



# WASHBURN & MID-WHARFE CHURCHES MAGAZINE



D E C E M B E R 2 0 2 3 ~ I S S U E 4 7 0



50p

## Washburn & Mid-Wharfe United Benefice

Farnley, Fewston with Blubberhouses,  
Leathley and Weston with Denton.

### Priest-in-Charge

Rev'd Teresa McLaughlin  
Tel: 01943 818113  
Email: [Rev.McLaughlinT@outlook.com](mailto:Rev.McLaughlinT@outlook.com)

### Honorary Assistant Clergy

The Rev'd Stewart Hartley  
Tel: 01943 464106  
Email: [sr.hartley47@gmail.com](mailto:sr.hartley47@gmail.com)

The Rev'd Barry Miller  
Tel: 01943 467641

The Rev'd Terry Drummond  
01943 512208 Email:  
[terry.drummond@hotmail.com](mailto:terry.drummond@hotmail.com)

### Licensed Lay Ministers

John Charman, - Tel: 01943 466712

Fran Dale Tel: 01943 463020 email:  
[fed.curlew@googlemail.com](mailto:fed.curlew@googlemail.com)

Paul McLaughlin  
Email [pmc1617@gmail.com](mailto:pmc1617@gmail.com)

### Churchwardens

Blubberhouses & Fewston:  
Pat Anderson, Tel: 01943 880284

Denton  
Ann Chadwick  
01943 600 604.

Farnley:  
Peter Goodwin  
Tel: 01943 969953

Leathley:  
Terry Bramall CBE  
Tel: 07802 877799

& Liz Webster 01943 468376

Weston: Ann Chadwick  
01943 600 604.

## Methodist Ministers

Rev Shannon DeLaurel  
01943 430345  
[Shannon.delaurel@methodist.org.uk](mailto:Shannon.delaurel@methodist.org.uk)

Rev Tim Perkins  
01943 864187  
[Rev.tim.perkins@btinternet.com](mailto:Rev.tim.perkins@btinternet.com)

Norwood Retreat Centre  
Norwood, Otley LS21 2RA,  
Tel: 0748 415 4032  
[norwoodretreatcentre@gmail.com](mailto:norwoodretreatcentre@gmail.com)  
Methodist Chapels are in the circuit of  
Wharfedale & Aireborough

### Websites:

Saint Oswald's Church, Leathley  
[www.leathleychurch.org](http://www.leathleychurch.org)

All Saints Church, Farnley  
[www.farnleyallsaints.org](http://www.farnleyallsaints.org)

Fewston with Blubberhouses  
[www.fewstonwithblubberhouses.org.uk](http://www.fewstonwithblubberhouses.org.uk)

All Saints Church Weston  
[www.westonchurch.wordpress.com](http://www.westonchurch.wordpress.com)

Benefice web site  
<https://washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk>

Norwood Retreat Centre  
[www.yorkshirewestmethodist.org.uk/  
people-places/norwood-retreat-centre](http://www.yorkshirewestmethodist.org.uk/people-places/norwood-retreat-centre)

### Benefice Administrator

Anna Bowman  
[admin@washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk](mailto:admin@washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk)  
Telephone: 07523 798338  
please note the role is part time so I will reply to  
your email or return telephone calls as soon as I  
am able too. Usual work afternoon - Wednesday

### Front cover

Cover image: Christmas Tree Festival at  
St Andrew's Church Blubberhouses.

Credit: Anna Bowman



## Village Church Services December 2023



Please check on [www.achurchnearyou.com](http://www.achurchnearyou.com) for up to date information.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> December

9.30am Weston  
11am Fewston  
9.30am Leathley

### 10<sup>th</sup> December

11 am Denton  
11 am Fewston  
3pm Farnley

### 17<sup>th</sup> December

9.30am Weston  
11am Blubberhouses  
6.30 pm Leathley

### 22<sup>nd</sup> December

7pm Fewston

### 24<sup>th</sup> December

3pm Denton  
2.30pm Fewston  
9.30 am Farnley

### 25<sup>th</sup> December

9.30am Blubberhouses  
9.30am Leathley  
9.30 am Denton

### 31<sup>st</sup> December Christmas 1

9.30 am Farnley

### 7<sup>th</sup> January

9.30  
9.30  
11am

### Advent Sunday

Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer) (JC)  
Holy Communion (TMc)  
Holy Communion (SH)

### Advent 2

Holy Communion (TMc)  
Family service - (PMc)  
Christingle Service (FD)



### Advent 3

Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) (TMc)  
Family Service (FS)  
9 Lessons and Carols (TMc)

### Friday

9 Lessons and Carols (TMc)

### Christmas Eve (Advent 4)

Carol Service (PMc)  
Journey to Bethlehem (TMc)  
Holy Communion (TMc)

### Christmas Day

Family Service (FS)  
Holy Communion (BM)  
Holy Communion (TMc)

United Benefice Service Holy Communion (CL)

### Christmas 2

Morning Prayer BCP (TD)  
Holy Communion (SH)  
Holy Communion (TMc)

## Services at Norwood Methodist Chapel 2023 and 2024



10<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm Advent Service ,  
taken by Rev Shannon  
with seasonal refreshments



14<sup>th</sup> January Rev Shannon DeLaurel - Covenant and Holy Communion  
28<sup>th</sup> January Rev Roberta Topham  
11<sup>th</sup> February Rev Cameron Stirk  
25<sup>th</sup> February Mrs Viv Pitts

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## The View from the Vicarage



Life is good when we all get on with each other and there are no arguments, no falling out, no misunderstandings, no disagreements. It is good but, how often is life really like that? Too often we want our own way and can symbolically stamp our feet and metaphorically "throw our toys out of the pram". In society today, it is all about what the individual wants, "my right" "my way" - not looking at the wider picture but focusing on a belief in oneself rather than trust in another.

At this time of the year, we are reminded of the incredible humility and example of obedience that we are shown in Mary; no tantrums, no arguments, just acceptance and trust, in God.

Advent as we all know, is a time of preparation, a time of waiting. We all know that the day will come for celebration, a day full of laughter and gifts and dare I say, yes, even feasting! A great opportunity to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Of course, when the King of Kings was born, there were no paparazzi waiting outside the hospital for the first glimpse of the baby; only humble shepherds who would later be followed by wise men.

Before we get to that wonderful day, Advent is a time of reflection; whilst we are busy singing carols and already heralding the birth of Christ, we can so easily miss this special time. A time of waiting, taking time out of our busy schedules, so that we can spend a little time if at all possible, sitting in quietness, simply meditating on those things that are vital in the life of every Christian. As we use this time of preparation, before we celebrate the birth of our Saviour, there is that word that gives such meaning to our faith: "Hope". We wait; for our hope is truly in the Lord: for us and for all people.

When Christmas does arrive, may there be real joy in your home and may you and your family have a Holy and Blessed Christmas.

Blessings  
Teresa

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# News from Norwood Chapel

## Christmas Message 2023

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that once again, the Advent season is here, and Christmas Day will be right around the corner. Once again, the Church is preparing to celebrate the birth of Christ, the son of God. Over two thousand years ago this seemingly ordinary birth changed the world in extraordinary ways. Jesus' life, ministry, death and resurrection re-shaped humanity's understanding of God's love and relationship with humankind. The nearness of God as revealed in Jesus and the power of divine love could heal the brokenness of the world and transform lives.

The Methodist Church's Christmas campaign this year is called "Out of the Ordinary." The focus will be discovering the extraordinary being hidden in the ordinary. There is an ordinary element in all our lives, whether it's the practical chores we do around the house or the everyday "stuff" we do for others . . . collecting the grandchildren from school, making teas and coffees at church gatherings, and etc. However, if we look a little closer with our "Advent" eyes, seeing God in the midst of the ordinary, we might discover the kindness of others or the joy expressed by those we help, that reveal a glimpse of God's goodness.

Have a look at the words of the Christmas Carol, "O Little Town of Bethlehem." Here are three lines of this carol to reflect on:

***So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven.***

Where do you see the divine reflected in you and in others?

*Yet in thy dark street shineth the everlasting light . . .*

Where do you notice the divine shining back at you within your community?

*Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.*

Look at the world around you. Where do you see glimmers of the divine?

This Christmas season, may we all discover the richness and the treasures of God being with us in the ordinary aspects of our lives. May this discovery fill our hearts with joy and may we share with others that God continuously answers the carol's prayer: "O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!"

You are invited to join us for worship in Norwood Methodist Chapel for our Carol Service on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 2:30pm. Refreshments will follow. May you and those you love have a meaningful and hope-filled Christmas!

With Christ's love,  
~ Rev. Shannon



# Community Notice Board

## A message from Daphne Baxter

Just to say thank you to all my special friends for their care and support and help when I had my accident. I am feeling much better now for all your support and appreciate all your help and prayers.

Thank you.  
Daphne Baxter

## Christmas 2022 magazine!

Yes we do thank you to Suzanna from Denton we have a copy to send to Jeff.

Thank you to everyone for looking

## Happy Christmas to all our Readers From the Magazine Team

**Fewston Parochial Hall**  
wish everyone a merry Christmas  
and happy new year

No charity teas in December!

The next charity teas are  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

All proceeds to Dementia U.K.



## From the Registers

### Wedding

11<sup>th</sup> November

Harriet Kaye & Jack Goulston at St Oswald Church  
Leathley

# Community Notice Board



## Denton Flower and Cleaning Rota for December

3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> December - Helen  
Cobley  
17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> December - Karen  
Boothman  
31<sup>st</sup> December & 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
- Hilary Crawford



T&T  
Happy Christmas



No meeting in December but see you  
all on 9th January ( a week later than  
normal)  
Happy Christmas!

T&T meets at Norwood Social Hall and  
is for the over 60s.  
It is only £2 per person.  
If you want to hear more about T&T,  
give Gillian a ring on 880362

I have always got time for T&T!

## Fewston Foxy Ladies Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch for members on  
Tuesday 12th December 12 for 12.30 at  
The Sun Inn! Make sure that you've  
picked your choices from the menu!

If you want any more info, give  
Gillian a ring on 01943 880362; Mary  
01943 464507; Sheila 01943 468741;  
Joan 01943 466789; or Margaret 01423  
806151 See you there!,

## Weston Flower and Cleaning Rota for December and New Year

3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> December Tom & Ruth  
Raper  
17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> December Sally Stanley,  
Hazel Pullan and **any volunteers**  
31<sup>st</sup> December & 7<sup>th</sup> January  
Stephen & Marlene Turnbull  
14<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> January Mr & Mrs Senior  
28<sup>th</sup> January & 4<sup>th</sup> February  
Mrs J Cowgill  
11<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> February Mrs H Pullan



## ST MICHAEL AND ST LAW- RENCE CHURCH, FEWSTON ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, BLUBBERHOUSES CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2023

Sunday, 17 December  
Blubberhouses, 11.00am,  
Family Service

Friday, 22 December  
Fewston, 7.00pm  
Nine Lessons and Carols  
by candlelight

Journey to Bethlehem  
Sunday, 24 December  
Fewston, 2.30 pm

Christmas Day  
Family Service  
Blubberhouses,  
9.30 am



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## A Washburn Christmas

At the Washburn Heritage Center

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December And Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December From 11am Until  
4pm Free admission

Pop along to our Christmas Kitchen!

Don't miss out on our delicious homemade goodies, all prepared by  
our volunteers. The treats on sale will include seasonal spirits, liqueurs,  
cakes and bakes, Christmas jams and chutneys and, of course, our  
famous mince pies. Start the seasonal festivities with a glass of mulled  
wine while you listen to our very own carol singers,  
The Fewston Musick.

The Tea Room will be serving seasonal sandwiches and mince pies, so  
bring along your friends and family and enjoy the atmosphere. Stalls  
will be located in the lobby and in the Centre. .

## Christmas Fair

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December  
10am – 1pm

## St Helen's Church, Denton

Books, Cakes, Gifts and Plants  
Tea, Coffee, Hot Chocolate and  
Mince Pies  
All welcome

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ST ANDREW'S, BLUBBERHOUSES  
LS21 2NU

## TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS & CHRISTMASTREE FESTIVAL

Saturday 2<sup>ND</sup> & Sunday 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER  
Saturday 9<sup>TH</sup> & Sunday 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

11.00 TO 4.00PM EACH DAY

**FREE ENTRANCE**

**REFRESHMENTS**

TEA, COFFEE OR MULLED WINE WITH  
MINCE PIES

ALL OUR WELCOME!

Farnley Estate Young Farmers Club  
in aid of Macmillan cancer support

### Christmas Market

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 10.30am – 2pm  
Armsliffe Hall Hubby

**Please bring Cash**

(as none of the stall holders will take card payment)

Bacon or sausage sandwiches, Cake, chocolate and  
jam stall. Christmas Gifts, including art and  
handmade children's cloths, jewellery and lots more

**Tombola**

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## FEWSTON AND BLUBBERHOUSES CHURCHES

### CAROL SINGING 2023

*After singing, supper provided too*

It's that time again and we would love you to join us carol singing around  
the valley, whether you're a regular or first timer – you are all very  
welcome. Here are the dates and areas where we will be singing:

**Monday 4th December - Timble**

**Wednesday 6th December – Norwood**

**Monday 11th December – Blubberhouses**

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December - Fewston**

Each evening we will meet at 6.30pm at  
Fewston Parochial Hall and car share from there, bring a torch and hi-viz if  
possible. Thank you

Contact Alison Bowers for further details or your intention to join us.  
Mob 07752431886 or [alibowers5@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:alibowers5@yahoo.co.uk)

## Hampsthwaite Memorial Hall

### Christmas Shopping

Lovingly made in the Dales  
Supporting Artists and Makers in the Dales

**Thursday 7th December 6 - 9pm.**

Adult Tickets £10, including a glass of wine, nibbles  
and a "good raffle ticket"  
All in aid of the Roddy Scott Foundation

Tickets available from Sophie's Corner shop in Hampsthwaite

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## Norwood Social Hall

### Christmas Jumper Domino Drive- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

7pm for a 7.15 start

Pie & Pea supper

15 & under £3

16 & over £6

Come & join the fun!

## Leathley Village Hall and St Oswald's Church

### Christmas Fair

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Treat yourself to a glass of mulled wine!  
Wide range of stalls in the Village Hall and Church.

**A Raffle! and Home-made Refreshments**  
In aid of  
**Leathley Parish Rooms.**

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## Leathley Parish Room Festive Friday Supper

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
7:00 pm

Glass of fizz and canapes on arrival  
2 course meal (not a turkey dinner)  
followed by tea or coffee (no mince pies)  
**£15 each**

If you wish to join us, please let me know by  
**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December**

Please inform me if you have any food allergies or would like a  
vegetarian meal

Paul Howarth: [pandsandrahowarthotley@gmail.com](mailto:pandsandrahowarthotley@gmail.com)  
01943465076

## Christmas Book Stall

(or until they are all sold)

In aid of Cure Parkinson's

A wide variety of second hand books available both  
none fiction and fiction.

Most books are £1 unless priced otherwise.  
The shop is always open with an honesty box.

Location: Redshaw Hall, Hall Lane/West End Lane West End.  
Please email Anna Bowman on [magazine@washburnmidwharfedebenefice.org.uk](mailto:magazine@washburnmidwharfedebenefice.org.uk) if  
you would like directions or more information on the range of books  
available.



Please open the gate and turn in the front yard. The  
shop is in the porch is located through the double front  
doors.



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## St Michael and St Lawrence Church Fewston

Sunday, 24th December at 2.30 pm  
'JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM'



Come and join in our Nativity Story. With carols, readings and Molly the donkey. Children, please come as an angel, shepherd, king, Mary or Joseph or one of the animals in the stable that first Christmas. Or join in without dressing up. Parents & Friends, please bring children to the Washburn Heritage Centre at 1.30 pm if you wish to use our costumes.

Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the Washburn Heritage Centre.

## Norwood Social Hall

### Children's Christmas Disco

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> December

Dancing to Party Mania

£8 per child includes Pizza and drink  
Tuck shop (cash only)

For more information see our Facebook page.  
To book tickets email [norwoodshow@hotmail.com](mailto:norwoodshow@hotmail.com)  
or text Laura 07534 801225  
or Helen 07807 483690

Email : [magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk](mailto:magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk)



## Farnley Estate Young Farmers Club



The 4<sup>th</sup> of October was the Fashion show at Almscliffe Hall which was a great fundraiser for the club and we had a good turnout.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of October we had breeding sheep judging kindly hosted by Mr and Mrs Ryder at Blubberhouses. Results were:  
1<sup>st</sup> Jack Keighley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lily Hughes, 3<sup>rd</sup> Izzy Bush, Emily Dibb, 5<sup>th</sup> Isaac and Brooke Ryder and 6<sup>th</sup> Sophie Dibb – Juniors 1<sup>st</sup> Billie Towers, 2<sup>nd</sup> James Driffield, 3<sup>rd</sup> Charlotte Towers – Seniors

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of October there was the County Quiz which was a lovely night and everyone had a lot of fun with our team coming 1<sup>st</sup>.

On the 18<sup>th</sup> we had the EGM and the games evening where new officers were elected then followed by various games which were enjoyed by all.

Then on the 22<sup>nd</sup> we had District Sports which was a successful day with our junior rounders team coming 2<sup>nd</sup>.

The 25<sup>th</sup> October was pumpkin carving and we had a lot of imaginative designs and prizes were given out to the most creative pumpkins.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> was county live and carcass over in Halifax. Junior lambs – 1<sup>st</sup> was Jack Keighley Senior lambs live and carcass – 1<sup>st</sup> James Driffield. Well done to everyone who competed.

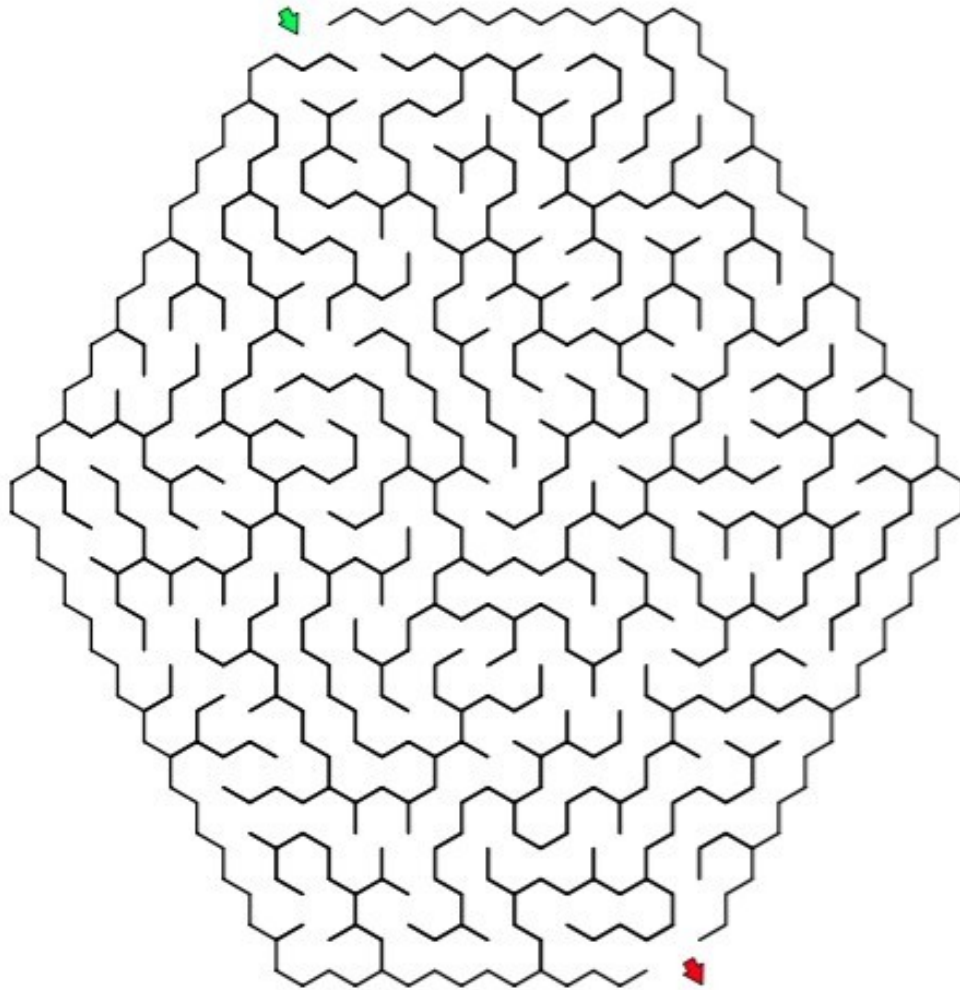
You don't have to be a farmer to be a part of Young Farmer's so if you're aged between 10 and 28 and are interested in joining please contact Christine Morphet on 07851 658245. Lily Hughes



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# CHRISTMAS

Story, puzzles and colouring-in

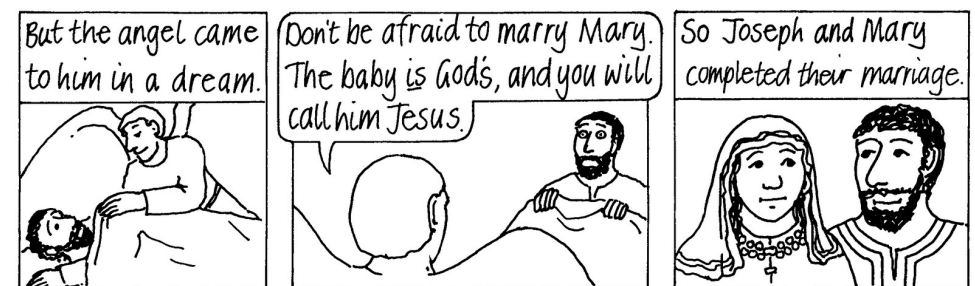


## Bible Bite

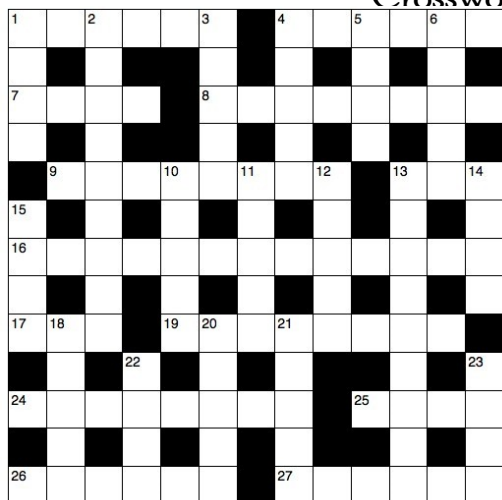
A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in  
Luke 1:26-56 & Matthew 1:18-25

In Israel, about 2000 years ago, a young woman, Mary, was going to marry Joseph. The weddings were in two stages.



## Crossword Puzzle



### Across

1 Rely (Psalm 62:7) (6)

4 'He stretches out the heavens like a —, and spreads them out like a tent to live in' (Isaiah 40:22) (6)

7 What the dove carried the olive leaf in, when it returned to Noah's ark (Genesis 8:11) (4)

8 Annoy (1 Samuel 1:6) (8)

9 Judah's last king, who ended his days as a blind prisoner in Babylon (Jeremiah 52:11) (8)

13 'They all — and were satisfied' (Luke 9:17) (3)

16 Eliphaz the Temanite was one; so was Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite (Job 2:11; 16:2) (4,9)

17 National Association of Evangelicals (of the USA) (1,1,1)

19 Popular song for New Year's Eve, Auld — — (4,4)

24 Able dock (anagram.) (8)

25 The number of stones David chose for his confrontation with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (4)

26 Elgar's best-known 'Variations' (6)

27 Soak (Isaiah 16:9) (6)

### Down

1. Money owing (Deuteronomy 15:3) (4)

2 Conciliatory (Titus 3:2) (9)

3 'Do this, whenever you — it, in re-membrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (5)

4 A group assisting in the governance of the Roman Catholic Church (5)

5 One of the gifts Joseph's brothers took with them on their second journey to Egypt (Genesis 43:11) (4)

6 'Reach out your hand and — — into my side. Stop doubting and believe' (John 20:27) (3,2)

10 Be outstandingly good (2 Corinthians 8:7) (5)

11 'What — — that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' (Psalm 8:4) (2,3)

12 Horse's feet (Judges 5:22) (5)

13 Notice (Deuteronomy 17:4) (9)

14 Comes between 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah (4)

15 One of Israel's northern towns conquered by Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) (4)

18 Narnia's Lion (5)

20 One of the two rivers in which Naaman would have preferred to wash (2 Kings 5:12) (5)

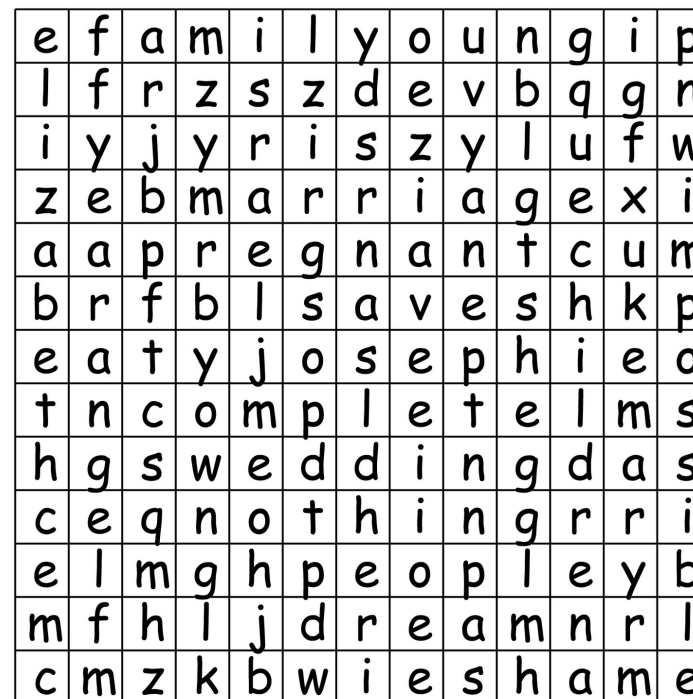
21 Avarice—one of the evils that come from inside people (Mark 7:22) (5)

22 Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George (1,1,1,1)

23 Jacob's first wife (Genesis 29:23) (4)

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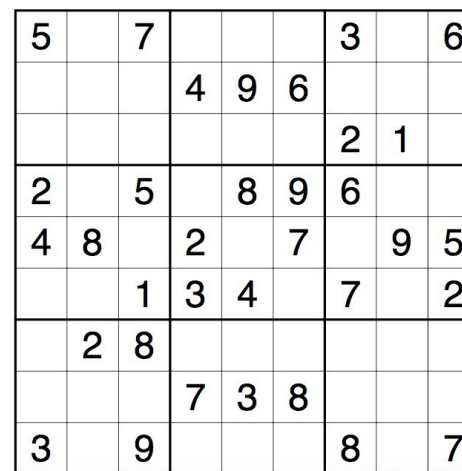
## Word Search



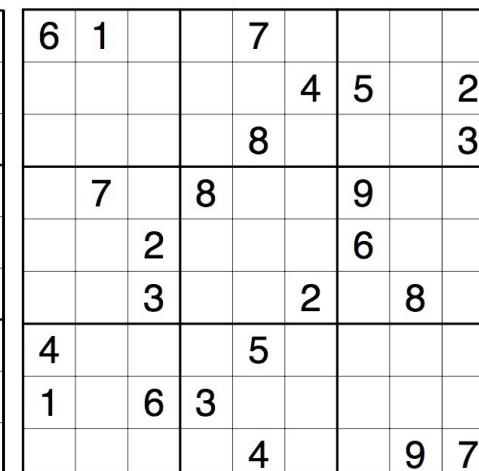
Silent  
Night  
Loved  
Carol  
Austria  
First  
Sung  
Stille  
Nacht  
Heilige  
Christmas  
Eve  
Father  
Joseph  
Mohr  
Young  
Priest  
Organist  
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Third



## Sudoku

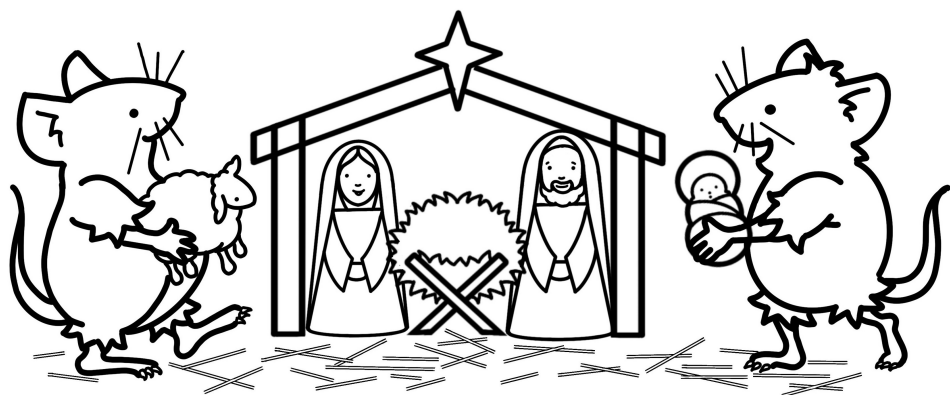
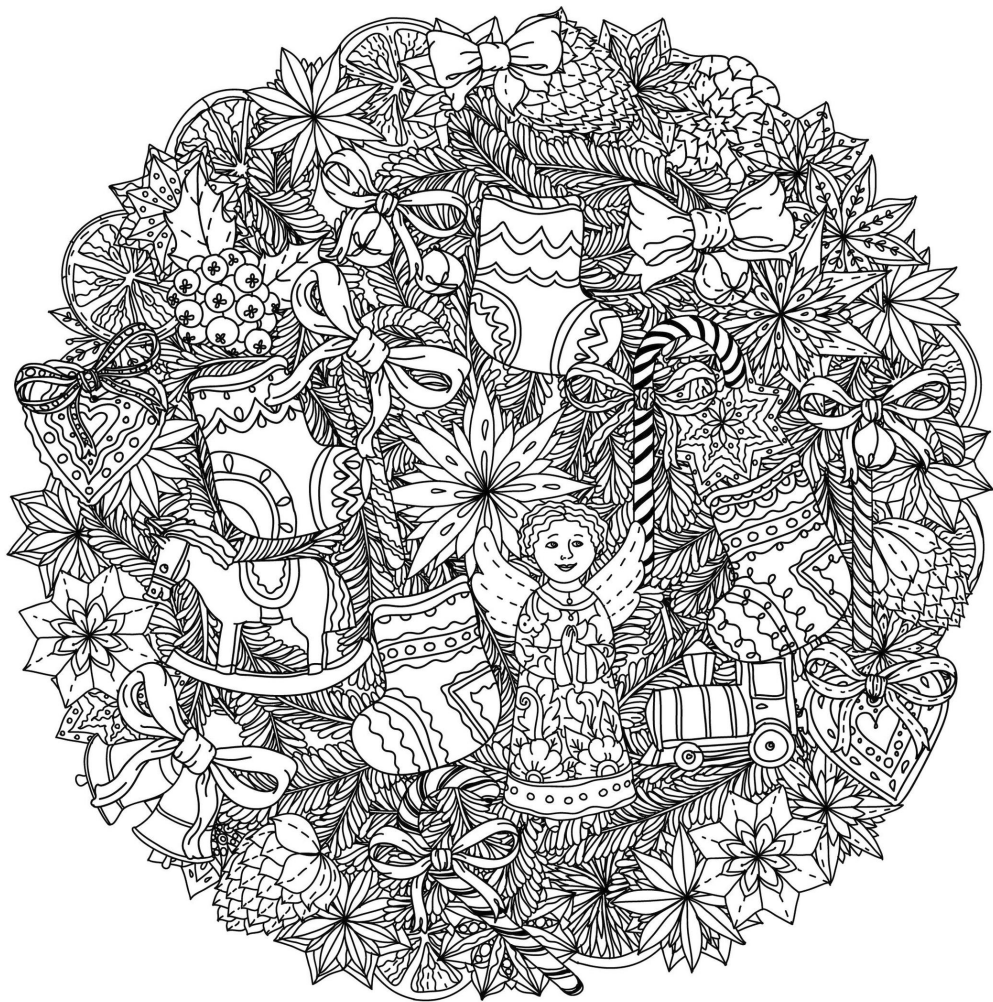


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# The Big Bash!



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ONE STORY WAS ABOUT A RICH MAN WHO DECIDED TO HAVE A PARTY

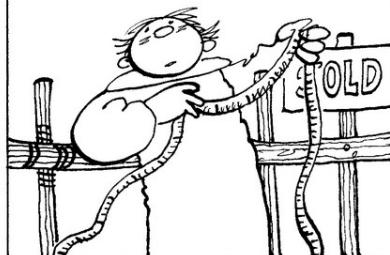


HE SENT OUT LOTS OF INVITATIONS



BUT PEOPLE STARTED MAKING EXCUSES

ONE MAN SAID HE HAD BOUGHT A FIELD, BUT NEEDED TO MEASURE IT



ANOTHER MAN SAID HE NEEDED TO TEST DRIVE THE OXEN HE HAS JUST PAID FOR



ANOTHER MAN SAID HE HAD JUST GOT MARRIED - AND HIS WIFE WOULDN'T LET HIM OUT!

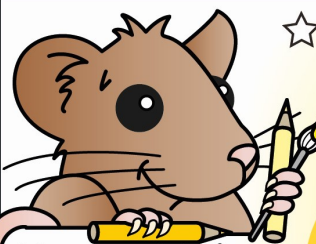
SO THE RICH MAN INVITED ALL THE POOR AND NEEDY INSTEAD.



YES - I CAN COME TO YOUR PARTY

THE PARABLE MEANS WE SHOULDN'T MAKE EXCUSES FOR NOT FOLLOWING JESUS.

Email : [magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk](mailto:magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk)



Mouse Makes

ADVENT comes from the Latin 'AD VENTO' which means ARRIVAL

In Advent we celebrate Jesus' birth and look forward to the time when Jesus will come again.

GOD'S PROMISE

Isaiah 9:6-7

CHILD • BORN • SON  
GIVEN • WONDERFUL  
COUNSELLOR  
MIGHTY • GOD  
EVERLASTING  
FATHER • PRINCE  
PEACE • LORD

AN ANGEL MESSENGER

Luke 1:26-38

ANGEL • GABRIEL  
JOSEPH • MARY  
FAVOUR • SON  
JESUS • GREAT  
THRONE • REIGN  
FOREVER • HOLY  
SERVANT • WORD

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

A LONG JOURNEY

Luke 2:1-20

BETHLEHEM  
REGISTER • BIRTH  
MANGER • INN  
SHEPHERDS • FLOCK  
ANGELS • JOY  
GOOD NEWS • PRAISE  
SAVIOR • CHRIST



THE BEST GIFT OF ALL

John 3:16

GOD • SO • LOVED  
WORLD • HE • GAVE  
ONLY • SON  
WHOEVER • BELIEVES  
ETERNAL • LIFE

Colour in one star each day until Christmas

Dec23 © deborah noble • parishpump.co.uk

Email : [magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk](mailto:magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk)

Long range autumn migration is now pretty much finished, barring severe weather conditions in northern Europe. Our summer visitors are long gone, to be replaced by a selection of different species, a mix of increased numbers of resident species plus a variety of others looking for less harsh conditions and more food. Many of these new arrivals will move around until they find areas that are to their liking, and so which ones we see in and around our gardens will depend on what sort of winter we have.

To give a flavour of the variety of birds which might turn up in our gardens, albeit maybe only on passage, and especially if we have a longish cold spell, what follows is a synopsis of the British Trust for Ornithology's October migration blog.

Redwings arrived on the east coast. in huge numbers in October, with sightings of over 30,000 individuals in a single day at some migration hot spots. Followed a little later by Fieldfares, their "blackjack" calls could be heard as small groups arrived from Fennoscandia. Both of these thrushes will spread inland over the next weeks and months.

Although the Mistle Thrush might not spring to mind as a migratory species, breeding populations across much of north-eastern Europe desert these freezing regions in winter and head south and west to warmer climes. They arrive during September and October, but in small groups as opposed to the vast flocks in which Redwing and Fieldfare migrate. Other species we don't typically think of as migrants such as Robin and Dunnock have also

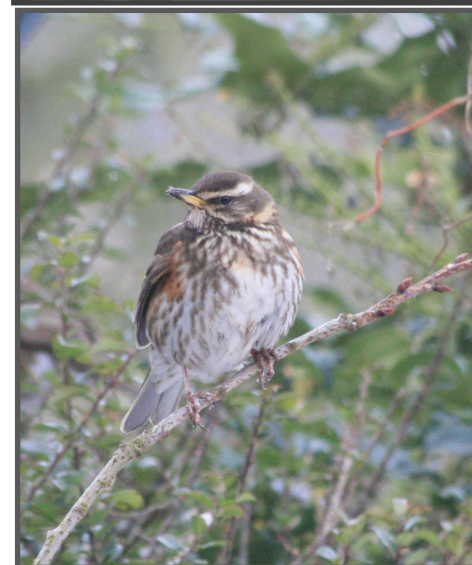
been seen arriving in numbers. Starlings too come over to avoid harsh winter weather, and more may yet appear, particularly if there are consistent east winds.

Each autumn, flocks of Woodpigeons heading south are a common sight all across the UK. Where they come from and where they go to are still not fully understood. However, it's thought that some birds arrive in the UK from north-west Europe, whilst some of 'our' breeding birds head south to winter in the oak forests of Portugal. During late October flocks were widely reported, and included increasing numbers of Stock Doves, closely related to Woodpigeons, but smaller and lacking the white bars on the neck and wing.

Goldcrests, although small, are surprisingly tough, weighing only around 5 grams – the same as a 20p coin – thousands of these feisty birds migrate from Fennoscandia across the North Sea to the UK each autumn. It was once believed that they hitched a ride on the back of migrating Woodcock, which make the same journey at a similar time of year.

Finch species, including Chaffinch, Goldfinch, Lesser Repoll, Siskin and Brambling all saw an increase in reports. Others on the move included Meadow Pipit, Skylark, Reed Bunting, and Pied Wagtail. The number of Brambling migrating to the UK each year varies depending mainly on food availability. Keep an eye out for their white rumps seen in flight which distinguish them from the Chaffinches they often accompany.

Back in early October, huge numbers



of Coal Tits were recorded moving south across north-western Europe. Among the most astonishing records was a report of 69,000 passing through Hanko Bird Observatory in southern Finland on 1 October. This irruption moved westward, bringing more of these delightful birds to our shores.

Garden birds make up only a minority of the vast number of birds of many species which undertake a risky migration twice a year, but in the process they bring a fascinating variety

to our gardens. Eyes and ears peeled and binoculars to hand then!

If you find the lives of our garden birds to be of interest and would like to join in and count the feathered occupants of your garden, please visit the BTO Garden BirdWatch website ([www.bto.org/gbw](http://www.bto.org/gbw)). If you know of an organisation no more than 30 miles from York which would like a talk on garden birds, contact Mike Gray via [gbwmike@gmail.com](mailto:gbwmike@gmail.com).

**Titles:** Siskin visiting a bird feeder (top left), Long Tail Tits visiting a bird feeder (right) & Red wing (siting on a branch)  
**Photograph credit:** Mike Gray

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## All in the month of December

It was:

800 years ago, on 25<sup>th</sup> December 1223 that St Francis of Assisi created the first nativity scene, in Greccio, Italy, after visiting Jesus' birthplace in the Holy Land. It proved enormously popular and inspired other communities to stage their own nativity scenes.

250 years ago, on 16<sup>th</sup> December 1773 that the Boston Tea Party took place in Massachusetts. American patriots boarded ships and threw chests of tea belonging to the British East India Company into Boston Harbour, as a protest against the British tax on tea.

200 years ago, on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1823 that the poem *The Night Before Christmas* was first published (anonymously) in the Sentinel newspapers in Troy, New York. It was written by Clement Clarke Moore.

175 years ago – on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1848 that Emily Bronte, British novelist and poet, died of tuberculosis, aged 30. Best known for her only novel, *Wuthering Heights*.

100 years ago, on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1923 that Ramsay MacDonald became the first Labour Prime Minister. The General Election had resulted in a hung parliament, and the Labour Party had formed a coalition with the Liberal Party.

Also 100 years ago, on 31<sup>st</sup> December 1923 that the BBC broadcast the chimes of Big Ben for the first time, to welcome in the New Year. The tradition continues to this day.

80 years ago, on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1943 that Beatrix Potter, children's writer and illustrator, died. She created animal characters including Peter Rabbit, Squirrel Nutkin, Mrs Tiggly-

Winkle, Jemima Puddle-Duck, and many more. She is less well known for her conservation work with the National Trust, her passion for the Herdwick breed of sheep and her scientific research

75 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1948 that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.

Also 75 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> December 1948 that the first Midnight Mass was televised. It was broadcast from St Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

70 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1953 that former US Secretary of State George Marshall was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for creating the Marshall Plan. The aid package helped Europe rebuild after WW2.

65 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> December 1958 that Britain's first motorway, the Preston By-pass, was officially opened. (It is now part of the M6 and M55.)

60 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> December 1963 that the Daleks made their first appearance on the British science fiction TV series *Doctor Who*.

50 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> December 1973 that the Geneva Conference opened in Switzerland, aimed at finding a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. No agreement was reached, but Israel signed a military disengagement agreement with both Egypt and Syria in 1974.

40 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1983 that Polish Solidarity leader Lech Walesa was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. (It was accepted by his wife, as he feared he might not be allowed back into Poland if he travelled to Norway to accept it.)

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## Leathley Parish Room – The Early Years

Leathley Parish Room – the tale continues

On 31 December 1925 Mr Frederick Hawksworth Fawkes signed a "Deed of Gift" giving the Parish Room, and the parcel of land on which it stands, to the Trustees of the Parish Room. The Deed of Gift stipulated that the Parish Room should be available without charge for the purposes of a Sunday School, and was to be used for "lectures, concerts, dramatic performances and other public or private entertainments". The trustees at that time were the Reverend James Hubbard, George Henry Skirrow, John Lambert Lupton, Joseph Edmund Rogers and Fanny Linda Greenwood. It appears that the preparations for celebrating the gift were not rushed, as the minutes a year later, on Dec 16 1926, record the proposal that the committee make arrangements for the formal handing over of the Parish Room by Mr Fawkes, to be followed by a Parish Tea for the residents of Leathley, Farnley, Castley and Lindley.

The first Parish Room Social Evening and Supper was held in November 1929, followed by fortnightly suppers during the winter. During the winter of 1929, the state of the piano became a matter of concern. The Parish Room was heated by a coke stove, and was continually damp, so no wonder the poor piano suffered. Meanwhile the committee continued with suppers, whist drives and dances. As another reminder that not much is new, it was decided that the committee needed to investigate a licence for the dancing and for dramatic performances, something the present committee undertook about 5 years ago!

In 1931 Miss Whitely and Miss Mackenzie started fortnightly dancing class, profits going to Parish Room funds. However, the committee insisted that one committee member be present at all times. Reading between the lines of the minutes, I think there must have been a little bit of resentment, as participants thought this showed a lack of trust. The committee however stood firm, and took turns to oversee the potentially riotous dancing class.

Care of the room continued to present problems. Ventilators were fixed to the roof in 1931. Redecoration and curtains for the platform were needed. A huge step was taken in 1932, when the Parish Room was wired for electric light, the work being undertaken by Mr Greenwood of Leathley. Fortnightly suppers continued. One item in the minutes might resonate with our present day providers of Last Friday Suppers, as Mr Blakeborough stated that "the suppers have been gradually getting more elaborate, making it harder for those who gave the suppers". According to the minutes it was agreed that "the meal be limited to brown and white bread and butter, and one kind of cake". I am not sure how well that would go down at a last Friday Supper today! Meanwhile, the committee agreed unanimously to continue the tradition of a village Christmas Tree. Now wouldn't that be nice!

Next month – the war years



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## Lower Washburn Parish Council (LWPC)

The parish meeting was held at 8pm on 9 November in Leathley village hall. In addition to the parish councillors, Councillor Nathan Hull from North Yorkshire council attended.

The 20mph campaign was discussed and Councillor Hull informed the meeting that there were many requests for its introduction which was delaying the process. North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) officials are therefore initially concentrating on speeding hotspots. Once again, we encourage you to make personal representation to Councillor Hull and NYCC in favour of reduced speed limits in our parish; we need to keep up the pressure on NYCC. It would help us immensely if you could copy LWPC into your correspondence.

NYCC have informed parish councils that from April 2024 parishes will be responsible for funding parish by-elections. Our parish has taken the decision that rather than inflate our precept for an event that may not happen we would cover the costs from

within our reserves and seek to retrieve the amount from future precepts.

A grant of £800 was agreed for the refurbishment of the telephone kiosk at Stainburn with the work being carried out by the residents.

LWPC will make a contribution of £300 to be added to funding from Councillor Nathan Hull to support provision of a defibrillator at Castley.

The precept for 2024-2025 was discussed and raised from £9000 to £9750 to continue financing the services provided by the LWPC.

Finally, the next meeting of LWPC will be at 8pm on 11 January 2024 at Leathley Village Hall. It is an open meeting so please feel free to attend and or submit items for the agenda.

Contact LWPC by email to [lowerwashburnnpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lowerwashburnnpc@hotmail.co.uk) or by post to LWPC Clerk, 10 Hawthorne Grove, Burley in Wharfedale, Ilkley, LS29 7RF.

## ... All in the month of December continued from page 38

30 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1993 that Monkwearmouth Colliery in Sunderland closed down. It marked the end of more than 800 years of coal mining in the region.

25 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1998 that the UN General Assembly listed anti-Semitism as a form of racism.

Also 25 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1998 that the Palestine Liberation Organisation voted to remove clauses in its charter that called for Israel's destruction.

20 years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2003 that during the Iraq War, former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was captured by US forces, who found him hiding in a hole at a farmhouse in ad-Dawr, near his hometown of Tikrit.

10 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2013 that Nelson Mandela died. This anti-apartheid revolutionary and politician had become President of South Africa 1994-99. He served as President of the African National Congress (ANC) 1991-97. Winner of the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize.



## Washburn Heritage Centre

[www.washburnvalley.org](http://www.washburnvalley.org)

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook

The Tea Room at the Heritage Centre is open on **SUNDAYS** only during the winter, from 11am until 4pm. We welcome **NEW VOLUNTEERS**. If you can spare a few hours at the weekend once a month we would love to see you in the Tea Room. It's a busy environment, warm and friendly, but you are rewarded with cake!

Continuing with our current programme "More than a woman", events in December as follows:

A Washburn Christmas  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December & Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
December 11.00am – 4.00pm

See page 9

Blubberhouses Christmas Tree Festival  
walk - Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December

A circular walk starting from the Hopper Lane layby on the A59 following a varied route via woods, fields with some stiles, and Fewston embankment to St Andrew's Church. Commissioned by Lady Frankland Russell, this was a chapel of ease for her estate workers. A light lunch will be available whilst we enjoy the festival of decorated Christmas trees before a short walk back to the cars. About 4-5 miles. Cost £12 member, £15 non-member.

Make your own Christmas wreath  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2.00pm – 4.00pm (morning session sold out)  
One of the Heritage Centre's most popular traditions! Florist Daphne Wilson will demonstrate how to make a fabulous wreath then guide us through the making of our own

individual and unique creations. Seasonal refreshments. Cost £20 member, £25 non-member.

Abbey House Museum, Kirkstall  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am – 12.30pm

To complement the talk in October we are privileged to have a private visit to view the archive material relating to Leonora Cohen, the Leeds Suffragette, with expert guidance on hand. Afterwards we can wander through the delightful Victorian streets decorated for Christmas and perhaps you might call into the widow washerwoman's cottage there. Tea or coffee available. Arrive 10.20am. There is a free car park opposite and bus services stop outside. Cost £12 member, £15 non-member.

Winter Solstice stroll  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Celebrate the shortest day of 2023 with an easy 90 minute, dog friendly walk around Swinsty Reservoir, taking in the wide-open views. Returning to the Centre for warming, seasonal refreshments. About 3 miles. Cost £8 member, £10 non-member.

Please contact Jenny at the Centre to book any of these events. Telephone 01943 880794

or email [centre@washburnvalley.org](mailto:centre@washburnvalley.org)





## December Gardeners Corner



What a wet autumn it has been, but when the sun has shone the colours have been spectacular! The weather has been a bit of a hindrance so now is the time to catch up on those jobs that were put off earlier. Do clear up the last of the fallen leaves from lawns, paths and flowerbeds, storing them separately to rot into wonderful leaf mould which will be a real tonic for your plants in future. Keep brushing paths to prevent algae from making them slippery and dangerous. Removing autumn leaves at the edges will also reduce hideouts for slugs!

It is a good idea to remove yellowing foliage from brassicas – sprouts, kale, purple sprouting etc – and remember that taller plants may need staking to combat wind rock and damage.

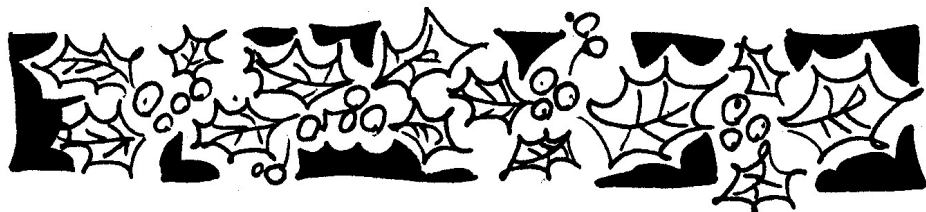
Blackcurrants fruit best on newer wood so prune now by cutting out some of the oldest woodiest stems. At the beginning of the month and when conditions allow, new blackcurrant bushes and raspberry

canes can still be planted. Pear and Apple trees can be pruned now. Plum trees should not be pruned until midsummer, as they may be susceptible to silver leaf fungus at this time of year.

Hellebores are among my favourite winter plants with so many varieties to choose from. December is a time to buy new ones which will reward you with a range of colours lasting right through to mid spring. Remember to remove old leaves on existing plants to help control the spread of disease.

Don't overwater houseplants. Indoor azaleas, cyclamen and forced bulbs giving festive colour will last longer in a cool spot, but poinsettias, hate the cold and draughts, so keep them in a warm cosy room.

Finally if you have a potted Christmas tree do keep it well watered. Mist growing and cut trees to keep them happy. Enjoy the festive season!



Farnley Estate WI held its AGM in October and reflected on the interesting and diverse activities that we learnt about, and got involved in, over the previous year. Local organisations such as Hedgehog Rescue, Otley Food Bank visited us and we visited Braythorne Community Orchard to name a few. One of our members talked about writing and publishing a children's book during lockdown and we heard about the Horrible History of Skincare.

We have a full programme planned up until December 2024. These include in December 2023 a Christmas get together with a flower and food demonstration. In January we will hear about Sir John Barran and Roundhay Park.

Other activities during the year include meeting Kath Padgett, a local author of an amusing book entitled "Are you a strong lass" and watching a demonstration of basket weaving by Fiona Arnold from Braythorne.

All our meetings take place on the second Wednesday of the month at Leathley Village Hall at 7.30pm. In addition on the 4th Wednesday of the month our walking group ventures out for leisurely strolls followed by a coffee stop on one month followed the next month by a longer hike and picnic stop.

If you would like to come to any of the events above or want to know more about our WI please contact Susan Kerridge our President on 07716 024650 or by email to [susankerridge@btinternet.com](mailto:susankerridge@btinternet.com).



## Recipe ~ Chocolate Truffles



This Recipe is reproduced from the All Saints Weston Recipe book, that was first printed 1<sup>st</sup> December 1956. 52 years later it was discovered by Reverend Marlene Wilkinson in her mothers possessions and reprinted again. She dedicated it to "Edith and all the other saints who made their Contributions"

67 years later we are sharing the recipes again but this time in the magazine. Thank you to the people of Weston for their recipes

### Ingredients

4ozs Butter  
1/2 Teaspoon of Vanilla Essence  
4 Tablespoons of Chocolate Powder  
4 Tablespoons of Sugar

Chocolate strands for coating

### Method

- Cream the butter and sugar together. Add the vanilla essence and chocolate powder and mix thoroughly.
- Shape into balls and dust with chocolate strands.
- Put into a cool place to harden.



# WASHBURN & MID-WHARFE CHURCHES MAGAZINE

## Feeling inspired?

The magazine is created by compiling contributions from readers, the many people associated with running the churches, societies, clubs and event holders. Thank you to everyone for sending in items each month.

If you feel inspired please send in your own poem or request share your favourite poem, a seasonal recipe, write an articles or anything you wish to share. All Items for the magazine are always welcome. Please email your items to: [magazine@washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk](mailto:magazine@washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk)

Or send in by post to;  
C/O The Heritage Centre Office  
Washburn Heritage Centre  
Fewston Church  
Harrogate  
HG3 1SU

## Advertising

We encourage business that are happy to provide a service in our rural parishes to advertise with us.

Please contact Ann Johnson by email [ann@apmj.co.uk](mailto:ann@apmj.co.uk) or Tel: 01943 880000 to discuss your advert

Our Prices are £80 for a half page or £40 for a quarter page, per annum (12 issues).

**We are also happy to discuss**

## single adverts for events.

## Magazine Archive

To see past issues we have an online archive. Thank you to Paul (one of three Pauls who help create and deliver the magazine) for editing the website [www.fewstonwithblubberhouses.org.uk/church-life/parish-magazine/](http://www.fewstonwithblubberhouses.org.uk/church-life/parish-magazine/).

## Our magazine

The magazine was created to link the communities of the Anglican and Methodist churches in the Mid-Wharfe and lower Washburn Valley. The Anglican churches of the United Benefice are All Saints Weston, St Helen Denton, St Michael and St Laurence Fewston, St Andrew Blubberhouses, All Saints Farnley and St Oswald Leathley. Norwood chapel is in the Wharfedale & Aireborough Methodist circuit

Please find contact information on page 2.

The magazine is managed by our Treasurer Ann Johnson, Distributors who include Cheri Beaumont and the Editor Anna Bowman.

## How to Subscribe

The magazine costs £6 a year to have 12 copies of the magazine delivered by hand or £14 to have it posted directly.

Please contact the Editor if you would like to arrange delivery and payments

Email : [magazine@washburnwharfebenefice.org.uk](mailto:magazine@washburnwharfebenefice.org.uk)

## Answers to the December Magazine puzzles

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

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## The printer

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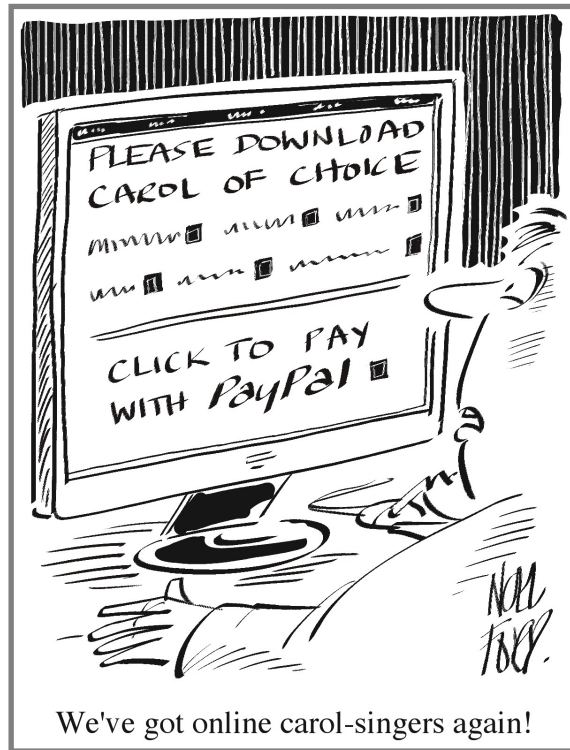
## Date for your Diary

Please see the Community Notice Board and notices on pages 6 - 13 for events, notices and future dates for your diary.



- For the Washburn Heritage Centre see page 28
- For Farnley Estate WI see page 30

## Puzzles and colouring in the centre pages



Next Contribution Deadline: 8<sup>th</sup> December

2024 Deadlines;  
13<sup>th</sup> January, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 9<sup>th</sup> March

Edited by Anna Bowman

Email; [magazine@washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk](mailto:magazine@washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk)

For more information about the magazine and how you can contribute subscribe or advertise please see page 42

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