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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**

April 2019


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Selfless love

Courtesy of the BBC Radio iPlayer and adaptations by the excellent Nick Warburton, I've recently re-immersed myself in the world of Anthony Trollope's *Barsetshire*.

Starting with 'The Warden' and ending with 'The Last Chronicle of Barset', in the mid-nineteenth century Trollope wrote 6 novels set in the fictional county, revolving around the lives and trials of the clergy and the generally upper-class set in which they moved. They're full of memorable characters: the odious Obadiah Slope, full of self-serving ambition and overweening confidence in his personal charms and abilities; Mrs Proudie, utterly convinced of her own righteousness and ability to manage church affairs accordingly through her ineffectual husband, the Bishop; her implacable enemy, Archdeacon Grantly, and his gentle, saintly father-in-law Mr Harding. Reading them today is to enter a bygone age of both church and society.

In the final book in the series, a poor clergyman, the Reverend Josiah Crawley, finds himself accused of stealing a cheque. The cheque is certainly in his possession, and Mr Crawley finds himself unable to remember how it came there. Proud and stiff-necked, he does nothing to help his case, despite the pleading of his long-suffering wife Mary. But the effect of the

accusation and his unwillingness to fight it is felt not just by Mr Crawley.

His daughter Grace is in love with Major Henry Grantly, son of the Archdeacon, and he with her. There's a disparity in their social positions, but Henry, seeing and loving Grace's goodness, is prepared to defy his father's disapproval. But



“
...the odious
Obadiah Slope,
full of self-serving
ambition and
overweening
confidence”

Grace refuses to accept his proposal. She is profoundly aware of the social damage it would do to Henry to be married to the daughter of a suspected (not even yet convicted) thief. Loving him deeply, she will not do anything that would injure him, or that might be a cause for regret.

It's hard to imagine a modern author writing this. Today, the story would more likely be about the lovers flouting convention and defying the world for the sake of their love. Grace would decide that she wasn't responsible for her father's supposed misdemeanours and so shouldn't have to bear the consequences. Why should she and Henry be denied the chance of their own happiness?

As I listened to the story unfold, the phrase, 'the sins of the fathers' came to mind. It comes from the Old Testament

book of Exodus when God gives the ten commandments to Moses, and relates to the consequences of worshipping anything other than God.

But look at the full quote in Exodus 20.5-6. The sins of the fathers may be punished to the third and fourth generation of those who reject him, but this is contrasted with God's steadfast love shown to the

thousandth generation of those who love him and keep his commandments. And it's not about vengeance. It's simply about what happens to those who fail to keep God at the centre. The uncomfortable truth is that doing wrong has unavoidable repercussions: not just for ourselves, but for others, particularly those closest to us.

That's why Grace makes the choice she does. She will not allow the taint of even unproved wrongdoing to touch Henry. Because she loves him, she puts his welfare above her own happiness, even at great cost to them both. Henry is blinded by his love for Grace, unable to recognize the implications of marrying her. In her love, Grace sees for both of them. She sees the greater evil that would attach to him through their marriage, and is realistic enough to recognize the corrosive effect it would

have eventually on their relationship. She sacrifices potential short-term joy for Henry's long-term good.

Grace's love is selfless. It recognizes that it does not operate in a vacuum, but is embedded in a deeply interwoven network of relationships. Her decisions are shaped not primarily by considerations of her own good, but the good of others.

Such selflessness is rare, but its pattern is found in the story of Jesus. Holy Week is the story of selfless love – the love that puts the good of the beloved before itself. It requires the ultimate sacrifice, the highest price paid in blood.

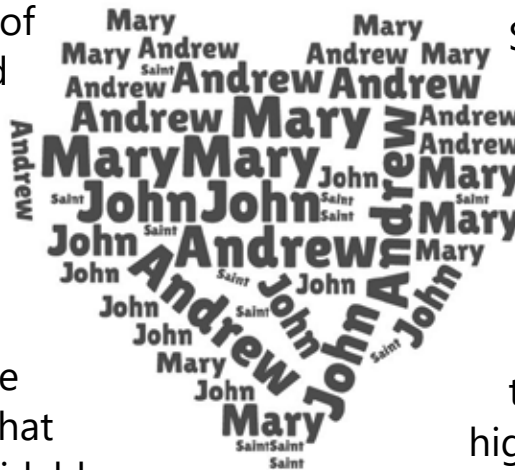
It is painful – 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me.' And yet, because it is the only way, it is prepared to sacrifice itself – 'yet not what I want but what you want.'

And because of that selfless love for all people and creation, the way is opened into a new world. That's what we celebrate on Easter Day. Selfless love paves the way for the happiest, most joyful of endings.

Is that true for Grace Crawley and Henry Grantly? I don't want to spoil the story. Read it for yourselves.

With every blessing

Julie



Rooks and Bishops

It was mid February when I composed my last piece for the magazine in which I reported on the mysterious disappearance of the rooks from the churchyard trees. I didn't need to be concerned, for within two or three days the birds started to return. Maybe they had decided to take a few day's break before getting down to the serious business of mating up and building their nests. For now there are several nests in the trees and the birds start chattering to themselves as soon as it becomes light. As further evidence of their presence, about eight of them descended on our back garden a few minutes after I had scattered some bird food which they greedily scooped. I also mentioned my hope for the imminent arrival of the curlew, and indeed received my first intimation that they were back in the locality on 1st March. So that was pleasing for a bird which is reported to be declining in numbers generally. And isn't it also good to see so many daffodils in flower now that the snowdrops are over? I had to go on one of my occasional trips to St. Luke's Hospital in Bradford at the beginning of this month and couldn't help being impressed by the numbers of daffodils decorating the city centre. So welcome to Spring!

Otherwise the news is not so welcome. The disasters in South Eastern Africa and in New Zealand put our own Brexit problems into perspective when the loss of so many lives dwarfs the loss of individual reputations. Our Church leaders have responded to the tragedies. Speaking at an interfaith gathering held at Regent's Park Mosque on 18th March 2019, and referring to the murders in New Zealand, the Archbishop of Canterbury said that those who act out of hate for Muslims act out of hate for us all. For his part Pope Francis has urged us to pray for and support the victims of Cyclone Idai which has caused such widespread destruction in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. I do sometimes wonder how the Pope manages to sleep easily at night. The recent disclosures of abuses of children among the Catholic priesthood must surely have caused him considerable mental torment. In this respect the well-publicised case of Cardinal George Pell in Australia must have been particularly mortifying. I understand that this high-ranking prelate is now being held in solitary confinement pending his appeal against his conviction. But even members of the Church have been drawn to question the conduct of their leaders in their handling of this and other cases. Rising to the top isn't necessarily a good thing for the individual concerned, whatever the organisation involved. One piece of advice I received at an early stage in my working life was 'never aspire to be a V.I.P.' Judging from the level of criticism being levied at our world leaders today it was pretty sound advice. I can't think of a British prime minister since the war who hasn't left office except under a cloud of some sort!

Alan Ratledge
March 2019

Hosanna to Alleluia – how?

If you came to church only on Palm Sunday and Easter Day, you'd get only a partial view of Jesus's story. One day we celebrate the joy of the crowds as Jesus enters into Jerusalem. Merely a week later, we're once again full of joy this time celebrating the death of death itself through the power of the resurrection. But how did we get here? What happened in between?

If you've not done it before, entering into the story of Holy Week is a powerful thing to do. From the high point of Palm Sunday, clouds start to gather, and the inevitable destination of the path that Jesus is walking becomes clearer. On **Maundy Thursday**, we recall Jesus's last meal with his closest friends. As the shadows loom, Jesus washes their feet, showing them how they are to serve each other in love. As he shares bread and wine with them, he gives them the means to remember his ongoing presence with them. Later that night, in a garden on the Mount of Olives, Jesus is arrested and brought hastily before both religious and secular authorities. Tortured and humiliated, he is condemned to agonizing death. On **Good Friday**, we stand with his mother and friends before the Cross, confronted with the reality of sacrifice made for the sake of the world. **Holy Saturday** - a day full of the quiet of the tomb; a day when God is dead.

But that's not the end. Something amazing is about to happen. Something we celebrate on **Easter Day**. Somehow, death is defeated. Christ is risen! The world is transformed - made new.

The power and joy of Easter Day is felt most strongly when we've gone through the journey to get there. So please do come along to any or all of the special services and events through Holy Week. It will make your Easter celebrations all the sweeter!

Julie



St Mary's, Bradley

St Mary's are hosting a couple of extra services during Holy Week. Details are on the page opposite:

On Palm Sunday there is a special celebration of Holy Communion at 9.30 and on Tuesday of Holy Week at 7.30pm we will join to say "Night Prayer" – that gentle service of Compline.

Services for Holy Week and Easter

Sunday 14th April

9.30am St Mary's, Bradley
 9.30am St Andrew's, Kildwick
 11.00am St John's, Cononley
 3.00pm St John's Cononley

2.30pm St Andrew's, Kildwick

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday service of Holy Communion
 Liturgy of the Palms (with Holy Communion)
 Palm Sunday service of Holy Communion
From Hosanna to Alleluia The Passion Story' led by the Cononley Singers, a reflection in words, music and hymns.
 Messy Palm Sunday (*in the Parish Rooms*)

Monday 15th April

7.00pm St Andrew's, Kildwick

Stations of the Cross

Tuesday 16th April

7.30pm St Marys, Bradley

Service of Compline

Wednesday 17th April

7.30pm St John's, Cononley

Service of Tenebrae

Thursday 18th April

7.30pm St Andrew's, Kildwick

Maundy Thursday

Service of Holy Communion with footwashing, followed by Gethsemane vigil

Friday 19th April

10am St Andrew's, Kildwick

Good Friday

Leave as part of CDFC Walk of Witness
Act of Witness taking place at St Peter's, Crosshills at 10.30am

12 noon St Andrew's, Kildwick

Church open for private prayer and reflection up to 2pm

2.00pm St John's, Cononley

Last Hour at the Cross

2.00pm St Andrew's, Kildwick

Last Hour at the Cross

7.00pm St Mary's, Bradley

Good Friday service
(joint with the Methodist Chapel)

Saturday 20th April

8.45pm St Andrew's, Kildwick

Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil service

Sunday 21st April

9.30am St Mary's, Bradley

Easter Day

Easter Day Celebration and service of Holy Communion

11.00am St John's, Cononley

Easter Day Celebration and service of Holy Communion

11.00am St Andrew's, Kildwick

Easter Day Celebration and service of Holy Communion followed by Easter Egg hunt



Cononley WI

We are now into March and the nights are getting lighter but remain chilly. I am so delighted that the WI members are still eager to turn out and enjoy the company of other WI members who have become friends over the years and I must add that our door is always open to welcome new prospective members and visitors.

Our last meeting took place on the 7th March in the Village Institute. The meeting was an open meeting where visitors joined us and it was such a delight to welcome so many visitors to the meeting. Our Guest Speaker was Mr David Gulliver, Local Historian, presenting a History of Cononley. The photographs that David showed and talked about generated great discussion and interaction with members of the audience. It was fascinating to see the many changes around Cononley and it brought back interesting and happy memories to the WI members and our visitors.

A hearty vote of thanks was given to David by Joan Banks, a long-standing WI member. This was then followed by refreshments and everyone joined in.

Cononley WI would also like to extend a big thank you to Richard Woolf for his help with the technical equipment. Everything went very smoothly so thank you Richard.

On the 19th March members went to the Brasserie in Skipton for lunch. This event is kindly arranged by Jill Bert and as in previous years the lunch was a great success and enjoyed by the members.

The Book Club continues to flourish and the walks are an excellent social outing even in the winter weather especially when there is nourishment at the end of the walk. These two events are kindly organised by Carolyn Scarr who inspires us to read excellent books and to keep fit!

March has been an interesting and social month for us so let's keep Cononley WI on the map!

We are looking forward to our April meeting when we welcome Joan Nicholson presenting "The answer lies in the soil"; it sounds engrossing!

Do come along see what we get up to! You will receive a very warm welcome. We meet on the first Thursday of each month in the Village Institute at 7.30pm. We are looking forward to seeing you and making you most welcome.

Warm wishes

Pauline Link - President Cononley WI



Sunday 14th April
2.30-4.30 pm
Your family is invited to

Messy Church
for Palm Sunday
at St Andrew's

A relaxed fun event for all the family with refreshments, Craft, activities, Bible story and songs.

If you are coming or want more information please contact

Lesley 01535 523291 or via St Andrew's Facebook page



Church and churchyard maintenance days
Thursday 11th—Saturday 14th April. 10am-12.30pm



It is time that we had a good tidy up inside and outside St Andrew's church.

Please do come and join us for some (or all!) of the time.

Equipment for cleaning inside provided but if you are able to bring gardening tools for outside work please do.

Refreshments provided.

The more volunteers we get the quicker it is done!!



Cononley Singers

Last Saturday we went to Christ Church to sing at the Skipton Music Festival and seeing as we were the only ones in our class, guess what we won. But we also got a very good criticism from the adjudicator who said nice things about our singing, especially the men, who keep reminding us of what he said.

Our next venue is St. John's for the Palm Sunday songs and readings so we hope you can join us there for a pleasant afternoon.

Ruby



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Deputy Wardens	Cononley: Mrs Janet Wade Bradley: Mrs Andrea Baxter	632369 630245
PCC Vice Chairperson	Kildwick: Mrs Lesley Hudson	523291
PCC Secretaries	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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Music Group	Kildwick: Mr John Hudson	523291
Organist/Choir Leader	Kildwick: Miss Glyn Evans	630735
Parish Room Bookings	Kildwick: Mrs Libba Utley	631631
Pastoral Care	Kildwick: Mrs June Whitaker	655320

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

Services for April

Date	Time	Church	Readings
7th April 5th Sunday of Lent	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	St Mary's, Bradley St Andrew's Kildwick St John's, Cononley	Philippians 3.4b-14 John 12.1-8
14th April Palm Sunday	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am	St Mary's, Bradley St Andrew's Kildwick St John's, Cononley	Luke 19.29-40 Philippians 2.5-11 Luke 22.14-23 end
18th April Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	St Andrew's Kildwick	Corinthians 11.23-26 John 13.1-7,31b-35
19th April Good Friday	2.00pm	St John's, Cononley St Andrew's Kildwick	Isaiah 52.13-53 end Hebrews 4.14-16;5.7-9 John 18.1 -19 end
20th April Easter Eve	8.45pm	St Andrew's Kildwick	
21st April Easter Day	9.30am 9.30am 11.00am	St Mary's, Bradley St Andrew's Kildwick St John's, Cononley	Acts 10.34-43 Luke 24.1-12
28th April 2nd Sunday of Easter	9.30am 11.00am	St Mary's, Bradley St Andrew's Kildwick	Acts 5.27-32 John 20.19-end



Cononley Church Cleaning

Week Beginning...	
1st April	Sheila Birks and Joan Driver
15th April	Lesley Cooke & Janet Clifford
29th April	Pauline Link & Jean Field

Rotas for April

Date	Kildwick Readers	Kildwick Intercessor	Kildwick Communion
7th April 5th Sunday of Lent	Anthony Luce Brenda Brock	Di Halliday	Sue and Peter
14th April Palm Sunday	Sylvia Clark Tim Chapman <i>Dramatic reading - Arranged separately</i>	Sue Hargreaves	Christine and Sandie
18th April Maundy Thursday	Lesley Bannister Christine Anderton	Lesley Hudson	Sue and Christine
19th April Good Friday	Glyn Evans Jill Wright Julie Bacon	Peter Bannister	
20th April Easter Eve	Arranged separately		
21st April Easter Day	Tim Littler Lesley Hudson	Lesley Bannister	Jill and Tim
28th April 2nd Sunday of Easter	Chris Wright Kathryn Morris	Sue Hargreaves	Christine and Sandie



KCB service pattern – from January 2019

	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 – 11.00am	11.00am	11.00am	<i>Lay-led service - 11.00am</i>	
Kildwick	11.00am	9.30am	<i>No service</i>	11.00am	

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



A Day of Prayer

The Bradford Area Prayer and Spirituality Team invite you to a Day of Prayer on Saturday 18th May.

9:30am-4pm at Haworth Road Methodist Church, Bradford, BD9 6LH.

The day will include:

• **Reflection on the scriptures** • **Listening to God** • **Silence** • **Storytelling** •

To book a place, please contact nicholas.clews@leeds.anglican.org
or 01274 662735.

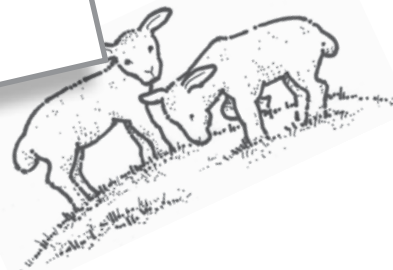
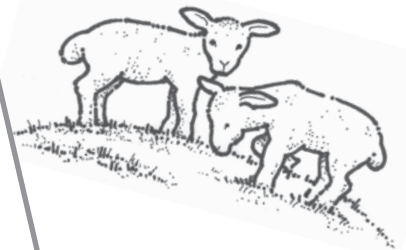
The Prayer Page

We thank you
that Easter is not about
a people,
but all people,
that your love
and your Salvation
are for all who confess
with voices, hearts and lives
that the tomb is empty
because Jesus is risen,
that we might know
forgiveness,
that lives might be
reborn. Amen

Easter reminds us
that each time
we deny you, Lord,
another nail is sharpened;
and each time
we defy you, Lord,
into your hand it's hammered.
When faith is weak,
temptation strong
and courage fails,
forgive us, Lord
and once again
become that risen presence
within our hearts. Amen

When everything was dark
and it seemed that the sun
would never shine again,
your love broke through.
Your love was too strong,
too wide,
too deep
for death to hold.
The sparks cast by your love
dance and spread
and burst forth
with resurrection light.
Gracious God,

We praise you for the light of new life
made possible through Jesus.
We praise you for the light of new life
that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.
We praise you for the light of new life
that continues to shine in our hearts today.
We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy,
will live in us each day;
and that we will be bearers of that light
into the lives of others.
Amen.



A striking difference



Every March the Skipton Music Festival takes place. If you happen to be married to the Secretary of the Festival, you tend to find out a good deal more about it than you might have expected...

There are some 100 classes for all manner of performers; piano and piccolo, accordion and alto, oboe and something-else-that-starts-with-"o". There are individual performances, duets, trios and larger groups. Surely, there's an opportunity here for the MiniRingers!

And indeed, there is!
Class 501
(Instrumental Group, Year 7 and under)
and Class 401 (Small Ensemble, Year 7 and under) would seem to fit the bill.



In either of these classes, we could be pitched against any instrumental group but, over the past year or two, the bells have taken to the stage uncontested. Bell ringers often meet for a "striking contest" where they ring a test piece and are judged on how accurately they ring – but this is something subtly different...

The Instrumental Group is the forum for tune ringing. Two teams competed; the MiniRingers played two tunes (Tallis' Canon and She'll be Comin' Round the Mountain) while the girls from Trinity and All Saints, Bingley rang three, including

Ode to Joy on the day of a significant Brexit vote! Bingley deservedly won that one with some well-struck playing. We were just pleased to get through She'll be



Comin' without comin' to grief! We were delighted with our second place – it was judged to be of Distinction standard.

The other class is limited to ten players and this was where we were going to ring changes which we do by moving up and down a marked-out mat. One ringer in a contrasting yellow shirt shows how the changes develop. We split into two teams; the

MiniRingers and the even smaller MicroRingers. The Year 6 MiniRingers tackled Plain Bob Doubles. We ring quite slowly, so a plain course of that is about right for this sort of occasion. The MicroRingers are younger – Years 3 and 4. I had expected they'd be limited to three or four courses of the easier plain hunting. But we discovered Penultimus Doubles, a simpler training method. They stormed it! No mistakes; a good rhythm – and it came round safely. For my money, they beat the Big Boys hands down – though the adjudicator hedged his bets with a "First Equal". And another couple of Distinctions to go with an enormous cup.

If truth be told, Distinctions were rather more easily earned than they have been in other years but we were delighted to get them. None of the performances was perfect but all four teams of youngsters brought different aspects of our art to the Festival audience. The tune ringing is delightful and, to a non-ringing audience, is immediately accessible. The change ringing blows their mind! It is so different from anything that they've seen before. Even for a ringer, watching tower or hand) bells ringing can be a fairly meaningless jumble but our "dancing" pattern of the changes with the highlighted treble, a little of the maypole-like pattern begins to emerge.

Chris Wright

... and do come along to the Music Festival next year! You've already read about the Cononley Singers and the part that they have played. Almost every day and at almost any time of the day, you'll find musical gems, ranging from the tours de force of the older ones, some about to step out into a musical career to my Gem of the Week; little five-year-old Evie who sang (from memory) "Ride on a Rainbow". It's well worth beating a path to Christ Church next year!

Seasons in the countryside

Spring is here at last and don't I know about it! Not only are the wild birds fraternising with each other but so are all my birds down in their pens. Spartacus the cockerel has been getting very friendly with all his girls, not to mention the racket coming out of the duck pen. To top it all off, Mohatma gander and his son are constantly at loggerheads with each other through the fence. I have to keep them separated at this time of year as they would fight if they were put together with all the geese. I am having trouble with Vivian at the minute. Every time her sister Katie lays an egg, Vivian eats it. She comes out in a morning covered in yolk. It's all round her beak and belly. I have absolutely no idea why she is eating her sister's eggs. Unfortunately by the time I open the huts up in a morning, Vivian has devoured her sister's egg. Luckily she cannot get to the other eggs in the other hut which is in a separate pen. The only creature I have to contend with in there is Miranda the maran hen. Even though I have clipped her wings to stop her escaping she still manages to escape. I should rename her Houdini. Miranda likes nothing more than rolling goose eggs round the hut in the straw. I have some very strange birds!

My Dad is a big fan of a goose egg or two. He likes nothing more than a plate of chips with a goose egg over the top. They are huge. They are the equivalent of four hen eggs. That's a lot of baking!

As I was putting the birds to bed tonight, I heard a scuffling on the drive and there in front of me was a really big hedgehog. I have no tins of cat food ready yet for them but luckily I was near the bird feeder so I threw down some peanuts. The little fella was quite happy munching on them before heading up into the garden. We dug a small pond in the garden in January and the other day a pair of wild mallards flew down and spent a morning playing in it. It is only a small pond but big enough for frogs and toads to happily play in. We felt sorry for the wildlife last summer when there was a drought and the land around was drying out. We wanted to make sure we always had a water supply for the wildlife to bathe in and drink from.

The spring bulbs are looking lovely everywhere. It is always a much welcome sight after spending what seems like months with no colour in the gardens. The forsythia is a picture on the roadsides round about. The blossom is coming out on the fruit trees. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we don't get a keen frost.

About three weeks ago, Mum and I went down to Skipton canal basin to see the starling murmuration. What an incredible sight. It was breathtaking. All I can say is thank goodness my mum had her brolly with her as it got christened many a time. Rather than our heads. I could have stayed for hours watching them but my stomach was telling me it wanted filling!

The farmer across the road from us is due to lamb early April so we are all looking forward to seeing the newborns bouncing around.

The greenhouses are all filling up with the summer bedding and perennials. The other day I was up on the ladders cleaning the glass. Before I know it, we will be in the height of summer and instead of keeping the glass clean it will be getting sprayed over with a thin emulsion to stop the sun from striking through and burning the plants. It is certainly trying working alongside nature but I cannot think of anything I would rather be doing. Next week the clocks go forward which I cannot wait for. It is an hour extra of spending more time in the great outdoors.



Cononley Art Group

What a good month we have had at the group.

At the beginning of the month we had Claire Dean who took a workshop in mixed media which was enjoyed by all, even the new artists found it was very rewarding as it was led by Claire who was very helpful to us all. Last week Derek Stansfield, who is one of our Cononley



group, led a watercolour class concentrating on skies which was interesting and enjoyable. The classes led by our own members are proving very well attended and useful to all our members.

Next month I am personally looking forward to a pastel workshop led by Cath Inglis who is coming from the far side of York to see us

Ruby



Over 80's Group

Our evening meetings have sadly come to an end after a good turn out for the last meal before Simon left. However, Jayne at the New Inn is starting light lunches there from 12.00noon to 2.00 on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday so the group decided to meet at the New Inn on the last Wednesday of each month, not Friday because Keep Fit is on at the same time. So in April we are to meet at the New Inn at about 12.00 noon on Wednesday 24th April, when we can have pie and peas, soup and a roll, followed by cake and tea or coffee. Meet us there.

Ruby



The Birds in Your Garden

Climate Change



Little Egret – an example of a European bird now nesting in Yorkshire – John Harding

We've all read and heard much about climate change and its effects, but what about our garden birds? What is likely to happen to them as the changes continue, probably at an ever-increasing rate?

Three responses in particular are becoming apparent in our gardens. Earlier nesting, longer stays by summer migrants (balanced by the absence or shorter stays of winter migrants) and species changes.

Earlier nesting

Spring has been getting warmer at an increasing rate since the 1970s with leaves appearing ever earlier. Logically, insects that feed on foliage do the same, and as most garden birds depend on insects to feed their young, they have brought forward their laying dates to match.

Great Tits for example are laying eggs around 11 days earlier than 40 years ago, and Blue Tits have shown similar trends. Species such as Blackbirds, Robins and House Sparrows which make several breeding attempts each year, also nest earlier, but are less likely to be seriously affected if they get it wrong.

Species changes

Research predicts that European breeding birds will move north by an average of 300 miles in response to climate change. For example, Green Woodpeckers

and Nuthatches will become more common hereabouts, and many southern species could appear in our gardens. Similarly, plants such as olive trees and Mediterranean herbs will be able to thrive here, paralleled no doubt, by the loss of some of our current plant species.

Since Blackbirds, robins, blue tits, greenfinches and the other 'top 10' species on the Garden Birdwatch list are found in the different climates across Europe from Spain to Sweden, a warming of three degrees is unlikely to affect their incidence in the UK much.

Migrants

Migrant birds too are changing their behaviour, with some species no longer coming here and others becoming residents, whilst autumn departures for warmer climes are delayed by up to a month. The UK breeding populations of Blackcaps and Chiffchaffs have both more than doubled since 1970. Average temperatures here have increased by almost 1°C in recent decades and familiar birds such as Swallows, have responded by leaving for Africa later. Others, such as garden warblers and whitethroats, are also enjoying warmer British weather for longer.

The effects of these changes are compounded by those in farming practices. Some bird species have vanished from parts of England, particularly where monoculture farming gives them no suitable alternative habitats in which to feed and breed. Add to all this the long-term reductions in habitat quality due to increased autumn planting and the ending of widespread manuring of the land, and the future looks bleak for many species.

The lack of invertebrates has been in the news recently too, both in the UK and in Germany – when did you last have to clean flies off the bonnet of your car after a long journey? Secondary effects on birds due to human activities that reduce the availability of their food, such as pesticides and herbicides are becoming serious too. For example, years of herbicide use means that many of the broadleaved plants which used to support a range of insects as well as providing seeds no longer appear. Stubble and fallow land used to support large numbers of ground feeding birds too, both have long gone in most places.

If you find the lives of our garden birds to be of interest, and you 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). If you know of an organisation not a million miles from York which would like a talk on garden birds call: Mike Gray 07596 366342 or gbwmike@gmail.com.

Jigsaw in the Philippines



Praise God for His answer to our prayers

We now have a new building in Forestry. We've worked outdoors in this very poor squatter area for eight years and having a building here for Jigsaws work is a huge answer to more than 5 years of prayer, thank you, We have united with a small Christian fellowship which is excited for us to use their building for our ministry. We will now be able to continue Jigsaw's work through all seasons, even the typhoon season, Hallelujah!

The picture shows Ellen and Mary Rose excited outside the fellowship building.

As you can see, the building is in desperate need of a new roof to make

it safe and water tight and we praise God for a wonderful gift we have received this week which will enable us to put on a completely new roof. It's an amazing gift which will not only enable Jigsaws ministry in all weathers but also allow the meetings of this small fellowship too. Praise God!

There is an appeal for prayer from Jigsaw UK trustees. As Jigsaw's wonderful work develops the costs go up, we are working to seek funds and resources in the Philippines but in the meantime an increase in funds from the UK is needed.

Jigsaw UK is a charity made up of the support of 18 churches and many individuals across the UK. The UK trustees have launched a new initiative to increase the number of people giving to Jigsaw by '100 people' in 2019.

Please pray for this initiative that the Holy spirit will inspire 100 new people to give a monthly gift to Jigsaw.

Might you or your church help in this initiative to find new supporters for Jigsaw? Our goal is for 100 new supporters. A form for new subscribers is available at the back of St Andrew's church.

Why is this space empty?

It's simple, really. Nobody wrote anything to fill it!

You'll see on these pages reports from a variety of people who tell us of their passions and interests. Why not add yours?

If something's interesting to you, it is interesting!



back
to
the
pump



*Mary wished she'd never mentioned
Fresh Expressions of Church*



The May Edition

Deadline for May is Sunday 28th April

Please let us have your material by then
– and we'll try to have the magazines ready for 5th May.

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