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The Pinnacle



**A Magazine for the parish of
Kildwick, Cononley and Bradley**

*The Churches of St Andrew's,
St John's and St Mary's*

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February 2020

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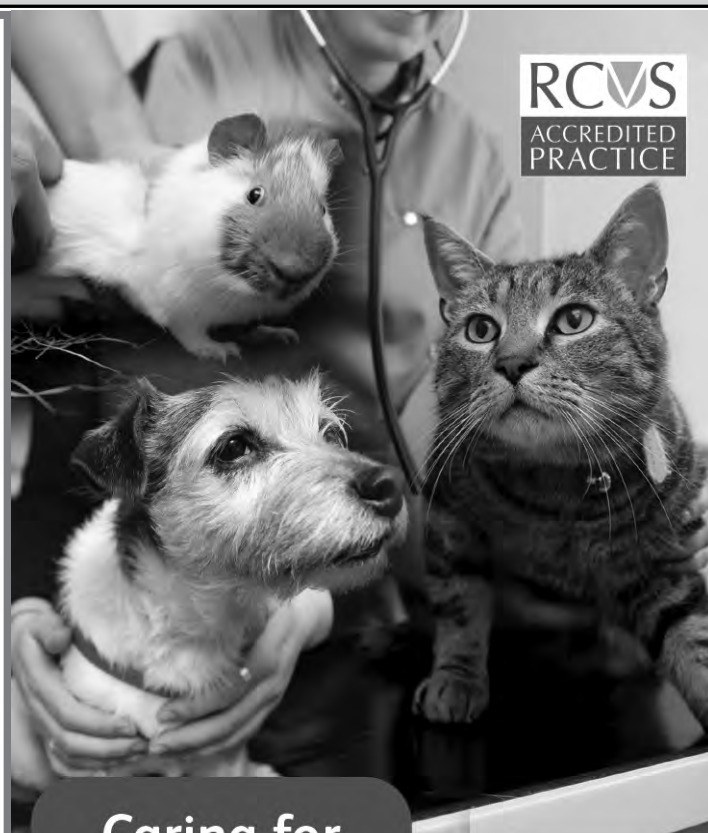
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Seeing clearly

Recently I took my mum to the Yorkshire Eye Hospital. She's got cataracts in both eyes, with one distinctly worse than the other. When the nurse tested her with the familiar chart of letters of descending size, she could barely get to the second line when using her 'bad' eye. And yet with both eyes working together, her sight is still good enough for all everyday purposes, including driving. As part of the examination, drops were then put into her eyes which dilated her pupils. For a few hours, she saw the world through a blur.

The good news is that she is shortly to have an operation to remove the cataract in the worst eye. She'll be at the hospital for no more than two or three hours, and the operation itself will take about 15 minutes. Within a day or two she should be able to see better than she has for the last few years.

In her working life, my mum was a dispensing optician (the person who measures your face and helps to ensure that your glasses frame fits properly), and so she knows something about eyes, including cataracts and how they used to be treated. These days she's amazed at the progress that's been made since her day, and grateful to live at a time and in a country where such effective treatment is available for a common condition. Today, when our

aged eyes grow dim, it's highly possible that there are things that can be done so that dimness will be lifted, and we will see once again with former clarity.



“When our faith is fresh and new, it's a bit like falling in love”

I wonder to what extent our spiritual sight also dims with age – and whether we recognize such dimming, or simply compensate without realising it? Those

of us who are Christians come to faith in a whole host of ways. It may have been a gradual process over many years, starting with being brought to church by our families or friends, with a growing acknowledgement that the church's story and faith was our own. Or it might have been a more dramatic conversion – you might be able to tell me the day or even the hour on which you suddenly realized that Jesus Christ was your saviour and your friend. When our faith is fresh and new, it's a bit like falling in love. Not just the beloved, but the whole world looks clearer and brighter. Our surroundings are more beautiful, and people are dearer to us because we see Christ in them as he is in us. Everything comes into focus with pin-sharp precision, as a source

of joy and wonder. Life takes on a new meaning, imbued with God's presence, God's love and joy and delight in us.

But we are creatures of time, and as the years pass, many of our faculties no longer work just quite as well as they used to – and perhaps this applies to the faculty

of faith too. What was once new and exciting becomes regular and routine. We see what we expect to see rather than what God is actually doing.

Somehow without our noticing, our vision becomes narrowed and clouded. Jesus said, 'The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness.' (*Matt. 6.22-23a*). Of course, eyes can be unhealthy at any age for all sorts of reasons – but the older we are, the more likely it is that we'll have eye-related problems. Jesus's words warn us to be alert to the afflictions that can creep up on our spiritual as well as our physical vision.

There's a story about a 19th century American clergyman called Henry Ward Beecher. As he greeted people after one Sunday service, one of the congregation said to him, 'Dr Beecher, you may be interested to know that I counted 12 grammatical errors in

your sermon this morning.' Another worshipper greeted him saying, 'Today, I found God.' They'd both listened to the same sermon. We see (or hear) what we expect to see.

A final story. A woman said to her friend, 'Look at my neighbour's washing, hanging on the

line. Look how grey and streaked it is.' Her friend

replied, 'The washing looks clean to me. It's your windows that are

dirty.' When the world starts to look cloudy and grey, we need to

do something to bring it back into clear focus. Lent

(which starts on Ash Wednesday, 26th February) is a perfect time to take steps towards restoring our spiritual vision to its former facility. It's a time for doing something differently – reading a Lent book, spending some additional time in prayer, fasting (whether from food or from something else, as a reminder of our ultimate dependence on God), or doing something daily to bless others. Such disciplines help to renew our vision, help us to see afresh "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning" (*Lamentations 3.22-23a*).

With every blessing

Julie



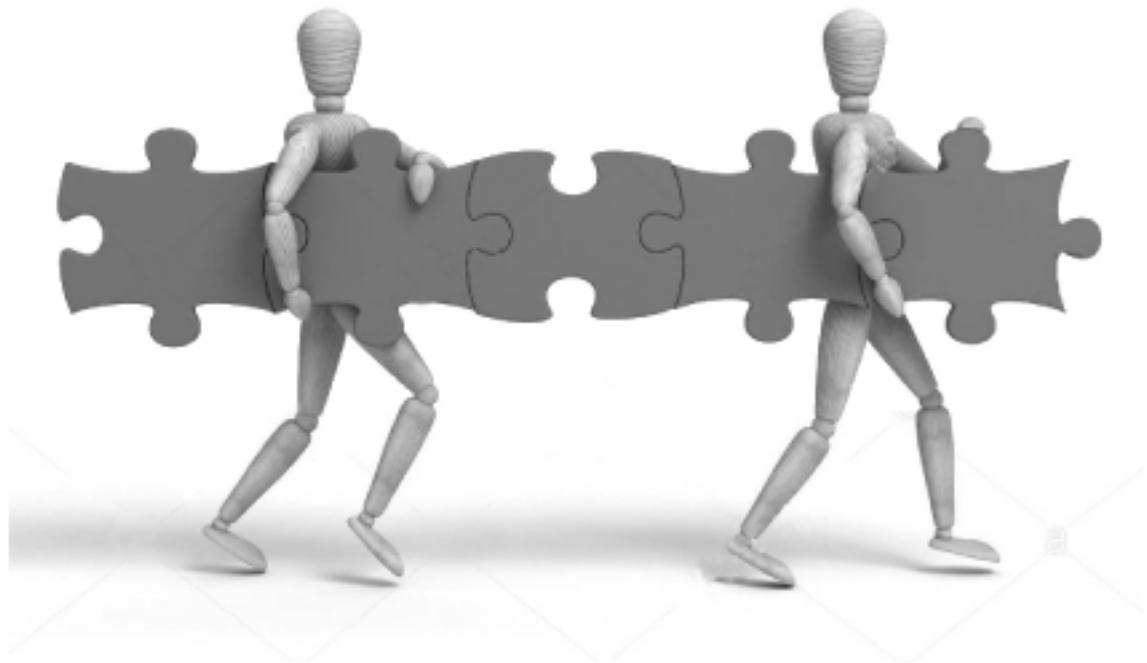
Home again!

Everyone will be pleased to know that the first service back in the refurbished St John's church in Cononley will be on 1st March at 11.00am.

The work is nearing completion and a service to celebrate the redevelopment and recommission the building will take place on Sunday 5th April (Palm Sunday) at 3pm.

We will be welcoming Bishop Toby Howarth and Archdeacon Andy Jolley, as well as Methodist Superintendent Ruth Crompton and Chair of District the Revd. Kerry Tankard at that service. We hope that people from all across our new parish will be able to gather and celebrate this significant re-opening.

There'll be more details in next month's magazine but put that date into your diaries so we can properly mark a very significant event in the young life of "KCB".



St Andrew's Messy Church



Messy Church service continues on every "third Sunday" in the month. The next ones will be on Sundays 16th February and 15th March from 2.30–4.30pm.

Messy Church is an opportunity for families to learn about God through craft, stories and singing in a relaxed friendly atmosphere. It lasts for about 2 hours and is suitable for all ages and concludes with refreshments.

Lent 2020 - Faith Pictures

This year, Ash Wednesday falls on 26th February, and there will be a special CDFC service at 7.30pm at St Peter's Church, Cross Hills, to mark the occasion – all are welcome to come and mark the start of the season of preparation for the joyful celebration of Easter.

On the following Wednesday, 4th March, this year's CDFC Lent course starts.



Called 'Faith Pictures', it will run over 5 Wednesday evenings, and is designed to help equip Christians to talk about their faith naturally to friends, neighbours and colleagues whenever the occasion occurs.

There are lots of reasons why many of us (even clergy!) find it hard to talk about our faith. We might think we're not learned enough. We might be concerned about annoying others, or that they might laugh at us. This course is designed to help us overcome those fears, so that we can talk about faith as easily as any other subject we care about.

The heart of the course is about helping us to identify pictures and images that embody something of our faith – something personal, meaningful and rooted in our own life and experience.

The course is accessible and light-hearted, with no jargon, and no assumption of 'one size fits all'! It uses video and discussion around tables to help us to find ways of talking about faith in a relaxed and natural way.

This Lent, why not come along and find out your own 'faith picture'?

'Faith Pictures' runs from 7.30pm to 9pm on Wednesdays 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March and 1st April at South Craven Baptist Church.

Cononley W. I.



It's the start of 2020 and on behalf of WI Cononley I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year.

On the 2nd January we met and held our annual auction and enjoyed a Joint Jacob Supper.

On the 6th February Corrine Dickson (Hons) Bsc MChs, a Chiropodist/Podiatrist from the Craven Clinic in Skipton, is going to talk to us on Nail Care, Skin Care and Muscular and joint biomechanics. This talk will demonstrate why it is important to keep our feet healthy. I am sure it will be an excellent talk.

New members or visitors are always welcome. We meet in the Village Institute on the first Thursday in the month at 7.30pm - be sure of a warm welcome!

*Pauline Link
President, WI Cononley*



Cononley Singers

This year will be the Singers 10th anniversary and so Tony has asked us to choose our favourite pieces from all we have sung in that time.

We will include these in our Summer concerts – and add some new ones.

It is good to reprise tunes we haven't sung for a while and it is amazing how much we have forgotten.

Our next venue is the Cononley Village Institute for the Musical Mayhem on 8th February. We hope to see you there!



By Kindly Powers Surrounded

Lutheran theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer was imprisoned in April 1943 by the Nazis for his continued teaching that the Church in Germany should oppose their policies.

Bonhoeffer began to write poems in prison. This poem was written after he had been transferred to the Gestapo cellars in Flossenburg and was sent to his friends with a Christmas letter on 19 December 1944. Conditions in the cellars were harsh. This is his last poem. He was hung by the Nazis on 9th April 1945.

The translation is by Edwin Robertson, a Baptist minister with deep knowledge of Bonhoeffer's life and writings. He writes that this poem is learnt by many a German child.

Bob H.

"By Kindly Powers Surrounded"

By kindly powers surrounded, peaceful and true,
wonderfully protected with consolation dear,
safely, I dwell with you this whole day through ,
and surely into another year.

Though from the old our hearts are still in pain,
while evil days oppress with burdens still.
Lord, give to our frightened souls again,
salvation and thy promises fulfil.

And shouldst thou offer us the bitter cup, resembling
sorrow, filled to the brim and overflowing.
we will receive it thankfully, without trembling,
from thy hand, so good and ever-loving.

But if it be thy will again to give
joy of this world and bright sunshine,
then in our minds we will past times relive,
and all our days be wholly thine.

Let candles burn, both warm and bright,
which to our darkness thou has brought
and, if that can be , bring us together in the light,
thy light shines in the night unsought.

When we are wrapped in silence most profound,
may we hear that song most fully raised
from all the unseen world that lies around
and thou art by all thy children praised.

By kindly powers protected wonderfully ,
confident , we must wait for come what may,
Night and morning, God is by us, faithfully
and surely at each new born day.

Cononley Art Group

Our demonstrator can't come in February so we will do our own thing that day but in March we will be having a pastel workshop so we will look forward to that.

We had a good time at our lunch where we ate a lot and talked a lot. It is good to have time to socialise (not that we don't talk a lot at the group!) We are already having workshops with members leading them and last month Pauline did some work on still life drawing and painting, so we are learning a lot.



Jacqueline's

Ladies & Gents

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Stitchers@BradfordCathedral

Why? Why is this Norfolk man involved with stitching even to the extent of taking three kneelers home to do in order to assist in reaching the Bradford Cathedral deadline, amounting to around two thousand hours of evening stitching over four years?

It started in Norwich as a very young boy watching my Mother's eldest sister embroidering table cloths and tea tray cloths whenever she came to see us on a Sunday. I was occasionally allowed to have a go.

As time progressed, I was a lapsed needle man, but always enjoyed seeing embroidered and crossstitch pictures. However, two rugs were made first, which still adorn our two bedrooms. Then I had a go at crossstitch pictures and have one of the Last Supper and one of a Rose Window. I have yet to complete my map of my beloved Norfolk in crossstitch, bought in Sea Palling when it was our 25th wedding anniversary – we are now into our 54th year! It is complete blocks of colour rather than words which I enjoy crossstitching.

Having retired fifteen years ago, the Cathedral sewing scheme was announced in 2016 and it sounded a good idea, especially to get to know folk from around Bradford Diocese, so Elsie and I joined four years ago, and we are still there! So twice a month on a Tuesday, we drive the seventeen miles to the Cathedral. In fact, every Thursday, I also drive to Ripon for hand bells practice at Holy Trinity Church Ripon, but that is another story which goes back to 1983, when we lived in Ripon.

DSC



Stitching the Cathedral

The Friends of Bradford Cathedral have led this major project since January 2016. Hundreds of people from all walks of life have joined the regular "crew", weaving thousands of hours of fellowship, companionship and prayer into this final element of Polly Meynell's vision for the Sanctuary of the Cathedral.

Amazing people have taken part, from Polly Meynell herself to a Serbian priest. Men on drug rehab have sewn alongside skilled Dales needle-men and -women. The bereaved have received comfort and the lonely have found companionship.

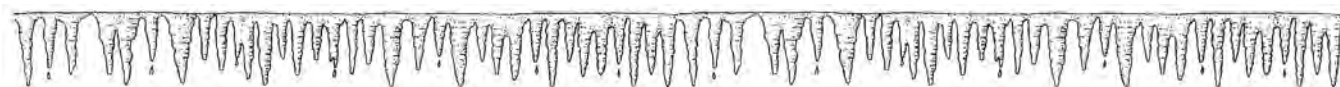
The project continues! To find out more, speak to David Clarke or Jill Wright – or visit <http://tinyurl.com/bfcdathfriends> or Google [stitchers@bradfordcathedral](https://www.google.com/search?q=stitchers@bradfordcathedral)

Interim Vicar	The Revd Julie Bacon revjulesbacon@gmail.com	01274 405170
Reader	Cononley: Mr Kevin Wood	633950
Church Wardens	Kildwick: Mrs Joan McCartney Cononley: <i>vacant</i> Bradley: Mr Robert Hall	635736 635549
PCC Vice Chair	Mr Tim Chapman	635063
PCC Secretary	Mrs Jill Wright jill@woodchipcomputers.co.uk	634526
PCC Treasurer	<i>vacant</i>	
Planned Giving & Gift Aid Secretaries	Kildwick: Mrs Brenda Brock Cononley: Mrs Janet Wade	633938 632369
Safeguarding Officer	Mrs Janet Clifford	631653
Parish Group Leaders	<i>The titles of our new Parish Groups, along with their leaders, will appear here once they have been created. Come along to the open meeting on 7th March to find out more!</i>	
Bell Tower & MiniRingers	Kildwick: Mr Chris Wright	634526
CHUFFS (Church for the u.5's)	Kildwick: Mrs Lesley Hudson	523291
Church Magazine magazine@ kcbchurches.org.uk	Kildwick: Mr Chris Wright Kildwick: Mrs Sylvia Clarke Cononley: D & E Clarke Cononley: Mrs Doreen Ratledge Cononley: Mrs Ruby Sedgwick Bradley: Mrs Andrea Baxter	634526 636070 633956 633831 632422 630245
CDFC Representatives	Kildwick: Mrs Christine Anderton Kildwick: Miss Glyn Evans	633596 630735
Flower Rota	Kildwick: Mrs June Whitaker	655320
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 February

Date	Time	Church	Readings for Eucharist
2nd February Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas)	9.30am 11.00am	St Mary's, Bradley St Andrew's Kildwick	Malachi 3.1-3 Luke 2.22-40
9th February 3rd Sunday before Lent	9.30am 11.00am	St Andrew's Kildwick Cononley Institute	1 Corinthians 2.1-12 Matthew 5.13-20
16th February 2nd Sunday before Lent	9.30am 11.00am 11.00am	St Mary's, Bradley St Andrew's, Kildwick Cononley Institute	Romans 8.18-25 Matthew 6.25-end
23rd February Sunday before Lent	9.30am 11.00am 4.00pm	St Mary's, Bradley St Andrew's Kildwick Cononley Institute	Exodus 24.12-end Matthew 17.1-9
26th February Ash Wednesday	7.30pm	St Peter's, Cross Hills	



APCM

I've got exciting news! The Church Representation Rules have changed!

One spin-off means we can delay the Annual Church Meetings till the end of May – and this year, we're taking full advantage of this. Our APCM is on...

Pentecost Sunday, 31st May 2020

This is a "Fifth Sunday" and we will all meet together at St Andrew's in Kildwick for our Pentecost worship followed by the two meetings.

Two meetings? One is of all parishioners, to elect the churchwardens.
The other is a church meeting to discuss everything else

Rotas for February

Notes	Kildwick Readers	Kildwick Intercessor	Kildwick Communion
<i>Methodist-led service at Cononley</i>	Glyn Evans Lesley Hudson	Peter Bannister	Christine and Peter
	Chris Wright Kath Morris	Lesley Bannister	Christine and Jill
2.30pm Messy Church at Kildwick	<i>Morning Worship at Kildwick</i>		
<i>Morning Worship at Cononley</i>	Tim Littler Jill Wright	Chris Wright	Sue and Tim
<i>CDFC Joint Service with Imposition of Ashes</i>			



An Important Meeting!

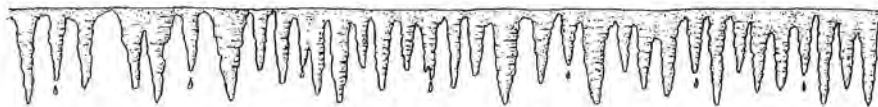
The creation of a new single Parochial Church Council for our new parish raises questions about the structures that will best enable us to function in this part of God's world. At its meeting on 13th January, the PCC agreed that a small number of "Groups" would be the way forward. Focussed on different activities, such as finance and buildings and social activities; with worship and pastoral care, the groups would encompass a wide range of people.

All the people of Kildwick, Cononley, Farnhill, Bradley and Cross Hills are invited to an open meeting at St Mary's, Bradley at 2.00pm on Saturday 7th March

Details of these new structures will be spelled out and perhaps we can share a vision of the work that our new "KCB" parish can achieve in our neighbourhood.

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	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
Thursday	7.00pm	Bell Handling Practice	Kildwick Tower
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 prayers

We meet together for "KCB prayers" each month to pray for an hour for our churches and communities as well as for wider concerns.

We normally gather at 7.30pm, on the fourth Monday of the month.

The dates and venues for the next meetings are as follows:

Monday 24th February at 7.30pm at St Andrew's, Kildwick

Monday 23rd March at 7.30pm at St John's Cononley

Monday 27th April at 7.30pm at St Mary's, Bradley

The First Meeting

Few people are privileged to attend the first-ever meeting of a Parochial Church Council. Some may breathe a sigh of relief that it wasn't them, but the fact remains that Monday 13th January marked the first meeting of the Parish of Kildwick, Cononley and Bradley.

The meeting began, fittingly, with a short Eucharist in church, setting the context of the work of the new PCC within the framework of worship.

Various appointments were made: Tim Chapman became Vice Chair of PCC and Jill Wright was appointed PCC Secretary. We couldn't find anyone prepared to act as PCC Treasurer. Julie will meet with churchwardens Joan McCartney and Robert Hall to seek a way forward. Three lay representatives (Jane Hall, Janet Wade and Jill Wright) were elected to join the incumbent and the churchwardens on the Standing Committee. Four Deanery Synod members (Shirley Hoskins, Andrew Symonds, Janet Wade and Chris Wright) remain unchanged. At the APCM in May, there will be a fresh election for three members of Synod.

The meeting was treated to some inspiring input from Revd James Theodosius, Incumbent of the Upper Wharfedale parishes and Rector-elect of Holy Trinity, Skipton. He has recently helped his Wharfedale parishes negotiate a similar process to our own and what he had to say inspired us all. Detail of what he said can be found in the minutes of the meeting.

Following this session, the PCC discussed the structures of the new parish. It was made very clear that we did not want to create a mini-PCC for each church! No decisions were made at this stage, but the Council is working towards the creation of a small number of groups which will coordinate work across all three churches. Membership of these groups will be open to all. There will be an open meeting at St Mary's, Bradley at 2.00pm on Saturday 7th March when these new structures will be presented.

We mentioned the implementation of the Churchwarden's Measure 2001 which limits a Warden to six consecutive years of duty. At present that is not in force. We'll need to decide whether or not to return to the national norm.

We heard a brief update on the Kildwick Building Group. A community survey has been reviewed and the PCC gave them permission to continue to explore strategy, developing a project and searching out possible grant funding.

There was a report on progress at St John's. It is going well though there is still a shortfall in the funding. We now hear the first service will be in 1st March. There'll be a recommissioning service later.

A group is working at staging a Flower Festival at Kildwick (10th–13th July) and the future of the joint magazine (yes, this one!) was marked for future discussion.

Word search for February



February is the month of romance. Millions of Valentine cards will be sent in the next week or two, as we celebrate our romantic love for that special person in our lives. But there are other kinds of love to celebrate: and on Candlemas we remember Mary and Joseph taking their baby son to the temple to present him to God. Jesus' whole life was a loving present to us from God. Through his death for us on the cross, and his resurrection, his love can now transform anyone's life. Romances can die, but God's love for us is always there. But it won't do us much good – unless we accept it!

Valentine
Rose
Romance
Love
Present

Restaurant
Hearts
Kiss
hug
girlfriend

boyfriend
fiancé
worship
repentance
angels

baby
temple
Mary
Candlemas
presentation

News from Kildwick School



Following last term's visit by candidates at the General Election, Year Six had a fantastic time in London visiting the Houses of Parliament. It was

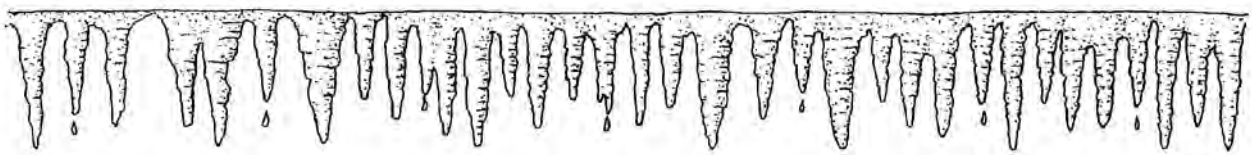
a great opportunity for them to learn about laws and how they are made. They created and debated their own 'bill' during their workshop and they amazed us with their well thought out questions. They were a credit to the school!

With the introduction of a new reading approach, there has been quite a buzz around books. As well as the new reading books, children of Class 1 have become Secret Book Agents, hiding books around the village for younger children to find and enjoy. One was spotted in the church porch recently!

School always tries to remember those less fortunate than themselves.

A non-uniform day in aid of the Australian bush fires was swiftly followed by another to collect funds for Luke Mortimer whose meningitis has left him without hands and feet. Both were very generously supported.

Kildwick has welcomed no less than five new children and their families (where will they put them all?!) One has already joined MiniRingers and all the children are settling in well. Swimming is going with a splash too. They did amazingly in the South Craven Cluster swimming gala and Class Three have started their swimming lessons. The Newsletter hoped they would develop "in leaps and bounds" over the coming months. I'm not at all sure that leaps and bounds will do them a lot of good in a swimming pool!



Kildwick & Farnhill Institute 2021 Calendar competition

Following the tremendous success of the 2020 calendar, which was a sell-out, Kildwick and Farnhill Institute have opened the competition to find images for their 2021 Village Calendar.

Local amateur photographers are invited to send a maximum of three images of Kildwick or Farnhill, in landscape format, for possible inclusion in the calendar.

The closing date for submissions is 31st May 2020 and the successful images will be chosen anonymously by Institute committee members early in June. Full details of the competition can be found on the Calendar page of the Institute's website. You do not have to live in Farnhill or Kildwick to enter the competition.

Photographs should be submitted to KandFIInstitute@gmail.com.



In aid of



**10.00am – 12 noon
Saturday 14th March**

**Parish Rooms
St Andrew's Church
Kildwick**

Come along and help support Jigsaw's work with some of the poorest children and families in the Philippines

The Prayer Page

Lord, You provide us with perfect love at all times and have given us everything we need.
We pray that you increase our faith and help us through the rocky times.
Give us the strength to face these obstacles and
Let the difficult days strengthen our faith until we rely only on You, Lord.
Amen.

Father,
Thank you that in a world of despair,
You are our Hope.
In a world of darkness,
You are our Light.
In a world of sorrow,
You are our joy.
Amen

Jesus, the hope of all who trust you;
the power of all who serve you;
the wisdom of all who follow you;
the uniter of all who worship you.
Grant us light at the beginning of this month;
Fill us with strength and boldness according to your promises,
That we might reach our needy nation, with your love.
We humbly acknowledge our weakness and failure,
But our eyes are fixed on you.
Fulfil your purposes and plans that your name may be honoured in our land.
In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.



The Birds in Your Garden



It's always encouraging to hear bird song during the winter months as a reminder that spring is on its way, but as the main purposes of singing are to attract a mate and defend a territory, there is little reason for them to sing now. Bird-song is a very specialised form of call that, unlike all the quacks,

honks and tweets we hear throughout the rest of the year, serves one function only – to boost the breeding success of the singer, to indicate clearly that he is healthy; fit and ready to breed.

At this time of year, you might hear Blackbirds quietly "singing to themselves" in the undergrowth, this is called a "sub-song" and it almost seems as if they are practicing for later. I'm told Song Thrushes do the same, but they're pretty rare around here, (apart from on the golf course!) so I'm never quite sure.

According to H.G.Alexander in *British Birds*, "A Thrush sings from late November onwards but with much greater vigour after about the middle of January. The Blackbird is rarely heard singing until February, and its best song is hardly heard till April or May." Maybe that's because, as some studies have shown, the earliest birds to sing are first year cocks. The older birds don't start singing until later.

Dunnocks too, safely hidden away, make quiet warbling noises.

Robins, both male and female, are pretty much unique in that they hold a winter territory, and whilst it is for feeding rather than mating purposes, they do defend it by singing; albeit not with the fluid enthusiasm heard in spring. They can get a pretty aggressive too! Their percussive 'tick, tick' is a call, not a song, and just means "I'm worried about that cat down there".

By the time we get into February, more and more birds feel the stirring of the need to breed, brought on by the changing hours of sunlight, and will start to sing. You may even hear the faint onset of a dawn chorus by the end of the month on bright mornings.

But soon, the scold of a blue tit and the overwrought panic-squeal of a blackbird will give way to something more urgent. It's a sure sign of the changing season. By March birds are not just calling, they are singing properly. They will be constructing considered phrases, full of meaning, taking their time, and uttering them from high perches. A bird call says something clear and unambiguous about the caller.

The cheery, repeated chime of a great tit is a statement of territory. The loud, explosive burst of the ever-flustered wren proves that size doesn't matter; their song is a constant challenge and insult to the bird next door.

If you hear a call you don't recognise, or want to identify the ones you do recognise but can't place, there is plenty of help. You could start by looking on the British Birdsongs website <https://www.british-birdsongs.uk/>, and there are plenty of books with CDs included that can help, too.

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).

Mike Gray (gbwmike@gmail.com.)

THIRD SUNDAY

A service at St Andrew's

An informal service will be held on the third Sunday of each month at St. Andrew's Church, Kildwick.

Not led by a priest, there will be hymns and songs, a short talk and some prayers, all suitable for the whole family.

Refreshments will be available from 10.30am before the service begins at 11.00am.

It will be a short service and everyone is welcome.

*We would be delighted if you could join us
on Sunday 16th February*

Quarter peals

Statistics can't tell us just how many ringers never ring a quarter peal. A "quarter" is a standard test piece among change ringers; it involves ringing at least 1,260 changes or "rows" and on most bells it takes around 45 minutes to ring. That's three quarters of an hour of constant ringing with no stops and starts. It's a bit of a physical challenge but it is actually a great deal more of a mental one. Can you concentrate well enough for long enough?

As I say, we have a pretty good idea of those who do achieve a quarter peal. They are the ones who qualify as full members of their local Association and therefore get recorded. Many ringers who don't ring a quarter don't appear in the statistics either. I'm guessing that around a third of all ringers never achieve a quarter.

Some clever ringers ring quarters regularly – often several times a week! They can achieve eye-watering numbers of quarters each year. I have to wonder whether they have any life outside a bell tower. At the other end of the scale, some have never rung a quarter peal because they simply don't want to.



They are happy to ring, faithfully, Sunday by Sunday to call people to worship. That's what the bells are there for! Some people would love to ring a quarter but they don't have the opportunity. And some are still developing the skills of concentration and endurance that they'll need for success.

The current Kildwick band is keen to develop and to ring our fine bells as well as possible. Targets, such as a quarter peal, are very relevant. Our five young Kildwick ringers have been learning, now, for about ten months and they are all developing really well. Some, of course, are going quicker than others and we have now taken our first triumphant step along that road. Just as we went to press, Angus set to and rang the treble bell to a very respectable quarter peal of Plain Bob Doubles. George was there too, observing. He'll be on the end of a rope soon. Last year, we were challenged to ring a quarter with all of the then MiniRingers. That'll be a huge task, but suddenly it looks vaguely possible.

How will we respond?

There's this photo of some children in school with a young girl shyly smiling at you. I keep looking at it: it's the January picture in this year's Sudan Link picture calendar, taken at a church school in a rural part of Wad Medani Diocese.



Seeing this photo in Bradford, a doctor commented "She's got kwashiorkor", a severe form of malnutrition. The tell-tale sign is not gauntness, but the orangey tinge in the girl's hair. Central systems of her body have started shutting down peripheral systems to conserve vital energy. Without nutrition (milk will do!) her physical and mental development will be stunted.

This photo, this luminous little face, encapsulates so much of the joy and the obligation of having a companion link with Sudan. Your heart can swell with love drinking in the picture, or shrink with realisation of the unawares challenge facing you. We who pass by, how will we respond?

The classrooms were in a state of collapse, the worst condition of all those we'd seen. We've funded the building of eight new classrooms. But there's no latrine, and the only water is a single, inadequate butt. And they would like to have a health centre, to teach nutrition and hygiene.

Please pray for our brothers and sisters in Sudan, and encourage our churches to give in support of their projects.

*Yours
John Poole
Sudan Link Working Group*



"Next Sunday I think I'll do a new take on the Parable of the Virgins and the Oil."

March 2020

The deadline for the March edition is Sunday 23rd February

Please let us have your material by then
– and we'll try to have the magazine ready for Sunday, 1st March.

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