






Link

Upper Wharfedale and Littondale Parish Magazine

This Month... 'Celebrating Life'

-  Celebrating the licensing of our new vicar
-  Celebrating the life of Allan Gill
-  A Country Diary: August
-  Reflection: Familiarity Breeds Contempt
-  Links to the Past

loved one Thanksgiving
Christian

A Dales Prayer

*May the Father's grace abound in you as the flowing water of the beck.
May the Son's love and hope invigorate you as the rising slopes of fell and dale.
May the Spirit's companionship be with you as the glory of the golden meadows.*

From the Vicar...

I am celebrating 'being 21' this month, 21 years of being a priest. I was ordained in the parish where I served my title, St Mary's, Billingshurst, in West Sussex, on 2 July 2000, by Bishop Lindsay Urwin the Bishop of Horsham. Bishop Lindsay was quite high church and suggested I do a full prostration. Being full of religious zeal (at the time) I agreed. There were flagstones on the floor in Church but there was a bit of carpet in the central aisle which covered a life-size brass rubbing of a knight and his wife. The whole full prostration experience was incredibly uncomfortable. I remember afterwards thinking it wasn't quite the mystic moment I had envisaged. We did, however, have a great party afterwards.

Celebrations are important. There have been a lot of celebrations that have sadly been put on hold until we come fully out of lockdown. The celebration of people's lives at memorial services will lead to a collective outpouring of both grief and joy for us as a nation in the months ahead. Then there are all the significant anniversaries and graduations and new jobs and exam results ... all of these must be marked and celebrated.

Celebrating is one of the things that the Church is good at, feasting and fasting being a regular feature of the Church year. Our feasting and our fasting have been muted, however, during lockdown: it didn't feel right asking people to give up things in Lent when they had given up so much already - Lent was already quite

'pinched'. Last Easter was particularly odd when we listened to but weren't allowed to sing Easter hymns or celebrate Easter communion.

In the last 18 months we may have forgotten how to feast and how to fast. We now have to relearn the art of doing so. Going forward some will still choose to practice physical distancing and will no doubt continue to wear face masks out of a love of and concern for neighbour. It may mean that having a celebration will require a level of ingenuity. Considerable imagination was shown at a recent wedding reception in the garden of Kettlewell village hall which was perfect for a small-scale outdoor celebration. Thankfully the sun shone.

Jesus performed his first miracle at a wedding celebration. The more I think about it the more I reflect that 30 gallons is a ridiculous amount of wine to consume, even for an entire village. Jesus in his teaching kept on going on and on about the kingdom of God as being like a party: a great feast (Matthew 22.2) and was accused of being more party animal than austere puritan (Matthew 11.19). However, we read the Gospels it is undeniable that Jesus preached a kingdom where those who enter it lack no good thing, a kingdom marked by joy and gracious hospitality. We need at all times and in all places to celebrate that.

May God bless all our celebrations this summer, muted or otherwise, in the name of the one who turned water into wine.

LET'S
celebrate

imagination was shown at a recent wedding reception in the garden of Kettlewell village

Tom

From the Churches & Villages

🔗 Parish News

Following the easing of most restrictions related to the coronavirus pandemic last month, the Parish's Vacancy Team discussed the situation, taking account of advice from the Diocese of Leeds.

The team sought to balance the wish to return to some kind of normality and to ensure our Churches are reaching out to people with the need to show caution in certain situations and to recognise the concerns about the continued presence of the virus in our society.



Taking these factors into account, the team decided the following:

🔗 **Wearing of face masks** is not obligatory. We would encourage people to wear face masks *when moving around Church* but to then, if they wish, remove their face masks when settled in their pew.

🔗 **Physical distancing** is no longer required inside Church buildings but in this transitional time we would encourage a common sense approach and ask that people to continue to utilise all the available space in Church to minimise the risk of the spread of Covid-19.

🔗 **Congregational singing** is now permitted in Church. We encourage people, if they wish to sing, to wear face masks, although this is not obligatory. As we begin this new phase, we will use songs that do not require people to sing loudly/at the top of their voices.

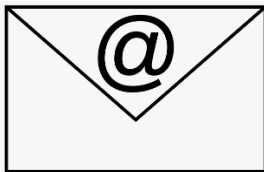


For those who do not wish to sing (at this stage) there will be a zone in Church where people can choose not to sing *and*, if they wish, continue to wear face masks, *and* be guaranteed that 2 metres physical distancing is enforced. (This will probably be in the back quadrant near the main Church entrance, or simply the back half of Churches.)

We will still ask people to sign the books at the back on our Churches or to use the NHS App at the entrances, though this is also no longer obligatory.

We have been opening our Churches for Private Prayer on Wednesday afternoons from 2-4pm and on Sundays from 10am-2pm during weeks when a service is not being held there. However, we have now moved towards opening all our Churches for longer hours throughout the week during the daytime. The Churches at Arncliffe and Conistone are already opening in this way and those at Kettlewell and Hubberholme were due to do so from July 26.

Parish Emails



The emails which are sent to people around the Parish each week started as a response to lockdowns and other restrictions associated with coronavirus, at a time when it was almost impossible to communicate by more traditional means. We now need to look again at how we share messages within our communities.

With this in mind, we are considering taking a more long-term and slightly more formal approach and asking people to let us know whether they would like to continue to receive emails containing news and other messages from the Parish. Please email the Parish Office at upperwharfedale@leeds.anglican.org to say whether you would like to receive such messages. If you do wish to receive them, please state clearly in your email to us that you give us consent to use a specified email address to send messages to you and which you agree can be added to a Parish database for this purpose. You will need to supply your preferred email address to us when giving your consent. We will use email addresses supplied to us in this way only to send messages from the Parish which we hope are of interest to people.

Online Services

Our Online Services started when we first went into lockdown and have proved to be a huge boon to people in the Parish and beyond. They involve a lot of hard work and devotion from the dedicated team

behind the services. The number of people viewing the services has fallen in recent weeks, though a significant number are still doing so. With these considerations in mind, it has been decided to produce an Online Service every month instead of every week, starting in July. The idea is to continue thereafter with a new service on the website for the first Sunday of each month, except when the service is timed to coincide with a specific event or religious festival. Updates and information will be provided in the Online Services themselves and in other Parish communications.

www.upperwharfedalechurches.org

APCM 2021

Notices relating to this year's APCM, which was held using Zoom on April 20, have been posted at our Churches and can also be found by going to our website by clicking on 'More' at the top right of the Home Page and scrolling down to APCM 2021 www.upperwharfedalechurches.org

New additions to Parish Website



If you haven't looked at our Parish Website for a little while, or have only been on the Home Page, you may have missed a few new features. These include a new page on the Kettlewell Churchyard Project, and a page devoted to Fundraising initiatives and events in the Parish. The latter page is in its early stages but should become fuller and more informative as we hope to move to a situation where restrictions are eased

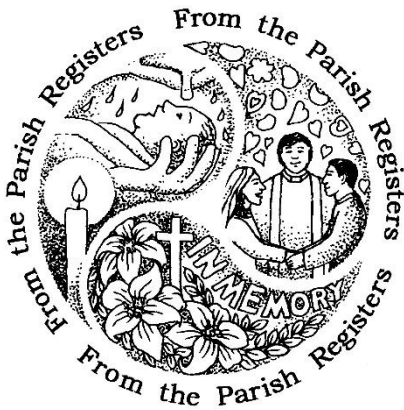
further and social activities come to the fore again.

www.upperwharfedalechurches.org

Getting Involved with the Link

Would you like to get involved with the production of our popular Parish magazine? A small group meets using Zoom each month to help plan the format of the Link for the coming month. If you are interested in becoming involved, please email the editor, Ian Smith, at smithiwho@gmail.com

From the Parish Registers



FUNERALS

5 July – St Oswald's, Arncliffe – Brenda McKenzie

22 July – St Michael and All Angels, Hubberholme – Edith Ann Sanderson

WEDDINGS

3 July – St Oswald's, Arncliffe – John Anthony Dean and Ruth Celene Guilherme

10 July – St Mary's, Kettlewell – John Michael Joseph Taylor and Chloe Alice Margaret Bottomley

17 July – St Mary's Kettlewell – James Liam Allard and Joanna Kate Scarth

24 July – St Mary's Kettlewell – Tom Alexander Reith Gray and Tania Giselle Hernandez (blessing)

St Mary's, Kettlewell



The church will now be opened daily from 9am-6pm (dusk during winter months).

Church Rotas - August

Sidespeople

1st August: David Nelson

15th August: Pauline Thompson

29th August: Di & Clare Blakey-Williams

Cleaning: Liz Ward

Flowers: Sue Nelson

Produce Stall in The Lychgate

The produce stall at the Lychgate will be held on Saturday, 7th August from 10.30am, in aid of Church Funds.

- 🔗 Jams
- 🔗 Marmalade
- 🔗 Cakes
- 🔗 Biscuits
- 🔗 Greetings Cards
- 🔗 ...and a Tombola Stall!

Come along to collect your Summer Goodies

Luncheon Club

The luncheon club is planning to re-open in Kettlewell Village Hall from Thursday,

16 September. If you are aged 55 years or over, you are entitled to come along, however, it would be advantageous if 'younger' folk would be willing to help out occasionally. The wearing of face coverings, when not seated at a table, will continue until everyone feels 'safe' without them, as will socially distanced tables of 6. Further details in the September Link.

*St Michael and All Angels,
Hubberholme*



It was good to welcome Rev Tom Lusty in July to our services in Hubberholme and he is now living in the vicarage at Kettlewell and meeting locals. We look

forward to him taking our church services on Sundays.

In August there will be different rules for congregations which at the time of writing this we have not had confirmed so please be prepared when entering church to do things differently, but please be considerate of others.

Yet again can we encourage anyone who has not yet bought a copy of the Annual Fund Raising Quiz costing £1. Our quiz named 'The Show, The Place, The Flower, & Find the Phrase' is available from local businesses and church members or ring Josie 01756 761154, Sandie 01756 802090, Deirdre 01756 760296 to get your copy. Our church needs your financial support. Thank you.

According to our August sidesperson rota, Avril Harrison & Janet Mudd are on duty on August 1, Sandra Kilvington & Deirdre Halsall on August 15 and Sandie & David Parsons on August 29. Readers at these services will read using their own Bibles.






Scargill Chapel by Alan Parker, Buckden Art Group

Buckden Singers Old and New

We have not been idle during lockdown! Several of us – around 25-30 – have been meeting weekly via Zoom. We have revisited some old material but learned a good number of new pieces. Ably assisted by Richard Reeday, these have been recorded individually and mixed into a harmonious whole. They are all available to view on Buckden Singers YouTube channel. A piece which stands out for me is the ‘Song of Hope’. This was inspired by Rita Baxter from Starbotton. Members of the choir sent in ideas around their feelings during lockdown to me and Richard which we translated into some words: Richard then wrote the music and mixed the final version. A very personal view of lockdown from us all.

We are now having a break for the summer, and as I write it is still unclear what impact both restrictions and common sense will have on Choirs meeting together. As we move forward, we are planning to restart rehearsals on Thursday September 9 either via Zoom or in person – venue to be confirmed. For planning, organisation, and music purposes it would be helpful for me to know how many people to expect. Members of the Zoom Choir who plan to continue need not do anything. I would however be grateful to hear from:

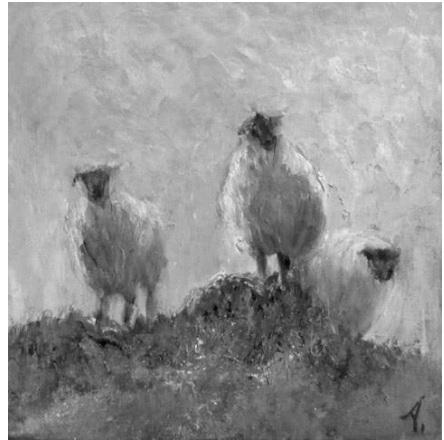
-  Members of the Zoom Choir who DO NOT plan to continue.
-  Members of Buckden Singers who wish to resume singing with us in person (or via Zoom should it be necessary)

-  Anyone else who is interested in joining us – you would be most welcome

If you could contact me by 8 August, it would be helpful as it gives me time to order new music; however, if you miss that deadline it would still be good to hear from you.

I'm happy to chat to anyone who needs further information: please do contact me at anne@vetch.co.uk or 01756 760882

Buckden Art Group



Regretfully, we have decided to postpone our 30th annual exhibition until 2022. Our last meeting was in March 2020 and as so much preparation is needed earlier in the year and things are still so uncertain, an event this year will not be possible. We will miss meeting all our friends at the Open Evening and hope we will be able to make 2022 extra special. We hope to commence our weekly meetings in September and will welcome any new members who would like to join us. Help is available if

needed. In the meantime, we hope more of our work can be seen in the LINK. For more details, please contact Angela Falshaw on 01756 760259 or at angela.falshaw@gmail.com

David, The Happy Hiker

A final update - I'm absolutely astonished by the generosity of those of you who have donated to the Yorkshire Cancer Research fund. My fund-raising walk in May attracted donations totalling £1,732; once Gift Aid is added, the final total is £2,079.80. Thank you so very much.

David Lusted, Buckden

Mobile Library

The North Yorkshire Mobile Library will be at Buckden on Wednesday 4 August and Kettlewell on Wednesday 18 August. Both stops will be between the hours of 10-12 am. It was a great day at both stops in July with new readers and returning patrons enjoying the service. For enquiries or further information please call 01609 533878 or email: supermobile@northyorks.gov.uk



Many of you will have met James Martin, our Mobile driver/Librarian, through the COVID times. James is leaving NYCC and says farewell. He would like to pass on the following message:

"It's been an absolute pleasure to serve the folks of the Upper Wharfedale Parish with this vital public service. Whilst this departure is unexpected I will be maintaining a newfound love for this "vocation" with a distant learning degree in Library & Information Studies. I hope to return to Library work as soon as possible.

As for many people COVID has changed my outlook on life and the rediscovery of the pleasure of books and Libraries will remain with me.

I will be going back to self-employed HGV work for a while but will be forever proud of our delivery of the mobile service this winter. Not a single stop was missed through the winter and we always got through to Kettlewell and Buckden. It was one our best winter service attendances in years. This was repeated across the county and if you have faith, which I do, this was so unlikely that maybe we had a little divine help.

The Library meant a lot to a lot of people this last year and it has been a privilege to be a part of it. It got many folks through and if my arrival last year was almost by accident I would like to think, for a while, it was right man, right time. Thank you for allowing me to serve your community.

Now go and borrow a few books – there are some good new reads on board!"

James - jim.rwwn@gmx.com

Calendar Girls!

Fresh from the professional circuit, Calendar Girls: The Musical is returning to its roots, as Grassington Players have been granted the first license to perform Gary Barlow and Tim Firth's uplifting musical at The Devonshire Institute in Grassington this autumn featuring cast members from around the dale.

Based on the true story of the now world-famous Women's Institute ladies from neighbouring Rylstone, the musical has evolved from the film and stage play with new characters including the teenage children of the girls.

Former Take That star, Gary Barlow, is an old schoolfriend of playwright Tim Firth, and so was a natural choice of partner for adding music to his Calendar Girls dramatisation. The musical was born and bred in Wharfedale as Barlow and Firth brought their new cast to Burnsall village hall to perform a pilot version to an invited audience in March 2015, after which the guests - including the 'real' Calendar Girls - were asked to provide feedback on their favourite songs to help shape the final professional show. The result is a range of contrasting songs with a good dose of Yorkshire grit and wit, so that comedy counterbalances the tears in this uplifting tale of the heartbreak of cancer tempered by the triumph of female spirit.

The real Miss January, octogenarian Beryl Bamforth, is a long-standing member of Grassington Players. She was 65 when she and her WI friends first disrobed for the original charity nude calendar. Twenty-two years on, their fundraising total for Blood Cancer UK has reached in excess of £6 million.

Originally scheduled for production in May 2020, Calendar Girls: The Musical rehearsals were well underway

in Grassington before COVID19 struck, though the secret of the premiere remained under wraps. The Musical will be staged at Grassington Devonshire Institute 25th September – 2nd October. With a proportion of profits going to the cancer charity Blood Cancer UK, tickets are £15, or £20 for the opening Gala Night, online from:

<https://grassingtonplayers.com/tickets>
or The Grassington Hub office on 01756 752222.

Dr Andrew Jackson memorial event

An evening to celebrate Andrew's life, work and contribution to the Upper Wharfedale community will be held on Friday 13th August at 7.30pm at Grassington Town Hall (Devonshire Institute). This is a free event, but please get your tickets in advance from the Hub (01756 75222).

*CONGRATULATIONS to Deirdre and Ric
who are celebrating their Golden
Wedding Anniversary this month.*

Walking Around the World – Update

The Challenge Team have now covered the 25,000 miles 'Around the World' and have exceeded the fundraising target of £10,000. Thank you to all those who, having read my article in the May Link, have donated to the valuable work of the Motor Neurone Disease Association. The JustGiving page is now closed. I have also recently completed my personal walking target of 1,000 miles but Phil still has a little way to go – the garden has taken over for now!

Judy Burgin.

GRASSINGTON MEDICAL CENTRE

Surgery hours:
8:00 am to 6:00 pm weekdays

Tel. 01756 752313
Out of hours: Tel. 111

Upper Wharfedale Venturer

72B community-operated local bus between Buckden, Grassington and Hebden, Monday to Saturday. Connects with Keighley Bus Company service to Skipton. Sunday and Bank Holiday services provided by Dalesbus.

www.upperwharfedale.com

Tel: 01756 636161

Littondale Fete – 14th August.

This year Littondale Fete will be a smaller event, supporting the Fell races & 4-mile road race and held in line with whatever government regulations are in place on the day. Please note that both Fell races and the Road races are pre-entry only - NO ENTRIES ACCEPTED ON THE DAY. For the fell races please see information on the BOFRA website (www.bofra.org.uk) and for Road Race entries the link is; <https://www.race-results.co.uk/results/2021>

Skipton Brass Band will be there, and refreshments will be served on the Village Green. Help will be needed on

the Car Park and with baking and serving teas. The Village Hall will be open on Friday evening and Saturday morning for delivering any cakes, quiches or savoury snacks. If you can help then please get in touch by contacting Sarah Paul at 770282, or by email; carrfarm2021@gmail.com

All proceeds for the upkeep and refurbishment of Amerdale Hall.

Littondale Horticultural Show

Unfortunately, this year's show has again had to be cancelled. We're looking forward to next year though....!

CANCELLATION – Brothers Grimm

With apologies to all those who have reserved tickets, it has been necessary to cancel the cancel the "Brothers Grimm" event in the Octagon at the end of August. We will no doubt re-book them in the future and in the meantime, one of the performers, Adrian Mealing, has written this poem for us:

PENALTIES

Like a fish landed in Grimsby, gutted
like Centre Court off season, forlorn
like ambition mid-act, interrupted
like last night's dream, withdrawn
flags limp & wet this Monday morning
still the game held dearly
give youth a chance and yes it's
dawning
this team came home so very nearly
every settee late last night
anguish but ne'er mope
there's time & space to reach the height
this youthful squad of life and hope
Come on, Monday calls - kids, jobs,
work, traffic hooting
a wheelie bin of empty bottles emptied,
listen. England is re-booting.

Garden Party – 18 August

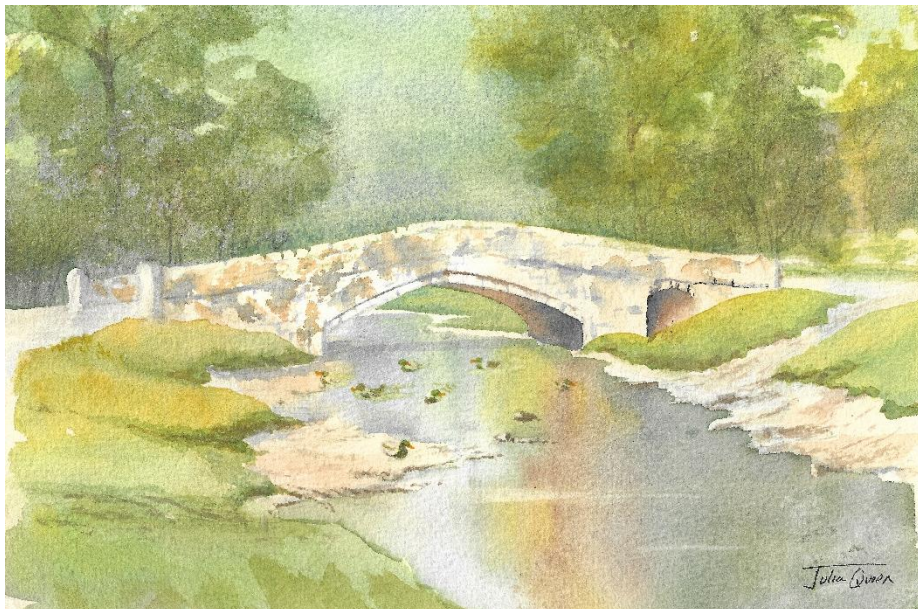
Wharfedale Support Group is holding a Garden Party in aid of Manorlands Hospice on Wednesday 18 August from 2-4pm at 24 Woodside, Grassington, by kind invitation of Mr and Mrs D Wareing. There will be strawberry cream teas, cakes, a raffle, and lots of other stalls. Please do come and meet old

friends and new in this beautiful garden. Tickets are £7.50 – please ring June on 753139 or Graham on 760337.

Rainfall for June 2021

Arnccliffe: 21.9 mm/0.86 ins

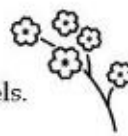
Litton: 20.31 mm/0.8 ins



Bridge at Linton by Julia Queen, Buckden Art Group



Littondale Linens



Providing High quality bedding, linens and towels.

Supplying the public and hospitality industry.

Duvets, pillows, protectors, linens, towels and much more.

Offering Competitive prices to local residents and businesses.

Mobile: 07877721100

Celebrating the licensing of our new vicar



The Licensing Service for our new Vicar, the Rev Tom Lusty, was held on Monday, June 28, at St Oswald's Church, Arncliffe. The ceremony was attended by the Bishop of Ripon, the Right Rev Dr Helen-Ann Hartley, and the Archdeacon of Richmond and Craven, the Ven Jonathan Gough, plus many other guests from the Diocese of Leeds, Tom's family, his former Parish of St Giles in Bramhope and from our own Parish. Here is Tom's response to the welcome from the Parish, and his licensing prayer.

My new parish, it's great to see you! I look forward to walking the next stage of our life together as your parish priest. My Dad gave me my own personalised ordnance survey map with the parish at the centre of it. I've been looking at some of the place names: Knucklebone Pastures, Knipe Scar, Providence Pot.... I look forward to knowing each of you by name as I build up my knowledge of you as part of the landscape of this parish.

Thank you to PCC members and parishioners for graciously holding off attending until the last possible moment to enable others to attend, and for now coming at the last minute in healthy numbers. Thank you, Bishop Helen-Ann, for sending your sermon in advance so that people who couldn't attend could feel as though they have participated.

It is great to see Mike the chaplain at Scargill house here this evening and thank you for reading. I look forward to fellowship with you and continuing links developed by my predecessors with

Scargill. Thank you to the impromptu choir convened by Myra and Anne, for music and singing that have enabled us to draw close to God.

Thank you to those who have decorated this Church with flowers. How cherished and loved this Church looks.

Thank you to you all by your presence demonstrating a commitment to supporting me and my family as I begin in post here today.

A special thank you to Andrew Hitchon who as Churchwarden has done a wonderful job of smoothing paths as I arrive in post. In particular I would like to express my appreciation for all you have done in preparing so painstakingly and thoughtfully for tonight, that we could meet safely in limited numbers. I really appreciate your care of me as I begin new ministry here. Thank you for your welcome.

I greatly look forward to sharing in the life of this community and I will seek to serve God faithfully among you.

Licensing prayer

The Father we know, the Son we know ... where is the Spirit? The Spirit is everywhere. The Spirit is here.

We pray for the Church families at Conistone, Hubberholme, Kettlewell and here at Arncliffe. Lord Jesus, may all who live in this parish know a sense of cherishing one another as a community - both in giving hospitality and in being open to receiving hospitality from others.

We pray that the reach of God will go forth from this place. Lord Holy Spirit, draw close to us this evening that in our response to your indwelling - in our worship now - that the reach of God will go forth from this place.

We pray for all who live in, whose working life is, this parish. All trying to stay solvent and survive. We pray for a time of recovery, even for a time of thriving.

We give thanks for all who have kept the show on the road in the parish during the vacancy. We pray that they will be

replenished for all they have given of themselves to the life of this parish.

We pray for all the teachers and all the children at Kettlewell School, for continued good links between Church and school.

Bishop John Robinson said that our charter as a Church is to be the servant of the world. So we pray for that world, for all who continue to suffer the most as a result of this pandemic.

We pray for any we know who are unwell at the moment...

We grieve with those who grieve: we think especially of Brenda McKenzie's family grieving Brenda's passing. We rejoice with those who rejoice: we celebrate with John and Celene getting married here on Saturday. We pray for God's richest blessings upon them in the run up to their big day.

I pray that this parish - as we together are renewed in our purpose and reach - that we might do everything with gratitude in our hearts ... and that whatever we do, that we do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Amen



Celebrating the life of Allan Gill

Allan Gill, who died earlier this year aged 83, was a true gentleman of the Dales, a well-loved and respected family man who took great delight in the natural world. Born at High Green Cottage in Arncliffe in 1937, Allan was the son of Jim and Annis Gill (nee Pullan), and younger brother of Eileen. Jim worked as gamekeeper on Arncliffe Moor, as his father Henry had before him. When the family moved to Arncliffe Post Office in 1950, Annis became postmistress, taking over the role from her sister-in-law, Bessie Gill. She planned to do it temporarily but ended up running the Post Office for almost 50 years, finally retiring at the age of 87. Meanwhile Eileen took over Litton Hall in the 1970s and established it as a popular Bed and Breakfast.

After leaving Arncliffe School at 14, Allan worked on his uncle's farm in Litton, before signing up for National Service in 1956. He served for two years in the Royal Artillery and travelled extensively, with posts in Malta, Cyprus and Jordan. On his return to Arncliffe, Allan worked at Threshfield Quarry, where he would remain until it closed in

2000. In 1971, Allan married Jennifer Jones, granddaughter of another Dales gamekeeper, Billy Lund. The couple lived in Skipton, then Embsay, where they raised their three children Alex, William and Katrina.

Throughout his life, Allan's ties to Littondale remained strong - he captained Littondale cricket team and later became chairman of the club, continuing to umpire games after he retired from playing. He also helped his cousin John Gill, who farmed at Carr Farm in Arncliffe, each year during hay time.

In 2002 Allan and Jennifer moved to Giggleswick. Allan enjoyed his retirement, joining Settle Angling Club and spending time bird watching and hill walking.

He also took up cycling and would often embark upon 20-mile bike rides through the Dales when he was well into his 70s. Allan took great pleasure in spending time with his children and grandchildren and was at his happiest during family gatherings. Following one such gathering at High Rylands in Arncliffe to celebrate Allan's 70th birthday in 2007, the wider





Allan (centre), with John Gill (left) and Keith White (right), at Kilnsey Show, late 1950s



Allan outside High Green Cottage in Arncliffe (Prospect House in the background), late 1940s

family began a tradition of returning there each year for a reunion weekend.

Although diagnosed with dementia in early 2018, Allan was still able to do the things he loved until late 2019. He leaves

behind his wife Jennifer, three children and six grandchildren.

Allan's ashes will be interred this month (July) in Arncliffe churchyard, alongside his parents.

A Country Diary: August

August is the time of year when the lanes in the dale display their last showy blooms of summer with meadowsweet, meadow cranesbill, lady's bedstraw, harebells and field scabious, amongst many others, rising up with an explosion of colour amongst the now long and untidy grasses. The grasses themselves start to take on pink and red hues under the hot sun, a prelude to some of the autumn shades we will start to see as the year turns.



Bumblebees are plentiful and visible at this time of year as they take advantage of the available pollen. In Britain there are over 200 species of bee, the majority of which belong to the solitary bees group. The Bumblebee Conservation Trust have a comprehensive guide to all the different species and ways to record them, along with useful tips on what plants to cultivate in our gardens to help halt their widespread decline.

Late summer also sees a wide range of butterflies (most of them seem to be dining out on my veg patch!) and if you're

interested in identifying which species are visiting your garden, the Big Butterfly Count, runs until Sunday 8th August and more information can be found on their website: www.bigbutterflycount.org August is also a time of departures as we



see our beloved curlews finish their breeding season and begin to head back to milder coastal fringes. The absence of their wonderful haunting call that cascades over the landscape from late February onwards leaves a gentle void in the life of the dale in the same way that their arrival heralds a joyful turning of the year towards the light. I hope it has been a successful breeding season for them, and we look forward to their return.

Rebecca Ward-Dooley



Homage to the Curlew by Kitty Ward-Dooley

Reflection: Familiarity breeds contempt

A prophet is never honoured in his own country (Mark 6. 1-5)

Homecoming was something I always looked forward to when the end of term at boarding school approached. I always received a warm welcome as I was treated like royalty. Father, who had no interest in sport would have obtained tickets for the test at Old Trafford or at Headingley. Mother meanwhile would produce my favourite meal, sausages, beans and chips.

This indulgence did not last long. I would be sent to have my hair cut. A tour of aged relatives would follow who, apart from commenting that I had grown, showed no interest in me whatsoever. The next three weeks would be spent improving my table manners which had been geared to eat as much as possible as quickly as possible.

Home should be where we feel safe, loved, appreciated and valued, not just in our family circle but in the community where we are known directly or through family connections. I've always been extremely fortunate.

Jesus had lived and worked in Nazareth for thirty years. In the community he would have been valued and respected as a jack of all trades in the building industry, someone who could build a house or mend a gate. He had skills and knowledge which those of us not so blessed really appreciate. I always enjoyed making things as a boy, usually models... aircraft which did not fly, boats

which sank and a submarine which stubbornly floated.

So Jesus, valued in the community for his experience and his expertise in his trades, comes home not to pick up his tools to return to his trade, not to visit his family and friends (of whom there were many) but as a rabbi, a teacher – and, like all travelling rabbis in those days, surrounded by a group of disciples.

The locals were baffled. How could this artisan who they had known for years have changed into this erudite exponent of the law, and, if you were to believe the rumours, a physician as well. Ridiculous.

This attitude put Jesus to the severest of tests. This was the opposite of the home advantage at sport. Instead of being supported and applauded for his work they scoffed in patronising surprise. His teaching in the synagogues was viewed not with wonder but with contempt. They were scandalised by what they saw and heard, having regard to his background. Familiarity had bred a mistaken contempt.

So why in Nazareth, despite his amazing success in other towns and villages in the area did they not listen to him?

They couldn't get their heads around the idea that an 'ordinary' worker had become a celebrity. Ordinary is still an adjective used in a derogatory sense, but not as much as when I was a lad: "What's his new girlfriend/boyfriend like?"



“Ordinary” would be the reply. “You mean he or she has only got one head”, I would reply. “Comes from an ordinary family” ... “You mean not a member of the peerage”.

We are often surprised at the way people turn out after ‘ordinary’ starts. This should delight us, not cause resentment, bitterness or envy based on prejudice.

Then there was the family background: they were ‘ordinary’ so how could he be special? His critics knew his mother, brothers, sisters and presumably his father Joseph before he died. The people of Nazareth despised Jesus because of his family.

In this poisonous atmosphere Jesus’ mission was a failure - although we do learn that a few sick people were healed.

When our plans go sadly awry, we can console ourselves that Jesus experienced this aspect of his and our humanity. He understands when we Christians face rejection, indifference and condescension. He couldn’t change people who didn’t want to change. He couldn’t heal people who didn’t want to

be healed. Preaching has no effect in the wrong atmosphere. Peace-making cannot take place in the wrong atmosphere, whether it is world leaders simply going through the motions or in family situations where deep-seated grudges remain deep-seated.

In the *right* atmosphere miracles can and do take place. Like the people of Nazareth, we can help or hinder the work of Jesus. We can open the door wide to him (often very difficult) or we can slam it in his face (often the easy option).

Jesus’ earthly life was short, his ministry exceptionally so. Three years: hardly time to settle down to the job and do it justice. Yet the people of Nazareth had a window of opportunity to welcome, appreciate and be changed by this brief appearance of Jesus in their midst. In modern parlance they blew it. Familiarity had bred contempt. The prophet was not welcome in his own country. Prejudice had won the day.

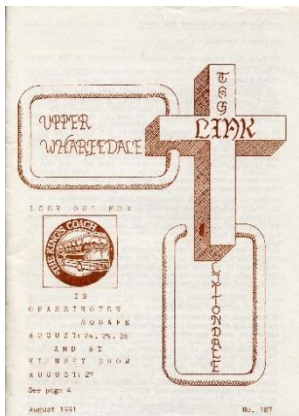
It still does in many circumstances, but we pray it is excluded from our lives as we try to follow our Lord.

Bill Murfitt, Kettlewell Church, 4 July

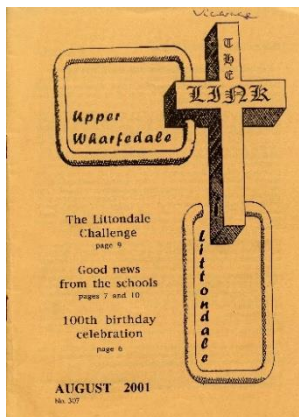


'Wharfedale - meeting of the waters' by Alison Woods, Buckden Art Group

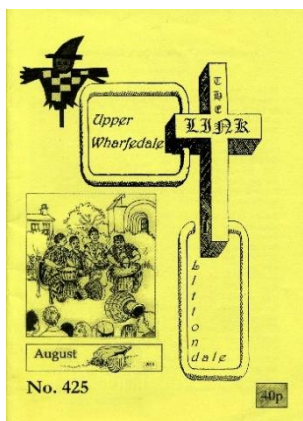
Links to the Past



Henry Heaton retired as editor of the Link after 10 years in the post, having originally agreed to take it on a temporary basis! But the main news in the August 1991 Link was the story of ‘McKenzie’s Odyssey’. *‘A frightened ‘Mayday’ call on the yacht’s transceiver was Arncliffe Fell Runner Michael McKenzie’s initiation into sailing. It was from a fellow competitor in the Karrimor Three Peaks Yacht Race, whose boat was breaking up on the rocks in the rush to be first into Caernarfon harbour. They were rescued! Michael, together with Roger Gibson, were in the five-man crew of ‘Quicksilver’, finishing 12th out of the 17 boats in the race.*



The August 2001 Link reported that the annual Littondale fete had been cancelled due to the ongoing Foot and Mouth epidemic. Nevertheless, the Littondale Challenge – the 4-mile road race, held for the first time in 2000, was still planned, but for local participants from the parishes. It was planned as a handicap; *‘the slower, less experienced entrants starting first, and people having talent, like Mick Hawkins, on scratch, going last.’* (And he did run the quickest race with a time of 20 mins 51 seconds, though Fiona Groves of Litton won the trophy with a time of 33 mins 12 secs).



Our schools were in the news in August 2011, as the Link announced the *‘great victory to remove the threat of closure from Kettlewell school’* but at the same time, reported that it was impossible to keep Arncliffe school open, and it would close that summer. Various events were to be held to give thanks for the school over the weekend of 13/14 August, concluding with a service of thanksgiving in Amerdale Hall on the 14th. The Link also included a letter of thanks from Diana Smith, who was leaving Kettlewell School after 20 years - she took the opportunity to give special recognition to the former head, Chris Taylor.

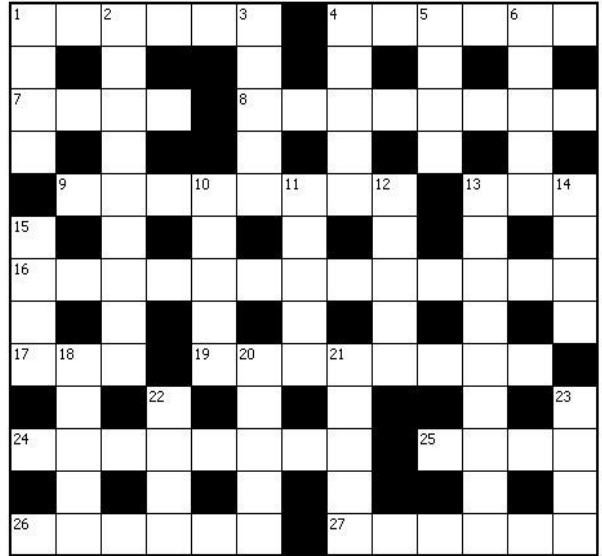
Crossword

Across

- 1 Of Moses (6)
 4 'You have been weighed on the — and found wanting' (Daniel 5:27) (6)
 7 Where Jesus performed the first of his miraculous signs (John 2:11) (4)
 8 Roman emperor who ordered all the Jews to leave Rome (Acts 18:2) (8)
 9 Member of a conservative Jewish party in the Sanhedrin which believed there was no resurrection (Acts 23:8) (8)
 13 South London Mission (1,1,1)
 16 Sure of one's own ability (2 Corinthians 11:17) (4-9)
 17 'At this the man's face fell. He went away —, because he had great wealth' (Mark 10:22) (3)
 19 Airs used (anag.) (8)
 24 'The Lord is my —, I shall not be in want' (Psalm 23:1) (8)
 25 'He has sent me to — up the broken-hearted' (Isaiah 61:1) (4)
 26 At or towards the rear of a ship (6)
 27 Cross-carrying evangelist and world traveller, — Blessitt (6)

Down

- 1 Ridicule (Luke 18:32) (4)
 2 Encased in strapped-on light shoes (Song of Songs 7:1) (9)
 3 Cambridge Inter-Collegiate Christian Union (1,1,1,1,1)
 4 'Father, give me my — of your estate' (Luke 15:12) (5)
 5 Assistant (4)
 6 On a par (John 5:18) (5)
 10 Credo (anag.) (5)



- 11 Beaten with a rod (5)
 12 The fourth of Job's 'comforters', who deferred making his contribution because of his junior status (Job 32:6) (5)
 13 Chosen as a temple attendant, he was described by Ezra as 'a capable man' (Ezra 8:18) (9)
 14 'Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where — and rust destroy' (Matthew 6:19) (4)
 15 Employs (4)
 18 Associated with penitence for sins, along with sackcloth (Matthew 11:21) (5)
 20 Association of South-East Asian Nations (1,1,1,1,1)
 21 Sub-continent to which Baptist missionary pioneer William Carey devoted his life (5)
 22 Recess at east end of a church (4)
 23 One of the nine sons of Beriah (1 Chronicles 8:15) (4)

Solution on next page!





Answers to Crossword

ACROSS: 1 Mosaic; 4 Scales; 7 Cana; 8 Claudius; 9 Sadducee; 13 SLM; 16 Self-confident; 17 Sad; 19 Radiuses; 24 Shepherd; 25 Bind; 26 Astern; 27 Arthur

DOWN: 1 Mock; 2 Sandalled; 3 CICCUC; 4 Share; 5 Aide; 6 Equal; 10 Décor; 11 Caned; 12 Elihu; 13 Sherebiah; 14 Moth; 15 Uses; 18 Ashes; 20 ASEAN; 21 India; 22 Apse; 23 Eder

The Link

The **Link** is the magazine and noticeboard for the Parish of Upper Wharfedale and Littondale, sharing news, reports and items of interest from the churches and our community. If you have something to contribute, please email it to your local correspondent or to the editor by the 20th of the month.

-  Editor: Ian Smith - smithiwho@gmail.com
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-  Conistone & Kilnsey: Kathryn & Philip Butterfield - philip.butterfield@talk21.com
-  Kettlewell: David Nelson - DavidNelsondave@aol.com

The Link is distributed free to every household in the parish, and also available on the Parish website at <https://www.upperwharfedalechurches.org/news-and-views.html>

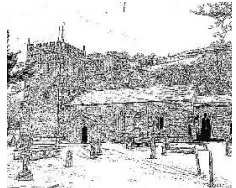
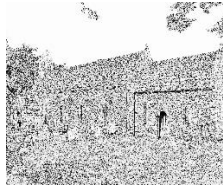
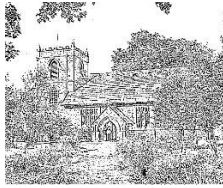
If you would like to receive a copy of the Link by email, please contact the Editor at smithiwho@gmail.com

The Link is financed by advertising from local businesses, and gifts. If you would like to make a gift towards the publication of the Link, you can do so through the Parish website at www.upperwharfedalechurches.org

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-  **Methodist Minister:** Revd Andrew Webb – 01756 691057
-  **Roman Catholic Priest:** Mgr Andrew Summersgill -01756 793000
-  **Congregational Minister:** The Revd Peter Thomas – 01756 753848
-  **The Parish Administrator:** Andrew Hitchon – 01756 380237

Church Services



Due to uncertainty over our service rotas at present we are not yet able to provide the full list of services for the coming month. in the Link. Please check the posters at our churches for details of forthcoming services and also the What's

On section of our website. You can also listen to our online services, prepared by members of our church communities, by going to the Home Page of our website www.upperwharfedalechurches.org

Community Events

The following events have been announced, however, please confirm with the organisers, as the situation may change.

Date	Event
Wed 4 August	North Yorkshire Mobile Library at Buckden, 10-12.00 am
Fri 13 August	Dr Andrew Jackson memorial event at Grassington Town Hall at 7 pm. Tickets from the Hub (01756 75222).
14 August	Littondale Fete, Arncliffe
18 August	North Yorkshire Mobile Library at Kettlewell, 10-12.00 am
18 August	Wharfedale Support Group Garden Party for Manorlands Hospice. Tickets £7.50, call June (753139) or Graham (760337)
31 August	Kilnsey Show
9 September	Buckden Singers meet (Buckden Institute or Zoom - TBC)
25 September to 2 October	Grassington Players present 'Calendar Girls; The Musical' at Grassington Devonshire Institute