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A SORT OF EDITORIAL

stmarys.maged@gmail.com

'What sort of a way is that to start an article in a Church magazine?" I hear you mutter, as you set aside your morning newspaper or shopping list to grasp this first church magazine of 2020. A New Year, a new decade, a new editor.

Gillian is not very tall but her editorial shoes are big ones to fill! Having taken over from Sheila Harrisson a few years ago, Gillian has given a massive amount of time unstintingly to keep this publication going. We owe a great debt of thanks to her for doing this work. She modestly says it wasn't much. I'm already aware that it was. Thank you, Mrs Lunn!!

So what happens next? I have already set a date for my retirement – December 2021, so this issue is one down, nineteen to go. What I would like to do is hear from you what you would like to see in your magazine– hence the e-mail address at the top and the box in Church for you to put comments, ideas, articles on paper.

On the principle of 'hold on to that which is good,' in terms of content I feel that the magazine needs to offer the same information point for the ongoing and regular work and activity of our Churches. As we make more determined efforts to make all welcome in our Church, I feel it would be good to follow a number of themes through additional articles:

- a) Honour our past: know more about the history of our benefice churches and the people which has helped to shape the communities they serve today
- b) **Celebrate our present;** tell each other about the work which is done in our community as well as in our church

which supports others and makes the local, national and international world a better and kinder place.

c) Prepare for the future; keep in our minds the plans, opportunities and challenges of the next few years and ensure that we are thinking about them and how what we plan for, say and do Is setting the platform for future generations, enabling our descendants to develop the work of our churches in our own communities and beyond.

For future editions, I would like to include articles which tell the stories of work in our own communities where voluntary effort is the cornerstone. I would like us to be able to keep abreast of local need and celebrate local achievement. I would like to involve the other churches and the schools in the area. I would like us to ensure that the news from Hudswell, Marske and Downholme features in our Benefice magazine. Could you be a local correspondent?

But it's really about what YOU want our magazine to do for our churches and our communities So please get in touch using the email address above, or via my contact details on the page opposite. What are your ideas? What can you offer? Who and what should we be writing about?

There's more that could be said, but I hope you get the drift. Do comment, do feedback, do help. Send poems, send letters, send stories, send pics. Now go and read the paper or do the shopping. Have fun! Looking forward to hearing from you.

Jim Jack

Contributors

I am already extremely grateful to Jane Hatcher, William Gedye, Sheila Harrisson, Anna Boyce, Alexe Finlay, Joy Hornsby and Ian Short (cover photo) for their contributions to this month's issue – and offers to contribute on a fairly regular basis in the future. Thank you – and to Gillian, Martin & Claire for their guidance.

Deadline for items & contributions for the March issue is Tuesday 4th February



Martin's Message

February 2020



Our new Audio-visual system

Thanks to a huge amount of work from a small team ably led by Peter Trewby, and to some very generous donations, we are now blessed with a state-of-the-art AV system at St Mary's. It features a large retractable screen, a long-throw projector, and an improved sound system.

We used our new system for the first time at January's 'Worship for All' service, and in the coming months we will be discovering more of the potential of this facility. It is sure to enhance our worship and enable us better to serve the wider community in a variety of ways.

As we seek to move forward in mission and ministry, the installation of our new AV system is one example of the need first to develop our resources. Of course, our greatest resource is our people – you! – and our God, in "whose service is perfect freedom", is calling each of us to grow ever closer to him.

Setting God's People Free

This is the title of a Church of England initiative to give the whole people of God a confident faith which can be lived out in homes, schools, communities and places of work. It is about liberating our gifts and skills – and discovering what we love doing, what energises us and gives us life. It is about seeing for ourselves that God's service is perfect freedom!

Last month, we hosted a Diocesan-run training session on how to be a genuinely welcoming church. *Everybody Welcome* showed us that we all have a part to play in making newcomers welcome – helping them to become members of our church community, so that together we can all be growing ever closer to God. We learnt that in this vitally important Ministry of Welcome our gifts and skills as individuals complement each other. Next month, we will be holding a **Parish Weekend** which will take this a step further...

Our Parish Weekend

Please be putting **March 28th-29th** in your diary now! On **Saturday 28th March** we are all invited as a church community to spend some time together – away from St Mary's, but not too far away! We will be gathering at Richmond Methodist Church between 9:30am and 4:00pm, with **Bishop Helen-Ann** joining us for the afternoon.

The purpose of this day is to enjoy fellowship together, and to discover the gifts and talents we have each been given by God. We will be using resources recommended by our Archbishopelect, Stephen Cottrell, a programme known as **Your SHAPE for God's service**.

| SI | SHAPE stands for: | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| S piritual Gifts | (God's unique gifts to you) | | | | | |
| H eart's Desire | (what motivates & excites you; what you love to do) | | | | | |
| A bilities | (your talents, knowledge & skills) | | | | | |
| P ersonality | (your character, personal qualities and strengths) | | | | | |
| E xperience | (your life experiences & what you have gained from them). | | | | | |

Through following this programme we will each have a better understanding of how we can discover perfect freedom in God service. In this way we will see how we, the people of St Mary's, can move forward together in our mission and ministry, offering worship and service to the wider community to the best of our ability.

Then, on **Sunday 29th March**, we will be reflecting together on what we have learnt, offering it all to God and committing to walk together with him into the future.

Please add your name to the sign-up sheet for the Saturday programme which will soon be available in church – or, if you would like to know more then do please contact me.

Lent Matters

With **Ash Wednesday** falling this year on 26th February Lent will soon be upon us. Please be thinking how you will be observing this Springtime season of growth in our spiritual lives. Will your Lenten discipline involve giving something up or taking something on, and why? What will be your Lent book this year? How else will you be seeking to draw closer to God? And which good cause will you be supporting? Please consider beginning Lent by attending an Ash Wednesday service, when you will have the opportunity to receive the Imposition of Ashes. There will be services at 9:15am and 7:00pm.

An excellent way to observe Lent will be by attending a **Lent Course**. Please look out for details of this year's course, and sign up to joining a group meeting on a day and time convenient to you.

Easter Confirmations

In recent months a number of people have expressed interest in being confirmed. We have the opportunity to join a very special Confirmation Service in Ripon Cathedral on Saturday 11th April (Easter Eve) at 7:30pm, when Bishop Nick will be presiding.

There is bound to be great demand for places in this service so if it is of interest to you, and you would like to join a short preparation course during Lent, then please speak to me. With every blessing as we seek be growing ever closer to God, individually and as a church community.

Martin



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MESSAGE OF THANKS from Angela Dickinson and family

We would like to express to all at St Mary's our appreciation for the help, support, sympathy and prayers both during the past difficult year and for the Thanksgiving Service..A friend wrote "John would have loved it "!!

Thank you from the Dickinson family

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A PRAYER FOR FEBRUARY

I pray thee, if I have found favour in Thy sight, show me now Thy ways, that I may know Thee and continue in favour with Thee. Consider too that this nation is Thy own people.

(prayed by Moses, the Founder and Law Giver of Israel – Exodus 33)

(contributed by Joy Hornsby)

FROM JOY - TO THE WORLD

OK, so the headline is stretching things a bit – but, as part of the service on 17th November, reader JOY HORNSBY reflected on her time since 1993 when she and husband, Don, arrived in Richmond. It was the day of a significant birthday! She shared these thoughts with those present . Now they reach a wider audience through the pages of our magazine.

Joy has contributed much to the worship at St Mary's and the wider church and community life since 1993. Her own personal reflections may be food for thought for the reader, too.

969. 950. 930. 175.

Perhaps you recognise those numbers?

Methuselah; Noah; Adam; Abraham; the length of their days. For me, the quote will be from the Psalms; 'The days of our life are seventy years, eighty if we are strong.' So, I have passed the recommended three score years and ten by quite some margin.

It was 1993 when Don and I came to Richmond. We were welcomed here immediately, especially by the Rector, Christopher White, and Church Warden John Blenkiron.

I have recounted the following to many people, so please forgive me if I repeat it now. The Church magazine of the month we came contained the comment by Christopher, "We are sorry to acknowledge the retirement of Bill Wilmott, Reader at St Mary's and thank him for his service in our church and the Deanery. But do not fear. Joy cometh in the morning'."

The welcome Don and I received immediately, the warmth of fellowship, gave us an instant family to belong to, which is so important in moving home to a completely new place. So I take this opportunity of saying 'Thank you' and of praying for the continuation of that welcome to all who come here. ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE. This was the hymn chosen by Martin on his arrival here which was, and is, important to him.

Having been welcomed in to the church family, we have enjoyed life at St Mary's through times of celebration and sorrow. We have been supported through our own difficult years by so many of you here. I trust that mew members of the congregation today feel the same warmth and friendship.

My own name has been a source of encouragement and of anxiety over the years. Does anyone share my name? Has that been the same for you? 'I have called you by my name, you are mine". Names are important.

Martin; John; Mark. We are fortunate in this church in having a number of clergy who were named after saints. Paul has still to become a curate. Not to forget the women saints – there has been a Saint Jennifer. Is the importance [of name] true for them? Have they been influenced by their namesakes, I wonder? How many of you are named after saints, male and female?

The word JOY occurs in hundreds in the Bible, especially in the Book of Psalms.

One will suffice.

' In my quiet times alone with God, I experience great strength and joy.'

My first memory of its importance came with a children's address given by my uncle James, a congregational minister, when I was about seven years old. He pointed out that you can only make the letters meaningful in the order in which they are. J.. O...Y.

He went on to explain how extra influence comes when we look further into that. For Christians, for our true calling, to be inspired, for a life of JOY, put J esus first, O thers second and Y ourself last.

Back to my first thought. How old am I? have my days been wisely spent? *Have I lived up to my name*?

All I can say is that the years have been blessed for me and my family, as I hope they have been and will be for you. It is certainly true that the older one gets, the more swiftly time goes.

So make the most of your days.

Finally, a quotation from Chester Cathedral.

When as a child I laughed and wept Time crept. When as a youth, I dreamed and talked, Time walked. When I became a full-grown man, Time ran. And later, as I grew, Time flew. Soon I shall find, while travelling on, Time gone. Will Christ have saved my soul by then? Amen.

Joy Hornsby





"That's two t's in Matthew", said Osric



"Pancake party?" said Simon, "What Pancake Party?"



WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

| Wednesday 5 th | 'After the Cards | Fleece Hotel | 1.30 p.m. |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Thursday 6 th | Little Rainbows | St Mary's Church | 9.30 - 1.00 |
| | First Thursday prayers | Holy Trinity Church | 12.00 - 12.30 |
| Tuesday 11 th | Exploring Faith (lunch and talk) | Catterick Golf Club | 12.00 for 12.30 |
| Thursday 13 th | Little Rainbows | St Mary's Church | 9.30 - 1.00 |
| Friday 14 th | Schiehallion Horn Trio concert | St Mary' Church | 7.30 p.m. |
| Sunday 16 th | Café Church | St Mary's Church | 4.00 p.m. |
| Thursday 20 th | Little Rainbows | St Mary's Church | 9.30 - 1.00 |
| Wednesday 26 th | Ashing Service | St Mary's Church | 7.00 p.m. |
| Saturday 29 th | Big Brew & Breakfast | Northcliffe, Gatherley. | from 8.30 -1.00 |
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Little Rainbows

Little Rainbows is a group for babies, toddlers and pre-school children together with their mums, dads, grandparents or carers. All are welcome! We meet in St Mary's Church every Thursday morning during term time, from 9:30 to 11am, but with doors open from 9am.

We use the children's corner at church as a play area, but move around to use the church building for singing, story, craft and snacks. It's all very relaxed with plenty of time to chat and play. And if you're a potential helper, who has a heart for young people and enjoys chatting to their parents and carers, please just let the rector know – we'd be so pleased to have you on board!

Wendy Pritchard

YOUTH CHURCH

We will meet again on Sunday 2nd February at 4pm in St Mary's church when we will have a time of worship followed by a TED type talk with the aim of inspiring us as we grow together in faith. All accompanied by refreshments.

If you use Facebook keep an eye on our St Mary's Church and Fun-Key Church @ St Mary's Church pages, also our church website www.richmondhudswellparish.org.uk You can also email myself (Gillian) or speak to our Rector, Martin, or Anna Boyce.

Also, if you have any ideas which you think our young people would be interested in, do please say as we are keen to have activities which they would like, not what we assume they would like.

We very much look forward to exploring faith and having fun together.

Fun-Key Church

Meets on the last Sunday of the month. It's fun, informal and has plenty of activities to inspire all ages. Call Gillian on 07592 016476 or find us on FACEBOOK

CAFÉ CHURCH

Sunday 16th Feb at 4pm will refreshments available from 3.45pm.

Our guest will be Revd Alan Bartlett. Alan Bartlett has been an Anglican priest for 25 years. He has served in four north-eastern parishes as well as teaching in a theological college, where he was the postgraduate Director, and is now working as a Continuing Ministerial Development Officer in Durham. He has recently published a book entitled "Vicar - Celebrating the Renewal of Parish Ministry".

We look forward to a really interesting afternoon of coffee, cake, conversation and compline.

Our guest on Sunday 19 April will be the Dean of Newcastle, Geoff Miller. -00o-

A NEW DECADE BEGINS - AND THE 'EXPLORING FAITH' PROGRAMME RETURNS

The well-received 'Exploring Faith' series continues into the new decade with the announcement of the first three sessions for this year. Keith Miller, the programme organiser, is enthusiastic about the Spring offerings, which are varied in content and venue. Speakers from the Diocese and from Durham University will each be offering their own perspectives which will encourage thinking about the Christian faith. In setting out the Spring programme, Keith extended his own good wishes to all.

EXPLORING FAITH

Date :Tuesday 11th FebruarySubject:'Not All Gas and Gaiters – a view from the Archdeacon one year in'Speaker:Rev. Jonathan Gough (Archdeacon of Richmond and Craven)Venue:Catterick Golf Club, Leyburn Road, Catterick Garrison DL9 3QETiming:Lunch timed for 12.00 for 12.30; two course meal with tea/coffee £15.00

If you are able to go, Keith would be grateful if you could either send a cheque made payable to himself at **The Old Rectory, Wycliffe, Barnard Castle, DL12 9TS**, or alternatively transfer the money into his bank account **(Mr KSH Miller - sort code: 401903 - acc no: 42075083).** (If you know the Revd John Richards and wish to pay him direct, he is also happy to receive payment.)

IMPORTANT: however you pay, please send Keith Miller an email to <u>kshmiller32@gmail.com</u> letting him know you will be attending for lunch, in order to avoid any confusion. -**o0o**-

Future dates: Moving on to Saturday mornings at the Rokeby Inn, on <u>21st March</u>, <u>Prof Robert</u> <u>Song</u> from Durham University will be speaking on 'Theology and Climate Change', whilst on <u>25th</u> <u>April</u>, the speaker will be the <u>Rt Revd John Thompson</u>, <u>Bishop of Selby</u> (subject to be announced).

ON LEAP YEAR DAY - A DIFFERENT WAY TO START THE DAY

Fairtrade Fortnight in Brompton on Swale with a BIG BREAKFAST

This year's national Fairtrade Fortnight runs from 24th February until 8th March. Locally, the start of this year's campaign is to be marked with a chance to start the day with a Big Brew and Breakfast.

What is the Big Brew and Breakfast?

As with such similar big national events, the Fairtrade Big Brew and Breakfast being hosted locally in Brompton on Swale **is** a great way to meet friends old and new over a leisurely breakfast, whilst being an equally great way to support businesses and growers worldwide. Almost everything eaten at the Breakfast is either fairly traded or locally grown or produced.

A Warm Invitation to You

You are invited to the

Bíg Brew and Breakfast 2020 Saturday 29 February 2020 'Northcliffe', Gatherley Road,

Brompton on Swale

between 8.30 a.m. and 1.00 p.m.

This year's Breakfast also provides a chance to see and buy fairly traded goods and hear about fair trade projects. As this month's magazine cover photo shows, Spring is on the way. The Breakfast offers the opportunity to see the new products in the Spring Catalogue.

Big Brews and Breakfasts change lives

Traidcraft Exchange works with over 300,000 people in some of the world's poorest communities each year.



They have helped farmers, artisans and producers to get a fairer deal from the hard work they already do, helping them to leave poverty behind for good.

This event is a great opportunity to increase awareness of Fairtrade and of the issues faced by producers in the developing world. By serving Fairtrade tea and coffee and raising funds for Traidcraft we are helping to make a difference to the lives of producers across the world.

As Martin Luther King famously said –'Before you finish eating breakfast in the morning, you've depended on more than half the world' – many of whom don't know where their next meal is coming from.'

So please come along for coffee, tea, scones and biscuits, croissants or bacon butties .And don't forget your Fairtrade <u>Easter Cards and</u> <u>Easter Eggs</u> - place your orders now while stocks last.

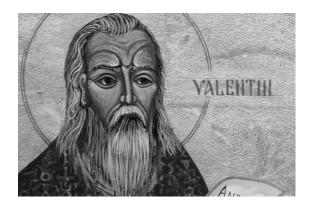
A very big **thank you** to everyone who supported the Christmas Shopping Day in November – over £1,000 was taken in sales and over £200 was given in donations. This was sent to Traidcraft Exchange for the Christmas appeal. **Rachel Walker** 01748 812015 remwalker7@gmail.com

BE MY VALENTINE

Mention February 14th to many people and their thoughts will fly not to the day before the introduction of decimal currency to the UK in 1971 (yes, it really is 49 years since 'spending a penny' increased in real terms by 240%!), but to the custom of professing true love and devotion by the sending and receiving of cards and other tokens on St Valentine's Day. But who was he, and where did the custom begin?

Who was St Valentine?

Finding out is not straightforward as there are almost a dozen St Valentines around. Valentinius (meaning 'worthy, strong, powerful' in Latin) was quite popular name over the centuries. Indeed, the reason that our St Valentine was removed from the General Roman Church Calendar in 1969 was because there was a lack of <u>reliable</u> information about him (not because descendants had tried to cash in by trying to create a monopoly in the greetings card industry!) However, the Valentine associated with 14th February did exist and was a Christian martyr in the 3rd Century.



St. Valentine of Rome was a temple priest and physician in Rome in the days before Christianity was established as the 'official' religion of the Roman Empire by Constantine in 312 AD. Around about 270 AD, the emperor of the time , Claudius II Gothicus, conducted a systematic persecution of Christians. Valentine was caught up in the net and imprisoned. Legend has it that, whilst in prison, he had befriended his jailer's daughter and healed her from blindness. He is said to have written to her, signing his letter 'from your Valentine'.

However, another legend has it that he defied the orders of the same Claudius II and married couples in secret. This spared the husband from war service in the army. Whatever the reason, it was his acts of love for others which led to his beheading, his martyrdom, his beatification as a saint and his patronage as the saint of lovers.

There are also conflicting accounts surrounding his death. One version tells that he was buried on the Via Flaminia in Rome and that later a basilica was built over his grave. Another tells of how his relics were taken to Terni, as he was Bishop of Terni (in Italy) at the time of his death. These variations and lack of clarity explain why his name was removed from the General Roman Church Calendar. This meant that he was no longer to be mentioned in the liturgy of the Church. However, he did retain his sainthood, to be known as St Valentine of Rome , to distinguish him from other St Valentines subsequently beatified. .

Why 14th February?

Until Geoffrey Chaucer wrote a poem 'Parliament of Foules' in 1375, there appears to be no record of romantic celebrations associated with St Valentine's Feast



Day. However, Chaucer (who was not averse to making up history) refers to the 14th February as the day when birds and humans set out to to find a mate. He wrote 'For this was sent of Seynt Velntyne's Day, When every foul cometh there to choose his mate' - thus inventing the holy day which became known as St Valentine's Day with the resultant custom of the sending of cards and messages to one's true love on that day.

If you prefer to (or want to send many cards) you can also celebrate the other St Valentines on such dates as 7th January, 3rd November, 25 July (the only female St Valentine) – 6 & 30 July for St Valentine of Rome in the Eastern Orthodox Church. I suspect we'll continue sticking with 14th February.



Interestingly, there is a question which does provide a sting in this tale. As St Valentine is also the patron saint of beekeepers, do beekeepers also send mystery messages on the 14th to fellow apiarists for bumper crops of honey??



On a more serious note, St Valentine of Rome is also the patron saint of sufferers from epilepsy.

Love and Leap Year Day

Ah, yes. It's a Leap Year as well. 29th February was also the day when traditionally, a woman

could propose marriage to a man. Apart from the fact that changes in society today mean that this custom is definitely historic, its traditional roots can be found in Ireland.

It was said that St Brigid of Kildare bitterly complained that women were having to wait far too long to receive a proposal from men so she struck a deal with St Patrick to reverse the traditional ways as a step towards redressing the balance and allow female proposals.

Leap year itself, of course, was introduced to the calendar because the earth takes approximately 365.25 days to rotate around the sun. Over time, this would have thrown the coincidence of hours in the day with daylight and darkness so the extra day every fourth year ensures alignment. As the time of 365.25 days is itself approximate, then where the year is a centennial year e.g. 1800, 1900, the 29th is only added to the calendar every 4th centennial i.e. 2000. So AD 2400 is the next one such!

Another part of the Irish legend tells that when St Patrick agreed, St Brigid immediately fell down on one knee and proposed to him. He declined the offer but he gave her a kiss on the cheek and a silk gown to 'soften the blow'! This gives an explanation as to why a man turning down a proposal was traditionally expected to buy the woman a gown and give some money and a kiss. In some strata of society, the fine for rejection was to buy twelve pairs of gloves. This was to hide the 'embarrassment' of not having an engagement ring.

29th February is also known as St.Oswald's Day, after the Archbishop of York who died on 29th February, 992 in Worcester where he is buried. Almost immediately after his death, miracles were reported at his funeral and at his tomb – hence sainthood. Whilst his memorial is celebrated on the 29th February in a leap year, he doesn't lose out as he is specifically remembered on 28th February in other years!

SPEND VALENTINE'S DAY IN THE COMPANY OF THE ROMANTICS - AND A LITTLE MOZART!

St Mary's Richmond is delighted to welcome the Schiehallion Horn Trio to Richmond on Friday, 14 February at 7. 30 p.m. Named after a Scottish mountain famed for its scientific importance in assisting the first calculation of the earth's density (an experiment performed in the summer of 1774 led by the Astronomer Royal, Nevil Maskelyne), the members of the trio are themselves equally celebrated.

Chris Griffiths - French horn

Chris has been a member of Royal Northern

Sinfonia for over

20 years. He has now returned to the freelance world, still based on Tyneside, playing with orchestras and ensembles all over the UK. After studying with the legendary Barry Tuckwell at the **Royal Academy** of Music for three years,



from Musicians Benevolent Fund ("Help Musicians"), The Royal Society of Musicians, Motability and Access to Work. Martin Hughes - violin Martin Hughes studied the violin with Leonard Hirsch at the Royal College of Music as a Foundation and Leverhulme Scholar

Ten years ago Chris elected to undergo bilateral, below knee amputations to remedy

crippling effects of the neurological disease

benefited from working at Sage Gateshead,

with its amazing accessibility, also with support

CMT. He is now busier than ever, having

winning the Stoutzker Prize in memory of Albert Sammons, the College's premier prize for the violin. He made his Wigmore Hall debut with duo partner Simon Nicholls and has given notable concerts and recitals at home and abroad. As a long-time member of Northern Sinfonia in Newcastle, he was section principal

Chris played alongside Michael Thompson in the BBC SSO for a further 3 years. During his stay in Scotland, he was appointed Principal Horn with the SCO and played with every music ensemble and orchestra in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen.

Chris has conducted many events in the concert calendar of Royal Northern Sinfonia's associated amateur 'Cobweb Orchestra' - of which he was co-founder. In his Music Workshops, Chris has a huge collection of Belleplates (a type of hand bell), mini djembes, Turkish drums and his own French horn, to provide a unique formula.

world famous violinists Wolfgang Schneiderhan, Vladimir Spivakov and Günther Pichler in the double and triple concertos of J S Bach, also featuring as soloist on CD, BBC Radio 3 and television.

and subsequently associate leader, partnering

As Head of Strings at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RSAMD) in Glasgow, he presided over the renaissance of the Strings Department. At this time he was invited onto the ARD Munich International Competition jury.

In 2003 he was appointed Head of Strings at Bedford School, leading one of the finest departments in the UK.

Since moving back to Northumberland in 2016, Martin has become chairman of Hexham and

District Music Society, joint artistic director of Hexham Abbey Festival and leader, artist and programme consultant of Lakeland Sinfonia in Kendal, Cumbria.

Martin plays amongst others, a particularly special William E. Hill and Sons' violin of 1892, thought to be the work of Charles François Langonet who moved from Villaume's famous workshop in Paris to work for the Hill family in London in the late 19th century.

David Murray – piano

David Murray has been recognised as one of the North East's most acclaimed pianists, and is in constant demand as a soloist, accompanist and chamber music partner. He has been a regular accompanist for David Haslam, Sir Thomas Allen, Ian Partridge, Bradley Creswick, and Alison Pearce, with whom he has appeared in recitals all over the world.

He is also well known as a choral trainer and conductor and is permanent conductor of Bishopwearmouth Choral Society and Hexham Abbey Festival Chorus. On an educational front David has been lucky enough to have helped many young pianists who are now starting to make their way in the musical world, especially through his work at the Weekend School at the Sage Gateshead, where he was Head of Keyboard Studies from 2004 - 2013. He continues to teach privately and is Head of Keyboard Studies at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, a post which he has held since 2001.

We are indebted to Latimer Hinks Solicitors (thanks to Neil Stevenson, a member of our congregation), Purple Creative (Allan Guy), Harbour Management Solutions (Alèxe Finlay) with a little help from our friends at Wilf's Deli and Castle Hill Bookshop.

Tickets are £7.50, concessions £5, and are available from Castle Hill Bookshop or from Alèxe on 07876 705550.

All money raised goes to support St Mary's.

Programme

Mozart Trio for Violin, Horn and Piano in E flat Major, K 407

Beethoven Sonata for Piano and Violin in G Major, opus 96

Brahms Trio for Horn, Violin and Piano, opus 40

AND MORE MUSIC -SOPHIE'S RETURN

Former St Mary's chorister and clarinettist, Sophie Overin, is returning to Richmond on 18th March to sing with the Carice Singers in their Richmondshire Subscription Concert performance "'Tis Nature's Voice." Whilst studying Music & French at university, Sophie also had a choral scholarship. She has put her linguistic work on ice to pursue her love of singing. Further information and tickets from rsconcerts.org.



For the last time! - Which member of the Junior Choir put bubble mixture in the organ-blower?!

NOTES FROM OUR PAST

Each church in the Benefice has its own unique story to tell. The isolated position of Downholme due to the effects of the plague, the box pews of Marske, the listed features of St Mary's and the tombstones of Hudswell and indeed all of the churches speak to us of bygone times and our ancestors whose lives were played out in the shadows of their respective parish churches. Each congregation had its own worthies and characters, each building its distinctive features. Through word and picture, the magazine will be offering new insights and interests lodged in the spaces we occupy today.

Jane Hatcher, architectural and local historian,, is making a number of contributions to this series.

Are you sitting comfortably? Off we go on our first journey into our past.



Marske Church has been one of my favourite places ever since I discovered it when I first started getting to know the Richmond area in the early-1970s. The dedication, to St. Edmund, King and Martyr, is interesting because this saint was particularly venerated by the early counts and earls of Richmond. They were buried in the abbey at Bury St. Edmund's in Suffolk.

The Hutton family were squires of Marske from the time of the first Queen Elizabeth into that of the second Queen Elizabeth, and their family was the only one to produce two archbishops until the Temples did so in the 20th century. Four squires in succession, covering the period 1664-1841, were called John. The first left his name *IOHN HUTTON SQVIR* and the date *1683* on the two Windows he placed in the south wall of the church.

Church services at Marske in Georgian times were greatly enhanced by the fine singing voice

The Church at Marske

of one of the manservants at Marske Hall. John York, a powerfully-built Jamaican, had been specially trained to lead the 'Psalmody' that was the style of music used in most churches until Victorian times.

On the church porch can be seen the coat of arms of the fourth John Hutton, who about 1830 repaired the church and placed in it the present fittings, including the large 'family' pew. He himself had no family, but would be accompanied by his private librarian, a noted mathematician called John Fryer, and the crusty estate steward, Thomas Carter. If James Tate, the rector of Marske, was taking the service, his wife Margaret might have travelled out with him from Richmond, and they were sometimes accompanied by one or more of Tate's famous ex-pupils, his 'Invincibles'.

Most Hutton squires eschewed elaborate memorials. Only the last, John Hutton has a monument in the Church, on the north chancel wall above his pew. It bears a lengthy description of his virtues, written by his great friend James Tate who, by the time Hutton died in 1841, had left Richmond Grammar School to become a Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral. Tate also organised the London sculptor Thomas Smith to carve the monument, which is surmounted by a portrait bust of John Hutton himself.

Jane Hatcher



An interesting postcard view of St. Mary's Church when it still had galleries.. Those of you who are aware of this will have noticed the corbels (stone supports) in the side walls and also areas in the side aisle floors close to the side pews where 'missing' tiles have been concreted over – long before the days of the Happy Bodgers (see 'Information Point' section for more information on *their* services). You will also notice that the pews went much further back than they do today.

Have you got any photos of any of our benefice churches from days gone by – or sketches – or indeed characters and tales of the past? It would be great to publish these in future editions of the magazine. Please send to stmarys.maged@gmail.com or contact Jim on 01748 519553.





Interiors of St Mary's Church Richmond today –& St Mary's Church, Richmond on Thames, for interest

As well as including your own memories of our Benefice churches (past as well as present) in Downholme, Hudswell, Marske and Richmond, we will be looking at the features of the current churches which make them of such strong historical interest. We will also be looking at the historic links between the St Mary's Church in Richmond and Richmond School (Yorkshire). As we approach the 950th anniversary of the founding of the Norman keep, the role of the church in this historic market town will also be explored. For the town's plans, why not visit www.originalrichmond.co.uk

'TWAS IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

150 years ago, on 17th Feb 1870 that the **Elementary Education Act (commonly known as Forster's Education Act)** was introduced in England and Wales. It provided a framework for the education of all children aged between five and 12. Many people objected to it, including the upper classes who wanted to keep educational privileges for themselves, and employers who feared losing cheap labour.

100 years ago, on 24th Feb 1920 that the National Socialist German Workers' Party **(Nazi Party) was established**, changing its name from the German Workers' Party and holding its first mass rally in Munich

90 years ago, on 18th Feb 1930 that the dwarf planet **Pluto was discovered** by American astronomer Clyde Tombaugh.

75 years ago, in Feb/Mar 1945 that **Anne Frank**, Dutch Jewish diarist and Holocaust victim died in Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, at the age of 15, probably from typhus. Known for *The Diary of a Young Girl*

.60 years ago on 8th Feb 1960 that Queen Elizabeth II issued an Order-in-Council stating that she and her family would be known as the House of Windsor, and that her descendants would use the surname Mountbatten-Windsor **50 years ago**, on 2nd Feb 1970 that **Bertrand Russell**, British philosopher, logician, mathematician, and social reformer, died. He was winner of the 1950 Nobel Prize in Literature.

30 years ago, on 2nd Feb 1990 that South African President F.W. de Klerk lifted a 30-year ban on the African National Congress (ANC) and other opposing political parties and antiapartheid groups. He also **freed Nelson Mandela from prison** (on 11th Feb) after 27 years of imprisonment.

25 years ago, on 26th Feb 1995 that **Barings Bank**, the oldest merchant bank in London, **collapsed** after its chief trader in Singapore, Nick Leeson, lost approximately £625million on unauthorised transactions.

15 years ago, on 14th Feb 2005 that the popular video-sharing website **YouTube was founded**. (It was officially launched in November after more development and testing.)

Also 15 years ago, on 16th Feb 2005 that the Kyoto Protocol came into effect. The international treaty obliges industrialised nations to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

IT'S A PUZZLE - OR TWO

How about getting your pen out and having a go? Answers at the back

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SUDOKU - medium



WILLIAM'S WALKS



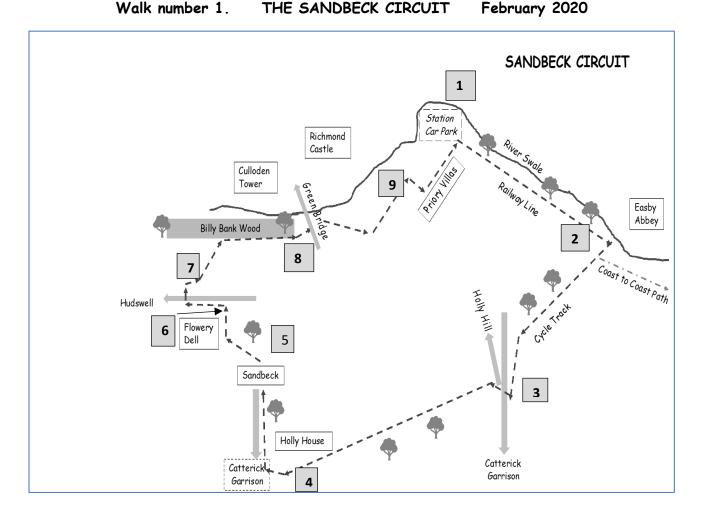
February 2020

In 2009, William Gedye took on the role of co-ordinating a 'Walking for Health' programme across Richmondshire under the auspices of the Richmond & Swale Valley Community Initiative. The main aim was to help people to get active. Although the funding for this highly beneficial and enjoyable way of discovering new parts of our area no longer exists, William and his volunteer team of walk leaders (a number of whom are members of St Mary's) continue to lead the programme of walks and also develop and test out new routes. The programme has received an 'Investors in Richmond' award in 2019 to recognise and celebrate ten years of much appreciated community service.

Routes old and new are chosen with three levels of challenge. Many also take into account accessibility – so that there are lovely and interesting walks set out where no stiles are encountered. William and his team were instrumental in winning support for the much-improved signposting of footpaths around the area, as well as ensuring that paths only sparsely used for a number of years have been kept open and improved for the enjoyment of all.

Every walk has three leaders – one at the front, one in the middle and one at the back to ensure noone gets left behind or is without help if needed.

However, you don't have to join a group to enjoy walking. William has kindly offered to contribute a different walk route every month to enjoy with friends or on your own, simply to appreciate the countryside with which we are blessed. This is the first.



Walk number 1. THE SANDBECK CIRCUIT February 2020

Start/Finish - Richmond Station Car Park DL10 4LD.

Allow - 2 Hours.

Conditions - Moderate.

Important notes: Some steep slopes. Can be muddy after rain. Some short road sections. Not suitable for pushchairs. Toilets and Refreshments at The Station and Swimming Pool.

This all seasons walk takes you on a lovely circuit around to the south of Richmond through the hamlet of Sandbeck. In winter, the views are enhanced when the trees are bare. In spring and summer, the wildflowers are abundant. The walk passes through woods full of autumn tints.

1. From the Station Car Park, follow the railway track towards Easby

2. Turn sharp right at the cattle grid up the cycle track up towards Catterick Garrison.

3. At the top of Longwood Bank, carefully cross the road and go down the lane opposite. Go through the first gate on the left and follow the path alongside the hedge through the fields to Holly House holiday homes. There is a fine view of Richmond Castle through the trees from the second field.

4. Continue to the road and turn right down the hill watching out for traffic. You will pass the sad little memorial on a tree, to a young soldier killed on his way to his wedding in Richmond some years ago. Go down to Sandbeck West Bridge where there used to be a sawmill and the remains of the saw table can still be seen, along with railway memorabilia.

5. Cross the Bellerby Road and go through the kissing gate apposite. Follow the path up through this lovely little

valley passing the Flowery Dell holiday homes on your left

6. Turn left up the Hudswell road for a short distance and take the Bridleway to the right which is aptly called Boggy Lane. Follow this round to the right through the gate. Take the next gate on the left through the horse field.

7. Diagonally across this field is another kissing Gate into Billy Banks Wood. From this path there are great views of The Swale, Culloden Tower and the West End of Richmond. This path takes you down <u>some steep steps</u> to the Green Bridge.

8. Cross the road, go through the gate into the Football Ground, but keep right along the wall. Another kissing gate takes you onto the ROSA fields and down to The Swale riverbank. Turn right along the riverbank high above The Foss and follow the path down the hill.

9 . Look out for a stile off to the right which leads onto the front of Priory Villas with a great view of Richmond Castle and town. Cross the road back to the Station Car Park.

' I am on my own all weekend but really look forward to meeting the walkers every Monday morning' ('Walking for Health' participant)

There are many physical, social and mental health benefits of the 'Walking for Health' programme which is still 'running'! Access to the full programme can be obtained by e-mailing <u>walk.for.health@btinternet.com.</u> Joining these walks is free.

Word Search Clues & Answers

In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first 'public appearance'. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to 'present him to the Lord'. At the same time, she, as a new mother, was 'purified'. Thus we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, 40 days after Christmas. Jesus is described in the Bible as the Light of the World, and so early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day. The Church also fell into the custom of blessing the year's supply of candles for the church on this day - hence the name, Candlemas. The story can be found in Luke 2:22-40. Simeon's great declaration of faith and recognition of who Jesus was is of course found in the Nunc Dimittis, which is embedded in the Office of Evening Prayer in the West.



Forty Days Baby Boy Public Appearance Mary Jewish Mothers Temple Jesus Purified Present Lord Festival Presentation Light World Candlemas Simeon

Nunc Dimittis Office Evening Prayer West



Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings.... Angels

I only know the names of two angels – Hark and Harold (Greg, 5)

What I don't get about angels is why, when someone's in love, they shoot arrows at them. (Sarah, 7)

Angels talk all the way while they're flying you up to heaven. The main subject is where you went wrong before you go dead. (Daniel, 9)

My guardian angel helps me with my Maths – but he's not much good at Science or English. (Henry , 8)

When an angel gets mad, he takes a deep breath and counts to ten. And when he lets it out, there's a tornado somewhere. (Reagan, 10)

It's not easy to become an angel. First you've got to die. Then you go to heaven, then there's still the flight training to go through. And then you got to agree to wear those angel clothes. (Olive,7)

St. Mary's Boiler Appeal

Two of our three boilers have been out of action. They needed repairing and the heating system needed to be modernised if the church is to be comfortably warm. We cannot have people turned away by the cold. The cost of boiler repair and refurbishment is £4000.

There has been a warm response at the start of this specific appeal which has brought the Church £1,250 closer to the £4,000 target – but there's still a way to go. Perhaps the state could give a winter fuel allowance to churches on the age criterion???

Please help if you can. Cheques (made out to Richmond with Hudswell PCC) can be sent to The Rectory Church Wynd DL10 7AQ marked "boiler appeal" or handed to the Churchwardens, or you can pay directly by cash or by BACS to Sort code 40 – 38 – 19 account number 5070 1793 reference "boiler appeal". Thank you so much on behalf of all those who use St Mary's. We've made a start – we just need to avoid getting cold feet to ensure we hit the target.



"Er... Vicar?... you're a praying man, aren't you?..."

Carols and Barrels at Hudswell

'Squashed' was the *first* word that came to mind when describing the 'Carols and Barrels' evening at the George and Dragon pub at Hudswell before Christmas – but it definitely wasn't the *best* word. In fact, one word isn't enough to do justice to this event - well-known locally but receiving a national mention on BBC Breakfast earlier in the year.

From one perspective, it's a celebration with carols, Christmas songs and beer at our award winning local. From another, it's a fast-paced, free-for-all accompanied by Lunns, but where the main stars are the locals who sing as loud as they can whilst crammed into the bar and dining area of the pub. It wasn't for the faint hearted, but it's now a well-established tradition which gives our local Christmas festivities a great boost. So, get your diary out and write in the Sunday before next Christmas – it's the 20th December by the way- if you want to experience it for yourself! (Anna Boyce)

200 Club winners

Three lucky winners to report this month, with the annual Christmas draw added to the monthly one. Margaret Smith won the December draw, Miss S Robertson won in January, whilst the Christmas draw prize went to Jan Jack.

Congratulations to all. If you want an opportunity to be a winner in 2020, please contact Jonathan Roberts who will be delighted to welcome you to the scheme. Happy New Year!

INFORMATION POINT

There are a number of groups which meet on a regular basis as part of the church family. As always, ALL ARE WELCOME.

If you would like to become part of any of these activities or find out more about them, please contact the relevant organiser—or just turn up!

There are also other groups who can offer help on a one-to one basis to help you to deal with some of the events in life for which help and support is beneficial

BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP

THE LUNN'S HOME @ 2 HURGILL ROAD , 7.30pm

Everybody is welcome to join us for cake, chat and discussion. At the moment we are looking at the readings for the following Sunday. Please contact Scott on 826895 for more information. New members are very welcome.

THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY GROUP

JENNIFER PATRICK'S HOME @ 1 ROPER COURT, 7.30pm

This is another very friendly group. They are discussing Bishop John Pritchard's book Ten. Please call Jennifer on 850693 for more details.

KNIT2GETHER

EVERY FRIDAY

BETWEEN 10.00 a.m. & 12 noon

A weekly knitting, crocheting and hand sewing group. This group meets in the coffee shop/restaurant at Greyfriars. All will be made very welcome.

Bring your own projects and enjoy coffee and a chat whilst making new friends.

FLOWER ARRANGING CLUB

Feb. 5th Workshop;Theme - Easter Bonnets.

Members own designs. Coffee served from 9.30am with workshop commencing at 10.15.

(Advance notice Mar. 5th Annual Meeting followed by talk on Nepal & the Khumbu Valley)

Further meeting details from Judy Farrar

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 by meeting any recently bereaved spouse/partner for coffee in **The Fleece on the first Wednesday of every month at 1.30pm.**

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

atmosphere.

"The Happy Bodgers"

Over a year ago a few of our gentlemen were looking at how they can work together to help others who may be in need of a practical assistance. As a result they formed a group called "The Happy Bodgers".

Happily, they are far more skilled than their title suggests and they are able to offer a variety of help free of charge.

Try us - we can say no if we don't feel capable. We could probably not take on regular tasks such as lawn mowing, weeding, shopping etc.

Why not give us a call on 07866 325843 and Keith Robson will see if the Happy Bodgers can help and take it from there."

We look forward to helping you!

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND Diocese of Leeds

ON-LINE LEARNING

www.learning.leeds.anglican.org at

For all sorts of information on training, vocations, children and young peoples' work, prayer, spiritual life, education, safeguarding, personal development, do have a look at the website recently launched by the diocese. It is being updated daily and there is lots of information available for whatever place you may be on your spiritual journey.

Training opportunities

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www.learning.leeds.anglican.org



We have laid to rest those who have died on:

24th November 26th November

- 13th November Patricia Waller 19th November John Dickinson Pamela Hogetts **Audrey Place** 29th November Erwin Sheppard 3rd January
 - 8th December 9th December 11th December 13th December 14th December Helen Clark

Anthony Woodward Ashley Lawson **Ralph Waggett** John Bremner **Evelyn Morrissey**

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE—FEBRUARY 2020

A PRAYER FOR THE WORSHP IN OUR CHURCHES IN FEBRUARY

God of Mission, who alone brings growth to your Church, Send your Holy Spirit to give vision to our planning, wisdom to our actions and power to our witness. Help our churches to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

| ST M | ARY'S CHURCH, RICH | IMOND |
|--|---|---|
| Sunday 2nd February (Candlemas—the Presentation of Christ in the Temple) | 8.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. Mid-day 4.00 p.m. | Holy Communion Sung Eucharist Baptism— Henry France Youth Church |
| Sunday 9th February (4th before Lent) | 8.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m. | Holy Communion Sung Eucharist Choral Evensong |
| Sunday 16th February (3rd before Lent) | 8.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m. | Holy Communion Worship for All Café Church |
| Sunday 23rd February (2nd before Lent) | 8.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m. | Holy Communion Sung Eucharist Fun-Key Church |
| Wednesday 26th February | 7.00 p.m. | Ashing Service |
| EVERY WEDNESDAY | 9.15 a.m. | HOLY COMMUNION |
| | | (|
| EVERY THURSDAY | 10.30 a.m. | HOLY COMMUNION |
| St. MICHAEL | AND ALL ANGELS, D | |
| Sunday 9th February | 9.30 a.m. | Morning Prayer |
| Sunday 23rd February | 9.30 a.m. | Morning Prayer |
| St | EDMUND'S, MARSKI | E |
| Sunday 2nd February | 10.30 a.m. | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 9th February | 10.30 a.m. | Morning Prayer |
| Sunday 16th February | 10.30 a.m. | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 23rd February | 10.30 a.m. | Holy Communion |

ST MARY'S CHURCH ROTAS February – early March

| Stars | FRIENDSHIP | |
|----------------------|---|---|
| FEBRUARY | SIDESPEOPLE/GREETERS | COFFEE ROTA |
| Sunday 2nd February | C & J Bilborough; G & J Barber | E Roberts O Harrison |
| Sunday 9th February | O Harrison; M Clayson; K Robson; S McCormack | P Wheatley; J Brown; L Copeland |
| Sunday 16th February | G & M Merlane | J & C Bilborough; H Ellis M Emmerson |
| Sunday 23rd February | J & A Roberts; F & M Gibbon | C Blenkiron; M Gibbon; J Bennett |
| MARCH | | |
| Sunday 1st March | O Harrison; M Clayson; K Robson; S McCormack | J Steele; B Ridley: M Turner |
| Sunday 8th March | C & J Bilborough; G & J Barber | E Roberts O Harrison |
| | Jacob Contraction | |
| FEBRUARY | COUNTING COLLECTION | FLOWER ROTA |
| Sunday 2nd February | F Gibbon & C Steadman | Libby Sands |
| Sunday 9th February | J Roberts & A Judge | Libby Sands |
| Sunday 16th February | D Frankton & J Beeton | Joan Brown |
| Sunday 23rd February | G Barber & P Holland | Joan Brown |
| MARCH | | |
| Sunday 1st March | F Gibbon & C Steadman | LENT |
| Sunday 8th March | J Roberts & A Judge | LENT |

Continuing thanks to all who carry out these duties which support worship at St Mary's Church. If there are any problems with your nominated date(s), please arrange a swap with someone in the first instance. If your name does not appear on this rota and you are now part of one of these teams, please let me know. **stmarys.maged@gmail.com**

Solutions

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Sudoku - easy

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

Sudoku - medium



Today's hymns are based on last week's trend in petrol prices...



Having the last word... random thoughts from the Parish Pump

A person who is nice to you, but rude to the waiter, is probably not a nice person. (This is very important. It never fails.)

The one thing that unites all human beings, regardless of age, gender, religion, economic status or ethnic background, is that, deep down inside, we ALL believe that we are aboveaverage drivers

No matter what happens, somebody will find a way to take it too seriously

Nobody cares if you can't dance well. Just get up and dance.

Have you said 'Thank you' today to anyone who has made your time today better?

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!

