





THE PARISH OF RICHMOND WITH HUDSWELL, DOWNHOLME AND MARSKE www.richmondhudswellparish.org.uk

MINISTRY TEAM

RECTOR

Revd. Martin Fletcher

The Rectory, Church Wynd

821241 07762 440094 <u>martin.fletcher@leeds.anglican.org</u>

HONORARY CLERGY

Revd. Mark Beresford-Peirse ·Bishop John Pritchard · Revd. Jennifer Williamson

READERS

Mr Scott Lunn8268952 Hurgill Roadslunn@richmondschool.netMrs Gillian Lunn07592 016476 2 Hurgill Roadgillian.lunn@yahoo.com

PASTORAL ASSISTANT

Mrs Jennifer Patrick 850693 1 Roper Court

ACORN CHRISTIAN LISTENERS

Mrs Jennifer Patrick	850693	Dr Sheila Harrisson	822059
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CHURCH OFFICERS - ST MARY THE VIRGIN, RICHMOND

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

Parish Administrator

Claire Murray 07394 947819 pa.richmondhudswellparish@gmail.co

OFFICERS OF THE PCC (AND OTHERS)

Vice Chair	Gillian Lu	nn	as a		
<u>Secretary</u>	Sharon M	/IcCormack	07791 4266	659	12 Pike Purse Lane
<u>Treasurer</u>	Paul Car	nell		<u>stmar</u>	<u>ys@paulcarnell.co.uk</u>
Assistant Trea	asurer	Claire Murray	07394 9478	19	
<u>Magazine Edi</u>	<u>tor</u>	Jim Jack	519553	<u>stmary</u>	<u>/s.maged@gmail.com</u>
Magazine Dis	<u>tribution</u>	Keith Robson	078663258	43	
Magazine Adv	/erts	Frank Gibbon	821002		23 Westfields

CHURCH SERVICES - St MARY THE VIRGIN, RICHMOND

8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion	Every Sunday

- 10.00 a.m. Parish Communion Every Sunday apart from 3rd Sunday Worship for All (including communion) 3rd Sunday Youth Church First Sunday each month 4.00 p.m. Café Church3rd Sunday (every 2 mths—Jan, March etc)
- Fun-Key Church Last Sunday each month Choral Evensong Second Sunday each month 6.30 p.m. Free to Be 3rd Sunday (every 2 mths—Feb, April etc)

9.15 a.m Holy Communion Every Wednesday

ALSO every Thursday at 10.30 a.m.—Holy Communion in Holy Trinity,

PARISH OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS. DOWNHOLME CHURCH OFFICERS

Reader Mr George Alderson 68, Brompton Park, Brompton on Swale DL10 7JP46 Church Warden Mrs Jean Calvert 823001 Thorpe Farm, Reeth Road, Richmond Alastair Lunn 2 Hurgill Road Organist Church Treasurer John Horseman 826216 Echlinville', Hudswell, Richmond PCC Secretary Mrs Liz Kluz 825411 8 Cornforth Hill, Richmond

CHURCH SERVICES AT DOWNHOLME

9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer

Everv second Sunday

THE PARISH OF ST EDMUNDS. MARSKE

CHURCH OFFICERS

<u>Organist</u>	Mrs Ruth Tindale Mrs Jennifer Wallis	823371 822930	Skelton Lodge, Marske 1 School Terrace, Marske				
<u>Treasurer</u>	Mr Peter Coates	07801521954	Orgate Farmhouse, Mar-				
ske							
		pe	ter.coates54@hotmail.co.uk				
PCC Secretary	Mrs Liz Kluz	825411	8 Cornforth Hill, Richmond				
	CHURCH SEF	RVICES AT MAR	<u>RSKE</u>				
11.00 a.m. Holy Communion Every Sunday except 2nd Sunday 11.00 a.m. Morning Prayer Every second Sunday							

N.B. All churches currently closed for worship; please check web-site

EDITORIAL from stmarys.maged@gmail.com

Well, what a curious and unsettling few weeks since we last 'met.' A huge 'Thank you' to begin with to Keith Robson and his delivery team for ensuring that last month's issue reached you—and in time. They were prepared to take their exercise past your house to deliver last month's edition.

We've had to go to outside printers.. Circumstances have led us to change one or two things for this edition. 'In-house' printing and collating will not be possible under current government instruction. Indeed, the bulk of last month's edition was printed at short notice by Richmond Print so many thanks to them. This has led us to have the entire magazine printed externally by professional printers.

Why A5 instead of A4? Partly on cost grounds, partly on professional advice and partly to facilitate the posting of some copies, we are printing this edition in an A5 format—the bonus is a full colour issue for the first time. Finally, to give us time to adjust to the new situations, this edition will be a May/June issue, with the next one likely to be the usual July/August edition. We need time to talk with our supportive advertisers and with you, our readers, about how we progress. One thing which remains a certainty—we will continue to have a print edition of our magazine. It will also continue to be available to download from the church website.

The magazine taking our churches to the wider community. Indeed, our aim as a church is to extend the readership into the wider community of Richmond and its environs. The aim is to bring news of community matters of care and concern, to tell of what other churches are doing in our town and to act as a demonstration of how the Christian faith is being quietly borne out by people in their everyday lives. To do this, our magazine needs to be of relevance to a wider audience.

Some regular features. Thus, the aim is to have regular features under the headings you are coming to recognise. Loyal Dales Volunteers, Saints Alive, Jane Hatcher's tales of the history of our churches, William's Walks, more tales from the mysterious Mister Jack Finney (a legend in his own lunchtime), a new regular feature entitled 'A Time of My Life' contributed by church members, plus lighter moments of cartoon, puzzle and activity are just some examples.

And the list of contributors is increasing too—thanks so much for that. Please let me know what you think, what you would like to see, what you can offer. Now, read on.....

DEADLINE FOR JULY EDITION : Thursday 12th June 2020



Martin's Message

May/June 2020



'We shall all be changed...'

I am writing this in Holy Week, just a month since I wrote for the April issue of our Magazine. How things have changed in those few weeks! A month ago, the Coronavirus epidemic had not developed into pandemic proportions, and I for one simply had no idea that the world would (or could) enter a state of lockdown, that churches would be shut (even for Easter!), and that our worship with one other would be 'in spirit' at home.

So whilst Lent saw huge restrictions forced upon our lives, both as members of a church community and of the wider community, we trust that Eastertide will see life return – towards a 'new normal'. With the period spanned by this issue of the Magazine being May and June, none of us can know how this 'new normal' will evolve in that time.

Halfway through that period is Pentecost, the 50^{th} day of Easter. On 31^{st} May we will celebrate the life-giving power of God's presence with us and within us. That presence is a continuation of the presence of the risen Lord experienced by the disciples in the first Eastertide. Jesus' Resurrection showed once and for all that life is stronger than death. Post-pandemic, we can be sure that life will return – and equally that this will bring with it the opportunity of transformation.

At this point in Holy Week I am looking ahead to the service for Easter Day (to be streamed online, perhaps becoming a regular feature of the 'new nor-mal'!). The Easter blessing includes these words:

God, the Father,by whose love Christ was raised from the dead,open to you who believe the gates of everlasting life.God, the Son,who in bursting from the grave has won a glorious victory,give you joy as you share the Easter faith.God, the Holy Spirit,who filled the disciples with the life of the risen Lord,empower you and fill you with Christ's peace.

In the midst of the Coronavirus crisis, that blessing captures the assurance of the wider perspective won for us and offered to us by the good news of Easter. This fulness of life which is God's gift to us comes with a 'lifetime guarantee' and enables us to see beyond the present few weeks with clarity. The message of Easter is that in God's economy there is always a way for suffering to be redeemed and life to be transformed, made new, enriched. This message is trustworthy and true.

The blessing reminds us that we are invited and empowered to share this good news, with joy and in peace. Something that the pandemic has taught us is how the mechanism of contagion works – and of course, that mechanism is the reason for the present lock-down. Now, with the message of Easter being redemption and transformation, imagine a situation where that same mechanism can be made a force for good!

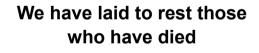
In Eastertide, our lectionary readings take us through the Acts of the Apostles, the story of the rapid growth of the early Church. Whilst we may live in a very different context and culture we have every reason this Eastertide to see afresh that we are called and equipped to be 'contagious Christians'. As you consider how you might be part of this redemptive and transformative force for good, keep in mind the old adage that 'Christianity is caught,

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. *Martín*





not taught'.



10th March 25th March 26th March 30th March 7th April Dorothy Grainge Lillian Cooke Dick Burton John Ient Keith Moore

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Whatever we were to each other, that we are still. Let my name be ever the household word that it always was. Let it be spoken without effort, without the ghost of a shadow in it.

Amidst the cancellations and postponements—some good news

In my Message for the April issue I confidently set out our planned special services and events for Lent, Holy Week and Easter. As we all know, those plans soon had to change. The knock-on effect of the Coronavirus lock-down continues, and as I write we can still make no firm plans for anything.

Something that will still happen, however, is the arrival of our Curate, Paul Sunderland and his wife Jeanette. They will join us in July, but because the ordination services planned for the end of June have had to be postponed Paul will begin his ministry with us as a 'licensed lay worker'. This will enable the Diocese to pay him with immediate effect. We very much look forward to their arrival.

Something else that must still happen is our Annual Meeting. It was due to take place on 26th April, but can be postponed until no later than the end of October. Watch this space for further details.

Following the Annual Meeting, the PCC were to go on an Away Day in May – to set our priorities for the year ahead. Naturally, that plan has had to change; a new date will be set as soon as practicable.

Then, in July we had hoped to have a 'Parish Day Out' to Holy Island. There is still the wish to organise such a day, but we cannot proceed with setting a new date until life in general becomes more settled. Meanwhile, as soon as it is possible for us to gather again it would be lovely if we could bring forward the social and spiritual elements of the Day and hold them in church. Again, watch this space! *Martin*



Hello from Paul and Jeanette Sunderland

For the many of you that we have not already met, I (Paul) will be joining you in the next few weeks as your new Curate. Although the formalities are yet to be confirmed, we will be with you very soon.

In the last few months living under the shadow of Covid-19 has left its mark on all of us. These shadows can appear to overwhelm reality and make us ask; "what will the future hold?" What is clear is that we will all see change in our lives and the lives of those around us, but as a community in faith we will weather any storm. It is also at these times of uncertainty that our faith can be tested: that is a natural response and you are not alone.

When times are hard, and I feel that God has forsaken me I often reflect on life and this always brings me straight to my favourite poem. I am sure this poem is well known to most of you, but it never grows old on me. So, as we continue in our preparations for the move to Richmond, Jeanette and I leave with you our blessings, the knowledge that we are both excited about starting our future together with you, and the words from the poem, "Footprints in the Sand"

Footprints in the Sand

One night a man had a dream. He dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD.

Across the sky flashed scenes from his life.

For each scene he noticed two sets of footprints in the sand: one belonging to him, and the other to the LORD.

When the last scene of his life flashed before him, he looked back at the footprints in the sand.

He noticed that many times along the path of his life there was only one set of footprints.

He also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times in his life.

This really bothered him, and he questioned the LORD about it:

"LORD, you said that once I decided to follow you, you'd walk with me all the way. But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life, there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The LORD replied:

"My son, my precious child, I love you and I would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints,

it was then that I carried you."

Carolyn Joyce Carty

Our Church On-line

As we are all well aware, times are certainly very strange at the moment, not least because we are unable to meet together at church and as a worshipping community. However, athough we may be dispersed about the area, the team at St Mary's have set up a variety of ways of worshipping which mean that we are still connected spiritually, even if not physically.



1. During Holy Week and Easter **a webpage called Holy Week and Easter** was set up on our website (<u>richmondhudswellparish.org.uk</u>) which helped us journey together with reflections, a Quiet Morning and also an Easter Morning Communion recorded by Martin at the Rectory. You can find it here - <u>https://youtu.be/WrPLbwzBkSM</u>

2. There is a new page called **'Latest Resources and Podcasts.'** As part of what we are doing, the team have set up a podcast site which we are regularly populating with episodes. You can find it **here** - <u>https://anchor.fm/st-marys-church-richmond</u>

3. Included in the growing list of podcast episodes are **recordings of Morning Prayer** which Scott and Gillian record **fresh every day**. Psalms and poetry and readings and sermons are all recorded by a wide variety of people from our church community and beyond. Most of these are also available in written form.

4. The Church of England Daily Prayer webpage <u>https://</u> www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-dailyprayer

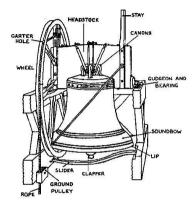
is also very helpful, and if you scroll to the bottom of that page are links to their **FREE Daily Prayer app** which is easily downloaded on to phones. Do have a read and a listen and perhaps share with friends who may enjoy hearing some reassuring, thoughtful and helpful words.

5. You may like to find St Mary's Church **on Facebook.** The key thing is to keep each other in our thoughts and prayers and to regularly check the church website for updates, resources and we hope, inspiration.

LOYAL DALES VOLUNTEERS

Having featured groups offering direct personal service to others in the community, we turn our attention this month to a voluntary group whose work serves as an aural backdrop to the life of St Mary's Church and the community at large - the bellringers.

Bellringing in Britain has evolved differently from ringing in other parts of the world. Our bells are rung 'full circle', meaning that they rotate through a full circle of 360° each time the rope is pulled. This is, in itself, unusual, but what really makes the difference is the mechanism of the 'stay' and 'slider' mechanism, as seen in the diagram.



As the bell swings, the stay engages with the

slider, preventing the bell from swinging through more than its alloted 360°. This allows the ringer to hold the bell at this point and choose when their bell is going to sound. When this is combined with other bells rung in a similar way, it means that the bells can be rung in different orders, enabling the range of complex patterns that is characterised as 'change ringing'.

Each bell sits in its own 'pit', which is big enough to hold the bell and its fittings, and the set of bells is housed within a 'frame'. Within the frame, the bells are arranged to swing in different directions to avoid putting too much strain on any



particular section of the frame. In some towers, when this wasn't arranged effectively, the tower has begun, literally, to shake itself apart as the bells were being rung. The frame itself sits on beams embedded in the walls of the tower.

Richmond Bells

Our old bells were hung in a

Photo courtesy of Guy Carpenter

two level wooden frame, with the four larger bells in the lower level. Despite regular tightening of nuts and bolts, there was increasing movement in the frame; this was making the bells more challenging to ring and ultimately would have begun to damage the tower. Of the bells themselves, five were historic bells that had been cast at various times, and three were cast by Warners of London, the most recent (and least tuneful) in 1904. They had been tuned together as much as possible but, even so, many of the harmonics were less than harmonic! It was decided that, while we replaced the frame, it made sense to commission a new set of bells that would be in tune within themselves and with each other.

Our New Bells

The new bells were cast by John Taylor & Co, bellfounders, in Loughborough



in 2016. They are, as a ring, slightly smaller than the previous bells and slightly heavier, giving a more rounded and tuneful tone. Because of the size of the bells, they can be fitted on one level in the tower, which makes them easier to ring and to maintain.

This photo shows the bells on the floor of the foundry, fitted into the new frame (but most-ly without wheels).

On the right are the 7 and 8 (the largest bells). In the centre are bells 1 and 2, nearest the front, and 5 and 6 towards the back. 3 and 4 are shown on the left. The bells have to be positioned carefully so that their ropes fall in an approximate circle lower down in the tower.

The picture shows that 4 bells are swinging in each direction, helping to protect the tower. The bells will also swing as a sequence, rather than all at the same time.

The bells were finally fitted in the tower back in Richmond and were first rung together on 19th July 2017. After some teething problems, they ring smoothly and easily and are building up a reputation in the area as a lovely sounding peal of bells. We settled back quickly into ringing regularly to practise and for services, including many of St Mary's afternoon and evening services. The new ring has made it easier to teach on a range of bells, allowing us to hold training days in the summer of 2017 and regular extra beginners practices, using the new sound control.

Since the new bells has arrived, our ringing has improved – the bells strike predictably and so are easier to ring in the right place and make a better sound. The band as a whole has moved on to ringing more complex methods and on larger numbers and we continue to have large numbers at practice nights, supplemented by visitors from other towers. The bells are a pleasure to listen to and we have had lots of visitors, including hosting a meeting of the Yorkshire Association of change ringers two years ago. Work on the bells and in the bell chamber is considerably easier (and safer) now the bells are on one level and we have been able to welcome visitors to the bell chamber and give them a safe, aerial view of the bells, including as they are ringing, which would have been impossible before.

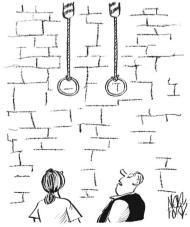
The new arrangement also allows even closer access to the historic bells that are hung 'dead' in the tower and an exhibition is being developed to enhance visits to the bells.



An added bonus was the discovery of this carving, left in the chamber between the bells and the ringers that had been closed for years!

All the work done on the bells and the tower would have been impossible without the support of the whole St Mary's family and the wider Richmondshire and ringing communities.

We hope that the congregation and the rest of the town are still enjoying the sound of the bells! Susan Welch



"Apparently, the new member of the bell-ringing team is a keen gymnast"

In November 2019, local folk group Fourum gave a concert in St Mary's for the boiler project and for a local charity, Cutting Edge which supports the treatment of kidney and other cancers.

During the performance, Rod Hall—known to congregation members for his beautiful mandolin and guitar playing during Worship for All services, sang his newly composed song 'St Mary's Bells'. Many people asked for the words of the song. They are set out in full on the following page. Jonathan Roberts recorded the concert. We are hoping to get a sound recording of the song later in the year.

St. Mary's Bells

I met my love in Richmond, it was late one Lady Day, The sound of old St. Mary's bells Rang out across the Swale, She leaned her head against my coat, Her hand inside my own, And for nigh on fifty years or more, I never let it go.

CHORUS

2.

3.

1.

From seed time unto harvest, St Mary's bells will chime, They bless us on our worldly way Through Spring and Summer time, And ev'ry mortal hears the sound, Each woman and each man, They hold us in their loving arms, On earth as it is in heav'n.

I met my love at Whitsun, upon our wedding day, A sprig of myrtle in her hair, She took my breath away, The choir we heard sang William Byrd, Renaissance harmony, We walked sublime down Lombard's Wynd, And the belis began to chime. (CHORUS)

I left my love in Richmond, her hands across her breast, A sprig of rosem'ry in her gown, A life so truly blessed. The rector said 'God, give her grace, She has a lovely face' Then I held her hand the very last time,

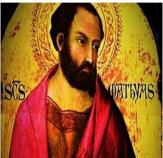
And the bells rang through the town. (CHORUS) Words & Music: Rodney Hall (2018) © Fourum Music

FOR ALL THE SAINTS

So far in this series, we have looked at saints whose names are well-known and whose backgrounds do not always match up to the myths which have built up around their names. However, each has been relevant to the month of publication of this magazine.

However, this month we're going to the other extreme with a piece about St Matthias. Saint who?? Well, he's certainly relevant to the month of May, as his Holy Day is 15th May, but to find out why he merits a mention, read on.

There is a school of thought that when Jesus was assembling his group of Apostles, the choice of twelve was symbolic as there were originally twelve tribes of Israel. Matthias was not one of the twelve. However, he was a disciple (follower), accompanying Jesus and the Apostles in much of their work through from the time of Jesus' baptism to his ascension and then as a witness to the Resurrection.



After the betrayal by Judas Iscariot, the remaining

eleven needed to replace him with another. The choice rested between Mattias and Joseph Barsabas, who had also followed Jesus and witnessed the same events as Matthias. The decision was made by the drawing of lots. This selected Matthias for this special task. After receiving the Holy Spirit with the other Apostles as written in Acts 2 vv1-4, Matthias is not mentioned again in the New Testament.

It is generally believed that he ministered in Judaea first , before moving on to the mountainous central district of modern day Turkey known as Cappadocia., which he is said to have Christianised. He may also have worked in Ethiopia. It was in the Caspian Sea area where he was martyred by crucifixion. It is asserted that his body was then chopped up. The choice of the axe or halberd as his symbol is related to this tale. The mother of the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great (who himself made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire in 312 AD) is said to have had his remains transported from Jerusalem back to Rome.

Although his Western nominated feast day is 24th February, his assigned Holy Day in the church calendar is May 15th. He is the patron saint of alcoholics.

And what of Judas? After Jesus was sentenced, Judas attempted to return the thirty pieces of silver to the priests. He then committed suicide by hanging. The priests used the money to buy a field for the burial of strangers which became known as the 'Field of Blood' because it had been bought with blood money.



ALONG THE RIVER, THROUGH THE WOOO AND UP THE DALE

Ian Short, whose magazine cover photos have been a sheer delight and provided great pleasure to many readers, recalls a Maytime past in these evocative observations of nature. They are drawn from the diary he keeps as he travels the dale. capturing stunning photographic images of the area in which we are so fortunate to dwell.

3 May; Walked along the riverside path to the so-called kingfisher fence which is just before the Round Howe footbridge. A female goosander flying around in circles in an area that is possibly its nest site. Goosanders are normally silent but she was giving a quiet croaking call that apparently they do in the breeding season. These birds are a regular sight on the river but they are not a friend of anglers as they feed on decent size fish. I spotted a bird from the Swale Bridge and it swallowed a decent size fish in one gulp. Goosanders are saw-billed ducks and they nest in holes in riverside trees. Soon after the young hatch, they jump from the nest straight into the river; at least that is the idea, a soft landing but sometimes a less safe one onto the bank or rocks of the river. I like these ducks. The male has a green head and a striking black and white back, the female has a chestnut brown head with a spikey crest.

10 May : After February river flooding the gravel by the old copper mines has been washed by turbulent water. Smallish pieces of copper ore can be found here; green malachite and, a bit less common, blue azurite. I have collected a small jar full, relics of copper mining that ceased here in Edwardian times.

17 May: Near Round Howe Bridge, the spectacle of crab apple blossom beaming in the spring sunshine and hawthorn buds about to burst into bloom. Further along the footpath the National Trust meadows, grazed by belted Galloway cattle in the winter, are showing good patches of bluebell and red campion. This is the result of the cattle grazing down the thick tussocky grass to allow regeneration, or, as it is now known, re-wilding. Whatever it is known as it seems to be working; more diverse plant life means more diverse everything. On the river, dippers are feeding young on caddis fly larvae and grey wagtails are flitting above the water skilfully catching mayfly.

20 May A kingfisher erupted from the river bank with an eye catching flash ofwell— kingfisher blue. With its metallic sheen, the sight always takes me aback with delight and it lifts the spirit. They must have a nest nearby as I watched them come and go for half an hour.

29 May: I have made a few visits to Birkdale this spring. Birkdale: head up Swaledale, past Keld road end and don't turn off to Tan Hill, keep straight on into Birkdale, a favourite place of mine. Birkdale is the home of a farming family that I have shadowed for the last three years with the idea of producing a photographic book that shows the seasons on the farm and the dale landscape. It has been fascinating project and is nearly finished.

On this particular day the farmers were bringing small batches of Swaledale ewes and their lambs to the farmstead. The lambs are marked up, ear tagged so they can be identified, and given a drench to protect them against worm and parasites. Once treated the ewes and their lambs are taken to their heft for the summer high up on Birkdale Common. The heft is the grazing land where the ewe spends her life. Most satisfying for the shepherds to see a healthy crop of sheep ready for the summer and autumn on the high lands of their heft.

Last Thursday in May: Tan Hill Sheep Show. A big event in the hill farmer's year when the best Swaledale sheep from the district are on show. Farmers, including those from Birkdale and Swaledale, come from a fairly wide area to show their best animals, to make arrangements to buy replacements for their flock and to generally catch up with friends and colleagues. It is a great occasion, full of joy, and set against one of the wildest landscapes of northern England. DIS

' See how nature - trees, flowers, grass- grows in silence; see the stars, the moon and the sun, how they move in silence... We need silence to be able to touch souls.' Mother Theresa of Calcutta



A TIME OF MY LIFE

This is the first of a new series of articles in which members of our congregations have been invited to tell of their recollections of a particular period of their own lives which they remember with affection or as significant, formative, salutary or just fun! In sharing these stories, it is hoped that we will get to know the people we worship with a little better - or simply to enjoy the tales they have to tell.

In this opening article, RALPH ROBINSON, long-serving member of St Mary's Church Choir, recalls a formative choral experience.

"THEY ALSO SERVE ..."

Here we are, locked into a weird and menacing world crisis with an enemy we can't see or hear, and which presents such a threat that we can no longer meet for worship in our churches. As part of our response, many of us are having to stay at home and endure weeks of confinement with lots of time for handwashing, thinking, praying and perhaps dreaming.

Though this may seem like an exercise in being 'busy doing nothing', it does serve the general purpose of getting us to stay at home and avoid close contact with each other, thus contributing to the supreme goal – avoid helping to spread the disease. As John Milton wrote in his sonnet on his blindness, "They also serve who only stand and wait."

As for me, now in my eighties, I've been reminiscing about a previous world-wide conflict, the 1939-45 war. And rather than dwelling on the horrors of it, I turned to my most cherished memories of the 1940s. These, for me (aged 10), were mostly about learning to be a cathedral chorister - how to produce a good sound, read music, sing solos, even how to walk. We had to be on duty four, sometimes five days a week.

After I'd been in Blackburn Cathedral choir a couple of years, The Master of the Choristers, Thomas L Duerden decided I was sufficiently house-trained to go to choir courses in distant cathedrals. On these courses, run by the School of English Church Music (SECM), we would stand in for the cathedral choir and sing the services for a fortnight. The lower parts were sung by senior pupils mainly from public schools, who had not yet been called up to fight in the war.

My first course was at Durham Cathedral in 1944, just a couple couple of months after D-Day. We stepped off the



Blackburn Cathedral

train on that August day and made our way up to the magnificent cathedral with its twin towers standing high on a bend in the river.

From up there, we could hear the clatter of tracked bren gun carriers, presumably on their way to Normandy. Other signs of war were everywhere. We had to hand in our ration books and put up blackout curtains at the windows of our home for a fortnight, Bow School, a pleasant country house, then a prep school.

It was about 15 minutes' walk to the Cathedral. There, and very much in charge, was our director Sir Sydney Nicholson, a teddy bear of a man with grey cotton wool hair, jowls and sharp eyes, then in his late sixties. A man with a mission, he arrived with a great reputation of having resigned as Organist and Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey to pull English church music up by its boot straps. In the 1920s, he had founded the SECM which later got the royal seal and became the Royal School of Church Music and Nicholson got a knighthood.

Sir Sydney Nicholson

He was popular with choir boys but was also a disciplinari-

an, as a wayward lad discovered to his cost. The boy accepted a dare to walk the parapet of Prebends Bridge high above the River Wear. He got across safely but when Sir Sydney found out, he was hauled in and whacked on the backside.

There was no time to lose. Sir Sydney knocked us into shape, rehearsing the music and teaching us how to walk in procession – heads up, hands clasped and no swaying from side to side.

Within days, we, the boys, all got it in the neck. We noticed that the Dean of Durham, Dr. Cyril Alington, former Headmaster of Eton College, often appeared at Evensong with a daisy in the corner of his mouth. Asked about this, he explained that it helped him not to smoke. The following day, midafternoon, we formed up for Evensong in our choir robes in the slanting shadows of the cloister and awaited the Dean. He approached us from behind and

bid us a "good afternoon".



Dr Cyril Alington as a young man

"Good afternoon, sir," we chorused, turning slightly to return the greeting and revealing that each of us had a daisy in the corner of our mouths. Sir Sydney exploded. "Take those daisies out at once," he hissed, all red-faced. He harrumphed about "disgraceful" and "appalling manners". You could have cut the air with a knife. Gradually, however, we all settled down and processed into the huge spaces of the cathedral with dignity restored.

A day or two later, we managed to incur his wrath again but this time we were



'Picture Post'—June 1944 edition

put up to it. A small team from "Picture Post" the illustrated magazine was allowed in to shoot a photo-feature of our course. They were admitted to rehearsals and we were ordered not to look at them.

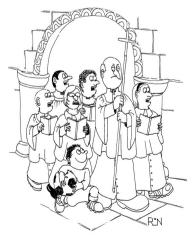
At one rehearsal, a photographer was crouching and moving around. Then Sir Sydney was called away for a moment. The cameraman came up to us and with a conspiratorial grin whispered: "Lads. I'm trying to get a shot of the boss looking angry. Can you sing flat or something, just to make him mad?" Nothing easier, we thought. A golden chance to be naughty and not be blamed...

Sir Sydney came back and we started to sing again - very badly. He stopped us and we started again. Sud- denly he thumped the piano. "What's wrong with you? You sang that perfectly well just five minutes ago." His eyes flashed and his jowls wobbled. The photographer went click! click! And we all laughed... Sir Sydney's anger turned to astonishment, then disbelief and finally a rueful glimmer of a smile as he realised what was going on.

I was warming to our choirmaster. I was even more impressed when he pro-

duced a brand-new anthem, written specially for him by the composer John Ireland. It was a duet for trebles called 'Ex Ore Innocentium', based on the words of the hymn "It is a thing most Wonderful". We learned the anthem, fell in love with it and gave the piece its first performance in Durham Cathedral.

The really nice thing was that we, the choir, were called in to Sir Sydney's apartment, one or two at a time, and invited to sign a thank you letter to Ireland. It was a thoughtful gesture that would surely have pleased the composer; it certainly pleased the choir. It also reflected well on the sensitivity and management skills of Sir Sydney Nicholson.



Little Wayne couldn't sing a note, so they made him mascot

Ralph Robinson

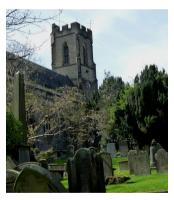
NOTES FROM OUR PAST

June 16th marks the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo in 1815, decisive in bringing the lengthy Napoleonic Wars to their conclusion. Even though means of travel were limited in the early 19th century, distance was no barrier in times of war. Just as with other parts of the country, people found their final resting place in our area, have served, been wounded or even lost their lives in the service of our country.

Having taken us around Marske, Downholme and Hudswell in recent months, Jane Hatcher's historical tour of the benefice brings us to St Mary's in Richmond and some of the rich history encapsulated in the memorials in the church and churchyard. On your exercise walk or when the lockdown eases, you may like to seek these out and pause a while to read of two people who served—and lived in Richmond to tell their tales.

Two of the tombstones in St Mary's Churchyard commemorate men who, in their youth, were soldiers who fought at the Battle of Waterloo in 1815. They lived through that episode to tell the tale, and later in life settled in or near Richmond, and died here.

One of the tombstones, that of Sergeant William Watson, is relatively easy to find as it is in the area south-west of the church, not far from Robert Willance's grave, and is still quite legible. The inscription tells us that early in his life he entered the Coldstream Guards, so presumably he grew up in the Borders. A career soldier, he must have been about 28 when he took part in Waterloo, and also had a spell of duty in the West Indies. Having 'served his time' he retired and was granted the status of an out-pensioner of Chelsea Hospital. He



and his wife Elizabeth then decided to retire to the fashionable Georgian town of Richmond. Here he was regarded by the residents as "a kind, upright and pious man, highly respected." He died in 1844 at the age of 57.

The other Waterloo veteran, Augustus Blythman, was buried in the large area to the north of the church, and some of the inscription is now illegible. However, enough can be read to tell us that he was originally from Surrey, and served for several years in the 95th Rifle Corps under the Duke of Wellington during the Peninsular War, fought in Spain. Following his army service, Blythman's life story brought him to Richmond by a different route from Watson's. For 35 years, until he died in 1847, Augustus was the highly-regarded gentleman's servant to Thomas Taylor Worsley, a member of the Hovingham family of which the present Duchess of Kent is a member. Worsley and his wife, the former Rose Stovin, lived at St Trinian's Hall near Easby, and Blythman formed part of their 'Downton Abbey' style household. Worsley had also been in the army, and presumably the two men had met there and forged a relationship which they carried through for the rest of their lives. Jane Hatcher

It happened in May

200 years ago, on 11th May 1820 that the British Royal Navy sloop HMS Beagle was launched. This was the ship that took the naturalist Charles Darwin on his scientific voyage around the world (1831-36).

125 years ago: on 20th May 1895 that R J Mitchell was born. This British aeronautical engineer designed the iconic Supermarine Spitfire fighter plane as well as several racing seaplanes.

90 years ago, on 24th May 1930 that British aviator Amy Johnson became the first woman to fly solo from England to Australia.

80 years ago, on 2nd May 1940 that the 1940 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan, were cancelled, due to World War II

80 years ago 26th May—4th June The Battle of Dunkirk. Allied forces launched a massive evacuation of troops from Dunkirk, France, across the English Channel to England after they were cut off by approaching German forces. Nearly 340,000 soldiers were rescued in a hastily assembled fleet of 800 boats.

75 years ago , 8^{th} May: VE Day (Victory in Europe) – celebrated as a public holiday.

50 years ago, on 8th May 1970 that the Beatles released their final album, *Let it Be*.

40 years ago, on 5th May 1980 that Operation Nimrod took place, when the British SAS stormed the Iranian Embassy in London after a six-day siege.

20 years ago, on 3rd May 2000 that Ken Livingstone was elected as the first Mayor of London.

10 years ago, on 6th May 2010 that the British General Election ended in a hung parliament. A coalition government was formed by the Conservative Party and the Liberal Democrats.

AND Florence Nightingale was born 200 years ago, on 12th May 1820. Best known as the Lady with the Lamp who saved many lives in the hospitals of the Crimean War, she was also a social reformer, a statistician and the founder of modern nursing. It is a fitting tribute to her that the emergency hospital just opened at the ExCel Centre in London is called the NHS Nightingale Hospital.



WILLIAM'S WALKS

May/June 2020



As we are all in lockdown I am giving you a walk which can fit into your daily exercise routine starting in Richmond Town on the end of Quakers Lane opposite Blenkiron's. It is a Richmondshire Walking for Health Walk route.

Start/Finish – **QUAKERS LANE**. 2 Hours. Medium. All on paths/tracks. Not suitable for pushchairs. Refreshments at Richmond Market Hall during CV-19 Lockdown. (Toilets currently closed). Steep uphill start but thereafter gentle ups and some downs.

Ordnance Survey Map 304 Northallerton & Richmond

This walk takes you over both of Richmond's Racecourses.

Start up the steep steps and path from the high pavement at the end of Quakers Lane. Pass the end of Roper Court and keep going up until you get to Green Howards Rd. Turn left for 50 yards and cross over the road, going through the tight stile opposite. Follow the path across the fields to the (Georgian) Race-course.

Go through the stile and turn diagonally left, following the path across the fields and onto the Racecourse. Then follow any of the paths to the Grandstand and pause to catch your breath and admire the view from the summit.



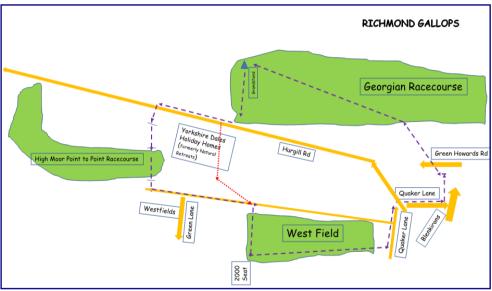
Go left off the top of the hill down to the car-park on Hurgill Road. Watching out for traffic, turn right and follow the grass verge around the bend. Go up the road past the Yorkshire Dales Holiday Homes (formerly called Natural Retreats) ** for about half a mile.

Take the signed footpath off to the left (this can get overgrown with nettles in late summer & has 3 awkward stiles). Emerging from the walled path across awkward stile 1, cross the field to the next stile and onto High Moor, the original

Follow the path across this damp section and aim for the tall trees in the copse ahead. Go over the third stile into the lane. Take care going down this steep lane joining Westfields at Whitcliffe Farm.

Turn left along the road, pass Green Lane on you right and go down through the dipover the stream, taking the next right into the Richmond Landscape Trust West Field.

Keeping the wood on your right, go down to the bottom right hand corner. (You might like to pop through the gate and sit on the Millenium seat which contains the time capsule.) Carry on along the bottom of West Field all the way back to the bottom of Westfields Road.



Turn left into Quakers Lane and crossing Hurgill Road, return to the start.

N.B. To avoid the awkward stiles on High Moor, turn left into the footpath through Yorkshire Dales Holiday Homes and follow this down to Westfields. (red dotted line on the map above).

For more details or for how to join the 'Walking for Health' free walks when they resume, please e-mail <u>walk.for.health@btinternet.com.</u>

"The sum of the whole is this: walk and be happy; walk and be healthy. The best way to lengthen out our days is to walk steadly and with a purpose" *Charles Dickens*



NEWS FROM THE PEWS

With empty pews, there's not much news, the editor relates, Empty pulpit, hymn books neat and 'nowt in t' collection plates, For peace of mind, he now will find some perky bits of news To ease the pain, to entertain, to soften Corvid blues

Did you see this? Whilst on an exercise walk on the Racecourse (see William's Walks), we chanced upon this cross of daffodils on the old wire fence. Someone must have been up early on Easter Day. Nice bit of initiative.

<u>An apology for a sin of omission</u>. In the last edition, I unfortunately omitted to highlight the role Colin Hicks,our former organist and choirmaster, who played a key role (literally!) as accompanist for the Catterick Military Wives Choir for a number of years before other



commitments and health problems caused him to stop. As a former military musician and conductor, he enjoyed this time hugely and was sorry to have to step down. Thanks to Carol Gedye for reminding me about this—and to Colin for his unstinting service.

<u>Church Heating</u>: no complaints have been registered about the heating since lockdown!!

<u>Church Volunteers</u>: Peter Trewby was grateful for the swift and fulsome response for volunteers to support the needy and vulnerable as movement restrictions were tightened over the last month. This list has now been coordinated with the town response and volunteers are being used. Thanks to all who offered.

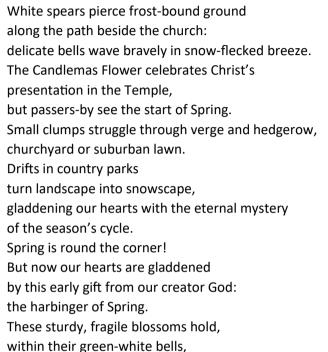
Feedback : thanks for the appreciative notes about the first three issues this year. If you have ideas for features, or especially if you are willing to write or be interviewed for the 'A Time of My Life ' slot, please let me know. Look out for a fascinating piece about the Cold War and MI5 in the next issue! I am also interested in hearing about any voluntary organisations you support or know of whose story deserves a wider audience. And, of course, your views on this A5 format.

<u>What's in a Name?</u> Finally, we are looking at giving the magazine a title/name. This was mentioned on the 'Stop Press' sheet in the last issue, Two have been mentioned so far—'Connections' and 'Gateway' using lower case and with the letter 't' picked out in a different colour and in the shape of a cross. Your vote? Or have you another idea.? Please get in touch . **stmarys.maged@gmail.com**

Poetry Please ... and other reflections

Reflective contributions from Daphne Clarke, George Alderson (Lay reader) and Mark Beresford- Peirse. A pause for thought in trouble times.

Snowdrops





Daphne Clarke



the promise of another glorious year.

Thank you God, for Everything

Thank you for the moorland grouse. Thank you for the woodland mouse. Thank you for the stoat and bat. Thank you for the stoat and rat. Thank you for the mule and rat. Thank you for the cats and dogs. Thank you for the toads and frogs. Thank you for the toads and birds. Thank you for the bees and birds. Thank you for the cows in herds. Thank you for the wriggly snakes. Thank you for the reeds in lakes. Thank you for the deer and fox. Thank you for the hollyhocks. /continued





Thank you for the velvet mole. Thank you for the calf and foal. Thank you for the wise old owl. Thank you for the guinea fowl. Thank you for the guinea fowl. Thank you for the worms and slugs. Thank you for the crawling bugs. Thank you for the fish in becks. Thank you for the fish in becks. Thank you for the hen that pecks. Thank you for the grass and plants. Thank you for the fleas and ants. Thank you for the shrubs and trees. Thank you for the cooling breeze. Thank you for the pigs and horse. Thank you God for ME of course!

George Alderson

Revolution!

It's all right, you don't need to leap up and man the barricades, wave a flag or else try to calm things down! This is mostly about revolution within ourselves, although that always has effects in the world around us – including politics.



My idea (actually my dad's from long ago) is that revo-

lution is better than resolution. Sometimes we feel we ought to resolve to do better, be better or achieve more. Only one letter separates the two words; the first has a 'v' in the middle, the second an 's'. 'S' looks like someone striving hard but a bit doubled up on themselves whereas the letter 'v' is open to what's around, open to others and open to grace – all that God is giving.

Resolution, resolving, can be a bit self-absorbed, while revolution is a story of looking outwards, open to receive and to give and to be part of something bigger than ourselves – discovering, too, that we are not the centre of the universe!. There's some sense of relief in this. It lets us get on with life, forgetting ourselves and getting caught up instead with what's going on around, what God's up to and how we and others are part of it all.

How cheering to realise that life isn't one long Ofsted inspection – constantly wondering how we are doing and giving ourselves a score, or fearing others will do that to us! Resolution and striving are needed, but surely the revolution is to let the Source of all life and love be flowing in and around us and going with that flow. Mark Beresford-Peirse

Christian Aid Week 10-16 May

Rose needs every last drop of water to survive the drought. Donate to help her stop this climate crisis.



Last year's Christian Aid week raised over £7.5m to help so many projects globally

Unfortunately, due to the unprecedented conditions resulting from the coronavirus pandemic, the usual house-to-house collecting cannot take place this year. This will result in a huge loss of income for Christian Aid, notwithstanding any support which the government may offer to charities who are all suffering financially. Here is a paragraph from Christian Aid for us all to reflect upon and hopefully we can respond by making a donation online.

"Christian Aid and our partners already have experience of limiting the spread of infection during the Ebola crisis, and we will build on this experience to continue to stand together with communities living in poverty during this period. If infection rates start to develop as they are in Europe, then people in poorer countries will be hit even harder. Many are already living with reduced health resilience because of extreme poverty, or in overcrowded humanitarian camps and in countries which do not have the healthcare infrastructures needed to combat widespread disease. We will be working on the ground to help prepare communities to limit the impact of Covid-19. Please pray for us in this vital work, and support us where you can by making an online donation."

Visit www.christianaid.org.uk or call 02075232046

Christian Aid is launching an "e-envelope" very soon and it is the sincere hope of our small committee at St Mary's that you will be able to make your donation and also spread the word amongst your friends and family so that as many donations as possible are received to further the ongoing work across the world.

Once the e-envelope is launched information will be available via the Christian Aid website. (Details in the box above) Judith Barber

judith barber8@gmail.com Tel : (01748) 824656 Mob: 07435 566566

INFORMATION POINT

There are a number of groups which meet on a regular basis as part of the church family. As always, ALL ARE WELCOME. Some one-to-one support is still operating , using telephone or Facetime/Skype contact

Other groups which normally operate <u>but cannot do so at the time</u> of writing are also listed. However, situations may change by June, so please check our website or use the contact number for information.

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

PASTORAL CARE

The St Mary's Church community wishes to do all we can to support, listen and love all in our parish whether members of our church or not. The Pastoral Team at St Mary's have established a **Prayer Circle** at St Mary's. If you have something which you would appreciate prayer for, whether for yourself or for someone you care about, we would be privileged to pray about it. No prayer request is ever too small or trivial. Whatever you wish to share, in confidence, we will support you in prayer.

To ask for prayer you can either telephone, email or text Rev Martin on 821241, <u>fletcher_martin@yahoo.co.uk</u> or 07762 440094; or contact Gillian Lunn on 07592016476 or gillian.lunn@yahoo.com 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 Gillian. They would love to hear from you.

St Mary's Groups Waiting to Resume

Little Rainbows is a group for babies, toddlers and pre-school children together with their mums, dads, grandparents or carers. All are welcome when lockdown

is over

We meet in St Mary's every Thursday morning during term time, fro m 9:30 to 11am, but with doors open from 9am. We use the children's corner at church as a play area, but move around to use the church building for singing, story, craft and snacks. It's all very relaxed with plenty of time to chat and play.

And if you're a potential helper, who has a heart for young people and enjoys chatting to their parents and carers, please just let the rector know – we'd be so pleased to have you on board. Wendy Pritchard

FUN-KEY CHURCH @ ST MARY'S RICHMOND

We normally meet on the last Sunday of every month at 4pm when we explore the theme of the day using crafts, activities, a short talk, perhaps drama and plenty of fun -all accompanied by refreshments from our lovely Mothers Union team. See the church website or find us on Facebook.



Gillian Lunn

"The Happy Bodgers".

Helping others who may be in need of a practical assistance. Far more skilled than their title suggests and able to offer a variety of help free of charge.

Try us - we can say no if we don't feel capable. When lockdown ends, why not give us a call on 07866 325843 and Keith Robson will see if the Happy Bodgers can help, We look forward to helping you.

Note: We could probably not take on regular tasks such as lawn mowing,

St Mary's Groups Waiting to Resume—continued

Bible Study Groups

These groups were suspended whilst engaged in the Lent course. The intention is to resume and complete the Lent course when it is practical and safe to do so. Your group leaders will stay in touch with you over this. You can also seek information from the Church web-site or your group leader .

KNIT2GETHER

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

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

EDGES OF FAITH

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

A Prayer of Hope

God of compassion,

be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.

In their loneliness, be their consolation;

in their anxiety, be their hope;

in their darkness, be their light;

through Him who suffered alone on the cross,

but reigns with you in glory, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

A Prayer for the Caring Professions

Gracious God,

give skill, sympathy and resilience to all who are caring for the sick, and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.

Strengthen them with your Spirit, that through their work many will be restored to health; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

(Prayers contributed by Barbara Glasson, President of Methodist Conference)

From a Rectory Garden

Well, what a difference a month makes. Due to the phenomenal interest in the reminiscences of MISTER Jack Finney last month, I was hoping that he had not broken his solemn vow to give our magazine exclusive access to his life story. I was fretting that some of the major national glossies – such as Coins Monthly or Caravan and Motorhome – would have been luring him with offers of double baggins and tins of Pedigree Chum for Lucky, his faithful three legged canine friend. It turned out I needn't have worried on that score. But the coronavirus outbreak had driven a man of his senior years to barricade himself into his careworn shed with only a virus sniping air gun bought from e-bay from a one star rated seller and a copy of the 'Peoples Friend' to protect him from the pandemic. However, I lured him out with a trail of breadcrumbs, a bag of dahlia tubers from B & Q and a partly used dog chew for Lucky - all to secure this priceless tale.

Nah, durin' the war, that ol' 'Itler were becomin' a bit of a problem, see? Yeh, an' folks got worried 'case there were an invashun. Well, I weren't 'avin none o' that! No fears! I didn't want nobody parashooterin' down onter me prize marrers, no thanks.

So, I fort, I'd do me bit t' save England and Lombard Wynd – so I joined the 'Ome Guard, Richmond Division. Well, 'o course, at fust we woz marchin' around wiv broomsticks and catapults, like boy scahts in long trahzers. Then they give us all uniforms. Hah! Well, I think mine were made fer a six foot gorilla wi' bandy legs 'cos I looked a right clown in it – as me ol' darlin' used to tell me.

Anyway, I did me bit fer King an' country an' me allotment. I were put on fire watchin' dooty at the King's Head. Bit daft that 'cos, the fire never <u>did</u> go out – anyways, not when I was sittin next to it wi' me pint o' mild and frowin' logs on it. Wot?

Oh, 1944? Yeh, well in 1944 the 'Ome Guard was stood dahn, as they say, but

that good ol' boy, Winnerston Churchill, 'e sez that in recognition of our service and with the nashun's grateful thanks, we could all kip the yooniforms and the boots. Well, them boots was wunnerful, especially for breakin' up clods – but I puts the yooniform in me wardrobe and forgot abart it.

Well, just the other day, I was 'avin me baggins sittin' on ol' Willance's grave stone when me ol' darlin' comes up the drive. "Ere, Jack,' she says. "I've bin cleanin' aht the wardrobe fer things ter take ter the vicar's jumbly sale an' look what



I've come accrost. It's yer old 'Ome Guard stuff – fancy!"

Yeh, there it was, still 'ad me medal pinned on the front that I got fer fightin' in the NAAFI queue an' all. Fair took me back, I can tell yer. My ol' darlin' med me put it on when I got home an' she sang 'We'll meet agen", pretendin' ter dab 'er eyes wi' a hankie. Wot?

Nah, I don't think Her Majesty decided ter use it in her broadcast 'cos o' hearin' that. Mind, my ol' darlin' 'as got a good set o' lungs. Anyway, 'afore she gives it ter the vicar, an' bein' the woman she is, she goes through all the pockets an' in one o' them she finds a shoe repair ticket dated 1942! Fancy that! I'd clean forgot! It were fer a cobblers in Darlin'ton.

Anyways, next day, I didn't 'ave much ter do apart from tyin' up the vicar's plums so I fort I'd tek a trip t' Darlin'ton t' see if the shop were still there – not much chance o' that I reckoned.

Well, I walks up Norf Road an dahn the little back streets an', bless me, I found the cobblers what had the name orn the ticket. It were still there. So I goes in an' the bell jangled on the door an' this ol' boy cem aht from the back.

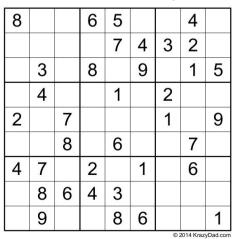


"Yus?" 'ee says.

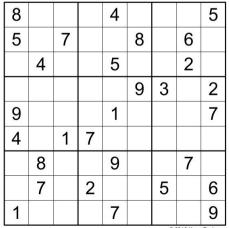
'Well,' says I. " I found this shoe repair ticket from 1942."

Well, he teks it from me, a chuckling an' a chortlin', and 'ee looks at the ticket. "ee sez, "Thuz'll be ready next Furzday."

Sudoku - Easy



Sudoku - Medium



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Pentecost Word Search

This month the Church celebrates the Ascension of Jesus, the sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, and the fact that our God is a Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. After the Resurrection, Jesus was seen on the road to Emmaus, by the Sea of Galilee, in houses, etc. He encouraged his disciples, and said that He was sending them to all corners of the earth, as his witnesses. 40 days after Easter, Jesus ascended into heaven; his work on earth was done. The disciples returned to Jerusalem, and on the fateful morning of Pentecost, there was suddenly the sound as of a mighty rushing wind. Tongues of flame flickered on their heads, and they began to praise God in many tongues – to the astonishment of those who heard them. That morning the Holy Spirit came to indwell all those who believed in Jesus: the Church was born. And so we have a triune God: Father, Son, Holy Spirit.

Ascension Blessed Taken Jerusalem Wait Praver Power One Room Disciples Tongues Flame Joy Praise Confusion Languages Earth

Language Earth Peter Holy Spirit Trinity Father Son

triune

GENNTFNELWEEA AMECMO R Α \mathbf{O} R Ν Κ RRF Ρ Δ Y R F F ()Y ()F Ν Δ Μ R н S Y S G ()F S U Ρ IJ Ν R R S B ()C S Ν R F Е R I Δ Ν W I Ν Ρ S F Ρ F Ν Α I F Κ S \mathbf{O} S \mathbf{O} Υ S KC н S W S F \bigcirc GUAGES F S Α Ν Т EWBWDRR Ρ F R \mathbf{O}

At the moment we may feel stuck at home—but we are safe at home. We might feel bored; or sad we can't see our friends, but we are living through history. How will you remember it?

In 1665, during the plague epidemic, Isaac Newton was stuck at home. During this time he developed the theory of gravity. The best things come from having the time and space to be creative.

In years to come, children will study the time of Corvid-19. They will learn how rainbows were a sign of hope. They will hear how people came together to cheer and clap the amazing people who save lives and kept our country going. They will hear of a time where the world slowed down, polluted skies cleared and animals reclaimed the streets.; a time where families spent time together, playing and having fun; a time when we treasured our one walk a day, and when people got to know their neighbours. Where people came together to help those in need. A time when we realised the power of a hug. When seeing our friends and family meant seeing their faces on a screen. When school went on-line and parents became teachers. A time when the world went a little crazy and stockpiled loo roll!!

Yesterday is history but today is a gift. That's why it is called the present.

Stay safe; be creatve; have fun; be kind, be thankful. Love from Miss Witham

My Auntie is on one of them new Dyson ventilators in hospital. Doctors say she's picking up well God was seen walking around Yorkshire this morning. He was asked what he was doing.

'I'm working from home" he replied.

And finally

In a complex and inter-dependent world, perhaps the coronavirus epidemic has shown us that there is no such thing as unskilled work. In stripping back much activity which is non-essential to daily life, we can all see clearly that many of the people we need the most for a basic, healthy life have been valued the least. Their skills are in being caring human beings— a skill for which no A level or degree course has yet been devised. And the two words which mean the most are 'thank you'. Stay safe—see you in July.

Puzzle Solutions

Sudoku — Easy

Sudoku-Medium	n
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8	2	1	6	5	3	9	4	7
6	5	9	1	7	4	3	2	8
7	3	4	8	2	9	6	1	5
5	4	3	9	1	7	2	8	6
2	6	7	5	4	8	1	3	9
9	1	8	3	6	2	5	7	4
4	7	5	2	9	1	8	6	3
1	8	6	4	3	5	7	9	2
3	9	2	7	8	6	4	5	1

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

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