

# CONNECTIONS



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

**October 2022**

**Price £1.00**

The two deadline days between the September issue and this one have 'book-ended' one of the most momentous events in our recent history. Reflections on the passing of Queen Elizabeth II have filled the media for at least ten of the thirty intervening days and many readers will have views and recollections to add to that national 'collection.' Suffice it to say that we have lost someone the value of whose presence is only fully being realised through her passing.

I cannot recall a time when stories of care, compassion, the friendliness of strangers, kindly gestures to unknown people, recollections of genuine goodness and warmth have not only been the headlines but the vast majority of the content of broadcasts and publications. Whilst the Queen's passing seems to have produced a calmer and kinder period of time, I am equally sure that such activities are far more commonplace than the stories of conflict, division, blame and anger which face us for most of the year. Whilst we must lament the absence of news from Pakistan and the flooding, Afghanistan and the oppression of women, destruction of the rain forest, the effects of climate change— these are sadly still happening- we must also query where the tales of human kindness are at other times as headline news items.

Your magazine this month does reflect on the passing of a truly Christian monarch, but finds time also to have an update on the foodbanks locally from Liz Kluz, a resumption of William's Walks and aids to prayer and reflection from John Pritchard and Pauline Shepherd. We spend 60 Seconds with Helen Rowan, offer reflective verse from George Alderson as well as news from the Friends of St Marys and some great events in October. Not to mention insights on a building a Richmond (from Jane Hatcher) and a church organ (from Colin Hicks).

It is a pity that no-one offered a solution to last month's competition to identify the location of the cover photo. The prize of wine remains unclaimed. So the competition runs for another month. Just look at last month's cover and tell me where it is.

The editorial group would also welcome your feedback on a change to the layout, with all of the adverts and benefice officers moved to one place at the back of the magazine. Your views are needed.

Wishing you a good October.

*Jim Jack (Editor)*





## Message from Paul —Curate not Saint October 2022



Well, that's it, summer is over, and winter is just around the corner. The nights are drawing in and the temperature is noticeably colder. It won't be long until even the hardiest of us will be reaching for the central heating controls. I've just been listening to the news and (today is 15 September) there are queues covering at least five miles and waiting times of up to eight hours to see the Queen's coffin as she is lying in state in Westminster Hall, London.

I am drawn to the live stream of the crowds filing past Her Majesty's coffin as the camera pans around the guards standing, heads bowed like toy soldiers. The glint of the jewels attracts my eye in the rear of the shot as the light catches the crown.

Above the coffin and the crown stands a finely carved brass cross to signify the significance of faith in the life of our Queen. Many of the people stop to bow and equally as many are seen to make the sign of the cross as they do so.

Many thousands of individuals have come to that place to remember someone who was an iconic public figure, but was also a wife of many decades, a mother, grand-mother, and great grandmother. This outpouring of emotion marks both public mourning and private grief, and the recognition of a long and full life, lived in the service of God and of her subjects.

Naturally the events that surround such a public death and the funeral service which follows will, for many, bring about memories of loss and often a reflection on one's own mortality.

Earlier today, I had the privilege of helping a family celebrate the life of a much-loved husband, father, grandfather and friend. There were many comments following the service that 'he did it his way'. We all hope for a good death, one without pain, one not drawn out, and one surrounded by those we love. Equally, we hope that, whatever comes after our earthly life, we will be reunited with loved ones - often not just those with two legs, but also those with four and a waggy tail!

This theme of death overcome, and of God and his faithful dwelling together, is expressed most beautifully and powerfully in the passage from Revelation, from the very end of the Bible. St John the Divine, in exile on the island of Patmos in his old age, has received visions of the glorious



heavenly worship, and also of the torments of the end time. Then he sees a new heaven and new earth, all things made new, and the new Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. This passage, with its great promise of all suffering, sorrow and death overcome, is often read at funerals. It promises that death is not the end, because all things are held together in Christ, who is Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.

The Christian hope is full of immortality, of the promise of eternal life in the risen Christ, in whom all things are made new. Because God raised Christ from the dead, the pain we might experience, or the sorrow we know as we mourn, do not have the last word. Because God raised Christ from the dead, we can trust that death is not the end – not for Queen Elizabeth, for any of our own departed loved ones, and not for any of us. And because we live in the light of that promise, we are free to be honest about our own mortality, and so to ask for grace to use our lives well – in duty and service to others, in faithfulness to the tasks to which we have been called, and in witness to Our Risen Lord, just as did Her Majesty.

We are all called to live our lives to the fullest. I am drawn to the words from a song that I have known for as long as I can remember. It calls us not to avoid the challenges of our lives. In doing so, we are likely to miss the amazing bits! It is from the country singer, Garth Brooks and he puts my own thoughts to song much better than I can put to pen. The song is called 'The Dance'. I urge you to seek it out on one of the many online music catalogues. He sings:

'Holding you, I held everything  
For a moment wasn't I the king?  
If I'd only known how the king would fall,  
Hey, who's to say, you know, I might have changed it all;  
And now I'm glad I didn't know the way it all would end,  
The way it all would go  
Our lives are better left to chance; I could have missed the pain  
But—I'd have had to miss the dance.'

So, I urge you, embrace what life has to offer you, enjoy the dance and all that it has to offer.

May God Bless you and all those you love, today and forever.

*Paul x*





## **A Benefice Remembers**

Although it was known that our sovereign's reign could not be eternal, when the end of her earthly life came, it was sudden. The national and international response was also swift and heartfelt. People from the UK travelling the globe have been surprised but deeply touched by the responses of countries they have been visiting. Flags being flown at half-mast; television coverage which has brought home a little closer to those travelling foreign lands; tributes, unprompted, being paid in many tongues. Clearly our Queen had won affection and respect beyond our shores.

And across the four nations forming the United Kingdom, the country was brought together in a way that few events achieve. As happens with the death of someone who has touched lives in some way at a local level, so the death of Queen Elizabeth brought forward many people whose lives she would be unaware that she had affected. The human urge to show her a thanks, never made explicit during her lifetime, has brought forward numerous individuals. Many of them have found it difficult to put into meaningful words why they felt they had to pass before her coffin, lay flowers outside buildings of significance or line the routes of the passage of her coffin as she made her way to her final resting place.

The fact that these actions were driven by *feelings* which people were being asked to explain suggests that this was a spiritual response to the death of a monarch

whose whole way of life was underpinned by her deep Christian faith, not least in her public roles. Simply by living her faith she was a quiet evangelist. Her title would be deemed by some to be the reason for her power to bring people together and to transcend party politics. But titles and power are nothing if the actions that go with that power do not exude humility, respect for others, duty of care for others, service to and concern for others—all of which Queen Elizabeth brought to her role. Her internalised faith meant that the way she interacted with people never felt like an ‘act.’ Her care and attention were genuine and part of her make up.

And the influence of her way of behaving was reciprocated by the unnamed hundreds of thousands who spoke of making friends in the queue, of talking to each other, of listening to each others stories. Service personnel, past and present, felt that it was their duty of service to the monarch to whom each made a promise—an oath of allegiance to serve.

Apart from the hundreds of thousands who were able to ‘be there’, there were many more who would have liked to be there. It was here that our benefice churches played their part. Each immediately set up a book of condolence, each of which has been signed by people from the locality and also by visitors from across the country and, in some cases, as far afield as the USA, Australia, New Zealand. The churches’ visitors books carry expressions of thanks for providing a place of calm, of peace, of tranquility, of a place for silent prayer or meditation or for recollection of times past. Our church buildings transcend the single life span of any individual who passed through their doors to avail themselves of the quiet sanctuary these historic places offer— a timeless offering to serve the people of the benefice.

Her service over, may Queen Elizabeth II rest in peace and rise in glory.



Books of Condolence at Marske, Richmond and Downholme

*J E J*

## Streaming for the Community

The internet streaming facility installed at St Mary's was a boon during COVID, enabling services of worship, funerals, weddings and baptisms being made available to people who couldn't attend church in person. This was extended on 19 September when the doors were opened to the community to attend a live streaming of the funeral of Queen Elizabeth II. It proved to be a sombre but moving communal experience with over 70 people—congregation members, other townsfolk and visitors coming together to share viewing of this historic landmark occasion. The feeling of being part of the occasion was strong as people watching joined in prayer, sang the hymns and stood for the national anthem at one with those at Westminster Abbey and many shared the fellowship over the refreshments on offer.



*JEJ*

## Little Angels

This mother and toddler group is a joint venture between Richmond Methodist Church and St Mary's, and has enabled volunteers from both churches to work together and get to know each other whilst drinking tea (in suitable child-friendly, non-spill mugs) and munching biscuits, or playing with train sets and toy kitchens stocked with plastic food!

Little Angels is free. Its purpose is to provide a safe and comfortable opportunity for mums, dads, grannies, childminders and carers to meet together, to chat and to let their children play and socialise together, with a range of varied toys and other equipment (carefully sanitised after each session).

Little Angels takes place each Thursday morning during term time, from 9.00—noon. No need to book -just turn up with a toddler- or volunteer to help.

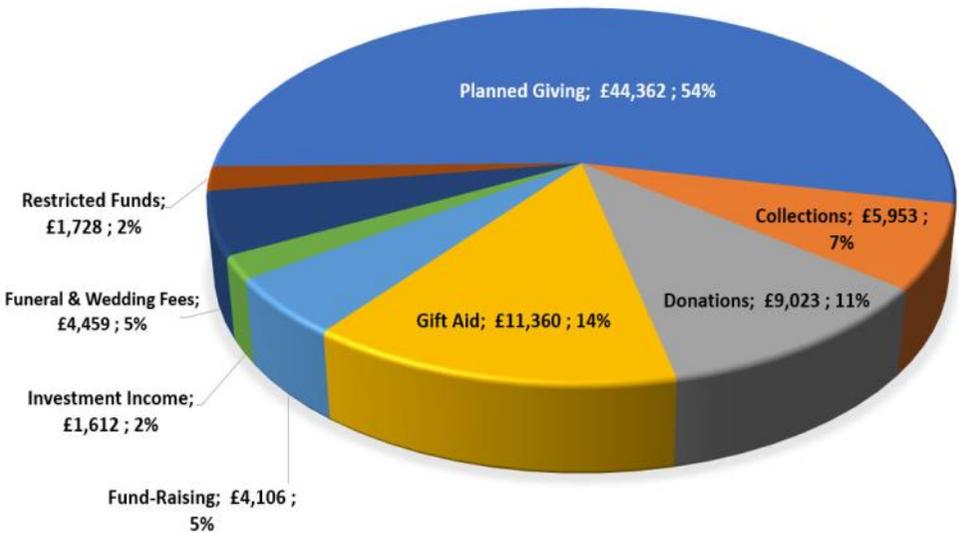
**Volunteers still needed!** So if you would like to work with us, please do flag up your interest to me, or Rachel Pinkney of the Methodist Church. A standard part of working with children is to be DBS cleared, but Rachel will happily help with the more tedious, but necessary, aspects of form-filling.

*Carole McCormack*

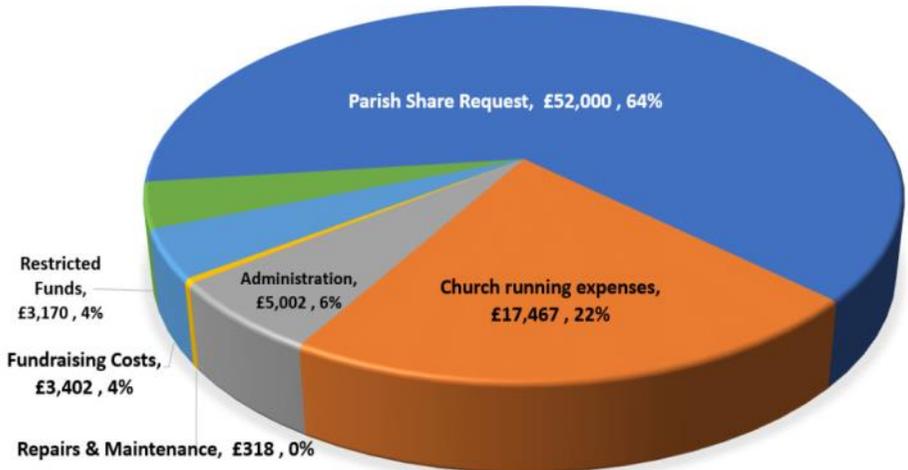
## News from the Pews (cont)

### Bi-Monthly Treasurer's Report

**ST MARY'S RECEIPTS - JANUARY TO AUGUST 2022 - £82,602**



**ST MARY'S PAYMENTS - JANUARY TO AUGUST 2022 - £81,359**



Our income is covering our expenses and we had a modest surplus of £1,243 over these eight months. But this is mainly because I'm limiting the amount we pay off the Parish Share Request so that we maintain a suitable working balance in the bank.

*Paul Carnell (Treasurer)*

## **All will be differently gathered in on 2nd October**

As was 'trailed' in Paul's last message in August, we are trialling a different form of Harvest Festival this year with a determined effort to involve more children and young people in the worship.

We are still asking you to bring your harvest offerings ( in support of the Beacon in Richmond), but they will be gathered in by the youngsters from Trinity Academy during the course of the service. There will be no Eucharist during the service on that Sunday, but there will be some new music mixed in with the old and perhaps a different structure to the service.

We do ask you to support this venture by coming along to see and experience it, but also to provide a good St Mary's welcome to those who have not been to our church before.

This service will mark a move of our All Age Worship service to the first Sunday of every month to separate it from FunKey Church later in the month.

## **Special Concert—23 October in the Evening**

At 6.30pm there will be an Organ Concert at St. Mary's with the theme of 'The Church year'. Colin Hicks writes, 'We will start at Advent and take a musical journey through the year with music from Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Ascension, Harvest and Remembrance time. We will also feature music from Weddings and celebrations. With our guest soloists we will also feature some of the sung favourites. Free entry with donations welcomed.'

## **What Else is On In October?**

**1 October:** Churches Conservation Trust is holding a 1 hour recital by the **Goldfinch Consort** (a 6 voice a capella singing group of professional choristers) in the ancient church of Stanwick St John (DL11 7RT) @ 5.30 p.m. Retiring collection—and tea and cake

**1 October:** **Herschel Players** return to St Mary's with Julia Doyle (soprano) @ 7.30 p.m. following an excellent concert earlier in the year. Tickets £20 (£18 over 65s, £10 U18 and students) from 01904 658338, [www.ncem.co.uk](http://www.ncem.co.uk) or on the door.

**2 October;** Harvest Festival at St Mary's ( see above for details)

**8 October;** Wine Tasting at St Mary's (See Friends of St Mary's section p 14 )

**28 October;** Talk 'What is War?' Gen. Nick Houghton at St Mary's (details p 15)

## LOYAL DALES VOLUNTEERS

Last month, we looked at the roles and duties of our volunteer churchwardens. Although it aimed to be a comprehensive coverage, the sad death of Queen Elizabeth II gave some additional unscripted challenges to the church team. So we look at the many steps taken in September to ensure that St Mary's played its expected role in the community.

### Unflagging Service

One hundred and nineteen. For anyone who has had the privilege of going to the very top of St Mary's church tower, this is the number of steps needed to ascend the tower - 50 steps to the ringing chamber, then on to the belfry and ever upwards to emerge into the daylight and feast on the wonderful views of the countryside surrounding our historic town.

Peter Trewby, Churchwarden (and incidentally Steeplekeeper—who knew such a voluntary job existed?), knows the route and routine well. Responsibility for the flying of flags at the top of the tower rests with him. The fact that the flag of St George is seen on the



**View of the Falls from the top of St Mary's bell tower**

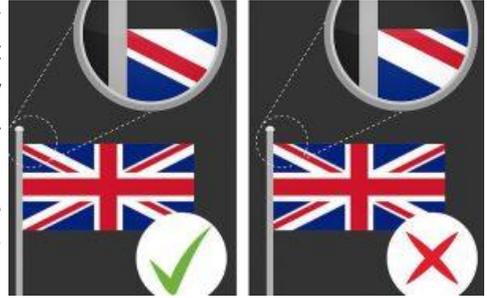
top of the flagpole, and is in good condition, is down to Peter. Unfortunately, at the time of the announcement of the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, he was on a train in Spain—but was he mainly on a plain?

However, Churchwarden Jan had already thought that the flag should be flown at half mast. Contacting the Rector, the intrepid duo made their way to the top of the tower and, in reverence and mourning, lowered St George's flag to half mast, to be seen by all who passed the church on that sombre evening. Having done this, our conscientious churchwarden descended the 119 steps ready to leave the church—other than to go back up the 50 steps to the ringing chamber to switch the light off.

Flag expert Peter, although on holiday, realised that protocol required this symbolic display and, true to his own sense of duty, sent a text to his fellow wardens and

the rector, asking that the flag should be flown at half mast. However, the satisfaction in Richmond of having already done this was short lived, for the message described carefully where the Union flag was stored—the larger one of course.

This in itself presented some uncertainties for or warden. Readers who have been in the armed forces or one of the uniformed youth organisations will know that there's a right way and a wrong way to fly the union flag. Indeed, flying the flag upside down is a sign of distress and even used to be a treasonable offence as it was interpreted as being contemptuous of the monarch.



Armed with a diagram from the internet and a warning from your editor that the union flag should not touch the ground, our intrepid churchwarden headed down to St Mary's, found the Union flag and happily trod the 119 steps again. Ceremonially but unnoticed, St George's flag came down, the Union flag, remaining free of the ground, was properly attached and raised to the top of the pole before being lowered to half mast (actually 2/3 mast as is proper) and secured. St George's flag was carefully stored and our careful churchwarden trod the 119 steps down to ground level—only to realise once more that the ringing chamber light was still on. Yes, another 50 steps up to switch off, then down again to breath in the fresh air. Once more, our community church was promptly sending a message to the town... that is, until the next morning.



Being an avid watcher of the news, your editor, still abed, was able to helpfully let our churchwarden know that this particular day was Proclamation Day, the day upon which King Charles III's accession to the throne was to be announced. And the consequence? Well, the Union flags throughout the realm were to be raised to full mast for the day and until 1.00 p.m on Sunday 11th September, by which time all four home nations would have

had the proclamation read in their respective capital cities. At this time, the flag should be returned to half mast. Off set our assiduous churchwarden at 7.45 a.m., salivating at the prospect of another 119 steps to the top of the tower to raise the flag to its required position. Once again, our volunteers had kept our church 'right'

and ‘ahead of the game’– and switched the light off correctly in process.

And so to Sunday 11th. Now there was a great temptation to just lower the flag to half mast straight after the morning service, but having done things correctly and promptly thus far, the decision was taken to go for a coffee and come back in time to lower the flag once more. Fortified by caffeine, our unwearied churchwarden set off back up the 119 steps to reach the top of the tower at 12.50 p.m. The easy way for her to know exactly when to slowly lower the flag was to wait for the church clock to proclaim the appointed hour through the stroke of one o’clock.

Being a bell ringer as well as having a mobile phone, our alert churchwarden suddenly realised as the lowering hour was upon us that the bells would be ‘disabled’ for their clock-chiming role as they had been set for the ringing of a peal that afternoon. She immediately, and with due decorum, slowly lowered the flag to half mast (mobile phones do have their uses) and secured it at the appointed and Apple-confirmed time.

Pausing to look over to the imposing keep of Richmond Castle, it was noted that, at 1.02 p.m, their flag was still at full mast. And at 1.03 p.m. And at 1.04 p.m. A slight feeling of satisfaction was soon tempered by the sudden realisation that the castle might well be waiting for the sign which would have tolled(!) the whole town that it was



**Richmond Castle from the Tower**

1 o’clock – our now silent church chimes! At 1.06, the slow descent of the Union flag on our castle began and the town was in unison once more.

And finally, on the morning of Tuesday 20 September just before 8.00 a.m., our sprightly churchwarden set off up the 119 steps one last time to ... to do what? Raise the Union Flag? Lower the flag? Replace the flag with St George once more? Half mast? Full mast? Leave the light on? Switch it off? At 8.00 a.m precisely, the Union flag flew once more at full mast. And our Steeplekeeper returned, fresh from holiday, later that day, knowing that the team has pulled together in unflinching fashion, kept up the standard with no sign of distress and no need to do penance (pennants?) for not getting it right! Loyal volunteers indeed.

*Jim Jack*

## FRIENDS OF ST MARYS

### Annual Plant & Produce Sale Does Well

Another mammoth effort by the team led by Susan and Sarah Scafton saw the annual event raise over £1,500. With plants and fresh produce at its centre, there was plenty of other interest to captivate the visitor—a grand selection of books and jigsaws, tours of the bell tower, tombola, sale of 'pre-loved' garden equipment and, of course the high quality refreshments offered by the Belles. The sum raised was all the more encouraging as there was a general feeling that attendance was down on last year. Indeed, the roads, the town and the falls were all relatively quiet for a Bank Holiday Saturday, perhaps the result of the dire warnings about rising fuel costs and higher prices generally in the week running up to the event causing people to choose to 'pull in their financial horns' as a way of living.



Nevertheless, a great day's work and a big 'thank you' to Susan and her helpers for leading a successful event.

### Full of Beans— A Coffee Morning Bonanza in September

A sunny morning on 17th September brought out the crowds for the last in this year's series of 'At Home' coffee mornings. Jeanette and Paul Sunderland, aided by Paul's mum, a friend from Castleford and the Scafton catering team, opened their home for three hours to church members and neighbours to drink coffee, eat cake and meet each other for social chat.



These events are free (donations if people feel so inclined) yet raffle prizes kept arriving, beautiful slices of cake kept disappearing and noise levels rose with the animation of the chatter. As with the others in this series, the prime aim was to offer a chance to socialise. Nevertheless, the morning raised a staggering £400 for future use on church projects.

The committee is delighted that these new events have proved increasingly popular and already have two new offers of hosting for 2023. Would you consider offering 3 hours on a Saturday morning next year to open your doors to neighbours and the church family? If so, please contact Peter Trewby (chair) or Jim Jack (secretary).

The next scheduled coffee morning is our church booking of the Town Hall on Saturday 17 December.

## Annual General Meeting—16 October

It is just over a year since the new Friends Committee was formed and started work with two primary aims:

- 1) to organise events which would offer the church community opportunities to meet socially on days other than Sundays, opening the doors also to the wider community.
- 2) to raise much needed funds to support the PCC in work to develop and improve St Mary's church. A target of £5,000 was set for the year (this has already been exceeded with events still to come.

The AGM of the Friends, of which you are all members ( at no charge!) will be held after Morning Worship on Sunday 16th October and we hope as many as possible will stay on for about 20 minutes in order that this meeting can take place ( a proper thing to do but also a chance to ask questions and to become more involved in the work of the Friends.)

An annual report with financial statements and audited accounts will be available at the back of church from Sunday 25th September. If you would like to know more or are willing to stand for election to the committee, please contact Peter Trewby (Chair) or Jim Jack (Secretary) as soon as you can. Contact details can be found on page 46 of this magazine. Please step forward..we've had an enjoyable year this year and already have plans for 2023.

### **Forthcoming Event: 8 October - Wine Tasting with Jamie Harrison**

Following a hugely enjoyable wine tasting led by connoisseur, Dr Jamie Harrison, before COVID struck, we have managed to secure Jamie's services once more to lead us on a flavour-filled journey through the world's vineyards.

Jamie's theme this time will be to explore and educate about some locally available and affordable wines which will excite the palate. Tickets from Wendy Pritchard, John Challis or Castle Hill Books are priced at £10 each to include all samples—price held at the pre-COVID level. What a bargain! Starts at 7.00 at St Mary's. Why not get a table together—a n enjoyable night guaranteed. Only 60 tickets available –so book now!



## **Forthcoming Event; Friday 28 October. 'What is War?'**

We are delighted to be able to welcome General Nick Houghton , Baron Houghton of Richmond, GCB, CBE, DL , to St Mary's on Friday 28 October. General Houghton is a retired senior British Army officer and former Chief of the Defence Staff (CDS) of the British Armed Forces who lives locally. He was appointed CDS in July 2013, following the retirement of General Sir David Richards. He served as Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, the Green Howards in Northern Ireland during 'The Troubles' and later became Commander of the 39th Infantry Brigade in Northern Ireland. He deployed as Senior British Military Representative and Deputy Commanding General, Multi-National Force – Iraq during the Iraq War. Later, he became Chief of Joint Operations at Permanent Joint Headquarters and served as Vice-Chief of the Defence Staff until assuming the position of CDS. Nick Houghton retired from the British Army in July 2016. His last appointment was as Constable of the Tower of London.



Further details on times to be announced shortly but this is bound to be a fascinating and perhaps, sobering, talk. but one led by a man with huge experiences of theatres of armed conflict. This is a public event so do tell friends and acquaintances. There will be a small charge, the proceeds being donated to a charity of General Houghton's choice.

## **Forthcoming Event : Curry Night Saturday 12 November**



Being held at the Richmond Operatic Society's HQ on Bargate, Richmond rather than in church to avoid the odours of a good curry night on the Saturday pervading the atmosphere of morning worship on the Sunday! With the promise of a two course meal ( with suitable options for vegan preferences), a bar and a band, the price of £12.50 per head sounds like a bit of a bargain. Probably a raffle, too, so even more fo a winner. An open event ,so bring friends along with you to enjoy a convivial evening. Start times will be announced later.

Tickets will be limited to 50 because of the size of the hall so another 'book early to avoid disappointment' do. Tickets from John Challis.(07712 135601)

## POETRY FROM DOWNHOLME

Some appropriate verse from **GEORGE ALDERSON**

### Past, Present and Future

I wonder if you, too, remember the time  
When rain was refreshing? You felt in your prime?  
The sun always shone and the clouds were pure white,  
Like freshly washed fleeces—soft, silky and light?  
We knew how to make things that always wore well,  
So there were no discounts, nor need for “hard sell”.  
The doctor could heal you from cradle to grave.  
The “Bobby” was local and all would behave!  
If you had a sheep or a cow that was sick,  
The vet made a drench that would soon do the trick!

Of course this is nonsense! There’s not been a stage  
Where people were perfect – no outbreaks of rage!  
The weather has always had changes of mood,  
So neighbours had something on which they could brood!  
Life’s never been tranquil, except in a dream.  
There’s always been something to make someone scream!  
We live in the present but dream of the past,  
Though it never happened, the memory’s vast!  
The mind is a minefield! Tread strictly, my friend!  
It takes you on journeys that, sometimes, may wend!

Acquaint with the present, acquire what you need  
And when musings haunt you, then pay them less heed.  
Meanwhile just be grateful for all we possess,  
Though sometimes it seems we have cause for redress!  
One day, those who follow will, too, reminisce  
And talk of the things that we have that they miss!  
If only they knew what we know is the fact,  
They’d never pursue what they thought that they lacked!  
In truth, satisfaction is being content.  
Take life as it comes for the past has been spent.

The future’s not ready, so no need to fret.  
There’s no point in living life full of regret,  
And when it is over and you’ve had your turn,  
It’s time for more pilgrims to seek and discern.  
You’ve played out your part and it’s time for your rest.  
Just pray that they say that you gave life your best!

## Charity of the Month



MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT

Our support this month is for the well-known and respected Macmillan Cancer Support. This charity provides specialist health care, information and financial support to people affected by cancer. It also looks at the social, emotional and practical impact cancer can have, and campaigns for better cancer care. Macmillan Cancer Support's goal is to reach and improve the lives of UK cancer sufferers.

The charity was founded in 1911 as the Society for the Prevention and Relief of Cancer, by Douglas Macmillan following the death of his father from the disease. It is now one of the 50 largest charities in the UK.

Donations can be made in the usual manner– through baskets at the back of church, or direct to the charity via their website [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk).



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



13 July	David William Masterman
20 July	Trevor Pickersgill
1 August	Majorie Phyllis Henderson
11 August	Mary Vitty
12 August	Donald Platt

***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)

HOLD ON  
TO THAT  
WHICH  
IS GOOD

 THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
Diocese of Leeds



## A TIME OF OUR LIVES

Having heard others talk of their excellent experiences as part of groups following John Pritchard's 'Slow Galilee' tours, **JUDITH and GRAHAM BARBER** decided to see for themselves in April of this year. This is what they found.

### Slow Galilee with Bishop John - A Trip To Remember

For a few years we had been tempted to join one of the Lightline Retreats led by John Pritchard but after hearing Anna's "Café Church" talk about her experiences when she spent a week there, we decided it was an opportunity not to be missed so we signed up for the April 2022 trip.

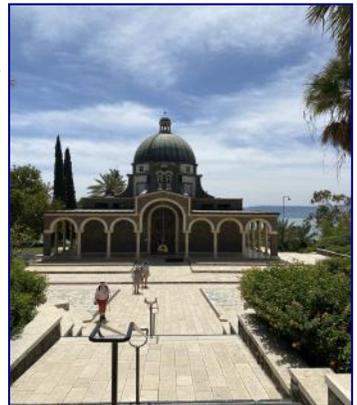
#### Preparing to Go

All was not plain sailing beforehand. You may recall the era of PCR tests which had to be passed before entering other countries and we had already undergone several anxious weeks keeping clear of Covid in order to visit our daughter in Qatar in March. Then, soon after our return, we both tested positive but the timing couldn't have been more fortunate as we could then obtain a 'Recovery from Covid' certificate and go to Galilee! Bishop John could not be so confident, however, as Wendy tested positive and he had to isolate, anxiously, for some weeks beforehand, but things went well for him and he tested negative when it really mattered.

We flew to Tel Aviv airport via Istanbul and were met by a lady who guided us through security (and a further Covid test) then we were on our coach to Galilee. Our driver was with us for the week and we also had a local guide who accompanied us for all our visits.

#### Memorable Buildings

From the 4th century, churches have been built over significant sites, and renewed and enlarged over the years. These beautiful buildings not only protect the area but provide a peaceful atmosphere for quiet contemplation. We visited some of these, such as St Peter's mother-in-law's house in Capernaum, the church of the Beatitudes and the church of the Annunciation in Nazareth where we saw within the building a cave which may have been the place where Jesus lived as a boy.



Church of the Beatitudes

Our Galilee experience was unique and wonderful in so many ways, so here are a few highlights and observations which may encourage others to consider going.

The Pilgerhaus where we stayed is a comfortable and welcoming guest house providing a variety of delicious meals and en suite rooms, a small shop run by the nearby community of nuns and a small chapel which held our group of 25 and was bright and airy by day and calm and atmospheric by evening candlelight. The acoustics lent a depth to music which we were privileged to share and join in with.

Our group was a friendly group of couples and single people of various ages from all over Britain. There was a mixture of retired people and those still working, with many different skills and interests. We thoroughly enjoyed their company and could dine with different people each day.



**Chapel at Pilgerhaus**

The itinerary was interesting and varied and also allowed plenty of time for reflection, recording our experiences and generally removing ourselves from the usual busyness of everyday life, which we found a rare and valuable experience.

### **Time to Think**

We had ample opportunity to absorb the atmosphere and enjoy quiet thinking time in the places we visited as well as learning more about the three years Jesus and his disciples and followers spent in and around Galilee. We were literally in the very places we read about in the Gospels and most days we travelled only short distances to the places chosen for us, for example Capernaum, only a few minutes in the coach and we were there.

Similarly the Mount where The Sermon was delivered was very close and the shore of Lake Galilee itself was right there in the Pilgerhaus grounds. Those who wanted could swim in the waters every day. My feet didn't enjoy the sharp pebble-access but, surprisingly, along with all the items you might



**Replica 1st C Boat for trip on the Sea of Galilee**

expect in a small shop run by nuns at our Franciscan-run guesthouse, there were river shoes for sale!

### A few of the highlights

Watching the sun rise over Lake Galilee each morning. Just stunning. And quiet. And peaceful. Two fishermen came one morning, quietly casting their net over the side of their boat and hauling up talapia, or “St Peter’s fish” and I watched for ages, miming my question “Could I film them?” Thumbs up. Yes, I could.. and did.



“St Peter’s Fish—the talapia”

Eating Talapia, usually on the bone. Delicious.

Sailing in a traditional boat on Lake Galilee and singing. You may speculate which hymn we sang....

Visiting Magdala, Mary Magdalene’s home town where, in 2009, Catholics began digging the foundations for a retreat and at a depth of only 30 cm , archaeologists discovered the original 1st century town which had disappeared in 68 AD!

There is a modern building, the Magdala Centre, which celebrates the place of women in society and contains a beautiful chapel sited on the 1st century market place with the original stone flags on the floor. Jesus and the disciples would have been there often and walked on those stones. We took our shoes off and did the same whilst looking at a stunning painting of the woman who touched the hem of Jesus’ robe, having faith that she could be healed.



A Sunday Communion service in Nazareth’s Christchurch. We joined the local congregation for a dual language service, together with a group from Maryland, USA, after which we were treated to home made Easter Cakes: circular pastry rings somehow filled with mashed dates. Very tasty and perfect with tiny cups of good, strong coffee. There was a bit of consternation before the service began, as the organist had phoned (at quite short notice, I think) to say he was sick. Was there an organist in the church by any chance? Yes! There was! A member of our group, who

was happy to step up to fill the void. He would probably be familiar with the tunes, which tend to be international. Was there a copy of the music anywhere? Some moments passed... Yes! Here it is! Another few moments passed..." I will struggle to play that, I'm afraid". The music in Israel goes from right to left. Who knew?

Emma, the I-Pad wizard in our group, came to the rescue and all was eventually well, if a little behind schedule. We sang enthusiastically in our own languages and the accompaniment was faultless.

Some truly beautiful churches with awe-inspiring histories also stay in the memory, as does the experience of communion outdoors at Dalmanutha, within walking distance of our Pilgerhaus, with the lake literally lapping a few metres away.

I could go on but I began this to give a taste of how our week went, so this is enough, I think. There was so much more. Aren't we lucky to have Bishop John in our midst? Two highlights of each day were his talks in the chapel services but I expect you can appreciate that this would be the case.

This was a week we both found valuable and will remember and revisit in our minds. I hope others who may go will have an equally memorable experience.

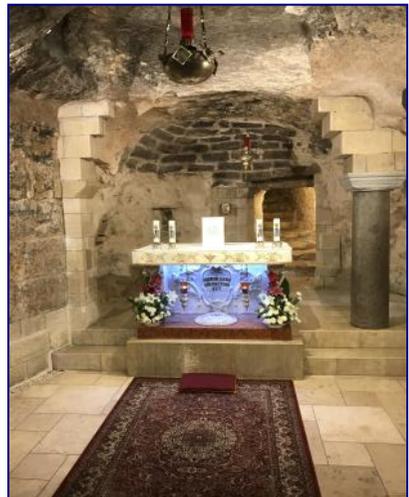


**Christchurch, Nazareth**

*Judith (with Graham) Barber*



**Dawn over the Sea of Galilee**



**Cave where Jesus may have lived**

## AN ORGAN FIT FOR A CATHEDRAL?

Perhaps not quite, but at Chris Denton's final concert in July, Colin Hicks gave a two part illuminating talk about the general history of the instrument, leading on to the particular features of the Harrison and Harrison organ at St Mary's in Richmond. One fascinating fact was that it was believed that the company used it to test out features which would subsequently be used in the organ of Ripon Cathedral. The talk also enlightened the listeners to the role of cigars, chewing gum and an underground stream in the life of the organ. The full text of his fascinating talk follows

### Pulling out the Stops—A Historic Organ is Born

#### Early History

The organ is one of the oldest musical instruments. The first record of this type of instrument was found -a Greek hydraulic organ- as a 3<sup>rd</sup> Century instrument for Roman amphitheatres. The big tones it is likely to have produced would be to make situations in plays more exciting.

By the 7<sup>th</sup> century, the first bellows organs were being seen. In the 10<sup>th</sup> century, the first organs as we recognise them today could be seen in such places as Notre Dame in Paris and Winchester Cathedral. In the case of the latter, there were 400 pipes, needing two men to play it – and another seventy to blow it! It is said that it “could be heard throughout the city.’

By the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the organ had largely taken the shape as we know it today. As a purely mechanical, complex machine, it is believed to be the most complex man-made device ever created at that time, and so it remained until the invention of the telephone exchange at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

During Victorian times, it was through an organ that the masses could hear most music. To hear music performed by a full orchestra of many people would be expensive, whereas an organ could produce a variety of sounds and tones in one instrument played by one person. Big Victorian town halls often had their own organs and people could go along and hear the latest tunes played there.

With the advent of cinema, these big musical instruments could be heard there both as entertainment in intervals and as accompaniment to



Birmingham Town Hall Pipe Organ

films. Nowadays, we have full electronic organs.

### **From Rochdale to Durham—The start of World Renown**

Harrison and Harrison, who made the St Mary's church organ, originally began work in Rochdale in 1861, moving to Durham in 1872. One of their early organs, number three, built with the early use of a pneumatic system, is still being played at St Giles' Church in Durham. The keyboards were mechanical but the pedals were set away from the keyboards.



**Thomas Hugh Harrison**  
(founder)

In 1896, Harrison's were becoming world famous. The founder, Thomas Harrison, had two sons, Arthur and Harry, who both joined the business. Arthur was a brilliant voicer of the instrument, whilst Harry became a design expert. Our own organ at St Mary's dates back to 1912 i.e. 110 years old, which means that it came out of the early life of this famous partnership. Ripon Cathedral organ dates from the same year. Indeed, there was some talk that our organ was built as a test bed for Ripon to find out what would work best.

So the Ripon organ is a bigger version of this one, having additional stops to the 43 which can be found on the St Mary's organ- a size big enough to fill the space of the cathedral. Harrison and Harrison went on to build such organs as the Royal Albert Hall and Westminster Abbey in the 1920s.



**Cuthbert Harrison**

Arthur Harrison died in 1936, whilst Harry retired in 1946. Cuthbert Harrison took over, with the firm going from strength to strength. The Royal Festival Hall, St Alban's Abbey, Coventry Cathedral, St George's Chapel at Windsor are further examples of their work. Harrison organs have even gone to Australia – to Adelaide- and also to Connecticut, whilst their work has continued at such places as Canterbury Cathedral. The latest big job completed by the firm is a £2m rebuild of the organ at York Minster -the first since 1902 – with spectacular results.

Initially, the St Mary's organ was installed in a gallery at the back of the church at a time when this church was a one thousand seater building with galleries on three sides. It was brought forward to its current position later, a siting which, it must be said, doesn't really allow appreciation of its scale. To give an idea of this, look at the Green Howards' Chapel and appreciate that, on the other side of church, the same sized space is filled with the pipes and parts of the present day organ.



An unusual view of the Harrison & Harrison Organ at Westminster Abbey—built 1937

### A Tour of the St Mary's Organ

The pipes at the back of the organ are 32 ft long; the ones you can see at the front are 16 ft long and there are 43 speaking stops which require 43 rows of pipes, split into 4 separate divisions. You may be able to pick out these four divisions when listening to a recital of pieces written for the organ.

The loud part of the organ - the Great Organ- is sitting on a platform about head height, behind the pipes you can see in the North Aisle, which themselves are all 'speaking' pipes.

Sitting behind it, in a box with shutters on the front, is the Swell Organ. It contains all sorts of different sounding stops -reedy sounding stops, clarinet stops, stops sounding like strings, stops made of wood or of metal. They are all in that one 'box'. Some people call it a 'caged lion effect' with the sound 'capped', but the full sound is released in a swell by opening the shutters, an effect often used in the last verse of hymns.

And then there is the Choir Organ – much gentler -which sits just above the choir and has a lot of lovely voices which are lighter in texture. As the name suggests, it would usually be used for accompanying the choir.

The Pedal Organ is the bass 'heavy' end and was really located wherever they could get it in. The pipes you see at the front, like the bottom C which is right next to the pulpit – can give the vicar at bit of a fright if you hit it right!! Right at the back of the space is the really heavy end -the Reed stops- which give the loud rasping bass, used

only when you have the full organ at full tilt

None of the St Mary's organ has any electronics in it at all, which surprises some people. It was powered by hydraulics drawn from a stream which still runs under the church today via a turbine which sat where the electric blower sits today. The rumour is that when the legendary Dr Bull was playing and pulled out all of the stops, all of the lights on Frenchgate would flicker. The electric blower was installed in the 1920s and is still in perfect working order today.

### **All Good Things Must....**



In its first 50 years, the St Mary's organ did pretty well, with routine maintenance, but it started to go wrong in the sixties. A couple of rebuilds had to be put off – the church roof had partially caved in on one occasion and something else happened so the organ fund understandably had to be used for these repairs. This meant that two major scheduled rebuilds did not take place.

When Colin Hicks took over as organist in 1999, he was told by his predecessor 'Good luck..don't pull out any of the stops with yellow tabs on, and don't push in any with red ones on ..and the ones with nail varnish on, well, don't touch them at all.' So the routine was to check it on a Saturday morning to see what was working that week, then come in again on the Sunday to check that nothing had changed. Then, if necessary, put the overalls on and get inside and put right what was going wrong – all before any of the congregation set foot inside the church.

The pipe work is mainly lead and where the lead joins onto wooden boxes, there are wax seals. So, Colin used to come in with cigars, blow the smoke through the lead pipework and see which joints it came out of; then these gaps were sealed using chewing gum or blue tac! Bellows repairs usually involved gaffer tape.

Finally, at a memorial service, the organ collapsed during the playing of 'We plough the field and scatter' by sticking on one note. The rest of the service had to be completed on the piano.

The late John Blenkiron and Valerie Strawbridge were key movers in raising the funds and repairs began even when the church didn't have all of the money. Malcolm Spink, who sadly died earlier this year, said he could repair in stages - pedal, great, swell and choir. It took two years but he was a great craftsman and, when the job was complete, Harrisons came down to look at it because they were

in the process of restoring a similar organ of theirs at All Saints in Margaret Street, London, which had been 'messed around' in the '60s and '70s. Harrisons needed to look at St Marys because it was the only one in the country which was still working to its original layout, design and particularly sound. They needed to find out what a 1912 Harrison sounded like.

Finally, in 2005, there was an inaugural concert of the restored organ. The organ today is like a vintage Rolls Royce, if something starts going wrong, it needs to be put right straight away. Malcolm's two sons have taken on the business and are now maintaining all of the organs in the benefice.

Transcribed from talk by *Colin Hicks*

-o0o0-



## Baptisms



The following baptisms all took place on 4th September

Audra Margaret Hollins  
Clara Lily Hollins  
Poppy Millie Hamilton  
Poppy Jemima Davenport  
Jeneia Ruse  
Dylan Ruse  
Logan Chase Ruse

'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)



**Last Sunday of Every Month !**

**4.00 p.m.**

**Why not come and join us?**

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

## MUSINGS FROM MARSKE

With the very positive response to an appeal to provide aid to the people in Ukraine, LIZ KLUZ's thoughts turned to wondering about the response to the reported ever-growing need for food support for people in our own community, brought on by the current and anticipated rapid rise in the costs of living. In this month's article, she reports on the current situation, shows how we can help and also focuses on advice on economies which all can make.

### Helping with the basics of life

Earlier this year an appeal for humanitarian aid for Ukraine was circulated in Marske and the response from the villagers was both generous and heart-warming, Within four days enough items had been donated to fill the back of my Land Rover three times over. The feeling of working together to make a difference to the lives of others in need was extraordinarily uplifting and something that would be good to tap into again. So with the prospect of a very challenging autumn and winter this year, that generosity of spirit will be put to the test again as we install a collection bin in St. Edmund's where people can leave items for the Richmond food bank.

### StoreHouse—Richmond's Foodbank

Recently I spent a very interesting and informative hour talking to Peter Heslop who is both Youth Pastor for The Influence Church in Richmond and organiser of their food bank.

He explained that StoreHouse was set up ten years ago to “help meet the needs of our wider community through providing emergency food supplies to those who, through whatever circumstances, are not able to provide adequately for themselves or their immediate family”.

At first, public understanding of the purpose of food banks was limited and in some peoples' minds, there was a social stereotype of the folk who needed to use them. Since StoreHouse was launched in 2012, requests for support have increased year on year, with demand rising sharply over the last couple of years. Fortunately those early misconceptions have largely disappeared and there is now a greater understanding of how quickly personal circumstances can change, leaving people in financial difficulties with no safety net. The break up of relationships, death of a partner,



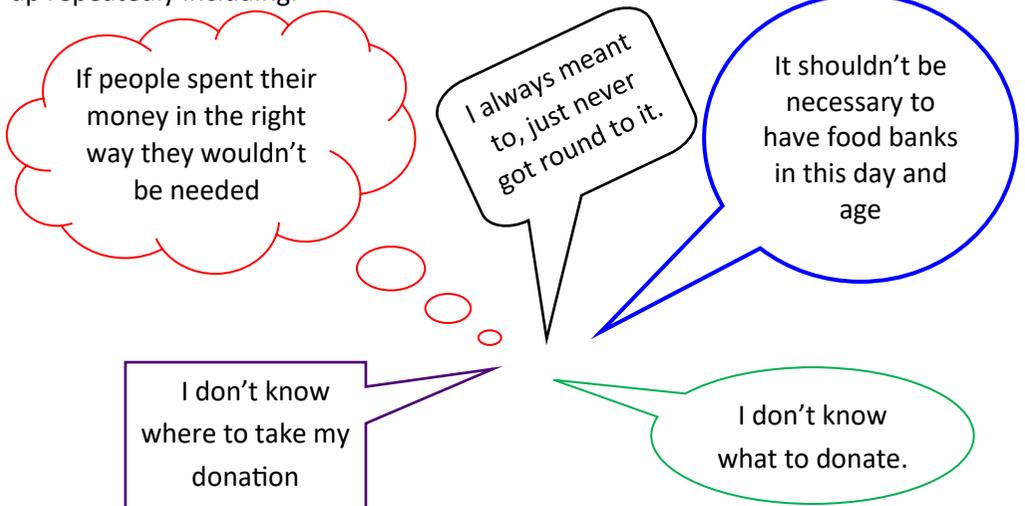
loss of employment, inability to work because of illness or caring for a family member are just some of the reasons why food banks are called upon to provide back up. Large unexpected bills or delays in the processing of claims, such as Universal Credit or Pension Credit, can leave people without enough money to feed themselves or provide the basics of life for their family. Folk from all walks of life can experience hardship, for some it is temporary but for others ongoing support is needed.



At the beginning of August, StoreHouse was helping around 100 people each week but with the unprecedented rise in energy, food and fuel prices, increased demand for support over the next six months is likely to be overwhelming. Peter and his team are increasing their storage capacity considerably so they can stockpile donations but their present stocks will not

last very long as they are already having to dip into them. To enable them to continue providing this valuable service, regular donations will be needed throughout the autumn, winter and probably for quite some time to come.

I know many of you already make donations to the food bank, for which they are very grateful, but some of you may not have started yet. In chatting with various folk during research for this article, different reasons for not donating have come up repeatedly including:



None of those reasons are really valid so please do consider donating because there has never been a time when your gift was more urgently needed. Weekly, monthly or one-off donations will all make a difference.

## Ways We Can Help

### 'I don't know what to donate'

For readers who add to their weekly shop by buying items for the Foodbank based at the Influence Church, this is an updated list ( September 2022) of the most useful donations

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

**Packets:** pasta, pasta sauce, noodles, cereal, porridge, rice, biscuits, spaghetti; flapjack

**Jars:** pasta sauce, sandwich fillings, jam, spreads, tea, coffee

**Also:** UHT milk, squash, washing up liquid, deodorant, bars of soap, tampons, sanitary pads, nappies (0-3 mths); laundry detergent or powder;, toilet rolls ( 4 packs) ; shower gel; shampoo

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

### Where to take donations of food and household goods ( see list which follows)

The StoreHouse food bank is housed in The Influence Church on Victoria Road next to the Morrisons garage. Items from the list below can be left in the blue bins at the front to the building between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday each week.

### Supermarkets which take donations in store

Most supermarkets now have collection points in-store.

Collection crates for donations can be found just after the checkouts at Lidl in Richmond and Tesco at Catterick Garrison so please just add a few extras to your trolley as you go round. No donation is too small because it's true that every little helps. It's worth remembering that the distribution day at StoreHouse is Thursdays so the shop collection pints may not be as evident or appear empty at that time in the week

### Our Churches collect too.

There are collection boxes for food bank items at St. Mary's Church in Richmond and St. Edmund's Church in Marske.

### I would prefer to give money.

If you would prefer to donate money, you can call Peter Heslop on 01748 823161 Tuesday to Friday or visit the Influence Church website and click on GIVE at the top of the main page

Because some people may have had their power supply suspended, leaving them with no way of heating food, Peter is also looking into the possibility of buying 1000 packs of military-style food rations which don't require any electrical input but still provide a hot meal. He is always grateful for financial donations which enable him to buy items in bulk at a better price.

### How else does StoreHouse help?

StoreHouse also runs a scheme for providing packs of essentials for parents of newly born babies and a **Heating Hub** which is a collection of warm wear for people who are struggling to heat their homes effectively.

There is also a **School Uniform Exchange** supplying good condition, pre-used uniform items for local schools.

### How To Use The Food Bank

If you would like to access the food bank, or know someone else who is in need of assistance, they are open on Thursday afternoons between 4p.m. and 6p.m. You are not required to bring any proof of need for your first visit and advisors will be on hand to see what sort of help they can offer.

StoreHouse has links with other support agencies in our area such as the Citizens Advice Bureau, the Job Centre, the local council or North Yorkshire Police who are able to refer "clients" they are already working with who they feel would benefit from this project.

To contact our local Citizens Advice Bureau at 23 Newbiggin in Richmond you can call 03444 111444 or the national CAB advice line free on 08001 448848 or you can have an online chat by going to the Citizens Advice Bureau website.

### ....and, finally some useful information

Standardised costs of using the following appliances for cooking:

Electric Cooker	Electric Oven/ Gas Hob	Gas Cooker & hob	Slow Cooker	Air Fryer	Microwave
87p per day	72p per day	33p per day	16p per day	14p per day	8p per day

Information provided by Cornwall Insight (August 2022)

*Liz Khuz*

## NOTES FROM OUR PAST

Not only does Richmond boast some interesting characters from the past, but also possesses some buildings with little-known history. Without knowing the real story, I used to try to persuade our children that the Sam Watson Rest Home on Quakers Lane was a place where only men named Sam Watson could live! They didn't believe me. I am delighted to say that **JANE HATCHER's** article had provided me with the real story—much better than mine—and more besides.

### A Richmond House With Stories To Tell

In St Mary's, we often give thanks for living in such a beautiful part of the country, with its heritage, and our supportive community. And we welcome many visitors who come to share these benefits and refresh their bodies and spirits. But in a conversation with someone who has recently moved to Richmond I was reminded of some organised groups of visitors who used to come but do so no longer.



Former Sam Watson Rest Home, Quaker Lane

For example, Richmond used to have two residential field centres where parties of schoolchildren came both to enjoy, and to study, the area. That of County Durham Education Authority was at Earls Orchard, and the other, of Lancashire Education Authority, at Prior House on Quaker Lane, both now sold. They were rather like the centre at Marrick Priory, which fortunately continues.

But there was also on Quaker Lane, next door to Prior House, another establishment which provided short stays in Richmond, in this case for adults. This was the Sam Watson Rest Home, a coal industry welfare charity providing convalescence breaks.

Today we keep hearing how climate change has been caused by fossil fuels, but it is not all that long ago that 'Coal was King' in this country. There were then a number of rest homes



Sam Watson in front of Hugh Gaitskell (then leader of Labour party) at Durham Miners' Gala 1960  
Northern Echo) photo

offering relief to sick and injured coal miners, but the one at Richmond was different because it was set up specifically for women – miners’ wives or widows, and female workers in the industry.

This was the personal idea of the man after whom it was named, Sam Watson (1898-1967), a County Durham coal miner who became Secretary for the Durham area of the National Union of Mineworkers and a senior member of the national Labour Party.

He knew that miners’ womenfolk also had very hard lives, and were deserving of restful breaks. As a matter of course, miners’ wives produced hot meals and water for hot baths at very strange hours of the day and night as the miners came off shift. They also lived with the constant worry that there might be an accident in the pit. Traditionally, if men were injured underground, let alone killed, the women had suddenly to provide for their families without wages, and per-haps nurse the men as well.



Painting by Dennis C Drew—  
miner using tin bath

Coal mining areas, like our Yorkshire Dales, had a very strong sense of community. I know from my own appointment working on the Durham Miner Project, a National Lottery-funded exercise to record the fast-disappearing legacy of the industry, that women in pit villages had a great tradition of working collectively in times of hardship. Their immense effort and ingenuity meant that the children were provided with nutritious meals during strikes.

The Richmond Rest Home was opened in May 1961, highly appropriately by Sam Watson’s wife, Jenny. It provided up to 20 recipients at a time with an 11-day break. I remember meeting many of them when they visited Richmondshire Museum. It was a delight to hear about their interesting working lives, and they were so appreciative of these visits to Richmond. They spoke highly of the food at the home, and as they not only received free board but were also given some spending money, their visits must



have benefited Richmond's economy. The Sam Watson home closed in 2012, and the building was sold.

The property purchased by the Coal Industry Social Welfare Organisation to become the Sam Watson home was a spacious three-storey Victorian villa, called Bolton Crofts, from the ancient name for the hillside rising behind it. The house had been built in the 1870s by James Robinson Tomlin, a member of a family significant in the town in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



**Miners' wives enjoying a break at Sam Watsons**

His father, Ottiwell Tomlin, served as Town Clerk of Richmond from 1820 to 1836, and retired back to his former occupation as one of Richmond's solicitors when the Corporation took on a new constitution following the Municipal Reform Act of 1835.

Ottiwell and his wife Frances Jane had thirteen children baptised in St Mary's between 1816 and 1837. What a large presence they must have formed for Sunday services in their private pew! Presumably they were also accompanied by the several members of staff considered necessary to look after a household with so many children. Frances Jane Tomlin must have had a robust constitution to survive so much child bearing, though their social status would ensure that she, and the children, were well nourished, for it seems they all grew to adulthood.

James Robinson Tomlin was the fifth child, born in 1820. He and his wife Mary Anne seem not to have had a family, despite building such a large house when in their 50s. He became the Registrar of the County Court. He died in 1884, and Mary Anne in 1890. They, and his father Ottiwell, and James's older brother who was also called Ottiwell, have tombstones in St Mary's churchyard.

The house called Bolton Crofts continued as a large private residence after James Robinson Tomlin's death in 1884. In the early 1890s it was home to a Mrs A Reed, who founded the Richmond National School Trust, an obscure charity run under the auspices of the parish church. She was then followed by more of a national figure, Admiral Henry Foster Cleveland (1834-1924).

He was the son of a rector of Romaldekirk in Teesdale, and had married the daughter of the vicar of Silkstone near Barnsley. He had gone to sea as a young man in 1854 and, after a distinguished naval career, retired in 1894 and settled in Richmond. Richmond seems to have been delighted to have him in the town. He was a popular

figure, serving on various charities, and in 1902 was voted to serve as Mayor of Richmond for the following year, although he was not a member of the Corporation. That situation was briefly remedied in 1906 when he won a by-election to become a councillor, but soon afterwards he retired again, this time to Eastbourne, where he lived to the ripe old age of 90.

In recent years Richmond has had several Members of Parliament who have held high office in Conservative governments. It seems appropriate also to recall Sam Watson, who established that Rest Home in Richmond, for he, according to his entry in the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, might well have come to serve in a Labour government. But instead he chose to remain where his roots were, as a miner and Trade Union official in County Durham and, through this, to create a bit of Richmond history.

*Jane Hatcher*

### All in the month of October

250 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> October 1772 that Samuel Taylor Coleridge was born. Best known for *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* and *Kubla Khan*.

175 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> October 1847 that Charlotte Brontë's novel *Jane Eyre* was first published, under the penname of Currer Bell.

150 years ago, on 11<sup>th</sup> October 1872 that Emily Davison, British suffragette, was born. A militant fighter for her cause, she died after being hit by the King's horse at the 1913 Derby.

Also 150 years ago, on 12<sup>th</sup> October 1872 that Ralph Vaughan Williams, British composer, was born.

100 years ago, on 18<sup>th</sup> October 1922 that the BBC was officially founded as the British Broadcasting Company (now the British Broadcasting Corporation.)

Also 100 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> October 1922 that George Cadbury died. He had transformed his father's chocolate and cocoa business into one of the world's most successful companies. He also provided low-cost housing and improved working conditions for his employees.

Also 80 years ago, on 30<sup>th</sup> October 1942 that crew members from the British destroyer HMS Petard retrieved codebooks from the German submarine *U-559*, enabling cryptographers at Bletchley Park to decipher the version of the Enigma code used by U-boats.

70 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> October 1952 that the world premiere of Agatha Christie's play, *The Mousetrap* opened in Nottingham. It then opened in London on 25<sup>th</sup> November,

## SIXTY SECOND INTERVIEW



**HELEN ROWAN** accepted John Pritchard's challenge to brisk answers to brief wide-ranging questions in this month's Sixty Second interview. Helen divides her working time between Richmond working from home and London in addition to the busy-ness of family life. Nevertheless, time for brief answers!

First memory? **My grandparents' house**

Favourite meal? **Lasagne**

Favourite music or musician? **Fleet Foxes, Dvořák, Stuart Townend**

Pet dislike? **Slugs**

Best holiday? **Costa Rica – for the wildlife and the rafting**

Childhood hero? **Sir Walter Raleigh**

Favourite hobby? **Playing or singing music**

Luxury on Desert Island? **Running shoes**

Recent TV you've enjoyed? **Sherlock**

Worst fault? **Perfectionism – it's a double-edged sword**

2 best films ever? **WALL-E; The Chorus (a.k.a. Les Choristes)**

Favourite drink? **Red wine, especially rioja or carménère**

Gardening or sitting in the garden? **Gardening**

Best recent book? **The Novels of the Jaran by Kate Elliot**

Favourite charity? **Christians Against Poverty and World Land Trust**

Place you feel happiest? **On a hill**

Three dinner companions? **My husband and kids**

What do you pray for most? **Arrow prayers for people and situations**

Traditional or new Lord's Prayer? **Traditional**

*John Pritchard*

## PATHWAYS IN PRAYER

Last month we focused on intercession as a basic part of prayer. This month, **JOHN PRITCHARD** looks at Thanksgiving, like intercession, another important building block

### Thanksgiving

We can easily sail through the day without a word of thanks towards God because we get so preoccupied with ourselves and our needs and forget to thank the giver of ALL good gifts.

Paul encourages us to 'give thanks at all times' (Ephesians 5.20). Thankful people are good to be with; they radiate well-being. But how can we build thanksgiving into our day?



**Start of the day.** Perhaps when we get out of bed we could give thanks that we can do simply that, get up - and that we can breathe, see, hear and not fall over!

**During the day.** Perhaps we'll see the richness of nature in our garden, a park, the hills around. Surely our heart sings? Give thanks too for a good conversation, a piece of good news, interesting things to do. Give thanks for a friend or an email.

**Dinner time.** Do we say grace?

**Night.** Before sleep think of three things from the day for which you're especially grateful.

Some people find it helpful to write these things down in a journal or notebook. It can be very rewarding to look back in the journal and see how many good things we've received.

The main thing is to develop a thankful spirit. That often flows from a discipline of thanksgiving (as above) that becomes increasingly natural. Thankfulness generates thankfulness! The more we give thanks the more we find there is to give thanks for.

'Piglet noticed that even though he had a Very Small Heart, it could hold a rather large amount of gratitude.' (Winnie the Pooh)

Amen to that!

*John Pritchard*

## PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

In a recent 'Pathways in Prayer,' John Pritchard made reference to apps which may help. **Rev. PAULINE SHEPHERD** offers two specific apps which she feels, from her experience, are worth trying.

"My life is so stressful and busy but I want to spend more time with God and I don't know how to find the time, can you help?" These are words that I am hearing more often and, in reply, I would say that we start where we are and start small with as much help as possible. One great aid to prayer is the prayer App which we can access on our phone. There are a variety of Apps out there but I would particularly recommend two.

**Lectio 365 is a FREE APP** that has a collection of simple Scripture based meditations. They are written by the leaders of the 24/7 prayer movement. They use the word PRAY as the pattern for the meditations



**Pause** - to be still.

**Rejoice/ Reflect** - rejoice with a Psalm / reflect on the Bible.

**Ask** - ask God to help us and others.

**Yield** - yield to God's will in our lives.

There is morning and evening prayer, both around 10 minutes in length but the reader can pause the app for longer thought and contemplation if required.

The App is based on the ancient Christian practice of Lectio Divina (Spiritual Reading) which reads the passage twice giving time for the message to sink in and for God's voice to be heard.

The evening section of the App is based on the Examen (review of the day) giving the reader the time to pause and reflect on what God has been doing and saying during the last 24 hours. It is an encouraging way of seeing how often God is working in and through us through the ordinary stuff of life.

Each session lasts approximately 10 minutes, which is a realistic amount of time to commit without it being onerous. Also, because the App is on the phone, it can be accessed on the move or in coffee/lunch breaks at work or any time or place that suits.



The second App is **PRAY AS YOU GO - a FREE APP**

This App is designed to enable you to pray wherever you are and whenever you have time. It has one session a day which lasts between 10 and 13 minutes and combines music, Scripture and questions for reflection.

This App starts with a short song or piece of music which may be contemporary, classical or plainsong. There is a brief reflection and a Bible passage followed by a question to ponder based on the passage. After this the Bible passage is read again and further help to consider what God might be saying is given. A new prayer session is produced everyday as a framework for your own prayer and can be used as it is or extended as you wish.

The idea was started in 2006 by Fr Peter Scally a British Jesuit . He created a podcast to allow commuters a short period of prayer using Ignation prayer techniques. As this took off the App was launched in 2014 and is used internationally. It is available in 10 languages including Ukraine (iMolytva) .

Both Apps are in my opinion very good and helpful and worth having on your phone/ ipad.

They of course do not detract from the Daily Prayer App which many of us use for morning prayer each day, but if you have never tried an App and are looking to deepen your prayer life then I would suggest that you have a look at **Lectio 365** and **Pray As You Go** they are well worth it and are a very easy and accessible way in to a regular time of daily prayer. There are other Apps available and if you have time to browse the web they are out there to be found.

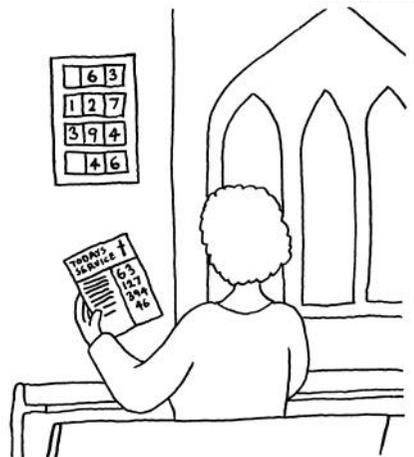
Happy Praying!

*Rev. Pauline*

-o0o0o-



WE'RE NOT ASKING YOU TO SCRAP THE ENTIRE SERIES...  
JUST FIND A SHORTCUT THROUGH THE DESERT.



SHE COULD HARDLY BELIEVE SHE HAD  
WON ON HER FIRST VISIT TO CHURCH

© Cartoon Church

## BEHIND THE HYMNS

JUDITH MacLEOD offers us some further insights into hymns which are often sung in our churches. This month's choice, "How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire?" is another of our hymns whose meaning is strengthened by the music to which it is set. Judith looks more deeply at the meanings of the verses which we have sung recently in church.

My choice of hymn for this month is 'How shall I sing that majesty which angels do admire?' [number 466 in Common Praise] by Reverend John Mason [1646-1694]. We have sung it more than once at St Mary's in recent months.

Mason had a vision of the splendour of heaven which he contrasts with the inadequacy of his own praise. The vision of admiring angels was a popular subject for Renaissance artists such as Michelangelo who depicted the Last Judgement in the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican City and Giotto in the Scrovegni Chapel in Padua. If you prefer architecture, think of the series of angels in the tympani in the portals of Notre-Dame de Paris and Lincoln cathedrals. Mason is evoking the vision in words.



**The Last Judgement by Michaelangelo**

1. How shall I sing that majesty  
Which angels do admire?  
Let dust in dust and silence lie;  
Sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.  
Thousands of thousands stand around  
Thy throne, O God most high;  
Ten thousand times ten thousand sound  
Thy praise; but who am I?

In verse 1, the Christian contemplates the majesty of God surrounded by angels. The emphasis is on sound with the mention of 'thousands of thousands singing ten thousand times ten thousand'. God is infinite. We, the believers on earth, are witnessing the majesty of God and hearing the choir of angels, but feeling inadequate as expressed in 'but who am I?'. The 'dust in dust and silence lie' must refer to us, fallen humanity, striving to hear the heavenly choir.

2. Thy brightness unto them appears.  
While I thy footsteps trace;  
A sound of God comes to my ears,  
But they behold thy face:  
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold,  
With all my fire and light;  
Yet when thou dost accept their gold,  
Lord treasure up my mite.

Verse 2 states that angels see the brightness of God's face whereas the earthly believer can only hear God and our best is inadequate. Angels offer gold. We ask God to treasure our 'mite' - a Jewish coin of low value - our small and insignificant contribution.

3. Enlighten with faith's light my heart,  
Inflame it with love's fire,  
Then shall I sing and take my part  
With that celestial choir.  
They sing, because thou art their sun;  
Lord, send a beam on me;  
For when heaven is but once begun,  
There alleluias be.

In verse 3, the message is that with God's inspiration we can join the 'celestial choir'. The believer asks for the light of faith and the fire of love - visual imagery. It is also auditory as the believer sings alleluias with the celestial choir. The notion of asking God, who is the sun, to send 'a beam' on us is almost comical, but so comforting. The beauty of this verse is enhanced by the alliteration of the 's' in 'sing', 'celestial', 'sun', 'send'.

4. How great a being, Lord, is thine,  
Which doth all beings keep!  
Thy knowledge is the only line  
To sound so vast a deep:  
Thou art a sea without a shore,  
A sun without a sphere;  
Thy time is now and evermore,  
Thy place is everywhere.

The fourth verse starts with a reminder that God is protective. Lines 3 and 4 affirm His omniscience - 'Thy knowledge is the only line to sound so vast a deep'. Lines 5 and 6 are my favourite; they express God's infinity so succinctly 'thou art a sea

without a shore, a sun without a sphere' with the return of the pleasing alliteration of 's' in 'sea', 'sun', 'sphere'. Is this a literary reworking of the affirmation 'God is an infinite circle whose centre is everywhere and whose circumference is nowhere' by St Augustine of Hippo [354-430]? Then come the 2 final lines supporting our belief in the omnipresence of God 'thy time is now and evermore, thy place is everywhere'. I find the use of the word 'now' particularly comforting - God's omnipotence is particular and enduring.



Coe Fen, Cambridgeshire

Nowadays the hymn is sung to the tune 'Coe Fen'. The composer, Naylor (1931-91), was Director of Music at The Leys School, Cambridge, which is built on land called Coe Fen.

*Judith MacLeod*

-o0o0o-



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## WILLIAM'S WALKS



WILLIAM GEDYE returns with series of three new Autumn/Winter walks, this one starting in Leyburn and is seen to be a relatively easy walk but with one stile. However, splendid views are assured if conditions are right—and the river is not in flood!!



## HARMBY AND BEGGAR'S MOUTH

**Start/Finish** – Tennant's Leyburn

**Ordnance Survey Map** OL 30 Yorkshire Dales Northern & Central Areas

**Distance:** 4 miles

**Terrain;** Quiet lanes and footpaths. **Do not attempt if the Ure is in flood.**

**Parking :** Tennant's Car Park



-o0o0o-

From the car park, cross the main road taking the lane opposite.

After a few hundred metres take the footpath off to the left through the 5 bar gate. Follow the path to Harmby and go through the 'squeeze' onto the road.

Turn right along the grass verge and right again along the farm lane, after about 100 metres. Follow the lane around the bends and cross the cattle grid.

After about 50 metres take the squeeze off to the left across the field. In the corner, cross the slightly awkward fenced in stile with long ladder down to the field below. Cross the field and bear left through the kissing gate onto the Ure riverbank.

Follow the path through several fields passing the Beggar's Mouth mere visible through the trees on the left. Cross the stream using the bridge. Follow the lane into Spennithorne. Turn left past the pub and follow the road up through the village, crossing onto the village green. Turn left along the inside of the wall. The path follows the road and emerges onto the pavement.



## SMALL GROUPS FOR CHRISTIAN NURTURE

It's well known that meeting in small groups for discussion and prayer is one of the best ways of growing in our faith. It's where we learn, ask questions, express doubts, search the scriptures and find ourselves accepted and cared for in genuine fellowship. **JOHN PRITCHARD** offers a very helpful summary of what's on offer currently. As church life picks up do consider if any of these groups appeal. We all need to grow!

At St Mary's before the pandemic we had two home groups that did this excellently. After that traumatic watershed the scene has changed and there are a number of small groups happening for anyone to consider.

### The Discussion Group.

What this group does is written on the tin. It meets monthly in the evening and moves gently from one subject to another. Very democratic, very open-ended.

**Contact: Anna Boyce: boycead11@gmail.com**

### The Book Group.

This daytime group meets in church monthly to discuss a Christian book. Discussion roams widely! **Contact: Isobel Short: ishort1998@aol.com**

### Home Group.

This group is just getting going, hoping to meet fortnightly on a Tuesday afternoon at Martin and Anne Clarke's house for Bible study and discussion. **Contact them on poshbothy2@gmail.com**

### Poetry and Puds.

Members of this group bring three poems they enjoy and a pudding! The aim isn't directly Christian nurture but often drifts in that direction. Meets on the first Tuesday evening of the month at John and Wendy Pritchard's. **Contact: johnlpritchard@btinternet.com**

### Exploring Faith.

This excellent ecumenical group meets on occasional Saturday mornings at the Rokeby Inn on the A66 for coffee, pastries and a good speaker on an important theme of Christian concern or ministry. Deans, professors, prison and hospital chaplains, even defunct bishops, have been amongst the speakers but the style is always accessible. Next meeting 24 September. Highly recommended and the brain child of Keith Miller, who needs to know who's coming for catering. **Contact: kshmillier32@gmail.com**

## INFORMATION POINT- ALL ARE WELCOME

There are a number of groups working in the church. All are welcome if you fancy contacting the group and being part of what they do.

Keith Robson reminds us that the Happy Bodgers are operating once more

## 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 are 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 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.*



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### ACORN CHRISTIAN LISTENERS

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

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

#### CHURCH OFFICERS

Reader	George Alderson	68, Brompton Park, Brompton on Swale DL10 7JP (07487) 257646
Church Warden	Jean Calvert (07902) 753246	Home Farm, Downholme, Richmond DL11 6AE
Organist	Fionnagh Bennet	
Church Treasurer	Phil Ham 07920 884103	'Sundale', Reeth, DL11 6TX <a href="mailto:philip.ham@outlook.com">philip.ham@outlook.com</a>
PCC Secretary	Rev Jennifer Williamson 824365	<a href="mailto:rev.jenny1@btinternet.com">rev.jenny1@btinternet.com</a>

#### CHURCH SERVICES AT DOWNHOLME

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

### THE PARISH OF ST EDMUNDS, MARSKE

#### CHURCH OFFICERS

Church Warden	Ruth Tindale (01748) 823371	Skelton Lodge, Marske
Organist	Jennifer Wallis (01748) 822930	1 School Terrace, Marske
Treasurer	Peter Coates (07801) 521954	Orgate Farmhouse, Marske <a href="mailto:peter.coates54@hotmail.co.uk">peter.coates54@hotmail.co.uk</a>
PCC Secretary	Jennifer Williamson (01748)82436	<a href="mailto:ev.jenny1@btinternet.com">ev.jenny1@btinternet.com</a>

#### CHURCH SERVICES AT MARSKE

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

### Sudoku - Easy

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

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### Sudoku - Medium

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

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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 keep things going ?

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

#### NEXT EVENTS

Wine Tasting 8 October  
Talk 'What is War?' 28 October  
Gen. Houghton

### KNIT & NATTER

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Contact Anne Clarke 07982 658991

## Word Search

With October, autumn is underway – the leaves are turning gold, the chilly nights are closing in and the shops are full of Halloween things. Our ancestors were frightened of the dark and cold of winter, and feared that evil things might attack them. So they lit fires and wore frightening masks, to ward off evil spirits. But Christianity taught a much better way: it taught that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and that when He died for us on the cross, He overcame all the powers of evil that there are. So we don't need charms to ward off evil, we just need to turn to Jesus in prayer. He will protect us from any power of darkness that menaces our lives. The Psalms say that He is our shield and protector!

Autumn

Gold

Night

Dark

Pumpkin

Sweets

Saints

Goodness

Saving

Prayer

Protection

Light

Jesus

Son

fearless

School

Exams

Half term

Coal

Leaves

Bonfires

Sneeze

Scarves

soup



## Puzzle Solutions

### Sudoku — Easy

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

### Sudoku—Medium

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

### Wordsearch

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

**Deadline for November edition : 15th October**  
**To contribute letters, articles, etc contact**  
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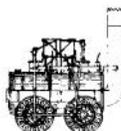
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