



# CONNECTIONS

**The Community Benefice Magazine of  
Richmond with Hudswell,  
Downholme and Marske**

**JULY 2022**

**£1.00**

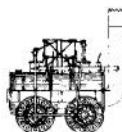
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**THE BENEFICE OF RICHMOND WITH HUDSWELL, DOWNHOLME  
AND MARSKE**

[www.richmondhudswellparish.org.uk](http://www.richmondhudswellparish.org.uk)

**MINISTRY TEAM**

**RECTOR**

Revd. Martin Fletcher    The Rectory, Church Wynd                      07762 440094 or 821421  
[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)

**HONORARY CLERGY**

Bishop John Pritchard · Revd. Jennifer Williamson - Revd Pauline Shepherd  
Revd Martin Clarke

**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

**ACORN CHRISTIAN LISTENERS**

Mrs Jennifer Patrick    850693                      Dr Sheila Harrisson    822059

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

Prayer requests to [pray@richmondhudswellparish.org.uk](mailto:pray@richmondhudswellparish.org.uk) or text 07394 907924

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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 Allan's Court
<u>Director of Music</u>	Mr Chris Denton	07817 386070	<a href="mailto:chrisdenton@gmail.com">chrisdenton@gmail.com</a>
<u>Bell Captain</u>	Mrs Susan Welch	823700	8 Maple Road
<u>Head Verger</u>	Mr John Welch	823700	8 Maple Road

**Parish Administrator**

Colin Hicks                      07498 299061                      [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	
<u>Treasurer</u>	Paul Carnell		<a href="mailto:stmarys@paulcarnell.co.uk">stmarys@paulcarnell.co.uk</a>
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**N.B. National policy will continue to shape how we conduct public worship safely. Please respect the current practices on mask wearing, hand sanitising and distancing for the benefit of others as well as yourself. Thank you.**

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

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) Every 3rd Sunday
4.00 p.m.	Café Church	3rd Sunday (every 2 mths—Jan, March etc)
	Fun-Key Church	Last Sunday each month
6.30 p.m.	Choral Evensong	Second Sunday each month
	Free to Be	3rd Sunday (every 2 mths—Feb, April etc)
9.15 a.m.	Holy Communion	Every Wednesday
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>	Fionnagh Bennet		
<u>Church Treasurer</u>	Phil Ham	07920 884103	'Sundale', Reeth, DL11 6TX <a href="mailto:philip.ham@outlook.com">philip.ham@outlook.com</a>
<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>

Well, the Jubilee is over and, whatever political and constitutional views anyone may hold, the steadfastness in holding to a personal commitment to public service made 70 years ago by Queen Elizabeth can only be admired—and also be a point of gratitude.

For me, the events also threw into focus the commitment which anyone makes when undertaking public service roles—medical and social care practitioners, anyone working with young people in schools and colleges, those in the civil service and local government, politicians—the list could go on. It is often an unspoken commitment which we expect of such individuals to extend into the conduct in their lives beyond the 'job'. If we seek examples of people who 'live the job', our queen is probably a fine example. I do wonder sometimes whether her own family has lost out on something through this commitment.

Having led courses in which the 'Seven Principles of Public Life' featured strongly, I was moved to look them up again ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) if you're interested!). The headlines are—Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty, Leadership. The last of these demands that holders of public office should 'exhibit these principles in how they behave and treat others with respect, actively promoting and supporting the principles and challenge poor behaviour'. I think it is fair to say that the Queen has upheld and lived most of these principles—although she would see her driving force as her Christian faith rather than a set of rules drawn up in 1995. Indeed, this might also reflect on the outside expectations of all who live a Christian life.

As for this edition of your magazine, we have an interesting volunteering opportunity with a difference offered by Gilling West parishioners Sue and John Young, the second part of retired organist, John Porter's family story. Jane Hatcher and Liz Kluz offer more background about life in Marske in times gone by, whilst George Alderson give us another piece to think about in verse. We have two local St Agatha's churches so Carole McCormack finds out more about the St Agatha story. John Pritchard continues his very helpful series of 'Pathways in Prayer' and also collars Paul Perry for his sixty second interview. Chorister Judith MacLeod looks at the background of another of her favourite hymns and invites you to tell us which hymns mean something special to you. We go south for a Grand Day Out and Mister Jack Finney makes a return. Plus a fair amount of news and forthcoming events asking for your participation and support. Finally, thanks to Ian Short once more for his cover photograph reminding us of the beautiful area we are blessed to call home.

Jim Jack (Editor)



## Martin's Message July 2022



### **Congratulations to Gillian!**

This month, Gillian Lunn will be ordained deacon. The 2<sup>nd</sup> of July, 2022 will always be a date of huge significance both to her and to us at St Mary's as her 'sending church'. Over the years, as we saw Gillian's sense of vocation develop; we were truly blessed by her ministry as a 'Licensed Lay Minister'. We wish you every blessing, Gillian, in your new ministry as Assistant Curate in the Benefice of Leyburn and Bellerby.

### **Congratulations to our Confirmation candidates**

The 6<sup>th</sup> of July will likewise remain a deeply significant date for our sixteen Confirmation candidates. We look forward to welcoming Bishop Helen-Ann to St Mary's for the Confirmation Service. As they continue on their journey of faith, please pray for:

our adult candidates

Ashleigh Barker, Jade Fayers, Robert Sturdy

and our youth candidates

Leo Martin, Laurence Denton, Isaac Scrafton, Eddie Alford, Bethany Alford, Alfie Richardson-Pugh, Tegan Wainwright, Declan Wainwright, Thomas Partington, Florence Dixon, Jay Chapman, Caitlin Ryal, Georgia Sissonour.

Congratulations to each and every one of them!

Defend, O Lord, your servants with your heavenly grace,  
that they can continue yours for ever,  
and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more,  
until they come to your everlasting Kingdom.  
Amen.

### **Richmond with Hudswell PCC matters**

Following the Annual Meeting, which took place on 8<sup>th</sup> May, our new PCC met for an Away Day on the 21<sup>st</sup> May. The purpose was to welcome new members, pray together, and set our priorities for the coming year. PCC office-holders were also appointed.

At the **Away Day**, in reviewing the past year, we recognised that the Covid-19 pandemic had dominated all aspects of church life, and that the gradual lifting of precautions during services had necessarily been a slow process. This process would continue to the point where the option of sharing the common cup and the Peace would be restored in the coming weeks. With the lifting of precautions we welcomed the scope for a return to focusing fully on growing in mission and discipleship.

One illustration of the current position of any church is this:

<b>Mission &amp; Discipleship</b>	More confident	<b>Resource</b>	<b>Release</b>
	Less confident	<b>Revitalise</b>	<b>Review</b>
		Non Sustaining	Sustaining

**Financial Sustainability**

Identifying the quadrant in which St Mary’s falls helped us determine our priorities, and the level of any support we might request from the Diocese (ie Review, Release, Resource, or Revitalise).

We recognised that in emerging from the pandemic we are potentially self-sustaining financially and that we need to become more confident in mission and discipleship: the ‘Review’ quadrant.

**These priorities were therefore identified:**

- **grow spiritually** (e.g. by expanding our range of services and Study or Discussion Groups)
- **extend our community engagement** (e.g. through greater involvement in community events, or helping to support families and those with mental health issues)
- **increase our income** (e.g. through numerical growth and by developing the use of St Mary’s as a venue for various events (concerts, exhibitions, etc)).



In turn, all of this requires:

- **strengthening further our lay leadership and our publicity,**
- **making our buildings, including the Holy Trinity Chapel, fully fit for purpose** (e.g. by addressing the need for easier access and better parking at St Mary's), and attracting more young families to church life.

It may be helpful to recall that before the pandemic struck we had recognised that a confident, viable church could be likened to an aircraft in steady flight, i.e:

Our **Purpose** [direction] is Worship and Prayer,

Our **Outreach** [wings] involves Mission and Community Engagement (i.e. word and deed),

with these areas being energised [propelled] by

our **Growth** in Discipleship and Pastoral Care,

and sustained [lift] by our **Infrastructure**: Finance, Fabric, and Administration.

A Team Structure is therefore required, with members drawn from the congregation and beyond, and each team working on specific goals. Such a structure can only be resourced by new people joining us i.e. by sustained growth.

The next step is for the PCC to make detailed proposals, inviting us all to become involved as together we grow more confident in mission and discipleship.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all,



*Martin*



## Baptisms



We welcomed Wilfred and Florence Rowan (21 May)  
and Teddy Barker (29 May) into the church through  
services of baptism.

'Lord, surround these children with goodness, lead them in Your light each day.  
Help them on the path You've chosen, guide them on Your way;  
Teach them Lord to trust Your wisdom, grant faith from up above,  
Keep them from all harm and bless them always with Your grace a love.'

(adapted from a verse by B J Hoff)

## RICHMOND WITH HUDSWELL PCC 2022-3

Following the Annual Meeting, which took place on 8<sup>th</sup> May, our new PCC met for an Away Day on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The purpose was to welcome new members, pray together, and set our priorities for the coming year. PCC office-holders were also appointed.

**Newly elected PCC members** are John McCormack, Ann Richardson, Stuart Rowan, and Anna Warren – along with Colin Hicks, who succeeds Claire Murray as a Deanery Synod representative. They join those elected in 2021 (John Challis and Susan Scrafton), in 2020 (David Frankton, Pamela Holland and Andy Lovell), and the ex-officio members: our Churchwardens Peter Trewby and Jan Jack, fellow Deanery Synod representatives (Jonathan Roberts, Susan Welch, and Ian Short), and Paul Sunderland, Martin Fletcher and Scott Lunn.

### PCC office-holders

Lay Chair: Peter Trewby

Secretary: Colin Hicks

Safeguarding Officer: Jan Jack

Fabric Officer: Graham Barber

Publicity Officer: Andy Lovell

Disability Officer: Linda Curran.

Treasurer: Paul Carnell

Electoral Roll Officer: Alan Judge

Data Protection Officer: Jan Beeton

Health & Safety Officer: Sharon Digan

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Do please pray for our PCC members and office-holders in their individual and collective responsibilities as our representatives in the governance of our church.

### Reverend Matthew Hutchinson's Charity

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*Not everyone has a natural gift for  
rural ministry*

## Charity of the Month



We return to supporting the United Society for Partners in the Gospel this month, using the usual routes of donations— in the basket at the back of church after each July service, or via a donation placed in a sealed envelope and posted through the door of the Rectory. Alternatively, direct donations can be made by visiting the USPG website at [www.uspg.org](http://www.uspg.org).

Currently, USPG is promoting its creation of a rapid response fund to support health and climate crisis incidents across the world. It is also seeking to work on the particular issue of vaccine hesitancy in developing countries where a greater acceptance of the use of vaccines could significantly reduce the incidence of some damaging diseases. There is also a particular emphasis on work for the betterment of the lives of children—child protection, child health , welfare and education issues and the particular work done by their Focus 9/99 programme to protect the rights of young girls. If you feel you would like—and are able to— support their work, the ways to donate are set out above.



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



29th April  
24th May  
1st June

Sylvia Brenda Smith  
Henry Francis Cartledge  
Marion Quin

***May they rest in peace and rise in glory.***

*Whatever we were to each other, that we are still.  
Speak of me in the easy way in which you always used..  
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.  
Why should I be out of mind because I am out of sight?  
I am but waiting for you, for an interval, somewhere very near...  
All is well*

(Extract from 'Death is Nothing at All' by Revd Henry Scott Holland)



## WHAT'S ON IN JULY

2nd July	Ordination of Gillian Lunn at Wakefield Cathedral (ticket only)	
6th July	Confirmation Service	St Mary's 6.30 p.m.
10th July	Mothers' Union Garden Party (all welcome)	Susan Scrafton's house
13th July	PCC Meeting	St Mary's 7.00 p.m.
16th July	Friends 'At Home' Coffee Morning	9.30—12.30
	Hosts - Alice and John Challis, 1 Cornforth Hill, Richmond. All welcome.	
17th July	Café Church	St Mary's 4.00 p.m.
23rd July	Summer Barbecue (all welcome—Friends Event)	Rectory 4.00 p.m.
24th July	Organ Recital by Chris Denton	St Mary's 6.30 p.m.

### ADVANCE NOTICE

A reminder that the annual Plant and Produce Sale is next month—on Saturday, 27th August and that the previous success of this event has been based upon many donations of plants, jams, pickles, cakes and other produce which can be sold on the day—so BE PREPARED please to respond to requests over the next few weeks.

### LOCAL FOODBANK

Foodbank use continues to rise. Can you help, please— either by buying extra from the list below during your weekly shop and donating via their 'bins' or leaving at the back of Church. Particular need for tinned vegetables and tuna currently.

#### **Foodbank Reminder: Essential Items**

**For readers who add to their weekly shop by buying items for the Foodbank based at the Influence Church, a reminder of the most useful donations;**

**Tins of :** meat, fish, vegetables, fruit, soup, beans, pasta, tinned meals (e.g. chilli, stew), pies, rice pudding

**Packets of:** pasta, pasta sauce, noodles, cereal, porridge, rice, biscuits

**Jars of:** pasta sauce, sandwich fillings, jam, spreads

**Also:** UHT milk, squash

**More information :** [storehouse@influencechurch.co.uk](mailto:storehouse@influencechurch.co.uk)

Or please contact Suz Gregory on 01748 823161

## LOYAL DALES VOLUNTEERS

So far in this series, we have focussed on individuals in our area volunteering by joining a team of local people to providing service to others; but there are other ways in which people give of their time freely to support others in uncertain situations. SUE and JOHN YOUNG, who live in Gilling West and worship at St Agatha's Church in the village, offer time to individuals by welcoming them into their home for a period of time. One way they do this was joining a scheme called Host UK.

In this article, they describe the scheme which they decided to join, what it involves and the experiences they have shared with young people from different countries and faiths. They are still in touch with most of them.

### HOST UK— A HOME AWAY FROM HOME

A number of years ago we saw advertisements for **HOST UK** in our church magazine. **HOST UK** were searching for people to look after international students for a weekend. The idea was that a student, new to the UK, would spend time with a British family and thereby have some insight into family life in the UK in an informal and relaxed situation.

For a while we weren't in a position to offer hosting – grandchildren and other activities took up too much of our time!

However, seven years ago, we found we had more time and applied to host. Anyone of any age can apply - single people, families with children and couples. There were no safeguarding issues as all the visiting students are adults. Ours have ranged in age from 22 to 34.

Which countries did our guests come from? China, Japan, Taiwan, Pakistan, Nigeria, Indonesia, Malaysia and Bhutan. However, students from many other countries request visits. Most of the men and women we have hosted are post-graduate students. All of them were genuinely interested to learn as much as they could about our way of life, to see our local area and to eat our food! All were keen to help out in the kitchen.

#### Ran Wei

One or two of them even cooked for us – we remember delicious dim sum dumplings cooked lovingly by our Chinese student, Ran Wei. In turn, she learnt to make cottage pie and scrambled eggs. When she returned to her student lodgings, she sent us photos of the cottage pie and scrambled eggs she had made for her Chinese flatmates.



Cooking dumplings-  
Chinese style





## Irfan

Two or three of our guests were of the Muslim faith. That was easy to accommodate. They fitted in their daily prayers around the family and the diet was no problem. Irfan, who is Muslim, visited us near Christmas. We took him to a café in Richmond for a typical Christmas meal and they were kind enough to make a special, non-pork stuffing for him. Actually, I think Irfan was a lapsed Muslim! He confessed he enjoyed the occasional “bacon sandwich”

## Dawa

Dawa, from Bhutan, was Buddhist and it was fascinating learning about Buddhism from him. He liked to meditate in the morning before breakfast. We introduced the concept of grace before a meal to him and he was very happy to participate. In fact, he asked if he could say grace one evening and said he intended to take the tradition back to Bhutan. However, we only shared grace if we felt it was appropriate and acceptable to the student.



Dawa warms himself in a miner's cottage at Beamish museum

Dawa had a wife and child in Bhutan and had sacrificed seeing them for a year in order to study project management in Leeds- he was a bridge engineer. Dawa returned for another visit later in the year and he was fascinated by the Remembrance Sunday ceremony in the Friary Gardens in Richmond -and delighted to meet an ex-Ghurkha in the Gardens as Ghurkhali is the second language in Bhutan.

## Mimi

One of the women, Mimi, was studying for a further qualification in engineering.



Mimi (centre) and friends on their Graduation Day in Leeds

She was diminutive and wore a hijab and had the most winning shy smile and a lovely warmth about her. She kept in touch with us over the Covid period after returning to Malaysia. As a result, we had the privilege of being asked to go to her graduation in Leeds as her parents couldn't afford to come all the way from Malaysia for this ceremony. It was a thrill to watch her take her

degree and meet her other Malaysian friends. We were treated so well by them all and taken out for a Thai meal with them in Leeds at the end of the day.

### ‘Scarlett’

We’ll finish talking about individual students by mentioning Scarlett (this was a name she adopted here as her Chinese name was unpronounceable to English speakers). When we met her at Darlington station, we saw coming towards a tall, beautiful model-like person wearing the most amazing white Doc Marten’s, carrying a bunch of flowers and a box of chocolates. She was studying marketing management and was engaging, intelligent and friendly. Although all of the students asked lots of questions, she asked the most.



Scarlett at Richmond’s Station

We both felt she would have much to offer any British firm as she was genuinely interested in the British way of life and, of course, spoke good English as well as Mandarin. We were so pleased recently to hear that she had secured a good position in a company in Leeds doing the work she wanted.

There was no shortage of things to do while the students were here. Living in Richmond there was the Castle to see, The Station, the market, the coffee shops, the Georgian Theatre, The Museum, The Green Howards Museum and much more. Having a very enthusiastic dog, Tilly and a friendly cat, Toby was a bonus for their visit.

These people have enriched our lives and we have learnt so much from them – probably as much from them as they learnt from us. We have invitations to visit them in their home country – in fact, we were all ready to go to Bhutan when Covid struck.

**HOST UK** is now part of a larger organisation called **EIL** (Experiment in International Living) but still operates as when we first became hosts. Anyone interested in hosting could contact EIL.

In *Hebrews* we are encouraged to show hospitality to strangers. We’re not sure we have “entertained angels unawares” but we can say that offering a welcome for the weekend to students from abroad, many of whom had not visited the UK before, has been one of the best voluntary roles we have undertaken. It is interesting, joyful, at times hilarious *and* demanding in a good way – but, above all, we have had the privilege and pleasure of sharing a warmth of friendship with young people from all over the world. We still keep in touch with most of them. *Sue and John Young*

## Are you interested in hosting a student?

The HOST UK scheme described by Sue and John Young was originally started in 1987 by the British Council, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Victoria League. It was funded by subscriptions from participating institutions and donations from grant-giving foundations.

Its mission -to promote international friendship and understanding by welcoming international students as guests in British homes. Its vision—a world more understanding and accepting of different cultures.

Whilst the particular charity HOST UK was forced to close during the COVID pandemic, EIL (Experiment in International Living) - a charity based in Malvern, Worcestershire—took over the programme and runs it today. The Host UK website still exists ( [www.hostuk.org](http://www.hostuk.org)) and gives lots of information. It directs enquiries to EILUK at its Malvern address.



Experiment in  
International  
Living UK

EIL UK is a charity based in Malvern, Worcestershire. EIL stands for the 'Experiment in International Living' and is the UK member of a global movement that began life in 1932. Together Ex-

periment organisations around the world form a global Federation EIL that is recognised as a Peace Messenger organisation by the United Nations. Federation EIL alumni include Nobel Peace Prize winners, politicians and founders of international charities.

Started in America, EIL UK runs a number of programmes of which the HOST UK homestay programme is one. They also run a programme called High School UK supporting study in UK schools, FAIR Play football and rugby schemes, weekend visits, cultural leadership programmes—all designed to lead to a more tolerant and understanding world nad based on a belief that ,by being together, learning together and living together we can work towards a more tolerant and understanding world.

More information about the HOST UK and other programmes can be found at [www.eiluk.org](http://www.eiluk.org) or by 'phoning (01684) 562577

A couple took their five-year-old young daughter to church. During the service, the minister conducted the baptism of a tiny infant. The little girl watched in wonder as he held the baby, said solemn words, then poured water over its head, and then carefully wiped it dry. Finally, she turned to her father. "Daddy, why is he brainwashing that baby?"

## A TIME OF OUR LIVES

**JOHN and CHRISTINE PORTER** moved to St Mary's just at a time when lockdown began to restrict movement and also and getting to know people in a new area. Last month, we heard of how John's extensive background in church music was carried with him as his career in teaching took the Porter family to different schools and areas. We also heard of his involvement in the publication of the hymn 'We have a Gospel to proclaim.' At the end of part one, they had arrived in the parish of Hutton Rudby where, we heard, the vicar had 'a cunning plan.!'

### Out of the mouths of babes....!

Shortly after the Porter family moved to Hutton Rudby, the vicar David Lickess was taking his weekly class at the Primary School. He encouraged the children to come to church, saying they had hymn singing like at school, but no organist. A small girl piped up: "My daddy can play the organ!".

The vicar lost no time in visiting John, with a plea to fill the vacant post. John explained that didn't have time. In addition to teaching science, he conducted Stokesley Choral Society, Northallerton Choral Society and North Riding Schools Brass Band, had private piano pupils and prepared youngsters for their Associated Board music exams. He also planned to do an LRAM in choral conducting.

Disappointed, the vicar left, returning a few days later with a modified request: would John please play temporarily until someone permanent could be found? John agreed, saying he wouldn't take a stipend since he hoped someone could be found soon.

As often happens when volunteering temporarily, you can find yourself volunteering for a long time. When Canon Lickess eventually retired, John gave him a framed photo of All Saints Church, signed "from your temporary organist of 30 years", much to David's amusement. For the entire time at All Saints, John never took a stipend. He enjoyed playing and preferred to give time and talent to the church.



John practising at home

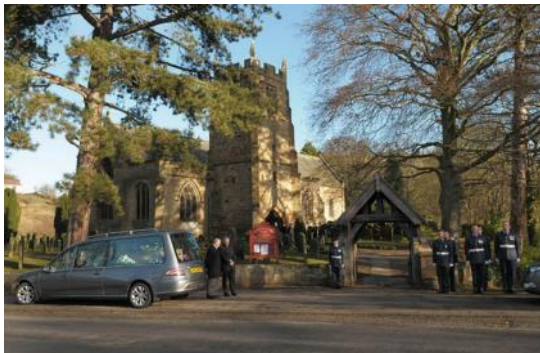
### A Change of Winds

Before John arrived, the Victorian pipe organ at All Saints needed remedial work and, on diocesan advice, had been replaced by a chamber organ: a single keyboard, with pedals. While adequate for accompanying hymns, it couldn't cope with some music for pipe organ. John nicknamed the instrument "the hurdy-

gurdy". For example, in Widor's *Toccatà*, when played at the usual speed, the music would merge into a whining drone, sounding like ... a hurdy-gurdy!

The nearby Swainby church also needed a new organ around the same time. But when they heard the Hutton Rudby instrument, they learned from the Hutton Rudby experience and bought a redundant pipe organ for £5 from the former St Luke's Hospital Chapel, Middlesbrough. The organ had been built by Harrisons of Durham, who still had the original specifications. Harrisons, the famous organ makers, were commissioned to dismantle, transport and rebuild the organ exactly as new in Swainby Church, which now has a superb instrument.

The Hutton Rudby organ is directly in front of the pews. Whenever there was a uniformed organisations service, as many Brownies as possible would cram into the front pew. Brown Owl said they liked to watch Mr Porter "tap dancing" on the pedals.



**All Saints Church, Hutton Rudby, on the occasion of the funeral of the Sir Rex Hunt, governor of the Falklands Islands at the time of the Argentine invasion**

### **Serving the Wishes of Others**

There were sometimes 'excruciating requests' for wedding music, including: "Could the organist play the tune they have when the Boro football team come on the pitch?" Bride and groom were both season ticket holders. The tune is something a called *Pigbag!* Regretfully, the organist could only find a brass band arrangement, nothing for church organ, thus denying the wedding guests (and probably bride and groom) the opportunity to erupt into a fan-chant. Another wedding request was for *Moonlight and Roses*, which the organist obliged with a tremulo rendition, in the best 'Blackpool Tower Ballroom Reginald Dixon' style.

Some weddings would take much longer than they should have done. When John returned home after one wedding, he ruefully observed to Christine, "I had twenty-five minutes of music prepared to play beforehand, and the bride was forty-five minutes late—mainly because the photographer was fussing, filming outside and in the porch, before the bride finally came into church. After the service, before the couple walked down the aisle, the photographer was fussing again, arranging each family in front of the altar. He even asked the vicar to move aside because she was "in the way!"



## New Priest, New Music to Order

By this time, Canon Lickess had been replaced by vicar Pam, her first post as priest-in-charge. She was enthusiastic, brimming with new ideas, and was keen to replace the myriad hymn books used in services. This idea met with John's great approval. The church mainly used the unpublished "All Saints Church Hutton Rudby Hymns" (words only). The music was scattered through many publications. Other music, such as TV theme tunes, was on individual sheets. This was something of an organist's nightmare, and a challenge for the choir, having to process from the vestry with the right books and tunes. The organ music stand and bench overflowed with compilations, well-used tune sheets sometimes drifting to the floor during a service.

Vicar and organist researched potential replacements, eventually agreeing on *Common Praise*. The PCC and church warden were concerned about the cost. Were there not cheaper alternatives? An anonymous donor solved the problem. When the new books appeared in church, a delighted vicar said a blessing "for this gift."

John organised many concerts at church, including performances by Stokesley Choral Society & Orchestra. He also directed, from the piano, a 'memorable performance' of Roger Jones's *Jerusalem Joy*, with the combined Hutton Rudby Primary School and village ecumenical choir (Anglicans and Methodists). Another collaboration was a concert by the ecumenical choir and Bilsdale Silver Band. By now, John was a percussionist with the Bilsdale Silver Band, the Northallerton Silver Band, and the Middlesbrough Jazz & Blues Orchestra. Churchgoers who had only known John as an organist, were entertained by his wild drumming in *Amarillo* with the Bilsdale Band.



John relaxing away from the organ 2011

To broaden the range of music played, he acquired a piano for church. This was more suitable than the organ for certain choir anthems, also making it possible to have, for example, some quiet Mozart during Communion. He also supplied a new electric piano for the refurbished Church House, so that the choir could practise there, a warmer venue than the mid-week church.



It was during this time that John completed fifty years as a church organist—an occasion marked by a large cake shared with the congregation and warm appreciation from the vicar who had been so supportive of his work on behalf of the church

Sadly, after only a few years, vicar Pam left the ministry and moved to the Orkneys. At her farewell service, John played a moving piano piece, *Farewell to Stromness* (written by Peter Maxwell Davies in 1980, to protest against uranium mining in Orkney), and the service ended with Pam’s favourite music—*Brother James’ Air*- on the organ.

A long interregnum was followed by the creation of a new benefice . A new Rector was asked to cover all seven churches with the consequent loss of a full-time priest - and musical supporter—at Hutton Rudby.

The effects of these changes and of the side effects of medication he was now being prescribed led John to two painful decisions—to cease playing the instrument which had given so much pleasure and support for worship for more than half a century and a decision to move to a different church within the benefice.

### New Beginnings

John and Christine began worshiping at Swainby Church, to the surprise of the unsuspecting Rector. He wrote an affectionate and heartfelt letter to John, sharing his own experience and fully understanding John’s. John and Christine continued to attend Swainby Church until lockdown.



In October 2020, Christine and John moved house, choosing Richmond as a new base. A couple of weeks after arriving in Richmond, they were walking up Station Road one Friday evening, noticed the lights in St Mary’s Church and investigated. As they stood in the doorway, a voice behind them said “Go right in, you’re most welcome”. It was Scott Lunn, pushing his bike up the path. He said: “We’re about to start choir practice, the first since lockdown, but come in and look round. You’re very welcome. You can stay and listen if you like”. Scott opened two folding chairs for them at the back of church. John sat in stunned silence and Christine began to sob silently, as the rehearsal began with: *Common Praise no. 612: “We Have A Gospel To Proclaim”*. It was Eddie’s hymn, which John had been the first organist to play, back in the 1960s.

In Christine’s own words, God had guided them to their new church, a most warmly welcoming one too.

## GRAND DAYS OUT

Although William Gedye is taking a break from offering walks to consider, **CAROLE McCORMACK** tempts car owners to visit an unusual venue in the Masham area. Hidden away from the main travel routes, the whole site in which the Temple is located offers a number of well marked, easy walks with good views—as well as mountain biking trails if you fancy it! Well worth a visit.

### DRUID'S TEMPLE AND SWINTON BIVOUAC, HEALEY NR. MASHAM

**LOCATION:** Healey, nr Masham

**DISTANCE FROM RICHMOND:** About 30 miles

**TIME:** 45 mins

**ROUTE:** A6136 to Leyburn; A6108 through Middleham towards Masham. On the outskirts of Masham turn right (small turning difficult to see) down Fearby road, signposted to Fearby and Healey. Fearby has a wide and attractive village green and Healey (2.6 miles from Masham) is a small village built along this quiet country road.



Just before Kell Bank School in Healey, a brown sign points left to Swinton Bivouac.

**Note: The Druid's Temple is not signed at this stage.** Follow this quiet country road down across the river and up towards the Swinton estate, to the Bivouac – a very attractive glamping site with yurts, café/restaurant and toilets. At this late stage the Druid's Temple is signposted.

**PARKING:** Large car park with a £3 parking fee.

**TERRAIN:** Fairly level, with surfaced paths.

**FEATURES:** A very striking stone circle, with other stone structures scattered along the footpath through attractive mixed woodland; beautiful views across Wensleydale; great place for picnics and outdoor games with children.

**REFRESHMENTS:** Very nice café/restaurant with tables both inside and outside on a terrace with sweeping views.

**TOILETS:** At the café.

## Overview

I had heard of the Druid's Temple when I previously lived in Yorkshire – but had never found it. On our recent visit, I finally understood why! Although readily accessible, it is only signposted when one has nearly reached it: the key is to follow the brown Swinton Bivouac signs which lead to an ample car park within a gentle stroll of the Temple – probably less than half a mile's walk.

This is a fascinating – and very reasonable – Grand Day Out, which can be enjoyed on many levels. The only fee is for parking and this is £3 which is put in a small brown envelope with the car registration marked on the outside.

Although the Swinton Estate is privately owned, many and generous opportunities are provided for the public to responsibly enjoy its beauty. Bikes are available for hire if the visitor wishes to explore the cycle tracks through the 2,000 acres of woodland on two wheels, rather than two feet. There are good footpaths for 4-footed friends. (The usual dog-owner caveats of course apply: keep your animals under control and take home any waste.) The area is a wonderful natural playground for children, and perfect for picnics.

The Jubilee Walk is the public footpath that leads to the Druid's Temple. Created in 2012, thirty pairs of native trees were planted to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee. There are opportunities for geocaching and outdoor adventure activities. But for all, of every ability, there is beauty and interest.





## History of the Druid's Temple

The exact origins of the temple are unknown. Facts we *do* know are that it is not prehistoric, but was built by estate workers somewhere between the late 1700's and early 1800's, when the Swinton Estate was owned by William Danby. He had travelled extensively around Europe and was inspired to create varied contrasts of scenery on his estate. It seems likely that the construction of the Druid's Temple was influenced by the Romantic movement, which gave rise to a fascination for the Gothic – in literature (*The Castle of Otranto* and *Northanger Abbey*) and in the construction of grottos and follies across the UK and Europe. Poets such as Blake and Wordsworth were intrigued by Druidism and considered the druids as some of England's earliest men of learning. It is even said that Danby employed a hermit who lived at the temple. Looking at the cold rock and lack of amenities it is astonishing that this person lasted a full seven years in the temple before he said he had to leave.



Although not prehistoric, the design of the structure and the surrounding stone features were carefully researched, and there are several aspects that bear a symbolic resemblance to an authentic Druid's Temple. For example, the first chamber contains the four symbols of the elements of air, earth, fire and water. Behind the three stones which form a screen lies the solar chamber and beyond this the Tomb of Transformation. On the hill above there is a high stack of stones which symbolises the deity, and which is surrounded by the twelve signs of the zodiac.

### Opportunity for a longer walk

The villages of Fearby and Healey are attractive and limited parking is possible in either. A straightforward, circular route can then be followed, crossing the River Burn to the far side of the gentle valley and following the small country roads to Swinton Bivouac. Sweeping views of Healey are well worth the longer walk (probably about 5 miles).





### St Mary's and the Swaledale Festival

An earlier edition of this magazine featured the work of the volunteers who support the annual Swaledale Festival which celebrated its fiftieth year this year. Alexe and Jonathan Roberts were two of the members of our congregation who supported the wider festival, stewarding events at other venues as well as supporting performances at St Mary's.

Alexe wrote a blog about how she saw the festival through her eyes, encompassing a dozen or more events. The following is an extract from that blog regarding those performances hosted by St Mary's.

#### **Brodsky Quartet, 31 May**

What can one say about the Brodskys and Laura? There are no words. From the opening of the Purcell *Chaconny* to the last notes of the Schubert Quintet, we were spellbound and transported to another world. An interpretation to challenge us as well as giving long lasting memories.



#### **Evelyn Glennie, Chelys Consort, vocal quarter, Jill Jarman, composer and conductor, 1 June**

The Language of Bells, preceded by our own Tower quarter peal, formed the centrepiece of this concert which showcased vocal brilliance, exquisite viol playing, genre shift in rapid succession, balletic choreography. Through it all, Dame Evelyn wove her music like some ethereal, translucent magician, weaving spells, reprising *A Little Prayer* to our delight (and did she actually play St Mary's piano!?!?). Jill Jarman's masterpiece left us entranced.



Dame Evelyn Glennie



Chelys Consort

### Halle Cellos, 5 June

We waited two years owing to Covid, but they came. Through Rossini's *William Tell*, to Wagner's *Parsifal*, the sonorous resonance ebbed and flowed. Bach chorale preludes led us into Villa Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras*.

Much wine was drunk in the interval, and then we were treated to Vivaldi with the concerto solos moving from musician to musician. Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* led us into the glorious finale of Sollima with two flamboyant soloists. It was worth the wait!



The Eight Cellos

*Alexe Roberts*

### Editor's Postscript



Aurora Percussion Duo

St Mary's also hosted a fourth event, the Aurora Percussion Duo on 6th June. As well as being a focal venue for large events, the performances brought in people from Richmond and beyond with no particular association with the church who appreciated the warmth of the welcome, the support for performers and the refreshments provided by the Friends of St Mary's—which happily raised nearly £600 for the FoSM funds to support development of our church and its work. The church itself also receives a payment for hire of the venue—a source of additional income as we continually seek to secure income to pay our day-to-day expenses—including the parish share!!!

In addition to the volunteer support, some members of benefice congregations, including Helen Rowan, Jan Beeton, Judith Barber, Christine Stedman and John McCormack were part of the magnificent opening event—a performance of Handel's *Messiah* in Ripon Cathedral on 28 May, whilst Rod Hall and your editor, as part of Fourum, helped to 'bookend' the festival with a full house concert at St Mary's in Langthwaite. The audience of local people was supplemented by visitors from as far afield as Germany and Texas on 10 June. Truly, our local festival has an international reach for audiences as well as performers.

A big community 'thank you' to all involved across the area to bring a memorable golden jubilee festival (during the Queen's Platinum Jubilee) to fruition. As the parish church in Richmond, it was a great delight to play our part.

*J E J*

## Little Angels

Another sign of 'normal service' being resumed was the first meeting of the newly formed 'Little Angels' Baby and Toddler Group at the Methodist Church Hall on Thursday 9th June ( 160th anniversary of the first running of the Blaydon Races if that's of any interest or significance?). Run by volunteers from the Methodist Church and St Mary's, the 9.30 start didn't deter parents or volunteers as a really good attendance marked a very positive start for this weekly group. They will continue to meet every Thursday from 9.30 until 11.30 during school term time. It is open to anyone with babies and/or toddlers to attend—offering opportunities for playing with toys, stories, reading for the little ones and also a time for a bit of relaxation, coffee and chat for parents, carers—and even grandparents.



All is ready for the little angels!



Whilst there are obvious and known restrictions on printing photos of participating children, our intrepid photographer captured a couple of volunteers clearly enjoying showing some of the facilities 'Little Angels' has to offer. It's a great collaborative venture. Do spread the word!

## 200 Club

Our collectors are in the process of contacting members for the collection of cash or cheque subscriptions for St Mary's 200 club for the years 2022-23. The collectors' task has been made easier by those members who have agreed to pay by direct bank payment (BACS) or by Standing Order. Thank you for being able and prepared to do that.

If you are not a member or would like to join, please speak to Jonathan Roberts of 01609 881216 or via [SMR200club@aol.com](mailto:SMR200club@aol.com). If you are already a member and would like an additional number, please contact your collector or Jonathan.

It costs £10 for a year's membership. Your number(s) are entered into a draw each month for a prize of £50. All numbers qualify for a prize each month even if winning numbers in previous draws. There is also a bonus draw in December.

The profits from these monthly draws go towards the on-going costs and development of St. Mary's.

## **Friends of St Mary's 'At Home' Coffee Mornings**

Many thanks to Howard and Rachel Walker for opening their home on May 28 for the first of a series of such events in this new venture. The main purpose is to offer us all an opportunity to meet each other over coffee outside the after service church setting. There was much good conversation and fun—as well as a chance to enjoy the coffee and biscuits provided by the Walkers. As Jan and I were leaving, Howard was about to do a conducted tour of his garage! Some people had brought home baking for sale, and there was a small raffle. Coupled with donations, the morning raised over £160 for developments at St Mary's—but the main aim was simply social.



The next such event is on Saturday, 16 July from 9.30 a.m. at the home of Alice and John Challis, 1, Cornforth Hill in Richmond. Do pop in for an hour or so. Bring a friend or two if you wish.

## **A World Premiere at Downholme**

Although Keith Robson is no longer able to play his beloved violin, he can still compose music. During lockdown in the UK, one of his compositions was played in Norway by one of his former students. But he also set himself the task of writing a new setting for the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis for choral evensong, and the St Mary's choir, augmented with friends from other parishes gave the work its first public presentation during evensong at Downholme on Sunday, 11 June. Over 40 people attended. Alexe Roberts writes; "We are so grateful to our accomplished composer, conductor and violinist, Keith Robson, for his Canticles in C, first performed at Downholme. Keith has allowed us to offer to God his wonderful musical offering."

Congratulations to Keith and also to the choir, led by Chris Denton, for bringing this original work to life.

Those attending were invited to picnic in the churchyard after the service. A number of hardy souls took up this invitation, in spite of the threat of showers.



**Picnic time at Downholme**

## **200 CLUB—JUNE DRAW**

**The June winner was No 184- Steve Wade. Congratulations, Steve!**

## News from the Pews (continued)



### The Famous Annual Mothers' Union Afternoon Tea Returns

Having had a successful belated Christmas Party in May, the Mothers' Union is once again able to invite us all to come along for Afternoon Tea after two years of staying at home and staying safe.

The return of this annual fund-raising event will be at the home of Susan and Leonard Scrafton, 14 Pilmoor Close in Richmond. It will take place on SUNDAY 10TH JULY from 3.00 p.m. onwards. The cost is £5.00 per head—or £7.50 to include a glass of fizz!

No need for a ticket. The MU works on faith. Just turn up come rain (the walls will stretch!) or shine. There will, of course, be the usual wonderful raffle and no doubt an auction as well.

The St Mary's branch supports families within our parish, as well as supporting AFIA Away From It All holidays. In our area, this is a static caravan at Filey for families who otherwise couldn't afford a holiday. The branch also supports overseas missions and various appeals from the HQ—Mary Sumner House—such as Make a Mother's Day and Summer of Hope Appeal. Finally, funds also provide the gift of a book and a card for baptisms at St Mary's.

The invitation is open to all.. And do feel free to bring friends and acquaintances from the wider community. ALL ARE WELCOME!

*Susan Scrafton*



**Last Sunday of Every Month !**

**4.00 p.m.**

**Why not come and join us?**

**Tell your family and friends—anyone with children**

### **MEN'S GROUP**

Meets first Thursday of every month from 7.00 p.m.

**CASTLE TAVERN,  
Richmond Market Place**

This month's meeting: 7th July

**Contacts:** Rev Paul Sunderland or Leonard Scrafton. Just turn up and be welcome!





## FOR ALL THE SAINTS

Over the past two years, we have looked at the background of the saints whose names are carried by our benefice churches. Just outside our benefice, there are two churches dedicated to St Agatha—one in Gilling West, with the other on the popular walk to Easby—another case in point. Richmondshire Museum volunteer, Gordon Alexander, talks to CAROLE McCORMACK about this. Carole also offers a brief biography of the saint.

Dedications at Easby and Gilling to St Agatha, a Sicilian martyred at Catania in the third century, were thought to have been influenced by returning crusaders, but it is possible that they could have a much earlier origin.



**Pope Gregory I by  
Pedro Berruguel**

The sixth century Pope Gregory I founded several monasteries, notably one at Catania Sicily, where St Agatha was martyred. He also founded his seat in Rome: a monastery dedicated to St Andrew (now *S. Gregorio Magno*). Gregory decided to take Christianity to pagan Britain and about AD 590 sent Augustine, Prior of St Andrew's monastery, to start conversion.

After ten years, Augustine was joined by other monks from St Andrew's including Paulinus, who was despatched to Northumbria. Later a Deacon named James joined him, and Bede records Paulinus, probably assisted by James, baptising converts in the River Swale. When paganism swept back to

Northumbria in mid-7<sup>th</sup> century, Paulinus returned south but Deacon James remained in the north near Catterick until Christianity was restored. He took part in the Synod of Whitby in 663AD.

The decoration of the stone cross found at Easby, now in the Victoria & Albert Museum, shows it to be an 'Apostle pillar' associated with the rite of baptism. It dates from at least the mid eighth century AD and probably commemorates earlier notable baptisms in the river there. The existing church, built in the late eleventh or early twelfth century, possibly replaced a much earlier wooden structure, and the later siting of the Premonstratensian Abbey nearby, point to the Christian importance of this site.

Christian Ostrogoths, who embraced the Arian heresy which denied the divinity of Christ, occupied Rome early in the sixth century but by the time of Gregory's



**3 views of the cross (Wikipedia)**



pontificate only some of their churches remained, including their principal Arian church. During the 590's AD Gregory's Monastery of St Andrew's, in suppressing Arianism, took over this church. Gregory rededicated it to St Agatha (now *S. Agata dei Goti*). He also added her name to the Canon of the Mass. Paulinus, and James, though very young, were in Rome during this event, which demonstrated the importance of St Agatha to Gregory.



Image representing  
St Agatha

In this early period, followers of the Roman Church regarded Gregory, rather than Augustus, as the Apostle of England. Long before Gregory's canonisation, the first biography of him was written by a monk at Whitby but, as he remained uncanonised after his death, dedications could not yet be made in his name. James was held in high esteem in the north and kept alive the memory of Gregory and his devotion to St Agatha.

It is possible that the dedication to St Agatha of a timber church at Easby was made at about the time of the Synod of Whitby in 663AD; and, although the dedication was made to the saint, through her honour was paid to the late Pope Gregory. Bede indicates that the monastery at Gilling, founded after AD 651, its location now lost, was under Celtic rather than Roman monasticism so the dedication of the later church there would have followed the earlier dedication near Paulinus's baptismal site at Easby.

### Who was St Agatha?

St Agatha is the patron saint of Sicily and is one of seven women commemorated in the Roman Catholic Mass. We have only sketchy details about her life: her birth date is unknown, but we know that she died around 251 AD.

Agatha was born to a wealthy Sicilian family and is said to have refused offers of marriage because she wanted to remain a virgin and dedicate her life to God. In common with many saints, she suffered dreadful trials and torture, remaining true to her vows to the last. A high-ranking official, whose name was Quintin, was determined to break Agatha's spirit when she refused to marry him; and he ordered her to be sent to a brothel to humiliate her. She withstood this trial and subsequent torture, declaring steadfastly that she would give her life to God alone. Quintin then sent her to prison where she was visited by a vision of St Peter, who healed her wounds. Pursuing her relentlessly, Quintin ordered her to be mutilated – leading her to be the patron saint of women who have undergone mastectomies. St. Agatha was buried in an underground basilica which, during the 4th or 5th century was enlarged and embellished, and became known as the Abbey of St. Agatha, in Catania Sicily. In the 11th century, her body was discovered to be incorrupted and parts of her body still exist today.

## PATHWAYS IN PRAYER

If prayer is a relationship with God and not a strange technique for vicars, nuns and saints who float six inches above the floor, it will have some of the dimensions of our closest human relationships. So far we've looked at 'Just getting on with it' and 'Chatting.' This month JOHN PRITCHARD turns the focus onto 'Talking.'

### Talking

Any good relationship needs times of deeper sharing of our thoughts, feelings, hopes and ideas, even our vulnerabilities and anxieties. If we don't share some of this deeper stuff our relationship will be superficial and, regrettably, start to wither.

So it is in our relationship with God. Some time, on many if not most days, can be spent in more intentional and meaningful 'conversation.' This can take many forms:

**Classic Quiet Time.** This is simply Bible reading and prayer. It's probably best to use some Bible reading notes from BRF, Scripture Union, CWR (look them up online). My recommendation would be *Reflections for Daily Prayer* from Church House Publishing (but that's because I often write for them!)

**Morning Prayer (a Daily Office).** The Anglican one is from *Common Worship Daily Prayer* (also available online). Be sure to alter it to make it fit your needs e.g. I often omit the canticle, use just one reading, and for the psalm I go through from 1 to 150 rather than in the odd way the lectionary does. An alternative Office is *Celtic Daily Prayer* from the Northumbria Community.

**Apps and online resources.** *Lectio 365* – meditative Bible reading from the 24/7 Prayer movement. *Sacred Space* – a quiet online process of meditation from the Irish Jesuits. *Pray as you Go* - free app offering ten minutes of music, Bible reading and meditation.

**P.R.A.Y. Prepare:** go to your special place and perhaps light a candle. Be still for a few moments. **Remember:** go over the last 24 hours and both give thanks (rejoice) and express sorrow (regret). **Ask:** bring the needs of others to God. **Yield:** be open to God in stillness, using a prayer word to stay centred ('Jesus', 'Come Holy Spirit').



**The Arts.** We can devise our own way of ‘Talking’ using music, poetry, art etc. There are many books to help, as well as online resources.

These are a few ways to have a specific time to help our relationship with God to grow. Many people find the start of the day is the best time, setting the day in the context of God’s presence and love, but whatever time works best for you is the one to choose.

*John Pritchard*

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## FRIENDS OF ST MARYS

### ‘At Home’ Coffee Morning—July 16th



Alice and John Challis are welcoming us to their home at 1 Cornforth Hill in Richmond on Saturday 16th July from 9.30 a.m. Please support this event; come along, -perhaps bring some home baking or preserves for sale. Bring or invite friends and meet up with others over a coffee—or tea. All are welcome.

### Summer Barbecue—July 23rd 4.00 p.m.—7.30 (ish!)

We’re bringing back the summer barbecue in a slightly different format this year. Rev Martin and Anna have kindly offered the Rectory Garden for this event and we are extending the invitation to the benefice and the wider community. As well as the traditional Barbecue fair—including vegan dishes— there will be garden games to play and face painting for the younger visitors—or young at heart!!

There is a sign up list at the back of St Mary’s. We do need help from you to offer to bring a dessert or perhaps to offer time to set up and also to dismantle as well as help to run the event itself. Please seek out the list and offer what you feel you can. There will be wine and soft drinks available and payment will be via donations on a pay-as-you-go basis for drink and food. John Challis has a busy July as he is also chief cook on the barbecue as well as sourcing the burgers—supplied by Hamiltons of Rosemary Lane—, together with Jeanette Sunderland, other food items. We look forward to seeing you there for all or part of the time.

### Where does the money go?

We are raising money to fund projects which would otherwise be a charge on the parish budget. The Hot Air Curtain above the South Door was paid for by the Friends this year and we will shortly be paying for architect fees to plan improvements to the access at the South Door for people with mobility difficulties.

## NOTES FROM OUR PAST

Following Liz Kluz's recent article about the activities of the police constables in the Marske area, JANE HATCHER tells us more about their activities and how the people of the rural community resorted to quite a bit of self-help to uphold the law

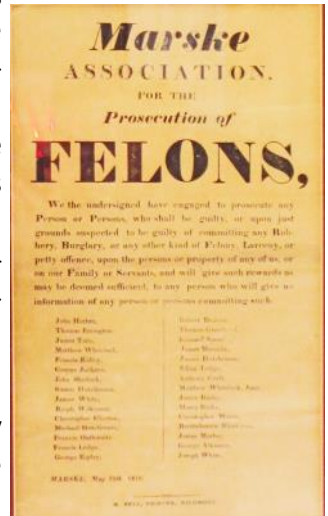
### *Crime Prevention in Marske*

In the March 2022 edition of our magazine, Liz Kluz told us about police constables appointed to Marske, Reeth and Gunnerside following the County and Borough Police Act of 1856. These were police constables akin to our idea of people as in a present-day police force. But in earlier time the word 'constable' meant a parish official who was responsible for a wide range of duties, not only related to miscreants but also such tasks as collecting local taxes. In Richmond the town was divided into three 'wards', each with a constable, and records show that his chores included the invidious duty of collecting Hearth Tax and Window Tax!

By the early-19<sup>th</sup> century, many of the old systems which had kept society ticking over, mainly administered by each parish, such as helping the poor and maintaining the highways, were breaking down. Much new legislation was brought in during the short reign of William IV between 1830 and 1837, such as the famous Poor Law Act of 1834. Less well-known is the Municipal Corporations Act of 1835 which, among many changes, enabled towns and cities to employ law enforcement officers. Richmond Corporation started doing so in the late-1830s. It was later before country areas had the similar protection of a law-enforcement official.

And so rural areas had begun to resort to self-help. Marske, having a forward-looking and benevolent squire in the person of John Hutton (1774-1841), was ahead of the game. Among my collection of historic material is a poster, dated 12 May 1819, printed in Richmond by Matthew Bell in Finkle Street, advertising the formation of the Marske Association for the Prosecution of Felons.

We don't often hear the word 'felon' used for a criminal nowadays, but then it was a person who had committed a felony, a crime liable for a prison sentence, much more serious than a 'misdemeanour'.



The poster then goes on to explain “We the undersigned have engaged to prosecute any Person or Persons, who shall be guilty, or upon just grounds suspected to be guilty of committing any Robbery, Burglary, or any other kind of Felony, Larceny, or petty offence, upon the persons or property of any of us, or on our Family or Servants, and will give such rewards as may be deemed sufficient, to any person who will give us information of any person or persons committing such.”



**Memorial Tablet to John Hutton of Marske**

The names of 30 members of the association then follow.

The list is headed by John Hutton himself, followed by Thomas Errington, the owner of Clints Hall just up the valley from Marske. Next comes James Tate, the Richmond headmaster who was also Rector of Marske. And Francis Ridley, the skilful head-gardener at Marske who was doubtless anxious to make sure no one broke into the hothouses where he grew pineapples and other exotic fruits.

The group also included people from outside the Marske area itself. Josias Morley was the landowner of the Marrick Park estate, Ralph Wilkinson of Walburn Hall was a noted cattle breeder, and Christopher Ellerton a gentleman of Downholme. Several tenant farmers of the Hutton family are listed, not only on the Marske estate but also Anthony Croft of Boston Farm at Walburn, and James Hutchinson at Helwith. Some names may even have been of people who lived further afield.

Did they prosecute any felons? Well, yes they did! Among the archive of John Hutton held in the County Record Office at Northallerton are some tantalising references to the activities of this Marske Association. Unfortunately these records don't provide any juicy details of intriguing cases, but they do provide an insight into how difficult it was for people in rural areas to ensure miscreants were brought to trial. Hence the need to create a fund and the moral backing for doing so.

The papers which John Hutton had retained only relate to the expenditure which the group had incurred. These included having handbills printed to advertise details of who they were looking for over a crime, and then the costs of processing a person so apprehended. These were usually to reimburse the travel and subsistence costs involved in taking the alleged criminal to Northallerton, where he would be housed in the House of Correction there until the case was heard in a court, usually the North Riding Quarter Sessions but occasionally at the York Assizes. Occasionally an informant was given a reward, so there is an entry for “The Boy who gave the information”.



The few references to actual crimes include a man called Wilson who was charged with forgery, and the total costs for getting him to “North Allerton”, as the town was called in those days, was the large sum of £29 2s 5d. Someone else had broken into a barn and stolen bags of oats stored there. There are also some sad tales of a mare being stolen, also a “Scotch cow and calf with white at the end of the tail”. I wonder if this was a Highland long-horn animal?

*Jane Hatcher*

—oOoOoOo—

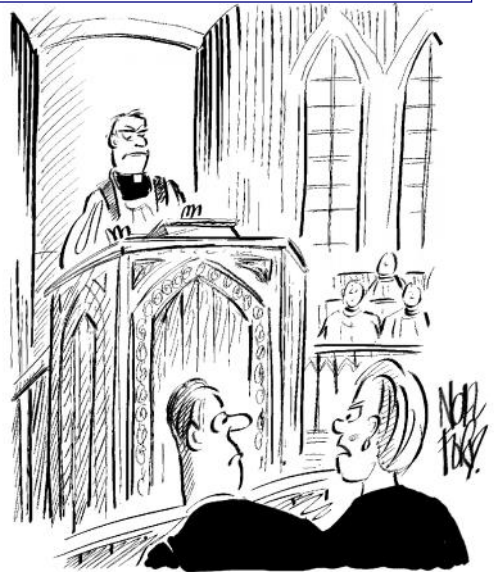
### HELP WANTED, PLEASE

Is anyone in a position to offer about 30 minutes in a month (at a time of your choosing during the last few days of a month) to undertake the delivery of this magazine please? The particular round in question is the Hudswell round which involves delivering to 17 addresses in the village— a steady walk through the village, including delivering one at the *George and Dragon*!!

If you can help or would like more information, please contact Keith Robson who organises the delivery team. His number is 07866 325843—text or call.



Yet another of the vicar's money-raising wheezes, I see



It was bad enough your mobile ringing half-way through his sermon, without the ring-tone being the 'Christians Awake' tune!

Cartoons from The Parish Pump Ltd

## POETRY FROM DOWNHOLME

### Weathering Brain Storms by George Alderson

It's strange what passes through the mind,  
The thoughts that trouble, or are kind,  
Some, best forgotten, left behind,  
While others, hopelessly entwined,  
Confused as to the path to take,  
To make the body still or shake,  
To help the spirit sleep or wake,  
To reconstruct or else to break.  
This traffic carries on and on.  
It shines a light where there were none,  
Or else brings shadows, whereupon  
It moves, but yet is never gone.  
If only we could regulate  
The thoughts we love and those we hate,  
Then, like a level crossing gate,  
We might control this passing freight.  
Yet nothing seems to change the speed  
Of what we think and what we need  
To separate the bloom from weed!  
Will we be able to succeed?  
It seems, if left to outside force,  
There is an instant change to course  
And woe betide us when a source  
Of infamy, a Trojan Horse,  
Innocuous, so it may seem,  
Becomes a toxic, Hellish dream,  
For every torrent starts as stream,  
Until it drowns the loudest scream!  
Can we identify the road  
Where minds of all can cede their load  
In language which is not in code  
And does not slight, confuse or goad?  
There is no animosity  
Between my "enemy" and me!  
The minds of evil do not see  
That all all wish is to be free.  
Let us not lose that simple thought  
Before our minds are cluttered, fraught,  
And patience withers, soon too short  
To stop the move which leads to nought.

## BEHIND THE HYMNS

**JUDITH MacLEOD** selects another hymn which means a lot to her and goes more deeply into the key words and lines which make this impact.

Is there a hymn which means a lot to you? Please contact [stmarys.maged@gmail.com](mailto:stmarys.maged@gmail.com) and we will feature it in a future edition.

### 'Be Thou My Vision'

My choice of hymn for this month is the oldest so far. I have chosen it for its simplicity and its directness. It can be traced back to an Irish poem perhaps as early as 6th century. In its original Gaelic form it is often thought to be a tribute to the Irish Saint Patrick by the poet St Dallán Forgaill. It was translated from the Gaelic by the Irish scholar Mary Byrne in 1905 and later versified by Eleanor Hull for the 1919 hymnal.



Eleanor Hull's interest in the Celtic tradition led her to become the first London Secretary of the Irish Text Soc which she founded in 1899, and to serve as president of the Irish Literary Soc in London. She wrote widely on Irish history and literature, and in 1931 received an Hon Litt.D from the National University of Ireland. At the time of her death she was engaged in editing a series of *Lives of the Celtic Saints*. No.732

The hymn is paired with the tune 'Slane', the traditional Irish mediaeval tune written in honour of St Patrick. In 433 on Slane Hill in County Meath, St Patrick lit candles at Easter time and was permitted to continue his work as Ireland's first Christian missionary.

The words are an uplifting prayer of praise and devotion. The 5 x 4 line verses written in rhyming couplets are engagingly simple. The text is so full of biblical associations that I have selected just one line in each verse as an example.

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

In the opening verse we ask God to be our source of vision and light. John 12:46: 'I have come as light into the world, that whosoever believeth in me may not abide in darkness'.

In verse 2 we ask for wisdom so that we might dwell in Him and He in us:

II Corinthians 6:16 'we are the temple of the living God; just as God said "I will dwell in them".

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;  
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.  
Born of thy love, thy child may I be,  
Thou in me dwelling and I one with thee

Be thou my buckler, my sword for the fight.  
Be thou my dignity, thou my delight,  
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r.  
Raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

We ask for God's protection in verse 3. The military metaphors of the 'breast-plate' and the 'sword for the fight' take me to one of my favourite readings from the epis-

cles, Ephesians 6:13-17: 'take up the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit'.

In the hymn there is the striking juxtaposition of the powerful and the tender. God is omnipotent in providing the 'soul's shelter' and in raising us 'heavenward'.

In verse 4, line 1, earthly riches such as popularity and success are dismissed in favour of divine riches as in Proverbs 11:28: 'he who trusts in riches will fall: but the righteous shall flourish as the green leaf'.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise;  
thou mine inheritance, now and always.  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
Ruler of heaven, my treasure thou art.

True Light of heaven, when vict'ry is won  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!  
Heart of my heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

The final verse evokes the joy we can enjoy by trusting in God. The image of light is in 'heaven's bright Sun', Malachi 4:2: 'the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings'.

The hymn is a believer's prayer. We trust God to see the bigger picture asking Him to be our constant companion in thought, provide comfort, wisdom and joy. We are vulnerable and God is our protector. The opening words of the hymn 'Be thou my vision' are repeated in the last line with a small alteration - 'Still be my vision' - before the rousing conclusion 'O Ruler of all.'. They fill us with confidence and a sense of peace.

*Judith MacLeod*

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## WILLIAM'S WALKS

Having written walks for us on a monthly basis since 2020, a reminder that William is taking a well-earned break. We look forward to a return in the Autumn.

The weekly expeditions initially known as 'Walking for Health' - now Ramblers' Wellbeing Walks Richmondshire continue. Further information can be obtained from [walk.for.health@btinternet.com](mailto:walk.for.health@btinternet.com) or by calling William on 07710 739192.

## SIXTY SECOND INTERVIEW

This month, **Paul Perry** becomes the willing subject for John Pritchard's quick questions requiring a rapid, short and instinctive answer. Paul and Katherine joined St Mary's during lockdown and have already offered their time in a number of ways. When they arrived- this wasn't one of those ways on the list!



**First memory?** When I was about 4 years old I remember coming into the house and the television was on and a new programme just starting. I think I just stood there spellbound through the whole thing; it was the first episode of Doctor Who.

**2. Favourite meal?** Roast lamb with whatever spin you want to put on it, traditional English, garlic spiced Indian, Persian, or anything with a cheese course

**3. Ed Sheeran or Mozart?** Mozart

**4. Pet dislike?** I don't dislike any pets! Cotton wool being torn or pulled apart anywhere near me.

**5. Best holiday?** First time we went to Italy as a family and we took our boys to Pompeii.

**6. Childhood hero?** The Doctor (Who)

**7. Two favourite hobbies?** Not sure I have time for hobbies but) Reading and DIY especially when you don't need to do it anymore.

**8. Luxury on Desert Island?** A computer

**9. East Enders or The Archers?** Robin Hood if he counts (otherwise the first three notes of The Archers before I switch the radio off. Or everything on Radio 4 except The Archers).

**10. Worst fault?** Not taking things seriously enough

**11. Last film watched?** Zack Snyder's Justice League (though I'm waiting to watch Dune)

**12. Favourite drink?** Single Malt Whisky (preferably Speyside)

**13. Gardening or sitting in the garden?** Sitting in the garden with a book

**14. Last book read?** *The Colour of Magic* by Terry Pratchett

**15. Favourite charity?** Compassion ([www.compassionuk.org](http://www.compassionuk.org)—Sponsor a Child)



- 16. Italy or the Orkneys?** Probably the Orkneys (though I've never been there)
- 17. Three dinner companions?** A. W. Tozer; Roger Forster (never heard anyone cram so much theology into 30 seconds); Eric Morecambe
- 18. What do you pray for most?** My family. ALSO love, compassion and humility
- 19. Traditional or new Lord's Prayer?** New
- 20. Epitaph?** I would like it to be "He cared" but it'll probably turn out to be "Don't worry, he's gone"

*John Pritchard*

### Pause for Thought

July 3rd is the feast day for St Thomas. MARK BERESFORD-PEIRSE reminds us of the disciple and some learning we can take from his questioning approach and from Jesus' response to his uncertainties.

### Doubting Thomas

Many of us have a soft spot for Thomas whose saint's day falls on July 3rd. A better nickname for him could be "Test-it-out Thomas " or maybe "Honest Tom" , as he wouldn't settle for less than the full truth , the whole story. He wasn't afraid to ask for answers or for proof. It paid off too , not only after the Resurrection , but earlier on when he asked Jesus to explain how they were expected to know the way, and Jesus replied that he himself was the way. (See the beginning of John 14.)

As their friend and Lord and as a good teacher , Jesus encouraged his disciples to ask questions, and my guess is that he welcomed different opinions and even doubts. He certainly liked to make people scratch their heads and wonder and look at things from a different angle. He treated Thomas in a way which was right for him and enabled him to step out boldly into God's future . I think he does the same with us , respecting us and wanting us to be true to ourselves, with our ways of thinking and our strengths , as well as our needs and weaknesses

We are told by Jesus to ask, to seek and to knock at the door , so let's keep doing that! Only we should probably expect that the answers or gifts we'll be given may not be exactly what we were expecting , though they'll be right for us . The door may open onto vistas which surprise us and , like Thomas , we may find that we are given better things than we ever asked for , both here in this life and beyond death

*Mark B-P*

## MUSINGS FROM MARSKE

LIZ KLUZ recalls a time when the good people of Marske and the wider dale had links with the temperance movement in the 19th Century. For some, its was a commitment to a way of life; for others it simply offered other benefits—like a grand day out.

### MONSTER TEMPERANCE TRIP TO CLEVELAND

One hundred and sixty years ago, on July 26<sup>th</sup> 1862, the Richmond and Ripon Chronicle published a wonderfully tongue-in-cheek report about a recent day trip which had been organised by the Darlington Temperance Society presumably hoping to encourage like minded folk to join them for a day out at the seaside.

Arrangements had been made with the North Eastern Railway company and the Stockton and Darlington Railway to provide excursion trains offering low fares which, judging by the thousands who took them up on their offer, must have made a tidy profit for the railway companies. It also proved the point that providing travel for greater numbers at low rates was more efficient than higher rates with smaller numbers of passengers.

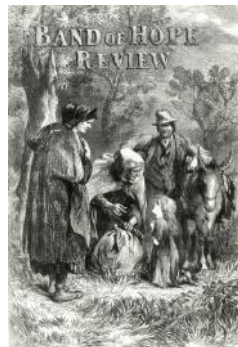


Signing the pledge

Three trains capable of carrying between three and four thousand passengers were laid on. The first collected passengers from the Leyburn, Bedale and Northallerton area, the second covered Bishop Auckland and Darlington and the third train from Richmond picked up travellers at all the stations on the way to Darlington.

Apparently “in no other district did the desire for an outing appear so strongly cherished as amongst the canny people of Swaledale. Although a considerable proportion of those who set out on the excursion were teetotallers, staunch and rugged as their native hills, yet the greater number of the excursionists probably cared not a straw for teetotalism but they wanted an out and an out they determined to have”.

Under the leadership of Mr. G.A. Robinson of Reeth, an ardent teetotaler himself, “the dalesmen came down to Richmond in strong force with music and banners” on the day of the trip. The Reeth Temperance Brass Band played through the town and were followed in the procession by the Reeth Band of Hope, children from the Richmond Primitive Methodist Church and the Wesleyan Sunday School Band of Hope.



They were joined by “a stream of other excursionists, dressed in true Sunday tog, who filled the railway road and the platform where they were immediately put into a plentiful supply of carriages”. Between eight and nine hundred revellers started out from Richmond “the train being very long indeed” and with all the additional passengers collected along the way it “made quite a heavy train”.

We get a pretty good idea of the atmosphere on what must have been a very crowded train from the newspaper report. “The youngsters among the passengers seemed in high glee and some of their elders, regardless of the prejudices towards drink, showed a sneaking affection for certain bottled liquefactions. These seemed to call forth all their latent powers and revived the animal spirits in a remarkable degree causing some to experience delusions while others seemed to be endowed with the power of double vision and others losing what sight they had previously possessed”. Yes we get the picture!

After passing through Middlesbrough which was “all brick, smoke and fire”, the passengers became excited at the thought of “being able soon to sniff the sea breeze”. After a three hour journey in cramped conditions, without a loo on board, it must have been a great relief when the trains pulled into Redcar. A lot of the passengers got off at that point while others continued to Marske (by the sea) station and then walked two and a half miles to Upleatham to relax in the beautiful grounds of Upleatham Hall. An observer noted that “the teetotallers, though a bit austere and Puritanic while enforcing their logic, are really jolly good fellows when they get off their favourite theme. They laugh, talk and romp with all the spirit imaginable”.

At three o'clock some enthusiastic advocates of temperance gave very lively speeches followed by community singing.

By about four thirty it was time to head back to the station where “three monster trains” were ready to take the day trippers home. The Richmond train puffed into the station at about 10.30p.m. and nine hundred weary passengers spilled out onto the platform after what was generally considered to have been “a grand day out”. I wonder what arrangements the folk from Swaledale had made for the last part of their journey.

**York and Newcastle Railway.**

# OPENING OF THE RICHMOND BRANCH

Notice is hereby given that the Branch to Richmond will Open for Public Traffic on **THURSDAY, the 10th of September**; on and after which day the Trains will run as follows:—

UP TRAINS FROM REDCAR.				DOWN TRAINS TO REDCAR.			
Richmond	7.45	11.0	7.15	London	7.15	11.0	7.15
Middlesbrough	8.15	11.30	7.45	York	7.45	11.30	7.45
Darlington	8.45	12.0	8.15	Newcastle	8.15	12.0	8.15
Newcastle	9.15	12.30	8.45	Darlington	8.45	12.30	8.45
York	9.45	1.0	9.15	London	9.15	1.0	9.15
London	10.15	1.30	9.45	Richmond	9.45	1.30	9.45

⚠ The Intermediate Stations on the Branch Line, are Othwick Bridge, Gosport, Melton, and Dalton.

Printed and Published by **JAMES ALLPORT, Manager.**  
From Ian Dunmore / railwayarchive.org.uk

## Temperance Societies

The very first temperance societies were set up in 1830 by well meaning people of the “middling sort” who were concerned about the excessive drinking habits of the working classes. It was perhaps rather hypocritical given that the many of the middle class folk enjoyed wine with their dinner and the wealthier so-called upper class

certainly enjoyed alcohol, often to excess. The difference was that they did it behind closed doors whereas the working class drank publicly and often caused problems while intoxicated. Two graphic prints produced by William Hogarth in 1751 entitled Beer Street and Gin Lane had shocked the nation. Beer Street showed well fed, pros-



**Beer Street—William Hogarth**



**Gin Lane—William Hogarth**

perous people drinking beer which was considered to be a very healthy beverage in contrast with Gin Lane which showed the appalling degradation caused by an addiction to gin. The spirit was very cheap and a “pennorth” would buy oblivion from their hideous situation but the damage to society was immense. Children were neglected and babies kept quiet by sucking a gin soaked rag and while theft increased to epic proportions gin shops proliferated.

Eighty years later with employers frustrated by the drop in productivity caused by employees not turning up for work because of the effects of too much drink, the Temperance Society’s aim was to encourage people to moderate their drinking but not to give up alcohol completely.

Over the centuries, for people who didn’t have access to clean, unpolluted drinking water, ale had provided a safe alternative. Made, often in the home, by crushing malted grain mixed with yeast and hot water the ale was left to ferment and then herbs like wormwood added to give it flavour. The alcoholic content was low at only 1% - 2% and was drunk by children as well as adults but only had a shelf life of about two days.

At the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century hops were introduced from Flanders for the brewing of a new drink...beer. The first hops were grown around Maidstone in Kent and the county is still the main supplier to the brewing industry today. Although beer had a greater longevity than ale, the flavour wasn't very popular at first but eventually people got used to it. By the 17<sup>th</sup> century ale had lost its popularity and beer had become established as our national drink with hops being grown in 14 counties. By the early 1700s customers were asking for a beer mixed from two or more casks and in response to that in 1722 a new drink was introduced combining three different beers. It was a great success and became known as porter because of its popularity with the labourers and porters of London.

To promote the perceived health giving benefits of drinking beer, the Beer Act was introduced in 1830 which gave anyone, male or female, the chance to acquire a licence to sell beer from their own homes for a fee of two guineas. Beer was often brewed on the premises and the idea was so popular that by the end of 1830 the licence was scrapped. But it became clear that beer was just as intoxicating as gin and that the act hadn't worked as expected. In 1832 a new organisation called Teetotallers was formed with the aim of persuading people that any form of alcohol was immoral and the idea of signing a pledge to give up all intoxicating liquor was born. A series of meetings held in Swaledale during November 1860 with very charismatic, persuasive speakers saw 197 people sign the pledge in a week.



However teetotalism didn't catch on as its supporters had hoped and by the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the society had been disbanded. In the census of 1841, Marske had its own pub called *The Dormouse*, run by Jane Busby and her three sons John, William and Anthony.

By 1851 William was living in the property with his wife, also called Jane, and he was noted as a farmer but the house was no longer an inn. In 1861 William was still farming but the property was now called The Temperance Hotel.

However by 1871 William was noted as a grocer and farmer at the same house which was no longer a hotel possibly because it didn't bring in the punters as it wasn't offering alcoholic beverages!!!

The Dormouse pub is now Temperance Farm echoing its later crusade against "the demon drink".

The temperance movement gradually lost support and by 1918 soldiers returning from the First World War just wanted to raise a glass to a future free from the horrors they had endured and had no appetite for restrictions.

*Liz Kluz*



## FROM A RECTORY GARDEN

I managed to catch up with the elusive MISTER JACK FINNEY and his three-legged, one-eyed companion, Lucky the dog the other day. Well, I say 'catch up with,' it was more of a chance meeting outside the butcher's shop where Mister Finney had been exchanging his usual banter with 'ol 'Amilton. When I asked where he'd been, he said he'd been invited to the National Camouflage Society's annual conference in Ashby-de-la Zouche, but he'd been disappointed when he arrived because he couldn't see anyone else there so he came home.

I couldn't help noticing that the rectory had been given some sort of facelift when I was searching for him. Remarking on this prompted Mister Finney to tell me this tale, whilst Lucky just said 'Heh! Heh.'

Well, ladies and gennelmen, I made ol' 'Amilton laff today Yeh, I rushes inter his shop in front of the queue and I say, "Help! I've been bitten by a wolf."

He says, "Where?" and I says, "Nah, an ordinary one!"

Well, that floored him, that did, but he sprung back, butcher-quick, and he says that Mrs 'Amilton were so fed up with is new obsession with Japanese food—sushi left him! Well, that got I, that did, cos I ain't a clue what sooshee is. So I grabs me packet of lard and gits back to the shed to ask the vicar what sooshee was, 'im bein' a man o' the world and orl eddicated like.



Mister Finney—  
a likeness?

I could tell by the smoke coming from the shed chimney that his nibs had got the stove going and were boiling up the kettle. Yeh, when I gits in, he has a nice potta ready and the fryin' pan hot for me to melt the lard fer me fat bacon sandwich.

I were still laffin' about the wolf joke on ol' 'Amilton and I told him about it. He said that were odd because he were reading a book by an aufor of the same name. "What?" sez I, "'Amilton?"

"Nah," he says, "Woolf, onle spelled different."

"Ah, well, "I ays,"I never heard of him," but he his nibs says, "Nah, she were a woman of the female kind and she wrote this book abaht one day in the life of Miss Darrowby," or summat.

"Well," says I,"if I wrote a book abaht one of my days, I shouldn't think anyone would want to read it. I'm not sure that git up, go to the kharsi..."

"

“Ah, yes, thank you, Jack,” says his nibs, quick as anything. “Any road,” he says, “the bishop is coming to see us and he has a job for us to do.”

Now, ladies and gennelmen, you knows that I’m not always keen on bishops, nor do ol’ Lucky, but I is always loyal to his nibs, so I was civil when the bishop rolls up in one of his Cafedral Cars special offer SUVs—and Lucky didn’t even try to bite his ankle this time.

Well, in walks the bishop. “Mornin’ Finney,” he says ( well, you knows how that roils me, but I stays calm). Apparently, the diocese wanted orl the vicarages painted and spruced up for the Platignum Jubilee ( I used ter luv them o’ pens). They had given the bishop a sum of money to git the paint and hemploy cheps ter do it.



Now I’m not sayin’ that this bishop is dodgy but he told us he could git some green paint off his padre chum at Cat’rick and we could paint it ourselves and save money which we could divide between his favourite charity (Tin Hat for Budgies) and our parish share. Well, a new scheme to reduce the parish share made his nibs’ eyes light up so we goes along with it and next day the bishop turned up in his transit van and unloads some tins of paint what had ‘WD Green Paint, for the use of,’ stencilled on the lids.



Well, we looks at the paint, and we looks at the vicarage and his nibs said that there didn’t look enough tins of paint to do all the winders and the doors. But the bishop said he’d thought of that and we could thin it down ter mek it go further. So we does as he suggested and the bishop said we’d better get crackin’ cos the Archbishop would be comin’ round to inspect the work and he’d cop it if we didn’t get a move on.

So we sloshed the paint around like proper dekkeraters and we was quite enjoyin’ ourselves then, pah!, it started ter rain. “Well,” said the bishop, “let’s get us sum baggins till it stops.” (He’s obviously learnin’ our language.) So we all gits in the shed for a potta and the bishop kept us amused telling ecclesiasticle jokes and readin’ bits from his memoirs, called ‘It Were Lead What Led Me Astray.’”

Anyways, his nibs suddenly looks outer the winder and says, “ Come on’ the rain’s stopped. Let’s get our brushes ,” and so we leaps up and went back out to work.

Oh lummie, what a sight! The rain had made our paintin’ all streaky ‘cos we had thinned it down too much. The three of us and ol’ Lucky stood with our moufs open, lookin’ at the mess. Suddenly, we heard the sound of a motorbike and side-car comin’ up the drive. It were the archbishop comin’ up on a hunannounced

inspection visit. Now the bishop must be a part-time magician and kiddies entertainer cos oneminute he were there and the next he were gorn! (inter the shrubbery I think.)

We was all trembling' as the harchbishop gits orf 'Is bike, teks orf his mitre shaped helemet and walks towards us, lookin' at orl the mess. Now his nibs knew that the Harchbishop had been real DIY-er in 'is time, but hoped that 'e might not realise how this happened.

However, that hope was quickly dashed when his grace points a paint-stained finger at us and in a booming voice, he says, "Repaint! And thin no more!"

-o0o0o-

### The Wit and Wisdom of Mister Finney Returns



I saw someone waving and I wasn't sure if they were waving at me or someone behind me. By the way, I've just been fired from my job as a lifeguard.



I'm learning how to do weight training by lifting some heavy dogs. I picked up a few pointers yesterday.

#### **INTERESTING FACT: 10TH JULY is 'Don't Step On A Bee' Day**

Bees need your help. And we need their help.

Not only do bees help provide the honey, propolis and beeswax, but they also help to keep us all fed and watered. Without bees, more than a third of everything we eat would disappear from our tables.

The majority of our honey here in the UK is imported (85%), but there are also many beekeepers such as Peter Trewby or David Frankton, on our doorsteps. So why not visit a near-by farm shop or deli and enjoy the precious produce of local beekeepers for breakfast?

You can also help bees by planting wildflower seeds that will provide a food supply. Download the Great British Bee Count app created by Friends of the Earth which allows you to log the bees you spot out and about. This builds a picture of bee health and activity in the UK.

Finally, build a bee hotel! Bees need somewhere to rest when they venture out on their pollen mission. You can find a step-by-step guide here: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2020/04/how-to-build-a-bee-hotel>

## All in the month of July

**400 years ago**, on 16<sup>th</sup> July 622, the Islamic calendar began. Muhammad and his followers migrated from Mecca to Medina to escape religious persecution (an event known as the Hegira) and established the first Muslim community. The year in which the Hijrah took place is also identified as the epoch of the Lunar Hijri and Solar Hijri calendars; its date equates to 16 July, 622 in the Julian calendar.

**200 years ago**, on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1822, Gregor Mendel was born. This Austrian/Czech friar, and botanist discovered the laws of heredity and created the science of genetics.

**175 years ago**, on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1847, Salt Lake City in Utah was founded by Mormon pioneers, led by Brigham Young.

**150 years ago**, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1872, Louis Bleriot, French inventor, and aviation pioneer was born. He developed the first practical headlamp for cars and became the first person to fly across the English Channel.

**100 years ago**, on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1922, Jacques Piccard, Belgian born Swiss oceanographer and engineer was born. Best known for developing deep-sea submarines.

**90 years ago**, on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1932, Lambeth Bridge in London was officially opened.

**80 years ago**, on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1942, the Nazis began the mass transportation of Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto in Poland to the Treblinka extermination camp.

**75 years ago**, on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1947, Buckingham Palace announced the engagement of Princess Elizabeth (later Queen Elizabeth II) to Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten.

**65 years ago**, on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1957, John Lennon and Paul McCartney met for the first time at a church hall in Liverpool, where 16-year-old Lennon was performing with his skiffle group the Quarrymen.

**60 years ago**, on 10<sup>th</sup> July 1962, Swedish engineer Nils Bohlin was granted a US patent for the three-point safety belt for vehicles.

**50 years ago**, on 21<sup>st</sup> July 1972. Bloody Friday took place when the IRA exploded 22 bombs in Belfast, killing nine people and injuring 130.

**40 years ago**, on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1982, Michael Fagan broke into Buckingham Palace and spent 10 minutes talking to the Queen in her bedroom.

**15 years ago**, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007, smoking was banned in all enclosed workspaces in England. Similar bans had already been introduced in Scotland (May 2006) and Wales (April 2007) and Northern Ireland (April 2007).

## INFORMATION POINT- ALL ARE WELCOME.

More groups are resuming in-person meetings as time moves on. The latest to re-start is the invaluable support given by Carrie Stephenson and her group to those who are suffering the pain and sadness following bereavement.

### 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.

***Our informal meetings resume on the first Wednesday of every month at the Fleece, starting at 1.30 p.m.***

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

TELEPHONE SUPPORT IS ALSO STILL AVAILABLE.

Do please get in touch.

### 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.*

  
"All are welcome  
in this place."

## Sudoku - Easy

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

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## Sudoku - Medium

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

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## St Mary's Groups

### FRIENDS OF ST MARY'S

We need YOUR help and ideas.

You are automatically a Friend!

Could you please consider giving some time to get things going again?

Interested? Please contact the Secretary, Jim Jack at [stmarys.maged@gmail.com](mailto:stmarys.maged@gmail.com) (07754 283161)

#### NEXT EVENTS

At Home Coffee Morning 16 July  
Summer Barbecue 23 July

### KNIT & NATTER

A new name—but still a group of people who love to knit, sew, craft and chat.

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9.30am to 11.30 a.m.**

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Everyone is welcome

Contact Anne Clarke 07982 658991



# Word Search

## Sea Sunday

10<sup>th</sup> July brings us Sea Sunday, the day when Christian churches remember, pray and give thanks for the more than 1.5 million merchant seafarers and fishermen worldwide. If seafarers seem irrelevant to your daily life, think again: 90 per cent of everything you buy in the shops comes to you by sea. Merchant seafarers quite literally keep our global economy afloat. Yet it is a tough life, far from loved ones. Merchant ships are harsh working environments, never mind the threat of piracy or even shipwreck.

To help the seafarers, a worldwide network of port chaplains has sprung up. They offer hospitality and friendship, as well as practical, emotional and spiritual support, providing almost a 'home from home' in hundreds of ports, in more than 50 countries. You might wish to support one of these three well-known societies: The Mission to Seafarers (Anglican), The Apostolate of the Sea (Roman Catholic), and The Sailors' Society (inter-denominational).

- July
- Sea
- Sunday
- Remember
- Pray
- Give
- Thanks
- Merchant
- Seafarers
- Daily
- Shops
- Economy
- Afloat
- Harsh
- Working
- Environments
- Piracy
- Shipwreck
- Hundreds
- global
- Port
- Chaplains
- Hospitality
- Friendship
- practical



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## Puzzle Solutions

### Sudoku — Easy

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

### Sudoku—Medium

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

### Wordsearch

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

**Deadline for August edition : 15th July**

**Stay safe.**

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



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