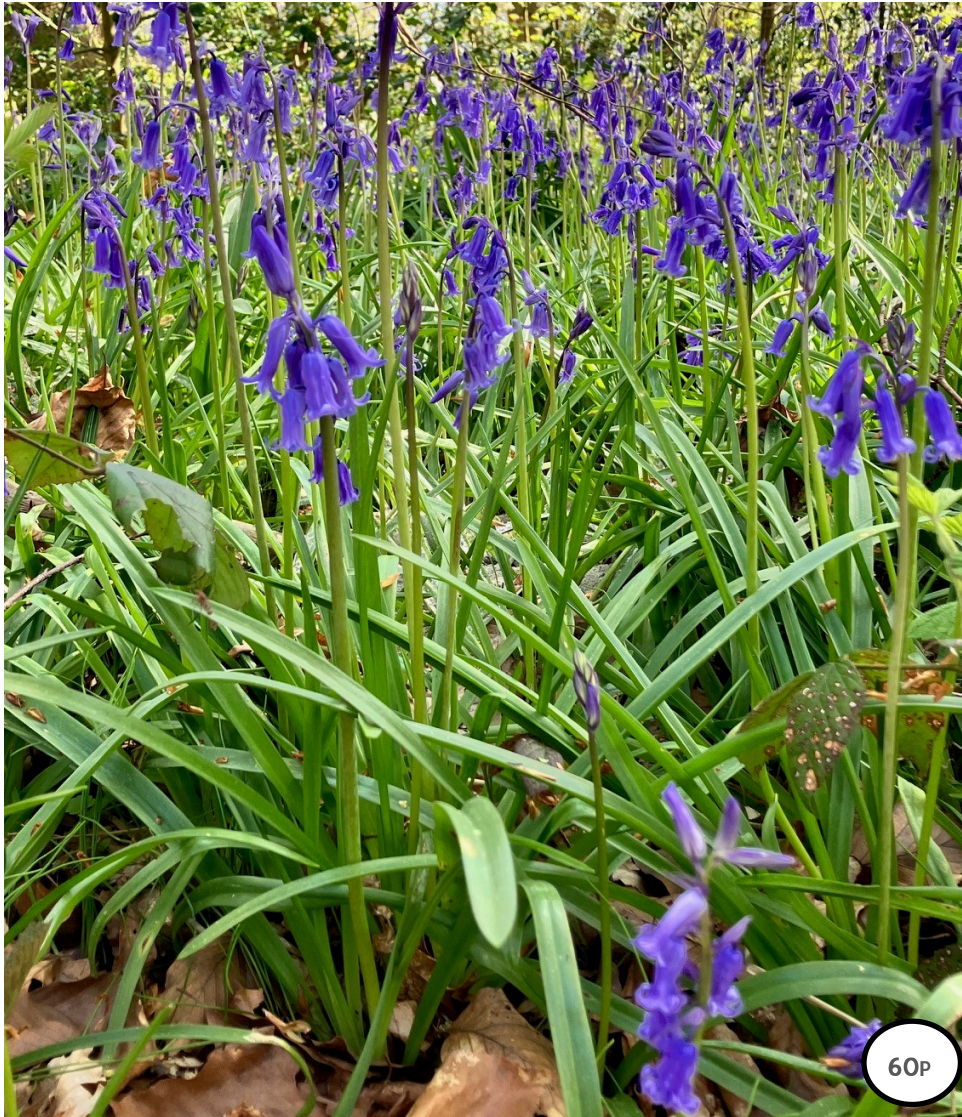


WASHBURN & MID-WHARFE CHURCHES MAGAZINE

M A Y 2 0 2 6 ~ I S S U E 4 9 9



60p

Washburn & Mid-Wharfe United Benefice

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

Priest-in-Charge

Revd Teresa McLaughlin

Tel: 01943 818113

Email: Rev.McLaughlinT@outlook.com

Honorary Assistant Clergy

The Revd Dr Terry Drummond

01943 512208 Email:

terry.drummond@hotmail.com

The Revd Barry Miller

Tel: 01943 467641

Licensed Lay Ministers

John Charman, - Tel: 01943 466712

Fran Dale, email:

fed.curlew@googlemail.com

Paul McLaughlin, email

pmc1617@gmail.com

Fiona Schneider

Email fisch108@aol.co.uk

Churchwardens

Blubberhouses & Fewston:

Alison and John Bowers

- Tel: 07752 431886

Denton & Weston

Ann Chadwick - Tel: 07986 454 433.

Farnley:

Peter Goodwin - Tel: 01943 969953

Leathley:

Terry Bramall CBE Tel: 07802 877799

& Liz Webster 01943 468376

Safeguarding Officer

Rebecca Campbell (01943 818600 or
07973 334298)

Or Rev Teresa (as above)

Methodist Ministers

Rev Cameron Stirk
thestirks@tiscali.co.uk

Rev Tim Perkins

01943 864187

of revtmp1971@gmail.com

Norwood Retreat Centre

Norwood, Otley LS21 2RA,

Tel: 0748 415 4032

norwoodretreatcentre@gmail.com

Methodist Chapels are in the circuit of
Wharfedale & Aireborough

Websites:

Saint Oswald's Church, Leathley
www.leathleychurch.org

All Saints Church, Farnley
www.farnleyallsaints.org

Fewston with Blubberhouses
www.fewstonwithblubberhouses.org.uk

All Saints Church Weston
www.westonchurch.wordpress.com

Benefice web site

<https://washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk>
Including Safe guarding information

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

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.

Front cover Image

Cover image: Bluebells, in the
woods near Fewston

Credit: A. Bowman



Village Church Services

May



Please check on www.achurchnearyou.com for up to date information.

3rd May	The Fifth Sunday of Easter (white)	
9.30 am	Leathley	Morning Prayer (PMc)
9.30 am	Weston	Holy Communion (Book of common Prayer) (TMc)
11.00 am	Fewston	Morning Prayer (TMc)
10th May	Sixth Sunday of Easter (White)	
9.30 am	Farnley	All age Service (TMc)
11 am	Fewston	Holy Communion (TMc)
11.15 am	Denton	Morning Prayer (PMc)
17th May	Seventh Sunday of Easter (White)	
9.30 am	Weston	Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer) (JC)
9.30 am	Leathley	Holy Communion (TMc)
11.00 am	Blubberhouses	Family Service (TMc)
		nb subject to road closure
24th May	Pentecost (Red)	
11.15 am	Denton	Holy Communion (TMc)
9.30 am	Farnley	Holy Communion (TMc)
31st May	Trinity Sunday (Gold/White)	
9.30 am	Leathley	United Benefice Service
		Holy Communion (TMc)
7th June	First Sunday after Trinity	
9.30 am	Leathley	Morning Prayer (PMc)
9.30 am	Weston	Morning Prayer (Book of common Prayer) (TMc)
11.00 am	Fewston	Morning Prayer (TMc)



Services at Norwood Methodist Chapel

May

Sunday 10 May 2.30 pm Rev. Cameron Stirk – Service of Holy Communion

Sunday 24th May 2.30 pm Mrs Lindsey Hurst – Afternoon Worship for Pentecost to inspire and bless

Do come along and join us!

The Vicar's Monthly Message

Holidays

Holidays are very precious whether they are abroad or taken in this country. It is wonderful just even thinking of where we might be able to go to and experience new things and meet new people. I remember a few years ago Paul and I got talking to someone in a shoe shop (there is always time to pop into a shoe shop!) in Texas. I remember he told us about his son who was a missionary of whom he was very proud of. Nothing that unusual we may think, but it was notable that his son was working in England! That got me thinking, about how we spread the good news or perhaps to be more precise, how we don't, so much so that missionaries are being sent to the UK.

Have we already become the secular society that people warned about and have we in fact contributed to it, all be it unwittingly? Being British we do rather tend to like keeping ourselves to ourselves and sometimes deem faith as a very personal matter; but is it? Surely though, that is the total antithesis of what Jesus meant when he said "Go and make disciples...." Yes the deepening of our relationship with God is a personal thing, but not to the extent that we do not share with others the amazing love God has for all his children. What a privilege to share all that Jesus did for each one of us upon the cross and how we can en-throne him in our lives and let him take the "driving seat". To have the desire to share with others all that God has done for us and to want others to experience that for themselves. When we have good news about anything, there is usually that overwhelming desire to go and tell others, whether it is our football team winning or the birth of a child, so surely something as life changing as our faith should be spilling out, waiting to be shared.

Most of us though like to remain in our 'comfort zone', and talking about our faith can often make us feel insecure and certainly not comfortable. Back in September some of you came to the Vicarage and took part in the "My Faith" course and found it interesting and occasionally challenging as we looked at possible ways that we could share our faith with others.

It is rather like the Bayeux Tapestry, where right at the end if you look closely, there is a figure who is prodding the person in front of them with a pitchfork. The Holy Spirit can put us in situations that may at times make us feel uncomfortable, but it moves us from inaction to action.

Holidays can stretch the bank balance but they also stretch our horizons, and certainly can make us re-evaluate our situation back home. May we be able to speak out about our faith and reach out in love to those we meet along the way.

Blessings
Teresa

News from Norwood Methodist Church

Dear Friends,

This year, as often, May is the month where the Christian year moves seemingly effortlessly from the last of the Easter celebrations, through Ascension Day and Pentecost, and on past Trinity Sunday into the long period of 'Ordinary Time', as it's called in official-speak. This lasts through the summer and autumn until we hit Advent again!

This brings thoughts of the potential for both 'blink and you miss it' on the one hand, and routine and boredom on the other! Hopefully neither of these will be true for us in our worship, life and witness, both individually and together as a church.

Christmas gives us twelve days and Easter seven Sundays. Ascension and Pentecost last just one day each, or maybe at most around a week. So, we ought to make sure we don't overlook their significance. As it always falls on a Thursday, that's perhaps especially true of Ascension Day: the most forgotten of the 'special days' of the Christian Calendar? The day commemorates the moment when the first disciples (now apostles) were no longer able to recognise the presence of Jesus with them in person. In Luke's gospel we read that "they worshipped him and went back into Jerusalem, filled with great joy, and spent all their time in the Temple giving thanks to God!"

We might not all be able to spend any of our time at church on Ascension Day (14th May this year), but maybe we can find time to worship, be filled with joy and give thanks?

Pentecost follows on from Ascension Day, and brings it to completion, in some ways. It marks the day when the first apostles felt the full force of God's Holy Spirit working within them, replacing the physical presence of Jesus with an unseen presence and power. It enabled them to say and do remarkable things, with God working in and through them: "God says: I will pour out my Spirit on everyone" [Acts 2, 17].

Perhaps we should find time and opportunity to experience the same enabling, empowering Spirit being poured out on us?

Maybe that experience will then carry us through the rest of the year, without any sense of routine or boredom, as we explore what it means to be an apostle of Jesus today.

Cameron
Rev. Cameron Stirk
(Norwood Methodist Church)

May Services at Norwood Methodist Church:

Community Notice Board



Denton Flower and Cleaning Rota May & June

3 rd & 10 th May	Helen Cobley
17 th & 24 th May	Karen Boothman
31 st May & 7 th June	Sue Wood
14 th & 21 st June	Julie Crowther
28 th June & 5 July	Ann Chadwick

Weston Flower and Cleaning May & June

3 rd May	Sally Stanley
10 th & 17 th May	Mrs H Pullan
24 th & 31 st May	Mr & Mrs Senior
7 th & 14 th June	Mrs J Cowgill
21 st & 28 th June	Tom & Ruth Raper



Askwith Ladies Social

The social evening is on the 2nd Thursday of the month, the next meeting is 8th May at 7pm at The Penny Bun

Contact Anne for more information - Tel: 07713884328
Email: laeatham@gmail.com



Fewston Parochial Hall Charity teas

Teas, lunches and homemade cakes

Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st April 10.am till 4.00pm

All proceeds to **Friends of Blubberhouses Church.**

From the Registers

Baptism

28 th April	Saint Helen's Denton	Annabelle Charlotte Speight
------------------------	----------------------	-----------------------------

Funerals

20 th April	All Saints Weston	Mrs Monica Mary Scott
22 nd April	All Saints, Farnley	Mrs Margaret Whorley

Community Notice Board



Fewston Foxy Ladies

Beamish trip!



T&T



Beamish trip!

We are off on a joint trip with T&T to Beamish on 19th May!
Meet at 9am, Norwood Social Hall - Please book in advance

Joint trip with FFL to Beamish on 19th May! Meet at 9am, Norwood Social Hall - Please book in advance

If you would like more information please contact

Gillian 07795 464042 ; Sue 07812 071636; Sheila 07931 292910 ; or Margaret 07949 765888

Meeting again, after the joint trip with Fewston Foxy Ladies in May, on Tuesday 1st September at 2pm. See you then or, of course, on the trip!

All welcome!

It is only £2 per person.

If you want to hear more about T&T, give Gillian a ring on 07795 464042

I have always got time for T&T!



FEWSTON CHURCH HG3 1SU Hosts THE CHIPPENDALE SINGERS

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at 7.00 pm

Tickets £10, under 16s free:
Cheri 01943 465977

Pat 01943 880284, anderson@delvesridge.plus.com

Refreshments Washburn Heritage Centre



Norwood Social Hall

Dominoes

Friday 15th May

Raffle & Pie and Pea supper
7pm for a 7.15pm start.

2026 Domino dates for your diaries

Friday 18th September

Friday 16th October

Friday 20th November

Friday 11th December Christmas Dominoes

Hope you can join us.



Leathley Parish Room

Domino Drives 7:00 pm

Friday 5th June

Friday 10th July

Friday 28th August

Friday 2nd October

Raffle and Cash Bar. Supper included:

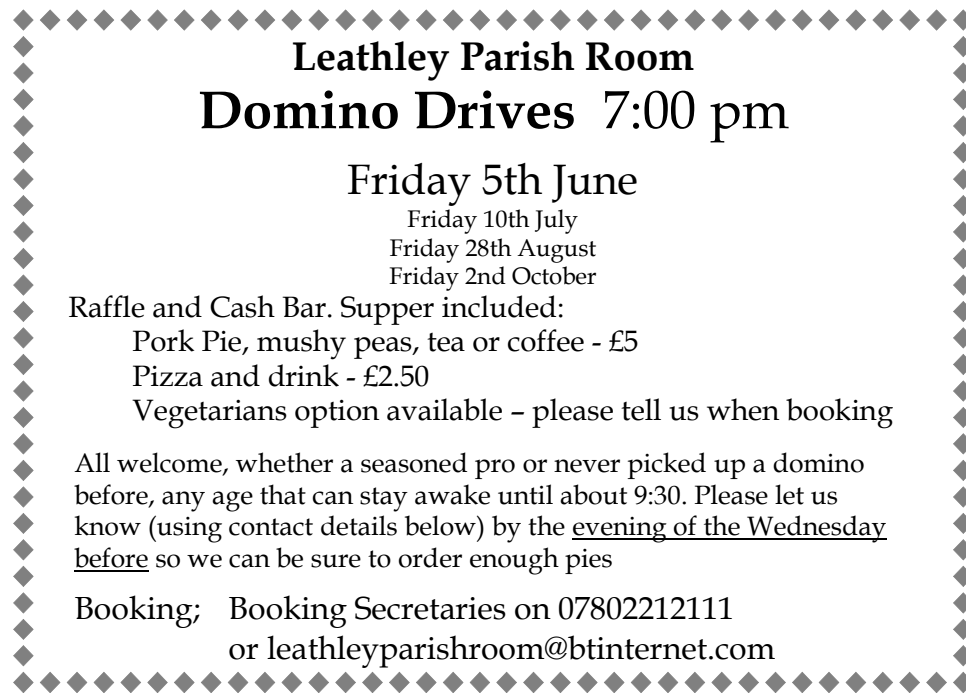
Pork Pie, mushy peas, tea or coffee - £5

Pizza and drink - £2.50

Vegetarians option available - please tell us when booking

All welcome, whether a seasoned pro or never picked up a domino before, any age that can stay awake until about 9:30. Please let us know (using contact details below) by the evening of the Wednesday before so we can be sure to order enough pies

Booking; Booking Secretaries on 07802212111
or leathleyparishroom@btinternet.com



HERITAGE BOYS

60s evening
Music, Supper and Dancing

12 June 2026 7.00 for 7.30pm

Norwood Social Hall

Heritage Boys for disabled access
at Blubberhouses Church

Bring your own drinks - back up bar available

Tickets £20 Pat Anderson

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anderson@delvesridge.plus.com

Gardens in Askwith, Denton and Weston.

Planning is now underway for this year's this year's

Open Gardens Weekend

Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th June

Do please consider opening your garden this year
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welcome folk to visit our beautiful villages and enjoy
their gardens.

For further details please contact Ann 07986 454 433
Priscilla 07791 836 391 or Sally 07768 750 101

Friends of the Dales

Yorkshire Dales environmental charity Friends of the Dales runs regular events to support its campaigning work. The following – free but donations welcome – events form part of its Eyes on the Skies campaign, speaking out about the ongoing criminal killing of birds of prey and petitioning for vital legal reforms.

Head over to its website at www.friendsofthedales.org to find out more about the petition and add your name.

Events:

Birding for Beginners

Saturday 9 May, 10am – 4pm
Friends of the Dales has teamed up with Upper Wharfedale Field Society to offer Birding for Beginners – a friendly, no-pressure introduction designed especially for 18–35's. Following an informal morning session near Grassington to get you clued up on what to look (and listen!) for, there is a three mile walk, spotting birds along the way and learning how different species use the landscape throughout the year.

To book email:
victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Online Talk – Talking Raptor Persecution with Dr Ruth Tingay

Wednesday 20 May, 5.30pm – 7pm
A unique opportunity to hear from wildlife conservationist Dr Ruth Tingay, who has worked in the field of raptor research and conservation for more than 30 years. A former President of the international Raptor Research Foundation, Ruth now focuses on campaigning against the illegal killing of birds of prey in the UK through the

blog Raptor Persecution UK.

Book at:
www.friendsofthedales.org.uk/events

Birds and Nature Walk at Malham

Wednesday 17 June 10am - 4pm
Ian Court, Wildlife Conservation Officer for the Yorkshire Dales National Park will lead a two mile guided walk to Malham Cove offering a rare chance to look out for one of the Yorkshire Dales' most majestic birds of prey, the Peregrine Falcon. In the afternoon Friends of the Dales Trustee and Chair of Malhamdale Environmental Group, Jane Smart will lead a two mile circular walk to Janet's Foss to explore the area's fauna and flora.

Book at:
www.friendsofthedales.org.uk/events

Wildlife Photo Walk with the Walking Photographer

Wednesday 1 July, 7.15 – 9.30 PM
Want to sharpen your wildlife photography skills? Join an immersive 'golden hour' photo walk led by British Wildlife Photography Award winner Rich Bunce (Walking Photographer), set within the 2,500-acre Broughton Sanctuary nature recovery project. This relaxed 2–3 mile evening walk will take you through a rich mix of habitats, offering plenty of opportunities to develop your technique and learn how to capture the Sanctuary's diverse flora and fauna with skill, sensitivity, and respect. Bring your own device to take photos on!

Book at:
www.friendsofthedales.org.uk/events



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julieahouseman@gmail.com

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please go to: www.leathleyvillagehall.org.uk
or telephone the booking secretary on 07802 212111

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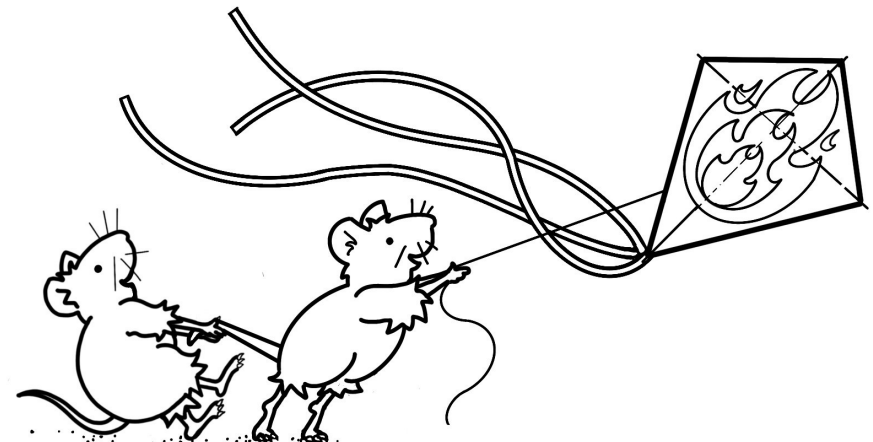
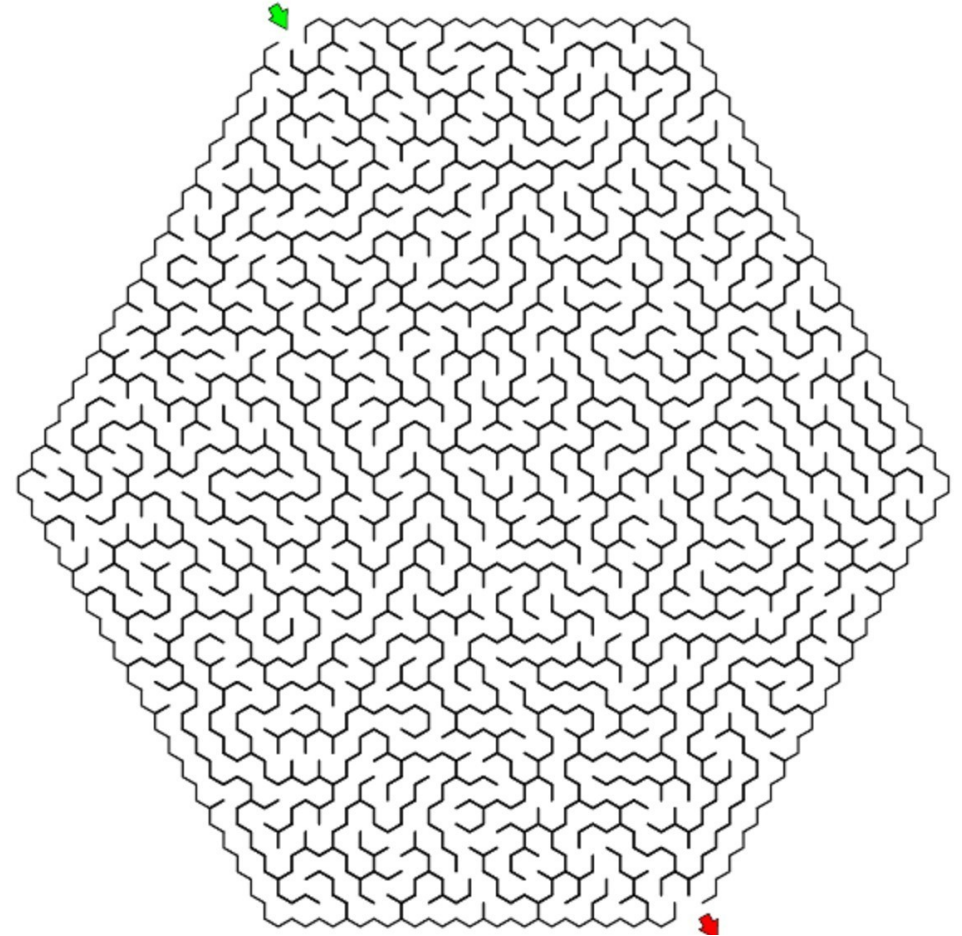
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STORY. PUZZLES AND COLOURING-IN



Word Search

D F E E E G O D M C W E
 Y I Y A R P S U R A R I
 C R I S I S O S R O N R
 R E T T A H S H C P L Y
 E R A I A I S K F E I K
 M E T C I L F N O C V A
 M V I E A I H T R A E E
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Middle
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 Pray
 Damage
 War
 Cease
 Earth
 Break
 Bows
 Shatter
 Spears
 Burn
 Shields
 Fire
 crisis
 many
 Lives
 millions
 Lord
 Our
 Rock
 Fortress
 Deliverer
 Hope
 Kyrie
 In & You
 mercy



Sudoku

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

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

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
 Samuel 8:1-10:1, 17-24

Samuel had been a good leader of Israel but he was now old. The leaders of the twelve tribes came to talk to him...

Panel 1: "We want a king like all the other countries"

Panel 2: "God told Samuel. It's not you they are rejecting but Me"

Panel 3: "If you have a king, he will take your sons to be his army and your daughters to work in his palace."

Panel 4: "He will take the best of your land, your crops and your animals"

Panel 5: "Samuel sent them home."

Panel 6: "Saul and his servant were looking for some donkeys that had run off."

Panel 7: "We still want a king."

Panel 8: "I was hoping he would choose me.."

Panel 9: "They decided to ask Samuel to ask God where the donkeys were"

Panel 10: "God told Samuel that Saul was to be the king"

Panel 11: "Samuel called everyone to a meeting and told them that God had chosen a king."

Panel 12: "God told them that Saul was to be their king..."

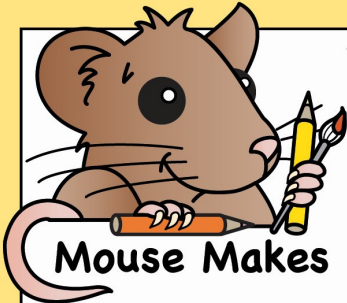
Panel 13: "He's behind the luggage."

Panel 14: "The people cheered! Long live the King!"

Panel 15: "but Saul was hiding."

Panel 16: "and they found Saul."





Mouse Makes

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Spirit of _____
Genesis 1:2

The _____
of the Father.
Acts 1:4

A _____
Romans 8:15

H _____
John 14:26

The Spirit of _____
John 16:13

The Spirit of _____
Acts 16:7

The Fruit of the Spirit
Galatians 5:22-23

___O___
___Y___
___C___
___T___
___I___
___N___
___S___
___N___

What happened when the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost?

read
Acts 2:1-41

How many believers were baptised that day?

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

Look up the Bible verses and fill in the missing words. Look for them in the word search then look for these words below.

HOLY • SPIRIT • COUNSELLOR • COMFORTER
ADVOCATE • TEACHER • LORD • PROMISE
GLORY • GRACE • FAITH • DOVE • FIRE • WIND

All in the month of May

It was:

605 years ago on 4th May 1471. The [Battle of Tewkesbury](#), the last battle in the Wars of the Roses, took place; Edward IV's Yorkists defeated the Lancastrians.

415 years ago, 2nd May 1611, that the Authorized Version of the Bible (King James Version) was first published, and became the standard English language Bible.

400 years ago, on 4th May 1626 that the Dutch explorer Peter Minuit arrived on the east coast of what is now the USA. He negotiated the purchase of Manhattan Island from the Lenape Native Americans for \$24 worth of cloth and buttons. (Equal to about \$1,150 today.)

300 years ago, on 25th May 1726 that the world's first Circulating Library (lending library) was launched by Scottish poet and bookseller Allan Ramsay at his bookshop in Edinburgh.

250 years ago, on 4th May 1776 that Rhode Island became the first of the Thirteen Colonies to renounce allegiance to the British Crown and instead, to declare independence.

200 years ago, on 29th May 1826 that Ebenezer Butterick, American tailor was born. He and his wife invented tissue paper dress patterns in multiple sizes, and thereby revolutionised home dressmaking.

175 years ago, from 1st May to 15th October 1851 that the Great Exhibition was held in The Crystal Palace, Hyde Park. More than 10,000 exhibitors

attended what is regarded as the first World's Fair.

100 years ago, on 4th to 12th May 1926 that the UK's General Strike was held. The Trade Union Congress (TUC) called a General Strike in support of 1.2 million coal miners. The strike lasted nine days, and had little effect.

90 years ago, on 7th May 1936 that British aviator Amy Johnson made the fastest-ever (at that time) solo flight from England to Cape Town.

90 years ago, on 27th May 1936 that the RMS Queen Mary began her maiden voyage, sailing from Southampton to New York.

80 years ago, on 11th May 1946 that the first CARE packages for Europe arrived in Le Havre, to help people who were starving after WWII.

75 years ago, on 3rd May 1951 that the Festival of Britain and the Royal Festival Hall in London were opened.

75 years ago, on 9th May 1951 that the Lake District National Park was established as Britain's second national park.

75 years ago, on 25th May 1951 that British spies Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean fled to Moscow. They were members of the infamous Cambridge spy ring.

70 years ago, on 24th May 1956 that the first Eurovision Song Contest was held in Lugano, Switzerland. It was won by Switzerland.

Continued on page 27 & 33



Paving = Decking = Fencing
Driveways = Garden Walling
Drainage = Pagodas = Patios
Hard Landscaping = Mini
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Askwith's Easter Monday Village Walk and Egg Hunt

About 30 folk took part in this year's Easter walk setting off from the Village Hall in glorious sunshine. Dan Bown led the way to the Booth's wood where Easter eggs were awaiting discovery. Then on

down to the Penny Bun for Hot Cross Buns to round off the afternoon. Many thanks to Dan, Michael Louise and Sophie and to all the Penny Bun for looking after us and making it such an enjoyable event.



... All in the month of April- continued from page 21

65 years ago, on 31st May 1961 that Michael Ramsay became Archbishop of Canterbury (until 1974).

60 years ago, on 6th May 1966 that the Moors Murderers Ian Brady and Myra Hindley were sentenced to life imprisonment for killing five girls, aged 10 to 17.

60 years ago, on 30th May 1966 that British racing driver Graham Hill won the 1966 Indianapolis 500. He was the only driver in history to win the 'triple crown of motor racing': the Formula One World Championship, the 24 Hours of Le Mans, and the Indianapolis 500.

Continued on page 33



Washburn Heritage Centre

www.washburnvalley.org.
Follow us on Twitter and Facebook



£19.50 member, £24.50 non-member.

Visit to Farnley Hall
Thursday 14th May, 2.00pm **
SOLD OUT **

This 17th century Grade 1 listed building has been home to the Fawkes family for almost four centuries. It has been used as a stop over by visitors such as John Ruskin on route to and from Scotland, and Turner was a frequent visitor, treating it as his second home. The present owner, Guy Fawkes, will once again treat us to a guided tour of the Hall followed by light refreshments. Cost £18 member, £22.50 non-member.

The journey to dialysis,
Dr John Turney

Wednesday 20th May, 7.30pm – 9.00pm
This talk marks a very welcome return to the Heritage Centre by Dr John Turney who will describe how this life-saving machine was first developed in Nazi occupied Holland from whatever was available, including bits of a crashed bomber! John will describe how dialysis works and its post-war development and the critical role that Leeds played in its early use in this country in the 1950s. Light refreshments served. Cost £10 member, £12 non-member.

The Tea Room at the Heritage Centre is open on **SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS** during the summer 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!

Our spring/summer programme **The Roads Taken** continues until the end of June. Please pick up a leaflet if you visit the Tea Room.

To book a place at any of our events please contact Jenny at the office on **01943 880794** or email centre@washburnvalley.org

Events in May:

Meandering in May
Friday 8th May, 9.30am

Car sharing to the start, we will enjoy five-mile circular walk from Leathley, crossing Riffa Beck, through Stainburn and on towards Almscliffe Crag. Stunning views across the Washburn and Wharfe valleys. Some inclines and a few stiles, returning to the Heritage Centre for a delicious two-course lunch. Cost £12 member, £15 non-member.

Bingo supper
Tuesday 12th May, 6.30pm – 9.30pm
Do you realise that bingo is making a comeback? We will enjoy a 'retro' evening with good company, a great supper and fabulous prizes. Book early to avoid disappointment. Cost



The Birds in Your Garden



The Tree Sparrow

We are lucky here in Yorkshire to have the Tree Sparrow as a reasonably common garden resident, with East Yorkshire being a stronghold, and they can be seen locally in fair numbers during the breeding season. At other times they can move quite some distance away, with East Yorkshire birds being reported in Suffolk, only heading back north as winter turns to spring.

More generally, it is one of many species that have declined significantly, with numbers nose-diving from the 1970s until the early 1990s, when a slow revival began, though they remain on the UK Red List as birds of concern. It is estimated that nationally, numbers now are only about a thirtieth of what they were, and they are pretty much absent from the south and west of the UK, as well as northwestern Europe.

For garden bird watchers who are not sure of their sparrows, Tree Sparrows, both male and female, are the ones with the warm red-brown crowns and white patches at the sides of their heads, plus a small black cheek patch. The brown crown is the real point of difference from the other “little brown jobs”. Male House Sparrows have a grey head and nape and a prominent black bib; their females are completely different, being generally stripy all over. Dunnocks (Hedge Sparrows in my youth) are altogether more delicate looking with almost spindly pink legs, and behave completely differently,

being shy, mainly solitary apart from in the breeding season, ground feeders.

Tree Sparrows are loosely colonial and tend to form small flocks, often mixing with House Sparrows. In winter they will form larger flocks together with finches. They eat seeds and grain, usually feeding on the ground, though they will happily use garden bird feeders too. I have seen them on peanuts, but in my garden, they like the rather expensive sunflower hearts aimed at finches. As with many birds, they prefer feeders sited near cover to reduce predation risks.

Supplementary food aside, Tree Sparrows tend to prefer the smaller seeds often produced by weeds, which modern selective herbicides have made rather scarce. This plus the loss of stubble fields during winter may have contributed to their decline, the full reasons for which are still not known. You can encourage them by having a patch of wildflowers or by leaving weeds to go to seed. There is an exception to this vegetarian diet though, during the breeding season, when they feed their young on insects.

Tree Sparrows mate for life; their nests, which may be domed or cup-shaped, are made using twigs and leaves and are lined with down, moss and hair. Both birds do the building, usually in a hole in a tree, cliff, or building. They will often use nest boxes, and if you make one, the hole needs to be about 28 mm in diameter as for Great Tits, but don't forget that they nest

colonially, so you'll probably need more than one box.

So, if you aren't sure which sparrows you have around you, look a bit closer! (or look on the BTO website)

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)



Titles: Tree Sparrow
Photograph credit:
Mike Gray

From Monday 27 April 2026, you will need to register to use our household waste recycling centres

We are introducing a free registration scheme for our household waste recycling centres on Monday 27 April 2026. This will help us make sure that our household waste recycling centres are only used by North Yorkshire residents who pay for the service through their Council Tax.

Registering will be free and you can do it online in a couple of minutes -

www.northyorks.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-waste/bins-recycling-and-waste/household-waste-recycling-centres

Or phone :0300 131 2131

The registration is for two cars per household. Any car going to the recycling centre will need to be registered before going.

A Moorland Meander

It is early April and I walk uphill along an old green road towards the moor. The path takes me across a field and then through a gate onto the open moor. In the distance the path returns to fields of rough grazing on a south facing slope.

High above me I am serenaded by several Curlew and Green Plovers. Last year was warm and dry which probably meant a good breeding season. There are more birds this year than I have ever experienced since my childhood in the Borders where the post war changes in agricultural practices took time to arrive. High above a Red Kite circles in a thermal. It is ignored by the ground nesting birds because there are no young to protect yet.

In a patch of open grass a hare is sitting and makes a mad zigzag dash for the reeds when I am spotted.

Further on beside an upland pool a Greylag goose is on guard and calls a warning to all his friends who I can see sitting in the reeds. As I return from the far point of the walk he remains silent as I pass by. I speak to him gently so he will recognise my harmlessness if our paths cross again.

Back on the moor I am delighted to hear a Skylark singing high up but cannot locate it. It goes silent. It is many years since I heard one in this same area. Resting a while and taking in the view he suddenly appears rising in the sky and singing his heart out again. The ascent is rapid and soon he is just a speck against a fluffy cloud.

My commune with nature is over and I head downhill to the workaday routine. I will return to this island of calm for me amid the intense activity of the summer visitors.



Titles: Curlew
Photograph credit:
Mike Gray

Recipe - Elderflower Champagne

This Recipe is reproduced from the All Saints Weston Recipe book, that was first printed 1st 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"

68 years later we are sharing the recipes again.

Thank you to the people of Weston for their recipes

Ingredients

2 heads of Elderflowers in full bloom
1 gallon of cold water
1 1/2 lbs sugar
1 lemon
2 tablespoonfuls of white vinegar

- Cut the rind into 4 pieces and put this with the elderflowers, sugar and vinegar in a large basin
- Put in the cold water and leave to steep for 24 hours
- Strain off and bottle in screw top lemonade bottles and keep for at least two weeks before drinking.

Method

- Squeeze the juice of the lemon,

Recipe provided by Miss Scaife



Farnley Estate Womens Institute



The month of April began with a visit from Jenny Wilson who led a chair mobility class for 50 minutes. A range of exercises were done with Jenny explaining the purpose of these. We exercised from our toes to our fingertips and everybody enjoyed the experience. Jenny had brought some sixties music which some of our members sang along to whilst exercising. This class was so good that after her session a number of our members considered signing up to her classes as it highlighted the importance of balance and co-ordination.

Jenny has regular classes at Rawden for over 65s and it is called "Rawdon Over 65s Gentle Exercise."

The month will end with a social outing to York Gate Garden at Adel and a visit to the café.

To view our programme for 2026 please visit <https://yorkshire-north-west.thewi.org.uk/find-wi/farnley-estate>

All our meetings take place on the second Wednesday of the month at Leathley Village Hall at 7-30pm unless otherwise stated. In addition on the 4th Wednesday of the month our new social events begin and these have been chosen by our members.

If you would like to come to any of the events above or want to know more about our WI please contact Diane Hanline our President by email to farnleyestatewi@gmail.com.



Gardeners Corner



What a show the spring flowering shrubs and bulbs have given us! Now is the time to prune Chaenomeles, forsythias and viburnums as they have finished flowering. Remove one in three of the older stems at the base and cut other flowered shoots back to lower buds, to encourage good flowers for next year. Early flowering clematis will also benefit from a trim as will rosemary. This will keep it productive, but avoid cutting the rosemary back into old wood as this will not regrow. Leave the foliage of daffodils to die back naturally, until the leaves turn yellow, as these will feed the bulbs for next year's flowers.

As the days begin to warm up, slugs, snails and aphids will be waking up. Keep an eye on tender new shoots as they emerge. It is easy to rub off aphids or spray them with a solution of washing-up liquid, while slugs can be dealt with by torchlight at night and a sharp knife! Hosts are particularly susceptible to slug damage.



... All in the month of April~ continued from page 27

40 years ago, on 9th May 1986 that Tenzing Norgay (Sherpa Tenzing), died. This Tibetan/Nepalese mountaineer had been with Sir Edmund Hillary of New Zealand when in 1953 they became the first people to reach the summit of Mount Everest.

15 years ago, on 2nd May 2011 that Osama bin Laden, Saudi Arabian-born terrorist, was shot dead by US forces in Pakistan. He was the founder of

The potatoes planted last month will need earthing up. Draw the soil to form a ridge along the row, or top up container grown plants with more compost. This will protect them from late frost and also keep the tubers covered as they form. Those exposed to light will go green and become poisonous, so they need a good covering.

Dwarf, French and runner beans can be sown but don't be in too much of a hurry as they hate the cold. "4th May for a dainty, 12th May for a plenty" is useful advice! You can always get the supports in position and as the weather warms everything seems to catch up!

May is such a busy month in the garden and it is so exciting to see the seeds you have sown germinating. Do keep an eye on them and protect from birds, slugs and late frosts. Gardening is a challenge, but very rewarding and good for you! Enjoy!

Al-Qaeda and is thought to have masterminded the 9/11 attacks on the USA.

10 years ago, on 31st May 2016 that Carla Lane, TV screenwriter, died. Best remembered for creating the sitcoms *The Liver Birds*, *Butterflies*, and *Bread*.



OUR 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 to write an article for the magazine. Share some news, a poem or a seasonal recipe, please send them to the editor.

Email your items to:
magazine@washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk

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

Our Community

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, Saint Helen Denton, Saint Michael and Saint Laurence Fewston, St Andrew Blubberhouses, All Saints Farnley and Saint 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, Distributers who include Cheri Beaumont and the Editor Anna Bowman.

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 or Tel: 01943 880000 to discuss your advert

Our Prices are £100 for a half page or £50 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/.

How to Subscribe

The magazine costs £7 a year to have 12 copies of the magazine delivered by hand or £17.50 to have it posted directly.

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

Answers to the April Magazine puzzles

8	7	4	6	9	5	3	2	1
1	9	6	2	4	3	8	7	5
2	3	5	8	7	1	4	6	9
4	5	8	1	6	2	9	3	7
7	6	1	9	3	8	2	5	4
3	2	9	7	5	4	6	1	8
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D	C	S	T	O	E	C	E	L	D	C	A
Y	A	A	V	V	M	V	I	E	U	K	R
B	O	E	O	A	A	E	S	P	N	U	N
I	R	C	R	V	N	S	R	I	L	B	E
A	P	G	D	B	E	T	R	A	I	E	D
D	P	W	I	L	L	D	W	T	O	O	S
M	A	B	B	L	O	O	D	E	G	S	A



"Whilst I appreciate the thought, would whoever it is please stop tweeting, 'So far, so good...!'"

The printer

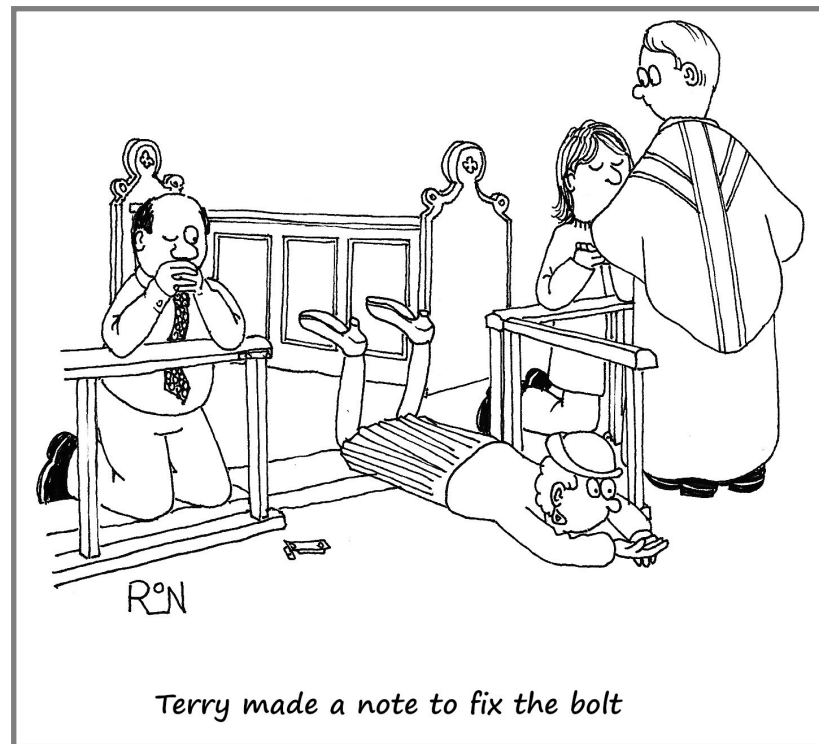
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Please see the Community Notice Board and notices on pages 6 - 9 for events, notices and future dates for your diary.

- For Friend of the Dales see page 10
- For the Washburn Heritage Centre see page 29
- For the Farnley Estate WI see page 32

Puzzles and colouring, in the centre pages



Terry made a note to fix the bolt

Next Contribution Deadline: 10th May

2026 Deadlines;
10th June, 10th July, 10th August, 10th September

Edited by Anna Bowman
Email; magazine@washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk
For more information about the magazine and how you can contribute subscribe or advertise please see page 34