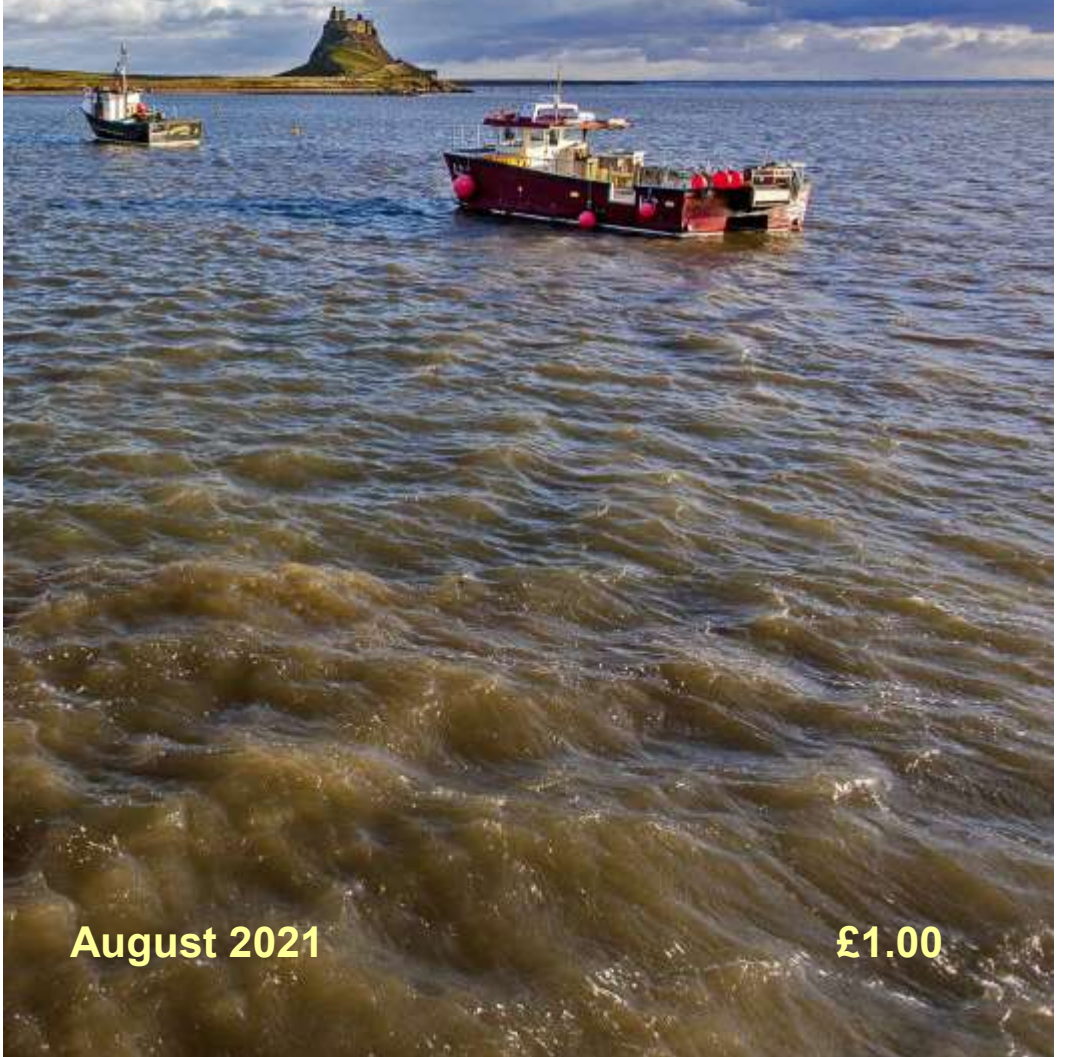


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[martin.fletcher@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:martin.fletcher@leeds.anglican.org)

**ASSISTANT CURATE**

Revd. Paul Sunderland    1 Wathcote Place, Richmond    07989 178196  
[paul.sunderland@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:paul.sunderland@leeds.anglican.org)

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**READER**

Mr Scott Lunn    01748 826895    2 Hurgill Road    [slunn@richmondschool.net](mailto:slunn@richmondschool.net)

**PASTORAL ASSISTANT**

Mrs Jennifer Patrick    850693    1 Roper Court, Richmond

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Mrs Jennifer Patrick    850693    Dr Sheila Harrisson    822059

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

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

<u>Mayor's Warden</u>	Dr Peter Trewby	824468	24 Hurgill Road
<u>Rector's Warden</u>	Mrs Jan Jack	07725 574188	<a href="mailto:jjackuk@gmail.com">jjackuk@gmail.com</a>
<u>Warden Emeritus</u>	Mr David Frankton	823531	8 Allans Court
<u>Director of Music</u>	Mr Chris Denton	07817 386070	<a href="mailto:chrisjdenton@gmail.com">chrisjdenton@gmail.com</a>
<u>Bell Captain</u>	Mrs Susan Welch	823700	8 Maple Road
<u>Head Verger</u>	Mr Leonard Scrafton	824106	14 Pilmoor Close

**Temporary Parish Administrator**

Jeanette Sunderland    07394 947819    [admin@richmondhudswellparish.org.uk](mailto:admin@richmondhudswellparish.org.uk)

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

<u>Lay Chair</u>	Dr Peter Trewby	824468	24 Hurgill Road
<u>Secretary</u>	Sharon Digan	07791 426659	
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**N.B. Public worship has resumed, subject to Diocesan distancing & music guidelines. Please continue to check the web-site regularly for up-to-date details. Some weekday services are still suspended**

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

8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	Every Sunday from 2nd May
10.00 a.m.	Parish Communion Worship for All	Every Sunday apart from 3rd Sunday (including communion) Every 3rd Sunday
4.00 p.m.	Café Church Fun-Key Church	3rd Sunday (every 2 mths—Jan, March etc) Last Sunday each month
6.30 p.m.	Choral Evensong Free to Be	Second Sunday each month 3rd Sunday (every 2 mths—Feb, April etc)
9.15 a.m.	Holy Communion	Every <u>Wednesday</u>
10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion	Every Thursday Holy Trinity Chapel, Market Place

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

**CHURCH OFFICERS**

<u>Reader</u>	George Alderson	68, Brompton Park, Brompton on Swale DL10 7JP	07487 257646
<u>Church Warden</u>	Mrs Jean Calvert	823001 Thorpe Farm, Reeth Road, Richmond	
<u>Organist</u>	Alastair Lunn	2 Hurgill Road, Richmond	
<u>Church Treasurer</u>	Phil Ham	'Sundale', Reeth, DL11 6TX	
<u>PCC Secretary</u>	Rev Jennifer Williamson	824365	<a href="mailto:rev.jenny1@btinternet.com">rev.jenny1@btinternet.com</a>

**CHURCH SERVICES AT DOWNHOLME**

<b>9.30 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Every second Sunday</b>
<b>9.30 a.m.</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Every fourth Sunday</b>

**THE PARISH OF ST EDMUNDS, MARSKE**

**CHURCH OFFICERS**

<u>Church Warden</u>	Mrs Ruth Tindale	823371	Skelton Lodge, Marske
<u>Organist</u>	Mrs Jennifer Wallis	822930	1 School Terrace, Marske
<u>Treasurer</u>	Mr Peter Coates	07801521954	Orgate Farmhouse, Marske <a href="mailto:peter.coates54@hotmail.co.uk">peter.coates54@hotmail.co.uk</a>
<u>PCC Secretary</u>	Rev Jennifer Williamson	824365	<a href="mailto:rev.jenny1@btinternet.com">rev.jenny1@btinternet.com</a>

**CHURCH SERVICES AT MARSKE**

<b>11.00 a.m.</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>Every Sunday except 2nd (&amp; 5th) Sunday</b>
<b>11.00 a.m.</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	<b>Every 2nd (&amp; 5th) Sunday</b>

## EDITORIAL from [stmarys.maged@gmail.com](mailto:stmarys.maged@gmail.com)

The demands of printing deadlines mean that this is being written before we know the full details of the considerable easing of lockdown measures which have been heavily trailed before the formal announcement day. From a national point of view, decisions on masks and distancing seem to be being passed on to individuals and organisations rather than the subject of legislation. In the case of our churches, striking a sensible and wise balance is being left with the church at national level and individual PCCs and how they interpret any advice given. And all of this at a time when infection rates are rising rapidly in many parts of the country. So, as we are unable to offer clear information through the pages of this magazine, can I ask that you keep in touch with developments through our website if you are an IT user, through the pew sheet or through keeping in touch with others in the church community who are 'in the know?'

Leadership of large, disparate groups of people is not an easy role. We must pray that those who have to take decisions are given the strength to do the right thing rather than the easy thing. 'Not for ease, that prayer might be, but the steep and rugged pathway may (they) we tread rejoicingly.'

However, one of the positives from the trailers is the possibility of some of the midweek church activities resuming. I took over the editorial role in February 2020 when there were nearly three pages of 'happenings' associated with the church—bible study groups, Little Rainbows, the knitting group, discussion groups, the Happy Bodgers, FunKey Church, choir, to name but a few. As the pandemic took hold, these groups had to disappear from view so it was good to hear Martin say that there is a desire to restart some of these groups soon—a welcome return.

For your delectation and delight this month, there is more behind-the-scenes snippets from Pat White, a well-used retirement from John Clarke (do visit Seven Stories if you haven't already), more history from Jane Hatcher, easy walking from William Gedye, and how art, books and an unused retail unit are being used to support a charity which is focussed on supporting a particular need in our own area of Richmondshire. Oh, and a gentle reminder about magazine subscriptions!

The month of July saw the ordination of Paul to the priesthood, a significant event in his life. The past year has gone quickly and it has been a delight to have Paul and Jeanette (and Ralf) with us and to see them both putting so much energy and care into the parish and the town community—not to mention the makers of lemonger pie at one of our local butcher's.

*Jim Jack*

Thanks for cover photo by Ian Short—Lindisfarne Castle on Holy Island in Northumberland



## A Letter According to Paul - Curate not Saint



August! Where has the year gone? I resist the urge to say, “Down the pan”. The year so far has been one of ups and downs, and these ups and downs are varied and have affected individuals very differently. August, for some, spells a time of long sunny days, baking in the heat, or like me, burning. Summer in the Sunderland household often means eating too much and maybe one or two swift halves sat outside one of Richmond’s many fine hostelries. I have my favourites, as I expect you do. The best pub is less about the beer, the view from the garden or even the amazing rabbit pie, and everything about the feeling of welcome.

As a child, I could name the fun places we visited on holiday, the places that I felt at home through the foods that we ate there. Robin Hood’s Bay was definitely fish and chips from the chippy at the bottom of the very steep hill. Scarborough was the large ship shaped bowl of ice cream eaten looking out to sea at the end of a very long walk, and Flamborough was the giant mussels, dripping with vinegar in the bay after a trek across the cliffs. I don’t remember a cloud in the sky or a dodgy green chip in any of those long summer memories, and the memories will stay with me forever—just as will the feeling of indigestion after eating way too much ice cream.



The United States was one holiday I remember vividly. The food was bigger, the sun was hotter, and everything came with fries! We went in August and the temperature was off the scale. My pale skin and ‘ginger’ hair meant that I was destined to burn, and sure enough even the sunburn was bigger, second degree burns BIG! Apart from the pain and the heat, I remembered the food. There is a theme here somewhere. The US has some pretty delicious-sounding month long celebrations for the month of August which all relate to food! National Goat Cheese Month, National Panini Month, Peach Month, and Sandwich Month.

This year’s ‘Holiday Season’ is likely to be very different, yet not all that unexpected following the last eighteen months. Those of us able to afford a trip to the

far-flung corners of God's creation, may find a trip to Scarborough or Robin Hood's Bay a more realistic getaway. Our plans, and those of our friends and families have had to change and adapt to the world around us.

We all need a break! The bible is peppered with stories about the need to stop and take stock, to stop and rest, to stop and consider what comes next and to consider the big picture.



Talking about the big picture, I have overlooked Sandwich Month! It is no surprise that August will be forever associated with sandwiches as it is believed that on August 6, 1762, the first-ever sandwich was created, at least with such a name. It was named after the Earl of Sandwich when he requested a dish involving meat between two pieces of bread.

As the story goes, he requested it as he was in the middle of a game of some sort and didn't want to interrupt it. The humble tomato sandwich just wouldn't be the same if we had to call it 'a sliced tomato bread and butter thingy'. It just doesn't have the same ring!

A sandwich wouldn't be a sandwich without a good loaf of bread. A bloomer, tiger loaf, a balm cake, a cob, a bread cake. In some local shops, you will get a strange look if you ask for bread cakes, and you will be given something with currants in!?!?

Bread has a historic connection with the month of August. On August 1st, Lammis Day is celebrated as the first day of harvest in the UK. Traditionally, it was the day in which harvested wheat would be baked into bread and given to the church. The bread was used as the Communion bread for a special communion service to celebrate the beginning of the harvest. This tradition officially ended when Henry VIII broke away from the Catholic Church. Such a shame!



The celebration of Holy Communion in the churches of Richmond, Downholme and Marske is at the heart of what we are. The words of the service tell us that 'on the night before Jesus died, he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised God. He broke the bread, gave it to his disciples and said: 'Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.' These words elevate the humble bread cake to an importance which is outside of our understanding.



All are Welcome to St Mary's.

All are Welcome to the Lord's Table.



*'Come to this table, not because you must, but because you may. Not because you are strong, but because you are weak.*

*Come, not because any goodness of your own gives you a right to come, but because you need mercy and help.*

*Come, because you Love the Lord a little and would like to Love him more.*

*Come, because he loves you and gave himself for you.'*

Like your favourite pub or café, your favourite shop or art gallery, look past the beauty of the building, the shimmering colours of the intricate stained-glass windows, that smell that you only get in church—the smell of old wood, candles and fresh flowers. Look past the Rector and the Curate in their robes of office. These things are part of the experiences that we have when we come together as a Church Family, but are far from the only things that we should focus on. Instead, Look to the Welcome that you receive at the door or at the Communion Table.

All are Welcome. You are Welcome! Come and receive the Bread of Life.

*Paul*

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

Although, at the time of writing, there are now-familiar restrictions in place in terms of worship in church, it seems likely that a number will be lifted by August. However, as is pointed out in the editorial, the church will still be exercising caution in this matter, so please keep in touch with our decisions about masks, distancing, sanitising via the web-site or church informed church contacts as to how they affect services.

However, the COVID experience shows us the value to some of **on-line access through Zoom, Dial In or You Tube**. We are still offering this plus Deanery Compline daily at 9.00 pm online or via our Dial-In Service. Thursday Communion is however not streamed/broadcast. Log on details in previous magazines or by contacting Revd. Paul Sunderland (details on pps 4-5). And remember... the YouTube streaming has the added bonus of being a **'catch up' service**—so if you miss services or want to view them again, you'll find them on YouTube!



HOLD ON  
TO WHAT  
WHICH  
IS GOOD

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Leeds

## Charity of the Month: August 2021

### Macmillan Cancer Support—Macmillan Nurses



Regular readers will know that this, being an odd-numbered month, is one in which we seek to offer a one month focus on a key charity in our area.

This month's charity appeal is supporting the work of Macmillan Nurses, the well-known national organisation. It is well-respected for the work of its

staff in supporting individuals and families to handle life which is affected by a family member experiencing treatment for one of the range of cancers which are prevalent in our society.

The Macmillan charity can support people at any stage of the experience of cancer, ranging from advice and support to newly diagnosed patients through to end of life care. Through donations received, there are currently more than 3,500 Macmillan nurses throughout the UK. Their support can be medical, practical and/or emotional dependent on need.

The care offered is often palliative i.e. alleviating and dealing with the effects of living with cancer and could thus go on for a considerable amount of time. It may become end of life care but this is by no means the only role which the Macmillan nurses play.

**FOUNDING THE MACMILLAN CHARITY:** it was set up in 1911 by Douglas Macmillan from Castle Cary in Somerset, the seventh of eight children. The experience of witnessing and supporting his father, William, through illness and death caused by cancer left a deep impression on Douglas. A civil servant with no medical background, he founded the Society for the Prevention and Relief of Cancer with a donation of £10.00. In these pre-NHS days, he wanted to see 'homes for cancer patients throughout the land, where attention will be provided freely or at low cost, as circumstances dictate' and to have 'panels of voluntary nurses who can be detailed off to attend necessitous patients in their own homes.' Douglas managed the charity himself whilst working full time. The first full-time paid member of staff was engaged in 1930. The organisation won support and flourished, becoming one of the largest charities in the UK, known today as Macmillan Cancer Support.

**DONATIONS:** If you would like to donate, the back of church August collection baskets/boxes are one means of doing so. Otherwise, a cash or cheque donation in an envelope marked 'Macmillan Nurses' to the parish office at the Rectory or a donation via Macmillan Cancer Support website will ensure that your contribution reaches the right place.

*The Charitable Giving*

## LOYAL DALES VOLUNTEERS

In this series of articles, we have concentrated on organisations which serve our local area by giving time freely. It may have been to work in the library or the new Information facility in the Market Hall; on the Little White Bus or as a local volunteer for Homestart. But there are also other, much smaller organisations with small numbers of volunteers, which are set up at times of great sadness and in memory of a particular individual.

Watching television often gives such 'personal name-based' charities a national profile. Out of the illness, suffering or tragedy of an named individual comes a determination from those close to them to raise funds or give support to other individuals and families who are travelling the same road or may be forced to do so in the future. Trusts like the Anthony Nolan charity which was set up to help others looking for stem cell donors precisely because Anthony's family found this potential life saving process almost impossible to access for him; or campaigning trusts like the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, set up when she inexplicably disappeared whilst doing her job and her suspected murder remains unsolved to this day.

But we also hear of many charities set up in memory of an individual whose express purpose is to offer practical support in the area in which that individual lived. The **PAUL CURRAN CELEBRATION TRUST** is one such trust.

In such a beautiful and historic town such as Richmond which offers so much to visitors and locals, one of the sadnesses is to walk along King Street , one of the main access routes to the famed, large, cobbled market place, and to see empty shops and tired fascias . How do those businesses offering local services with some vibrant ideas tempt people to stop and look when there are empty shop spaces round about them. Specialists retailers, like jewellers, survive; other newer businesses with new ideas (e.g. Out of the Box) sadly rise and fall. However, in recent months, some units have been filled, giving a more active feel to the street. But the big splash of colour and interest came from a short term pop-up art gallery!



Established in support of the Paul Curran Celebration Trust and run un by Paul's parents with a very small team of volunteers, people entering the town centre have been tempted to stop, look and enter by a colourful and interesting display of art work, a wide selection of pre-loved books and craft items for sale.

Every item for sale has been donated and the offer of temporary retail premises, initially for July but happily now extended to September, has meant that a varied selection of items has had an established home for a while. Other than the use of other premises in the town a few years ago, this fund-raising enterprise has relied on market stall and one off appearances—always useful for raising profile and revenue for the time the stall is there but with the attendant effort of setting up, clearing up and storing a wide range of stock.

The driving forces behind this charitable retail work are Linda and Martin Curran, both active in other community and charity work in the town but with a particular focus on running the Paul Curran Celebration Trust.

They first established the trust in 2002 on the sad death of their son, Paul, who finally succumbed to the damage wrought by the disease Friedreich's Ataxia.. This rare disease causes progressive damage to the nervous system and also increasing movement and mobility problems. Usually beginning in childhood, it leads to impaired muscle co-ordination (ataxia) which worsens over time. Named after German doctor, Nikolaus Friedreich who first described the condition in the 1860s, the disease gradually attacks many functions of the body, ultimately leading to confinement to a wheelchair and perhaps complete incapacity. However, one of the areas that the disease does not appear to attack are thinking and reasoning, meaning—much like motor neurone disease—the sufferer has a continuing awareness of the losses of function being experienced.

In supporting and nursing Paul through the disease until his all-too-early death in 2002, Linda and Martin became acutely aware of the amount of specialised equipment and support needed to ease the difficulties of both sufferer and carers, especially in the later stages of the disease, which has no known cure.

In setting up the Trust, and learning from their own voluntary work in the area, the Currans resolved that a trust to celebrate Paul's life would support children and young people up to the age of 30 who have any form of disability. They also decided that the scope of the charity should be confined to Richmondshire alone.



**Donated art work  
for sale at the  
Gallery**



**Nikolaus Friedreich  
1825-1882**



The support can extend to aid dependants and carers and applications can be made on behalf of those who would benefit by third parties e.g. teachers, health professionals, social workers. In 2017, the Currans took the significant step of setting up a formal registered charity, registered with the Charity Commission and making the Paul Curran Celebration Trust a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

This is to secure the long term future of the charity so that it outlives the founders and continues its good work in the district.

And what of this latest venture? There is deep gratitude for the temporary use of the premises. The display and stock has attracted people in increasing numbers as the month has progressed to view the pop-up Gallery. Linda, Martin and their volunteer team have an impressive £10,000 target to fund accessible play equipment in play parks in Richmondshire as well as continuing the work of giving grants to children and young people who have special needs or disabilities.

Linda and Martin are keen to add to their art offer and would welcome donations of any artwork you may care to give, especially of Richmond and the local area. They would also love to see you visit the Gallery to view the extensive range of artwork, books and craft works on offer. The success of the venture so far is that over £5,000 has been raised towards their target.

The Gallery is staffed wholly by volunteers and is open from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 pm Tuesdays to Saturdays, 11.00 a.m to 3.00 p.m. on Sundays, an arrangement which they hope will continue at least through August. This backs up their on-going commitment to running a bookstall in the Market Place every Sunday from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m on Sundays—fair weather only!

We wish them well in their venture and commitment to improve the lives of those young people in our local community who are not blessed with good health and have problems in accessing those things which others can use as a matter of course. – another step on the road to greater inclusivity in our society. JEJ

### **THE PAUL CURRAN CELEBRATION TRUST**

For further information and to support the charity, please contact at

10, Parkinson's Yard, RICHMOND, DL10 4JB

or by email [paulcurrancelebrationtrust1@gmail.com](mailto:paulcurrancelebrationtrust1@gmail.com)

or just drop into the Gallery to browse, chat, give or buy. (Reg. charity 1176013)

## All in the month of August

**250 years ago**, on 7<sup>th</sup> August 1771, that the first recorded ascent of Ben Nevis was made. Scottish botanist James Robertson ascended Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in the British Isles. Nowadays, 100,000 people per year make the ascent.

**125 years ago**, on 17<sup>th</sup> August 1896, that the death of the first person killed in a motor accident in the UK took place. Bridget Driscoll was crossing a road in the grounds of London's Crystal Palace when she was hit by a car giving demonstration rides.

**90 years ago**, on 19<sup>th</sup> August 1931, that the Yangtze River and Huai River floods peaked in China. Up to 4m people died, and the floods lasted from July to November.

**80 years ago**, on 15<sup>th</sup> August 1941, that the German spy Josef Jakobs became the last person to be executed at the Tower of London.

**75 years ago**, on 16<sup>th</sup> August 1946, that the Great Calcutta Killings took place in Kolkata India. Muslim and Hindu mobs rioted across the city following the Muslim League's demand for the creation of Pakistan. More than 4,000 people were killed and 100,000 left homeless. The riot sparked further religious violence in other provinces, leading to the Partition of India in August 1947.

**60 years ago**, on 13<sup>th</sup> August 1961, that East Germany sealed off the border between East and West Berlin to prevent the exodus of refugees to the West. construction of the Berlin Wall began on 15<sup>th</sup> August. The border reopened in 1989.

**50 years ago**, on 9<sup>th</sup> August 1971, that Northern Ireland introduced internment, the power to detain suspected terrorists indefinitely without trial.

**40 years ago**, on 25<sup>th</sup> August 1981, that the US space probe Voyager 2 reached Saturn and sent back images and data. 43 years after launching, it is more than 11.8 billion miles from earth, but remains operational.

**30 years ago**, on 6<sup>th</sup> August 1991, that the first website (info.cern.ch) went live. The web's inventor, Tim Berners Lee, also posted a description of the World Wide Web project on the alt.hypertext newsgroup.

**Also 30 years ago**, from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August 1991, that there was an attempted coup in the Soviet Union when hard-line members of the Communist Party tried to seize control from President Mikhail Gorbachev. The coup failed after three days and eventually led to the collapse of communism and the disintegration of the Soviet Union.

**25 years ago**, on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 1996, that Saudi Arabian-born terrorist Osama bin Laden issued a fatwa entitled *A Declaration of War Against the Americans Occupying the Land of the Two Holy Places*. Few people knew who he was at the time, and it received little attention.

**20 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2001**, that US President George W Bush received a daily briefing that warned Osama bin Laden was determined to strike in the USA. (This was six weeks before the 9/11 terrorist attacks.)

## A TIME OF MY LIFE

Growing up in Newcastle upon Tyne in the 50s and 60s, I knew the Ouseburn (or the 'burn' as we called it) as a rather uncared for and, in its lower reaches, dirty stream as it made its way down to the Tyne. It certainly was not a 'go to' place to visit. However, particularly in its lower reaches, the area has been transformed—starting with a community farm for Byker, cleaning out the river and resurrecting or demolishing old warehouses and factories.

Tucked away at 34 Lime Street is a place well worth visiting—either on your own but ideally joined by the enquiring minds and shining eyes of your young children or grandchildren, for here you will find a seven storied building called 'Seven Stories' - a national centre for children's books which has attracted the active support of many well known children's authors.

Sitting in the St Mary's congregation is a man who was seeking a new interest and activity as he approached retirement from his professional role.. JOHN CLARKE tells the story of how a time of his life when a sought-after challenge using his architectural and management skills became a contribution to a significant centre for inspiring young people to read, to write, to enjoy books. Thank you, John, for sharing your look back at this time of your life.

Retirement is a strange thing. Sometimes it is a long term plan, sometimes it just seems to be the right thing to do. At my last work review, as my hand hit the door handle, I heard myself saying, 'what about early retirement?' with the reply that it was entirely up to me, as long as I finished the piece of work I was carrying out. I was also assured I could do this either in Winchester, where I was working at the time or return to God's Own Country.

The work was finished a couple of years later, when proper retirement set in. I could follow up various hobbies, but felt that I still had useful skills to be offered in the business world. In conversation, I mentioned this to my past chairman, with whom I still had a link, who put me in touch with Business in the Arts and after a very short time, I was approached by a new organisation calling themselves 'The Centre for the Children's Book'.

The organisation had grown out of the annual Newcastle Children's Book Festival. The two founders, Mary Briggs OBE (primary education specialist) and Elizabeth Hammill OBE (children's writer), were educators involved in children's literature who set up the charitable company in 1997. They were looking for premises in which to begin their adventure in reading books with children of all ages; to be transported to new and different places through reading.



Elizabeth Hammill

I was to have no responsibilities for the design of the building but was to work with them as the professional client which is essential for work on this scale, when the client has little knowledge of the instruction of construction professionals. And so my association with Centre for the Children's Book, now called Seven Stories, began. Gradually a board of trustees was assembled, covering all the important professionals plus the Arts Council, Newcastle City Council, The British Library together with important publishers and authors which continued to support the establishment of such a prestigious scheme within the north east.

As I was appointed trustee, my first role was to work with Mary to find and then to advise on the purchase of a suitable building in which to undertake our activities. An amusing story, at my expense: As I was appointed a trustee, at my first board meeting, I was seated with a very pleasant man with easy conversation. Afterwards I enquired who he was: 'Oh' came the reply 'That's Philip Pullman'



**Philip Pullman**

There were 35 buildings in total to view and discuss, one of which was Jesmond Dene House before it became the smart restaurant with rooms. At the time it was owned by Newcastle City Council and was a home for young offenders! What a change. An interesting story which Mary and I were told about the building was that it was the venue for a business meeting, held in the main hall where the Imperial Japanese Navy was instructing Armstrongs and other ship builders from the north east on their requirements for a major battle fleet to be built to fight the Russians. High up in a minstrels' gallery were British spies noting all the conversations which were taking place and transmitting the information to London.

The outcome was the battle of Tsushima Strait in 1905 when the Russians were truly beaten into surrender.

Although we had originally wanted a new, purpose-built building, that was proving to be too expensive. Eventually we found an old flax mill in the Ouseburn Valley, just before the Ouseburn enters the Tyne by an old Roman crossing. It was an impressive seven storey, Grade II Listed building set in an area which was designated for regeneration with a distinctive cultural quarter.



**Seven Stories building from the Ouseburn side**

The owner had been given the mill by Vanessa Redgrave, a well known socialist activist as well as an actress. She paid local redundant miners and ship builders to



re-point the building – who did not have the skills to make a decent job of it. The mill had become far too large for his requirements, especially with the mechanisation of printing techniques therefore, all he required was a ‘tin shed’ on a small industrial estate; so he wished to sell.

True to his values, he did not want to make a huge profit but sold it to the Centre for the Children’s Book, who purchased it with part of the £2.5m pledged by Newcastle City Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Arts Council and so many more. The building became the home of Seven Stories, so named because of the number of floors and especially since seven is a magic number within children’s stories. A place where we could let our imagination go beyond the page.



**Modern entrance to Seven Stories**

During the search for a building and the later development, Seven Stories continued to grow in a small office close to the Ouseburn, where exhibitions were planned and taken to local schools and libraries, just waiting for the time when they could be offered from their very own building and gaining a national reputation for excellence within education. Meanwhile, we were also fundraising having a target of £5.5m which eventually rose to £7.5m, but we achieved it. Fundraising entailed putting on even more fabulous exhibitions at the Discovery Museum and other venues within Newcastle, enabling us to identify our space and brief requirements for our building.

The exhibitions and programmes are too numerous to mention, but but a few highlights are:

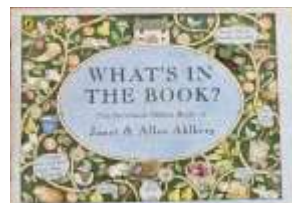
‘We’re going on a Bear Hunt’ with Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury.

‘Over the Hills’ and Far Away by Kim Lewis a road show about a Northumberland sheep dog.

‘Horrid Henry’ @ Seven Stories ‘Keep Out’

‘Messing about by the River from Toad Hall to Pooh Corner’

What’s in a Book? A marriage of words and pictures by Janet and Allan Ahlberg.



**Covers from some of John’s promotional literature for events at Seven Stories**

There were lots more, including a touring exhibition of J K Rowling's Harry Potter. The first one was a small glass cabinet exhibition of a draft manuscript with hand written alterations and pen and ink drawing by J K Rowling. Seven Stories had to insure it for £1m and the security guards had to sleep in the van as it was transported overnight from somewhere in Scotland.

My personal favourite exhibition was 'Daft as a Bucket' – the inside world of Colin McNaughton, which was the first at the Discovery Museum in 1988, which broke all records at the Museum.. One little ditty was:

*Monday's child is red and spotty,  
Tuesday's child won't use the potty,  
Wednesday's child won't go to bed,  
Thursday's child will not be fed,  
Friday's child breaks all his toys,  
Saturday's child makes an awful noise,  
And the child that is born on the seventh day  
Is a pain in the neck like the rest, OK!*

Although the mill was a brilliant choice, it was felt a little more space was required for the planned ground floor activities and it became possible to buy the crisp distribution factory just next door, giving us exactly what we wanted. The upper levels of the mill were filthy having been the roosting place for many Newcastle pigeons over many years. Whilst I was fully aware of the insanitary conditions, I had no idea how dangerous it could be. On one occasion, a young architect was looking around but happened to rub his eye during the visit. He spent the next few days in hospital with concerns about his sight.

The Grand Opening took place on 19 August 2005, the ceremony being performed by the Children's Laureate, Jacqueline Wilson, followed by the launch festival with authors, illustrators and performers including local boy, David Almond.

Following the success of Seven Stories, Newcastle University created a Children's Literature Unit in conjunction with them. Seven Stories also achieved national recognition and accreditation to Museum Status. Later, after serving on several committees, I was delighted to become chairman and I continue to have links with this very special literary centre and its building.

*John Clarke*



**Long-service certificate**

## LIVING OVER THE 'SHOP'

Last month, PAT WHITE, gave us a 'behind the scenes' look at some of the more unusual situations in which she found herself on occasions as wife of the Rector. Motorbikes, Green Howards and a 'Gentleman of the Road' were some of the situations with which she recalled last month from her time as 'the rector's wife' here at St Mary's for over 20 years.

In this concluding part, Pat recalls a quirky curate, the family dog, an unusual Sunday school space, sock washing for visitors—all and more experienced whilst living 'over the shop.'

Curates came and went but one was never to be forgotten. He was an elderly American and extremely eccentric. He was single and lived in the curate's house on the Wynd. The property was fairly basic and not the luxury house it is today. Robert had ideas of grandeur and called the house 'the American Embassy'. He had writing paper suitably headed which did not go down well with the American Embassy when he invited them to an American Independence Day celebration at his house. He invited all the parish, together with the mayor and other grandees of Richmond. With no instructions, I was expected to produce some food. There were queues all up the Wynd which fortunately gradually disappeared as it was realised that breakfast was not going to appear.

Robert also insisted on having a grand meal for Thanksgiving. These were held in the Parish Rooms in Dundas Street. The ladies were expected to produce the turkey and all that went with it, not forgetting the pumpkin pie. After two such events the ladies had had more than enough and refused to cooperate. Robert's eccentricity went from difficult to more difficult and he was moved to a Leeds parish where he only lasted a few months.



**A typical American Thanksgiving Day meal—though not at the Parish Rooms!**

During our time at the Rectory we always had a dog. Vickie knew when it was evening time and waited patiently to be taken across to Church and sit in the reading desk. Thus she was very accustomed to Church and this led to one or two incidents which I had to sort out. On one lunch time I returned from work to find nobody at home and no dog. I knew there was a funeral which alerted me to where Vickie had gone. I rushed to Church, looked through the little window in time to see Christopher, James Blenkiron and Vickie leading the procession, with the mourners following behind. I had quick thoughts and rushed round to the south side, hid behind a gravestone and discreetly whistled.

She immediately came to me, much to Christopher's relief as he was going in the hearse to the crematorium. Fortunately, the mourners were all dog lovers and found the whole incident a relief to their sad emotions.

Although I worked from Richmond as a social worker, our roles did not often overlap except on one occasion when I was involved with a young family where the father had died. Christopher took the funeral, I was assisting the family and Richard (our eldest son) had a holiday job with Harrisons, the undertaker, and made the coffin.!!! Confidentiality was the of essence on that occasion and on all others.

Our daughter, Catherine, was an Art student but during holidays she did most of her work in her bedroom. We had paint everywhere and, in desperation, we acquired an old caravan to act as a studio. Tony Dykes "volunteered" to bring this caravan to the back of the Rectory. Tony describes the experience of bringing a delapidated caravan down Church Wynd and into the back of the Rectory as one of the most terrifying experiences of his life. It was an experience he never wanted to repeat.

In due course, the Art degree was accomplished but another use was found for the caravan. It became the Sunday School! The children met in Church and walked up to the then parish rooms in Dundas street and returned to Church for the final hymn, considerable walking in all weathers for small children. The caravan was far more accessible and for some long time it replaced the parish rooms as an exciting Sunday School. I have very fond memories of that ancient van. It eventually sold and finished its life on a building site.



**Former Parish Rooms, Dundas Street, now offices**

The Church of England Primary school was still functioning in the Wynd and sadly a lot of debris from the school found its way into what we called the bottom garden. It was an eyesore and, surprisingly, the Diocese agreed to invest in hiring a big machine to clear out what had become a jungle. Predictably the machine stuck in the mud, stayed there all winter until the spring when the ground had dried out sufficiently for work to begin. We were able to convert the whole area into four allotments where prize roses were grown, much fruit and many vegetables. The Diocese successfully applied for planning permission for a house on this site but, in deference to ourselves, the house was not built until we left.

My reputation and that of Freda Dykes was made on one very cold Sunday in January. The Amnesty International Committee in Richmond had organised the very talented youth orchestra to give an evening concert in Church with a rehearsal in the afternoon. No plans had been made to feed these hungry young people and their

We had lots of dried rice and onions, pints of milk from neighbours and frozen peas and with much ingenuity we were able to produce a hot casserole for over 30 students. Freda had uneaten Christmas cake and so we were able to produce a much needed nourishing meal and shelter and warmth in the Rectory. Feeding the Five Thousand somehow seemed appropriate.

Church central heating was always unpredictable and especially it seemed to break down when there was a concert. On more than one occasion, I returned to the Rectory during an interval and gathered bundles of blankets, before the days of duvets, in order to persuade people to stay to the end of the concert. It usually worked.

Life was never dull. One weekend, a group of young people from another Church were walking the coast to coast and camping out in the parish rooms. They asked if I could wash their socks! I could only oblige by soaking them in several changes of water in the kitchen sink. There were dozens of pairs and being thick wool I didn't dare to use the washing machine. I can't remember where I dried them all. Perhaps it was a good day but I did leave it to them to pair them all up.

And so it goes on. All of these little silhouettes are a reflection of some of the things that happened in my time. There are lots more of them—but enough is enough. I am reassured by your Editor that ancient memories before the days of computers will be of interest and especially to those of you who are old enough to remember some of these times.



**Former primary school building, now a private dwelling**

*Pat White*

-o000o-



## **Baptism**

**We welcome those who have joined the church through baptism**



4th July

Kane Dickman



*'Baptism is the door of the spiritual life and the gateway to the sacraments.'*

*(Thomas Aquinas)*

## POWERFUL POETRY

You may recall that, last month, we published a poem called 'Crabbit Old Woman' which JUDITH BARBER had come across. The poem has been circulated in various formats and guises. However, a nurse called Liz Hogben was moved to pen her own reply which was published some years later. As you read it, you may well see a relevance not only to the 'Crabbit Old Woman' poem which led to this reply but also to the work of care and nursing staff today.

What do we see, you ask, what do we see?

Yes, we are thinking when looking at thee!

We may seem to be hard when we hurry and fuss,

But there's many of you, and too few of us.

We would like far more time to sit by you and talk,

To bath you and feed you and help you to walk.

To hear of your lives and the things you have done;

Your childhood, your husband, your daughter, your son.

But time is against us, there's too much to do;

Patients too many, and nurses too few.

We grieve when we see you so sad and alone

With nobody near you, no friends of your own.

We feel all your pain, and know of your fear

That nobody cares now your end is so near

But nurses are people with feelings as well,

And when we're together you'll often hear tell

Of the dearest old Gran in the very end bed,

And the lovely old Dad, and the things that he said,

We speak with compassion and love, and feel sad

When we think of your lives and the joy that you've had,

When the time has arrived for you to depart,

You leave us behind with an ache in our heart.

When you sleep the long sleep, no more worry or care,

There are other old people, and we must be there.

So please understand if we hurry and fuss -

There are many of you, and so few of us

## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

### Look out for the return of after service refreshments!! Can you help, please?

After-service refreshments, with the fellowship that goes with it, is an important part of the life of St Mary's. Following all the problems the pandemic has caused it is hopefully time to start planning for normal life again.

There is a need to compile a rota of helpers with the refreshments after the Sunday 10.00 service.. The work involves setting up, serving and washing up.

In the past, a great many people have been involved in this, but for various reasons some are no longer able to continue. If you feel you can help please either sign up on the list at the back of Church or contact Anne Clarke 07982 658991.



### Richmondshire Choral Society Relaunch

The Choral Society, which regularly uses St Mary's as a performance venue, is starting up its activities again on 6th September with concerts planned for the Autumn and Spring.

The first, on 19 November, is for Richmond's 950<sup>th</sup> Celebrations, and the second will be to open the 50<sup>th</sup> Swaledale Festival in 2022. The music for the 950<sup>th</sup> Celebrations is Vaughan Williams *Fantasia on Christmas Carols*, Finzi's *In Terra Pax* and Rutter's *Magnificat* plus a 950<sup>th</sup> Celebration commission by choir member, Mark Harrison.

There are opportunities for new members to join the Society and be part of this concert programme. Rehearsals start on Monday 6 September in Richmond Methodist Church at 7.30pm. Please arrive from 7.00pm to register. Music will be available and new singers are given 3 weeks in which to decide to join.

The Spring 2022 concert is a performance of Handel's *Messiah* in Ripon Cathedral and will be given jointly with the Reeth-based Swale Singers.

For more information see [www.richchoral.org.uk](http://www.richchoral.org.uk) or contact Janet Hall (Chairman) on 01325 374112 [[janet.hall@finklecroft.me.uk](mailto:janet.hall@finklecroft.me.uk)] or Jan Beeton (Membership Secretary), 01748 823169 [[beetonjanet14@gmail.com](mailto:beetonjanet14@gmail.com)]

### 200 Club Winner — congratulations!

The winner of the July draw was Richard Brunskill No 155  
Our congratulations to Richard on winning the £50.00 prize

## News from the Pews (continued)

### **It's coming! It's back! It's the Plant and Produce Sale**

With the usual proviso that things may change, plans are now in place for the successful and high quality **annual Plant and Produce Sale to return from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. on Saturday 28th August.** In addition to plants, among the items to be sold

Jams Jellies Chutneys Cakes Fruit Vegetables Books CDs& DVDs Craft Items  
**Donations of items for sale on these stalls will be gratefully received. Perishables ( plants, food etc) should be brought to church on Friday, 27th August from 5 p.m.**

**Need jam jars/ Plant pots?** Anyone needing jam jars or plant pots to hold items to donate can take from those stored at the back of Church; anyone with spare empties to offer, please leave them at the back of church.

**PRIZES STILL WANTED PLEASE** for tombola, raffle/silent auction. Contact Paul Sunderland. Collection possible

**VOLUNTEERS STILL WELCOME, PLEASE** to give general assistance... Sign up on list at the back of church with you availability and contact details.

And, don't worry, the famous **BELLES CAFÉ** will operate throughout the day!

**SO, COME ON, FOLKS!** Get making your jams and chutneys, plan your baking, select your finest from allotment or greenhouse. **DONATE**, then come on the day and **SPEND** (Accepted—cashless payments! Not accepted—excuses!!)

**Susan Scrafton** will keep us in touch through the Pew Sheet and magazine.. but if you want to help in any way, please make contact. Please keep checking the website and pew sheet for up-to-date information. THANKS!

### **Keeping in Touch!**



Sandra Johnson and Brett Overin had a happy visit to Oxford on Saturday 3rd July to be part of the service which saw their son, Dan, marry Meera Patel at a college chapel ceremony.

A number of readers will remember Dan as a Gold Award chorister at St Mary's and his fine solo singing. Dan moved on from Richmond to study medicine at Oxford University where he met Meera who was following the same course. Both have now qualified and are working in the NHS. We wish them every blessing for a joyful and happy marriage.



## Christian Aid 2021—A 'Thank you'



I am pleased to report the details of all the money raised by the Richmond group during **Christian Aid Week** in May this year as follows:

Methodist Church:	£249.00 plus Gift Aid of £37.00	=	£286.00
St Francis and St Joseph Church	£204.37 plus Gift Aid of £16.50	=	£220.87
St Mary's Church	£509.00 plus Gift Aid of £40.00	=	£549.00
Just Giving page	£455.00 plus Gift Aid of £93.75	=	£548.75
<b>Grand total raised by our group</b>		=	<b>£1604 62</b>



As we can see adding **Gift Aid** where possible makes quite a difference - **£187.25 extra** onto our total. If you intended to donate and forgot, the Just Giving page has now closed. However, information on how to donate can be found on [www.caid.org.uk/globalhunger](http://www.caid.org.uk/globalhunger) about how to donate to the appeal.



Once again a huge thank you to everyone who has helped raise this money and for your continued support for Christian Aid.

*Judith Barber*

Coordinator, Richmond Christian Aid Group

### Magazine subscriptions

We're over half way through the year now and a couple of readers have contacted to check if they had paid their £10.00 subscription for the year. (They had forgotten and hadn't!) With the deliverers no longer calling to collect subs (this was stopped because of COVID), one of the things we lost was the gentle, polite reminder about payment. Also, this year, a few people elected to pay £5.00 in January with the remainder to be paid in June. If your payments are still owing, it would be a big help to sort this out before the next issue, please.

**PAYMENT:** if your payment for your 2021 subscription is still owing, could you please use one of the following methods:

i) **By Direct Bank Payment (BACS):** Payment to

**Account Name; Richmond with Hudswell (Yorks) PCC**

**Bank Sort Code: 40-38-19**

**Account No: 93005798**

**Reference: (insert your surname)+ MAG** (very important to add this)

ii) **By cash or cheque**; can be posted to Jeanette Sunderland, Acting Parish Administrator, The Rectory Office, Church Wynd, RICHMOND, North Yorkshire DL10 7AQ. **Please ensure that you include your name and address information in the envelope.** Alternatively you can hand your envelope to a churchwarden for passing on to Jeanette. Thank you for your help.

*Jim Jack (Editor)*

## No Ordinary Ordination

Paul's message for this month highlights dates of significance, including Lammas Day and National Sandwich Month. However, whilst Saturday 10th July 2021 may not be marked down for posterity in the national annals, for Paul, his family and all of his friends here in our Benefice and from his home area, the date will always have special significance. Sadly, the current Covid pandemic prevented a number of things which ordinarily form part of such an occasion — space for all who want to come to attend, social contact between Paul's home parish and our benefice here, a larger scale clergy attendance to name but a few.

But for Paul in particular, such a day will truly be extra-ordinary because of what it marks in his spiritual journey in supporting, guiding and leading a church community in its mission in the area in which it is situated. Happily, the technology at St Mary's did allow those who could not physically be there to participate in a moving and joyous service in spirit. And, of course, the service can still be viewed on YouTube long after the people and the music had left. Here are some images from that special day. Apologies for the slight blurring on the photos below: they are taken from the YouTube streaming of the service. Ed





### From the Bishop of Ripon

*A joyous day indeed! My deep gratitude for the welcome and hospitality, and all the planning that went into enabling the service to run so smoothly. Thank you all! I look forward to returning to visit when I can!*

*With my prayers and very best wishes .*

*Helen-Ann.*



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Last Sunday of Every Month ! 4.00 p.m.

Why not come and join us?

Tell your family and friends—anyone with children and invite them too.

Details on the website— [www.richmondhudswellparish.org.uk](http://www.richmondhudswellparish.org.uk)

## Poetry From Downholme— George Alderson

In June, GEORGE ALDERSON kindly took up John Pritchard's invitation to talk and answer questions at Café Church, during which he shared a number of experiences and insights from his life which have shaped his faith. Regular readers will know that, as well as being a Reader, George finds expressions of his faith through poetry, and raises some humbling matters which cause the reader to stop and think a while too. This month's piece probably helps to keep our feet on the ground—and all from lying in the bath!

### BRAIN DRAIN

When you're floating in your bath, thinking you're a polymath,  
Please remember one small thing. Did you make the songbirds sing?  
What about the humming dunes—how do they bring us their tunes?

Nature is a Delphic girl, making us seem just a churl.

When you're standing in your shower, contemplating all our power,  
Think who has the upper hand! One day you'll return to the land!  
How you use things is the key> Have you brought world harmony?

Anyone can break, destroy, vitiate! Is that your ploy?

Why not try to do some good, even in your neighbourhood?

So, while you're deep in thought, gloating at the riches bought

Using proceeds from your gifts—and before the lather drifts-

You're one member of mankind! That is what the Lord designed.

No-one is omniscient! Dry yourself—and then repent.

*George Alderson*

### Musings from Marske

Liz Kluz, our regular correspondent from St. Edmund's in Marske, is taking a well-earned holiday break this month, but look out for more fascinating tales from the dales when she returns in September.

  
"All are welcome  
in this place."



 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Leeds

## PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

It is a little while since MARK BERESFORD-PIERSE decided to withdraw from his formal preaching work in the parish, having given years of thoughtful, prayerful service in this role. It will not surprise you to learn that Mark continues to read and reflect and he is kindly willing to offer his thoughts to us as a parish through the pages of this magazine as an occasional 'correspondent'. Mark B-P recently provided these thoughts for us to share.

### God On Mute

There are times when God somehow seems close and we feel at peace, thankful for his goodness and his help. There are also times, for most of us I think, when it feels as if he's quite out of contact, worse than when the phone tells you, "Your call is valuable to us"! When this comes at a time of trouble or need, our experience is like that of Sister Monica Joan in "Call the Midwife" or, from real life, Mother Theresa, who struggled with doubt and negativity in her later years.

"God On Mute" is the title of a book which Peter Greig wrote out of the experience of God seeming to be silent when life was tough. No answers seemed to come, in spite of lots of prayer. His wife was suffering a severe and debilitating illness, which became only partly better after some time. But they both express how much they gained of God's joy and life from it, even though pain and disease themselves are not good things and not God's will for us. They discovered that it's so often in the silence and God's apparent absence, that he somehow will touch us with his presence.

There are several avenues which the book explores, not offering pat answers, but helping us to trust God, even when he seems not to be answering. One avenue is the idea that it's easy to trust him when things are rosy and he feels close, but we have to struggle a bit, and reach out, when he seems remote and of no help. If we press on, our love and our faith grow deeper. He wants nothing but the best for us, Peter Greig asserts, even though we can't answer the questions which arise about suffering.

In a strange way, the times when God seems to be on mute are fruitful times, if we stay with them. Holding in there, or perhaps letting him hold us, gives God's Spirit the chance to breath within us and perhaps to speak, though in a whisper not a shout. He longs for our fulness of life and he finds ways to give us what we need, which is, more than anything else, to know that he's there and that we are loved.

## NOTES FROM OUR PAST

Last month, we featured St James of Compostella as the 'saint of the month'. In the course of the article, the link was made between this follower of Jesus and Richmond School through the school coat of arms and seal.

This month, JANE HATCHER gives us new insights into this link and describes how the assets of St James' Chapel became the subject of Crown and Corporation attention in the 16th Century. She also offers some interesting opportunities to seek out more of the signs of times gone by in Richmond town and, indeed, in St Mary's itself.

### Richmond School and St James

In the Parish Magazine for July 2021, Jim Jack quite rightly linked the story of St James the Greater, aka St James of Compostella, with Richmond School. These days our newspapers and television news frequently have stories about some wrong-doing or other that government departments, or local government, are accused of. So I thought I would add to his tale a bit of highly dubious goings-on which happened nearly 500 years ago!

The story starts innocuously enough, indeed with medieval piety. In the late medieval period it became fashionable for wealthy people to endow what was called a chantry. This was usually in the form of a bequest in a Will, which left money to pay a priest to say Mass for the soul of a specified person, usually the founder and perhaps his wife, as it was believed that this would reduce the time their soul spent in purgatory.

Medieval Richmond had about dozen chantries, established by different people at various dates, scattered around its several churches and chapels. About eight of them were in St Mary's, each in a small area partitioned off behind screens. If you look down at floor-level in the wall near the steps leading down to the Green Howards Chapel, you can still see, half-hidden, the 'piscina' for the chantry chapel of St Anne and St Katherine founded in 1492. A piscina was a little wash basin for rinsing the chalice and paten used to celebrate the Mass. Modern-day celebrants of course do just the same, without a piscina, after Holy Communion.

One of Richmond's chantries, that of St James, had its own, quite substantial, chapel in what is still called St James Chapel Wynd which runs between Bargate and Cravengate.



St James' Chapel Wynd,  
Cravengate end

The site was chosen to provide somewhere for travellers, entering or leaving Richmond by the Green Bridge, to pop in and either give thanks for having had a safe journey, or to pray that the one on which they were embarking would pass without accident. Nothing can be seen there of the chapel today, though its traceried east window was discovered and sketched in 1828, and a small doorway, discovered in 1939, was set into the wall of the new school building which is now the offices of Richmondshire District Council.



**Doorway framework in Mercury House wall**



So that takes us to our present-day local authority, but it was its predecessor, Richmond Corporation, which was guilty of dubious goings-on concerning the chantry of St James. The background to the she-nanigans was this. Henry VIII, having in the 1530s closed down all the monasteries and got his hands on all their assets, in the 1540s got his greedy eyes on those of the chantries. Not as well-off as the abbeys, but nevertheless with some endowments from which the priests were paid, and also some precious metals in the chalices etc.

So, like the process which had led to the dissolution of the monasteries, Henry again sent out teams of commissioners to survey the country and come back with lists of potential loot. Some of the chantries had had links with various monasteries, and so their details were already known. But others were still to be unearthed. Richmond Corporation devised a cunning plan. The remaining chantries in the town would be 'concealed' from the commissioners, and to keep the priests quiet they were promised to be paid the same salaries as they already enjoyed, so that they were not out-of-pocket and, hopefully, would not 'squeal'.

The Corporation initially got away with this, but the closure of the chantries ground to a halt when Henry VIII died in 1547. Shortly afterwards his son, Edward VI, completed the process, and now the advice in the Bible's *Book of Numbers* to 'Be sure your sin will find you out' comes into play. One William Wharton 'sneaked' to Edward VI, and legal proceedings were begun, with the Corporation saying in effect "Nuffin' to do with us Guv".



**St James' Chapel Wynd approaching Bargate entrance**

They must have had a good lawyer. Their procrastination worked for a few years until, in 1563, when Queen Elizabeth I had been on the throne for a few years, the case was finally transferred to the Assizes in York. Panic stations in Richmond!

Somewhat surprisingly, the jury found in favour of Richmond, but the Corporation lost its nerve, or maybe its corporate consciences pricked. Whichever, they petitioned the Queen to grant them a charter to build and endow, out of their ill-gotten gains, a free grammar school. She granted the charter on 14 March 1567

By no means all of the chantry 'loot' was used to build the new school in St Mary's churchyard, but the largest element of what the Corporation had misappropriated was the disused chapel of St James. Hence when the school seal was commissioned, it showed St James. He is depicted as a barefoot and bearded pilgrim, carrying a palmer's staff in his right hand and a rosary in his left. A satchel hangs from his girdle, and on his wide-brimmed hat is a scallop shell, the saint's emblem. Round the edge are the Latin words which read when impressed in wax *SIGILLUM COMMUNE LIBERE SCOLE BURGENSIIUM DE RICHMOND*, which means 'the common seal of the free school of the burgesses of Richmond'.



Great Seal of  
Richmond  
School

This seal was used as the basis for the badge of the present-day Richmond Comprehensive School.

*Jane Hatcher*

-oo0oo0oo-

## CARE ACROSS THE WORLD

The closure of the Suez Canal earlier this year due to the large container ship running aground was a salutary reminder to us all of the volume of raw materials and goods upon which many have come to rely which are transported across the world by sea. We also hear of unpaid crews stranded on vessels in different parts of the world, often working in unmonitored, poor conditions.

Also, the recent concern in Parliament which has been managed away is this country's governmental decision to forgo a manifesto promise and cut the international aid budget from 0.7% to 0.5% of our total annual spend as a nation. This is one of a number of current events which remind us that we live in an interdependent world—and just as nationally gaps in care for others are often picked up by charitable organisations, so too are international gaps. One organisation which does this for those at sea is the Mission for Seafarers

## MISSION TO SEAFARERS

This is an international Christian organisation which provides help and support to 1.5 million seafarers across the world. They work in over 200 ports in 50 countries caring for seafarers of all ranks, nationalities and beliefs. Through its Global Family of chaplains, staff and volunteers, practical, emotional and spiritual support is offered to



Caring for seafarers  
around the world



seafarers through ship visits, drop-in centres and a range of support services.

### What does the Mission offer?

**Ship-visiting:** chaplains visit hundreds of ships each day in ports around the world. They offer help, support and advice to thousands of seafarers every day in a spirit of true Christian unity and friendship.

**Flying Angel Centres:** The mission has centres in 121 ports around the world offering refreshments, recreational activities, internet, phone facilities, and the chance to spend time away from the ship. Harsh working conditions, tensions between crew members and isolation from friends and family can take their toll on seafarers, leading to depression, anxiety and loneliness. Our chaplains and volunteers are on hand to listen and to offer sympathy and advice.



**Justice and Welfare Services:** When a seafarer has not been paid, is working in substandard conditions, being bullied or has been a victim of wrongful arrest, the mission can intervene and put them in touch with professional support and legal advice.



**Communication:** centres provide Wi-Fi for email and Skype calls. We print and publish six editions of our international newspaper for seafarers, *The Sea*, each year. This newspaper features articles translated into Spanish, Russian, Chinese and other languages.

**Transport:** Many ports are located in industrial areas miles away from towns, shops and amenities. Transport for seafarers is provided to make the most of their brief time ashore.

**Care and Support:** In cases of pirate attack, shipwreck, abandonment, serious injury or bereavement, the Mission is on hand to offer whatever assistance a seafarer needs. This help may range from food to phone calls home. Our chaplains provide Christian worship services, spiritual support and opportunities for prayer and quiet reflection. They are trained to recognise and respond to signs of post-traumatic stress disorder. In the aftermath of pirate attack, shipwreck or industrial disaster they offer a caring response.

*Alexe Roberts*

## FOR ALL THE SAINTS

Our cover photo this month reminds us that 31st August is the feast day of St Aidan. Visitors to Lindisfarne off the Northumberland coast will not need reminding of the significance of three saints, whose combined work introduced and then expanded Christianity to the Northern parts of what we now know as England—Oswald, the king who invited Aidan to come to the area, Aidan himself and his well-known follower, Cuthbert, who was featured in an earlier article in this series..

But back to Aidan. His work was of great influence in its time. What do we know of him and his works?

### St Aidan—a Missionary Saint



**Statue of St Aidan outside  
The ruins of Lindisfarne  
Priory**

Unlike others who have featured in this series, little is known of the early life of Aidan of Lindisfarne. However, when he does appear 'on the scene', his life works were well chronicled by the Venerable Bede, another local religious scholar, who recorded Aidan's works as part of his famous book 'The Ecclesiastical History of the English People.'

We already know that the centre of Christian development in the North could be found on Iona, off the coast of the island of Mull, where a group of Irish monks had established a monastery under the leadership of Columba.

Move on one hundred years from these early beginnings and we find that Iona had become a major centre of Celtic Christianity, both receiving and sending monks

across Europe.

Switch our gaze from Iona to Northumbria and we find that the Christianity of earlier years had been swamped by paganism driven by the raiders and conquerors from across the North Sea and adopted by the tribes of the North which had been subjugated by the Anglo-Saxon settlers. However, the new king of Northumbria, Oswald, was determined to take back his father's throne and bring the kingdom back under his rule .

At the decisive Battle of Heavenfield, 634 AD, the Christian Oswald is said to have prayed before a wooden cross which, it was believed had been shaped from the wood of the cross upon which Christ was crucified. Here he had a vision that Columba appeared to him promising victory if his generals would be baptised. The night before battle, .



**Commemorative cross  
and church in distance,  
Battle of Heavenfield site**

they all agreed to baptism and a great victory was won.

To bring his lands back to the Christian faith, Oswald sent to Iona asking for a missionary to be an Apostle to Northumbria. However, Aidan was not the first monk selected. The Abbot of Iona first sent a rather harsh monk, Cormac, who also had some trouble with the four languages spoken within Oswald's Northumbria.

People didn't listen to him and so he made no progress in his mission of conversion. Indeed, he returned to Iona, declaring that the people were too stubborn and indeed barbarous to be converted.

Aidan is said to have been present when this depressing report was made. However, he found the courage to stand up and criticise both his fellow monk and the bishop who had sent him. Aidan is recorded to have observed that the native people of Northumbria should have been 'given the milk of simpler teaching and gradually nourished them with the word of God.' This quieter, more patient and loving approach to preaching was what led the Abbot to call upon Aidan to go to Northumbria himself— in a very real sense, to practice what he preached.

The approach to missionary work espoused by Aidan was actually how he lived his life on Iona. Known for his great gentleness, his approach is said to have encouraged his fellow monks to voluntarily extend their fasts and to spend more time in prayer and learning. Whenever he was given any money, he used it to buy the freedom of slaves or to improve the lives of the poor. Indeed, when he set out on his journey from Iona to Northumbria, some of the freed slaves followed him and were educated by him. A few became priests.

In his unassuming and gentle approach to life, Aidan refused the offer of a horse to carry him to his new life in Northumbria, preferring to walk the 220 miles. Not only did this illustrate his humility, it also meant that he encountered many people on his cross-country journey and converted and baptised people on the way.

His chosen new base was to be the offshore island of Lindisfarne. It was here that Aidan established his church and his monastery, close to the royal castle of Bamburgh. Aidan was consecrated as bishop in 635 AD at the request of King Oswald.

He set about developing Lindisfarne as a centre from which monks would go out across the North of England, evangelising, founding churches and monasteries and also acting as a 'school' for training ministers. Housed in simple wooden buildings, there was a small church, small circular dwelling huts, some workshops and a larger *communal building*.



**King (later  
Saint) Oswald**

Aidan was certainly a strong influence on King Oswald and also benefited from his support. His fame as a man of kindness and humility spread quickly and miracles were attributed to him.

On one occasion, Aidan was praying in his monastery when a pagan army attacked the nearby royal town of Bamburgh. They piled wood up against the walls and set fire to it; the smoke could be smelled on Lindisfarne. Aidan prayed for the town and its people to be saved. Legend has it that the wind changed and sent the flames and smoke towards the attackers, driving them away. Not only did this earn Aidan the title of patron saint of Northumberland, but also of firefighters!!

A simple and unassuming man, Aidan frequently received invitations from King Oswald to attend feasts, invitations often declined. However, one Easter, Aidan did attend and, as large silver platters of rich food were being placed on the table, a servant approached King Oswald to say that there was a number of people begging for alms at the gate. Without any intervention from his bishop, Oswald immediately ordered that the food should be distributed to the beggars and the silver platters also broken up and pieces of silver be given to the assembled throng. It is said that Aidan reached across to take his king's right hand and blessed him, saying 'May this hand never decay.' And it never did, so that after Oswald's death in 641 AD, the 'uncorrupted right arm' was placed in a shrine which became a place of pilgrimage, with people reporting miraculous cures from the relics.

Aidan led a frugal life, but was determined that his efforts did not die with him. To this end, he realised the importance of education and established a school to train the next generation of Christian leaders for Northumbria. He began with twelve boys who learned about the practical work of being a monk or a priest by observing and working alongside older monks. King Oswald himself worked with Aidan to help overcome language barriers by translating the language of the local people for the monks until they became proficient themselves in the local languages.

Oswald's death in 642 could have provided a challenge, but his successor, King Oswin, was an equally strong supporter of Aidan, immediately giving him a fine horse and trappings to reinforce his status as a bishop. On leaving the palace with these gifts, Aidan encountered a poor man asking for alms. Without hesitation, the bishop gave the man his horse, much to the initial consternation of his new king. However, Aidan countered his king's questioning of this act of generosity with the words 'What are you saying, Your Majesty? Is this child of a mare more valuable to you than this child of God.?' Oswin's reply was 'I will not refer to this matter again, nor will I enquire how much



**Tomb of St Aidan, St Aidan's Church, Bamburgh**

our bounty you give away to God's children.'

The same evening, Aidan had a premonition about the king's early death, which sadly came to pass shortly after when he was murdered by his cousin in Gilling. Eleven days later, Aidan too died.

His legacy was of an ever-increasing body of people who were spreading the Christian message across Northumbria and beyond. The afore-mentioned Bede praised Aidan for his charity, his learning and the simple lifestyle which he followed. At heart, he was always a missionary, seeking to preach and convert whenever and wherever he was.



**Venerable Bede**

The stag is one of the heraldic symbols of Aidan, symbolising solitude, piety and prayer. His crest is a torch—a light shining in the darkness, since Aidan is Gaelic for 'fire' or 'fiery one'. Aidan's torch was picked up by Cuthbert and other followers, seeking to live out his simple, gentle missionary life.

Many churches, schools and colleges today bear his name. For example, St Aidan's College of the University of Durham was named after Aidan of Lindisfarne. Reflecting his Irish origins, his Scottish monasticism and his ministry to the English, Aidan has been proposed as a possible patron saint for the whole of the United Kingdom.

We can appreciate some of the simple, reflective and peaceful lifestyle espoused by Aidan today by visiting Lindisfarne to look at the priory and the nearby museum and also the visitor centre in the main street or to visit the parish church with its long history and evocative carving of the burial party of St Cuthbert.

But some of the peace of the island can be best experienced by planning a visit when the tide covers the causeway and the pace of life slows. Getting away from the main village to sit on some of the quiet headlands will also give a feel for the serenity which took Aidan to Lindisfarne so many centuries ago.



**Fenwick Lawson's life-size carving in elm of St Cuthbert's body being transported to safety**



### **AIDAN'S PRAYER**

**"Leave me alone with God as much as may be.**

As the tide draws the waters close in upon the shore, make me an island,  
set apart, alone with You, God, holy to You.

Then, with the turning of the tide, prepare me to carry your presence  
to the busy world beyond, the world that rushes in on me,

Until the waters return and fold me back to you.



## WILLIAM'S WALKS

August 2021



Another do-able local walk in from William, this time in and around Catterick Village along the pretty banks of the River Swale and circuit of the lovely village Green. He assures me that this one is kind on the knees, which is an incentive for me to try this one following knee replacement surgery in early June. It's another example of how these well-researched walks, developed by Richmondshire Walking for Health, can offer us all some 'off the peg' ideas for fresh air, healthy exercise and a way of showing us parts of our immediate neighbourhood which we otherwise might not visit. Details about how to get to know of the 'Walking for Health' programme are printed at the end of this article.

### SWALE BANKS & THE GREENS

**Start/Finish** – Catterick Village Green.

**Time:** 1 Hour.

**Difficulty:** Easy. Pretty flat. Suitable for rugged pushchairs.

**Toilets and Refreshments** in Catterick Village and pubs on The Village Green.

**Ordnance Survey Map:** 302 Northallerton & Thirsk

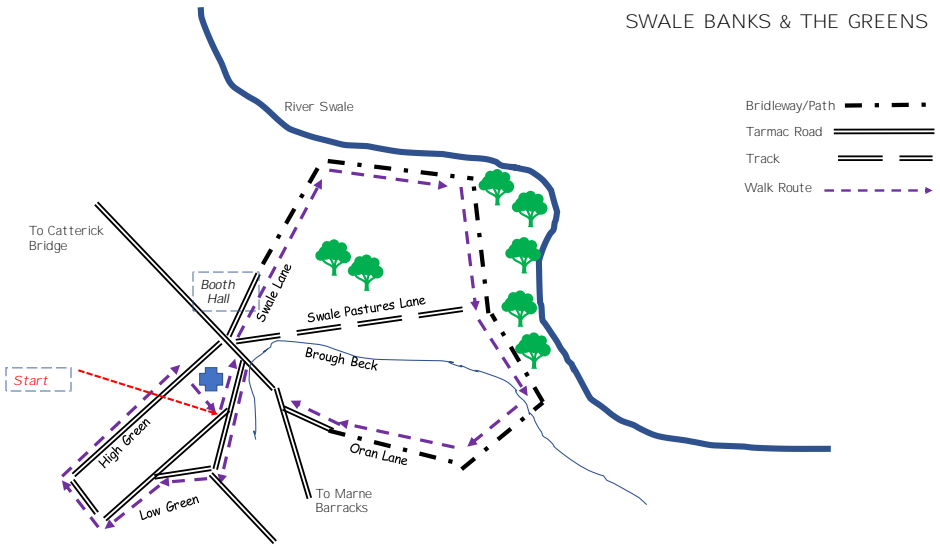
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Park on the Village Green where there is free parking and walk back to The Angel Inn. Cross the road using the Pelican Crossing and go straight down Swale Lane with The Booth Hall on your left. At the end of the Tarmac section go through the gate and along the path until you reach The River Swale.

Turn right along the riverbank noting the concrete foundations of the old RAF bridge which crossed the Swale in Wartime. Watch out for Dippers and other birds as you pass through the lovely bankside woods.

Go past the end of Swale Pastures Lane and follow the riverbank until the path leads you to the right over a farmer's bridge and across the field to the hedge line. Turn right through the new kissing gates onto Oran Lane. Follow this lane back to the main road and cross over at a convenient place.



Cross the bridge over Brough Beck and turn immediately left along the beck bank. Follow this path along the riverbank and fork right before the Oak Tree onto Low Green.

Follow this road around past The Paddock and then fork left following the road right round onto High Green passing The Manor House on the left. Keep going until you see the entry to the churchyard on your right opposite the unusual Pallet Hill. Go through the churchyard and back down to the start.



**This is a Richmondshire Walking For Health route. For more information email: [walk.for.health@btinternet.com](mailto:walk.for.health@btinternet.com) or call William on 07710 739192**

I love walking because it clears your mind, enriches the soul, takes away stress, and opens up your eyes to a whole new world.  
Claudette Dudley

Formal education teaches how to stand, but to see the rainbow, you must come out and walk many steps on your own.  
Amit Ray

A year from now, you will wish you had started today.  
Karen Lamb

## SOME UNUSUAL CORRESPONDENCE

As the readership of the magazine has grown and more people have been contributing articles, it appears that one of the 'parishioners', having featured in a piece contributed by the late Ann Simpson last year, has plucked up courage and found a means of communicating to us humans to write about the difficult circumstances in which life is led at St Mary's. in ways which remain unseen to many of us. The communication comes from the member of a large family which can be located in static positions in various parts of the church. This particular family member appears to reside near the organ and gives some insights of the perils and terrors of living so close to the Harrison organ—and its driver. Although the creature does not speak English, current organist CHRIS DENTON has lived amongst these creatures 'in the wild' and has gamely spent hours translating this letter so that it can be brought to the full attention of readers. Who knew he could play the mouse organ???

Many of you will know of me and my extended mouse family who have lived for many, many years in St Mary's. Some of us are beautifully carved into various pieces of furniture in the church and I, myself, live on part of the organ case as you will see in the accompanying photo (that's my good side, by the way). Up until recently (well, up to five years ago actually), it has provided a welcome respite from the inclement weather, pestilence and cold temperatures outside as well as providing us with the occasional crumb of food on Feast Days and other days of celebration, for which we are very grateful. In fact, we even enjoy some of the words included in your Sunday rituals (except the bit about being **unworthy** to gather up the crumbs under your table etc). So thank you and all that. This brings me on, though, to the nature of my complaint:



In the good old days we (along with our animal friends carved into the ancient misericords in the choir stalls) used to enjoy listening to the fine old organ played skilfully and harmoniously by a kindly chap who's name I cannot now recall. It was such a pleasure to hear his minims, crotchets and quavers echo graciously around our home. This happy situation has changed, however, and I can only describe the current incumbent of the organ console as a slightly deranged megalomaniac. He is someone who clearly enjoys 'layering up' the sound adding stop after stop until it feels like the roof is going to be jettisoned off into outer space.





Then the cunning old devil relaxes for a few joyful seconds of comparative calm before launching suddenly a noise that I can only describe as like an Exocet missile meeting its target.

Everyone knows that at the best of times, organists are strange creatures who lurk around after dark in cold churches, but this one is really odd. Apart from the aforementioned habits, he has even been seen carrying buckets of water which he then rather eccentrically places INSIDE said instrument.

There is more: he clearly suffers from a kind of musical Tourette's Syndrome as he will often wait until the quietest part of a service then blast out some inappropriate noise on the organ's fog horn stop. And stop it must - or we'll go on strike! It's OK for you lot - at least you can go home or put on those sound-deadening headphones you bring for the sermon (don't think we haven't noticed!) to muffle the blast. Please remember that some of us are STUCK TO THE SIDE OF THE ORGAN AND THEREFORE CANNOT MOVE! I suggest that you find this organ grinder some kind of therapy (preferably the silent kind) so that he can recover from this terrible complaint and learn to play like his predecessor.

If you agree with me please sign the anti-decibel petition I have had placed at the back of church (second toilet on the left) or alternatively please join my new organisation so we can lobby Parliament about it: the National Institution of Thinking-rodents With Intelligent Trained Shrews (NITWITS).

Yours in hope and fervent prayer,

*Annonny*



Well-known cartoon by the late Gerard Hoffnung



...just humour him - he's hoping it'll help him reach the young people in his diocese...

## TALES FROM A RECTORY GARDEN

You will recall that MISTER JACK FINNEY had gone AWOL last month, only leaving a note to say that he had a scoop story and all would be revealed. As I hopped my way down to the allotment shed, surrounded by sweet peas and ragged robin, I hacked my way through the Japanese knotweed to find the shed door open and Mister Finney tidying up after socially distanced baggins with ol' Lucky.

'What's been happening?' I asked, ears akimbo. 'Is nibs as been in another competition,' says Jack. 'Another Best Sermon?' I asked. Jack shook his head. 'Another Best Marrow?' I enquired. Jack shook his head. 'Best Humorous Tale,' says Jack. 'Did this really happen?' I asked—at which point a giant puff of smoke belched out of the tortoise stove and the answer was lost. Judge for yourselves.

Well, the postman drops a parcel off at the shed for his nibs today, him bein' out on his bike delivering the parish magazine. It turns out that it were 'is latest offer from the 'Church Times' – the 'Forty Days and Nights Recipe Book'. Well, he opens 'is package at the shed and were 'oppin mad. It were just forty blank pages!

'Ol Lucky an' me, we could see the funny side o' this, but 'is nibs blew a fuse, practisin' 'is Hebrew again, sayin' 'Ishmaelites' and 'Midianites' and 'Amonites' and words wot rhymed with them. Meanwhile, 'ol Lucky was rollin' around on 'is back with his three legs a-wrigglin and goin' 'Heh, heh.' I thought I would calm 'im down by sayin' he could use the new book to write his jokes in, 'cos he reckoned that when 'e was finished vicarin', he was gonna be a stand-up comeejan, a bit like that ol' Richard Coles.

In fact, once a year, the vicar invites his friends of the cloff for a stand-up pulpit-based comedy evening in the shed and it's always a grand do. Now the last time, it were his old pal, the Bishop of Ripon (wot sells second hand cars and lead) who came up for the evenin'. It were a bit like 'Bake Off' but with jokes.

What gave the night an extra edge was that it became a competishun with a 50% reduction in parish share if 'is nibs community parish team could beat the diocese heavyweights. Ever since the marrer competishun when 'is nibs were frozen out o' the £50 prize, he was up for anyfing what would 'elp the church accounts.

So, anyways, I gets the shed all tidy, took the bags o' manure and stuff outside and gets the old tortoise stove roarin' to mek it all cosy like. Mind, one o' the parishioners gor a bit shirty when 'e asked what e' would be sittin' on so Oi sez 'Hassocks' and e' told me not to be so rude.



Well, I fust checks that the wind is blowin' away from the vicarage, seein' as there was supposed to be a meetin' of the Yorkshire Gargoyle Society, then I chucks some fat bacon in the pan – ah, luverly! 'Course the vicar bein' a veganarian had brung his own Galilee seawed fricassee and fig crumble. The ladies allus do say, regular, once a year, that we oughter invite them inter the shed ( or Parish Rooms as it's startin' ter become!) for a Ladies Night, but the vicar points out that it would cause me a great deal o' trubble and hexpense gettin' the shed up ter the hexpectations of the Ladies Circle..I'd have ter take down me Vera Lynn poster, and the one of Lord Kitchener and turn round the dart-board with ol' railway Beeching's face on it.

Anyhows, when everyone was settled down with a bacon sandwich and a brew, the evening began. Now generally, me an ol' Hamilton from the butchers would warm the audience up with us butcher jokes, us bein' known as the Flanders and Swann o' Rosemary Lane, but 'Amilton couldn't mek it this night on account of him having something stuck in his sausage extruder. Fortunately, you all knows that ol' Lucky's got a great sense o' humour, so he stands in for ol' Hamilton as a judge and we moved straight on and the real competition began.

It were Ripon what went first and, o' course, Ripon thought they'd win 'avin a bigger church, but then we had more lead on ours. It was run a bit like the Eurofishin' singing' competishun, with the team getting the biggest laughs doorin the evenin' was the winner.



So ol' Lucky gets up on the judge's ottoman and puts on a judges hexpression. Then it were joke after joke, story after story, wiv ol' Lucky givin wuffs outa ten for a tale, dependin' on the laffs it got on the laff-ometer. Fust orf was Ripon, then Richmond, one story arter another. 'Corse each team were savin' its best 'til last. Ripon even puts up their bishop for the last round an' hit us with their best story.

'We all know that Moses were asked by God to go up Mount Sinuses. ' starts the Bishop. 'Well, when he gits ter the top, the Lord says, 'I got a coupla commandments for yer, Moses, my boy.'

Moses, a bit suspichus about there bein a catch, 'im 'havin gorn all the way up the mountain, sez to the Lord, 'How much are they?'

God sez, 'Nothin'. So Moses, quick as a flash, sez, 'In that case I'll tek ten!'

Well, everyone choked on their fat bacon sandwiches, bein as it were such a corker. People were laffin' and stampin' their sandals. Ol' Lucky turns 'is one good eye to the laffometer and starts barkin' 'is score. Lookin' very serious he goes wuff (one), wuff (two,) wuff (three) .. an then stops at five. We all looked surprised 'cos we thought it were worth more than that. But ol' Lucky had just bin watchin too much of them telly programmes wot build up the suspense like they do at the dance off on 'Strickly'... wuff (six), orl the way up to WUFF (NINE) ... an' not evena 'amilton's bone would get another wuff for a maximum.

That were it, but even so, us Richmond lot were flummoxed 'cos there were no way we could even come close to that score. It all rested on his nibs, the vicar. It were so quiet you could hear a pin drop as his nibs got on top of me upturned wheelbarrow for his last story.

Well, I must say 'e'd made an effort. He'd slipped up to the vicarage and put on his Johnny Cash suit wiv his Tommy Walsh braces ( a bargain from the '*Methodist Recorder*') so he looked the part. Takin' a sip of his green tea and senna pod cordial, he began his tale. Well, te haudience was spell bound. Hangin' onhis every word.

'Satan suddenly appeared in Richmond Market Place. Everyone ran away except this old chap, who calmly stayed sittin' on the obelisk. Satan was FURIOUS that this one person should not be afraid of him.

'Do you know who I am?' he roared. 'Yup' sez the old chap.

'Are you not SCARED of me?' he thundered. 'Nope,' sez the old chap.

'Aren't you TERRIFIED that I'm goin' to wreak havoc in your nice little town?' bellows Satan. 'Nope'

By now, steam were comin' outa Satan's ears. 'You do know who I am, don't you?' he raged.

'Should do, ' sez the old chap. 'I've been married to your sister for forty six years.'

Well, that brought the house down – speshully as he then told the same story as if it were an old woman who'd bin married to his brother for forty seven years for balance! The people was cheerin' and frowin' their crusts in the air. But then it went quiet as we all looked at ol' Lucky.

Wuff (one); wuff (two); wuff( three) .. til. He got to wuff (eight) and stopped and breathed on his claws, polishin' them on his chest. Then wuff (nine)..well, us Richmond folk were eggstatic. The vicar had beaten all of Yorkshire and got a draw wiv mighty Ripon. It were a draw! Well done vicar! We was all pattin' him on the back, an'seein another trophy to put alongside the Best Sermon cup – even it it were shared wiv Ripon, when ol' Lucky holds up his paw for silence, all serious – and suddenly goes grrrrrRRRR ... WUFF (Ten)!

Well that were it! Pandermonium breaks owt as the churchwardens puts is nibs on their backs and sings 'For he's a jolly good fellow..' and everyone shouts 'Hencore! Hencore!' Well, 'is nibs went all bashful .. but still has one up his cassock, ready, like a vicitry speech and beamin' beatifically, he starts.

'God was talkin' to one of his angels. He said, 'I've just created a twenty four period of alternating light and darkness on Earth.' The archangel, impressed, said, 'And what are you going to do now?'

And God said 'I think I'll call it a day.'

And ol' Lucky sez 'Heh! Heh!'

## 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 change during the next few weeks, 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 has 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, [fletcher\\_martin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:fletcher_martin@yahoo.co.uk) or 07762 440094; or Paul Sunderland (07989 178196) [paul.sunderland@leeds.anglican.org](mailto: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 —continued

### Study Groups

After the successful groups run in Lent, we are continuing the Book Group which meets on a Thursday afternoon.. For more details, contact Martin



There is a strong intention to restart other groups within national and church guidelines when planning meetings have taken place after 19th July. Details of these will be announced on the web-site, in church and on pew sheets. Do please keep in touch.

We'd love to see you back—and also to see new people join. All will be welcome.

Loving.  
Living.  
Learning.

### KNIT2GETHER

A weekly knitting, crocheting and hand sewing group. This group usually met in the coffee shop/restaurant at Greyfriars every Friday between 10.30 a.m. and noon.

Following Claire Murray's departure, please check the church web-site regarding the future of this group for further information when the lockdown is over.

### Sudoku - Easy

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

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### Sudoku - Medium

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

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# Word Search

From the Parish Pump Ltd

## The Transfiguration

On 6 August the Church remembers the Transfiguration of Jesus. The story is told in Matthew 17, Mark 9 and Luke 9. The mountain may well have been one of the three high spurs of Mount Hermon, which rises to 9,000 feet. Jesus was suddenly transfigured before Peter, James and John. His face began to shine as the sun, his garments became white and dazzling. Then Elijah and Moses appeared, but why? These two men represent the Law and the Prophets of the Old Covenant, or Old Testament. But both the Law and the Prophets found their true and final fulfilment in Jesus, the Messiah. Elijah and Moses were handing on the baton, if you like. Now God's dwelling with mankind would depend on the New Covenant based on Jesus' death on the cross.

Transfiguration

Mountain

Peter

James

John

Radiant

Beloved

Son

Well

Pleased

Dwelling

Mankind

New

covenant

Face

Exodus

Mount

Sinai

Sealing

Moses

Law

Elijah

prophets



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## Puzzle Solutions

### Sudoku — Easy

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

### Sudoku—Medium

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

### Wordsearch

L	N	U	N	W	R	O	L	A	O	L	L	E	W	O
S	P	W	P	E	T	E	R	A	D	I	A	N	T	T
I	B	E	L	O	V	E	D	W	E	L	L	I	N	G
N	O	I	T	A	R	U	G	I	F	S	N	A	R	T
A	O	I	O	D	S	A	N	O	S	T	N	T	O	N
I	W	T	M	N	S	U	D	O	X	E	N	N	H	E
I	L	A	M	F	F	E	N	B	V	H	S	U	W	W
O	A	U	C	L	A	A	F	O	E	P	N	O	O	E
M	E	U	T	I	O	N	C	S	L	O	D	M	M	M
L	N	M	O	D	O	W	E	E	I	R	N	D	H	G
T	A	M	N	N	O	M	A	A	J	P	J	S	O	E
N	P	D	O	N	A	S	W	L	A	O	P	S	M	O
S	R	L	O	J	E	E	O	I	H	T	A	E	J	E
I	E	A	O	D	N	I	K	N	A	M	I	T	S	U
A	I	E	E	N	G	A	J	G	E	I	A	D	E	A

**Deadline for September edition - 15th August**  
**Stay safe.**

For letters & articles, contact [stmarys.maged@gmail.com](mailto:stmarys.maged@gmail.com)

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