

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*

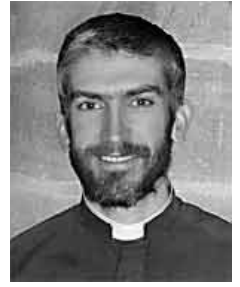
DECEMBER 2011

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,

Our celebration of the birth of our Lord is fast approaching. The build up to Christmas has, of course, been going for weeks (or is it months!) and very soon we will begin the round of school nativity plays and carol services.

What is it that we celebrate again this Christmas? Or rather, WHO is it that we celebrate? The technical word which explains what Christmas is about is Incarnation. At the very heart of all the razzamatazz, the turkey and the tinsel, is the story of God, the One we proclaim as Creator of all that is, coming amongst us as one of us. In Jesus, born in the simply surrounding of a stable, we see God incarnate, born as a human.

The four weeks of Advent invite us to ponder the mystery of the One who invites us to meet him in the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Advent is a time of waiting, of longing for something special to happen.

But given that most of us find waiting hard, Advent is not always an easy period of time. We live in a world that is not accustomed to waiting; we are used to having what we want when we want it! We want to get to the exciting bit NOW; we don't want to have to wait until next week, let alone next month or, surely not, next year!

The paradox is, of course, that what we are waiting to celebrate, God's coming into the world at Christmas, has already happened if only we would believe it and accept it!

God, who is Love and Light, has come and keeps on coming to you and me if only we would open our hearts and minds to his presence with us now.

As you prepare to celebrate the great festival of Christmas once again, take a moment or two to be quiet and wonder what it would be like for Jesus to come again into the world as though for the first time. What would it be like to know the fullness of Jesus indwelling your heart? What would it be like for the Good News to really make an impact in your life?

If you are anything like me, you will not find it easy to find answers to these questions. Being able to let go of all our worldly thoughts and ways is far from easy. This is why we have to try to slow down and give ourselves some time and space into which God can come and speak to our hearts and move our spirits.

In this time of continuing economic crisis all around the world there is increasing anxiety as we wonder what tomorrow's news might bring. The appalling suffering of so many through violence in Sudan and South Sudan, Syria, Egypt and other countries of north Africa and the Middle East cannot go unnoticed and rightly causes us increasing discomfort. The land of Christ's birth remains a battleground and that must be a cause of our continued grieving.

Let us then not forget that the One whose birth we celebrate is the One whose death we also celebrate; a death that came because Jesus challenged the political and religious leaders of his day in the pursuit of justice and righteousness for all.

God in Jesus came to show us that a love that longs for peace and justice for all is possible. The challenge is to accept that 'In the end, there is no one God does not love'.

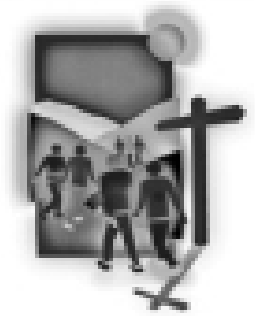
I hope you will come and join us at our Christmas services this year as we think again about the message of God's radical, inclusive, transforming love for all of Creation and all humankind.

May Jesus find a place in your heart this Christmas.



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 Thursday evenings (commencing 26th January) from 7.30pm to 9.00pm.

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

The Gospel according to St Mark

The pattern of readings from the Bible for use in Christian worship is known as the lectionary. Each Sunday three bible readings are prescribed: a passage from the Old Testament, the Apocrypha, or the Acts of the Apostles; another from either the Book of Revelation or the Epistles; and finally a passage from one of the four Gospels.

The pattern of readings runs in three-year cycles; the gospel readings in the first year (Year A) are taken mainly from the Gospel of Matthew, those in the second year (or Year B) mainly from the Gospel of Mark, and in the third year (or Year C) come mainly from the Gospel of Luke. Portions of the Gospel of John are read at certain festivals every year.

On Advent Sunday (30th November) we begin Year B, so the gospel readings will be from Mark.

The Gospel of Mark is one of the earliest written documents on the life of Jesus that is preserved for us today. But Mark is more than a historical account or an attempt at

objective biography. It is a story that seeks to draw readers into its world, to lead them to a faith in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, and to motivate them to a truer discipleship. Page 5

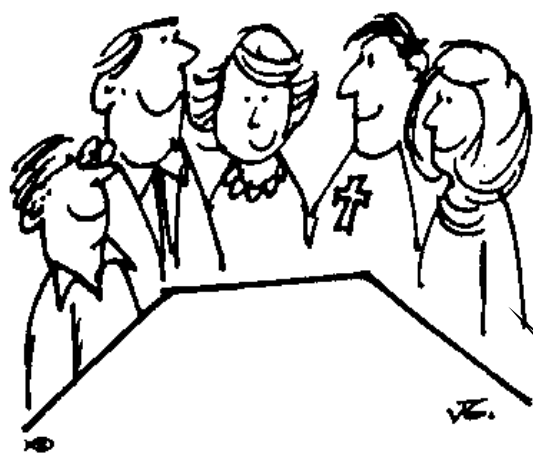
Christian tradition has long suggested that the author of the Gospel was "Mark," a companion of Peter who is mentioned in Colossians 4:10, 2 Timothy 4:11, and Philemon 24 and called "John Mark" in Acts 12:12, 25 and 15:37-39. Peter does occupy a unique role in this Gospel, but nowhere does the author ever explicitly identify himself. We will continue to call this Gospel "Mark's," but its actual authorship remains uncertain. Based on the kinds of unrest described in chapter 13 which are consistent with Nero's persecution of Christians and the Jewish revolt against Rome which culminated with the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple in 70 CE, most scholars conclude that this Gospel was written sometime in the late 60's CE. There are many factors which point to the likelihood that Mark was composed for a community outside of Palestine. Christian tradition has suggested Rome as its originating location, but any number of places within the Roman Empire could also be possible.

Most scholars also agree that Mark served as a source for the Gospels attributed to Matthew and Luke. Though these other two Gospels, along with John, may provide a more polished and fuller account of Jesus' ministry, Mark remains as the most compelling story which hopes to draw its readers into a relationship with Jesus Christ, the Son of God who suffered and died for us. This Gospel also highlights the nature of discipleship lived out in the shadow of Christ's cross and what it means for us as followers of Jesus to be "MARKed for Life!"

Here is a guide to this Gospel.

1. Jesus' baptism and temptations (1.1-13)
 2. Initial opposition to Jesus' teaching in Galilee (1.14 – 3.35)
 3. Jesus teaches using parable (4.1–34)
 4. Jesus performs miracles and healings amid growing opposition to his work (4.35 – 8.26)
 5. Peter's confession, the cost of discipleship (8.27-38)
 6. The Transfiguration (9.1-13)
 7. Jesus teaches and prepares his disciples (9.14 – 10.52)
 8. Jesus enters Jerusalem, cleanses the Temple and engages in argument (11.1 – 12.44)
 9. Jesus teaches of future events ('the Markan apocalypse') (13.1- 37)
 10. The Last Supper, Jesus' arrest, trials and crucifixion (14.1 – 15.47)
 11. The empty tomb (16.1-8)
 12. Resurrection appearances (16.9-20)
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St Andrew's Pastoral Care Group



**Call June on
01535 655320**

**Want someone
to talk to?**

**Need a
listening
ear?**

Lonely?

**Need
some
help?**



NEWS FROM THE CROSS HILLS & DISTRICT FELLOWSHIP OF CHURCHES



Open Air Christmas Nativity Play 4.00pm Sunday 11th December

Following another successful outdoor nativity last year, the event is to be repeated this year. We will again need lots of people to be involved in different ways.

There are only a few speaking parts in the production but we require a lot of people to be shepherds, Nazarenes, parts of the crowd etc. People will also be needed to help with preparing costumes and scenery, to act as stewards, assist with publicity and various other things. The event is something that young and old (and those in between) can all be involved in.

The date of the presentation is Sunday 11th December at 4.00pm. For more information or to find out how you can be involved contact Peter Bannister, 636036.

Christmas Crib Service

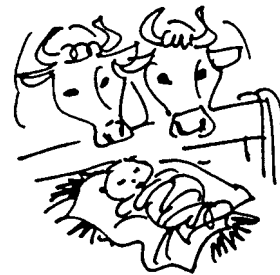
4 pm Christmas Eve

at

In Kildwick Church

A child- friendly all-age service

All welcome



Prayers for the Parish & World Church

The next monthly meeting to pray for the parish and worldwide Church will take place on Friday 16th December in the parish rooms from 10.00am until 11.30am. For more information contact Robin Figg, 633307.

Prayer Page



Loving God create in us a fountain of joy,
stir in us a spirit ready to dance,
kindle in us the fire of gladness,
set loose in us songs of praise,
for You are the One who comes with healing and blessing.
Amen.

During this Advent, let your light of peace and love shine in our world.
Give us eyes to see the signs of your presence in the world.
Help us to prepare our lives and our homes to receive the One who said, "I am the light
of the world."
Amen.

Loving God, make room in our hearts for people who need us.
We thank you for friends and strangers who have received us when we were lonely,
afraid, or tired.
May we be ready to receive the love you offer us and have the courage to share that love
with others through loving action.
Amen

Gracious God, send us your grace this Advent Season so that we can prepare for your
coming. Touch our hearts with longing so that we can better love and serve you and
each other. Fill us with the hope that we can be transformed by your Spirit and so help
transform the world. Give us the peace of knowing that you came to share our human
life and redeem us for the sake of love.
We ask these things in the name of Jesus whose kingdom we seek.
Amen.

A Christmas Creed

I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.
I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a little town; and whose spirit still brings music
to persons all over the world, in towns both large and small.
I believe in the one for whom the crowded inn could find no room, and I confess that my
heart still sometimes wants to exclude Christ from my life today.
I believe in the one who the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never under-
stand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of
hungry hearts.
I believe in the one who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible:
I believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth
had love for its only wealth, who looked at persons and made them see what God's love
saw in them, who by love brought sinners back to purity, and lifted human weakness up
to meet the strength of God.
I confess my ever-lasting need of God: The need of forgiveness for our selfishness and
greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold.
I believe in God who gives us the best of himself.
I believe in Jesus, the son of the living
God, born in Bethlehem this night, for me and for the world.

BIBLE HISTORY

written by Michael Baumber



JESUS AND THE LAW

3. SABBATH OBSERVANCE

According to Genesis God rested from his labours on the seventh day so the law decreed that human creation should rest too. This regulation shows the Jewish law at its enlightened best because it ensured that no one was compelled to work endlessly for unfeeling employers. But like all laws the ingenious found ways round it so the lawyers spent endless time defining exactly what work was. Many of Jesus' critics would have accepted that the action of some of his disciples in plucking ears of corn was not really work but they would have argued that if it were allowed it might open the door to other forms of food preparation. Were the women of the household expected to make meals while their men folk rested? Jesus had no time for such hair splitting. He would have agreed with Archbishop Ramsey when he declared that Anglicanism was based on the scriptures, church tradition and a good dose of common sense. For any sensible person it would be obvious that plucking corn and the laborious task of preparing the usual meals were quite different.

The incident in the synagogue raised a number of different issues. We live in a more complicated society than Jesus did but even in his time it was obvious that some things could not just stop on the Sabbath. Crops could grow untended for a day, but animals had to be cared for continuously or they strayed. Meals might be prepared beforehand but children could not just be left untended.

Jesus was criticised again for curing the man with a shriveled hand in the synagogue on the Sabbath. The Pharisees did not object to medical assistance if the individual was in danger of dying but this man was not. Why couldn't the cure have been postponed until the following day? Jesus did what he did deliberately to pose the question of whether you were allowed to do good on the Sabbath. Surely that was the time of all times when actions to benefit your fellow human beings should be allowed to take place. After all the rabbi had to organise and conduct the synagogue services. Wasn't that work? Wasn't preaching the word work especially if it was part of a full time job?

In our society we solve the problem of ensuring proper rest by legislation limiting the number of hours to be worked and the prosecution of employers found exploiting their work force. The real problem is that religious communities have used Sabbath observance as a means of creating a space where all their members could meet for worship together and this has become confused with the issue of rest. The plain fact is that an activity which stresses our weaknesses, however it is dressed up is never likely to be as popular as sport or other leisure activities and expecting people to attend at the same time each week makes it just like work.

GIVING IN GRACE

At the end of September letters were delivered to every house in Cross Hills, Farnhill and Kildwick which is within the Parish of St Andrew. Letters also went to those who have had a child baptised, been married or had the funeral of a family member here at St Andrew's in recent years, and to those who have a parent at Kildwick CE Primary School, as well as to those who are regular worshippers at the church. In total approximately 1,600 letters were delivered.



A principal aim of the *Giving in Grace* initiative was to remind everyone that the Church is here and tell people about the activities which are part of our mission and ministry as we seek to share the good news of God's love with those around us.

Every mailing also included a response card inviting people to show their support of their local church in some tangible way by making a financial contribution and/or by offering to share their time and talents in support of the work of the church.

The good news is that we have received 69 responses to date.

Of these, 15 were from people whose connection with the church is through their residence in the parish. (We did note that a significant majority of these live in Kildwick or Farnhill.) We are most grateful that 3 people wish to make a regular financial contribution to the church and 8 people made a single donation; 4 people responded to offer their talents in support of the church.

Of the 54 responses from people with a more active connection with the life of the church, we are most grateful that 5 people wish to join the planned giving scheme, 18 people wish to increase their present level of financial support and 15 people made a single donation. A number of people indicated that they are not able to change their present level of financial giving but affirmed their continuing commitment to supporting the church.

The final financial figures are not yet known, but it is known that the single donations made total at least £2,045 and the increase in regular annual income is at least £3,317. This is very good and the Parochial Church Council is extremely grateful for all the encouraging responses and demonstration of committed support of the mission and ministry of the Church here.

On All Saints Sunday at the end of October when we offered thanks during our Parish Communion service, Robin concluded his sermons as follows:

"I believe *Giving in Grace* has been a good thing for us to engage with. I hope it has led many to think carefully about what St Andrew's means for them. For some the church clearly means a lot and they want to be as generous as they can in supporting our life and work. For others, of course, the church means very little, if anything, and they remain indifferent at best to us and what we seek to be about.

"Such has always been the case, I suspect. For those of us who believe that God has called and we have heard and responded, the Church as the body of Christ, the people of God, continues to be that which supports and enables our life of faith and discipleship as ordinary people doing ordinary things as well as we can for God as a sign of God's reign here on earth."

CROSSWORD

Across

1 Rely (Psalm 62:7) (6)

4 'He stretches out the heavens like a —, and spreads them out like a tent to live in' (Isaiah 40:22) (6)

7 What the dove carried the olive leaf in, when it returned to Noah's ark (Genesis 8:11) (4)

8 Annoy (1 Samuel 1:6) (8)

9 Judah's last king, who ended his days as a blind prisoner in Babylon (Jeremiah 52:11) (8)

13 'They all — and were satisfied' (Luke 9:17) (3)

16 Eliphaz the Temanite was one; so was Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite (Job 2:11; 16:2) (4,9)

17 National Association of Evangelicals (of the USA) (1,1,1)

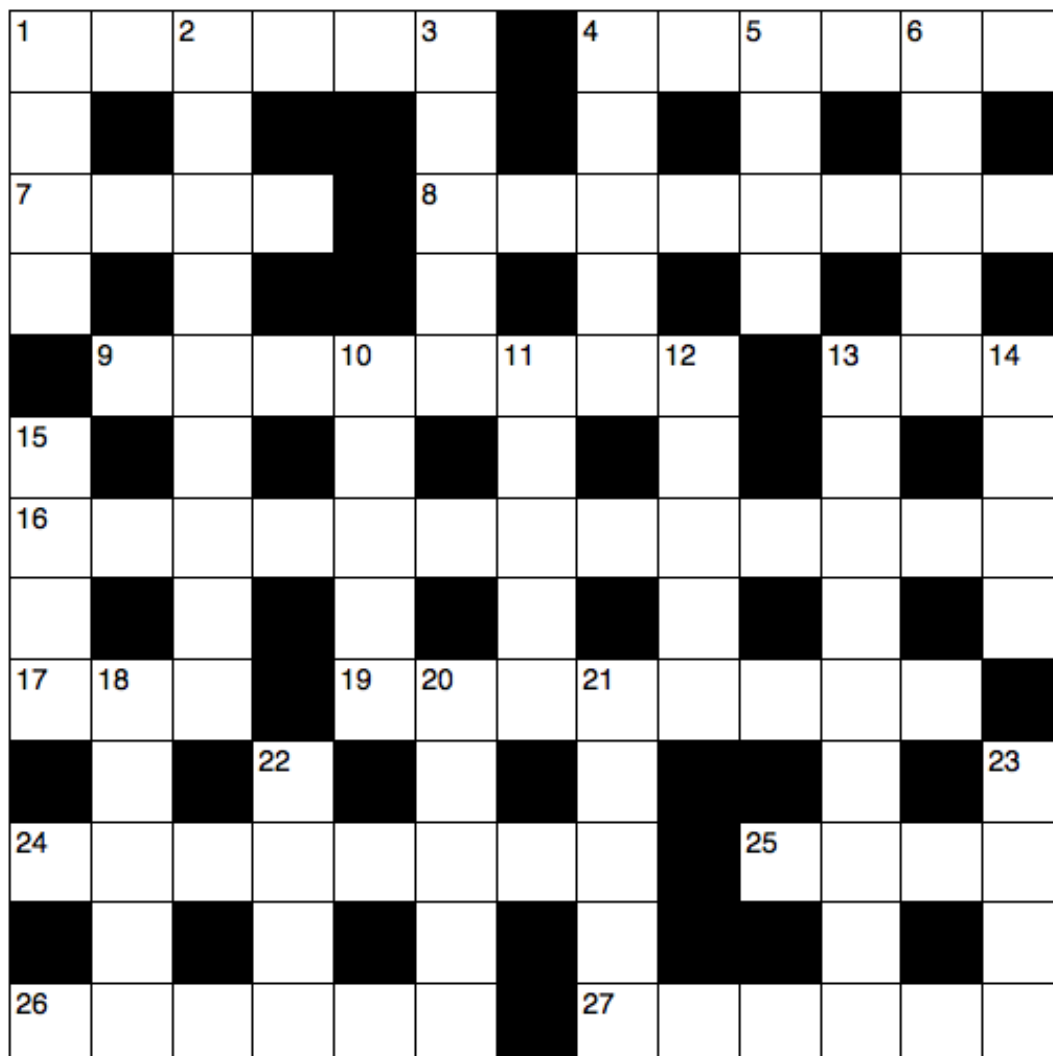
19 Popular song for New Year's Eve, Auld — — (4,4)

24 Able dock (anag.) (8)

25 The number of stones David chose for his confrontation with Goliath (1 Samuel 17:40) (4)

26 Elgar's best-known 'Variations' (6)

27 Soak (Isaiah 16:9) (6)



Down

1 Money owing (Deuteronomy 15:3) (4)

2 Conciliatory (Titus 3:2) (9)

3 'Do this, whenever you — it, in remembrance of me' (1 Corinthians 11:25) (5)

4 A group assisting in the governance of the Roman Catholic Church (5)

5 One of the gifts Joseph's brothers took with them on their second journey to Egypt (Genesis 43:11) (4)

- 6 'Reach out your hand and — — into my side. Stop doubting and believe' (John 20:27) (3,2)
10 Be outstandingly good (2 Corinthians 8:7) (5)
11 'What — — that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?' (Psalm 8:4) (2,3)
12 Horse's feet (Judges 5:22) (5)
13 Notice (Deuteronomy 17:4) (9)
14 Comes between 2 Chronicles and Nehemiah (4)
15 One of Israel's northern towns conquered by Ben-Hadad (1 Kings 15:20) (4)
18 Narnia's Lion (5)
20 One of the two rivers in which Naaman would have preferred to wash (2 Kings 5:12) (5)
21 Avarice—one of the evils that come from inside people (Mark 7:22) (5)
22 Knight Grand Cross of St Michael and St George (1,1,1,1)
23 Jacob's first wife (Genesis 29:23) (4)

Answers on page 35

Smiles Lines

Warning

A local priest and a pastor stood by the side of the road holding up a sign that said, 'The End is Near! Turn yourself around now - before it's too late!' They held up the sign as a car approached. "Leave us alone, you religious nuts!" yelled the driver as he sped by. A moment later, from around the curve, they heard a big splash. "Do you think," said the priest, "we should just put up a sign that says 'bridge down' instead?"



Virgin mother

A ten-year old, under the tutelage of her grandmother, was becoming quite knowledgeable about the Bible. Then one day she floored her grandmother by asking, "Which Virgin was the mother of Jesus? The Virgin Mary or the King James Virgin?"

Angels, explained by children

I only know the names of two angels, Hark and Harold. - Gregory, age 5

Everybody's got it all wrong. Angels don't wear halos anymore. I forget why, but scientists are working on it. - Olive, age 9

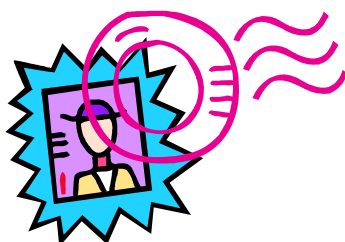
Christmas pageant

My three children were in the Christmas pageant. I was so proud. My daughter was playing Mary. One son was a shepherd. And my other son was a Wise Man. My shepherd son had practised his lines over and over, but when the time came, he was nervous and said, "We found the babe wrapped in wrinkled clothes."

To which Mary replied, "That's not wrinkled clothes, that's dirty rotten clothes!" Giggles from the audience followed, but the play went on. My Wise Man son, wearing his father's bath robe and paper crown knelt by the manger and said, "We are the three Wise Men and we are bringing gifts of gold, common sense and fur."

It was....

- 250 years ago:- on 1st Dec 1761 that Marie Tussaud, French artist known for her wax sculptures, was born. She founded Madame Tussaud's wax museum in London.
- 150 years ago: on 14th Dec 1861 that Prince Albert, consort of Queen Victoria, died.
- 100 years ago: on 14th Dec 1911 that the Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen and his team became the first people to reach the South Pole, beating Robert Falcon Scott's rival British team by over a month. Scott and his team perished on the way home.
- 90 years ago: on 6th Dec 1921 that the Anglo-Irish Treaty was signed in London. It ended the Irish War of Independence and established the Irish Free State.
- 75 years ago: on 11th Dec 1936 that King Edward VIII abdicated to marry Wallis Simpson, a divorcee. His younger brother, the Duke of York, became King George VI
- 70 years ago: on 7th Dec 1941 that Japan launched a surprise bomb attack on Pearl Harbour, Hawaii and other US bases in the Pacific; thus bringing the US into the War.
- 60 years ago: on 24th Dec 1951 that Libya declared its independence from the UK.
- 50 years ago: on 4th Dec 1961 that birth control pills became available on the NHS in the UK.
- 40 years ago: on 4th Dec 1971 that the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF) exploded a bomb in McGurk's Bar, Belfast, killing 15 people. This was the first major atrocity of the Troubles of Northern Ireland.
- 30 years ago: on 14th Dec 1981 that Israel annexed the Golan Heights, formerly part of Syria, which it had occupied since 1967.
- 25 years ago: on 30th Dec 1986 that the British government announced that the use of canaries in coal mines was to be phased out in favour of hand-held electronic gas detectors.
- 20 years ago: on 10th Dec 1991 that the Maastricht Treaty, which established the European Union, was agreed by the leaders of 12 European nations.
- Also 20 years ago: on 25th Dec 1991 that Mikhail Gorbachev resigned as President of the Soviet Union. The following day the Soviet Union was officially dissolved.
- 10 years ago: on 7th Dec 2001 that the Taliban regime in Afghanistan ended as they surrendered their final bastion in Kandahar.
- Also 10 years ago: on 22 Dec 2001 that British man Richard Reid attempted to blow up a transatlantic flight from Paris to Miami using explosives hidden in his shoes.



Christmas Stamps. Don't forget to save your Christmas stamps for the Mission to Seafarers charity. They can be left in the box by the church door. Postcards are also collected.

Isobel's Page

A few years ago a friend left a cold and dreary Yorkshire winter to spend time in New Zealand. The difference in our climates was clearly shown in the regular bulletins I received- warm sunshine and walks through lavender fields, rolling green hills, affording panoramic views towards the mountains. Someone else I know once spent Christmas in Australia. How strange it seemed to hear of a Christmas dinner- turkey and all the trimmings- being eaten outside and getting a sun tan at the same time! Christmas with us that year had been very different-a Christmas with frosty fields, powdery snow, bare trees and twinkling star lit skies. It could be said that Christmas in the Southern hemisphere is quite upside down- just like, perhaps, the unpredictable upside down Nativity story. The most important baby ever to be born would, you may think, have been born into opulence with all the accompanying trappings. The reality was certainly different- was upside down- a single mother, a homeless family who had to become refugees in a foreign country to escape a ruler who would stop at nothing, even murder, to hold on to his throne and his power.

In 1843 Charles Dickens wrote 'A Christmas Carol', telling how the mean and stingy Ebenezer Scrooge was himself turned upside down at Christmas and was transformed after visits from his deceased partner, Jacob Marley, and the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future. The sources of this tale were Dickens' own experiences of his poverty stricken childhood. His father had been in the debtors' prison, 'Marshalsea', and the young Charles was forced to accept employment in a blacking factory. Here he observed the lives of men, women and children in the poorest parts of London and witnessed the injustices they suffered. Christina Rossetti wrote a poem in 1872 and ten years after her death the poem or carol 'In the Bleak Midwinter' was published- in 1904. The writing of Rossetti turns the comfortable words of many Christmas carols we sing completely upside down- gone are the reassuring words where all is calm and bright and gentlemen are exhorted to be merry and not let anything worry them. This poem is certainly different because it starts by painting a very dismal picture of a frozen landscape, bitterly cold winds and water turned to ice. Of course winters, as we know to our cost in the last couple of years, can be very bleak and dark but fortunately we know that Spring will come and the light will return. Dickens' Scrooge could be defined as Winter but just as Winter is followed by Spring, the renewal of life, and the promise of Summer, so Scrooge's cold dark heart is restored to goodwill at Christmas.

John, The Baptist, the camel skin wearing prophet had some challenging words to say to those who came to him for baptism. He said that if they really wanted to change then they had not just to say the words but they had to act them. He told them to share their clothes, share their food, do the right thing with their money- not just give lip service to this- turn upside down completely.

'The man with two tunics should share with him who has none and the one who has food should do the same.'

To go back to good old Scrooge- he was taken by the second spirit, The Ghost of Christmas Present, to the homes of the rich and the poor as they celebrated Christmas.

'Much they saw and far they went and many homes they visited- always with a happy end. The spirit stood beside sick beds and they were cheerful, on foreign lands and they were close at home, by struggling men and they were patient in their greater hope, by poverty and it was rich. In almshouse, hospital and jail- in misery's every refuge where vain man, in his little brief authority, had not

By this time in the story Scrooge's attitude is being changed but he has quite a way to go before this change shows in his actions. Under the robe of the ghost Scrooge sees two children- Ignorance and Want.

'They were a boy and girl- yellow, meagre, ragged, scowling- but prostrate in their humility. Where graceful youth should have filled their features out and touched them with its fresh tints a stale, shrivelled hand- like that of age- had pinched and twisted them.

'Spirit, are they yours?', asked Scrooge. 'They are man's', said the spirit. 'This boy is Ignorance. This girl is Want. Beware of the boy for on his brow I see that written which is Doom, unless the writing is erased'.

In Dickens' Victorian England there were many ways in which children certainly suffered. They were working long hours in factories in unhealthy conditions. They were doing jobs which were dangerous for little hands and feet such as sweeping under machines and they were permanently tired, malnourished and frequently beaten. In 1844 The Factory Act said children under thirteen should work no more than 6.5 hours a day- either in the morning or the afternoon. It was not until 1870 that the Education Act, the first piece of legislation to deal specifically with the provision of education in this country, which ensured that children between the ages of five and thirteen went to school, was passed. It was not mandatory and many children did not go and continued to work and earn money for their families.

Jesus was a baby born in poverty stricken surroundings, who was, as an adult, an itinerant preacher travelling from place to place, a man with few possessions and who was taken from the Cross to be laid in a borrowed tomb. Unfortunately there are still millions of children- born in similar circumstances- all over the world still suffering because of ignorance and want. There are still people without homes and enough food to eat and there are many- living in fear of their lives- who have to seek asylum far away from what they know as home. John the Baptist more or less said actions must speak louder than words. Dickens' 'A Christmas Carol' popularized the greeting 'Merry Christmas' and the name Scrooge and Bah Humbug entered the English Language but it could be, however, the book's greatest achievement was the influence it exerted on its readers. Their comfortable world was turned upside down- which may very well have been Dickens' intention- as many vowed to give generously to charitable organisations and many began to work tirelessly to improve the lives of those less fortunate than themselves- just as Scrooge did when the true spirit of Christmas came alive in him.

I cannot better the words of Charles Dickens in his ending of 'A Christmas Carol' so, after wishing all my readers a 'Very Happy Christmas', I end my own writings for another year with them.

'Scrooge was better than his word. He did it all. He became as good a friend, as good a master and as good a man as the good old city knew.'

'Some people laughed to see the alteration in him but he let them laugh and little heeded them'.

'It was always said of him that he knew how to keep Christmas well. May that be truly said of us and all of us. And so, as Tiny Tim observed, ' God bless us- every one.'

Regular Events at Kildwick

Monday 2 pm	5 Beanlands Glusburn	Informal Bible study and fellowship, all welcome
Tuesday 10.00-11.30am	Chuffs (Not in school holidays)	Fun for pre-school children and their grown-ups!
Tuesday 7.30-8.30 pm	Choir practice in Parish Rooms	
Wednesdays from 10.15 am- 12.30pm	NottheKnot Group in Parish Rooms	Stitching and fellowship group.
7.30 pm	Bellringing	



Fri 2 nd Dec	2.45pm	Kildwick School collective worship in church
Sat 3 rd Dec	1.00pm	Kildwick School Christmas Fair (School)
Wed 7 th Dec	7.30pm	<i>The Jesus Driven Life</i> course (Parish Rooms)
Mon 12 th Dec	6.30pm	Glusburn School Carol Service
Wed 14 th	1.30pm	Kildwick School Christmas play (Church)
Thu 15 th Dec	1.30pm	Kildwick School Christmas play (Church)
Fri 16 th Dec	10.00am	Prayers for the Parish & World Church (Parish Rooms)
Sun 18 th Dec	4.00pm	Christmas Carol Service
Tue 20 th Dec	2.00pm	Kildwick School Christingle Service (Church)
Wed 21 st Dec	7.30pm	<i>The Jesus Driven Life</i> course (Parish Rooms)
Sat 24 th Dec	4.00pm	Crib Service
Sat 24 th Dec	11.30pm	Midnight Eucharist
Sun 25 th Dec	CHRISTMAS DAY	
	8.15am	Said Eucharist
	10.00am	Family Eucharist

Sun 8th Jan THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Prayers for the Parish & Word Church

The next monthly meeting to pray for the parish and worldwide Church will take place on Friday 18th November in the parish rooms from 10.00am until 11.30am. For more information contact Robin Figg, 633307.

Services at Kildwick

Page 17

Morning Prayer is said in the church Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
and Friday at 7.30am

Mid week Eucharist in the church on Wednesdays at 9.30am

4 December Second Sunday of Advent	8.15 am 10 am	Said Holy Communion Family Eucharist with baptism
11 December Third Sunday of Advent	8.15 am 10 am	Said Holy Communion Sung Eucharist
18 December Fourth Sunday of Advent	8.15 am 10 am	Said Holy Communion Sung Eucharist Carols by Candlelight
24 December Christmas Eve	4 pm 11.30pm	Crib Service Eucharist
25 December Christmas Day	8.15 am 10 am	Said Holy Communion Family Eucharist
1 January 2012 First Sunday of Christmas	8.15 am 10 am	Said Holy Communion Family Eucharist

Christmas Carol Service by candlelight

4.00pm Sunday 18th December

**Traditional service of carols and readings for
Christmas with a children's nativity tableau**

*(children are invited to come dressed as shepherds, angels, wise men
or nativity animals and join in the tableau)*

Please note earlier start time



Christmas shopping with a difference

If you are still looking for that special present for someone here are some ideas that will really help to a positive difference is someone's life! The interest in "alternative" gifts has increased greatly which is very good news for people in the developing world. So why not investigate the following Charities and their range of gifts.

OXFAM. Their scheme is called 'Oxfam Unwrapped'.

The website is at

www.oxfamunwrapped.com



WORLD VISION. One of the first to offer a scheme they have 'the alternative gift catalogue'. The website is at www.worldvision.org.uk

CHRISTIAN AID. Their scheme is called 'Present Aid'. The website is at

www.presentaid.org



Roanan Keating, the pop star, said, "I have seen the value small-scale farmers get from keeping goats. So it's the kind of gift I would be really happy to give. To help transform someone's life in one of the world's poorest countries is the right thing to do."

Real gifts that are wanted, not wasted

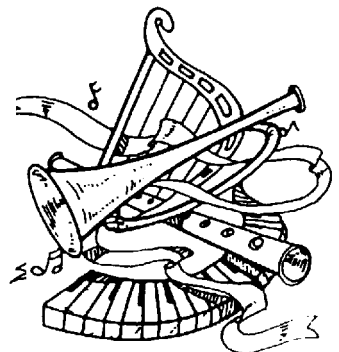
God in Music

Editor: The Rev Michael Burgess continues his series looking at great works of music.

'There is sweet music here': Benjamin Britten

This month we turn to one of the most ravishing of all orchestral instruments – the harp.

The sound of the harp introduced 'Mrs Dale's Dairy' on the radio in the 1950s. Thomas Moore, the poet, praised the harp whose music once sounded through Tara's halls. John Milton wrote of the 'charming symphony' of golden harps in 'Paradise Lost.' But many centuries before all of these, it was David's harp that soothed the tormented spirit of Saul and refreshed his soul. The plucked strings of the instrument can do just that, and it is the harp that moves the psalmist in Psalm 43 away from inner worries to the praise of God.



Appropriately for December, we shall explore the harp in a carol sequence: Benjamin Britten's 'A Ceremony of Carols', which he composed in 1942. I remember our music master playing a recording of this work when I was a schoolboy. I had been brought up on 'Away in a manger' and 'O little town of Bethlehem,' and so Britten's settings of medieval and 17th century carols were a revelation as he depicted a whole range of emotions brought to life by the birth of Jesus. One moment a lullaby, the next exultant cries of 'Wolcum Yole!' One moment a freezing winter night, the next the birds singing

And all reflected and sustained by the glorious sonorities of the harp: nimble fingerwork expressing joy and life, cold chords for the wintry weather that somehow sent a chill through the spirit, and then triumphant glissandi to the words 'Deo gracias.' The work is framed by plainsong – 'Today Christ is born' - and in the middle the harp has a solo which meditates and improvises on those notes. In just 32 bars, Britten expresses all that the instrument is capable of – sonorous, deep, low octaves, sparkling arpeggios, and magical glissandi that weave around the melody and then die away into silence.

Up to that interlude the carols have praised this new birth of Jesus and the light and hope it brings. After it, the mood changes – the birth takes place in the depth of winter, and there is no room anywhere for the Christ-Child. But this is the way of God working in his world, and the carols and harp express that mystery and marvel.

The final carol is 'Adam lay ibounden' which sings of the old world of the fall and death and the new world of birth and light. The Christmas message can raise downcast spirits like a light shining in the darkness. Yet, without the darkness and the fall there would be no Christmas. That is why, says 'A Ceremony of Carols', we can rejoice amid all that brings us low. Before the work fades away in the plainsong recessional, the dominant song is 'Thanks be to God.' The harp expresses those words in swooping, spirited glissandi that shine out on the page and ring in our ears and hearts with Christmas joy.

Comedian Milton Jones joins toilet roll project that 'will touch everyone'

Award winning comedian Milton Jones will narrate *Roll on Christmas* - a unique retelling of the nativity as an animated farce on Facebook.

Roll on Christmas is a two-minute farce about the incarnation getting lost in the madness of Christmas 2011. The stars of this chaotic animation are anyone's Facebook friends – their faces cut out and stuck on toilet rolls depicting the usual Bethlehem suspects.

"I'm very happy to be involved in *Roll on Christmas*," says Milton "It sheds new light on a beautiful and timeless story, especially if you've ever used a toilet roll. In fact, these toilet rolls will touch everyone." Jones, described by The Times as "king of the surreal one-liners", has been a panellist many times on Mock the Week (BBC2), and was recently to be seen on Michael McIntyre's Comedy Roadshow (BBC1).

Aimed at anyone over 18 years of age, *Roll on Christmas* caricatures the way we behave over the festive period - shopping, drinking, eating, partying and celebrating to excess. Or, as Milton Jones put it: "*Roll on Christmas* is another shameless example of Christians jumping on the bandwagon of Christmas."

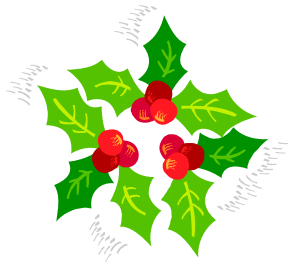
Follow on: <http://www.facebook.com/RollOnChristmas>. *Roll on Christmas* has been devised by the webzine, *Ship of Fools*, and Bible Society, with help from Jerusalem Productions.

Christmas unwrapped!

How do you celebrate Christmas Eve?

It has its own customs, the most popular of which is going to Midnight Mass, or the Christ-Mas. This is the only Mass of the year which is allowed to start after sunset. In Catholic countries such as Spain, Italy and Poland, Midnight Mass is in fact the most important church service of the entire Christmas season, and many people traditionally fast beforehand. In other countries, such as Belgium and Denmark, people dine during the evening, and then go on to the Midnight Service.

The English are behind some countries when it comes to exchanging presents: in Germany, Sweden and Portugal the custom is to exchange on Christmas Eve. But the English are ahead of Serbia and Slovakia, where the Christmas tree is not even brought into the house and decorated until Christmas Eve.



Yule logs are not so popular since the decline of the fireplace, but traditionally it was lit on Christmas Eve from a bit of the previous year's log, and then would be burned non-stop until 12th Night (6th January). Tradition also decreed that any greenery such as holly, ivy or mistletoe must wait until Christmas Eve until being brought into the house.

Why does it begin at midnight with Holy Communion?

The hour was first chosen at Rome in the fifth century to symbolise the idea that Christ was born at midnight – a mystical idea in no way hindered by historical evidence! No one knows the hour of his birth.

Certainly in recent times, Holy Communion at midnight on Christmas morning has proved popular with modern families. One British writer pointed out its "domestic convenience" in 1947: "for where there are children and no servants, husband and wife may be unable to communicate at any other time." (So things don't change, then!)

Where did Christmas trees come from?

There are two early stories that mention fir trees. The first involves St Boniface, who went to Germany in the 8th century as a missionary and found people sacrificing a child to their god under an oak tree. Boniface was appalled, and rescued the child. He then chopped down the oak tree and found a tiny fir tree growing nearby. He gave this to the people and said: "This is a symbol of life. Whenever you look at this tree, remember the Christ-child who is the one who will give you life, because he gave his life for you."



The second early fir tree story involves Martin Luther in the 16th century. It is said that one year he decided to drag a fir tree into his home and to decorate it with candles. He used it as a visual aid, telling people that the candles symbolised Jesus as the light of the world, and the evergreen tree symbolised the eternal life that Jesus gives to us. Many of the people who followed Luther were struck by the idea, and took up the custom.

Where did Christmas stockings come from?

No one is really sure, but a story is told of St Nicholas, a bishop who lived in the 4th century, who may have started the custom by accident. St Nicholas was of a wealthy family, and of a generous heart. As Christmas approached one year, he wanted to help a poor family whom he knew, but he did not want them to know it was him. So he climbed up on their roof on Christmas Eve and dropped some coins down the chimney.



The next morning the coins, to the great surprise of the family, were found in the stockings of the ladies, who had hung them to dry by the fire the night before. Every year after that they put their stockings out, in the hope that some more money would fall into them. They told the story of this amazing appearance to their friends and neighbours, and the custom caught on.

Thank Dickens for Christmas as you know it!

Ever wonder where many of our Christmas traditions come from? A surprising amount can be traced back to the well-loved story of 'A Christmas Carol', by Charles Dickens.

When you read 'A Christmas Carol', you discover almost a template of the 'ideal Christmas' which we still hold dear today. Dickens seems to have selected the best of the Christmas celebrations of his day (he ignored some of the odd excesses) and packaged them in such a way as to give us traditions that we could accommodate and treasure – more than a century later.

So, for instance, in A Christmas Carol, Christmas is a family day, with a family-centred feast. In a home decorated with holly and candles the characters enjoy a roast turkey, followed by Christmas pudding. They give their loved ones presents. Scrooge even gives donations to charity (!). And all the while outside, there is snow and frost, while church bells ring, and carol singers sing, and hope for mulled wine. In 'A Christmas Carol' there is even a Father Christmas – in the shape of Christmas Present. Only the Christmas tree itself came later, when Prince Albert imported 'a pretty German toy' that won the heart of the English court, and hence the rest of Victorian society.

The 1 Corinthians 13 of Christmas

If I decorate my house with beautiful bows, strands of twinkling lights and shiny baubles, but do not show love to my family, I'm just another decorator.

If I slave away in the kitchen, baking dozens of mince pies, roasting a perfect turkey, and lay a magnificent table, but have no love for my guests, I am just another cook.

If I work at the soup kitchen, carol in the nursing home, and give all that I have to charity, but do not have compassion in my heart for those in need, I am just another social service; it profits me nothing.

If I decorate the tree with shimmering angels and crocheted snowflakes and attend a myriad of holiday parties but do not focus on Christ, I have missed the point.

Love stops the cooking to hug the child. Love sets aside the decorating to help one's wife with boring housework. Love puts the Christmas present shopping on hold in order to run the elderly neighbour to the doctor. Love is kind, though harried and tired. Love doesn't envy another's home that has more expensive presents, or even coordinated Christmas china and table linen. Love doesn't yell at the children to get out of the way; love is glad that they are there to be in the way. Love doesn't give only to those who are able to give in return, but rejoices in giving to those who can't.

Love bears all things, even irritating relatives. It believes all things, and encourages teenagers to aim high for their future. It hopes all things, endures all things, even a spouse who is depressed about their job prospects. Love never fails other people. Computer games will crash, even cashmere jumpers will wear out, and golf clubs will get lost. But the gift of love will endure forever.

Happy Christmas!



Stay-at-home Christmas?

Are you staying at home for Christmas? Would you open your home and share Christmas with a student from China, India, or some other part of the world, who would otherwise be stuck at an almost deserted UK university? HOST invites you to give Christmas, perhaps for the first time in their life, to someone who is a guest in this country, who would love to experience your way of life and make your stay-at-home Christmas special. HOST will match you with one or two

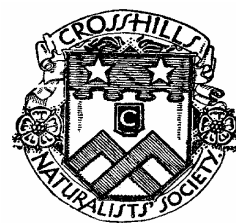
guests to suit your household.

More volunteer hosts are urgently needed for 1-3 days at Christmas, and weekends all year round.

Cross Hill Naturalists' Society Winter Programme

www.crosshillsnats.co.uk

**Affiliations: Yorkshire Naturalists' Union, Yorkshire Wildlife
Trust**



Lectures:

Are held on Saturday Evenings at 19.00 at St. Peter's Church, Main Street, Cross Hills BD20 8TF

Microscope Meetings:

Take place on the second Thursday of each month at the Senior Citizens Centre, North Street, Sutton-in-Craven BD20 7HA

Annual Subscription: Adults £6.00 Juniors 10 pence

Visitors and new members will be very welcome

2012

14 th Jan.	Fascination of Dragonflies	David Alred
28 th Jan.	Microscopic Marvels, Moving Videos Photographed at 200 x Magnification	Gordon Fitton
4 th Feb.	AGM at 18.30 hours followed by Members' Evening	
18 th Feb.	Duncan Clough Memorial Lecture The Science and Folklore of British Plants	Dr. R. Freethy
3 rd March	Biodiversity of Swinden Quarry	Sean Milward
17 th March	Supper Evening in the Schoolroom	

Church Rotas

4 December Second Sunday of Advent	First Reading - Isaiah 40.1-11 Second Reading - 2 Peter 3.8-15a Gospel - Mark 1.1-8	
11 December Third Sunday of Advent	First Reading - Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11 Second Reading - 1 Thessalonians 5.16-24 Gospel - John 1.6-8,19-28	Michael Baumber Lance Peake Marjorie Gee
18 December Fourth Sunday of Advent	First Reading - 2 Samuel 7.1-11,16 Second Reading - Romans 16.25-27 Gospel - Luke 1.26-38	Barry Houghton Jennifer Roberts Lance Peake
24 December 11.30pm Eucharist	First Reading - Isaiah 52.7-10 Second Reading - Hebrews 1.1-4(5-12) Gospel - John 1.1-14	Lesley Bannister Kath Morris Marie Stinson
25 December Christmas Day	First Reading - Isaiah 9.2-7 Second Reading - Titus 2.11-14 Gospel - Luke 2.1-14	Glyn Evans Lesley Hudson
1 January 2012 First Sunday of Christmas	First Reading - Isaiah 61.10 - 62.3 Second Reading - Galatians 4.4-7 Gospel - Luke 2.15-21	Marjorie Gee Christine Anderton Ruth Ward

Flower Rota	
4th Dec	ADVENT
11th	ADVENT
18th	ADVENT
25th	Mrs Stirk



Brass Cleaning: Christine Westcott
Church Cleaning
December : Lesley Hudson, Libba Utley, Christine Anderton
January: Helen Hulley, Rosie Hargreaves, Sylvia Ackroyd

Date	Sidesperson	Intercessor	Communion
4 December Second Sunday of Advent	Joan and Barry Houghton David and Marian Baxter		Michael and Tim
11 December Third Sunday of Advent	Marie Stinson Peter McNeill	Sue Hargreaves	Sue and John
18 December Fourth Sunday of Advent	Christine Anderton Ann Mosley June Whitaker	Peter Bannister	Sandie and John
24 December 11.30pm Eucharist Christmas Eve	Libba Utley Michael Baxter Sandie Walton Kath Morris	Robin Figg	Tim
25 December Christmas Day		Marie Stinson	Sue
1 January 2012 First Sunday of Christmas	Joan and Barry Houghton David and Marian Baxter	Sue Hargreaves	Sandie and Michael

From the registers

Baptisms

Sunday 6th November

Maisie Reynard, daughter of Farron Reynard & Shaunna Black, of Hargreaves Street, Cross Hills

FARNHILL PARISH COUNCIL SUMMARY OF DRAFT MINUTES

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The meeting of Farnhill Parish Council was held on the 1st November 2011 in Kildwick/Farnhill Institute. The meeting was chaired by Counc. I Fulton. Six members of the council were present plus NYCC Rep Counc P Mulligan and CDC Rep Counc P Fairbank. The minutes of the meeting held on the 4th October were approved by the Council and signed as a correct record by the Chairman after one amendment.

The heritage sign post at the junction of Main Street & Grange Road has been removed due to the post being corroded and breaking off. It is in the care of the Parish Council at the moment till it can be re-instated. The Parish Council discussed restoring one of the fingerposts (which has been replaced in the past with a modern sign) with a heritage sign. Clerk to get some prices for the cost of a new fingerpost and also the cost for a cast iron heritage pole. Clerk to contact Highways to find out if there are any specifications for road signs.

Concerns were expressed about the sign post for the play area which is attached to the street light at the bottom of Main Street. It was thought that when the light is replaced with a heritage style light the sign would spoil the appearance of the light. The only other option would be to position it further up the road on British Waterways land, but permission would have to be sought from them. Clerk to contact NYCC to see if it is necessary to have a sign and if so would they be prepared to move it.

The Parish Council have been approached by several members of the public with regard to the possibility of having a handrail from Langkirk Close to the bottom of Main Street as the road is particularly bad for the elderly residents in icy weather conditions. Counc G Harling agreed to approach the Yorkshire Housing Association to ask if they would be prepared to put up the handrail. A handrail for the canal tunnel was also discussed but the Parish Council resolved to raise the matter at the Annual Parish Meeting to get the views of residents of the village.

Concerns were expressed about the streets not being cleaned as they should be, partly because when the sweeper comes there are parked cars in the way. The Parish Council asked CDC Rep P Fairbank if she could request that the smaller sweeper come to the village as it may be better for Farnhill.

CDC Rep Counc P Fairbank reported that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are at present reviewing Crime & Disorder, Community Transport and the new arrangements with hospitals. She will keep us informed of any progress. She informed the Parish Council that there will be a new bus shelter in Skipton Bus Station for the National Express Buses and the shelter should be completed by Christmas.

NYCC Rep Counc P Mulligan reported on a presentation for the Localism Bill and what effect the Planning element would have on Parish Council's. He stressed the importance of Parish Council's working with CDC to create a Neighbourhood Plan for their community. If they do not have a plan the government will assume the area is suitable for sustainable development. The plan has to adhere with National Planning Policy.

NYCC have now been informed to replace Light No 28 with a new pole and heritage style

lantern. The estimate to replace the parish light LP 28, on Main Street opposite the junction with Newby Road comes to £2200. The replacement column will be a 4.7 metre column with a Windsor Authority lantern and an embellishment kit. When completed the column will be painted black. This includes the YEDL element of transferring the supplies from the old column to the new. They have confirmed that the date for replacing the light will be the 17th November.

The Annual Inspection for the Play Area has been carried out by ROSPA. The overall risk rating for the site was Medium Risk.

British Waterways have said that the gates at Redmans Bridge were taken away for repair but were found to be beyond repair. They will be replacing the gates with new ones which should be in place before Christmas.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

**TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2011 IN KILDWICK/FARNHILL INSTITUTE AT
7.30PM**

All members of the village are welcome to attend



Kildwick School Christmas Fair

Saturday 3rd December 2011

1pm until 3pm

Where: Kildwick Primary School

Fair will include: Refreshments, tombola, raffle, name the teddy, cake

stall, art & craft – including making reindeer dust and biscuit decorating,

chocolate game, parent presents, guess the amount of sweets in a jar and a visit from Father Christmas.

All welcome

***Editor:** Here is a light-hearted version of the history of Father Christmas...*

December 6 - How Father Christmas got where he is today!

One person you are bound to run into this Christmas season is Father Christmas. These days he seems to frequent shopping malls and garden centres. If he looks tired, just remember that he has been around a long time, and gone through a lot of transformations.



Father Christmas wasn't always the red-suited, white-bearded star of the retail trade that he is today. He began life as Nicholas, born way back about AD260 in Patara, an important port on the southern coast of what is now Turkey. When his parents died and left him a fortune, Nicholas gave it away to the poor. He became a bishop of the nearby city of Myra, where he almost certainly suffered persecution and imprisonment at the hand of the Roman Emperor Diocletian.

Nicholas was a serious theologian: he was a participant at the First Council of Nicaea, which formulated the Creed which we still say today. He even, reportedly, slapped another bishop in a squabble over the exact nature of the Trinity.

Nicholas died in Myra about AD343, but the stories of his generosity and kindness were just beginning. One enduring tale tells of the three girls whom he rescued from certain prostitution by giving them gold for their dowries. When the father confronted him to thank him, Nicholas said he should thank God alone.

In the UK, Nicholas became the basis for Father Christmas, who emerged in Victorian times as a jolly-faced bearded character. Meanwhile, Dutch and German settlers had taken him to America with them as Sinter Klaas and Sankt Nicklas.

It was in America that Nicholas received his final two great breaks into real stardom. The first was when the Rev Clement C Moore, a New York Episcopal minister, turned from his life-work of writing a Hebrew/English lexicon, to write a fun poem for his children one Christmas. His 'The Visit of St Nicholas' is now universally known by its first line: 'T'was the Night Before Christmas'.

From Clement Moore we discovered that St Nicholas is round and pink-cheeked and white-bearded, and that he travels at night with sleigh, reindeer and a sack of toys on his back. It was Clement Moore who also revealed that St Nicholas enters houses down chimneys and fills children's stockings with toys and sweets.

So how did we find out that Father Christmas wears red? That was the US Coca-Cola advertising campaign of 1931, who finally released the latest, up-to-date pictures of Father Christmas: wearing a bright red, fur-trimmed coat and a large belt.

These days, it is good that Father Christmas uses reindeer and doesn't have to pay for petrol. In order to get round all the children in the world on Christmas Eve, he will have to travel 221 million miles at an average speed of 1279 miles a second, 6,395 times the speed of sound. For all those of us who are exhausted just rushing around getting ready for Christmas, that is a sobering thought.

An angel appears to Mary

Bible story: Luke 1:26–38

Activity: An angel ornament or handprint puppet

You will need:

- Half a paper plate per child
- Coloured crayons or felt-tipped pens
- Scissors
- Stapler
- Pencils
- Paper doilies
- Glue
- White craft foam
- Glitter

Instructions

Staple the edges of the half plate to make a cone shape. Draw a line to separate the robe and head. Draw a face and hair.

Trim a paper doily to fit the angel's body and glue in place. Trace and cut out two craft foam hand prints. Swirl glue on to each hand print and sprinkle on glitter. Glue the hand prints to the back of the angel for wings.

Stand the angel as a table decoration, place it on top of a Christmas tree, or hang it as an ornament.

Other ideas

- Colour the angel with crayons or felt-tipped pens.
- Use glitter or sequins to decorate the angel's robe. Add wool, lametta or tinsel for hair.
- Glue pieces of the paper doily over the wings.
- Completely cover the hand prints with glue and then dip them into glitter.



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.

Glusburn Luncheon Club



Tired of cooking every day or eating on your own?

Why not come along and have your lunch at Glusburn Institute Baths Hall every Wednesday at 12 noon.

2-course hot lunch and a cup of tea for only £3.00

Ring Val 633052 or Margaret 634207

Women's Institute News

Cross Hills and Glusburn WI

A last minute change of programme saw November's meeting addressed by Pat Osborne, who gave a very entertaining talk on Lady Randolph "Randy" Churchill, the American mother of Winston and his political mentor. Born Jennie Jerome, Lady Randy certainly lived up to her name, remarrying twice to men over twenty years her junior and reputedly enjoying a string of extramarital romantic relationships, including an affair with Edward V11.

The next meeting will be on December 6th and will include a demonstration by Stanley Walmsley entitled "Christmas Customs with Bells On" There will also be a visit from "Secret Santa".

For details, contact 01535 634207 or 01535 634965 "

Cross Hills & Glusburn Senior Citizens

The Senior Citizens will be holding their Christmas Tea on Saturday 26m November at 3.30 p.m. at St. Peter's. Tickets are available at the Rest Centre on Saturday mornings.

The Rest Centre is open for tea /coffee and biscuits every Saturday morning and also on Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 2.30. until 4.00.p. Everyone is most welcome to come for a tea or coffee whenever the Rest Centre is open- you don't have to be a Senior Citizen.

If any Charitable Organization would like to hold a Coffee Morning in the Rest Centre on a Saturday morning they should contact Pauline Wellard on 631436.



CHRISTMAS BEGINS

When does Christmas start? Does it start when the shops begin playing Christmas carols and putting up decorations?

Or is it at the beginning of Advent which starts 4 weeks before the 25th December and is a special time for us to use to get ready for the birth of Jesus?



The word Advent means 'coming' and the season of Advent before Christmas, like Lent before Easter, is a time to get ready. A time to look forward and prepare, not just by writing Christmas cards and wrapping presents, but by inviting Jesus into our hearts and lives today.

So perhaps the question isn't when does your Christmas start, but when does it finish?

CHRISTMAS EVE

24th December is Christmas Eve and the answer to each of these questions starts with the letters EVE. Answers below.

1. What EVE is equal?
2. What EVE is a swamp in Florida?
3. What EVE is a happening?
4. What EVE is a dried flower?
5. What EVE is the end of the day?
6. What EVE is the world's highest mountain?
7. What EVE never loses its leaves?

**What goes red, white, red,
white, red, white?**
Santa rolling down a hill.

**What did the snowman and
his wife hang over their baby's
cot?**
A snow mobile.

**What's brown and sneaks
round the kitchen?**
Mince spies.

Answers: 1 even 2 Everglades 3 event
4 everlasting 5 evening 6 Everest
7 evergreen

back page



"Nice idea, Amelia, but I don't think the Angel of the Lord texting the shepherds would have the same dramatic effect."

Answers to crossword puzzle

CROSS: 1, Depend. 4, Canopy. 7, Beak. 8, Irritate. 9, Zedekiah. 13, Ate. 16, Job's comforter. 17, NAE. 19, Lang Syne. 24, Blockade. 25, Five. 26, Enigma. 27, Drench.

DOWN: 1, Debt. 2, Peaceable. 3, Drink. 4, Curia. 5, Nuts. 6, Put it. 10, Excel. 11, Is man. 12, Hoofs. 13, Attention. 14, Ezra. 15, Ijon. 18, Aslan. 20, Abana. 21, Greed. 22, GCMG. 23, Leah.

The Village Pump

*A meeting Place for over 50's
Every Wednesday*

2.00-3.30 pm

Chat over Tea

Scrabble



Dominoes

*Cards
and more.....*

*Farnhill Methodist Church
(in the foyer)*