

Lower Wensleydale

Benefice Magazine

August and September 2019



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Leeds

Loving.
Living.
Learning.

Rector

Rev'd Chris Lawton The Vicarage, Patrick Brompton. DL8 1JN
rector@lowerwensleydale.church 01677 450 920

Ministers with Permission to Officiate

Rev'd Laura Wilford 5 Cookson Way, Brough St Giles
laura.wilford1950@gmail.com 01748 830 017

Rev'd Lisle Ryder 01677 450 180
Fr Philip Carrington 01677 425 077

Reader

Tony Gibson 01748 830 017

Churchwardens

Crakehall	St Gregory's	Myra Shield	01677 427 970
		Gill Bartram	01677 424 517
Finghall	St Andrew's	Marjorie Blake	01677 450 896
Hauxwell	St Oswald's	Rosi Keatinge	01969 623 416
		Dyno Keatinge	01969 623 416
Hornby	St Mary's	Tony Gadie	01748 812 447
Patrick Brompton	St Patrick's	Alistair Clark	01677 450 414
Spennithorne	St Michael's	Margaret Crocker	01969 625 479
		Norma Croft	01969 624 077

Please do not hesitate to contact any of the above for further information

Church Services During The Week

Morning Prayer

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday	09:00	St Patrick's Patrick Brompton
2 nd & 4 th Tuesdays	09:30	St Michael's Spennithorne

Holy Communion

Wednesday	10:00	St Gregory's Crakehall
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Evening Prayer

Thursday	16:30	St Patrick's Patrick Brompton
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Please check notice sheet or website for weekly variations.

www.lowerwensleydale.church



Letter from the Rector

As we prepare to send this edition of the Benefice Magazine to the printers we are also celebrating the Festival of Mary Magdalene.

Celebrating the Apostle to the Apostles on News deadline day seems somewhat fitting!

The Magazine has undergone a number of changes over the last 6 months with changes of format and a move to colour. This issue we are also trying a new typeface to try and make the text more accessible to all our readers, especially those who suffer from visual distress and reading difficulties.

This is also the first issue for over 7 years that Doreen Longstaff hasn't edited, we are all immensely grateful for her dedication and commitment to the production of the magazine over the years and I have finally been able to live up to a promise made to her when I arrived two years ago to hand it over to our administrator. Thank you Doreen for all your do. It has taken a little longer than planned to approve and then appoint our administrator, but I am glad that we didn't rush the process and Emma, who has taken up the post is settling in well. Please do see her introduction on page 22. So in this issue all errors are mine!



It has been a long and challenging few months as is shown by the long list of names that carry both joy and sadness in the 'from our registers' update on page 21. The good news is that as a Deanery we can now see the light at the end of what feels like a long period of vacancies and we are almost back to full strength. I look forward to welcoming and sharing ministry with both our neighbouring Anglican clergy as well as the two new Methodist Ministers who are about to arrive in the Dale. It will be a particular joy to welcome Revd Gareth Baron who I trained alongside in Durham as the new Methodist Minister in Bedale.



The highlight of the year so far came with the opportunity to join Helen for one day on her epic tractor run around Yorkshire. With Helen on her David Brown I accompanied her on a borrowed Allis Chalmers (thank you David). Helen is our local Farming Community Network (FCN) Coordinator and the adventure raised both funds and awareness of the vital service that they provide to our farming

community in times of difficulty or crisis. Please do continue to pray and support this vital work. www.fcn.org.uk

Revd Chris

Home Communion



If you are unable to attend church because of illness or any other difficult circumstances and you would like communion at home, please contact the clergy.

Wensleydale Filling Station



We meet at Newton le Willows Village Hall **19:00 to 21:00**

We are not a church but rather local Christians meeting together to provide an opportunity to hear about the love of God for their lives.

August No Filling Station

Sep 13th at the Key Centre in Middleham with Simon and Grace
Stretton-Downes home from working in Liberia

For more information please contact: Pauline Hirst 01969 667841

mikehirst@tiscali.co.uk

<http://thefillingstation.org.uk/station/wensleydale>

Contemplative Prayer Julian Meetings

*All shall be well, and all shall be well,
and all manner of things shall be well.*



Are you interested in contemplative prayer? If so you would be most welcome to join a Julian group that's held within the Wensley deanery.

A Julian meeting is a small group of people who come together regularly for silent prayer.

It is Christ centred and welcomes people of all denominations.

While acknowledging the value of other ways of praying at other times, a Julian meeting remains solely for contemplative prayer as a means of making ourselves available to God.

We meet at 2pm on the first Monday of most months and our next two meetings are Mondays - 5th August and 2nd September

Please contact: Penny Johnson 01677 450 082
Georgie Kew 01677 423 551

Chatterboxes



Chatterboxes is a group which meets on the **Second** Thursday of each month in The Garden rooms at Tennant's Auction Rooms, from 14:00 until 16:00.

It is organised by Christine and Colin Thorpe.

It is open to anyone who would like a chat and a cuppa.

So please come and join us, particularly if you don't see many people during the week. If you are housebound and need a lift, then that can be arranged too. Contact Chris Thorpe on 01969 622 471



Spennithorne

Spennithorne Church Choir has vacancies for singers in all parts, especially Alto, Tenor and Bass. No previous experience necessary. For further information please contact John or Shelagh Hardcastle on 01969 624965, 07799 367360, or email shelagghardcastle@yahoo.co.uk.



Concert in Spennithorne Church



Marske Ladies Choir will give a concert in Spennithorne Church on a date to be confirmed (watch this space!). Refreshments will be served.

Tuesday Church Coffee Mornings with the Library

August 13th & 27th from 10:00 - 12:00

September 11th & 25th from 10:00 - 12:00



Parish Lunch

The dates for the Parish Lunch at the Old Horn Inn, Spennithorne will be Wednesday, 21st August and Wednesday 18th September at 12.30pm.

The cost is £10 per person for a 2-course meal.

Please ring Paul or Christine at the Old Horn Inn on 01969 622370.

Harvest Festival Service

The Harvest Festival Service will be held on Friday 20th September in St Michael's Church, followed by the Harvest Supper in Harmby Village Hall.

Future dates for events in St Michael's Church

Friday 12th October. Ceilidh in Harmby Village Hall

Friday 29th November. Quiz Night in Harmby Village Hall.

Spennithorne Church Fete

Members of the St Michael's and All Angels Parochial Church Council would like to thank all who contributed in anyway to the success of the recent Summer Fete, over £1,047 was raised.

Spennithorne & Harmby Villages Show

Harmby Village Hall

Saturday 5th October

Schedules available in Spennithorne church or contact

norma@milllodge1234.plus.com

WI

Spennithorne & Harmby

WI meets first Wednesday in the month in Harmby Village Hall at 19:00

No meeting in August

4th September Sara from 'Meadow Lane Flowers' will be giving a flower arranging demonstration

For more information contact our Secretary email: carolyoung61@btinternet.com



Newton-le-Willows & Patrick Brompton

WI meets on the first Thursday of each month at 19:30 in Newton village Hall

No meeting in August

5th September David Lambert will be talking about the 'Home Guard in Redcar and North Yorkshire'

Visitors welcome at all our meetings

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15th September for October/November issue.**

Hauxwell

St Oswald's @ Hunton Steam Fair 7-8th September 2019

St Oswald's Hauxwell will be manning a fund raising Tombola stall at the Steam Fair this year. If anyone has toiletries or cosmetic items they are willing to donate, we would be very grateful.

Items can be left at the back of St Oswald's Church or given to Rosi or Dyno Keatinge.

Phone 01969 623416. Many thanks indeed.

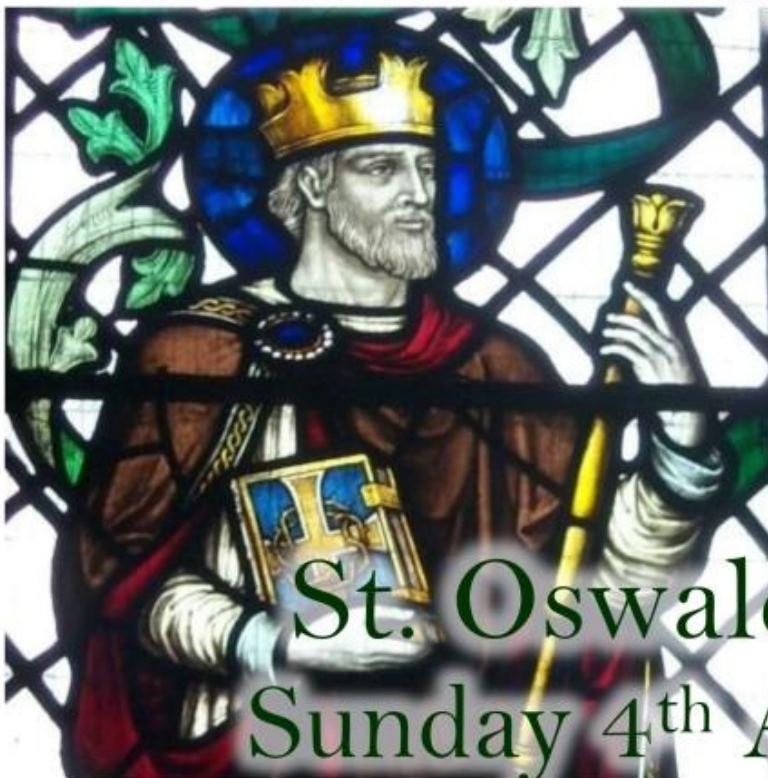
Michael Brown's Memorial Service

The 16th June saw a packed St Oswald's Church when friends and neighbours gathered to celebrate Evening Prayer and to remember Michael Brown and to give thanks for his life and service to our community.

Memories and anecdotes were shared and Michael's favourite hymns were sung. Afterwards we toasted his life. Olga and family would like to thank everyone who attended the service at Hauxwell Church in memory of Michael. Special thanks to Reverend Chris Lawton and all who helped make this a fitting celebration of Michael's life.

St Oswald's Day

Patronal BCP Holy Communion



Come and discover more
about Hauxwell's Patron Saint
as we worship together
on St Oswald's Day

Join us as we toast his life
with a glass of wine
after the service

St. Oswald's Hauxwell

Sunday 4th August - 15:00

Harvest FESTIVAL



September

Sunday 15th 11:00 Ainderby Myers
Harvest in the Barn

Friday 20th 19:00 Spennithorne
Festival followed by Supper

Sunday 22nd 09:00 Patrick Brompton

Friday 27th 19:00 Hauxwell

October

Friday 4th 19:00 Finghall

Sunday 6th 11:00 Crakehall

*Lift up your eyes, and see that the
fields are ripe for harvesting.*

Gather the fruit for eternal life.

Gifts & Donations welcome - please see local
notices for more information

T.O.A.S.T.

Family Café Church

Hunton Village Hall

**Time together to look @
the world we share and
how we might live as
People of Hope**

**Time On
A Sunday
Together**

Music

Snacks

**SUN 29TH
SEPT. 16:00**

**Proper
Coffee**

**Chill
Space**

Newton Le Willows Coffee Mornings

Village Hall 10:00 - 12:00
Every third Saturday of the month

Come along and enjoy a natter, good coffee or tea, lovely scrummy cakes and pleasant company on 17th August & 21st September.



St Patrick's & PBCE Coffee Mornings



Continue on the first Saturday of every month. The next are on 3rd August and 7th September, 10:00 -12:00 in The Old Schoolroom.

Patrick Brompton Village Show and Barbecue

Saturday 17th August

The Old Schoolroom and Jubilee Green.

10:00 open for staging of entries. 14:30 open for viewing & coffee.

16:00 BBQ - bring your own meat to cook, plates, drink & chairs if you can.

Range of salads and desserts provided!

Show Schedule available from Patrick Brompton and Newton-le-Willows Bus Shelters from the end of May or available for viewing

on www.patrickbrompton.com now!

Have a look! Have a go!



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Hunton & Arrathorne CP School



As our school year comes to a close, we are preparing to say 'goodbye' to our current Year 6 pupils who are moving onto different secondary schools in the area. They have been a great year group and we wish them well as they prepare for the next stage in their education. This half term started with a musical

feature and will end with one, too. 'McDermid and Musgrave', a bassoonist and pianist who performed at the Swaledale Festival, came to play for the children who learnt a lot about the science involved in making music too. The whole school is currently in the final throes of preparation for our performance of 'The Piper', which will be shared with families and friends in the final week. It has been lovely for all the children to work together under the directorship of Mrs Ash. Class 1 rounded off their study of lakes with a visit to Thorp Perrow, where they had the opportunity to hone their artistic skills with the use of watercolours. Classes 2 & 3 had a lovely day on Grinton Moor learning about upland habitats as part of a Countryside

Learning project. They also had an interesting day in Richmond looking at architectural features to link with their artwork along with a visit to the Richmondshire Museum as part of their studies of Richmond. We are currently looking for a governor from the local community and, if you are interested in finding out more about what this would entail, please contact Mrs Godlee in the school office admin@huntonarrathorne.n-yorks.sch.uk or telephone 01677450342.

Hunton & Arrathorne Village Hall

For information on all events and regular activities please see www.huntonarrathornehall.org or visit their Facebook page.

Open the Book

Open the Book is a project which offers primary school children an opportunity to hear the major stories of the Bible, from a team of Christians from local churches, who present the stories during assemblies/acts of Collective Worship. Each presentation takes around 10-15 minutes. We are hoping to form a team to work in schools in the Benefice. If you are interested in joining us please see Revd Chris Lawton.



Services in the Benefice August

	Patrick Brompton 09:00	Spennithorne 09:00	Hornby 11:00	Crakehall 11:00	Hauxwell	Finghall
Sun 4 th Trinity 7	Family Service	BCP Evensong 18:30	Morning Worship	Holy Communion	St Oswald BCP Holy Communion 15:00	
Sun 11 th Trinity 8	Matins	Holy Communion	BCP Matins	Morning Prayer		Holy Communion 11:00
Thurs 15 th	Blessed Virgin Mary		Patronal Communion 19:00 **			
Sun 18 th Trinity 9	Holy Communion	Matins	BCP Holy Communion	Morning Prayer		
Sun 25 th Trinity 10	Prayer & Praise	Family Baptism Service	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion		Joint Service in the Village 10:30

Lower 
Wensleydale

Services in the Benefice September

	Patrick Brompton 09:00	Spennithorne 09:00	Hornby 11:00	Crakehall 11:00	Hauxwell	Finghall
Sun 1 st Trinity 11	Family Service	BCP Evensong 18:30	Morning Worship	Holy Communion		
Tues 3 rd St Gregory				Patronal Communion 19:00		
Sun 8 th Trinity 12	Hunton Steam Fair 10:00	Holy Communion		Holy Communion		
Sun 15 th Trinity 13	Baptism & Holy Communion	Matins	Harvest in the Barn Family Service	Morning Prayer		
Fri 20 th		Harvest Festival 19:00				
Sun 22 nd Trinity 14	Harvest Festival Morning Prayer	Family Service	Holy Communion	Holy Communion		
Fri 27 th					Harvest Festival 19:00	
Sun 29 th Trinity 15						United H C 10:00
	16:00 T.O.A.S.T (Cafe Church) Hunton Village Hall					
Mon 30 th St Michael		MU Patronal Communion				



Hornby in Bloom

Despite the typical British inclement weather, we had an excellent festival on 8th June. A huge thank you goes to all those involved in making the Fete , Open Gardens trail and Flower Festival such a success. Including monies from the fantastic Raffle , we raised over £2000 for funds for St Mary's church. Amazing. Thank you all.

Particular thanks go to Braithwaites nursery for all their help , to Roger and Isabella Clutterbuck for opening the castle grounds, to each of the churches in our Benefice for providing a flower display to the theme of a Hymn, to the organists for live music and to all residents of Hornby who opened their gardens on the day. Thanks to the Milverton's for the loan of the tent where everyone enjoyed delicious cream teas.

Our Songs of Praise service was very well attended and a joyful occasion. Thanks to Sue Bianco for leading that service and to Colin Hicks for playing the organ.

A further thank you must go to Alice and Oliver Milverton for their artwork for all the publicity. *St Mary's PCC*.

Look out for more celebrations next year for our 950th Anniversary.

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Message in the Movies

Come and watch the classic 1953 film where Volunteers take over their local passenger train service - against bus company resistance - when the government announces its closure.



Free Popcorn - Bring your own drinks
No Charge for this event!



St. Matthew's Leyburn
Thursday 19th September - 19:00

Hackforth & Hornby C of E Primary School

As we edge towards the summer holiday, we look back on another busy half term.

Following our return in June, school visited the Bowes Museum for its Lego Exhibition.

The first school to take part in the coding workshop, pupils were thrilled to discover that by programming software correctly, they could make their Lego models move! Pupils decided that we should develop IT in school through

Technical Lego and embarked on a fundraising campaign, culminating in a fantastic cake sale.

Pupils raised £170 towards this project and we look forward to developing this challenge within

our curriculum in September. Our River Swale Mural has been on tour. Exhibited in St Mary's Church during the Hornby in Bloom celebrations, it has also been displayed in the Locomotion

Museum in Shildon. Your comments about the high standard of the art work and the amount of local detail have been passed on to the pupils –

thank you. We started our Romeo and Juliet study with a valuable workshop from Konflux Theatre.



Pupils are now rehearsing for a challenging end of year production which draws on the original text. This study has given our juniors the opportunity to develop their knowledge of the storyline which they explored and interpreted successfully for their performance at

York's Barbican Theatre. Singing was the focus during a visit from the National Youth Choirs. All pupils enjoyed working with a specialist to develop their technique and

confidence. These skills will be developed further preparing for our production and end of year celebrations. School trips have seen the whole school visit the North York Moors

National Park to develop map reading and compass skills through challenging activities. The juniors extended their study of the River Swale through a visit to the Keld Resource

Centre. It was fascinating to look around and see the landscape which we'd identified during our ordnance survey map work. Celebrating the end of their hard work for SATs, Y6 took

part in the Innovations Festival, completing workshops on blogging and nutrition during a busy day at Ripon Racecourse. Following our final swimming session, we will enjoy lunch

at the swimming pool, followed by an afternoon at Richmond Castle. Pupils continue to develop their cycling confidence with playground and on road sessions. We enjoy watching

pupils' progress as they extend their skills with Stage 1 Cycles. All pupils have enjoyed swimming success throughout the year and, working with a local coach, we introduced

tennis during the summer term. We now look forward to developing pupils' confidence through climbing wall and skateboarding sessions next term. We also look forward next

year, to developing a partnership with Kiplin Hall to investigate the role of some home

grown Yorkshire produce in a healthy diet. We hope you enjoy a wonderful summer.

Please look out for our curriculum reports on Facebook and Twitter...

Hackforth Village Hall

Friday Socials - now in their eighth year. Meet friends and neighbours at Hackforth Village Hall on the first Friday of each month for drinks and light refreshments. **Fridays 2nd August & 6th September from 19:30 – All welcome**

Keep fit on Thursday evenings.

Table tennis returns each week on Monday evenings on 2nd September

Annual Villages' Show

20th anniversary edition in 2019

Saturday 14th September 2019



crafts - produce - refreshments - bar lunch



Jointly organised with Hackforth & Hornby C of E Primary School

For the seventh time, our show will be held over 2 sites. Adults and children's crafts classes will be judged and exhibited in the school; adult and children's vegetable classes will be judged and exhibited in the village hall where refreshments and lunches will be also be available.

All proceeds from our show will be split equally between the school and the village hall. Your support for our show, as always will be much appreciated.

Show timetable

09:30	Hall and School open to accept entries
11:45	Entries close. School and main hall close for judging
12:00	Lunch ☐ bar ☐ refreshments
13:45	Results announced and entries available to view followed by an opportunity to 'Eat the Show' as the show closes
15:00	Show closes and entries available to collect

For more information please contact David the Hackforth hall show secretary - 07759 284 266 david.s.mcknight@talk21.com

Last year Hackforth WI members, friends and readers of this magazine produced over 300 poppies for the Remembrance celebration decorations in Ripon. This year we have been asked by Richmond if we could help them make enough poppies to decorate the Clock tower. Poppies can be knitted or crocheted to any pattern. I will collect them in good time if you contact me. Let's see if together we can make even more this time.

Thank you. *Doreen Longstaff* 01748 188287
or doreenlongstaff@btinternet.com



Crakehall

St Gregory's Crakehall Educational Trust



- Do you need help with funding extra educational courses, sports training or other educational activities?
- Do you live in or close to Crakehall and Langthorne? Grants have been given in recent months for school trips, music lessons, post graduate education, attending Sports camp, etc.

Please let us know if the trust can help You!

The trustees meet three times a year. **The next meeting is on 19th September 2019.**

Application forms are in the Church lobby need to be in writing with details of the related expenses and need to be before the event/activity takes place.

Please contact Mrs Pauline Irwin, Hollis Cottage, The Green, Crakehall, Bedale, North Yorkshire DL8 1HQ or via email at pollyirwin@lcccommunications.com

Youth Club

As from September, the next academic year, 2019-2020. We have decided to change **Youth Club Fridays to the 1st Friday of the month** with the exception of one or two, where due to school holidays it does not work out. The dates are as follows;

Fridays, 6th September, 4th October, 8th November, 6th December, 10th January, 7th February, 6th March, 3rd April, 8th May, 5th June, 3rd July (BBQ).

We do hope you are able to join us.

Gift Day

Please join us for our gift day to support the ongoing work of your Parish Church on Saturday 14th September. Church open from 10:00.

Holy Cross Day Eucharist 12:00 - All are Welcome

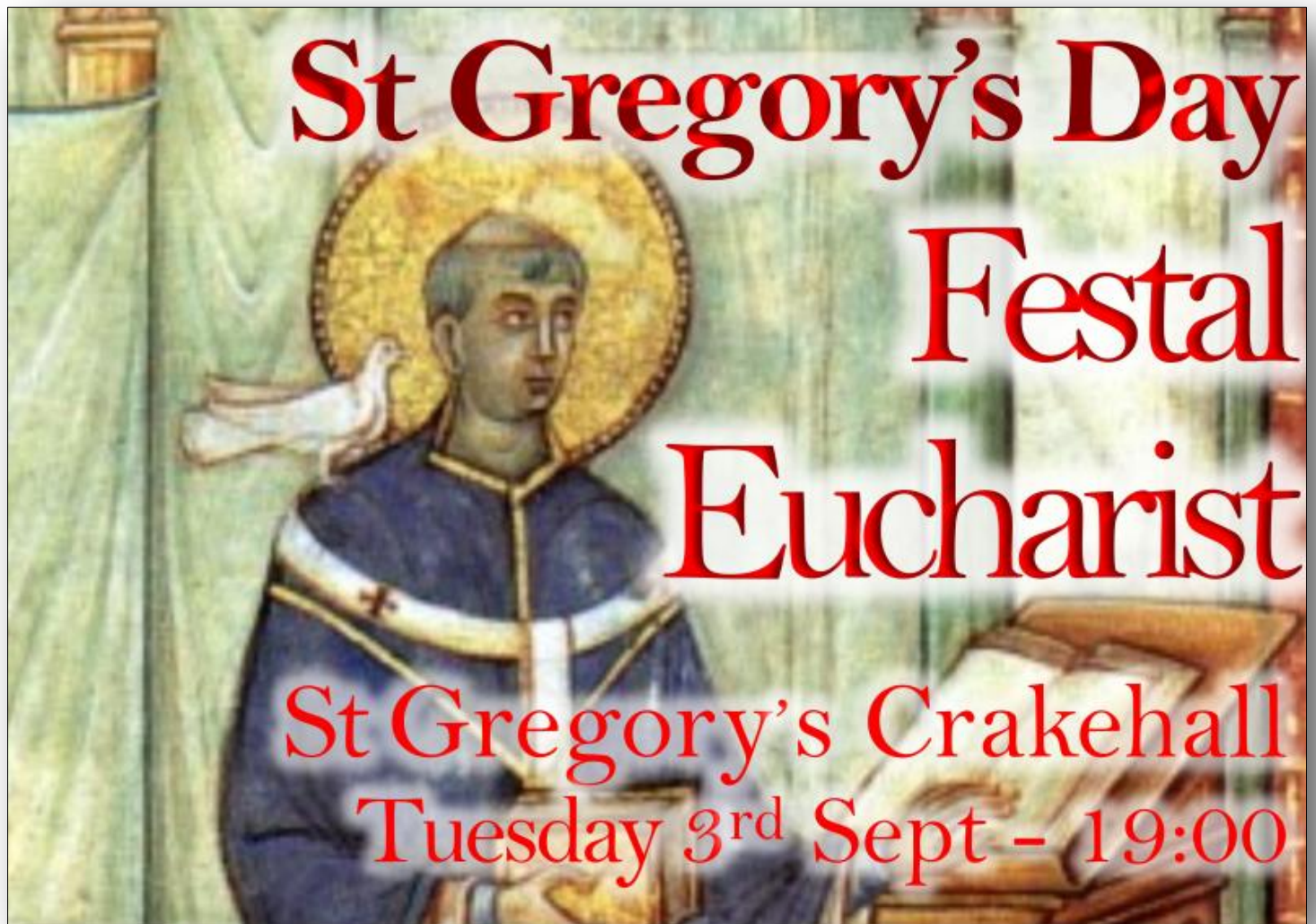
Parish Lunch

The Bay Horse Crakehall on Thursday 22nd August 12:30. £10 per head.

Please confirm your place by ringing Myra on 01677 427 970 by Monday 19th August

The Queens Head Finghall on Thursday 19th September 12:30. £10 per head.

Please confirm your place by ringing Myra on 01677 427 970 by Monday 16th September



Christian Aid



At the annual meeting of the Bedale and District Christian Aid committee it was reported that in the year April 2018 to March 2019 the total sent to Christian Aid was **£3,568.82.**

During Christian Aid week this year Crakehall collected £655.98, Hackforth £56.60, Hornby £82.37, and Patrick Brompton £ 155.93. Many thanks to all who collected door to door and those who donated with a special thank you to the Girl Guides who gave out the envelopes which was a great help.

The collection at the united service at St Gregory's Crakehall was £97.08. The total for the Bedale district was £1,789.83. If you are able to help with our fund raising efforts during the year or collect next May in Hunton or Newton-le-Willows please ring me on 01677 427970.

Myra Shield.

King's Club & King's Club Extra 2019

Monday 5th - Friday 9th August

Who for?	Children and young people aged 6 - 16 years.
What?	Lots of outdoor activities, crafts and games, in a fun environment with a biblical theme (team building and adventure)
Where?	King's Club: Askrigg School (6 - 10 year olds) King's Club Extra: Low Mill Outdoor Centre (11 - 16 year olds ie year 6 - 11).
Cost?	£32 (6 - 10's) £37 (11 - 16) including transport
Transport?	Pick up points available (first come first served basis - more details, contact Heather)
Times:	10:00 - 15:00 (these are start and finish times of the sessions; bus times extend the day)

All helpers are fully up to date with DBS checks.

More details: Heather Sowerby 01969 650412 email: heathersowerby77@gmail.com or visit www.nydalesmeth.org.uk/home/news/kings-club-2019

Wensleydale Show

Having being on the go since 1892 the Wensleydale Show has seen it all. Although a traditional agricultural show it always features up-to-date family entertainment.

The main entertainment this year is Broke FMX stunt motorcycles with gun dog slurry.

This year the show is on Saturday 24th August 09:30 - 17:30; it is well signposted with free parking and a free shuttle bus for those travelling from Leyburn or by rail. Please support this local agricultural institution.

Psalms & Sangria

Many thanks indeed to everyone who helped to make Psalms and Sangria on 5th July, a memorable and fun filled evening. To the members of St Patrick's who hosted the event, poured loads of Sangria and cleared up afterwards. To everyone who brought tasty nibbles and donated lovely Raffle prizes, to our Raffle supremo's, Dyno and Johnny. Lastly to our Choirs and especially our soloist Jenny Bianco, and accompanist Fionagh Bennet, who filled the Church with beautiful melodies.

A Huge Thank You to You All.

The Benefice has really benefitted from everyone's kindness and generosity.

From Our Registers

Baptisms

Rose Ison-Murdoch
Robert Edwards
Rose Isabelle Foley
Agatha Evelyn Armstrong
Cassidy Davies

May they walk with us as pilgrim people

Funerals

Peter Urie
Elizabeth Mary Pounder
Edna Weatherill
Rita Harrison
Donald Addison
Terence Marshall
Leonie Dalziel
Richard Ramsey
David Pocklington

May they rest in peace and rise in glory

Weddings

Mark Tiplady & Georgina Morrison
Peter Wilson & Amy Poulter
Sam Lumb & Sam Swain
Joseph Westwood & Harriet Foster
Richard Thompson & Amy Shepherd

May they be strong in faith and love

Lower 
Wensleydale

Benefice Away Weekend 2020

We have booked into Wydale for 17-19th April 2020 with Chris Edmondson.

Chris served as an advisor on evangelism and Warden of Lee Abbey before becoming Bishop of Bolton. Now in retirement he chairs the Scargill Movement. To book your place please contact Myra Shield 01677 427 970

Myra writes

It brings back such happy memories of our 2018 weekend away. The beautiful views, the peace, the fellowship and of course the food. There were prayers before breakfast and three teaching slots, none of which compulsory leaving plenty of time to walk in the grounds, read in the lounges or rest. There was a table with tea, coffee, cake or biscuits to help yourself to all day and evening between three good meals, what more could you want? Stuart and I have been on every weekend away and Ryan and Liam only missed the first one. Now, they want to bring their girlfriends..roll on April!



Welcome to our new team member!

Emma Jack - Benefice Administrator



Emma has recently joined the benefice as our new administrator. She has moved down from the North of Scotland and now resides in Little Crakehall with her partner Gordon and two boys, James age 6 and Harry age 3. Her career has seen her working for many years within financial services as an IFA as well as owning and running a hotel and Post Office on the island of Sanday, Orkney. Until the arrival of James and Harry, she owned a Post Office in Golspie, Sutherland where she split her time as Sub-Postmistress along with managing one of her

many 'projects'. Emma enjoys the challenge of anything connected to property building or restoration and when free time allows loves to explore with the boys and family dog, Meg. Emma normally works from the Vicarage on Monday and Thursday mornings and can be contacted on admin@lowerwensleydale.church.

Letters From Liberia

On Saturday 18th May Trinity Dental Clinic was ‘officially’ opened by Vice President Her Excellency Jewel Howard Taylor. There are only 6 fully qualified dentists in Liberia (population 4.8 million); we like to think we offer the best dental care in the country!! It makes a massive difference to many peoples’ lives. We seek to serve in Jesus’ Name. There were speeches in the ELWA hospital chapel and



then the ribbon was cut! Simon has fitted all the new equipment. 8 operating lights, 7 suction units (made in Italy, sent to South Africa then shipped to Liberia ... via Germany!). The long-awaited UK freight, which had been at the Port in Monrovia since 23rd March, was delivered on June 3rd. We thank God for their safe arrivals. It has

been amazing, all our practical skills have been able to be used here, and with a couple of exceptions, everything’s gone together well! What a blessing, when it is such an effort getting things here in the first place! Meanwhile, Grace has kept occupied, this month teaching the ELWA hospital nurses. We had some critical care training which has greatly improved care in the children’s ward. Grace enjoyed a couple of weeks of sewing curtains for the Guest House and overseeing its facelift. It is nearly 2 years since we came to live in Liberia. Our first term will end in the summer. We will be in the UK until the end of November, speaking most weekends and with some midweek meetings. On Wednesday 24th July, another demonstration is being planned for people to express their concerns over the economic situation. In April the exchange rate was LD160 to USD1, currently it is 200LD. We are prepared for any eventuality and so have our ‘GO’ bags packed, just in case. In the midst of all the busy-ness we have sometimes felt overwhelmed with peoples’ vulnerability, as we clearly cannot meet the needs of everyone one asks. We try to point people to Jesus, keeping our focus on Him and bringing our anxiety to God. “What does the Lord require of us? To act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with our God.” Micah 6:8. *Simon and Grace Stretton-Downes.*



Scripture Union



Local Christians in partnership with

Scripture Union invite you to...

Fun at Finghall

**Free activities for children and their families
at St Andrew's Church, Finghall**

Family Fun Drop In, 10am—12pm

Activities for children and their families

Holiday Club, 1pm—3pm

Games

Crafts

Sports

Quizzes

Juggling

Challenges

**Plus loads more activities for children aged 5
and above**

For more information contact:

Chris: 07814 731 265

Neil: 01325 722 074

**Wed 28 to
Fri 30
August 2019**

**NB We regret that we cannot assume sole responsibility for children
and request parents stay with them. An area for parents with
refreshments, etc. will be provided during the afternoon sessions.**