WHO’S WHO

VICAR       Rev Karen Gardiner  01423 326518
The Vicarage, Church Lane, Boroughbridge, YO51 9BA

CHURCHWARDENS

ALDBOROUGH
Mrs Liz Vose       203503
Mr J Lawson-Tancred 326162

BOROUGHBRIDGE
Mr A Weeds        391535
Mrs K Ambrose      322070

DUNSFORTH
Mrs F. Merchie     322526
Mrs P. Denny       322901

MINSKIP
Mr R Beaumont     322365

ROECLIFFE
Mr J. Bolland      325091
Mr S. Jarvis       322026

READER
John Francis Moss  johnfrancismoss@btinternet.com  07515 825198

HOSPITAL VISITS. John would be pleased to know of anyone in hospital or at home who would like a visit. Please let him know as he has no other way of finding out. Thank you.

HOME COMMUNION. Our team of Eucharistic Ministers can provide communion at home for those who are housebound, or regularly unable to come to church. If you, or anyone you know, would like such a service please let one of the churchwardens know.

MAGAZINE EDITORS
   David Bellwood  324276 and Paul Farrelly  504913
   Email: link@boroughbridgechurches.uk

Please note that copy for inclusion in any one month should be sent to the Editors by the 12th of the previous month.

PARISH WEBSITE  www.boroughbridgechurches.uk
Deadlines being what they are, I’m writing in the second week of January. In fact, I am writing at least a day after the very very last day I was supposed to hand it in (so if the magazine is a couple of days late this month, that’s probably my fault). The weeks since Christmas seem to have whizzed by, and though some of my new year’s resolutions are already looking a bit overly optimistic, there is still a sense of new starts around the place.

St James has had the paint touched up this week, St Andrew’s is looking forwards to its Plough Service, and the Church council meetings are discussing everything from quizzes to pre-school groups to VE day celebrations. Planning starts early, so we are already looking forwards to Spring, and lent and Easter thoughts are well underway. The natural world, possibly because we have had a relatively mild winter so far, seems to be looking forwards to Spring too. I can already see snowdrops in Dunsforth Churchyard, and even the daffodils are brave enough to be peaking through in my front garden! (Hopefully no strong frosts will get them.)

To mark the turning point of the year we hold a Candlemas service – it sits at the midpoint between the shortest day (around Christmas) and the Spring Equinox (looking towards Easter). We officially wave goodbye to the darkest days of the year, and turn around, looking forwards to the promise of Spring. For Christians it is a time to remember that the baby whose birth we remember at the very darkest time, does not leave us as the light increases. He is with us in darkness and light, sorrow and joy. Candlemas encourages us to change our perspective, look at things from another angle. Maybe that is something that all of us need to do occasionally – to step back, to think again, to give something (or someone) another chance perhaps?

As part of the service, there is an opportunity for people who have brought candles from home to have them blessed. It’s a reminder to us that God is not confined to a building, wonderful and important though our Churches are. Christ’s light is in us and with us, and, as we say to the babies we baptise, we are all called to “shine like a light in the world”.

So this magazine comes with prayers that you will feel yourselves surrounded by light, whatever your circumstances as the days of spring draw closer. Do join us at Candlemas evensong - and do bring your candles to be blessed.

Every blessing,

Karen
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From the Editors

As from this issue, the price of The Parish Link will rise to £1 per issue, £10 per year. It has been quite a long time since there has been any price increase for the magazine, and unfortunately we do need to review the situation every now and then to make sure that we are covering our costs.

Income from The Link goes not just towards producing the magazine, but also towards other outgoings in the United Parish, such as administrative costs, stationery, maintaining the office equipment, etc.

Regular readers will have hopefully noticed considerable improvement in the magazine recently, now in full colour, and printed on good quality paper. We hope that you like this 'new look' and will continue to support the magazine, and the United Parish, during 2020.

If you wish, please use the form below to order a subscription. Existing subscribers can use the form, or simply arrange it with your distributor.

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Is available for hire

Cost is only £6 per hour for Minskip residents and £12 per hour for others. (Or £45.00/£90.00 per day.)

Please call John on 07538 178659 or email minskipvh@yahoo.co.uk to check availability.
Boroughbridge and District Mothers’ Union join a world-wide Wave of Prayer

4 million members in 84 countries across six continents supported by over 940,000 people world-wide

Mothers’ Union "Wave of Prayer" is a continuous expression of our commitment in prayer to each other. It runs throughout the year and world-wide so that the work and members in each and every place in which Mothers’ Union is active is prayed for at some point. On Wednesday morning 8th January Mothers’ Union members in Boroughbridge came together to join this Wave of Prayer at St James Church. A short service of readings and candle lighting for our link Dioceses of Etche and Ogbomoso in Nigeria, Kibungo in Rwanda, Lesotho, and Hanuato’o in the Solomon Islands and more locally for our Mothers’ Union friends in Ripon and the Leeds Diocese was led by Branch Leader Margaret. The weekly Wednesday Holy Communion followed and then fellowship over coffee and cake.

Local Action, Global Impact

If you want to know more about Mothers’ Union projects visit mothersunion.org or contact Margaret Crawford
Roecliffe News

ROECLIFFE RACKET CLUB RESULTS
DECEMBER DRAW
1st Prize of £20 (6)  
Jean Powell
2nd Prize of £10 (28)  
Stephen Welsh
3rd= Prize of £5 (137)  
John & Sue Fieldhouse
3rd= Prize of £5 (4)  
Jean Powell

CHRISTMAS BONUS DRAW
1st= Prize of £20 (29)  
Jim & Janet Tulip
2nd= Prize of £10 (8)  
Paul Warrington
2nd= Prize of £10 (138)  
Paul & Rachael Say
4th= Prize of £5 (41)  
John & Sue Ind
4th= Prize of £5 (36)  
Audrey Leeming

JANUARY DRAW
1st Prize of £20 (44)  
John & Sue Ind
2nd Prize of £10 (27)  
Joyce Reeve
3rd= Prize of £5 (19)  
Annie Welsh
3rd= Prize of £5 (11)  
Davelin Cumberland

The February Draw will take place on Monday January 20th during the Roecliffe Church Council meeting at Stephen Jarvis’s.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
Church Services: Sunday February 9th at 9.30am – a Parish Communion

There will be a Quiz Night during March and the date will be set at our next Roecliffe Church Council meeting on January 20th.

Saturday, April 4th there will be a Safari Supper in Roecliffe. More information nearer the time, but keep the date free.

Jim Bolland
**Roecliffe Curry Night**

How quickly the 3rd of January comes round after Christmas! This was the date set for the curry night in Roecliffe and initially numbers were slow to get going but between Boxing Day and the 2nd January they steadily rose. We were delighted that in excess of 50 people from the village and further afield (even Reeth and Newcastle) packed in to the school hall for what promised to be a lighthearted social evening.

The atmosphere was great and some played games whilst others simply chatted to friends. Around 8pm we served the curries. A choice of beef, 2 chicken curries and 2 vegetarian curries, with rice, naan bread, poppadoms and pickles. There was even enough for 2nd helpings for those who could manage some more! After the curry there was a choice of puddings or cheese and biscuits. A small raffle was drawn and the evening was brought to a close with a vote of thanks from Mary Barker.

All in all it was a great success raising just over £600 for church funds and was very much a team effort. My thanks go to Lisa Daniell, Rachael Say and Dave Siswick in particular for all their hard work before the evening preparing delicious food for us all to share and preparing the room. I would also like to thank all those who helped on the night – serving food, washing up, selling raffle tickets or helping to clear up at the end.

Hopefully one to be repeated in the future!

*Stephen Jarvis*

---

**A Poetry Evening**

Tuesday 10th March

7.30pm at The Ship Inn, Aldborough

for the St James' Organ Fund

Please contact Christine Wilson 01423 326299 for more details
Does your business need “BIG M” or “small m” marketing?

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CREATIVITY IS INTELLIGENCE HAVING FUN
Bible Study Group

The Bible Study Group continues to meet on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Each meeting will last for about an hour starting at 6.30pm at 21 Springfield Grove, Boroughbridge YO51 9EG hosted by Rosemary and Neil Lister. We are currently looking at a series of studies based on a book by Stephen Cottrell that is called "Walking Backwards to Christmas".

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date of meeting</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Bible Verses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th February</td>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Matthew 1: 18-24</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th February</td>
<td>Elizabeth</td>
<td>Luke 1: 5-15, 24-25, 39-45</td>
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<td>5th March</td>
<td>Mary</td>
<td>Luke 1: 26-38</td>
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<tr>
<td>19th March</td>
<td>Isaiah</td>
<td>Isaiah 9: 2-7</td>
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*No knowledge or prior reading is necessary*, whether you wish to join in the discussion or simply sit and listen everyone is very welcome to join us.

Come to be entertained . . . A dramatic historical interpretation . . .

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Performed by enthusiastic amateurs - Minskip Local History Group present a light-hearted opportunity to discover the 300 year history of property and land ownership in Minskip at **MINSKIP VILLAGE HALL** on **Friday 13th March**

Doors open at 7pm for 7.30

Advance tickets £8.50 Including Canapés & Refreshments Children free
Proceeds to Minskip Church/Village Hall who support the Minskip Local History Group For advance tickets Pauline 01423 323532 Mobile 07896 176081
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DUNSFORTH NEWS

DUNSFORTH DRAW:

December
1st Prize £42.00: Sue Timoney
2nd Prize £16.00: Emma and Tim Mortimer
3rd Prize £8.00: Mike Cotton

January
1st Prize £42.00: Emma and Rob Sanderson
2nd Prize £16.00: Valerie Thompson
3rd Prize £8.00: Don and Jan O'Mahoney

Congratulations to all winners

With the beginning of a new Draw year fast approaching we hope very much that you will join or rejoin. The more members we have the bigger the prize money and the more St Mary's Church will benefit ... please contact Matthew Bean or myself, if possible by the middle of February.

Wine tasting evening - Our grateful thanks go to the Townsend family for giving us a most entertaining and interesting talk on their Dunesforde Vineyard, much enjoyed by all and not least the opportunity to sample some of their delicious wine! A big thank you too to all who contributed canapes. It was a lovely evening and the church was full to overflowing ....Over £800 was made for church funds.

Carol Service - We again held a lovely and well supported candlelit Carol Service. The church was so full there were people standing at the back! Mathilda Mortimer opened proceedings with a solo of Once in Royal David's City and Mike Wildblood's choir sang a lovely anthem. The crib scene was splendid as always and was followed by a spirited rendering of Away in a Manger by the children. Thanks to Joan Holmes and Gina Bean for the beautiful flower arrangements and to all who were involved in decorating the church. Our grateful thanks go to Steve and Susie Johnson who again invited everyone back to the Old Vicarage for drinks afterwards. This is the 10th year they have entertained us!
Our service on Christmas Day was also very well attended with over 50 present and grateful thanks go to Bishop Clive for officiating.
Carol Singing round the village: a big thank you to Mike Wildblood and his stalwart band of singers who raised a wonderful total of £400.00, to be shared between Hope and Homes for Children and The Childrens Society. Our thanks too go to all who provided such generous refreshments ..... 

We owe a big thank you to Mike Wildblood and David Sapwell who are responsible for our splendid new noticeboard. And another big thank you to David Sapwell for renovating our other noticeboard which has certainly taken on a new lease of life as a result!

Forthcoming Events: 
We are holding a spring quiz evening on Thursday 19th March at The Hideaway Kitchen. More details to follow in next issue.
Mothering Sunday Service: Sun 22nd March

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<td>Candlemas Evensong</td>
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<td>Midweek Communion</td>
<td>Kirby Hill</td>
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Each week (in school term only): 8.30am Morning Prayer at Minskip (Monday), Aldborough (Thursday), Dunsforth (Friday)
Readings for this month

9th February  Isaiah 58:1-9a, Matthew 5: 13-20
16th February  Romans 8:18-25, Matthew 6:25-34
23rd February  Exodus 24:12-end, Matthew 17: 1-9

From the Registers

We have welcomed into the church through Baptism:
12th January 2020 at St James, Boroughbridge
Sebastian Harry Guzik-Lazenby

Joined together in Holy Matrimony:
16th November 2019 at St Andrew’s, Aldborough
James Douglas Lawrence Hall & Rebecca Jay Harding

Sadly we have laid to rest:
22nd November 2019 at St James’ – Katie Louise Stephenson
16th December 2019 at St James’ – Donald Dobson Broadwith
7th January 2020 at St Andrew’s – Valerie Myers
May they rest in peace and rise in glory
Our prayers continue for all our bereaved families

Please note – all enquiries about Christenings and Weddings should go, in the first instance, to Revd Karen Gardiner at Boroughbridge Vicarage – 01423-326518
St James’ Boroughbridge – News

January 100 club draw results
1st prize £25 Mrs J Weeds (4)
2nd prize £10 Mrs A Walmsley (19)
3rd prize £5 Miss S Robinson (101)
For £12 per year you can join the monthly draw contact Neil Lister on 01423 579967.

On reflection.
With Christmas now already fading into the background it’s easy to forget how much took place in the run up to Christmas.
It started in late November with our annual fair, followed the next day by the Advent Carol service to mark the beginning of Advent.
We had a short pause for breath before welcoming BCC back for the annual Christmas tree festival, yet more carols, this year held in the Church due to the weather, we welcomed Boroughbridge high school for their service of the nine lessons, more carols… Then the run up to Christmas culminated with the Christingle service attended by over 220 people, followed just a few hours later by the Midnight Communion, we snuck a few more carols in just for good measure. Finally, John Moss led our Christmas Praise service on Christmas morning.
So looking back and reflecting it seems a massive thank you is due to so many people, those who came together from event organisers to local businesses to helpers; those who served, cleaned, decorated and donated and thank you to everyone who came along and supported and took part. There is a lot to live up to, now for 2020! Happy New Year from all at St. James’ and we look forward to every opportunity to welcome you again.

St James’ will be hosting the United Parish Candlemas service on Sunday 2nd Feb, a special collection will be taken to support the work of the aid agencies involved with the Australian bush fires.

Tony Weeds & Paul Farrelly will be overseeing the collection of the magazine subscriptions for Boroughbridge over the coming weeks, as you will have seen from the editorial the cost has increased to £1 per issue, £10 for the year.
Coming Events:

**Coffee Morning Saturday 1st February.**
Coffee and cake in the church. A chance to meet up, chat and catch up over a coffee or tea with a mouth-watering selection of homemade cakes and biscuits. There is also a stall with books, cards and varied local produce.

**Saturday 29th February** A fantastic way to banish those winter blues (for a few hours anyway!) Join us for what has now become our annual Parish Party 2pm St James’ Church fun for all ages with bingo and a beetle drive and then have a catch up over afternoon tea. They’ll probably be a raffle in there somewhere as well!

**Future diary dates**
*We like to Sing*…… continues at St James’, **Thursday 6th Feb, 2-4pm**, for more details contact Jane Barber 325808.

*Bible study group* continues on **Thursday 6th Feb at 6.30pm**, meetings in February & March will be held at 21 Springfield Grove.
Contact Neil or Rosemary Lister for more details or see page 12.

**Craft & Chatter** The group continues on **Monday 3rd Feb, 10.30-12.30**, entry £1 all welcome. Contact Kath Ambrose for more details.

**Walkie Talkie Praise & Play,** Baby & Toddlers group will launch on **Friday 7th Feb, 10.30-11.45** details will be posted on the Walkie talkies Facebook page and the church website and Facebook pages.
All families are welcome to come along.

**March 10th**, Poetry evening, in aid of St James’ Church organ restoration fund. Contact Christine Wilson on 326299 for more info.

**Sunday, March 15th** – St James’ AGM to follow the morning service.

**Saturday, April 18th - Quiz evening.** Coronation Hall, Doors open 7.15pm for 7.30 start, Tickets £10ea, available from Neil Lister 579967, Kath Ambrose 322070 or Tony Weeds 391535. More details on church notice boards (nearer the time).
“December Local Events”

December found us really busy
Some of us got in a tizzy
With gifts to wrap and cards to post
The cake to ice and chestnuts to roast

We were all invited to the Village Hall
Mulled wine and mince pies were enjoyed by all
Then preparations were on the way
To welcome JESUS on CHRISTMAS DAY

Again the Military Wives we went to see
Including a lovely Afternoon Tea
In Sharow Church with voices sweet
A happy day for friends to meet

Kath and Jeanette served coffee and tea
Their happy smiles for all to see
The tables looked pretty with lots to eat
A lovely Saturday afternoon treat

We all joined in with loud applause
St Michael’s Hospice is such a good cause
Their care and kindness I have seen
It’s run by such a dedicated team

The Christmas Tree Festival was a sight to see
We hope swelling the funds for BBCC
A striking parsnip won the prize
It really was an enormous size

The Carol Services were enjoyed by all
With beautiful arrangements standing tall
The bells rang out for all to hear
And the Children read so loud and clear

The old year was rung out and the new year in
Who knows what 2020 will bring
But all our memories will be kept safe
Thinking of friends in a Heavenly place

Phyll 07 01 2020
LOCAL CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS


**Aldborough, Boroughbridge & Dunsforth WI:** Wednesday 12th February, 7.30pm at Aldborough Village Hall. Annual Meeting & Social Time. 01423 325664.

**Roecliffe WI:** Friday 14th February 2020 7.30pm at Roecliffe School
Speak with IT with Pip Garside. Contact 01423 322335.

**Boroughbridge Antiques Society:** Tuesday 18th February, 2020 at 7.30 pm at The Coronation Hall, Boroughbridge. Marc Allum from The BBC Antiques Road Show. His talk will be ‘Brave New World’ - The Festival of Britain, buffet supper and wine included in the price. Tickets £10 on sale from January from Issima Boroughbridge or Society members. Further information from the Secretary on 01423 360836  sue.hufton@gmail.com

**Jigsaw Club:** Jigsaw Club takes place in the Jubilee Room at Boroughbridge Library on the first and third Thursdays each month. We are a small group who meet for a cuppa and a chat while doing jigsaws, and this can be on your own or with someone else. We have jigsaws to suit all abilities, so don't worry if you think you cannot do jigsaws or you haven't done one for a while. We also have boards to store unfinished jigsaws. There is a £1 charge to include refreshments. We now have transport available to bring you to the library, and it's free. For further details contact Dorothy Griffin on 01423 341982 or email dorothy.griffin94@yahoo.co.uk

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A Quiz Night was held on Friday 22 November, and there was a record attendance for this popular event with 12 teams participating and one team of helpers. Olly Backhouse the Quizmaster as always offered an eclectic mix of questions to tax our brains & memory cells! Thank you Olly.

In a very closely fought contest one of the 4 Kirby Hill teams were the winners. The usual Pie & Pea supper was served half way through. Many thanks to all who helped set up & clear away & donated to the magnificent raffle & finally to all who came to make it such an enjoyable evening. It was good to welcome along the newest residents from Hazeldene. An amazing £392 was raised.

The picturesque little Minskip Church was packed to the rafters for the annual village Carol Service on the Friday before Christmas. Chairs had to be hastily fetched from the nearby village hall to cater for everyone – and a record-breaking attendance of almost 70 witnessed a magical service. All the lessons were read – extremely well – by younger members of the Minskip congregation, while Claire Beaumont’s splendid rendition of the Grinch at Christmas was a timely reminder that Christmas is not all about presents and self-indulgence. Special mention must also be made of our vicar Karen’s children Imogen and Jessica, who respectively sang and read beautifully, and Viv Fowler, whose flowers were stunning. When the lights dimmed and the candles were lit for Christingle, it felt that Christmas had well and truly arrived – a feeling underlined by the mince pies and mulled wine which were enjoyed by most of the congregation after the service. It was wonderful to see our beloved church so full, providing the perfect welcome for Karen and her family as they spent their first Christmas with us.

There is now a weekly prayer and bible reading service at Minskip at 8.30am every Monday. Everyone is welcome. The service lasts for about 20 minutes and is the perfect start to the week.

The recently-formed Minskip Local History Group will be performing Minskip For Sale, a light-hearted look at 300 years of Minskip property and land ownership, on Friday March 13. The play, written by Joyce Evans (nee Potter) will take place at Minskip Village Hall at 7.30pm. Joyce was born and brought up on a farm in the village – and is an accomplished local historian.
The idea for the play was born a couple of years ago when Minskip villagers discussed a newly-found map of the village, dating back to 1766. The map revealed that half the houses and land in Minskip, some 750 acres, was owned by one landowner, Atkinson Holden – an absentee landlord living in Derbyshire. In the early 1800s the land was sold by the Holden family and bought by Humphrey Fletcher, a local banker and businessman. It remained in his family until the early 19th century, until sold to the West Riding County Council and split up into farms of 50 acres. The play ends on the eve of the First World War. Minskip For Sale tells the personal stories behind the drier facts of these property transactions against the backdrop of the ever-changing political and economic times of the early 19th and early 20th centuries.

There is just the one performance of this diligently-researched, yet light-hearted play, so do please book your tickets early. All tickets, which cost £8.50 and include canapes and refreshments, should be booked in advance. Proceeds will go the Minskip Church and Minskip Village Hall. Please contact Pauline Barker on 01423 323532 or 07896 176081.

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Come to "Lent in a Bag" and get your "survival kit"
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If you’re in the least bit interested in finding out more about the Home Library Service in this area, please contact Margaret Tasker on 01423 322862 or margarettasker322@btinternet.com

Margaret is the local co-ordinator for HLIS in this part of Harrogate District.
News from the Boroughbridge and District Historical Society

The Historical Society has enjoyed some very interesting talks during the last few months. In November Edgar Holroyd-Doverton gave a talk to the society on the history of turnpike roads. No organised, national road network existed until recently. During the middle ages the roads that did exist were what we would now call tracks and rarely took a direct route between two places, as they followed the contours of the land (except those that followed the route of old Roman roads). Turnpike roads are stretches of road accessed through a barrier with a toll paid at a gatehouse. The name originates from ‘pikes’ used as barriers in warfare. They came into existence because landowners saw an opportunity to make money as the population rose and goods needed to be moved from place to place as early industrialisation occurred. The Tudors had passed legislation requiring the maintenance of parish roads (each able bodied man having to give three days of labour a year to the task) but roads only really began to improve in the 1700s through the establishment of turnpike trusts by act of parliament. There were 689 trusts by 1800, mainly around London and the South West.

In December Stewart Liles gave a lecture on the private railways that existed across the Yorkshire Dales during the 1800s and into the 1900s. Today we associate the Dales with agriculture and tourism but Stewart’s talk helped to remind us that during the nineteenth century the Dales had many people working in extractive industries, providing raw materials for our rapidly industrializing nation.

Many landowners built railway tracks across their land in order to move heavy materials from where they were mined and prepared to railway lines or canals for transportation to where they were needed. There were at least forty private railways in the Dales during the 1800s. Trucks were moved along these tracks by man-power, horse-power, steam-power and, in a few cases, gravity pulleys. Stewart gave some examples of such railways.

On Tuesday 11th February, our society’s chairman Peter Fleming is going to give us a talk on ‘The Story of the American West’. 7.30pm, in The Jubilee Room. The talk will be followed by tea and biscuits. Everyone is welcome – guests £3, members free.
First of all, thank you everyone who ensured that St Andrew’s was beautifully decorated for the Primary School special service and the Candlelit Carol Service on Christmas Eve. The collection from the Christmas Eve service went to Boroughbridge Community Care which does such sterling work locally, even in the face of major grant cuts. All the flower arrangers are to be applauded but special thanks are due to Rosie Nicholson, Rachel Cornelius and Lou Butterworth who provided the holly, ivy and other greenery and berries needed to give that Christmas feel, and to Sue Rigby, only recently arrived in the village, who was so helpful with the decorating.

November seems a very long time ago now but we still need to mention the St Aidan’s concert held in the church at the end of November. This was very well attended and the wide-ranging programmes of popular choral and orchestral music were a real treat. The concert raised over £1000 and £500 was donated to choir and orchestral fund in appreciation. Mr Pallant, the musical director, commented how much they enjoyed performing in St Andrew’s and noted that the symphony orchestra especially appreciated being able to “let rip” with our great acoustics so we hope that they will be able to make a return visit in the not too distant future.

The Village Hall Christmas party in December was a lovely seasonal event with mulled wine and mince pies, with £180 being raised for the Wish Upon a Star Children’s Charity.

While I was visiting the Dairy in December, Frances and Aidan showed me a Christmas card they had received from Lynne and Dick Zanden in British Columbia, Canada. Lynne and Dick had arrived in Yorkshire in summer 2018, looking for information on Lynne’s uncle, Joseph Seiben, one of three brothers who had joined the Royal Canadian Air Force during the war. Lynne had been only 4 years old when Joseph had died when his plane crashed and she told Frances that, although it didn’t seem to matter when she was a girl, as she grew older she realised it was her family’s history and it had become much more important to her. All she knew was that his Lancaster bomber had crashed near a small village in North Yorkshire. Lynne and Husband Dick had visited RAF Leeming and the Yorkshire Air Museum who had suggested it might be worth visiting Aldborough where they knew a Lancaster had crashed near the end of the war. To their
surprise, when they arrived here, they found the plaque on the village green and the first name was that of Pilot Officer J G Seiben, aged 24, followed by the 6 other members of his crew. When they asked someone on the green if anyone might have more information, they were directed to the Dairy where Aidan and Frances were able to tell the tale of how the plane had caught fire on a training flight on the evening of 2nd February, 1944 but how Pilot Officer Seiben, with great skill, had managed to keep the plane in the air across the village, just clipping a tree near the manor and taking some chimney pots off in Back Street before crashing into a sycamore on Studforth Hill and exploding. By the time the plane was over the village, it was too low for the crew to bail out successfully (two tried and were found dead near the river bank and Aldborough Lodge) and, but for the skill of the pilot, many villagers might have died. The memorial plaque was erected in 1994 to commemorate the 50th anniversary at the suggestion of, among others, Aidan and Wing Commander Bob Sage, the retired CO of RAF Dishforth, who then lived in Manor Cottage, opposite the Battle Cross, and was funded by the British Legion. Many current villagers will remember the rededication on 2nd February 2014 when the plaque was refurbished. Lynne and Dick were taken up to Studforth Hill to survey the crash site and, much to their amazement, were gifted a piece of the bomber fuselage that had been found just in the last few years. Lynne told Frances that she was very grateful for the encounter and was touched by the hospitality they had been shown and felt that her whole family had been enriched by the thoughtful commemoration of her uncle and his crew by the village. February is the anniversary month, so if you are on the green, take a moment to visit the plaque and remember those brave young men and their families.

The first talk for friends of Roman Aldborough (FORA) for 2020 is in the village hall at 2.30 on Saturday 29th February and is titled “Rome in Ripon: Wilfred’s Church and Crypt”. The speaker is Joyce Hill, Emeritus Professor of Medieval Literature at the University of Leeds, an international authority on the transmission of Christian culture in early medieval Europe. Most of us will have been in the cathedral and even in the crypt and this is a great opportunity to hear about the early years of one of our great local buildings.

Future Dates:
Saturday 29th February - FORA meeting - Rome in Ripon - Village Hall - 2.30
Wednesday 25th March - St Andrew’s AGM and CC meeting - Village Hall - 7.15

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Calendar of Regular Events

**Midweek Communion** – 1st Wednesday of the month 10am at All Saints, Kirby Hill; all other Weds, 10.45 am at St James' Boroughbridge.

**Care Home Communions** - at Springfield Garth - first Tuesday at 2 pm  
- at Riverside Court - third Tuesday at 2 pm

**Prayer Vigil** - monthly, usually on the first Saturday, in St James' at 6pm - contact John Moss for more info on 07515 825198

**Bible Study Group** – 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 6.30pm, 21 Springfield Grove, or 16 St Helena, Boroughbridge

'**Good Book Club' bible study group** - meets fortnightly on Weds in term times - Methodist Schoolroom - check with Revd Helen Bell for dates on 01765 698288

**Mothers' Union** - regular meeting is on the third Thursday of the month at 2pm. Contact Margaret Crawford on 325405 for more info.

**Choir Practice** - Thursday evening in term times in St James' at 6.30 pm. All welcome - ring Peter Crawford for more info - 325405

**Bell ringers practice** - Thursday evenings at 7.30 pm - odd months at Aldborough; even months at Boroughbridge. New ringers welcome - for more info please contact John Mitchell on 322896

**Coffee Morning** - first Saturday of the month from 10 am until 12 noon in St James', Boroughbridge. Home made cakes and other yummy treats!

**Parish Office Open** – 1 Hall Square, each Monday and Thursday 10am to 12 noon.

**Local Village Contacts:**

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wilsondorothy@hotmail.co.uk

**ROECLIFFE:** Mr J. Bolland  
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j.bolland@hotmail.com
For Your Diary

February 2020

1<sup>st</sup>  St James’ Coffee Morning  Pg21
3<sup>rd</sup>  Craft & Chatter  Pg21
6<sup>th</sup>  We Like to Sing  Pg23
6<sup>th</sup>  Bible Study Group  Pg12
7<sup>th</sup>  Walkie Talkie Praise & Play relaunch  Pg21
11<sup>th</sup>  Historical Society  Pg23
12<sup>th</sup>  Aldborough, B’bridge & Dunsforth WI  Pg23
14<sup>th</sup>  Roecliffe WI  Pg23
18<sup>th</sup>  Antiques Society  Pg23
19<sup>th</sup>  Mothers’ Union  Pg7
20<sup>th</sup>  Bible Study Group  Pg12
29<sup>th</sup>  St James’ Parish Party  Pg21
29<sup>th</sup>  Friends of Roman Aldborough  Pg33

March 2020

4<sup>th</sup>  Lent Course (every Wednesday in Mar)  Pg29
5<sup>th</sup>  Bible Study Group  Pg12
7<sup>th</sup>  Lent Quiet Day  Pg29
10<sup>th</sup>  Poetry Evening  Pg10
13<sup>th</sup>  Minskip For Sale  Pg12
15<sup>th</sup>  St James’ Church AGM  Pg21
19<sup>th</sup>  Bible Study Group  Pg12
19<sup>th</sup>  Dunsforth Quiz Night  Pg17
25<sup>th</sup>  St Andrew’s Church AGM  Pg33