



Free

St. Andrew's Church Kildwick

**News and Views from
Kildwick, Farnhill and Cross Hills**

*Available each month from Kildwick Church, Cross Hills Library,
Kildwick & Farnhill Institute, the Health Centre, Thornton's,
and other local outlets*

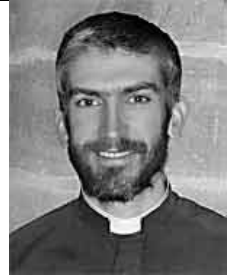
APRIL 2014

Parish Mission Statement

Called to be the body of Christ,
we are here to share God's love with all people,
through outreach and service,
in our community and in the world,
through the power of the Holy Spirit

Church Website www.kildwick.org.uk

The Vicar's letter...



Dear friends,

We are now fast approaching the most important week of the year for the Christian Church - Holy Week, which leads us to the most important day of the day - Easter Day, when we will celebrate the good news of Resurrection. As we light the new Easter candle, process it through the church and place it proudly in its stand at the front of the church where it will be at every service until the Day of Pentecost, we will join the whole Christian Church in proclaiming that we are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song.

As we come to celebrate Holy Week and Easter we are invited to ponder the mystery of what it means for Jesus to lay down his life as the forgiving victim and thence to rise from death as forgiveness. What does it mean for Jesus to live as though death were not? A paradox, indeed, in our human understanding.

The death and resurrection of Jesus is a mystery that we cannot explain, but it is a mystery that we can come to experience. In Jesus God was showing his amazing love for the world and its people.

Rowan Williams, the former Archbishop of Canterbury, was once asked to sum up who Jesus is and what Jesus' message is. Rowan Williams said, "Trust me, says Jesus, when I tell you that God loves you. Believe the good news. Trust me, says Jesus, when I tell you that God wants to be where you are. And know that even when we push Jesus off the edge and kill him, he comes back and says, it is still true; God still loves you and God still wants to be where you are".

The death and resurrection of Jesus is God's message of love for the world, a love that you and I are called to imitate in our own lives in the company of all humankind.

The Easter story invites us to put our trust in God and trust that even in the midst of the greatest suffering there is still hope. The events of Holy Week and Easter tell us that even in the darkest places of our world and our lives God is there, loving us and waiting for us.

Easter invites us not to try to hold on to the past, not to create false idols (which may be forms of worship, the structure of buildings, certain beliefs, et al), but to welcome the new life that God offers to God's people. As the theologian James Alison said, God does not ask us to grasp at a theory, but to relax into a practice. To know what it means to receive the gift of God's love requires us to relax and welcome that gift, rather than think we have to work to get it.

I recently found a reflection on the hymn 'Abide with me' which includes the line: 'Change and decay in all around I see'. The writer observed that, "Change can be seen as difficult, unsettling and unwelcome. It seems to me that it's better to think of 'change **or** decay' rather than 'change **and** decay'. Sometimes moving forward in a useful way requires re-evaluating the way we see and do things, a reconsideration of who we are and what we are about. We can be wedded to traditions, but traditions are useful only if they bring us closer to God. Is God at the centre of all that we do? If not, what needs to change to make that happen? Being a church has to be so much more than a nice cosy social club with a pointy roof."

As we prepare to welcome the new life of the new Diocese of West Yorkshire & the Dales as it comes into being on Easter Day, may we have the confidence and the courage to "see what God is doing and join in" (to pick up another saying of Rowan Williams. And may we do likewise within the life of our local church here at St

Andrew's.

So this Easter may the crucified and risen Jesus encourage you and challenge you and lead you to new depths of love for all God's people.

May the risen Lord bless you.

Robin

Holy Week & Easter

Holy Week is the most important of all weeks in the Christian calendar and, again, all Christians are encouraged to join in with as much of Holy Week as possible. Of particular importance is experiencing the great period from Maundy Thursday through to Easter Day. It is only by experiencing the sorrow of the Cross on Good Friday that we can most fully experience the joy of the empty tomb on Easter Day.



Holy Week & Easter Services

Sunday 13th April – Palm Sunday

8.15am Blessing of Palms and Holy Communion

10.00am Blessing of Palms, Procession (from Barretts Bridge, Priestbank Road) and Holy Communion.

Those who prefer not to process meet in church for Blessing of Palms.



Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th April

12.30pm Stations of the Cross

7.30pm Meditative Service

Wednesday 16th April

12.30pm Stations of the Cross

7.30pm CDFC Lent Course concludes (St Peter's Methodist Church)

Thursday 17th April – Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Eucharist of the Last Supper followed by vigil of prayer until 11pm

Friday 18th April – Good Friday

10.10am Procession of witness from St Andrew's to Cross Hills for...

10.30am Prayers at the gates of St Peter's Methodist Church.

12 noon Prayer at the cross until...

2.00pm The Liturgy of the Cross

7.30pm Ecumenical Service (St Peter's Methodist Church)



Saturday 19th April – Easter Eve

8.45pm The Easter Vigil and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Sunday 20th April – Easter Day

8.15am Holy Communion

10.00am Family Holy Communion and Renewal of Baptismal Vows (followed by Easter Egg hunt)

6.00pm CDFC United Celebration Songs of Praise

The new Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales



On Easter Day, 20th April, the remaining diocesan bishops will lay down their pastoral staffs on the altars of Bradford and Wakefield Cathedrals, and the new Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales is born. The new diocese retains the three cathedrals - Bradford, Ripon and Wakefield.

The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales is made up of five Areas - Bradford, Huddersfield, Leeds, Ripon and Wakefield - each with its own Area Bishop.

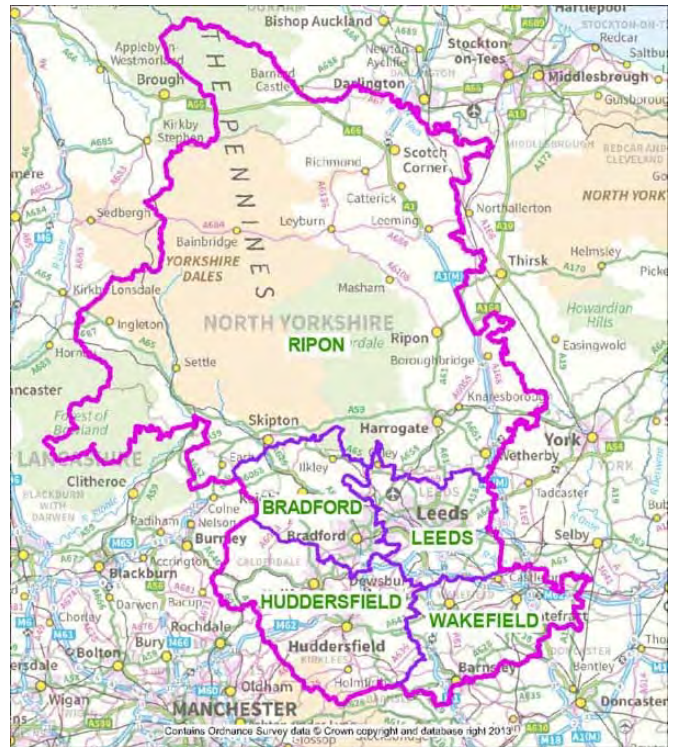
Bishop Nick Baines will be the new diocesan bishop following the Inauguration Service at York Minster on 8th June, and he will also be the Area Bishop of Leeds.

The Bishop of Pontefract, Tony Robinson will be the Area Bishop of Wakefield.

The Bishop of Knaresborough, James Bell, will be the Area Bishop of Ripon.

Appointments to the two remaining areas will be made later this year, but in the short-term Bishop Tom Butler will look after the Bradford Area, and Bishop Tony will look after Huddersfield.

The new diocese runs from Barnsley in the south, through West and North Yorkshire, to parts of County Durham in the north, covering an area of 2,425 square miles. The total population is 2,614,000, the majority of whom are concentrated in the southern part of the diocese.



There are 496 clergy serving in 656 church and 256 church schools.



Service of Celebration & Thanksgiving for the Diocese of Bradford, 3.00pm Saturday 12th April at Bradford Cathedral. Bishop Nick will be speaking and past and present members of the diocese will be attending. All welcome. On Easter Day Bishop Nick will preside and preach at the Cathedral for the last time before laying his pastoral staff on the altar and leaving the Cathedral, thus

marking the end of the diocese.

A website with news and updates on the transformation process up to and beyond the creation of the new diocese on Easter Day 2014 - www.wyadtransformation.org

Annual Revision of the Church Electoral Roll

Each year we revise our Church Electoral Roll. Those on the Roll are signifying, firstly, a commitment to the Church of England. Secondly, they signify an undertaking to the Parish of St Andrew, Kildwick. This undertaking should indicate a willingness to make a contribution to the life of the Church. Such a contribution does not just mean 'giving money', although our church does need such a resource, but ideally giving of yourself, for the sake of God's Kingdom. Application forms for the Electoral Roll are available in church.

Any persons whose name is not on the present roll and who wish to have their names entered must apply for enrolment not later than Saturday 5^h April 2014. The new Roll will come into operation on Sunday 6th April 2014. Forms of application for enrolment can be obtained from the church or from the electoral roll officer, Christine Anderton, 6 Airedale View, Cross Hills.

Only those persons on the church electoral roll will be able to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 27th April.

Annual Church Meetings – Sunday 27th April

The Annual Meetings which take place next month following the 10am Parish Communion on Sunday 27th April are important occasions in the life of a parish. At the meetings we elect those who will share in the leadership of the parish for the coming year and we have the opportunity to reflect together on the past year and to help think about the future life of God's church in this parish.

At the Annual Meeting of Parishioners (open to everyone resident in the parish and those on the church electoral roll) we will elect our two churchwardens for the coming year.

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (open to those on the church electoral roll) we will elect up to 2 persons to serve on the Deanery Synod (to serve for a period of 3 years), up to 2 persons to serve on the Cross Hills & District Fellowship of Churches Council (to serve for a period of 1 year), and up to 6 persons to serve on the Parochial Church Council (3 to serve for a period of 3 years, 1 to serve for a period of 2 years, 2 to serve for a period of 1 year). To share in the leadership of the parish is an important function and everyone is encouraged to prayerfully consider if they are being called by God to serve in this way.

We hope as many members of our church community as possible will come to our Annual Church Meetings. Please book the date in your diary.

Central Sanctuary - proposed reordering

Any church building exists to support the mission of the Church, i.e. the people of God. It is the present day worship and activity of the people that keeps the building alive, albeit sustained by the prayers of those who have gone before.

Here at St Andrew's we are blessed with a fine Grade I church building. The stone work dates from the 14th Century and is largely unchanged. The interior fittings, of course, have changed much during the 700 year history of the church. The present interior arrangement dates largely from the major reordering carried out in the early 1900s.

In spring 2010 the decision was taken to withdraw the faculty application for a major reordering of the whole church building. At the APCM last year the idea of carrying out a reordering of the central sanctuary area was raised and, whilst it has taken longer than anticipated to reach this point, the PCC is now ready to present a scheme for consideration by the church and local community. The principal aim of the scheme is to provide an improved, flexible central sanctuary area to give better space for worship and other events which make use of the central area of the church.

The Diocesan Advisory Committee visited the church in October last year and encouraged the PCC to move forwards with a proposed scheme. The PCC now wishes to consult with the church and local community before beginning the formal process of applying for a faculty (church planning permission) for the proposed works.

Two public consultation meetings have been arranged and we hope people will come and hear more about the proposed scheme. We want to know what you think!

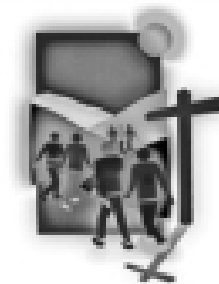
If you want to learn more...come to a meeting...

You are invited to attend a meeting when the Vicar, Robin Figg, will give a presentation outlining the proposed reordering project. After the presentation there will be opportunity for comment and questions.

Sunday 27th April at 3.00pm
or Monday 28th April at 7.00pm

Emmaus: The Way of Faith

The Emmaus Nurture Course is a 15-week course that explores: What Christians believe; How Christians grow; Living the Christian life.



Why attend this course?

For most people the journey of faith is a gradual discovery, a lifetime's exploration. The process of growing in faith affects our whole lives. There is no one point at which we can say 'we have arrived'. The potential to gain deeper understanding and knowledge and grow in love is always there. The course aims to support the individual on their journey by providing friends and fellow travellers. There will be opportunities to ask questions, learn and reflect.

Who is the course for?

The course is suitable for:

- enquirers who are aware of their spiritual needs and want to find out what it means to be a Christian;
- those who have recently joined Church but feel they have much to learn;
- those who have attended Church for a long time but want a 'refresher';
- those who feel there must be more to the Christian faith than turning up for an hour on Sunday mornings;
- those wishing to be Confirmed.

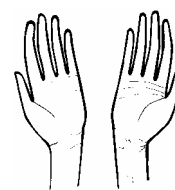
The Nurture Group will meet on Wednesday evenings (commencing 30th April) from 7.30pm to 9.00pm at the Vicarage.

For more information please pick up a leaflet from the church or parish rooms or contact Robin Figg at the Vicarage (tel. 633307).

A service of Baptism, Confirmation and Affirmation of Faith will take place on Sunday 22nd June at 10.00am; Bishop Tom Butler will be the officiating minister.

Prayers for the Parish & World Church

Due to the dates of Holy Week & Easter, the next monthly meeting to pray for the parish and worldwide Church will take place on Friday 16th May in the parish rooms from 10.00am until 11.30am. For more information contact Robin Figg, 633307.



BIBLE HISTORY

written by Michael Baumber

THE GOSPEL STORY: THE ROAD TO THE CROSS

7: JESUS CLEANSSES THE TEMPLE



Now that we have cleared away much of the extraneous material it is possible to see a little more clearly what Jesus was trying to do. We are told that each day he went into the temple and taught the people there. Whereabouts in the temple is left unidentified and it was a big place. The most likely location was in the large outer court which even non-Jews were allowed to enter. Maybe it was on the southern side which he would have entered from the Lower City or possibly 'Solomon's porch' a magnificent colonnade on the east side, later to be used by the disciples.

Jesus would have been far from the only person attempting to draw the attention of the crowds milling about there, so he deliberately made a demonstration. According to Mark he achieved this 'by driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money-changers and the benches of those selling doves and would not allow them to carry merchandise through the temple courts. And as he taught them he said. Is it not written "My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations. But you have made it a den of robbers."' Luke has a similar account and Matthew adds that he also performed a number of healing miracles. John somewhat anomalously shifts the event to the early part of Jesus' ministry and adds the detail that he used a whip with cords.

The incident raises the same sort of issues as the triumphal entry. How large was the disturbance that Jesus caused? If it was a major one why did the temple guards not intervene and why was Jesus allowed to continue preaching and teaching on subsequent days unmolested? And what was the point he was trying to make? Was he just highlighting known swindles? The accepted currency of Palestine was based on gold coins minted at Tyre. Pilgrims from other parts of the empire and from outside it had to exchange their more debased money at exorbitant rates which benefited the money-changers at the expense of the pilgrims. Or was it a deliberate attack on the whole sacrificial system? If so why single out the sellers of doves? What about the sellers of lambs? It has been estimated that an average of 25,000 lambs were sacrificed each Passover. On the day before the event the temple courts must have resembled a massive abattoir! The gospel writers have Jesus proclaiming that the temple should be a 'house of prayer'. Prayer played an important part in Jewish worship but the temple was primarily a house of sacrifice. The impression I get is that Jesus was carefully calibrating what he was doing, deliberately riling the priesthood but making sure that the Roman soldiery were not provoked into intervening. An analysis of the controversies he entered into with his critics which will be the subject of the next article conveys the same message.

Quotes

With some of Lent and spiritual self-examination still before us....

- The proof of spiritual maturity is not how 'pure' you are, but your awareness of your impurity. That very awareness opens the door to God's grace. *Philip Yancy*
- It is the person who most knows himself liable to fall that will be most ready to overlook any offences from his fellow men. *Alexander Auld*
- Those who say they will forgive but can't forget, simply bury the hatchet but leave the handle out for immediate use. *D L Moody*
- Swallowing of pride seldom leads to indigestion.
- When we take least notice of our good deeds ourselves, God takes most notice of them. *Matthew Henry*
- Rush is destructive of rest, and pace of peace. *Thomas Adams*
- The hurrier I go, the behinder I get!
- The world needs more warm hearts and fewer hot heads.
- What the nations of the world need is a peace conference with the Prince of Peace.
- Jesus heals sin with a medicine: his own blood shed for us. *Richard Wurmbnad*
- Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass – it is learning how to dance in the rain! We cannot direct the wind, but we can adjust our sails.
- Keep the faith – but not from others!
- Some people's religion reminds me of a rocking-horse, which has motion without progress. *Rowland Hill*

And then Holy Week...

- All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of mankind on this earth as powerfully as has that one solitary life.
 - He suffered not as God, but He who suffered was God. *John Owen*
 - The death of Christ was the most dreadful blow ever given to the empire of darkness. *William Plumer*
 - The world cannot bury Christ. The earth is not deep enough for his tomb, the clouds are not wide enough for his winding-sheet. *E Thomson*
 - The best news the world ever had came from a graveyard.
 - The empty tomb of Christ has been the cradle of the church. *WR Nicoll*
 - The Christian church has the resurrection written all over it. *E G Robinson*
 - Christianity is the revelation of God, not the research of man. *JA Stewart*
 - Our friends bring us to the grave and leave us there, but God will not. *anon*
-

Prayer page



Of all of God's gifts Easter shows us our fate
Forgiven we will rise and pass through Heaven's gate

This Easter remember the sacrifice of a Son
And through His resurrection eternal life we have won

This Easter we pray that the love of God
Is resurrected reborn, renewed inside our hearts
Amen

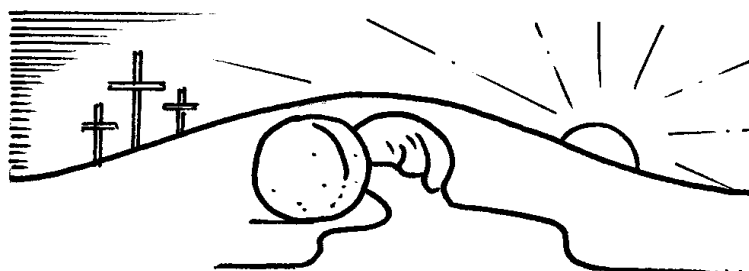
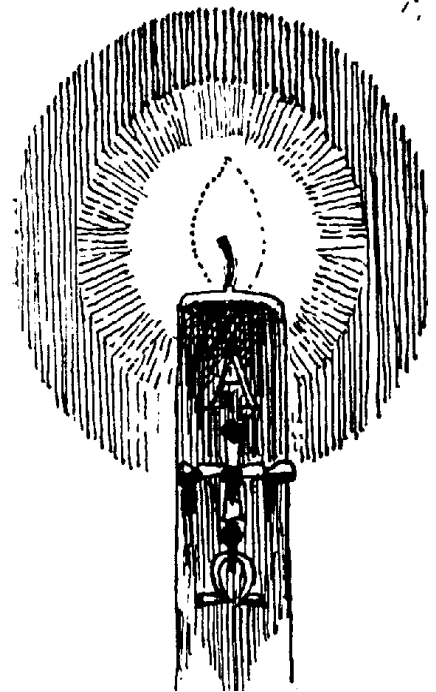
When everything was dark
and it seemed that the sun would never shine again,
your love broke through.

Your love was too strong, too wide,
too deep for death to hold.

The sparks cast by your love dance and spread
and burst forth with resurrection light.

Gracious God,
We praise you for the light of new life
made possible through Jesus.
We praise you for the light of new life
that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.
We praise you for the light of new life
that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy,
will live in us each day;
and that we will be bearers of that light
into the lives of others.
Amen.



Visit by Tim & Kate Lee, CMS Mission Partners, Sunday 11th May

We look forward to welcoming Tim & Kate back to St Andrew's to bring us up to date with news of the Jigsaw Kids Ministry Project in Manila.



Tim will speak at the 10am service and there will be a bring & share lunch in the parish rooms.

Weekend with Margaret Barker, Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th May

Instead of a weekend away, this year we are welcoming Margaret Barker who will lead a day seminar on Saturday looking at the Gospel according to John and will preach at the 10am Parish Communion on Sunday. More details to follow.

Margaret Barker has developed an approach to Biblical Studies now known as Temple Theology. Margaret Barker read theology at the University of Cambridge, England, and went on to pursue her research independently. She was elected President of the Society for Old Testament Study in 1998. She has so far written 16 books, which form a sequence, later volumes building on her earlier conclusions.



In July 2008 Margaret Barker was awarded a DD by the Archbishop of Canterbury *'in recognition of her work on the Jerusalem Temple and the origins of Christian Liturgy, which has made a significantly new contribution to our understanding of the New Testament and opened up important fields for research.'*

Margaret Barker is a mother and grandmother, a Methodist Preacher and was involved for over 30 years with the work of a Women's Refuge.

Church Rotas

Date	Sidesperson	Intercessor	Communion
6 April The Fifth Sunday of Lent	Joan and Barry Houghton David Baxter	Sue Hargreaves	Christine and Michael
13 April Palm Sunday	Marie Stinson Peter McNeill	Di Halliday	Sandie and John
Thursday 17 April Maundy Thursday	Christine Anderton Ann Mosley June Whitaker	Lesley Hudson	
Friday 18 April Good Friday	John Mitchell Michael Baxter Sandie Walton Kath Morris	Shirley Hoskins	
20 April Easter Day	Joyce Bonham Elaine Carter John Mitchell	Michael Baumber	Sue and Tim
27 April The Second Sunday of Easter		Marie Stinson	Christine and Sandie

April Flower Rota	
April 6th-13th	Lent
April 20th	Easter
April 27th	Vacant

Brass Cleaning Mar/April	Sandie Walton and Lesley Bannister
Church Cleaning:	Helen Hulley, Rosie Hargreaves, Sylvia Ackroyd

Readers Rota

6 April The Fifth Sunday of Lent	<i>Ezekiel 37.1-14</i> <i>Romans 8.6-11</i> John 11.1-45	<i>Reading not used</i> <i>Reading not used</i> Lesley Hudson
13 April Palm Sunday	Matthew 21.1-11 <i>at</i> <i>Barrett's Bridge</i> Matthew 21.1-11 <i>in the</i> <i>church</i> Isaiah 50.4-9a Philippians 2.5-11 Matthew 26.14-27.66	John Mitchell Marjorie Gee Kathryn Morris Christine Anderton <i>Dramatised gospel,</i> <i>arranged separately</i>
Thursday 17 April Maundy Thursday	Exodus 12.1-14 1 Corinthians 11.23-26 John 13.1-17,31b-35	Glyn Evans Michael Baumber Lesley Bannister
Friday 18 April Good Friday	Isaiah 52.13 - 53.12 Hebrews 10.16-25 John 18.1 - 19.42	Sylvia Clark Marie Stinson Robin Figg
20 April Easter Day	Acts 10.34-43 <i>Colossians 3.1-4</i> Matthew 28.1-10	Lesley Hudson <i>Reading not used</i> Tim Littler
27 April The Second Sunday of Easter	Acts 2.14a, 22-32 <i>1 Peter 1.3-9</i> John 20.19-31	Barry Houghton <i>Reading not used</i> Kathryn Morris

From the registers

Baptisms

Sunday 2nd March Bonnie Currie, daughter of John & Natalie of Stoney Street, Utley

Weddings

Saturday 8th March Kevin Longworth & Alyssa Otulakowski, of Beech Mount, Cononley

Saturday 15th March James Richardson & Jennifer Adams, of St Peter's Street, Leeds

Regular Events at Kildwick

Monday 2.00pm	5 Beanlands Drive	Informal Bible study and fellowship, all welcome
Tuesday 10.00-11.30am	Chuffs (Not in school holi- days) in the Parish Rooms	Fun for pre-school children and their grown-ups!
Tuesday 7.30-8.30 pm	Choir practice in the church	
Wednesday 10.15 am- 12.30pm	NottheKnot Group in the Parish Rooms	Stitching and fellowship group.
Wednesday 7.30 pm	Bell ringing	



Tue 1 st Apr	7.00pm	Summer Fair planning meeting (White Lion)
Sat 5 th Apr	10.00am	Churchyard tidy up & maintenance day
Sat 12 th Apr	3.00pm	Service of Thanksgiving for the Diocese of Bradford (Bradford Cathedral)
Sun 13 th Apr		PALM SUNDAY - HOLY WEEK BEGINS
Thu 17 th Apr		MAUNDY THURSDAY
	7.30pm	Eucharist of the Last Supper
Fri 18 th Apr		GOOD FRIDAY
	2.00pm	The Liturgy of the Cross
Sat 19 th Apr		EASTER EVE
	8.45pm	The Easter Liturgy & First Communion of Easter
Sun 20 th Apr		EASTER DAY
	10.00am	Family Easter Communion
Sun 27 th Apr	11.10am	Annual Meeting of Parishioners and Annual Parochial Church Meeting
Sun 4 th May	6.00pm	Easter Service of Thanksgiving for Departed Family & Friends
Sun 11 th May	10.00am	Visit by Tim & Kate Lee (CMS Mission Partners)
Sat 17 th & Sun 18 th May		Weekend with Margaret Barker (Old Testament scholar)
Sun 22 nd Jun	10.00am	Service of Baptism, Confirmation & Affirmation of Faith
Sat 28 th Jun	11.00am	Summer Fair

Sunday Services at Kildwick

Morning Prayer will be said in church at 7.30am Monday to Wednesday & Friday
Midweek Eucharist on Wednesdays at 9.30am (in the Parish Rooms)

6 April The Fifth Sunday of Lent	8.15 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion Family Communion with baptisms
13 April Palm Sunday	8.15 am 10.00 am	Holy Communion Parish Communion
Thursday 17 April Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Eucharist of the Last Supper
Friday 18 April Good Friday	2.00 pm	The Liturgy of the Cross
Saturday 19th April Easter Eve	8.45 pm	The Easter Liturgy and First Communion of Easter
20 April Easter Day	8.15 am 10.00 am 6.000pm	Holy Communion Family Communion Songs of Praise
27 April The Second Sunday of Easter	8.15 am 10.00am	Holy Communion Parish Communion

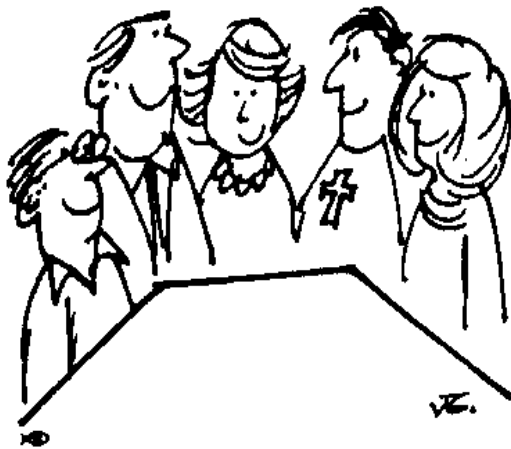
An Easter Service of Thanksgiving & Commemoration of Departed Family and Friends Sunday 4th May at 6.00pm

*A service to remember
those we love but see no longer*

Summer Fair planning meeting, 7.00pm Tuesday 1st April in the White Lion. If you are interested in helping with the planning of this year's fair please contact Lesley Hudson, 523291.

The fair will take place on Saturday 28th June.

St Andrew's Pastoral Care Group



Call June on
01535 655320

Want someone
to talk to?

Lonely?

Need a
listening
ear?

Need
some
help?

Editor: For 2014, the Rev Michael Burgess is surveying works of sacred art that can be found in the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam...you can see the image by googling the title of the painting and the artist. (From The Parish Pump.com)

'He gave us eyes to see them': 'The Incredulity of St Thomas' by Hendrick Ter Brugghen

The Easter Gospel we celebrate this month is all about resurrection and recognition. Mary Magdalene in the garden, the travellers to Emmaus, the disciples fishing – none of them recognise the risen Lord immediately. On that first Easter day the disciples were huddled behind locked doors; they were fearful and confused. When Jesus stood among them and showed them his hands and side, only then did joy break into their hearts and lives. And so it is easy to sympathise with the doubt and

hesitancy of Thomas gathered with the disciples a week later.

Earlier in St John's Gospel, Thomas had exhorted the other disciples to go with Jesus and die with him. Later he is not so sure, as he asks Jesus about that way and where he is going. In chapter 20 Thomas asks for a sign - a sign that the Jesus he followed is not just the way, but the truth and the life: the Lord of Easter. The very thing denied throughout our Lord's ministry is granted to Thomas. Jesus meets the strength of his disbelief with the invitation to reach out and touch the signs of his crucifixion.

St John does not tell us if Thomas did accept this invitation. But that revelatory moment of touching is there in this month's painting from the Rijksmuseum: 'The Incredulity of St Thomas' by the Dutch artist, Hendrick Ter Brugghen. When he was fifteen, Ter Brugghen went to Italy and was fascinated by the paintings of Caravaggio - the use of light and darkness, the drama of the subject matter, and the ordinariness of the models. They are all there in this painting of 1622. The eyes of Thomas and Jesus are focussed on the index finger reaching into the wounded side. Two disciples are close by, but strangely distant: one has his eyes closed, the other younger one looks up to heaven. The old man on the right with the weathered face and rough hands has glasses on to see more clearly this drama of recognition.

The moment is frozen on the canvas, and it is startlingly physical in its realism. It is a prelude to Thomas' affirmation, 'My Lord and my God.' We can sense how Thomas draws in his breath as disbelief turns to insight. And we draw in our breath as we hear our Lord say to us that the final beatitude is not to Thomas seeking a sign, but to us who have not seen and yet have come to believe.

St Peter in his first letter wrote to such Christians and said: 'Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy.' Thomas loved and believed and rejoiced as he reached out to his risen Lord. Let us pray this Easter that the risen Lord will reach out to us, and touch us with those gifts of love, faith and joy.

Baby

A small boy wanted a baby brother, so his father suggested he pray every night for one. The boy began to pray earnestly, night after night. When nothing happened, he gave up. After a few months his dad said they were going to see mum in the hospital and he was going to get a big surprise. When they got to the room, the little boy saw his mother holding two babies. "Well, what do you think about having twin brothers?" his dad asked. The little boy thought for a moment and replied: "It is a good thing I stopped praying when I did."

Editor: A new film, NOAH, starring Russell Crowe, is soon coming to a cinema near you. Here the Ven. John Barton, a former archdeacon of Aston, muses on the biblical story of Noah...

NOAH – the film

A group of 15-year old boys were once asked what they would do if they were God. Their answers could be summarised in the single word, *exterminate*. Given divine powers, they would destroy the human race as it is and start again, this time with better raw material. As far as I can recall, they excluded themselves from the prescribed massacre.



Their cure-all was not original. The biblical story of Noah and the Flood pictured the Creator's loss of patience with his handiwork. The human race had transgressed, so would be drowned, except for a representative few who would sail through the deluge and repopulate the land when it became habitable again. Most ancient civilisations also have stories of a flood so destructive that few animals and plants survived it. Excavations in Mesopotamia indicate that there were indeed a series of destructive floods several thousand years BC.

Does the story of Noah have a lesson to teach 21st Century mortals? Some speculated that this year's floods in the UK were a mark of the Maker's displeasure: a warning to an immoral nation. Others pointed to climate change, a judgment on us all for abusing the planet. This month sees the release of a new film "Noah", with Russell Crowe, Emma Watson and Anthony Hopkins. Will it be all doom and gloom?

The Bible story of Noah (Genesis 7-9) ends with the good news of God making an unbreakable contract with His creation: "Never again shall I put the earth under a curse because of humankind, however evil their inclination may be... As long as the earth lasts, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, they will never cease". The rainbow would be an enduring reminder of this promise.

Although the 15-year old boys' recipe will not be tried, there is no room for complacency. Let the New Testament have the last word, "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance." (2 Peter 3.9)

The labyrinth - a spiritual journey

The labyrinth that was planted in the church green last autumn has grown and flowered and is now available for anyone to walk. There are leaflets available in the church porch.

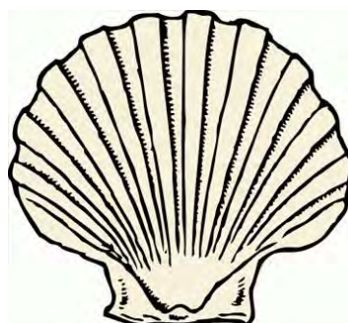
The Labyrinth;

- ◆ is *not* a maze which is designed to mislead the walker with dead-ends and false pathways.
- ◆ has only one path which, if you stay on it, will take you safely to the centre and out again.
- ◆ is an ancient spiritual pathway, used for meditation and prayer by many cultures.
- ◆ has been used by Christians for centuries.
- ◆ symbolises the journey of the soul through life.
- ◆ in the cathedral in Chartres, France is a famous medieval example.
- ◆ in Wakefield cathedral is a beautiful modern example made from Yorkshire stone.
- ◆ in our churchyard is designed to be visible during Lent and Easter and is free for anyone to use.



When you walk the labyrinth you may want to:

- * simply walk in silence and enjoy the flowers.
- * walk the inward journey thinking about what keeps you distant from God; pause in the centre and remember God loves you; walk the outward journey asking God to walk with you.
- * read a bible verse and think about it on your walk.
- * choose a short prayer and silently repeat it as you walk.
- * think about a difficult situation in your life and ask God for help in dealing with it.
- * think about the good things in your life and walk the labyrinth in thanksgiving.
- * bring a favourite prayer or Bible verse with you and use it as you walk.



Saints and Such

April 3rd

Richard of Chichester - wanting God more clearly, dearly and nearly

Ever wonder where the prayer ... *'May I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly, and follow thee more nearly, day by day'* comes from? Richard of Chichester, a bishop in the 13th century, wrote it.

He began life as Richard de Wych of Droitwich, the son of a yeoman farmer. But Richard was a studious boy, and after helping his father on the farm for several years, refused an advantageous offer of marriage, and instead made his way to Oxford, and later to Paris and Bologna to study canon law.

In 1235 he returned to Oxford, and was soon appointed Chancellor, where he supported Edmund, Archbishop of Canterbury, in his struggles against King Henry III's misuse of Church funds. After further study to become a priest, Richard was in due course made a bishop himself. He was greatly loved. He was charitable and accessible, both stern and merciful to sinners, extraordinarily generous to those stricken by famine, and a brilliant legislator of his diocese. He decreed that the sacraments were to be administered without payment, Mass celebrated in dignified conditions, the clergy to be chaste, to practise residence, and to wear clerical dress. The laity was obliged to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days, and to know by heart the Hail Mary as well as the Lord's Prayer and the Creed.

Richard was also prominent in preaching the Crusade, which he saw as a call to reopen the Holy Land to pilgrims, not as a political expedition. He died at Dover on 3 April 1253. In art, Richard of Chichester is represented with a chalice at his feet, in memory of his having once dropped the chalice at Mass! One ancient English church is dedicated to him.

And, of course, he is author of that famous prayer, now set to popular music, which runs in full:

"Thanks be to thee, my Lord Jesus Christ for all the benefits thou hast given me, for all the pains and insults which thou hast borne for me. O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother, may I know thee more clearly, love thee more dearly and follow thee more nearly, day by day."



FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL SUMMARY OF DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting of Farnhill Parish Council was held on the 13th March 2014 in Kildwick/Farnhill Institute. The meeting was chaired by Counc. D. Atkinson. Three members of the council were present plus the Clerk. The meeting was re-scheduled from the 4th March due to that meeting not being quorate due to illness.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 4th February 2014 were approved by the Council and signed as a correct record by the Vice Chairman.

Environmental Health have responded to a complaint regarding activities which are creating noise and dust by saying in order for them to investigate the noise and dust complaints they will require the residents affected to contact the department direct. They will need to establish if a statutory nuisance exists and for them to do this they require detailed information from the people affected. A further response from the property department stated due to excessive workloads the team have not yet been able to visit the site, but have said when time allows they will speak to the individual involved .

A629 Cononley Lane Junction – NYCC have responded to the Parish Council's concerns about the A629 Cononley Junction by saying that since Road Safety improvements were implemented in October 2011 the collision numbers have reduced. Since this time the personal injury collision statistics show four slight collisions in the vicinity. When the remedial measures were introduced over two years ago there had been eight collisions. Since October 2011 there have been two personal injury collisions in 2012, one in 2013 and one so far in 2014. The causation factors contained in the police reports suggest that all four collisions were most likely caused by driver error and did not involve vehicles turning in or out of the two junctions. The collision in 2013 occurred approximately 200m south of Cononley Lane Ends and the collision in 2014 occurred over 100m south of the junction. One collision during 2012 involved a vehicle performing a u-turn to avoid queuing for road works and the other involved a vehicle with a likely defect causing a low speed shunt type collision. They believe the measures we introduced over two years ago have been satisfactory. Analysis of these four collisions (including 17 January 2014) suggests that none would have been prevented by the use of VAS or any other engineering treatment so further measures are not warranted at this time. However, they will continue to monitor the site with a view to installing further safety measures if it is considered that they would be effective. A public Meeting is to be held between Cononley and Farnhill Parish Council and NYCC Representative Counc Patrick Mulligan on the 14th April 2014 at Cononley Village Institute at 7.30pm. The meeting will be to discuss issues regarding safety at the junction with various authorities who have been asked to attend. The Parish Council are to issue a flyer regarding the meeting and deliver it round the village.

A629 Kildwick Roundabout – Highways have responded to concerns about the A629 Kildwick Roundabout by stating that statistics show that there have been three slight collisions (all on different legs) since the improvement scheme was introduced. Because of the random nature of the collisions they do not intend to introduce additional measures. The leg identified on the high risk site list has had no accidents since the measures were implemented, and there is no record of any collisions

involving vehicles exiting the roundabout to Kildwick.

Road Markings by Junction of Main Street Farnhill (By Church)

Highways have responded to the report regarding the road marking condition and will put an order in to refresh the lines in their next batch of lining. They will see what can be done about the give way sign which is obscured by bushes.

One Way Diversion System Clerk to write to Highways regarding the one way system which was put into place to be used when the A629 has to be closed due to incidents. There have recently been a few incidents where the main road has been closed and traffic diverted through the village but the one way system has not been activated which caused gridlock in the village.

Highway Repairs NYCC have recently undertaken work to a few of the footpaths in the village by surface sealing them to preserve them. Clerk to ask NYCC if they propose to carry out the process on the other paths in the village and repair the potholes on Main Street.

A decision was made to hold the Annual Parish Meeting either on the 6th or the 8th May depending on availability of the downstairs room at the Institute. Clerk to clarify available dates and book the room. The Parish Council to consider items for the Newsletter to be co-ordinated at the April meeting.

Counc. J. Waring reported that the new seat on the Sit in Springer had now been fitted. Counc. R. Bramley noted that there were no problems to report.

Clerk is awaiting response from the Canal & Rivers Trust regarding granting permission for erecting a Christmas Tree on their land .

Residents of Lang Kirk Close have raised concerns that the light owned by the housing association has not been fixed yet. Clerk to get in touch with them again.

It was reported that a small tree had blown over at the Arbour but it has now been dealt with. The Parish Council resolved that Counc. M. Scarffe could purchase a heavy duty strimmer for approx £250 in order to enable regular maintenance to be carried out at Lower Arbour. Concerns were expressed about the condition of the road at the Arbour and it will be put on next months agenda. The registration of the Arbour is progressing slowly and the forms have now been completed and sent in.

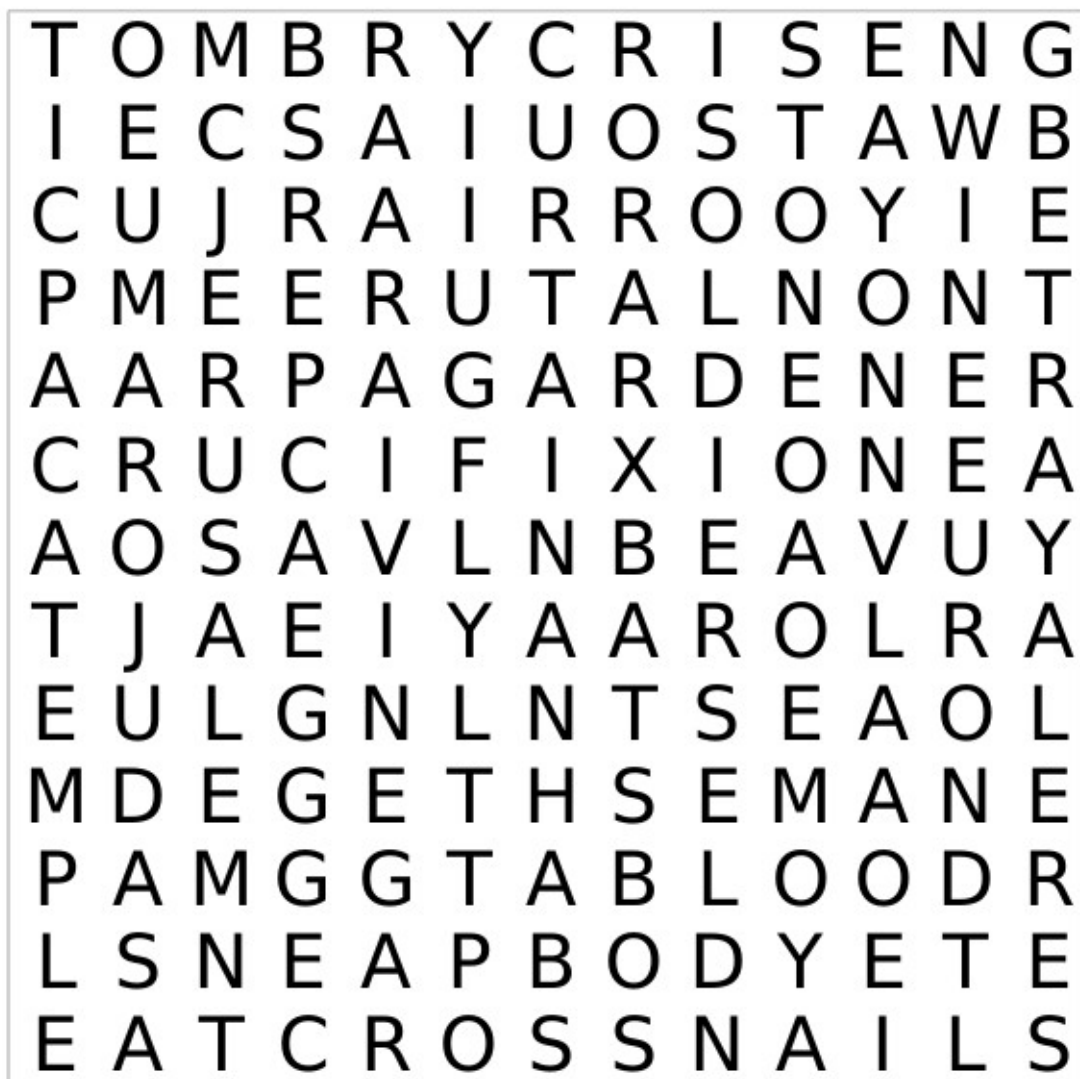
The dog warden has put up more signs regarding dog fouling at Parsons Bridge and will keep an eye on the area. She has asked waste management to clean up the mess. A further complaint has been received from a member of the public.

The Canal & Rivers Trust have stated that they will send someone to investigate the condition of the wall leading to the Culvert and will contact us when they have any feedback.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING TUESDAY 1ST APRIL 2014 IN KILDWICK/FARNHILL
INSTITUTE AT 7.30PM**

All members of the village are welcome to attend

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah! April brings us to Easter – the crucifixion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ - the triumphant highlight of the Christian year. As St Paul pointed out, unless Jesus really did rise again, our faith is useless, and we may as well forget any hope of heaven or eternal life.



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passover

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wine

body

blood

betrayal

Jerusalem

Pilate

Judas

Gethsemane

trial

crucifixion

soldiers

cross

nails

vinegar

temple

curtain

tomb

angel

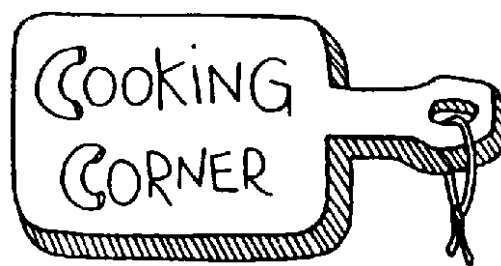
stone

risen

gardener

Mary

Answer grid on next
page



Pecan Pie

Pastry Ingredients (Makes 1.5kgs
enough for 2 pies—freeze one portion)

500g plain white flour
300g cubed butter at room temp
190g icing sugar
60g ground almonds
2 eggs

Filling Ingredients (for one pie)

3oz butter room temp
5oz light muscovado sugar
2 eggs beaten
4oz golden syrup
2tbsps double cream
4oz pecans roughly chopped

To Make pastry

1. Rub flour, salt and butter to make breadcrumb consistency
2. Add the icing sugar and ground almonds
3. Make a well and add the eggs
4. Gradually mix to make a firm dough
5. Blind Bake pastry—careful it burns easily

To make filling

1. Lightly toast the pecans
2. Beat butter and sugar until pale and fluffy
3. Gradually beat in the eggs, syrup and cream
4. Add the Nuts

Pour into pastry case and bake on 170C for fan oven for 30-35 mins



Where Have All the Cuckoos Gone?



We all look forward to hearing the first cuckoo every year as a reminder that summer is on its way, but have you heard that unmistakable sound as often during the last few years?

Most probably, like me, you have not. In England we have lost over half our breeding cuckoos during the last twenty-five years, though Scotland and Wales have not fared so badly, but why are they declining so much?

Not surprisingly, the Cuckoo has been closely studied in the UK, but once they head south to Africa very little is known about where their journey finishes or which way they get there. If we can find out more about what happens to them during their annual 10,000 mile round trip perhaps we will be able to explain their decline.

The development of satellite (GPS) tags weighing only 5g means that now we can follow their travels. The tags are solar-powered, transmitting for 10 hours and then going into 'sleep' mode for 48 hours to recharge.

So in May 2011 the British Trust for Ornithology initiated a project in which five East Anglian Cuckoos were caught and tagged, all of which made it to Africa and were still transmitting data in December. Better still, two even made it back to the UK, providing new information about departure dates and previously unknown migration routes through Spain and western Africa.

Much encouraged, the project was expanded in 2012 to include males from Scotland and Wales to find out whether they might have different migratory strategies.

However, few of them made it to the African wintering grounds; the summer of 2012 was very wet here, with a dearth of



A Cuckoo fitted with a satellite tag showing the aerial.

insects, meaning that the migratory birds were in poor condition when departure time came, and things only got worse en-route. Of the fourteen that left their breeding sites only five were still transmitting in December.

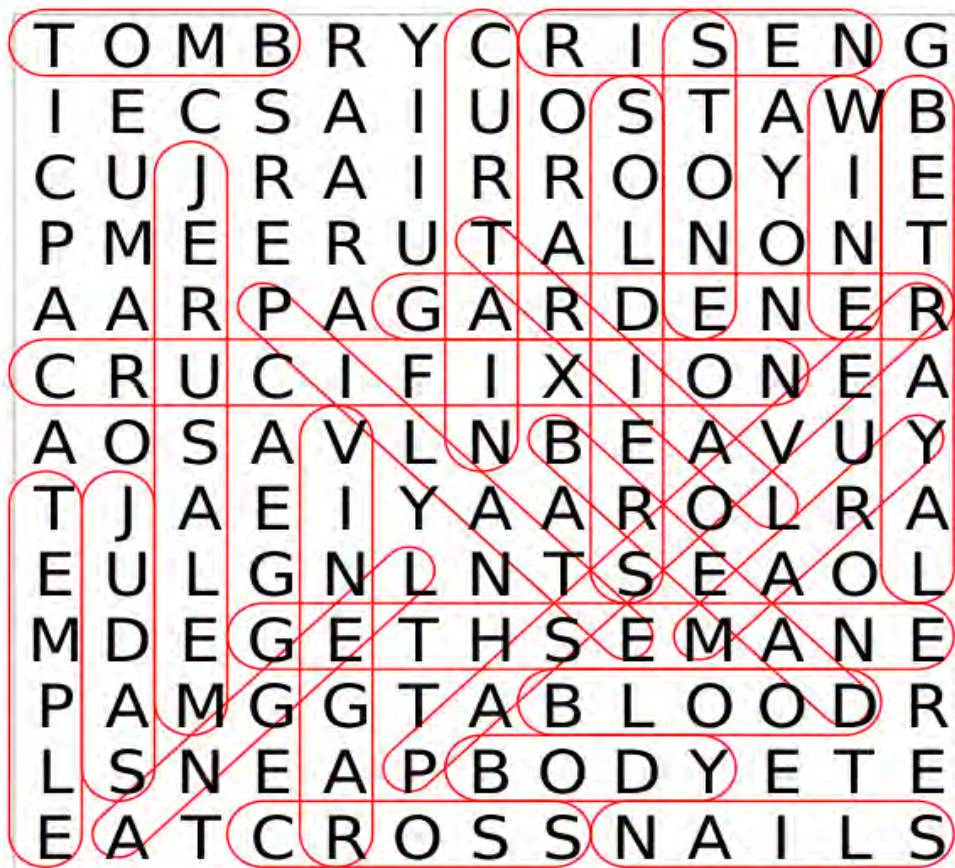
In 2013 twelve more Cuckoos from Scotland, Devon, Sussex and Norfolk were tagged and joined the four survivors. This is the third migration through which we have tracked them, and they are still surprising us.

Mind you, catching Cuckoos is more of an art than a science and you need to understand how they behave to succeed. They are notorious for getting out of conventional nets. Females are even more difficult to catch than males, (I won't be drawn into any comparisons here!), and as they are smaller than, have not been included in the study yet; but with lighter tags becoming available, they should be in future.

As I write this article the Cuckoos have already made an early move. We expected to see them start to edge further north in early February as they prepared for their return journey, but this spring they started to move in mid-January. How significant is this? Only time will tell.

For the latest news on Cuckoo movements, have a look at the BTO website <http://www.bto.org/cuckoos> where you can find out where they are now, and better still, join in and help ensure the project's continuation with some much needed sponsorship.

Mike Gray (mikegbw@btinternet.com)





DAISIES

There is an old saying 'when you can stand on seven daisies at once then spring has come'. I like daisies with their bright yellow middles and tiny petals. If you look closely, you'll see that not all the daisies in any lawn will be white; some of them are edged with pink. When I was little I asked my mum why and she told me this story to explain why.

On that first Easter morning, when Jesus walked in the garden and was seen by Mary and the other women who thought he was a gardener, his bare feet touched just some of the daisies in the grass. And because he still had the wounds in his feet his blood touched the daisies and marked their petals pink.

I love this story and still to this day I feel sorry for the daisies that Jesus didn't touch - because when Jesus touches our lives all things change and spring comes into our hearts forever.



BIBLE 'D's

Can you find all the answers to this Bible quiz? All the words begin with the letter D. Answers at the bottom of the page.

1. A tribe of Israel.
2. He spent the night with some lions.
3. Where Saul was going when he met Jesus on the road.
4. Followers of Jesus.
5. These made Joseph unpopular with his brothers.
6. A famous king of Israel who played the harp.

How do dinosaurs pass exams?

With extinction.



What is the main ingredient of dog biscuits?

Collie flour.

My little brother's name is Dad.

Why is that?

They named him after my father.

Answers: 1.Dan 2.Daniel 3.Damascus
4.disciples 5.dreams 6.David.

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"I'm really not sure about this trend for clergy dressing down, dear."

The Village Pump

*A meeting Place for over 50's
Every Wednesday
2.00-3.30 pm*

*Farnhill Methodist Church
(in the foyer)*

Farnhill Methodist Church holds a Coffee Morning

from 10—11.30 am on the second Saturday of each month.

There is a cake stall, greetings cards, bric-a-brac and paintings on sale. It is a regular date for many villagers and for visitors from around the area.

All are welcome.