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December 2023 / January 2024

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From the Vicarage.....Old Traditions and New Possibilities

*"And it's from the old I travel to the new,
Keep me travelling along with you"*

Remembrance day was very moving, as it always is. We said the old familiar words, we remembered, and we stood in silent respect. It is good and important to do the same thing year after year sometimes. Our minds and hearts click into a certain gear. When we come to that service, knowing what to expect, we connect with Remembrance Days that we attended in years gone by, and we reflect on the fact that people were saying these same words in the same places before we were old enough to engage with them. We become part of something which is bigger than ourselves.

It's the same when it comes to Christmas. We all have our treasured traditions, the things that give us meaning and a sense of continuity with the past. For our family it is watching "The Muppet Christmas Carol" on Christmas Eve together, in between the Crib Service and Midnight Mass. For us, Christmas starts here. I wonder what your Christmas traditions are and how long you have kept them? If they have slipped a little since covid, perhaps this is the year to revive them, or perhaps, as one of the supermarket adverts has been suggesting, to make new traditions?

Our December and January events at Church offer plenty of opportunity for you to engage with our communities in keeping the old well-loved traditions as well as keeping Christmas in new and exciting ways. Do look at the back page which tells you all you need to know about all our special Christmas events – you will not be short of opportunities to sing carols!

It is good to see things with new eyes too, and so I am delighted that alongside our ancient traditions, we will be also enjoying St Nicholas

Festivities, Winter Forest Church, Messy Christingle, and Winter Solstice Star Gazing. These services are both old and new: new to us perhaps, but grounded in the spiritual history to which we are successors.

In Jesus' birth, God does a new thing: he engages with humanity in a very personal, risky, and love-centred way. We keep his story and our traditions year after year because we know that Jesus' birth matters, and it reminds us that we are not alone – even in the darkest parts of winter. And because God does a new thing, we are free to do new things too: to encounter God and our world and one another in new ways, and, as the New Year approaches, to reflect on what a new "me" might look like too. So it is wonderful that the 7th January is marked by our Parish joining with Boroughbridge Methodist Church, as we recommit ourselves to God and his service in the yearly covenant service. The New Year, when it comes, will no doubt hold challenges and joys, and as we promise to serve God, he promises to be with us, in all the old things and all the new.

Every Christmas and New Year blessing,

Karen

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Dates for your Diary

Sat-Sun 2-3 Dec Christmas Tree Festival,
St James' Church

Sun 3 Dec Community Carols 4pm St
James' Church

Thu 7 Dec Contemplative Prayer Group
2pm St James' Church

Fri 8 Dec Christmas Quiz, 7pm, St Mary's
Church, Lower Dunsforth

Sat 9 Dec Christmas Gift Fayre, Minskip
Village Hall, 1-4pm

Sat 9 Dec Candlelit Christmas Concert,
Boroughbridge Methodist Church, 2.30pm.

Thu 18 Jan Roecliffe Quiz Night, Roecliffe
School, 7.15pm

Sun 4 Feb Rough Guide to the Trinity,
4pm St James' Church

Sun 3 Mar Rough Guide to Reading and
Leading Prayers, 4pm St James' Church

Sat 9 Mar St James' Quiz Night,
Coronation Hall



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Church Services

- Sunday 3 Dec** 10am Whole Parish Family Communion at St Mary's, Roecliffe
 Advent Sunday/ 4pm Community Carols around the Christmas Trees
 St Nicholas at St James', Boroughbridge
- Sunday 10 Dec** 8.30am Traditional Holy Communion at St Andrew's, Aldborough
 Advent 2 10am Holy Communion at St James', Boroughbridge
 10am Morning Praise at St Mary's, Dunsforth
 4pm Forest Church at St Mary's, Dunsforth
- Friday 15 Dec** 6.30pm Carol Service at St John's, Minskip
- Sunday 17 Dec** 10am Holy Communion at St Andrew's, Aldborough
 Advent 3 10am Morning Praise at St James', Boroughbridge
 4pm Messy Christingle at St James', Boroughbridge
 6pm Carol Service at St Mary's, Dunsforth
- Thurs 21 Dec** 6pm Eco Church Winter Solstice Service at St John's, Minskip
 (Outdoors)
- Friday 22 Dec** 6.30pm Carol Service at St Mary's, Roecliffe
- Sun 24 Dec** 4pm Crib Service at St James, Boroughbridge
 Advent 4 6.30pm Carol Service at St Andrew's, Aldborough
 Christmas Eve 11.30pm Midnight Mass at St James, Boroughbridge
- Monday 25 Dec** 10am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Roecliffe
 Christmas Day 10am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Dunsforth
 10am Holy Communion at St John's, Minskip
- Sunday 31 Dec** 10am Holy Communion at St Andrew's, Aldborough
 1st Sunday of Christmas
- Sunday 7 Jan** 10.30am Whole Parish Covenant Service at B'bridge Methodist Ch
 Epiphany
- Sunday 14 Jan** 8.30am Traditional Holy Communion at St Andrew's, Aldborough
 2nd of Epiphany 10am Holy Communion at St Mary's Roecliffe
 10am Morning Praise at St Mary's, Dunsforth
 10am Songs of Praise at St James', Boroughbridge
 4pm Forest Church at St Mary's, Dunsforth

- Sunday 21 Jan 10am Traditional Holy Communion at St Mary's, Dunsforth
 3rd of Epiphany 10am Morning Praise at St James', Boroughbridge
 4pm Messy Church at St James', Boroughbridge
- Sunday 28 Jan 8.30am Holy Communion at St James, Boroughbridge
 4th of Epiphany 10am Whole Parish Plough Service at St Andrew's, Aldborough
- Sunday 4 Feb 10am Whole Parish Candlemas Service at St John's, Minskip
 Candlemas
- Sunday 11 Feb 8.30am Traditional Holy Communion at St Andrew's, Aldborough
 Last before Lent 10am Holy Communion at St Mary's Roecliffe
 10am Morning Praise at St Mary's, Dunsforth
 10am Songs of Praise at St James', Boroughbridge
 4pm Forest Church at St Mary's, Dunsforth

Service venues and times may sometimes be subject to change.

Please see the website or church notice boards for up-to-date information about all services.

Regular Weekday Services

Monday Morning Prayer:

Held weekly at St John's, Minskip,
 9am (not 25 Dec)

Wednesday Communion:

10.30am weekly, alternates between
 St James' Boroughbridge & All Saints,
 Kirby Hill. (See website for venues).

Friday Morning Prayer:

Held weekly at St Mary's Dunsforth at
 9am.

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Aldboro', B'bridge & Dunsforth WI

For our November meeting, we had the privilege of hearing about Singapore from Eve, one of our own members. She gave us a very personal and informative talk and we learnt a lot about a place which has a complex history. Singapore is also known as The Lion City as the name originates from Singa meaning Lion and Pura meaning city. The famous mascot features the head of a lion and the body of a fish, showing the importance of fishing to the island. It was established as an important British colony due to its strategic position between the Indian and Pacific oceans, on important trade routes. Alongside the British, immigrants came to Singapore to work in the developing industries, largely from China, Indonesia and Malaysia. This resulted in a population of very mixed heritage who developed their own style of culture, attire, architecture and cuisine.

We then heard about the fall of Singapore to the Japanese and the brutal massacre that resulted. A military style government was put in place and life became very harsh for the remaining resident population, with food rationing imposed and the constant fear of bombings. Eve described how she remembers, as a girl, having to take shelter in the banana plantations with her grandparents and mother when the sirens sounded. The Japanese finally surrendered in 1945 and over the next few decades the British and Malaysians governed the island, until in 1965 the island became The Republic of Singapore. The government worked hard to develop the economy and encouraged international companies to invest there,

resulting in the prosperous city state we see today. The talk ended by looking at various tourist highlights that shouldn't be missed on a trip there, leaving many of us adding Singapore to our Bucket List!

B'bridge & District Historical Society

Tuesday 12 Dec: A Walk around Studley Deer Park; Mike Bevington from The National Trust. Tuesday 9 January: Jackie Glew, The extraordinary tale of The Castle Yard Riot, Knaresborough 1865. Members free, visitors £3. Meetings in the Jubilee Room at 7.30pm include tea and biscuits. 01423 324276 boroughbridgehistory.co.uk

Boroughbridge Short Mat Bowling Club

Boroughbridge Short Mat Bowling Club meet in the Coronation Hall, Monday and Thursday evenings 7.15-9pm and Wednesday afternoons 2-4pm. Come and meet us, or for more information ring Mavis Smailes, 01423 322507

Kirby Hill WI

Tuesday 5 December, Cinderella the Panto, Millross Productions, & Faith Supper. All meetings in The Coronation Hall, 7.30pm. 01423 322991 or 322458. See also page 31

Jigsaw Club

Jigsaw Club meets in the Jubilee Room on the 1st and 3rd Mondays each month 2-4pm. £1 per session including a cuppa. Dorothy 341982 dorothy.griffin94@yahoo.co.uk

Roecliffe WI

Monday 11 Dec - Christmas Party Time. Meetings are at Roecliffe School 7.30pm
Contact - Helen Davison 01423 325677.

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Bits and Pieces

We rang muffled bells on the 12th November
Telling all that we must remember
Those who lost their lives in war
And survivors living with what they saw

We hear the owls in the dark of night
And see the stars as they shine so bright
In daylight we can stop and stare
Watching Mr Fox return to his lair

The buzzards fly from tree to tree
Hoping that some food they'll see
Woodpeckers and bluetits come to feed
Pecking the fat balls, nuts and seed

The murmur of starlings is a wonderful sight
Twisting and turning whilst gaining more height
They congregate now and maybe in spring
What magical delights nature can bring

The weather is changeable I have to say
We've had floods and wind but it's sunny today
Christmas is coming so Carols we'll sing
As we prepare to welcome Christ the King

*So Happy Christmas to you all
and best wishes for 2024
Phyll*



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Prayers & Poems for Peace & Advent Compline

Throughout December, members of St Raphael email group* will receive a daily email with a prayer, a poem, a piece of art or a piece of music to listen to, as we pray for peace in our world in the run up to Christmas where we give thanks for Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

There will also be a zoom service of compline (10 minutes night prayer) on Thursdays the 7th, 14th and 21st December, as we reflect on the light of God coming into the darkness. All welcome. The details will go out with the notices each week*.

*if you are not subscribed to the Parish email group (St Raphaels) and would like to be added, please contact Karen on karen.gardiner@leeds.anglican.org

Rough Guides

Some of you may remember some "Rough Guides" to the Bible, Prayer and Holy Communion, that were held in our Churches in an attempt to answer all those questions you hadn't had the opportunity to ask!

All our Rough Guides are a response to questions asked by folk in our Parish and are an opportunity to think about some of the difficult subjects of our faith - or some of the things we think we should understand but don't! All view points are welcomed and valued.

Rough Guides coming up next year (all at St James' Church at 4pm) are:

- February 4th RG to the Trinity
- March 3rd RG to reading and leading prayers in Church
- April 7th RG to the Liturgical Year
- May 5th RG to the Saints
- July 7th RG to the Anglican/ Methodist Covenant (a joint event with our Methodist Minister Ian)

Everyone is welcome to these events, last time we had people who are very involved in our Churches, people who we had not met before and everyone in between! If anyone has any further ideas for Rough Guides we should run - please get in touch.

Rev Karen

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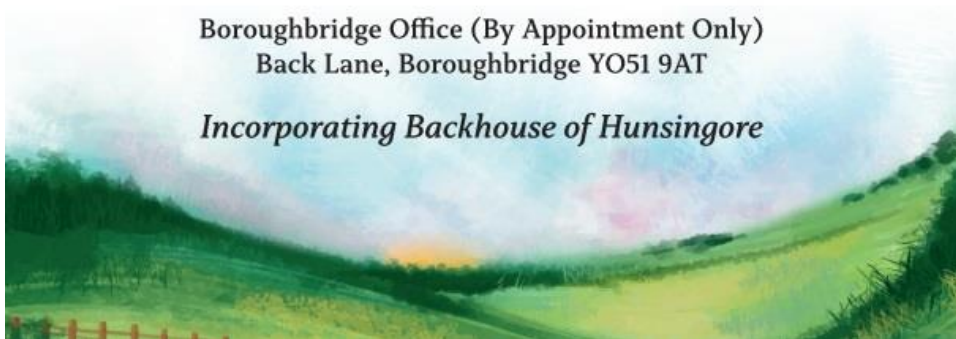
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St James' Boroughbridge

August 100 club draw results

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3rd prize £5 Mrs P Lyddon (9)

Entering our monthly 100 club draw costs just £12 per year, for more details or to sign up contact Neil Lister on 01423 579967.

ST JAMES' CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2022

Sat 3 Dec 10am- 4pm

Sun 4 Dec 10am- 3.30pm

One of the fun things about being around Boroughbridge at Christmas Time has always been the Christmas Tree Festival. Last year we had nearly 400 visitors. Each visitor is given a single vote for each section. There will be trophies and prizes for the winners and runners up in each section.

There will be plenty of Christmas themed stalls, our annual Christmas prize draw and refreshments available throughout the weekend. The festival will end at 4pm on Sunday with a short Carol service.

Messy Church



A very wonderful and cosy Messy Church was had by everybody in October. We made

pine cone and conker hedgehogs, beautiful leaf owl pictures, pumpkin treat bags and decorated leaf biscuits and all enjoyed apple bobbing and table football.

We heard a bible story about growing seeds and thanking god for all his gifts. We finished

off with a scrumptious tea of warming stew, cake and toffee apples.

Poetry Evening

The eleventh Poetry Reading Evening was held on October 23rd in St. James' Church. There were 23 readers and 17 listeners.

The poems were very varied, some well known favourites, some written by the readers, and some lesser-known newer poems.

A fun evening was enjoyed by everyone and a delicious meal was served. Very many thanks to all those who helped to make the evening a success. A special thanks to Bishop Clive who once again was the Master of Ceremonies.

Thank you all for coming. See you all next year.

Christine

Contemplative Prayer/ Make Time for Mindfulness

The next session will be held on Thursday 7 December, 2pm at St James' Church. This is an opportunity for quiet reflective space with prayer, music, meditation and a simple story to reflect on.

Do come along, whether or not this is a style of worship you are familiar with and take time for some quiet and some peace. The prayer/mindfulness time lasts about 30 minutes with coffee and chat afterwards for those who wish to stay.

St James' Quiz Night

Save the date! The next St James' Church Quiz Night will be held on Saturday 9 March 2024, at The Coronation Hall.

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Roecliffe News

ROECLIFFE RACKET CLUB RESULTS

NOVEMBER DRAW

1st Prize £20 (15) John & Judith Newberry

2nd=Prize £10 (41) John & Susan Ind

2nd=Prize £10 (113) Jim & Jill Bolland

4th=Prize £5 (71) Janet Siswick

4th=Prize £5 (109) Pat Pratt

The December Draw will take place at Manor House on Thursday 7 December between 6.00 and 7.00pm. This draw will include the Christmas Bonus Draw!

Quiz Night

Thursday 26th October saw the return of Roecliffe's Church Quiz in Roecliffe Primary School. Our guest quizmaster on this occasion was Dave Siswick who ably took us through a series of 70 questions and 8 pictures on a myriad of topics. The event was attended by six teams of varying size, some of whom have quizzed together many times, others who came together on the night. The winners were the unimaginatively titled Lisa/Tim/Richard who promised to come up with a better name next time!



Thanks to all who came together on a dark, damp October evening for a fun sociable event raising £234 toward church funds. The committee would like to thank all the people

who helped set up, donated raffle prizes, provided sandwiches/nibbles and helped clear up. It truly was a team effort. We look forward to seeing you all again at our next quiz on Thursday 18th January 2024.



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Minskip News

Harvest Festival

This was held on Friday 20 October at 6.30pm. The Church looked stunning with a wonderful array of Autumnal floral colour and a magnificent display of pumpkins and squashes which Debbie had grown. An uplifting service was taken by Rev Karen, who encouraged the congregation to reflect on the meaning of the various gifts brought to the altar to be blessed.

Our junior readers Matty Ruby & Lucy did an excellent job, and so did Jess who led the intercessions and read the prayers with much clarity.



A delicious ploughman's style harvest supper, which was free, was served in the village hall, and around 40 attended. A most enjoyable and convivial evening, and it was lovely to have so many people & families join us for this special celebration. Many thanks to all who made quiches, sausage rolls, baked potatoes and fruit crumbles, and to those who helped set up, clear away and wash up; and to everyone who came.

Quiz Night

This very popular event held on 10 November was a sell-out, and 13 teams of four took part. It was good to have some younger villagers join teams. Olly, our Quizmaster, again produced an eclectic mix of questions to test the memory ranging from extinct fish to a page of Emojis which were clues to either a country or capital city. It was a close fought contest and the Kirby Hill team were the winners.

As always, pie and pea supper was served halfway through; many thanks to Yolk for donating the delicious pies.

There was also a magnificent raffle with a wonderful array of prizes. Thanks to Yolk for the lovely basket of fruit, and to Peter for arranging an outdoor planter. Many thanks also to all the helpers who set up and cleared away, and to everyone who came to make it such a fun & enjoyable evening. £480 was raised in total and £195 on the raffle. An excellent result.

Dot Wilson

Remembrance Sunday

In these troubled times, with horrific wars taking place in both Gaza and Ukraine, Remembrance Sunday services, and Remembrance Day itself, have never seemed so topical, so urgent and so necessary. There's no doubt that these global conflicts gave our service at Minskip an added poignancy.

Our service has always been special, as we pay tribute to the three Minskip soldiers, Eddie Mawtus, Joseph Crookes and Walter Blades, who perished in the First World War. We celebrated the courage of these three, together with every other serviceman who died in defence of their country, both inside our little church and in the pretty churchyard in front of our church, where a cherry tree has been planted in their memory.

In the days leading up to Remembrance Sunday itself, members of the excellent Minskip Church Council team decorated both the church and the churchyard, creating the most beautiful and tranquil sanctuary.

It is now 104 years after the death of Eddie Mawtus, who was just 18. The debt we owe to

Eddie and all of these brave Minskip men, who served in both World Wars, is immeasurable. We must never forget them. These are challenging times – both in this country and across the world. I cannot remember a time when our country and our world were so conflicted and so fearful for the future. During the service, when we remembered all those who have perished in war, we also prayed for peace and healing.

The service was attended by a number of Eddie Mawtus' relatives, including Jill Boyes, whose grandmother was Eddie's cousin. She commented: "It is wonderful that the young men of Minskip who died in the First World War, as well as those who survived but never recovered, were remembered once more. I would like to thank the village of Minskip for making us feel so welcome again".

Looking ahead, we will be holding our Christmas Carol Service at 6.30pm on Friday December 15. Everyone is welcome, and there will be mince pies and mulled wine for all.

Robert Beaumont, Churchwarden

Renowned Chef Joins Minskip's Wild Swan

Matt Turton, one of Yorkshire's most talented chefs, has joined the historic 18th century Wild Swan inn at Minskip, near Boroughbridge. Matt, who worked with celebrity chef Gordon Ramsay when he opened his Heddon Street restaurant in Soho, has vowed to take the award-winning Wild Swan to the "next level".

Matt said he had been made to feel very much at home by the Wild Swan and the Minskip community. "I have had such a wonderful welcome from the village. I am determined to

give Minskip and the surrounding district, an inn to be proud of. I have completely revamped the menu and am determined to create enjoyable and imaginative food at competitive prices. I haven't been here long, but the reaction so far has been brilliant."

Robert Beaumont, senior Churchwarden at St John's Church in Minskip, commented: "We are incredibly lucky to have the Wild Swan in our village. Rural pubs across the country are closing at an alarming rate and a few years ago it looked as though the Wild Swan was going to suffer a similar fate. Instead, Alex and Stephen have transformed it into one of the finest inns in Yorkshire and, what's more, they are generous supporters of our church."



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Dunsforth News

The Dunsforth Draw

November winners:

1st Prize £50 Charles & Fiona Merchie #64

2nd Prize £25 The Hartley Family #17

3rd Prize £15 Trevor & Linda Hardaker #3

After Morning Prayers on Friday 3 Nov Rev Karen very kindly drew the winning numbers
Congratulations to the winners!

Forest Church

As the nights drew in, we enjoyed an especially spiritual Forest Church, sheltering under the protection of our very old and mighty yew tree, as the rain gently fell. We reflected on the circle of life and how we are reborn. We learnt how yew trees regenerate and can 'walk' across land, as their branches touch the ground, reroot and come up again further along. We lit candles around the yew and prayed for the people that had passed away, placing the candles later on the graves throughout the churchyard.

Then we went into the church for some Soul cake, a circular sweet cake traditionally given on All Hallows Eve, in memory of our departed loved ones. We listened to Runa's song 'Soul Cake'. Of course, the evening was then completed with our traditional toasted marshmallows and hot chocolate.

Spooky goings on!

There was plenty of spooky spirit on display in Lower Dunsforth this Halloween! Villagers had made a big effort to decorate their homes and welcome children who were trick or treating.



Martin & Helen's house and Linda and John's home were particularly impressive, and Di dressed as a witch when handing out treats. Everyone was so generous and the children had a great time – thank you!



Christmas Quiz

Plans are well underway for a Christmas themed Quiz thanks to our amazing quiz master, Phil Jones and his assistant Stella. It will be held once again at St Marys on Friday the 8th December at 7pm. Tickets:- suggested donation £10 per person which includes a glass of wine/beer or mulled wine, and food. There will also be a raffle with lots of prizes to be won. These quiz nights are always lots of fun and we hope you will come along with a team of six. For more information, contact dunsforthevents@icloud.com or 07713 245482



Remembrance Sunday Service

St Mary's church was very full for a service of Remembrance led by John Moss. Again this year we were kindly joined by serving members of the 6 Regt RLC Light Aid Detachment.



Wreaths were laid by Alan Furness on behalf of the forces, Mr David Sapwell on behalf of the village and Lieutenant Colonel Hickie of the Scots Guards on behalf the Royal British Legion.

We were joined by many more people at the memorial for the act of remembrance, including the Cappuccino Cycling Club, whom

again timed their ride to pay respects at 11am. Afterwards we all enjoyed our traditional tea and cake.



The Welcome Project

Sadly there is nothing more to say beyond last month's news. The Diocese has everything that it has asked for and we are just waiting for the Diocesan Chancellor's decision on the 'planning' application we submitted in early July.



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Aldborough News

Autumn has been a long time coming but finally the trees are full of colour and the pavements on the Green Hammerton Road between Boroughbridge and Aldborough are ankle deep in leaves - great to kick your way through when they're dry but not so much fun when it rains, and the leaves turn wet and slippery. St Andrew's, of course, has been decorated with poppies for remembrance over the last few weeks. We are indebted to Carol Ramsay and all the ladies who knitted the poppies for the marvellous displays on the tower and along the arch and railings and elsewhere in the church. This year, Carol also conjured up a couple of much admired new wreaths for the memorial rails at the North Chapel. However, we are equally indebted to a whole group of people: Ali and Daz Ekin who carefully store all the rolls and bags of poppies in their roof space and then deliver them to church; Bob and Beth Walker who carefully lay out and check over the displays; Bob, Barry Osborne and John Whyte who manage to hang the tower waterfall without damaging either the tower, the enormous roll of poppies, or themselves; and Phyll and Mike Steel who organise the hangings on the arch and inside the church; so that just leaves Beth and myself to do the laurel and poppy floral arrangements in the North Aisle. There are some very complimentary comments in the visitors' book, and I see that a group of visitors from Nidd Hall made a special trip to see the St Andrew's poppies.

As most of you will know, a fresh wreath and a set of seven crosses has, for many years, been laid at the Lancaster bomber memorial on the village green on Armistice Day by Aidan Foster. Although Aidan is currently staying at

Boroughbridge Manor, son Jonathan and daughter-in law Melanie ensured that Aidan was able to come up to the green on Saturday 11th to oversee the laying of the wreath. It was a beautiful sunny day, and they were joined on the green by a good group of villagers. Mayor Sean Hynes spoke words of remembrance and we all watched as Jonathan laid the wreath and crosses for Aidan, followed by a two minute silence. Everyone took the opportunity to say hello to Aidan, who thoroughly enjoyed the occasion, especially when his old friend Eric Gudgeon, currently the oldest inhabitant of our village, turned up on his shiny motorised scooter!



Then, on the evening of Armistice Day, St Andrew's hosted an organ recital by Dr Phil Wilby with a very appropriate programme of British music from the 17th to 21st century that included several patriotic pieces and a number of songs sung by tenor Richard Rooze with Dr Wilby accompanying him on piano. At the end of the concert, the audience joined in a rousing rendition of Parry's Jerusalem with a finale of The Dambusters March - very appropriate for

us in Aldborough when you know that the planes used in the Dambusters raid were modified Lancasters. I read in one of my history magazines that traditional pipe organs are increasingly being replaced by cheaper keyboards and digital organs to the extent that about four classical pipe organs are going to landfill a week although some are finding new homes in Europe, especially France, the Netherlands and even the reviving churches of the erstwhile Soviet bloc! So, it was a particular delight to listen to Phil's expert playing of our very own organ in such a varied and enjoyable programme. Even better, the concert raised over £750 for Macmillan Cancer Support thanks to some very generous donations. Thanks also to Jane Barber for organising the event.

A couple of months ago, I mentioned that St Andrew's had a new church architect, Jamie Holden. In the middle of October, the church council had a very productive meeting with Jamie where we had initial discussions on ideas for updating the church to allow increased use as a community and heritage space while maintaining its central role as a place of Christian worship. One of the features necessary for planning any modifications is a detailed external and internal scan of the church which will allow effective modelling and illustration of any possible changes. Fortunately, Nuno Fernandez of Prospect House has expertise in this area and very kindly volunteered to carry out the initial scans for us. Some of you will have seen Nuno working on the outside of the church and more recently he and some of his work colleagues have been making detailed scans inside St Andrew's. This has included scanning the very poorly investigated 'crypt space', that runs beneath the stone floor from just inside

the South door to beneath the pews to the north of the font as well as the clock pendulum and weight pits in the tower. Whether this represents remnants of earlier building on the site remains a mystery, but it is certainly an intriguing and exciting thought. We are indebted to Nuno and his colleagues for their very kind assistance.

Soon, of course we will be into advent and will be cleaning and tidying the church ready for Christmas. As always, we look forward to the traditional candlelit Carol Service on Christmas Eve which this year is on Sunday but there will be no service in St Andrew's on Christmas Day. As ever, the bell ringers hope to ring the old year out and the new year in around midnight on the 31st. St Andrew's will also be celebrating the start of the farming year with a Plough Sunday Service in January which this year will be a whole parish service.

Irene McCandlish





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Mothers' UNION

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We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas from all of us at Mothers' Union. Everyone is invited to come along to any of our meetings and events in 2024.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 18th January 2024
at 2.00pm in Coronation Hall

Mothers' Union

Annual Global Wave of Prayer

All Saints Church Kirby Hill

Wednesday 10th January 10.00am

A short reflection and prayers
for and with Mothers' Union members
around the world.

This will be followed at 10.30am by
mid-week Communion

#NoMoreIn3
Mothers' UNION
End abuse and violence now

For further information about Mothers' Union locally
contact Jeni 01423 323390 or visit
www.mothersunion.org

Boroughbridge Lions (Reg No. 1189974) will be bringing Santa and his Sleigh to the streets of Boroughbridge and surrounding villages again this year.



Weather permitting, we will be following the timetable shown below

DATE	ROUTE
Fri 1 Dec	Ridings, The Chase, Aldborough Gt, Ashbourne Close, Wetherby Rd
Sat 2 Dec	Marton cum Grafton
Sun 3 Dec	Great Ouseburn
Mon 4 Dec	Langthorpe, Waterside, Market Hill, Minerva Court
Tues 5 Dec	Roecliffe Village, Roecliffe Lane, Riverside Mills, Chatsworth Grove
Wed 6 Dec	Boroughbridge Late Night Shopping
Thurs 7 Dec	Hockley Croft, Milby Grange
Fri 8 Dec	Kirby Hill, Priory Meadows, Ascot Place, Bondgate
Sat 9 Dec	Mallard Walk, Kingfisher Reach, Meadowfields, Hazel Road
Sun 10 Dec	Little Ouseburn, Whixley
Mon 11 Dec	Dishforth Airfield, Marton le Moor, Norton le Clay
Tues 12 Dec	Green Hammerton
Wed 13 Dec	Minskip, Aldborough
Thurs 14 Dec	Ladywell Rd, St James Meadow, Springfield Rd, Church Ln, New Row
Sat 16 Dec	Dishforth Village

**We will also be at
MORRISONS from 10am – 4pm on Sat 2, Sun 3 &
Sat 9 , Sun 10 December**

**LAST MINUTE CHANGES WILL BE POSTED
ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE**

WE ARE INDEBTED TO:

**Reed Boardall, Ripon Farm Services, AK Motors and
Rowan Tree Garden Services for their support this year
and all the volunteers who help.**



Boroughbridge and District Historical Society

A walk Round the Studley Royal Deer Park

**Another talk from retired Fountains Abbey
Guide - Mike Bevington**

Tues December 12th 2023 at 7-30 pm

In the Jubilee Room (above Boroughbridge Library)

**Visitors Welcome, £3 on the door. Website contact:
www.boroughbridgehistory.co.uk**

Christmas Light

An informal evening of music,
lights, and other festive treats

You're invited!

for drinks and nibbles, followed
by a festive programme to celebrate
the Christmas season.

Friday 15 December
All Saints Church
Kirby Hill
6.30pm

Kirby Hill W.I. Programme 2024

Kirby Hill W.I. meets on the first Tuesday of each month, 7.30 – 9.30pm
in Coronation Hall, Milby (Boroughbridge) YO519BL.

New members are always welcome, just ring Linda (01423–322991)
or Anne (01423–322458) or e-mail on kirbyhillwi1@gmail.com
to find out more - or just come along!

Tuesday 2024 9 th January (NOT January 2 nd)	Valuation Day Objects at the W.I.	Vanessa Savage
Tuesday 2024 6 th February	Birthday Dinner	Members Only
Tuesday 2024 5 th March	A new approach to medicine	Richard Halladay
Tuesday 2024 2 nd April	Himalayan Garden & Sculpture Park	Joel Dibb Head Gardener
Tuesday 2024 7 th May	Paper Magic	Margaret Beech
Tuesday 2024 4 th June	Every Contact Leaves a Trace	Michelle Irving
Tuesday 2024 2 nd July	SOCIAL EVENING	Home of Marcia Dunn
Tuesday 2024 6 th August	Puppy Power!	Jeni Widdows
Tuesday 2024 3 rd September	A Walk Around Studley Deer Park	Mike Bevington National Trust
Tuesday 2024 1 st October	Tastes of the Season	Rachel O'Hanlon (Booths, Ripon)
Tuesday 2024 5 th November Annual Meeting	"Oh I Do Like to be Beside the Seaside"	Members
Tuesday 2024 3 rd December Faith Supper	Flowers for Christmas (by Bloomerang Flowers)	Dawn Hartland MDPF

Christmas Worship in the Churches

(For the full list of church services, please see pages 8 & 9)

TRADITIONAL CAROLS

3rd December St James, Church Lane 4pm
Community Carol Service round the Christmas Trees
15th December, Minskip, 6.30pm Carol Service
17th December, Dunsforth, 6pm, Carol Service
22nd December, Roecliffe, 6.30pm Carol Service

Christmas Eve, Aldborough, 6.30pm,
Candlelit Lessons and Carols with Mulled Wine

FOR THE CHILDREN

3rd December, Roecliffe 10am, St Nicholas Service *with Stockings!*
17th December, St James, 4pm Messy Christingle
(make your own, enjoy the service, FREE mini roast Christmas lunch)
21st December, Minskip, 6pm Winter Solstice Celebrations / *Star-gazing*
Christmas Eve, St James, 4pm, Crib Service.
*(short traditional children's service with the Christmas story –
dress up as your favourite character!)*

FOR THE MYSTERY AND THE WONDER

10th December, Dunsforth, 4pm, Forest Church,
“Light in the Darkness”, *ancient outdoor worship welcoming the Christ child.*
Christmas Eve, St James, 11.30pm, Midnight Mass.

FOR THE DAY ITSELF

Christmas Day
10am Roecliffe, Holy Communion
10am Dunsforth, Holy Communion
10am Minskip, Family Holy Communion

Christmas blessings to you all!