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# The Pinnacle



**A Joint Magazine for  
St Andrew's Church, Kildwick,  
St John's United Church, Cononley  
A Local Anglican/Methodist Ecumenical Partnership  
and St Mary's Church, Bradley**

**December 2018**

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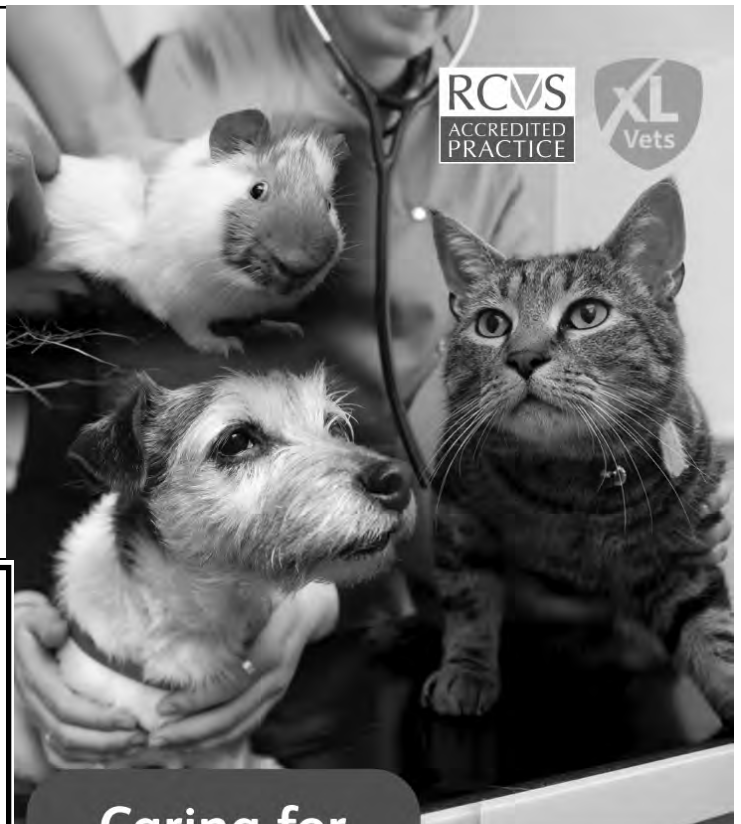


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## “Advent-ure”

One of the Bacon family traditions at the end of November is looking out the friendly cloth Santa Claus made by my mum nearly 20 years ago. His numbered pockets are loaded up with chocolate coins, and from 1<sup>st</sup> December until Christmas Day, they are retrieved and consumed every evening after tea by the children. Even though they're both now legally adults, they insist that this ritual is maintained (if one of them is away at university, their booty accumulates until their return). This evening ceremony is balanced by the morning one of opening the day's door on the Advent calendar to see the picture concealed behind it.

Many families have their own rituals and traditions at this time of the year. They punctuate the year, reminding us of previous Decembers. If we have become a little jaded at the prospect of yet another Christmas, frazzled as we contemplate our 'to do' lists, these small daily moments can help to reconnect us with our earlier selves, and the excitement and anticipation we felt as children as we waited impatiently for The Big Day to arrive.

'Advent' is rooted in the Latin for 'to come' or 'arrive'. One definition is 'the arrival of a notable person or thing'. In church circles, Advent Sunday (2<sup>nd</sup> December this year) marks the beginning of the new church year, and the start of a four-week season of preparation before Christmas. But just

what is it we're preparing? And what arrivals are we expecting?

There's all the preparations that attend a celebration – the gifts that are tokens of our love for others, or at least show that they are not forgotten; the food that we offer and share with family, friends and maybe strangers too; the decorations that dress up and transform our homes for a season from workaday to party best. And

alongside all these practical preparations, Christians are also preparing themselves. Preparing once again to remember and celebrate (with appropriate awe as well as joy) one arrival - God entering his own creation as that most helpless and vulnerable of creatures, a

human baby called Jesus. But also preparing for another arrival. Jesus again, but this time at the end of all things, when the old creation will pass away and there will be a new heaven and a new earth; when God will dwell with his people, not just for a few years, but for ever; when God will wipe every tear, and there will be no more death, or mourning, or crying, or pain (Revelation 21.1-7). Unlike the annual commemoration of the Christmas arrival, we don't know when this second arrival will be - and it's much easier to prepare for something when



“

*But just what is it  
we're preparing?*

*And what arrivals  
are we expecting?*

”

you know when it's going to happen. Advent is about this double preparation – for something with a fixed date for celebration, and at the same time for something with no such predictability. But we don't have to know the day and the hour (Matthew 24.36) in order to prepare.

Living with uncertainty can be wearing and uncomfortable. In uncertain times, familiar and known things, such as our annual rituals, bring comfort and stability. Advent speaks to us of both the known and the unknown – the annual joy of Christmas, with its hopeful message of 'Emmanuel – God with us'; and the reminder that we are still living in in-between times - God's story has yet to reach its end, and we don't know when that will be. But we can still prepare for it. We can get to know better the God who left his heavenly throne in order to come amongst us as one of us: who gave his life for us, so that death would no longer be able to hold us too; whose very nature is love, and mercy, and healing, and peace, and forgiveness. At the moment, heading towards 2019, many things in the world around us seem uncertain, unknown and untrustworthy. Politically, economically, socially, we are entering uncharted territory. But there is still firm ground on which to stand – and an ultimate, known destination. As we pursue the journey, Advent can lead us into adventure. A well-known poem puts it like this:

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year:  
"Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown."

And he replied:

"Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God.  
That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night.

And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

*(Minnie Louise Haskins, 1875-1957)*

With every blessing

Julie

## KCB prayers

Just a reminder that KCB prayers is our monthly prayer gathering for an hour at 7.30pm on the fourth Monday of the month, when we meet to pray for our churches and communities as well as for wider concerns.

There will be no KCB prayers in December. The dates and venues for the next three meetings are:

**8th January**

**25th February**

**25th March**

at St Mary's, Bradley

at St John's, Cononley

at St Andrew's, Kildwick

## KCB service pattern – from January 2019

As you know, following the 6-month period of the experimental trial service pattern, I carried out a review, and on the basis of that made recommendations which have been accepted by the Kildwick, Cononley and Bradley church councils. As a result, with effect from January 2019, the pattern will be as follows:

	1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday
9.30am	Bradley	Kildwick	Bradley	Bradley	
11am	Kildwick (Methodist-led service at Cononley)	Cononley	Cononley	Kildwick (Lay-led service at Cononley)	
9.30am					Joint service – venue rotates

This translates into the following pattern for each church:

	1st Sunday	2nd Sunday	3rd Sunday	4th Sunday	5th Sunday
Bradley	9.30am	<i>No service</i>	9.30am	9.30am	Joint service at 9.30am – venue rotates
Cononley	Methodists – 11am	11am	11am	<i>No service</i>	
Kildwick	11am	9.30am	<i>No service</i>	11am	

I appreciate that this is still far from ideal, but we have agreed that it's the best that we can achieve for now with the available worship-leading resource that we have.

This pattern will operate during 2019 and will be reviewed again at the end of the year. Of course, it doesn't preclude the development of new or alternative services!

Julie



## Lebanon Syria Border - October/November 2018

I keep thinking that things will get better for the million or so Syrian refugees trying to build what they still hope will be a temporary existence in their host country Lebanon. After all most of them have been there since 2014. Four years of living in tented camps or crowded into store rooms, garages or at best, substandard, unfinished buildings, relying almost entirely on the assistance of international Aid Agencies and the UN. This hardship has been felt most severely in these last two years as their own financial resources have dwindled to nothing.

In many ways their lives have worsened. The international community is weary of the Syrian crisis and there are so many other terrible conflicts and natural disasters happening globally. Big organisations like the UN don't receive the amount of money pledged by world governments so there is less money to help relieve the endless trials experienced by these refugees - access to medical care is very difficult, particularly heart problems and cancer treatment, both of which are rife due to stress and the environmental conditions experienced in the earlier years of the bombing in Syria before they fled.

My town Aarsal high up close to the Syrian border, (I call it my town because I've spent so much time there since 2014) is still home to 50,000 Syrians. They still swamp the 30,000 or so Lebanese inhabitants. Some have returned to Syria despite the terrible risks. They would rather take their chances back in their own country than continue to live as they are in Lebanon. Doctors, teachers, IT experts, mechanics; all of them had good jobs and decent lives before the war as long as they kept their heads down and were careful what they said of course. Lebanon generally wants rid of them - they're not allowed to work officially although many of them work in the fertile Bekaa valley picking crops for a dollar a day.

But Aarsal is a closed town - sealed off from the rest of Lebanon by one mountain road and two difficult checkpoints through which I have battled, cajoled, begged my way through over these past years, many times a year. The good news is that Islamic State and Al Nusra have left the town and my days and nights of wondering if I might just be snatched as a great prize for these groups, is now over. I'm hugely relieved!

So the work for Edinburgh Direct Aid continues. We are so small but we try hard and our work has moulded and expanded with the changing needs of the refugees. We now prepare them for an eventual return to Syria. Our large centre offers vocational training in skills that will be needed to rebuild Syria - construction courses, computer skills, electrician and plumbing, management courses, and many more. These are open to females but mostly the women apply for places in management, computer and hospitality courses. The most important factor is that these applicants are given hope and focus, a routine to cling to along with their desire to go home and lead the life they once did.

Our women's workshop is always busy making school uniforms and other paid contracts for small institutions in the town. These women mostly from the camps earn some money this way. We try to keep the contracts coming in but for this we must rely on our team of 3 hardworking Syrian managers - I can't be there all the time - a month is all I have on my Lebanese visa.

Our two Syrian run schools in the town also provide not only education (there are still 3,000 children not in school because there's no capacity) but that all important routine and a happy place for them to go, away from the drudgery of life in their tents, especially as winter closes in for yet another year. Maybe school helps them to forget their terrifying flight from Syria and the family members that didn't make it.

The most memorable part of this recent trip is a very happy one and I must share it. We have opened a gym on the top floor of our building. We brought donated second hand fitness machines out in the last 2 containers we regularly ship out from Edinburgh. We also managed to get a large section of brightly coloured gym/karate matting donated by a large charity in Lebanon and the biggest ghetto blaster it's possible to imagine.

I was dubious about how the women from the camps would respond to this new gym facility. We divided the time up through the week into men's classes, women's sessions and children's karate classes. We employ a male and female sports teacher, both Syrian. I was able to go to the women's class but of course my male colleague was not allowed. The women came in to our office to sign in, dressed in their normal long clothes and headscarves. I was expecting a trickle of shy Syrians to come through the door but almost in minutes around 40 women had flooded in and signed their names. I followed them up the stairs to the gym and as soon as the door was unlocked an amazing metamorphosis took place!

No sooner were they inside, off came the headscarves, and the long clothes and on went violet, pink, purple, lime green leggings and equally bright vests and tee shirts - on went the ghetto blaster - deafening rock music to which many of the women pranced and leapt and stretched on the matting ready for the trainer's instructions - others jumped onto the machines or knocked seven bells out of the punch bag we had hanging up.

It was a glorious sight – they were free and unfettered for almost 2 hours, away from the stifling and demanding lives they lead as mothers, wives, carers in their camps. We had at least given them this.

I'm always very happy with the difference I see that we make to these people's lives, albeit a relatively small number of refugees but this scene in the gym was the icing on the cake.

I can't wait to go back.

Maggie Tookey - Overseas Project Director, Edinburgh Direct Aid  
*An all volunteer charity, Registered Number: SCO21007*



# **Advent Adventure**

## **St. John's Church, Cononley**

### **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December**

**10am-12:30pm**

**Come and find out why the camels  
went on a long journey.**

**Stories about camels and wise men.**

**Activities include Christmas cards, present  
making and games: pin the tail on the camel, find  
the camels, count the stars.**

**Refreshments: hot dogs, juice and biscuits**

**Suitable for primary children and their carers**



**There is no charge. For more details and to book (essential due to limited numbers), please ring Janet on 01535 631653**

**\*\*\*and in two weeks, a Christingle service on 23<sup>rd</sup> December\*\*\***



## Cononley Art Group

We are coming to the end of a very good year for the art group where we have had lots of interesting demos and workshops but best of all lots of fun and friendship. We have one more workshop on 5th Dec. which is a watercolour snow scene, so if you fancy having a try at it do join us, it

is a led workshop and she helps everyone to produce a satisfactory painting. On 19th we have a social afternoon where we talk, eat and drink before we break for Christmas.



## Raise a cuppa to St. John's Coffee Morning

Held on 3rd November at the Cononley Village Institute, the coffee morning proved to be a big success. From the very start at 10:30am, the stalls and kitchen were busy with the bacon butties being very popular; extra bread rolls were brought in before selling out completely as did the cakes and Christmas present stalls.

What was brilliant was the atmosphere generated by the conversation and laughter of the all the people who filled the tables; it was a real buzz from start to finish, totally worth doing for bringing people together.

Thank you to everyone who came along, donated, helped and supported this event in any way. The total raised was an amazing £591.88 which goes towards the refurbishment of St. John's United Church.



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*Ladies & Gents*

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## The Gambia

One Sunday morning at St John's Church, the congregation sang a hymn – "God who sets us on a journey". I thought how true the words are. They reminded me of the tasks and journeys I have taken whilst I have been in The Gambia.

The hymn goes:

*God who sets us on a journey to discover, dream and grow  
Lead us as you led your people in the desert long ago  
Journey inward, journey outward, stir the spirit, stretch the mind  
Love for a God and self and neighbour marks the way that Christ defined*

I learnt at a very early stage in my nursing career that every individual is different whatever their background and that they should be treated equally with respect and dignity. In other words, treat other people how you would like to be treated yourself. These words have remained with me throughout my life. So I felt I had a good foundation to start my voluntary work and it certainly helped me.

Having reached a point in my life where I could work as a volunteer abroad, I was willing to go and work anywhere as long as I was able to use my time and skills to help someone. In 2008 I was going to go to South Africa to work alongside babies and children with HIV and AIDS but the charity could not guarantee my safety so they withdrew all support.

I thought about what I could do now – but God works in mysterious ways. Two weeks later the U3A magazine came through the letter box and I read an article written by another volunteer who had just spent a week out in Gambia helping to support the work of The Gambian Schools Charity, an educational charity based in Bradford. I contacted the charity and in November 2008, I was off to The Gambia.

When the time came for me to start my journey to The Gambia I felt a little anxious and feeling like doubting Thomas. I was uncertain if I could deal with the task I had gone to do out in Gambia. How wrong could I have been! It was the most humbling, amazing, breath-taking, funny and emotional journey I have made in my life. Working alongside the Gambian people whose faith could be Muslim or Christian, Nonconformist or Catholic I learnt very quickly that we all believe in and follow one God.

Since November 2008 I have travelled to The Gambia 19 times. People ask me what I do out there and my reply is that every visit is different, and I take it from there. If it is in my power, whatever needs doing I will do it. As for the risks... there are risks in everyday life so they don't really need thinking about.

I remember once saying to someone who wanted to do voluntary work 'if you can't hold the person's hand, don't volunteer'.

Within the first 24 hours of arriving in The Gambia I knew I would also have to get involved with health issues and over the time I have been able to build upon this. I have supported clinics and helped them to go from a shack to an up and running clinic by supplying them with dressings, baby clothes and baths, blood pressure machines, medical textbooks, bed linen, mosquito nets and on one occasion an adult size skeleton.

On occasions my journeys take me up country and we have to cross the river and I pass James Island where they imprisoned slaves before they were transported. I question how could men have done such cruel acts.

I have supported people who have nothing and I have stayed in the villages and seen girls as young as 13 years old with their babies on their backs.

I have supported a Gambian friend and again she has nothing. At this particular time she was very heavily pregnant with her eighth pregnancy. She had developed Toxaemia of pregnancy and by caring for her this led me to see other heavily pregnant women sharing two to a bed. I have seen mothers at the road side asking for help because their milk has dried up and they have no other way of feeding their baby. I have seen mothers queuing for a bed so their baby or young child can be nursed and hopefully made better from malaria.

Other aspects of the voluntary work I have undertaken have ranged from painting schools, cleaning and preparing classrooms, teaching small groups of children and purchasing and planting fruit trees at the schools so the children can enjoy fresh fruit.

I have supported people with physical disabilities by providing crutches and wheelchairs, all donated from Harrogate District Hospital.

Next to the roadside, children will ask you for a pencil or a book because they want to learn. I have seen children standing outside the schools longing to come in so they can learn. The children are eager to learn and enjoy being educated.

It is wonderful to be a volunteer supporting and working alongside the local people, in their own environment. The Gambian people are very proud, warm, respectful and hospitable. What struck me was the great respect that the Gambian people have for their fellow man. I noticed a strong bond and friendship between each other, combined with respect for the family and their elders. Families take responsibility for the extended family. Most importantly they have hope.

I embrace my visits to The Gambia and I am very humbled and privileged to have spent time there with the local people. Through this experience I learnt things about myself and the experience certainly made me a stronger person and how important it is to give hope and share Christianity with your fellow man.

Pauline Link

# *Christingle Celebration*



Hear the story of the  
 **Nativity**  
**and Christingle**



**A family service at St John's Church**  
**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 4pm**

**Every child receives a Christingle**

**The celebration will last about 40 minutes followed by  
refreshments**

<b>Interim Priest-in-Charge</b>	The Revd Julie Bacon revjulesbacon@gmail.com	01274 405170
<b>Reader</b>	Cononley: Mr Kevin Wood	633950
<b>Church Wardens</b>	Kildwick: Mrs Lesley Hudson Kildwick: Mrs Sandie Walton Cononley: Mrs Janet Clifford Bradley: Mr Robert Hall	523291 636501 631653 635549
<b>Deputy Wardens</b>	Cononley: Mrs Janet Wade Bradley: Mrs Andrea Baxter	632369 630245
<b>PCC Vice Chairperson</b>	Kildwick: Mrs Lesley Hudson	523291
<b>PCC Secretaries</b>	Kildwick: Mrs Jill Wright Cononley: Mrs Janet Wade St John's United CC: <i>vacant</i> Bradley (DCC): Mrs Jane Hall	634526 632369  635549
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<b>CDFC Representatives</b>	Kildwick: Mrs Christine Anderton Kildwick: Miss Glyn Evans	633596 630735
<b>Flower Rota</b>	Kildwick: Mrs June Whitaker	655320
<b>Mothers' Union</b>	Cononley with Bradley: Mrs Elsie Clarke	633956
<b>Music Group</b>	Kildwick: Mr John Hudson	523291
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<b>Pastoral Care</b>	Kildwick: Mrs June Whitaker	655320

email: Contact the Pinnacle editorial team at **magazine@kcbchurches.org.uk**

## Services for December

Date	Time	Church	Readings
<b>2nd December</b> Advent Sunday	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	St Mary's, Bradley St Andrew's Kildwick St John's, Cononley	1 Thessalonians 3.9-end Luke 21.25-26
<b>9th December</b> 2nd Sunday of Advent	9.30am 11.00am	St Andrew's Kildwick St John's, Cononley	Philippians 1.3-11 Luke 3.1-6
<b>16th December</b> 3rd Sunday of Advent	9.30am 11.00am	St John's, Cononley St Mary's, Bradley	Philippians 4.4-7 Luke 3.7-18
<b>23rd December</b> 4th Sunday of Advent	9.30am 11.00am	St Mary's, Bradley St Andrew's Kildwick	Hebrews 10.5-10 Luke 1.39-45 (46-55)
<b>24th December</b> Christmas Eve	11.15pm 11.30pm	St John's, Cononley St Andrew's, Kildwick	Hebrews 1.1-4 John 1.1-14
<b>25th December</b> Christmas Day	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	St Mary's, Bradley St Andrew's Kildwick St John's, Cononley	Titus 3.4-7 Luke 2.8-20
<b>30th December</b> 1st Sunday of Christmas	10.00am	United Service at St Mary's, Bradley	Colossians 3.12-17 Luke 2.41-end

### The January Edition

***Sorry, folks! I'm not going to spend the week of Christmas, editing the magazine. We have family too!***

Please have your articles and news of your Christmas events ready for the end of the year – make it Sunday December 30th.

Are you having an event over Christmas? Take your camera – and tell us about it! Is anything special happening? Let us know!

## Rotas for December

Date	Kildwick Readers	Kildwick Intercessors	Kildwick Communion
<b>2nd December</b> Advent Sunday	Katharine Calvert Anna Calvert	Jill Wright	Christine and Peter
<b>9th December</b> 2nd Sunday of Advent	Glyn Evans Tim Chapman	Peter Bannister	Sandie and Tim
<b>16th December</b> 3rd Sunday of Advent			
<b>23rd December</b> 4th Sunday of Advent	Christine Anderton Jill Wright	Lesley Bannister	Sue and Christine
<b>24th December</b> Christmas Eve	Brenda Brock Anthony Luce	Lesley Hudson	Jill and Christine
<b>25th December</b> Christmas Day	Glyn Evans Sylvia Clark	Chris Wright	Sue
<b>30th December</b> 1st Sunday of Christmas			

## Cononley Church Cleaning

Week Ending...	
8th December	Mrs. P. Link and Mrs. J. Field
23rd December	Mrs. C. Scarr
7th January 2019	Mrs. R. Sedgwick



## Regular Events in the “KCB” Parishes

Monday	9.30am	Pre-School Music Group	Bradley Village Hall
Monday	2.00pm	Cononley Arts Club	Cononley Institute
Monday	8.00pm	Ditty Nitty Craft Club	Slater’s Arms, Bradley
Tuesday	10.00am <i>Not holidays</i>	<i>Chuffs Fun for pre-school children and their grown-ups!</i>	Kildwick Parish Rooms
Tuesday	7.15pm	Yoga Class	Bradley Village Hall
Tuesday	7.15pm	Choir practice	Kildwick Parish Rooms
Wednesday	9.30am	Midweek Eucharist	Kildwick Parish Rooms
Wednesday	10.15am	NottheKnot Group	Kildwick Parish Rooms
Wednesday	7.45pm	Cononley Singers	Cononley New Inn
Thursday	9.30am	Toddlers Group	Bradley Village Hall
Thursday	3.30pm <i>Not holidays</i>	MiniRingers Club	Kildwick Tower or Parish Rooms
Thursday	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice	Kildwick Tower
Thursday	7.30pm	Whist Drive	Bradley Village Hall
Friday	9.00am	Pilates	Cononley Institute
Friday	10.00am	Yoga Class	Bradley Village Hall
Friday	1.30pm	Keep Fit	Cononley Institute

## KCB churches – the future

A year into the three-year period of interim ministry, both Cononley with Bradley and Kildwick PCCs have voted to pursue pastoral reorganisation, with their preferred option being to explore becoming a single parish. Their vision is for one parish with three churches continuing as witnesses to God’s love in their communities, but able to work together sharing resources and ideas where appropriate. The legalities will be considered by the diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee, who will then draw up a scheme which the PCCs will be able to consider in detail in the next few months. This is an exciting and significant step in the still new and developing relationships between the churches and parishes. Please pray for those drawing up the scheme, and for the church councils as they review it and think about what is needed to enable our churches to grow and flourish in the future.

*Julie*



## December

Saturday 1st		St Andrew's Fair	Farnhill Village Institute
<b>Sunday 2nd</b>	<b>Advent Sunday</b>		
	11.00am	Toy Service	St John's, Cononley
	4.00pm	Advent Carol Service	St Andrew's, Kildwick
Saturday 8th	10.00am	Kidz Activities	St John's, Cononley
Monday 10th	7.30pm	PCC Social Meeting	
Thursday 13th	2.00pm	Reception and KS1 Nativity	St Andrew's, Kildwick
	6.00pm	Reception and KS1 Nativity	St Andrew's, Kildwick
Sunday 16th	2.30pm	Messy Christmas	St Andrew's, Kildwick
	6.00pm	Carols, words and music	Bradley Methodist Church
Tuesday 18th	6.00pm	School KS2 Carol Service	St Andrew's, Kildwick
Thursday 20th	2.00pm	School Christingle Service	St Andrew's, Kildwick
	6.30pm	Carol Singing	The White Lion, Kildwick
Sunday 23rd	4.00pm	Carols by Candlelight	St Andrew's, Kildwick
	4.00pm	Christingle and Nativity	St John's, Cononley
Monday 24th	4.00pm	Crib Service	St Andrew's, Kildwick
	11.15pm	Midnight Communion	St John's, Cononley
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion	St Andrew's, Kildwick
Tuesday 25th	9.30am	Christmas Family Communion	St Mary's, Bradley
	11.00am	Christmas Family Communion	St Andrew's, Kildwick
	11.00am	Christmas Family Communion	St John's, Cononley
Sunday 30th	9.30am	KCB Service	St Mary's, Bradley

If you have a church event, then please let us know.

*(You can email events direct to [magazine@kcbchurches.org.uk](mailto:magazine@kcbchurches.org.uk) if you like.)*

## Cononley with Bradley Mothers' Union

We had a convivial time at St. Mary's Bradley for our coffee morning. Although we were not quite as busy as usual, we raised a total of £139.90 for Mothers' Union Projects. We will meet next for our Christmas lunch at Steeton Hall on Tuesday 11th December at 12.30. Please arrange lifts where necessary. The Wave of Prayer will now take place in January on Wednesday 9th Jan at 1.00 pm. Please disregard the previous date in your programmes. Cononley members please gather at Eileen Stead's house. Bradley please make local arrangements as usual.

F.G.

## Cononley Singers

We have a very busy programme for Christmas this year and we are rehearsing intensively for a raft of events.

The posters are out for the concerts which are on Friday 14th at Christ Church Skipton and Saturday 15th at the Cononley Village Institute. Do join us for one of them. Come to both if you want to wear your Christmas jumper twice!

On Sunday 16th we are singing up at St. John's for the annual carol and readings service so if you cannot get to the concerts join us there for singing and refreshments. This is a very relaxed and pleasant afternoon so we'd love to see you there.

We are also singing at the Lights of Love service for Manorlands, held at Gargrave Parish church on Wednesday December 12th at 7.00pm. This is a lovely venue so feel welcome to join us there.

Wednesday 19th December will find us outside the New Inn at 7.45pm. We'll be singing carols and maybe partaking of a little refreshment. Do come and join in!

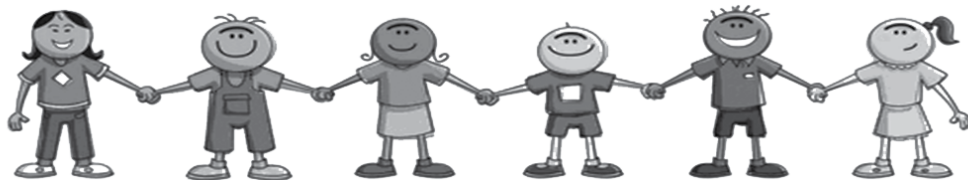
The Singers wish you a happy Christmas and a very good New Year. Thank you for your support throughout 2018.

## Toy service

Toys brought to the St John's service on Sunday 2nd December will be given to the Salvation Army in Keighley. The Salvation Army request that the presents are neither wrapped nor placed in a bag. Please bring them with you to church or if it's better for you, give them to a member of the congregation to bring along.



*John the Baptist met Zoe the Methodist  
and George the Anglo-Catholic*



# Bradley School News



Earlier this month, Class 3 and Class 4 held a Roman Day and Greek Day respectively. They were helped by a 'visitor from the past' who brought a number of artefacts to investigate and lots of activities to add a fun element to their learning. In the afternoon, Class 4 had a Greek feast and even did some Greek dancing wearing some of their fantastic home-made costumes. Mr Mountain, our Class 3 teacher, very bravely dressed as a Roman centurion-his own amazing outfit-and the class made Roman bread. Everyone agreed that they had enjoyed the day.

The children in Class 2 had an exciting morning at Skipton Fire Station where they were shown around the fire engines and learned about the job of a firefighter. This visit was planned as part of their History topic on the Great Fire of London. Unfortunately they didn't get to see the hoses in action as there was an emergency call-out whilst they were there, but there was much excitement when they saw one of the engines rush out with the sirens blaring!

## Christmas Concerts:

All members of the community are welcome to attend our school nativity play and Key Stage 2 performance on Friday 14th December. Please look out for posters nearer the date for details of the times.

## Christmas Fair:

The school Christmas Fair will be held on Monday 10th December from 6:00pm onwards. There will be all the usual stalls – tombola, raffle, Treasure Hunt, name the soft toy, cake stall and jam jars are just a few! We will be having the ever popular 'Games Room' and of course, Santa's Grotto. Mince pies and mulled wine will also be served.



The children and staff wish all the readers of 'The Pinnacle' magazine a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

## Jigsaw 5 a Day Prayers for December:

*Thank you for your prayers they which are bringing God's power and helping to build up so many lives, thank you so much from all in Jigsaw. (Some people have said the five prayers are a lot to pray each day, so they are doing one prayer a day for five days of each week of the month, which is a good way to pray, thank you.)*

- YALE is our 'young adult life empowerment ministry,' please pray for Ver a very needy child whose family were homeless and recently found a small house for. YALE ministry is trying to help him find a job but finding it a difficult as he has no experience or qualifications to offer and is illiterate, but his family are in desperate need for money to eat and for housing etc. Please pray God will open a door for Ver.
- Please pray for the Madella family who have had to 'pawn/sell' their house due to debt and are now homeless, that God will help Jigsaw to find a place for them to live and help support and build up their lives physically, mentally, socially and spiritually.
- Please pray for Yvon from our ladies sewing ministry she has been three weeks with a fever and her family are struggling to find enough money to eat, please pray for healing and a quick recovery for Yvon.
- Please pray for Jestoni who has epilepsy he had a severe and serious epileptic attack in a Jigsaw kids club which was dangerous for him and which scared the staff and left them not knowing how to help. We are now looking ways how to help Jestoni further, please pray for ways forward and safety for Jestoni. Please also pray for; Christian, Miguel, Jolyan, Calvin, Christina and Mary Ann who are all very sick. Thank you.
- Please pray for Jigsaw as they plan for this Christmases 20+ Christmas parties where we share a hot meal, games and the GOOD NEWS of the birth of Jesus the saviour with over 1500 children and young people. Please pray for the planning and practicalities that we can find space in each community to carry out all the parties and that we will have the funds and resources that we need.

*(Tim's letter includes thanks for past prayers, but sadly, lack of space means you'll need to see the full copy in St Andrew's church to read them>)*

The wordsearch solution (back page)  
– no peeking!





## Prayers for Advent

Dear Lord, don't let us miss You this Christmas season. Help us to simplify our activities and traditions so we can focus our celebration on Your birth. Thank You for being the Prince of Peace, and we ask You for that supernatural peace to reign in our hearts. Thank You for the simple but life-changing message of Your love for us. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



Lord, I thank You for coming to earth so You could redeem me. When I think of the extent to which You were willing to go in order to save me, it makes me want to shout, to celebrate, and to cry with thankfulness. You love me so much, and I am so grateful for that love. Without You, I would still be lost and in sin. But because of everything You have done for me, today I am free, my life is blessed. Jesus is my Lord, Heaven is my home and Satan has no right to control me. I will be eternally thankful to You for everything You did to save me! I pray this in Jesus' name!



Father God, We thank You and praise You today for the miracle of Your Son's birth. Thank You for bringing great JOY to the whole world! Thank You for giving us the assurance that because You came to us in the form of a human. We who believe in Jesus can know with absolute certainty that we'll spend eternity with You. We thank You, Lord, for the many reasons we have been given a merry Christmas. And we rejoice for each blessing. New life. New love. A home. A job. New opportunities. Second chances. And more. We know, Lord, that You bring the sun and the moon and set the stars in motion. You tell the ocean where to stop and the snow when to start. And we thank You for the mighty gift of Your creation. Amen





## The Birds in Your Garden



I don't know how often you see Chaffinches in your garden, but probably, like me, not that often. This may be partly due to their numbers having taken a hit from Trichomonosis though to a lesser extent than Greenfinches. But I have noticed that many of those I do see have leg lesions, sometimes known as 'scaly leg' or 'tassle foot'. To me it often looks as though they have pipe-cleaners as legs.

This is nothing new, such lesions have been known about for years, but until recently there had been no large-scale study of this condition, and it was unclear whether it is more common at particular times of the year or in certain areas. Weekly records of the presence of leg lesions,



from the British Trust for Ornithology's (BTO) Garden BirdWatch survey, alongside reports from members of the public via the Garden Wildlife Health website, have allowed the BTO and ZSL to answer these questions for the first time

Each week 3 – 4% of Garden BirdWatchers recording Chaffinches report a bird with leg lesions and there is clear seasonality, from November to March. Whilst Chaffinches occur in Britain throughout the year, more are reported in winter, as a result of an influx of migratory birds from mainland Europe, and it is thought that this is related to the winter peak in leg lesions.

Chaffinches are by far the most likely bird you'll see with leg lesions, but it has been seen in other finches, including Brambling, Bullfinch, Goldfinch and Greenfinch. Results from post-mortem examinations of just over a thousand finches in Great Britain have identified two causes; a virus (*Fringilla coelebs* papillomavirus) and mites (*Cnemidocoptes*).

They are highly visible and look pretty unpleasant, but whilst birds with severe lesions can become lame and vulnerable to predation, most affected birds continue to behave normally. Most reports involve individual birds and there is no evidence it poses a threat to the species. You can't discriminate between the



two types visually, and mixed infection with both occurs, so diagnosis relies on post-mortem examination and laboratory tests.

Whilst medicines are available for the treatment of mites in captive birds, effective and targeted dosing of free-living birds is not possible. No medicine is available for the treatment the virus.

Feeding stations encourage birds to congregate, sometimes in large numbers increasing the potential for disease to spread. If several birds in your garden are affected, you should significantly reduce the amount of feed you put out, or stop feeding altogether for 2-4 weeks, to encourage birds to disperse, thereby minimising the chances of new birds becoming infected at the feeding station. Gradually reintroduce feeding and keep an eye open for further signs of ill health. Since infection with both agents can be spread via direct and indirect contact (e.g. perches, feeding platforms), regular cleaning and disinfection of feeders is vital.

Always clear away uneaten food and droppings before putting out fresh food. Provide clean, fresh drinking water daily. Use only fresh food from reputable sources, and move feeders around the garden to avoid build-up of contamination in any one area.

All this will help protect your visitors from becoming infected.

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 contact me or visit the BTO Garden BirdWatch website ([www.bto.org/gbw](http://www.bto.org/gbw)). If you know of an organisation not too far from York which would like a talk on garden birds call: **Mike Gray 07596 366342** or [gbwmike@gmail.com](mailto:gbwmike@gmail.com).



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## Children's prayer of thanks

The following are prayers offered at a recent St John's service

**Scarlett** (aged 8)

Thank you for ballet – I have learnt to point my toe!  
 Thank you for Brownies – I make loads of new stuff  
 Thank you for school – I've learnt to have fun with my friends  
 Thank you for my swimming lessons – I love to do hand stands in the water  
 Thank you for all our teachers & helpers who support people in their lives and  
 let us aim for all children, all over the world, to have these opportunities

**Jorja-Lou** (aged 8)

Thank you for the sea and thank you for the shells  
 Thank you for the food we eat  
 Thank you for the clouds, the rain and rainbows!  
 Thank you for my family and my toys  
 They all make me very HAPPY!  
 Thank you for the wonder of nature and help us to look after our world  
 so all children may enjoy it.

**Isaac** (aged 6)

Thank you for the Beavers – I have enjoyed the games  
 Thank you for letting me go to football – I have enjoyed Penalty shoot-out  
 Thank you for swimming – I have enjoyed froggy leg kick (I have actually)  
 Thank you for the energy and stamina of children and please help  
 all children have the chance to learn and enjoy their lives

**Raylan** (aged 5)

Thank you for peppers and cauliflowers they are my favourite vegetables  
 Thank you for my toy shelf  
 Thank you for my Avenger poster in my bedroom – it makes me feel good  
 Thank you for the variety in our lives, help us to have an enquiring mind  
 and please help us to provide food and safe homes  
 for children all over the world.

**Maddy** (aged 18 months) with help from her sisters

Thank you for my family – I now know how to say loads of words  
 Thank you for water – I love to splash about  
 Thank you for dogs and cats, I love them lots and lots!  
 Thank you for the joy of learning about life whatever our age.  
 Please may we all work towards all children having good health,  
 food and a love of life.

*Thank you, Carolyn, for permission to publish these!*

## **A glimpse into the (not so long ago) past.**

I have previously mentioned that I and my family moved into Cononley at the tail end of 1975 and joined the church congregation. We arrived at a time when the sharing agreement between the Cononley Methodists and Anglicans was in its infancy. Consequently we didn't know one from the other which was entirely in the spirit of the agreement. At that time, there was a monthly magazine which covered the Cononley and Bradley churches, simply called 'Parish News'. I have copies of this magazine going back to the December 1975 edition, which today makes interesting reading for the clues it offers on the then arrangements of the two churches. It shows that the ministry was shared between the Reverend Stuart McDougall, Vicar of Cononley and Bradley, and the Reverend Ben Parkin, the local Methodist minister. This being the Christmas edition, the magazine begins with a joint letter from the two of them expressing their wishes that 'your best hopes for Christmas 1975 may be realised'.

That year Christmas Day fell on Thursday, so the magazine gave details of the services and events over the festive period. In Cononley, a Carol Service was to be held on the preceding Sunday in which the children of the village were to play a leading part. Then on Christmas Eve there was to be a midnight communion, followed by a family communion in the morning. Bradley were to have their family communion on Christmas Day morning with a Carol Service on the following Sunday.

We can also learn that in those days we had both a vicar's warden and a people's warden, these posts being filled by Trevor Hodgson and Bill Mawson respectively. Both churches had choirs led by choirmasters, with four organists, and with Sunday Schools and Youth Groups. Other organisations listed were the Mothers' Union and the Evergreens Club.

Lay people contributing articles to the magazine were Sue Hargreaves (writing about her missionary and nursing work in Iran), Trevor Hodgson (on Cononley Hall), Mrs. Barbara Shaw (garden and garden birds), David Harrison (a most amusing six verse rhyming poem written in dialect form), and of course 'JMT' (A Man's Best Friend is his Dog'). Other space was taken up in the magazine by editorials concerned with a discussion on the nature of the offertory, plans for a confirmation service at which candidates would be inducted into full membership of both the Anglican and Methodist churches, and a report on the renewal of the Anglican/Methodist sharing scheme in Cononley.

The magazine also contained a number of advertisements from local businesses, most of which no longer operate. However, I am pleased to see that Harrison Builders in Cononley, and Riddiough's plumbers and heating engineers in Crosshills still continue to function within the local communities.

*See page 25*

## A Community Remembers

11.00am on the 11th day of the 11th month. The community of Kildwick and Farnhill gathered around the War Memorial to remember the 60 young men who did not return from the trenches.



Earlier in the day, the bells rang half muffled in their sad tribute. After standing in silence as the clock struck, we filed into church where, with their images as a backdrop, the names of the fallen were read out and candles lit.

With the muffles removed (thank you, Richard and Ed!) the bells rang out again. This time, they rang joyfully to celebrate the coming of peace. Across the country, an outburst of ringing took place. Never before has there been so much ringing on a single day for a single purpose. An unprecedented day.

At Kildwick we rang three times on Armistice Day itself, adding to that record tally of around 2,400 performances. Our Sunday Service ringers included, for the first time, Angus and Anna, recruited from among the MiniRingers and now worthy of their full-time places in the band.

The more celebratory ringing at 12.30 included all the rest of the MiniRingers and featured, for the first time, our "band" of 23 ringers. Some parents joined in with this ringing, so we mustered a team of some thirty folk, some of whom had never touched a bell rope before.

This total was dwarfed in the evening. We had advertised around the community that there was an opportunity to "Mark a Special Day in a Special Way" by ringing a bell. With no idea how many would come, we printed 60 certificates, put the kettle on and waited. And you came!

Ringling a bell full circle is not easy. It takes several hours of close tuition to master the technique, but there are ways to employ "dual control" with a skilled ringer. In this way, we think that some 73 people joined us and rang with others in joyful celebration. Certificates were written and (most) names recorded to be displayed in the tower as a permanent memorial to this special day.

The national record of this day has just been published. The Kildwick entry occupies more space than any other tower in the country! The photo shows just some of the early arrivals who came to make their own small mark on this special day.



Away from Remembrance Day itself, there was one more notable occasion to mark. On 13th November 1918, Private Stanley S Duffill died of pneumonia in a Belgian hospital. He doesn't appear on our War Memorial – he lived in Sutton. But he was a ringer at Kildwick. He rang in the first ever full peal on eight bells in 1916. His name is (misspelled) on a commemorative board in the tower. We marked this day too. We rang a quarter peal in his memory on those same bells. We rang them unmuffled in celebration of Stanley's short life and we then stood silently in sadness at his passing.

*Chris Wright*

### ***From page 23***

The forty-three year period since 1975 has also witnessed the demise of many of the church officials, but again there are one or two notable exceptions. Mrs. Janet Wade was the PCC Secretary in Cononley in 1975 and Mrs. Ruby Sedgwick was on the Church cleaning rota as she still is today. Janet has continued to give continuous service to the Church in a variety of roles throughout the whole period. We should be immensely grateful to these two and other ladies who have contributed to the work of the church in the two villages and who now make up the majority of the church officials.

To conclude this article, may I roll back the years to 1975 and use the words of our ministers at that time by once again wishing everyone that 'your best hopes for Christmas may be realised'.

November 2018

*Alan Ratledge*

# backpack

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gracious  
cousin

Romans  
holy  
Elizabeth  
prayer  
childless  
pregnant  
invaded  
Zecharaiah

Mary  
Israel  
name  
burn  
angel  
son  
baby  
John