



BRIDGE February 2021

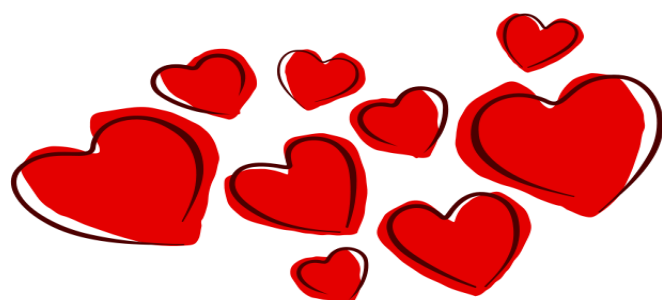
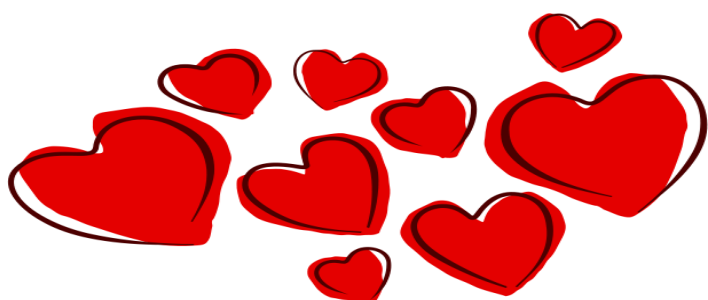
**Newsletter of the parish of Middleham with Coverdale,
East Witton & Thornton Steward**

*Do you know whereabouts in the parish you can find this
bridge? Answer at the end of 'Bridge.'*

Please cascade 'Bridge' to others.

Please email jervaulxliz@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the mailing list.

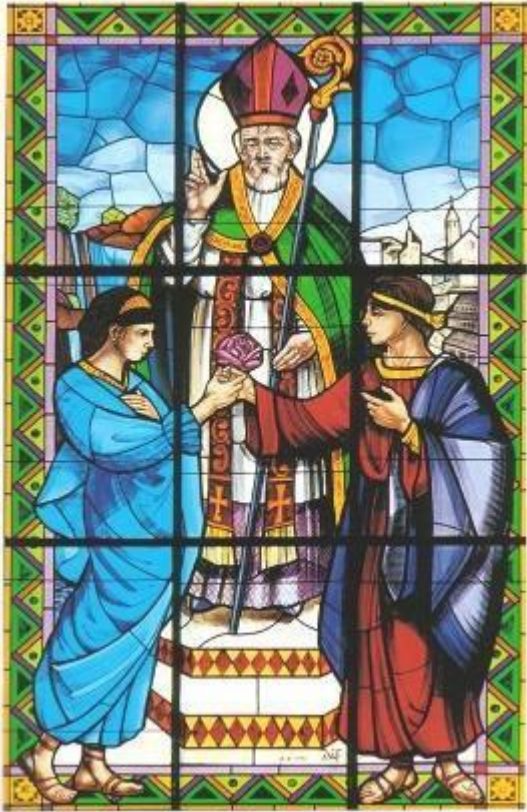
If you have any photos of bridges in the parish, please send them to jervaulxliz@gmail.com



Letter from the Rectory – Rev'd Jeff

Who would have thought when we entered the first lockdown in March last year that almost a year later, we would be in the same position? I imagine that we've all experienced lockdown fatigue to some extent during this time.

When we have spent so much time cooped up and disconnected from family, neighbours and friends it takes its toll on us, we can be tetchy when we wouldn't have otherwise been. Stress, anxiety and fear make us respond to others less graciously than we might do. Robbed of many of the things that restore us and give us life our character can be eroded.



In February we celebrate St. Valentine, the saint associated with love. There were a number of Valentines at that time and the stories associated with each can easily be confused so it's difficult to know precisely why a Valentine became associated with love. One of the stories is that he was a Roman priest who helped Christian couples to get married during a time of persecution in the 3rd century. Helping Christians was against the law so he was executed.

Laying down one's life is the supreme act of love. As the apostle John wrote in his first letter, 'This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.' Gulp!

Fortunately, there are also some more straightforward ways of demonstrating love. He goes on in the following two verses, 'If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.' Showing love to another person can be as simple as sharing what we have with someone in

need. That sounds a bit more like it.

The good news that has often gone unreported in the pandemic is the stories of how people have cared for each other with courage and generosity in spite of concern over livelihood. These have been in professional health and care but also voluntarily in our neighbourhoods. Often, they have come not from power or position but from love and vulnerability.



♥ "Dear children, let us
not love with words or
speech but with actions and
in truth."
1 John 3:18

Sharing food, making some form of connection with someone isolated or anxious may seem so small we can be tempted not to bother, it won't make any difference. But the impact of these small acts of love are enormous for the recipient. It may reduce the tetchiness and tension in a household, it might be a lifesaver for someone who is alone.

Therefore, although there are some dark days ahead which we didn't anticipate and our spirits may be flagging let's be encouraged and galvanise ourselves to persevere in the small acts of love that are keeping our communities going.

Verse of the month. Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:18

OPEN PANTRY

Emergency food supplies available:

Please contact 07796 988302 (text/phone). Confidential. Discreet collection/ delivery can be arranged)

NEW HELPLINE: Citizens Advice Money and Benefits Advice Service, North Yorkshire

citizens
advice

If you need support with:

- benefit entitlement, claims and appeals
- accessing other income such as charitable and statutory grants
- managing your money and making it go further
- help with debts etc

Call 0300 3031 598 Monday to Friday 9.00 to 4.00 Please tell us if you need us to call you back (if you have low credit). (Or you can leave a voicemail outside these times).

Email advice can be requested via the contact form on website cany.org.uk

PLEASE SUPPORT STOREHOUSE
FOOD BANK
IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES

PLEASE DONATE TO:



FOODBANK SUPPORT

If you would like to contribute to the local food bank in Richmondshire – please place items (as stated on the can, left) – in the boxes which are located in the following parts of the parish:

The Grange, East Witton
Village Hall, Carlton
Applegarth House, Leyburn Road, Middleham

Thanks to Jo Harrison-Topham and Harriet Corner for organising these collections which will go to the Store House which is based in Richmond at Influence Church.

'Cat' needs good home!

Wensleydale Rotary Club have a cat that needs a good home. It's no trouble - no trouble at all, because it's robotic! But it has many of a cat's attributes e.g. purring, and these robotic cats have been seen to have many benefits for people, especially people who live alone.

Knaresborough Rotary Club have been supporting dementia sufferers with these 'Joy for all' cats and there's more information if you click:
<https://www.rotary-ribi.org/clubs/page.php?PgID=823025&ClubID=217>



Susan Rogers of Wensleydale Rotary says that the cat might suit 'Perhaps someone who is lonely, may have recently lost a pet and don't feel in the position to replace it with a live animal etc. They have proven health benefits for combatting loneliness, helping those suffering from dementia etc. At the moment we only have one cat to donate and we'd like the recipient to tell us after a few weeks how it has changed his / her life and how they feel about it, and then we hope to raise more money to buy more cats.'

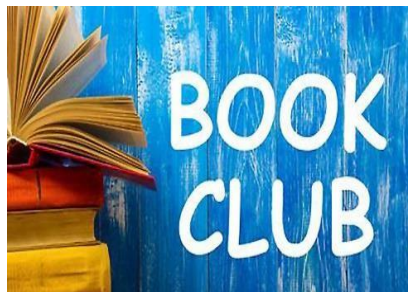


If you or a loved one would like the cat – please get in touch with Susan Rogers by 28 Feb at susan@susanrogers.me.uk & tell her why you think it would suit you/ your loved one. If there is more than one request, she'll pick a name out of a hat.



WENSLEYDALE FUNDRAISING GROUP

The Marie Curie Fundraising Group wish to thank all who purchased our wreaths and donated to this wonderful Charity. We raised £687.00, plus an unexpected £500 raised by Lorna Clarkson from the sale of her home-made masks. This amount will pay for six full nights of nursing, all in Wensleydale. Best wishes from the group,
Mary Sadler

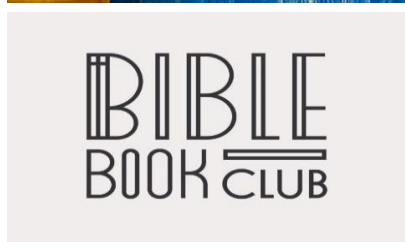


Coverdale Book Club

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday** February 9th at 11am when we will be discussing *The Keeper of Lost Things by Ruth Hogan*.

In March we are meeting on **Tuesday** 9th at 11am when we will be discussing *Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens*.

All meetings are currently being held on Zoom for a lively discussion of the book. If you'd like to join us please email martindstott@gmail.com



Bible Book Club

Saturday February 27th at 11.30am – 12.pm. We'll be looking at the book of Esther.

Email Liz for the link jervaulxliz@gmail.com if you'd like to join us

The 'Bridge' Magazine

The Editorial Team would like to express our thanks to all those who have faithfully delivered the copies of the 'Bridge' magazine, through the letter boxes of the United Parish, for all the years since its inception in 1994.

Also, a note of gratitude to those who have transported the magazine to central locations within the various areas that make up the Parish.

A new era came into being with the creation of the on-line version of 'Bridge' in 2020 and this will continue. Realising this was excluding those with limited access to on-line facilities, a letter was sent out in the Autumn of 2020 to enable a "hard" copy to be ordered. As soon as is logistically possible, the delivery of these will come into force in 2021.

Another sort of Bridge!

Jack Stocken lives in East Witton and teaches the card game of Bridge although now only online.

He says: 'Online Bridge has been brilliant during lockdown as it combines logic and numeracy skills with great sociability and fun. Many of my students have told me that it has helped to keep them sane.

The Sunday Times wrote a feature recently on online bridge on the link below:

"Online bridge clubs narrow the gap between young and old"

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/online-bridge-clubs-narrow-the-gap-between-young-and-old-rkzmbdwzs?shareToken=46a5cc06f380b753b8e96cef10f1fb5d>



Learning bridge would really give some of our local residents something to look forward to and concentrate on.'

If anyone is interested please get in touch with Jack:

Jack Stocken 07775 892 720

www.yorkshirebridge.co.uk Online bridge classes & daily podcast *free demos available *



Coverdale News

Our open air Carol Service in the churchyard at Coverham on 20th December attracted a big congregation. Led by the Rector, a children's choir organised by Linda Dent sang Away in a Manger and several children did readings. The parish choir sang Silent Night and Frank Fletcher was the organist. On

leaving the churchyard mince pies and biscuits were there to wish everyone a Happy Christmas.



Christmas Hamper Raffle Results

Many thanks to those who donated items for the Hampers and to those who bought tickets. The winners of the three super Christmas Hampers were:

1st Prize - Peter and Nicola Dinsdale, 2nd Prize - Jim and Meg Lumb, 3rd Prize - Valerie Mawer

The Raffle raised £1,280 for St. Botolph's Church, Horsehouse.



Oil Painting Raffle Result

The winner was Mary Rose Reed of East Witton. Mary Rose said it would be a lovely reminder of her husband, Barry, who died last year.

The Raffle raised £285 for parish funds.

With thanks also to the artist who provided the painting for the raffle.

If you missed the raffle, but would still like to make a donation, one option is to do it on line – please see the details below. You can choose where your funds are allocated. With thanks from all the church committees.

Middleham: <https://www.jervaulxchurches.co.uk/middleham.php>

Coverdale: <https://www.jervaulxchurches.co.uk/coverdale.php>

East Witton: <https://www.jervaulxchurches.co.uk/east-witton.php>

Thornton Steward: <https://www.jervaulxchurches.co.uk/thornton-steward.php>

From Thornton Steward via Wendy Hoare



Percy Sadler, Manor Farm, TS, 1958

Mr Percy Sadler was born in Thornton Steward in 1931. He left in 1958 to become a policeman, but has very fond memories of his time here and some of these are recorded in the history books which can be found in The Institute... a valuable part of the village history. (Roll on the time when we can all go back inside and read them!)

Well, Mr Sadler is a man of many talents and we can now share some of those memories in the form of poems that he has written and sent to us recently. There are four of them and they have been put together in the attached document along with a few photographs and they can also be read on the 'News' page of the village website. ([Thornton Steward News](#) and scroll down.)

They are very uplifting and will no doubt be appreciated... especially in these times when we are all missing the arts and are in need of positivity and joy in our lives. Very many thanks to Mr Percy Sadler for sharing them with us.

SPRINGTIME DREAM

Take my hand and walk with me in the valley of my home,
Share the treasures of my life where once I used to roam.
See the changing season and the beauty of it all,
Allow me space and privilege for my memories to recall.

Gone now snow from winter's bough, as ice retreats by rising sun
Buds burst forth in cloaks of green to welcome a season just begun.
Up on high in clouded blue a hovering skylark trill at birth of spring,
Whilst church clocks chime, reminder of a time that only memories bring.

Let me wander in a country lane with head held high in clouded bliss,
A life so ready to recall when now in modern times I truly miss,
Mind devoid of reckless thought with misted memories now held dear,
Flowery meadows, butterflies in flight and birdsong music to the ear.

Let me feel the cool fresh air of dawn as mists rise from the valley floor,
Once again to see the dew drops hang like jewels in the early sunlight glow.

Away on high I hear the curlew calling by yonder distant wooded fell,
Deep memories held so close and dear, casting forth their mystic spell.

No longer may I linger in the treasured memories that I hold,
Sadly I must now move on and allow the rest of life's journey to unfold.
I release your hand of friendship and bid farewell to the place I used to roam.
My Wensleydale you will always be remembered as THE VALLEY OF MY HOME.



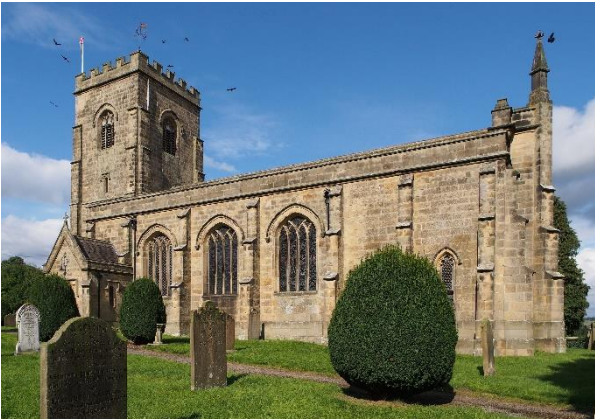
By Percy Sadler

The creative juices of people in the Dales people, and continues to flow....

Here is an introduction from Mary Fawbert of East Witton, to the following poem.

Mr Packard was vicar here from 1950 to the early 1960's. He retired to Sedbergh. He had been a member of staff at Sedbergh school as well as at Gordonstoun (sp). He was a lovely man and a clever theologian. He regularly walked to Colsterdale to keep contact with the people there.

Poem by E.W.S. Packard. Former vicar of East Witton.



The love of God for me began
Long before I was a man:-

His grace was with me, heaven on earth,
Before I passed the gates of birth.
And cradled me when birth was over,
And rolled me round in woolly cover,
His grace in carings tenderest:
He mothered me at mother's breast.

His patient beauty strength and truth
Encompassed and controlled my youth:
And now His faithfulness is still
A beacon light unto my will.

In you and you, my friends well known,
His varied grace to me is shown, -
Friends and sweet children, and one other
More sweetly dear than friend or brother.

And half-described, by land and sea,
There flows his glory's pageantry,
Integuments, similitudes –
In silences, in solitudes.

And you, wee dog, time and again,
Unfold, cat' analogian*
A parable, told thoroughly
In black and white full furrily,
Of what our walk with God may be –
Nay, must be, paradissaly
After thick gloom or weariness
He sends brow-smoothing sleep, to bless:
Most, during heart-bruise, ere release.
Inside vexation he is peace.

And every day when folly, fear,
Vain fear, or pride my soul would sear,
Hid, or like a mountain freshset clear,
His Christ doth run to cleanse and cheer.

When body pliant once to mind,
Serves but to cramp, serves but to bind,
Then shall his love, from fastenings freeing
Fashion fresh vesture for our being.

*cat' analogian = by analogy

Light a candle and pray at 6pm in February



In response to reaching the terrible milestone of 100,000 deaths from COVID-19, the Archbishops invite all to call on God in Prayer. Starting on 1 February we invite you to set aside time every evening to pray, particularly at 6pm each day. More than ever, this is a time when we need to love each other. Prayer is an expression of love.

The archbishops have written to the nation. Read the letter here:

[20210126 Letter to the nation.pdf \(churchofengland.org\)](https://www.churchofengland.org/20210126-Letter-to-the-nation.pdf)

North Yorkshire Home Library and Information Service *by John Frankland*

I'm writing to tell you about the Home Library Service, a free service for people of all ages who live in North Yorkshire and are unable to get to the library or carry books themselves. It's a personalised service offers full access to books, large print, audiobooks, CDs, DVDs, and information. Library staff and volunteers choose books to suit the client's tastes, and our teams of friendly volunteers deliver the books to their home once a fortnight. Items can be kept for as long as they are needed, there are no fines or overdue charges, and requests are free.

Watch this animation for more information: <https://www.facebook.com/187174112152/videos/3450959578358288>



We are currently doing as much as we can to promote this service – especially during the current circumstances. The service means so much to those that receive it, and it is not just about the books but also about regular visits they get from volunteers. This is a quote from one of our customers in Harrogate:

"Helen and Pauline [delivery volunteers] are such a dynamic duo... I can't praise the library enough, out of all the services that were meant to help me they're the only ones that have actually delivered. It's not just the books, it's the consistency and familiarity - they ground me....It's not old age that makes your brain go, it's the isolation - and everyone is always in a hurry, the whole world is in a rush - it's so nice for someone to make time for you."

Please note the service is delivered in a Covid secure way and for the safety of library customers, the home delivery volunteers will deliver items on doorsteps (or in another safe place), wear personal protective equipment and maintain social distancing at all times.

John Frankland, Outreach Tel: 01609 534548



Home Library Service

Books and more delivered to your door



A FREE service for people of all ages who are unable to get to the library or carry books themselves



Contact your local library for more information or call
Tel: 01609 533800 Email: libraries@northyorks.gov.uk

LEYBURN LIBRARY in LOCKDOWN THREE

We are available for Select and Collect Service and Public Computers - phone us on 01609 535971

Book Collection and book returns:

Mondays 1pm-3pm, Tuesdays 10-12noon & 2.30-4.30pm
Fridays 11am-3pm, Saturdays 10-12 midday

Tell us on 01609 535971 what books you would like from Leyburn shelves or for us to reserve for you, or you can reserve books online via your library account.

We will telephone you when the books are available to arrange a collection time.

An answerphone is available out of hours.

Public Computer times:

(Please phone to check if this service is available:)

Tuesday and Friday, 45 minute sessions at 12.30 and 13.30 must be pre-booked by telephoning us on 01609 535971. Socially-distanced tech advice will be available on Tuesdays.

All you need is love

On 14th February we celebrate Valentine's Day but did you know that in the Bible there are 4 words for love?



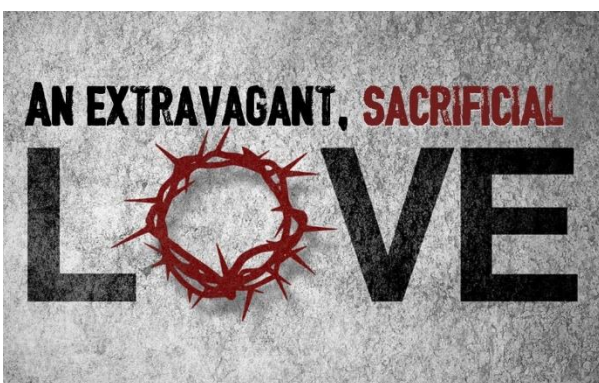
Eros – romantic love



Storge – family love



Philia – friendship love



Agape – sacrificial, unconditional, pure love (as we see in Christ, sometimes called divine love – which we are invited to receive and give)

It's good to remember all these forms of love on Valentine's Day.

St Valentine



As Rev Jeff said in his 'Rector's Letter,' St Valentine is the patron saint of lovers. He himself demonstrated agape love in his compassion for Christian couples, who were persecuted by the Roman authorities.

But he is also the patron saint of beekeepers – charged with ensuring the sweetness of honey and the protection of beekeepers.



In addition, St Valentine is the patron saint of those who have epilepsy.



Where does the tradition of red roses as a symbol of love come from?

There are various myths. In Roman mythology, the story goes that Venus, the goddess of love, was rushing to warn her lover, Adonis, about a murder plot against him. In her haste, she ran through a thorn bush, cutting her ankles on the sharp thorns. Everywhere her blood touched the bush, brilliant red roses began to bloom. A story of agape as well as eros.



Whether you celebrate Valentine's Day or not – remember, and if you believe, thank God, for all the people who love you, and whom you love. Come the 14th February in our house, the dog might get some extra treats! *Rev'd Liz*



RICHARD 111 HOTEL

Market Place, Middleham, North Yorkshire, DL8 4NP ~ Tel 01969 623240 ~ info@richard111hotel.co.uk

VALENTINES TAKEAWAY MENU 2021

Saturday 13th February – 6 till 8 pm - £20 per person

To Start

Cheesy Garlic Mushrooms – *Warm Crusty Bread*
King Prawns – *Garlic and Chilli*
Homemade Pate – *Melba Toast*

Mains

Breast Of Chicken, Wrapped in Parma Ham – *Stilton Cream Sauce*
Rib Eye Steak - *Fried Onions and Mushrooms, Peppercorn Sauce (£5 Supplement)*
Seabass Fillets – *Sizzled Garlic, Ginger and Chilli with a Soy Dressing*
Above served with Saute potatoes, Asparagus, Mange Tout

Mushroom Stoganoff – *Wild Rice, Garlic Bread (V)*

Dessert

A Trio of Dessert to Share - *Chocolate Brownie, Strawberry Tart, Homemade Cheesecake*

Sunday 14th February- Sunday Lunch - 12 – 2.30pm - £11 pp

Local Roast Topside of Beef,
Loin of Pork with Stuffing and Apple
Bit of Both

Served with a Selection of Freshly Cooked Vegetables, Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding and Gravy

Orders for Above Must be placed by Thursday 11th via Email or Phone with a time for collection

Monday 15th February - Pizza Night 5 – 7.30

Margherita – 9.00 Chilli Beef – 11.00 Pepperoni – 11.00
Ham and Pineapple – 11.00 Tuna and Sweetcorn -11.00 Meat Feast – 12.00
Stilton, Mushroom and Balsamic – 11.00

SIDES

Chips 3.50 Garlic Bread 3.00

Offer - Choose Any Two Pizzas and a side for £20

PLEASE SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES!

Valentines Dinner Box

Canapés

Smoked Salmon,
Salmon mousse and cucumber relish
Parma ham, manchego and rocket roulade

Starter

Parmesan and leek double-baked soufflé,
with micro herb salad

Main

Fillet of beef wellington
Dauphinois potatoes
Rosemary wine jus
Buttered and burnt onion asparagus
Cauliflower purée

Dessert

Salted caramel and chocolate mousse

Petit fours

Mini chocolate selection

All for
£60

Order early to avoid disappointment - Delivery on Friday 12th February

FAIRHURSTS AT Phone 01969 624668 or visit our website www.fairhursts.co.uk



The Parish of Middleham with Coverdale, East Witton and Thornton Steward 'Jervaulx Churches'

Due to the ongoing prevalence of coronavirus, the PCC with regret has decided that we halt services at our churches (*with the exception of funerals and in exceptional circumstances, some weddings*). However, our worshipping life continues. We continue to pray for the parish, and to send out email services for Wednesdays and Sundays (see below).

In addition, our churches continue to be open for private prayer on Wednesdays, 9am – 5pm (*unless there is a funeral*).

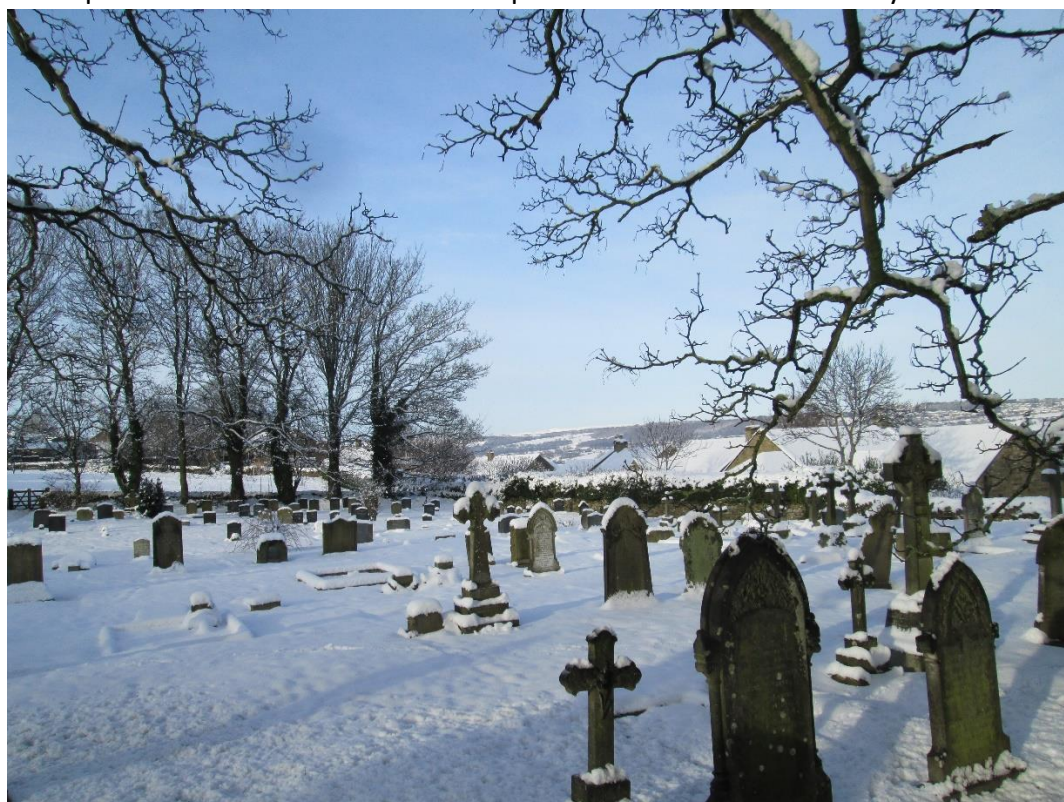
Parish e-services:

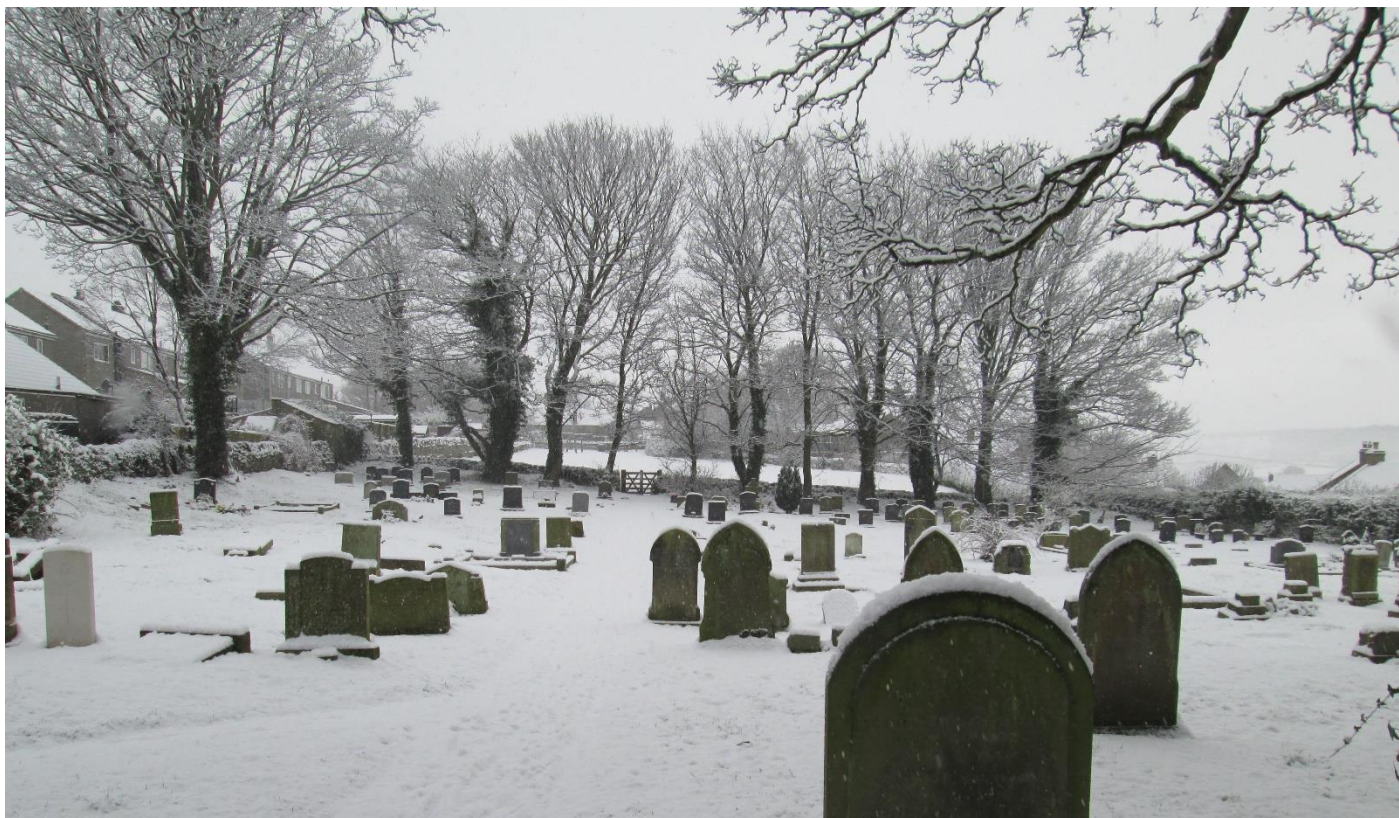
Sundays - a weekly email service of worship

Wednesdays - a weekly email reflection following 'We make the road by walking' by Brian McLaren – pursuing 'aliveness'

Please email jervaulxliz@gmail.com – to be added (BCC) to our email services group.

Or you could take a walk to pray/ reflect/ meditate/ enjoy the beauty of God's world – our churchyards are also very peaceful places to do this. Here are a few photos of St Alkelda's churchyard in the recent snow:





The snowdrops are coming out in the churchyard. Why not take a walk past to see them?

If anyone has a photo of any of our churchyards, including the wildlife, flora and fauna, in them – please send them to jervaulxliz@gmail.com and we'll include them next time.

Weddings and Funerals Update: (subject to change)

Weddings are permitted in exceptional circumstances with a maximum of 6 attendees.

Funerals are limited up to a maximum of 30 people, though this could be less depending on the capacity to safely social distance in each particular church building or crematorium.

Up to 15 people are allowed at the interment of ashes.

Funerals directors have current information on government guidelines, and parish policies, which vary.

Words of wisdom from Bishop Nick Baines, Anglican Bishop of Leeds:

When the 3rd lockdown was announced, + Nick wrote to clergy & included the following, a message that is pertinent to us all at this time. Jesus said: ‘ “Be merciful, just as your [Heavenly} Father is merciful.” That’s the door to walk through every day.....In all of this remember that many of the parables of Jesus have to do with what John Bell (Iona Community) refers to as “the greatness of the small”. Mercy will be received not in grand gestures or major projects alone, but in the smallness of words & actions of hope & love.’



Pre-Marriage Course

What is it?

The Pre-Marriage Course is a series of four sessions to help engaged couples or those exploring the possibility of marriage, build strong foundations for their future together.

It’s designed to help couples invest in their relationship for a lasting marriage. Over the sessions, the course will help you to learn to communicate well, understand and appreciate your differences, and prepare for potential challenges.

It facilitates communication between couples. This information remains private to them (no sharing).

Who is it for?

The Pre-Marriage Course is for couples who are exploring the idea of getting married and for those who are already engaged. It’s designed for those who want to give their marriage the best possible start, whether they’re exploring marriage for the first time or have been married before.

The course is based on Christian principles but designed for all couples with or without a church background. You do not need to be getting married in a church or in our parish to come on the course.

When is it?

Rev’s Jeff and Liz are running this course by Zoom over 4 Sunday afternoons, 3pm – 4pm on 7th, 21st and 28th February and 7th March

How do I join and what does it cost?

It’s free – just email jervaulxjeff@gmail.com so that you can get the Zoom details.

Please pass on this information to anyone you think might be interested.

From the Methodist Church:

Darlington District Dales Virtual Mission Weekend PLAN, 5-7 March, 2021

OBJECTIVE: What are we learning as a District about rural context? What are the rural churches teaching us?

What are the issues we need to be aware of?

THEME: Pilgrimage

From Rev Melanie Reed, Methodist Superintendent Minister, North Yorkshire Dales Circuit 01969 623818

Dear Friends and colleagues

I attach a plan for a virtual visit of the President of the Methodist Conference, Rev Richard Teal, on the weekend

5-7 March. This is focussed on rural ministry and therefore I would be hugely grateful if you would consider being a part of the weekend where and when you may be able. Also I am mindful that you will have many contacts with farmers across our area who may like to be involved in some of the conversations and would appreciate your help in getting the message out to them.

Anyone interested in being involved can either let me know and I will be able to forward them a link for registering in due course, or they can contact Mrs Helle Sewell | Darlington District Evangelism and Community Engagement Enabler 07905 606042 (Mobile) darlingtondistrict.enabler@gmail.com

Please feel free to pass this email on to anyone else that I may have overlooked.

Thank you in anticipation. God Bless. Melanie

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Friday		<p>World Day of prayer</p> <p>4PM - Swaledale virtual Forest Church Pilgrimage walk. Rev Teal to offer reflections on the film and images taken from the walk.</p> <p>Kevin/Helle</p>	<p>Open Zoom for anyone in the District to come and meet the President. (7PM start)</p> <p>Helle</p>
Saturday	<p>10AM – Ecumenical Church Leaders in the Dale Zoom conversation. Topic: Restructuring in a rural context.</p> <p>Respective Supers to advertise in their region</p>	<p>2PM - UTASS – Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services conversation. NFU – national Farmers Union Bring together in conversation mixed with images from their context.</p> <p>Debbie</p>	<p>7PM - Q + A with Rev Teal. Opportunity for farmers to speak with the President.</p> <p>Topic: How can the church support farmers through their struggles and challenges.</p> <p>Melanie/Bruce/Kevin to gather interested folk</p>
Sunday	<p>10:30AM - Circuit Service at Stanhope Methodists YouTube channel. R Teal to do this live</p>	<p>North Yorkshire Dales Methodist Circuit Sunday reflection. Rev Teal to pre-record and send in a reflection.</p>	

Middleham Sports and Community Wellbeing Association (MSCWA)



We hope you have enjoyed your walks on the Sports Field and seen some changes since we last had an article in November.

Firstly, the new direction signs attached to posts from the centre of Middleham, left at the plantation, past the castle and left down beside Ben Haslam's stable. These are in 'Cambridge Blue' as this was the traditional colour of Middleham Cricket club in the past and is contained in the current shirt colouring.



There is an indication that more people are now utilising the sports field for exercise and dog walking (as they know what it is and where it is!!). Our school has made cautionary posters to encourage dog walkers to ensure their dogs do not leave unnecessary mess. This is a condition of our lease from Middleham Town Council.

Who owns the Sports field? - is a recent question and the answer is 'The Townspeople of Middleham' also known as... Middleham Town Council - our elected representatives. They in turn have granted a lease over the fields and entrance road to MSCWA expiring in 2033.

FOOTBALL

Sadly only 2 games have been played so far due to COVID-19 lock downs. However, this has helped the ground to recover more so. We need more aeration equipment to be found as more games churn up the pitch.

Leyburn football club (who rent the pitch) are positioned mid-way in the Wensleydale Creamery league at the pause and have progressed to the semi-final in the cup (Medal Shield) beating Hawes 2-1.

If anyone is interested to re-establish Middleham Football club with a proper committee of chairman, secretary, treasurer, groundsman at least as a committee, contact me please.

Some seasonal views at the Sports field!



1. Community garden entrance with a guide by Amanda, our new direction sign and 20th Century bureaucracy rules.



2. Pavilion built in 1985 with donations from Townspeople and a major personal donor. Opened by Yorkshire and England cricketer Arnie Sidebottom.



3. Trees overlooking the entrance track.

Richard Fletcher Sec MSCWA rgfsmarden@btopenworld.com
01969 625365 or text 07743018274)

Middleham Cricket Club



Middleham cricket pavilion from Community Garden

Cricket is currently in its winter slumber, but annual re-seeding on the square has been completed by the Harrogate groundsman and we await news on when we MAY be able to start in the summer from MAY... The World Golden Oldies over 50's International Tournament has been postponed again till 2022. However, this will give us time to get the ground looking its best.

Drainage in the bottom corner is being considered and the building of a small extension at the scoreboard end of the pavilion as a store. The ground there is being levelled. Regrettably the contractor has been held up over the winter months.

Normally, Junior cricket is on Mondays and midweek evening league matches played. Indoor nets were available in January, but difficult in current conditions

As usual more players (as well as scorers and ground help) for the 1st and 2nd XI are welcome-contact us. **Contact:** Richard Sanderson 07710652348 (or me (RF) 07743018274.).

Contacts:

Community Garden Nigel or Amanda 07594814524

Messy Boots Kathy Wheeler 07866132787

Cricket Richard Sanderson 07710652348 (or me 01969 625365)

5 aside football/Senior Football/Rounders/Golf Nigel or me



FRIENDSHIP: NOAH'S ARK

With thanks to Freda Corner for supplying this, which originally came from Helen Verity. It's a good reflection on 'Noah's Ark' (Genesis chapters 6 – 9, Old Testament)

ONE Don't miss the boat
 TWO Remember that we are all in the same boat
 THREE Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark

- FOUR Stay fit. When you are old someone may ask you to do something big
- FIVE Don't listen to critics. Just get on with the job that needs to be done
- SIX Build your future on high ground
- SEVEN For safety's sake travel in pairs
- EIGHT Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs
- NINE When you're stressed. Float awhile
- TEN Remember. The Ark was built by amateurs, the Titanic by professionals
- ELEVEN No matter the storm, when you're with GOD, there's always a rainbow. Waiting.

Bird notes from Richard Wells – Feb 2021



There is unlikely to be any shortage of birds in your gardens at the moment...as long as you are feeding them. It has been a tough few weeks for our avian friends with the ice and snow and though they ignored you when times were good and food was plentiful in the countryside and in

hedgerows, that is not the case now, according to your reports.



Great spotted woodpecker



Julie Whitwham has been watching lots of them in her garden in Middleham: several species of tit including long-tailed (above left), great spotted woodpeckers, chaffinches and a nuthatch (left). 'A lockdown spectacle that's better than television,' she says. The highlight in my garden was a tree creeper (right) during one bout of snow, but nothing compares with what appeared in Sheila Walker's in

Caldbergh just before Christmas – a waxwing (below left). These brightly-coloured birds, the size of a starling, can some years appear in large numbers



and are very tolerant of humans as they gorge on cotoneaster berries. They migrate from Arctic Finland and Russia. There have been only a handful of reports of them this winter, so Sheila was especially fortunate to see one, albeit briefly.

In other news, Carrol Thomas was delighted to see not one but three little egrets near the Ure at Wensley as she journeyed back to her home in Carlton, Dennis Clarkson had two near East Witton Mill, and there was a report of 5 on the Ure near Jervaulx, along with two great white egrets. It is amazing how



Great and Little Egret

they can put up with our winters when once they were seen only near to the Mediterranean. Some barn owls are struggling a bit though. I have seen several hunting during the day because the nights have been full of rain or snow.

On a brighter note, woodcock (*right*) were plentiful in early December with reports of around 25 being flushed from a wood near Braithwaite Hall.

Don't forget to keep your garden birds fed!

Your reports are also welcome at rmwellsew14@gmail.com.

Optional link from ed.: [Graceful Barn Owl Hunting in the Daytime | BBC Earth - YouTube](#)



Hospital Transport

There are new arrangements to medical facilities and hospitals:

Parish support groups may be able to provide transport to local medical and dental practices. Different parts of the local area have their own arrangements, so contact your parish council to see if they are supporting in this way.

In Middleham contact David Keep 07531580499 or office@middlehamtowncouncil.co.uk in the first instance



If you have an appointment at one of the hospitals for our district, and no family or friends are available to help, you will be asked to contact PTS (Patients Transport Service) which is provided by Yorkshire Air Ambulance (0300 3302000 between 8am – 6pm). They accept the most critically ill people within the following criteria: outpatients; admission or discharge from hospital; regular life-saving treatment e.g. dialysis, chemotherapy. PTS are reluctant to speak to anyone but the patient who must have appointment details when they phone. PTS is free of charge.

If none of the above is possible, contact the Leyburn Hub on 01969 624510 or admin@leyburnartscentre.com

The Hub has arranged to provide transport via NYCC Transport Service run by volunteers, but is not free of charge. For journeys up to 44 miles, the charge is 45p a mile. For journeys more than 44 miles, the charge is capped at £20. Pay the driver by cash or cheque at the end of the journey.



Vaccinations

Currently, Richmondshire are receiving only limited quantities of the Astra Zeneca (AZ) vaccine with the instruction that this must first be used for care home patients and staff and those patients over 80 who have not yet received a vaccination. This means that it is not possible at the moment to arrange full clinics at Tennants. At the moment, it is not known when the next batches of either the AZ or Pfizer vaccine will be delivered to Richmondshire.

Please remember too that this is not a practice based programme, the vaccines delivered are for the whole of Richmondshire which means that individual practices are not permitted to move onto the next group of patients until the first group for all of Richmondshire has been vaccinated.

Cervical Screening The practice is encouraging all eligible patients to attend for their screenings.

North Yorkshire Police, 'Ask The Experts – Safer Internet Session':

Tuesday, 9 February, 7.00pm To 9.00pm National Safer Internet Day online event

With more people working from home and children now having their school lessons online, the need to use the internet more safely and securely has never been greater. North Yorkshire Police are hosting another 'Ask the Experts' evening to support Safer Internet Day. This online event will consist of a number of presentations from officers from its Cyber Crime Unit and Online Abuse & Safeguarding Unit. Richard De Vere from the Anti-Social Engineer will give an insight into the tricks scammers use to manipulate their victims. As usual there will be the opportunity to ask questions of our panel of experts.

This event will be conducted using Microsoft Teams and persons registering for the event will be emailed a link prior to the date. You do not need to have Microsoft Teams installed on your computer to participate, just a good internet link

To register for the event please click on the below link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/internet-safety-day-ask-the-experts-north-yorkshire-police-tickets-135979661829>

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>



⚠️ SCAM ALERT: New Covid vaccination phishing email ⚠️ ⚠️

✉️ Further to warnings shared previously, we've been made aware of a new phishing email scam which has landed in many people's inboxes in the last 24 hours. The email is designed to appear as if it is from the NHS and asks the recipient to follow a link to book their vaccination which involves filling out extensive personal details.

✖️ If you receive an email like this, DO NOT click on any links and delete it straightaway.



Scammers are relentless in their quest to try and trick people out of their money so let's make sure they are unsuccessful by telling as many people about this new scam as possible.

Remember:

You don't need to apply for it

You don't have to pay to receive it

You don't need to share bank details to confirm your identity

Here is an example of the types of emails we have been seeing:

North Yorkshire Community Messaging is managed by North Yorkshire Police. The official website is www.nycm.co.uk

If you need to contact North Yorkshire Police please call 101 or in an emergency dial 999.

NHS Search

Health A-Z Live Well Care and support Pregnancy

[Coronavirus vaccination](#)

Confirm your coronavirus vaccination

You are selected

The NHS is performing selections for coronavirus vaccination on the basis of family genetics and medical history.
You have been selected to receive a coronavirus vaccination.

Use this service to confirm your a coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination.

You will need to:

- have 2 doses of the coronavirus vaccination at 2 appointments
- book both appointments at the same time
- get the 2nd dose 11 to 12 weeks after getting your 1st dose

Who can use this service

You can only use this service if you have received an email/SMS regarding this invitation. You can not use this service for anyone other than yourself.

You are also free to reject this invitation, your appointment will be issued to the next person in line in that case.

Please confirm or reject your invitation by selecting an option below.

Reject invitation **Accept invitation**



THE WENSLEYDALE SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM LEYBURN

Happy New Year to everyone. Education is certainly changing fast. I would like to thank all of our students, parents and staff for their community spirit and support. Below is a snapshot of our journey over the first few days of the New Year.

- On 28 December the Senior Leadership team met to discuss how we implement our Mass testing scheme.
 - By 1 Jan 2021 the bays were all built and in place, Staff completed all the training and printed off certificates to prove it. We had set up the whole system and had a roll out plan ready to go.
 - We completed the Staff Training day as planned on 5 Jan.
- 8pm on 5 Jan schools were told to close and the Prime Minister tells all yr11 and 13 that exams are cancelled in the summer. First we had heard of it!
 - 7 Jan -Secretary of State threatens schools with Ofsted if we don't provide quality online learning, but there are no further IT devices on their way. We have been allocated 21 and that's it.

The Wensleydale School and Sixth Form continues to be open for key workers and vulnerable students.

Actions we have taken as at 7 Jan 2021:

1. Conducted a google survey to find out parents' IT needs.
2. Teachers have set project-based assignments initially for the first week, to give us time to Covid test everyone and reorganise working rotas etc. However, as of 11 Jan all teachers will be available at the timetabled times to teach and answer questions from students.
3. From 18 Jan all lessons have some face to face teaching (via google video link) in each lesson wherever possible. To make this happen we have asked staff for their IT wishlist and will need to make sure everyone has the training and technology they need to make this happen. NYCC Public Health are very clear that because Richmondshire and Hambleton have the fastest rising Covid cases in the county, it is not sensible to have all teachers in school using school IT, they must be allowed and encouraged to work from home where possible. We will keep this under review.
4. All Senior Leaders will be in school every day. 5 teachers and equivalent support staff will be in school each day to support key worker/vulnerable children, on a rota basis. Staff will be Covid tested every day they are in school, except SLT who will test weekly.
5. We will have tutoring on a daily basis from 11 January, making the tutor available at the end of the school day to phone, email or video call students to make sure they have support.
6. Year 11 will be tutored by the Senior Leadership team from Monday 11 Jan. At a parent's suggestion we will also arrange a Yr 11 online parents evening- in some format to discuss how to achieve grades and keep motivated. I suspect the government will take some time to let us know how we are supposed to award GCSE and A level grades, so it is really important students do not just give up, as we might need additional evidence.
7. Year 9 options process will continue and be rolled out shortly. We will devise an online Options evening format.
8. Other year groups will have online parents' evenings as and when we feel it necessary.
9. We tested all Yr10 BTEC music students and Yr13, prior to these exams this week and next.



Julia Polley, Headteacher

The Wensleydale School and Sixth Form 01969 621007 07808209365

The Federation of Middleham VA and Spennithorne VC
CE Primary Schools
'Friendship, Endurance, Forgiveness, Trust'



The governors of the Federation of Middleham and Spennithorne CE Schools would like to let you know that we will sadly be saying goodbye to our Executive Headteacher, Mrs. Lindsay Evans, at Easter, as she leaves us to take up a promotion as the principal of a large primary school in Bristol.

Mrs. Evans has been Headteacher at Spennithorne since 2012 and started leading both our schools in 2017. She has done a fantastic job, to the benefit of both our schools and our communities, and has recently had to manage the many additional challenges that the pandemic has brought.

I am sure readers would like to join with us all in thanking Mrs. Evans for all her hard work and dedication over the years and to wish her every success for the future.

Lesley Sweeting, Chair of Governors, on behalf of the Governing Body



Middleham Key Centre, Park Lane, Middleham DL8 4RA 01969 624002

Email: office@middleham-key.co.uk www.middlehamkeycentre.co.uk

The Key Centre office and other facilities are now CLOSED due to the current lockdown. We will resume our activities as the government guidance allows and when it is safe to do so.

Meanwhile you can email us or ring our number and leave a message. E-mails will be dealt with by staff from home and the answerphone will be checked regularly. Alternatively, if the matter is urgent, you can ring Pam on 07772 736006 or Lesley on 01969 622615.

We are happy to help if we can or signpost you to the relevant services. We hope those who are able will keep an eye out for their neighbours. Stay sensible and safe.

We are still taking advance bookings by email for the **Emergency First Aid at Work** which we will be offering a date for as soon as lockdown is eased. The course will be £57.50 which includes VAT and certification.

The Hair Shoppe: at Middleham Key Centre is also CLOSED until government guidance changes. Enquiries can be directed to the salon's Facebook page or when bookings resume to Claire on 01969 624401.

FiftyfiveUP: Tony Talbot, the founder, is based at The Key Centre – this is a free upbeat, online lifestyle magazine aimed at informing and sharing information relative to exercise, motivation and overall wellbeing. fiftyfiveUP has been designed as a community platform where those over 55 can simply enjoy what has been written or use it to showcase their own editorial or photographic talents. www.fiftyfiveUP.com

Changing Minds Psychotherapy: Beverley D'arcy BSc Hons. Psychol. M. A. Psychotherapy, Cert. Coun.

Psychotherapy & Counselling – is online at present at www.changingmindspsychotherapy.co.uk

Email: bevdaarcy@changingmindspsychotherapy.co.uk Tel: 07900 034481 for further details or to make an appointment.

Community Police: Whilst we are closed if you need to contact our local PCSO please telephone 101 the non-emergency number directly



Do you know which bridge this is?

Answer at the end of 'Bridge'.



SHANGRI-LA by Mike Sweeting

Some of you may have seen the kind of film where the intrepid explorers break through a nasty cave into sudden light. They behold, laid out before them, an earthly paradise. It may be called Shangri-La (in the film 'Lost Horizon'), or the Mountains of the Moon, or Wakanda.

Two things are certain when looking at all these types of film. Something always goes wrong to blemish or destroy the Utopia. Also, the locations used for the film are usually far less glamorous than you would wish. Did you know that the Himalayan scenes in the original 'Black Narcissus' film were done in Surrey, using re-painted black and white photos of the actual mountains?! In the 2018 film 'Black Panther', the fabulous secret nation of Wakanda was mainly filmed in a back-lot in Atlanta. (The Warrior Falls took 25,000 cubic feet of Styrofoam to produce.)

I have myself visited several of the locations used in 'Lost Horizon' as Shangri-la. In fact, here is a photo.

'Taquiz Canyon, one location for 'Lost Horizon'

This is just outside Palm Springs, California. It was chosen as a location due to nearby good hotel accommodation and social scene! The 'Indian Canyons' are lovely oases in the Central desert. Having slogged through Saharan-style sand to get between them, I can vouch for the marvellous sense of satisfaction, peace – and thirst slaked, that comes from arriving in one



'Indian Canyons', Palm Springs

Something in us is deeply stirred when we reach such places. I have experienced it in Turkish Cappadocia, near Marrakesh; and most of all, in Tibet. Some would call it a 'memory of Eden'. There is one huge problem though. Whenever we reach such places, we always take the seeds of destruction into them with us – ourselves. In Tibet I was initially caught up in the searing beauty of the light, of the mountains and the graciousness of the people. However, as I began to look around me, I could see a police state – 4 armed Chinese soldiers at every street intersection in Lhasa, the same 'facts' parroted by every employed person we met, huge Maoist style hoardings tell people what to think, and so on.

I was surprised by a further factor - Tibet's Buddhist monks; most dedicated at birth, so from every age from 7 to 70. They sharply divide into the 'keen' and the 'conscripted'. The latter are quite cheery, funnily enough. The others are to be seen crawling around the city or banging their heads after every 7th step; or variants of both. Direction of travel is vital – anti-clockwise. They believe that Tibet is the belly button of the universe, that Lhasa is the belly button of Tibet, and that the old city is... you guessed. The final circle is what must have been the original 8th century sanctuary but is now a circular market.



The monks are allowed to argue weekly!



Potala Palace in Lhasa

It was strange to hear the cries of the hawkers interspersed with the regular heavy thump of a man’s forehead upon the ground. The monks believe that by their efforts they preserve the holiness of Lhasa and Tibet. Their separate circuits of the market, old town, city walls and country (which can take years), preserve the world. This dedication was deeply impressive but their belief that all depends on Man seemed to me no different from the Communist propaganda. Personally, I think that any system that might even possibly depend on **me** is doomed! I am not big enough, hard enough or clever enough if you look at it in political terms. I am not loving enough, serving enough or wise enough when one looks at it in spiritual ones.



Buddhist monk near journey’s end

We look for ‘earthly paradises’ because it’s easier to perform or travel than to submit to God. The search is quite fun as a hobby. At least I have found it so! However, it is an absolute failure as a solution. In the real world, traffic home from Bali, The Maldives and other recent Shangri-la candidates is nearly as heavy as the traffic there. Xanadu, Camelot and Arcadia are so powerful just

because they are NOT reachable. We are out of Eden and cannot return. However, we can go forward, In God’s strength rather than in our own.

Next Bridge: March 2021

Please send any items to: jervaulxliz@gmail.com by the deadline: 14th February, 2021.

Please note that the views expressed in the articles are those of the author.

Contacts:

Revs Jeff and Liz: 01969 326069

Churchwardens:

Middleham – Margaret Brabban 01969 624388;

East Witton & Thornton Steward: Mary Fawbert 01969 623007/ Karen Newsam 01969 622395;

Coverdale: Anne Readshaw 01969 640448

Methodist Minister: Rev Melanie Reed: 01969 623818; RC priest: Fr Michael: 01969 623141

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During lockdown and the publishing of a limited version of bridge, we have not included our advertisers who contribute towards the cost of publication with thanks. With the opening of shops and businesses, we now give the latest list of advertisers to whom we are thankful for their donations.

With new government restrictions in place, please contact the organisation for up to date details of how they are trading.

If you would like to advertise in Bridge, please contact Richard Fletcher (rgfsmarden@btopenworld.com/01969 625365).

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to book or for further info. See also Facebook page 'Lesley Williams, Fitness, Nutrition & Weight management coach'.

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- ❖ **PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY BASED AT SPENNITHORNE SCHOOL.** We have funded places available for 2, 3- & 4-year olds. Our Ofsted report was rated 'Good' in March 2017. We have qualified, experienced staff. We are open daily in term time from 8.45am - 3.15pm, except Wednesdays until 12.45pm. Contact us on 07708 305805 or email harmbyunderfives@gmail.com
- ❖ **THE WENSLEYDALE EXPERIENCE.** Yurts, Berry's Farm Shop & Cafe, Dales Walks, Farm Tours, Events and more! We launched our own Yurt so you can come and experience the best of the Yorkshire Dales. Or visit our award-winning food and farm shop! The Wensleydale Experience is about giving you the chance to experience the best of the Yorkshire Dales. Everything we do is focused on sharing with you a sense of who we are, & what it feels like to live and work in Wensleydale. enquiry@wensleydale-experience.com
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ANSWERS:

Bridge on the front cover: *Over the River Cover at Bird Ridding, Coverdale*

Which bridge? *Humber Bridge*