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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*

St John's is a Local Anglican/Methodist Ecumenical Partnership

**April 2020**


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## “The price of love”

When I wrote my pastoral letter for last month's magazine, I had no idea just how much and how quickly the world would have moved on by the time I came to write this one. In an incredibly short space of time, for the time being, much of the world has shut down. Daily life for millions of people has been reshaped dramatically. Pubs, clubs, gyms and other places where people gather socially have been closed. Where possible, people are working from home. We have been asked to restrict our outings from home, to the minimum necessary for essential shopping or to collect medication, plus one daily trip out for the purposes of exercise (unless health or age means we must stay at home entirely). We're learning to gauge what a distance of 2m looks like. And as a consequence of this crisis, unprecedented in the last century, the vast motor of the global economy is slowing and stuttering, like an engine being gradually starved of fuel.

It will be possible for the nations of the world, working together, to overcome the COVID-19 virus – at a price. Nobody yet knows just how great that price will be. But much to my horrified amazement, I've already seen some public figures and commentators querying whether the price is worth it – whether saving people's lives is worth the undoubted economic hit that will follow. It's true (on the evidence so far) that most people who contract

COVID-19 will suffer only relatively mild symptoms, and make a full recovery. But that's of no comfort to the thousands who've already lost a loved one to this new and



**“What price a life?  
Sometimes we have to answer that question”**

virulent disease. It's of no comfort to the many brave doctors, nurses and other healthworkers who will have to care for the thousands who will inevitably be worst affected, and some of whom have already paid with their lives as they have pursued their calling to save others' lives.

What price a life? Sometimes we have to answer that question with a financial figure. When someone dies through another's fault, there has to be some basis for calculating such compensation as money can afford. But money is a poor medium for reckoning either the value or quality of a life. Because love is priceless – the love that we feel for our nearest and dearest, our families and our friends. And for people of faith, that love flows from and is grounded in the love of God for humanity and for all creation. Love starts with God.

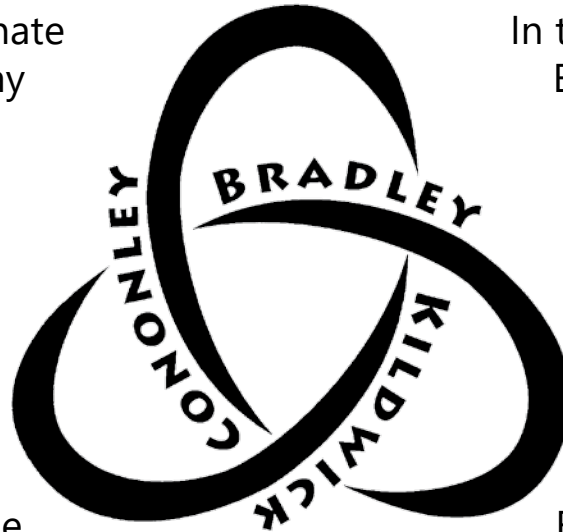
From the perspective of faith, life is a gift of God. It is precious and to be cherished, rather than treated carelessly or squandered. In the current circumstances, when we choose to stay

at home and keep our distance from other people, that's an act of love. We do it because in that way we stop the virus from spreading to those vulnerable to it, and in particular those who are most likely to suffer most from its worst effects. And that's the most important thing to do right now.

So to those who question whether the price is worth paying for the sake of an indeterminate number of lives, I say – what if it's you? Or your friends or family? Which of them – how many of them – would you be prepared to sacrifice to cushion the economic blow?

I want with all my heart to keep safe those I love. And as Holy Week approaches, I'm struck afresh at just how enormous was God's sacrifice in allowing Jesus to give his life for the sake of the world. As a parent, it's as counter-intuitive as it gets. But God didn't require other people to make the

sacrifice. God did for the world what only God could do – God revealed in human flesh in the person of Jesus. God made the ultimate sacrifice so that we wouldn't have to – so that death would be defeated, and we might live in the hope of the resurrection. That resurrection hope remains as real now as it was before we'd even heard of COVID-19.



In the letter to the church in Ephesus, the author writes:  
*And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is.* (Ephesians 3.18).

This Holy Week and Easter will be unlike any other I've experienced. But as I go through it, I know that I will be reminded once again of God's all-surpassing love – love that, like all love, is beyond any economic reckoning.

With every blessing

*Julie*



## **St John's United Church Cononley Quiz**

Thank you to everyone who took part in the quiz. There were about two hundred and fifty people who bought the quiz sheets. In the event, there were twelve correctly completed entries from which the prize winner of the hamper, donated by Skipton Building Society, was drawn.

*Thank you again – Carolyn*



## **St John's United Church Rededication Service**

Not surprisingly, this service has been postponed and the new date will be announced in due course.

## **Kildwick, Cononley and Bradley – one parish, three churches.**

### **Teamwork!**

The PCC has been thinking about how we can best do the things that churches do, as a single parish with three churches. We want to shine with the light of Christ in each of our communities and also look for ways to support and encourage each other. To do this, we're going to set up four Teams.

In many traditional church models, PCC members end up as the people who 'do' most of the activities that sustain church life. By setting up Teams, we hope to encourage a much wider spread of involvement. Linked and accountable to the PCC, each Team will have many more people than belong to the PCC. Ideally, it would be great to see everyone in our churches belonging (in however small a way) to one or another Team. And you don't have to be a churchgoer to belong! If you value your local church, there's a Team that would welcome your help.

The four Teams are:

- Buildings and Land
- Worship
- Pastoral and Outreach
- Treasury

These four Teams are supported by the churchwardens and vicar whose role is to oversee the parish, encourage co-operation and foster relationships between the churches. Together, the Teams encompass the broad span of activities that constitute regular church life.

Each Team has its own terms of reference, outlining its sphere of activity and how it works. The hope is that each of the three churches will have at least one person on each Team, and there's provision for occasional meetings between one or more Team members from each church, for the purposes of support, encouragement and swapping of ideas and good practice.

Of course, we know that the numbers at each church differ, and not every church is able to do everything. The idea of the Team structure is not to create additional burdens for anyone, or to generate more unnecessary meetings! Instead, it's a way of organising what we already do, hopefully in a more connected way than we've done it in the past. It's also a way of encouraging a greater number of people to get involved, rather than looking to a small number of people to carry the whole weight of all that is needed to sustain church life.

When we're able once again to start meeting and worshipping physically together, look out for copies of the Teams' terms of reference. And please think and pray about whether you can join a Team, and which one. You don't have to do it all! But the Church is all of us – and we are all called to play a part, big or small, as part of the Church, the body of Christ. Joining a Team is a good way to do that.

***Julie Bacon***

## The Thumbnail Chain

At a time when we can't meet and can't swap anecdotes and news, we can share a little bit of ourselves with others.

Just as Desert Island Discs gives the opportunity for a person to speak in a controlled way about their lives, I would like to invite you to let us see a small snapshot from your life. It may be something of which you are proud - it could be a favourite anecdote – or a joke at your own expense.

...and here's the fun bit! If you do that, you have the privilege of inviting someone else to follow with their own story! (***There's a way to win friends and influence people!***) It doesn't need to be long; just a snippet; a thumbnail.

I'll start:

### School Reports

I was at school when we all got individual written reports from each teacher. I have two that I treasure. The first was written when I was about ten:

***Cricket – Wright Minor***

***He takes as little interest in the game as possible and is a perfect pest on the games field. A very poor player***

The second was written a lot later in the 1970's after I had been teaching for a few years. It was written by one of my pupils (also aged about ten).

The class was tasked with writing school reports on their teachers.

***Science – Wright C.J.***

An absolutely brilliant teacher!

*(No, sorry. I made that one up. Start again...)*

***A keen and enthusiastic teacher. He is always starting interesting new projects but sadly few of them ever get finished.***

I am reliably told by the one who knows me best that this report is just as relevant today as it was, back in 1975.

And so, for the next instalment, I nominate...

***Jill Wright***

Please feel free to join in with this "game". You don't have to wait to be nominated! Neither should you feel exposed. You can choose whatever glimpse of you, or your life, you feel comfortable to share. Send it on paper, email, carrier pigeon or however you like. And don't forget to nominate at least one other! (It'll be your job to let them know...)



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## Cashflow

Many people are used to putting their offerings on a plate in church. With no church, there's no plate and no offering!

If this is the way you contribute to the ongoing costs of your church, could you consider using other methods?

Online or cheque all work!



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## Out of the Woodwork

As more and more people are spending more and more time at their computers, smartphones and tablets, we're hearing more and more warnings of the sort:

*"Beware opening mails from XXX" or Don't allow YYY to become friends".*

**All** of these warnings are almost **certainly** hoaxes! Please never pass them on unless you **know** they are **genuine**. Find that out by going to the website [snopes.com](http://snopes.com) and search for the key words.

**Don't know? Don't pass it on.**

## Services for April

There are, of course, no services in any of our churches during April. Instead, here is a list of some of the resources available to you for this month.

***Sunday Readings. These are the set Eucharistic readings for the day.***

### **5th April – Palm Sunday**

There are two sets of readings to choose from:

***The Liturgy of the Palms:***

Matthew 21.1-11 and Psalm 118.1-2,19-29

***The Liturgy of the Passion:***

Isaiah 50.4-9a, Psalm 31.9-16, Philippians 2.5-11  
and Matthew 26.14 – 27.66 or Matthew 27.11-54

### **9th April – Maundy Thursday**

Exodus 12. 1-14 and John 13.1-17, 31b-35

### **12th April – Easter Day**

Acts 10.34-43 and Matthew 28. 1-10

### **19th April – Second Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2. 14a, 22-32 and John 20.19-end

### **26th April – Third Sunday of Easter**

Acts 2.14a, 36-41 and Luke 24.13-35

### ***Daily Readings***

There are set readings for every day of the year in the Church of England's regular calendar. It could be possible to compile a daily listing here, but a far easier resource for those with Internet access is the excellent Oremus website.

"Oremus" is Latin for "Let us pray" and one page <[oremus.org/cofe.html](http://oremus.org/cofe.html)> gives a simple link to the Common Worship liturgy for that day. It's all in one place and includes all the readings and psalms as well as the Collect and so on. A really good Take-Away Ready Meal for your soul! That one link will call up the appropriate page for today, yesterday and tomorrow.

***If you have no access*** to this, the full lectionary for April is available in printed format. (Yes! On real paper!). If you want one, get in touch with Chris Wright on 634526 with your address and Postman Pat will do the rest!

Yet another option would be to get a copy of Bible Reading Fellowship notes. New Daylight (May to August 2020) costs £4.70 and though Cornerstone is closed, Jill (634526) may be able to get hold of a copy for you.



## APCM 2020

It is obvious that this meeting, scheduled for Pentecost Sunday on 26th April won't be happening just yet. We have received a message from the Bishop:

*As you know, PCC meetings, Annual Parochial Church Meetings, Deanery Synods, etc are suspended. However, The Diocesan Bishop can exercise powers (under section 10 of the Churchwardens Measure 2001 and rule 78 of the CRR) to extend or alter the time for the holding of meetings and elections. The Churchwardens Measure 2001 and the Church Representation Rules stipulate that annual meetings must take place by 31 May each year.*

*Therefore, Bishop Nick has now signed an Instrument under these conditions to extend the period of office of current churchwardens or PCC members until later in the year.*

The key paragraph in the Instrument reads:

***"The period for holding the annual parochial church meeting ("APCM") in the year 2020 is extended to 31st October 2020 (and accordingly, the time for electing parochial representatives of the laity to the deanery synod and to the parochial church council, and for transacting the other business of that meeting, is extended to that date).***

We have only fairly recently held the very first APCM since our new parish was created last autumn so perhaps this move is of rather smaller significance to us than it may be to many other parishes.



## Cononley WI



On the 5th March we met and all our members were eagerly waiting for me to welcome and introduce our guest speaker.

I welcomed Mr John Simpson and his team from Waitrose Otley. They came to demonstrate to us how we can compare different wines and cheeses. By doing this you get the most delicious flavours from the wines and cheeses. At the end of the evening Jill Burt gave a very hearty thanks to Mr Simpson and his team.

It is with great sadness to announce that WI Cononley will not be meeting in April due to the Coronavirus. We wait in anticipation to hear from Alma House Ripon for further updates.

In the meantime each and every one of you please keep safe and well. I look forward to giving you all a warm welcome when we return.

*Pauline Link  
President WI Cononley*

## Sustaining prayer, worship and the spiritual life amidst COVID-19

The Christian life is all about relationships. As people of faith, we are called to relate to God and to each other, and for most us, this finds its focus in our weekly gathering Sunday by Sunday for worship, in buildings that speak to our communities of God's abiding presence in their midst. But at the moment, and for the time being, all our normal ways of doing things have been brought to a standstill. For the sake of public health and safety, church buildings remain closed, and we are unable physically to gather with others to worship and pray together. So the challenge is for us to find ways to do things differently as the dispersed rather than gathered people of God.

The speed of this change has been dizzying, and new information and guidance is being issued almost daily. Along with clergy across the country, I'm doing my best to work out alternative ways for us to be sustained and nurtured in our faith and relationships with God and each other. The situation calls for rapid responses which may need to change again, so please bear with me and with each other as we do the best we can in challenging circumstances.

The situation calls for readiness to try a range of tools that we can use to communicate and stay in touch with each other. I know that not everyone wants or is able to embrace the panoply of modern technology. But for those who do (including anyone brave enough to try for the first time), there are several options:

**E-mail** – Jill Wright is administering a list of those in our parish or connected with it who have e-mail and would like to use it to keep in touch. At the moment I plan to e-mail maybe a couple of times a week, with some words of encouragement and any relevant changes to information about how churches are operating at the moment. You're able to opt out at any time. If Jill doesn't have your e-mail address and you'd like to keep in touch in this way, please pass it to her. ***In the same way, if you want to come off this list, then please let Jill know!*** We don't want to lose touch with you completely and so we'll make a new list that is only used occasionally - **at most** once a week. With your permission, we'll transfer your details to that list.

**Website** – there is a new website for the parish – [www.kcbchurches.org.uk](http://www.kcbchurches.org.uk). Check here regularly for news and up-to-date information.

**Facebook** – there is a new Facebook page for the parish – log on to Facebook and search for 'KCB Parish'. I did my first Facebook livestream on Sunday 22nd

March at 10am – a service of Morning Prayer, and throughout the week I've been livestreaming Morning and Evening Prayer at 9am and 4.30pm respectively (the videos stay on the page, so you can watch them later if you prefer).

The Facebook page is also a good place to share information about local services in the parish that might be useful to people who are self-isolating (the Cononley Village Shop, for example, is offering deliveries in the village).

**Alongside the new technology**, I'm also making use of older technology – the phone! I'm trying to make a few pastoral phone calls each day, to keep in touch with people to find out how you're doing and whether you have any particular prayer requests. If you haven't heard from me yet, it's probably because I'm still working my way through the lists! But please feel free to telephone me too, with prayer requests or if there's any other way I can help you. It would be best if you call my landline number (01274 405170) rather than my mobile, as the reception's not brilliant. There's an answerphone for a message if I can't take your call, and I'll phone back as soon as I can.

**For those who can't or don't use electronic means of communication**, I'm hoping that we can deliver hard copies of this magazine to you. I'm also planning on preparing some resources for use during Holy Week. If you need hard copies, please contact Jill Wright and let her know, as she's compiling a list of those who require information in that format. Given the current restrictions on movements outside the home, can I please ask that you ask to go on that list **only** if you have no access to e-mail or the internet, rather than simply preferring hard copy. I or someone else will do our best to deliver to you, but it will help if deliveries can be kept to a minimum. Thank you.

And finally, some pointers to resources that may help you immediately:

The Church of England publishes the liturgies for Morning and Evening Prayer on its website. There are at least two places can find this. Either go to **churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/join-us-service-daily-prayer** or visit the Oremus website at **oremus.org/cofe.html**

Click on 'More options' on the C of E site if you're looking for a particular date.

The Church of England has also produced liturgies and prayers in the light of the coronavirus outbreak. You can find prayers about the outbreak, prayers with children, personal prayers and worship at home. Go to **churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-liturgy-and-prayer-resources**

*Some of these prayers form this month's Prayer Page overleaf.*

**Revd. Julie**

## The Prayer

For hospital staff and medical researchers  
Gracious God,  
give skill, sympathy and resilience  
to all who are caring for the sick,  
and your wisdom to those searching for a cure.  
Strengthen them with your Spirit,  
that through their work many will be restored to  
health;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you taught us to love our neighbour,  
and to care for those in need  
as if we were caring for you.  
In this time of anxiety, give us strength  
to comfort the fearful, to tend the sick,  
and to assure the isolated  
of our love, and your love,  
for your name's sake.  
Amen.

For those who are ill  
Merciful God,  
we entrust to your tender care  
those who are ill or in pain,  
knowing that whenever danger threatens  
your everlasting arms are there to hold them safe.  
Comfort and heal them,  
and restore them to health and strength;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

Keep us, good Lord,  
under the shadow of your mercy  
in this time of uncertainty and distress.  
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,  
and lift up all who are brought low;  
that we may rejoice in your comfort  
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love  
in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
Amen.

God of compassion,  
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.  
In their loneliness, be their consolation;  
in their anxiety, be their hope;  
in their darkness, be their light;  
through him who suffered alone on the cross,  
but reigns with you in glory,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

*For the Christian community*  
We are not people of fear:  
we are people of courage.  
We are not people who protect our own safety:  
we are people who protect our neighbours' safety.  
We are not people of greed:  
we are people of generosity.  
We are your people God,  
giving and loving,  
wherever we are,  
whatever it costs  
For as long as it takes  
wherever you call us.

## New Online Facilities

The upheaval caused by “Lock-Down” has been the catalyst for two new online facilities.

We have, for some time, had a domain called “KCBChurches”. It was registered with the vague thoughts that “it will be useful sometime” but it was used, simply for a couple of dedicated email addresses.

Suddenly, the need for a whole-parish site to sit alongside the riches of the old established Kildwick website became clear and so the **new parish website** is now in place at **kcbchurches.org.uk**

On here, the primary focus has been to get as many resources on line as we can that will help both individuals seeking liturgical and spiritual resources and those wanting to stay in touch with the community that is “KCB”. Can I encourage you to take a look if you can? Julie has recently added two excellent leaflets for Holy Week and Good Friday (on the Gathering Resources menu). An online version of this magazine will be there - but the traditional “paper” copy (a .pdf file) will still be available on the Kildwick site, as the newest part of the whole 20-year archive of past magazines that is held there.

As well as the website, there is also **a new Facebook page**. I know that social media does not appeal to all – and we’ll ensure that important stuff is flagged up outside that somewhat restricted forum. On the Facebook page (find it at **facebook.com/KCBParish**) you’ll find a variety of material and chat. In particular, this is where Julie is streaming Morning and Evening Prayer at 9.00 and 4.30 each day. Unlike a web page, Facebook is an interactive medium and it is clear that this page is attracting a lot of attention, not just within our parish boundary, but from far wider bounds.

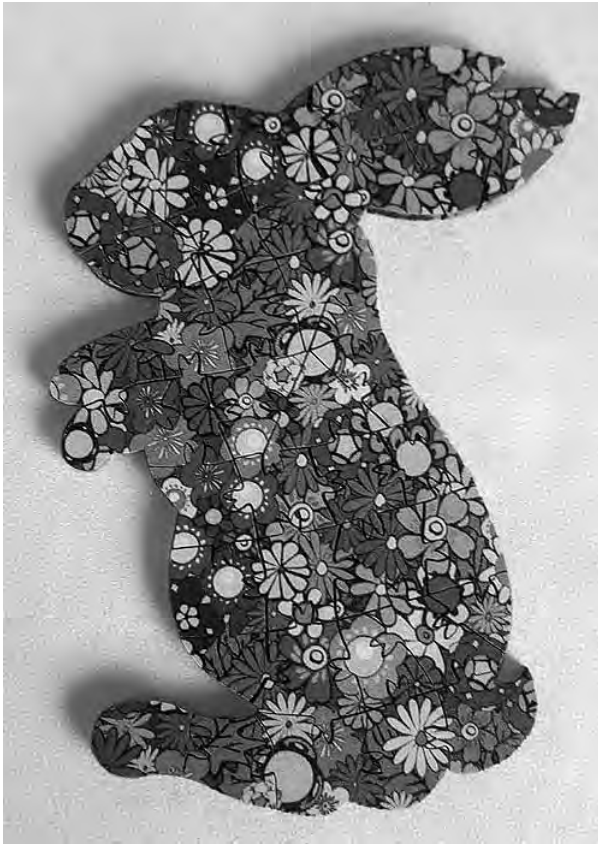
Young people are always quick to take up new ideas. Facebook was once the exclusive territory of the under-thirties. As the more wrinkled members of the community began to see the advantages, so the young ones deserted what’s becoming their parents’ stamping ground and moved on. The same is happening with WhatsApp. Here’s a richer form of texting - and one that can be used for group discussion. You may read (page 20) how this has taken off along our road. Perhaps this is another avenue to explore for KCB.

But whatever the joys and facilities of this new digital era, we mustn’t forget that we are all people. And people who matter. However much we work to improve communication and community using new tools, we do well to remember that, by this very action, we risk sidelining and alienating those who, for whatever reason, do not use them. Let us not forget those who have little love for email; those with no online account; those who can’t simply turn on a screen.

*Chris Wright*



## A Little Delight



We came across a small delight yesterday. On a whim, I bought a jigsaw as a Mothering Sunday gift. Called "Blooming Bunny", it was only 40 pieces. "Five minutes' amusement", I thought.

Nearly an hour later, we slotted in the last piece. Even when there were only eight or nine pieces to go, we were still hunting for the right one. A repetitive pattern, irregular shapes and no straight edges made for a puzzle that far outweighed its diminutive size. Good things do come in little packages!



## A Prayer in Lockdown

*The Association of English Cathedrals has shared the following prayer:*

*The doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked. (John 20.19)*

Ever present God,  
be with us in our isolation,  
be close to us in our distancing,  
be healing in our sickness,  
be joy in our sadness,  
be light in our darkness,  
be wisdom in our confusion,  
be all that is familiar when all is unfamiliar,  
that when the doors reopen  
we may with the zeal of Pentecost  
inhabit our communities  
and speak of your goodness  
to an emerging world.  
For Jesus' sake.

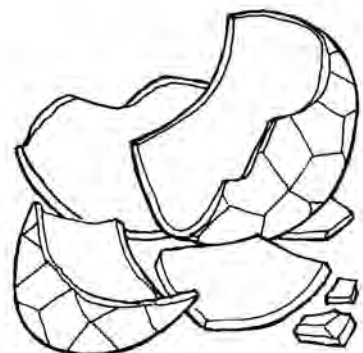
Amen.

## Cononley & Bradley April 2020

It will come as no surprise that everything in Cononley has come to a halt, so there will be

- **No** Art Club on Mondays,
- **No** meeting of Cononley Singers on Wednesdays and
- **No** get together of the Over 80's at the New Inn on the last Wednesday of each month.

*Ruby*



## The Passion Flower

So many things about this flower remind us of the Easter story.



The flower really comes from the hot countries of South America where it grows wild. The sort that grows in this country is smaller. It is a climbing plant.

This type has ten petals - creamy with a very slight green tinge. The flower is about 5-6 cms across. This represents the halo, or the glory of Christ.

The coloured threads inside the flower represent the crown of thorns, the white tint represents the purity of Christ and the pale blue represents Heaven.

The tall column in the centre of the flower is the seed box or ovary and represents the pillar of the Cross.

There are five stamens which represent the soldiers' hammers. The five antlers at the top of the stamens are the five wounds of Christ.

The three styles at the top of the seed box represent the nails with which Christ was nailed to the Cross.,

The rather pointed leaves remind us of the soldiers' spears.

The tendrils with which the plant climbs remind us of the whips with which Jesus was beaten.

The flower blooms for only three days and these represent the three years that Jesus had to do his work here on earth.



## Farnhill Parish Council

### *At the Council's February meeting:*

Access for the Vicarage was raised. The information supplied with the revised Diocesan Planning application claimed that there was a suitable public transport network to serve the site but this is not correct and the site will shortly have no buses at all. *(ed. presumably this discounts the nearby no. 66 bus route! Don't think that's closing.)* Visibility from the site is poor and the existing access point is not adequate to accommodate the extra traffic which would be generated. The Parish Council would be responding to the application urging the refusal of the application.

A towpath improvement volunteer group has been mooted. Its purpose would be to improve the hedgerows and carry out wildflower planting following the towpath resurfacing. The Canal & River Trust cannot handle money on behalf of volunteer groups so the Parish Council will act as budget holder for the group if necessary.



### **Sudan**

Coronavirus is still on the outer edge of problems in Sudan, but it almost certainly will come centre stage, a threat to life for our brothers and sisters who have no health service to fall back on and doctors mostly an unaffordable option.

We either walk fearfully, wary of every stranger, or we buckle down with faith and walk calmly. A way to the path of peace is to adopt a habit of grace, maintaining a constant pattern to help ground our day on Christ, the Solid Rock. Such a habit could be to repeat part of St Patrick's hymn as prayer. Write out some of its words to use in your own daily prayer – and include the Church in Sudan, standing with them through the unfolding crisis.

I rise today with God's strength to pilot me:

God's might to uphold us, God's wisdom to guide us,  
God's eye to look before us, God's ear to hear us,  
God's hand to guard us, God's shield to protect us,  
God's host to save us.

I summon today all these powers between us and those evils,  
against every cruel merciless power that may oppose us body and soul.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me,  
Christ in me, Christ on my right, Christ on my left,  
Christ when I arise, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I lie down.

God the Spirit bless us. God in Christ help us.

And may the Father hold us all, here and in Sudan, in his almighty hands of love.

## Tower News

All across the country, of course, the towers are silent. That archetypical part of the English soundscape is gone for the time being. It's one of the top ten most-loved sounds, just under, that of thunder! It's a more complete ban than it was during the Second World War. (Much of that ban is a myth. Ringing was restricted, but rarely banned altogether.) Here at Kildwick, even the clock is silenced! At towers like Holy Trinity in Skipton, the electrically-wound clock ticks on but our hand wound timepiece has been stopped to prevent the weights bottoming out on the floor. That could cause expensive damage.

In February's edition, I reported proudly on Angus' successful quarter peal, ringing the treble to Plain Bob Doubles. "George was there", I said. "he'll be next."

20th February arrived and, indeed, George successfully rang his quarter. Angus had rung the treble; that's technically a bit more complicated but the lighter bell helped. George rang the tenor. The "pattern" was easier, but he was manipulating a bell nearly 2½ times as heavy. Spread over 45 minutes of ringing, that's quite significant. The eagle-eyed among you might spot a rather similar line-up among the rest of the band!



Of course, the disaster now is that neither George nor Angus can set to with their "return match" (Angus on the tenor and George on the treble) which they need to do for their Level 3 achievement award in the Learning the Ropes scheme. Neither can we get any of the other three young ones to a stage where they can step up for their first quarters.

We had so much planned for the next month or so. Quarters, Dinners, Open Days, Recruitment. It's all on hold and we now wait to pick up the pieces whenever we're allowed...

## MiniRinger News

### By the skin of our teeth!!

What may prove to be the very final meeting of "the Class of 2020" for the MiniRingers was in Christ Church, Skipton at the Skipton Music Festival.

The Festival ran through the week just before everything began to shut down. Other Festivals, running just a week later were forced to cancel. Skipton ran through to its Final Concert – just!



Tuesday was Bells Day and we began with the tune ringing. There were two pieces; the first one was significantly more tricky than the second, but we had high hopes. Sadly, they were unfounded. Schubert's Cradle Song would not really have lulled anyone to sleep. I don't know what was wrong, but it was a bit like Pooh Bear's Twy-stymes: *"... tried to teach it to me once, but it didn't."* *"Didn't what?"* *"I don't know," he said. "It just didn't."*

Bobby Shafto was a different story. The team launched into that with gusto and produced as good a rendition as I'd heard. The competition was a band from Bingley. They are accustomed to beating the Kildwick band. They have better bells but, more particularly, they concentrate on their tune ringing while we do all sorts of silly things as well. I have to say that I have heard them ring a great deal better but we were all astounded to hear that we'd actually won!

Full of euphoria, we launched into our change ringing. For the first time, we entered three bands (two of six and one amalgamated one of twelve). We were guaranteed the trophy - and it was the slightly older "MidiRingers" who very narrowly came away with the trophy.

And then, of course, the lock-down. No chance to celebrate our success. No possibility of plotting what we do next. It's quite possible that the whole of the rest of our programme has been sliced off at the roots. Probably no bell casting for the MiniRingers this year.

The pictures show the two new trophies – produce of "The Kildwick Foundry". With luck, this enforced lock-down may mean I can at last get stuck into some serious casting – and tuning – of our new set of handbells!





## The Birds in Your Garden



By now, the nesting season is well into its swing, and if you keep your eyes peeled throughout late March and April, you may well be able to see evidence of (some!) birds' remarkable workmanship taking place around you.

Most birds only take a few days to build a nest, and instinctively build them to a design that is unique to their species. Few garden birds are ground nesting, just using a scrape.

Rooks, have been building for a while, and you may have seen their untidy nests at the top of various still-bare trees. They start by collecting sticks and dropping them on the branches they have chosen as their home, often the remains of a previous nest. To begin with some twigs will drop through, so look out below, but gradually they lodge in the tree and a rather unruly nest begins to form. Being on the large side, they can afford to nest where they can be seen, but most birds are much more secretive about it.

Most birds are quite cautious when approaching their nest site, and you may see them stopping to check they are not being watched before they plunge into a hedge, bird box or shrub. However, there is a limit to how subtle a bird with grass and moss in its beak can be!

Blackbirds, Robins and Song Thrushes build nests in the 'classic design' – neat cups of woven grasses and small twigs, camouflaged with moss and lined with mud.

Chaffinches nest in tree forks and use cobwebs to stick it in place. You may see them flitting around fences and window frames, picking off webs. Spiders are of great importance to birds in spring, not only are they food for adults and chicks, but their webs are an essential ingredient of many nests.

Long-tailed tits make the most intricate and delicate of all our garden birds' nests – which they couldn't do without spiders. They spend three weeks creating their pouch-shaped luxury home, beginning with a cup and dome of moss stuck together with cobwebs; next comes lichen on the outside for camouflage, and finally a filling of feathers for insulation. Studies have shown that they can use up to 2,000 feathers in a nest, and in collecting all their materials, need to fly some 600 miles!



All this nest building requires a lot of time and energy, so providing nesting material can help, as well as giving you a chance to see them collecting it. You may be surprised when you see which species choose your garden to nest in.

You can leave nesting material out for birds in many ways: maybe using a peanut or suet feeder, or leave it in piles around the garden, or hang it from trees. Try several different methods to find the best for your garden.



Avoid using any material whose source you are not sure of, or anything that has been treated with pesticides or fertilisers. Be careful too with pet hair – don't use after flea or worm treatments. Moss raked from your lawn is good too, as long as you have not treated it first. If you put out wool or cotton, cut it into lengths no more than a couple of inches long, to avoid entanglement. Never put out any plastic materials, they can harm both birds and the environment in many ways.

House Martins, Song Thrushes and Blackbirds use mud in the construction of their nests, so a small, wet, muddy patch in your garden, may make it easier for them, particularly if it has been dry.

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 no more than 30 miles from York which would like a talk on garden birds call: Mike Gray 07596 366342 or [gbwmike@gmail.com](mailto:gbwmike@gmail.com).



## Support your "Local"!

In these difficult times, it's hard to know where best to get your essentials. Please remember your "local". Among others:

**Cononley Village Shop** is open 7.30am-7.00pm (closed 2.00-3.00 on weekdays and 12.00-5.00 on Saturday) On Sunday it's open 9.00am-12.00noon.

Sandra is doing a fantastic job of keeping supplies in and all delivery slots are available! Email her: [cononleycoronahelp@gmail.com](mailto:cononleycoronahelp@gmail.com)

The **Coop** in Cross Hills is trading, as is the village **Convenience Store** (was Spar).

**Drake and Macefield** are open and will deliver both Veg and Meat Boxes.

Phone 01282 844468 (Mon -Fri 2pm-5pm **only**) or Facebook.

## Lock Down

The whole country is in lock down. Gatherings of more than two are banned. Church buildings are shut. Leaving home for any but a few limited reasons is outlawed.

I remember the Asian Flu outbreak of 1957, but as a 10 year-old I have little real knowledge. Today, we live in a different world, changed out of all proportion by two factors: First is the Internet and second is supermarkets. Supermarkets have a near-monopoly on food distribution – which operates on a Just-in-Time basis. When demand suddenly surges, distribution can't cope. We see empty shelves which, in turn, leads to low-level panic buying.

"I'm not panic buying", everyone cries. What everyone is doing is buying their normal goods (groceries, toiletries, medicines) but getting one extra, "just in case". Across the community, that doubles the demand and leaves half the population without. And that half is often the elderly, the poorly and those who are working frantically to help them.

The internet is not unrelated to our "modern" way of doing things. It is the powerhouse behind the operation of distribution systems – but it is also a tool that we never had in 1957. In 1957, mobility of people was less and our supplies were provided on a far more local basis. Small shops exerted a greater control over their sales. A loaf could be put by for the District Nurse because she was known in the community and we'd be spared the distressing sight of that nurse sitting in tears because, when she came off a 48-hour shift, the shelves were empty.

The Internet has a lot to answer for – but even more, it offers such a powerful tool for us to use. Without the Internet, you wouldn't be reading this magazine, even if you're holding a paper copy in your hands. With the Internet, we've been able to set up ways to keep in touch; to provide resources for prayer and to create new communities.

On our street, one resident has set up a "WhatsApp" group. "Here?" I thought. "It'll never take off." Twenty of the 27 houses on the street have joined. Chat, information and jokes are circulating. I've never spoken to Denise at no.11 but yesterday we all celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary together. It is growing into a fascinating group. It's interesting to see that the flavour of the discussion is subtly different from other groups I belong to, but this is what community is all about; a connection between people who are not indistinguishable clones.

Some of our number can't, won't or don't use The Net, but during these days of isolation, it is one way (and a very powerful way) to draw us all together.

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<b>Parish Group Leaders</b>	Buildings and Land: <i>tba</i> Pastoral and Outreach: <i>tba</i> Worship: <i>tba</i> Treasury: <i>tba</i>	
<b>Bell Tower &amp; MiniRingers</b>	Kildwick: Mr Chris Wright	634526
<b>CHUFFS</b> ( <i>Church for the u.5's</i> )	Kildwick: Mrs Lesley Hudson	523291
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email: Contact the Pinnacle editorial team at **magazine@kcbchurches.org.uk**



"Police? This is St Mary's Ladies' Knitting & Vigilante Circle. We've detained two gents trying to nick the church silver."

*Memo: Don't tangle with a knitter*

### Deadlines

In the current situation, a Sunday publication day is less significant. We'll try to get the magazine online by the 1st of the month, rather than the First Sunday

***Thus the deadline for the May edition is Thursday 23rd April***

Please let us have your material ***at least*** by then (earlier will be better!)  
– and we'll try to have the magazine ready for Friday, 1st May.