

# The Messenger

News from your local church

## The Benefice of Upper Derwent

St Stephen, Snainton

All Saints, Brompton

All Saints, Wykeham

St Matthew, Hutton Buscel

St Peter, Langdale End

## Vicar

Revd Stuart G Hill *BTh (Oxon.)*

01723 859694

## Reader

Mrs Pat Wood

01723 862227

## Organist

Mr Terry Cartlidge

01723 259993

## Endings and beginnings

This last month has been a month of endings and beginnings.

We have waved good bye to the Summer, and brace ourselves for the Autumn and winter ahead!!

We bid a tearful farewell to our dear friends John and Eleanor Allen as they move south to be closer to family. Having been with us for so many years they leave a huge hole on our lives. John has been a loyal servant of this Benefice, assisting in the ministry of our Christian Communities, leading worship and preaching, leading and contributing to study groups, and stepping in to look after the Churches in the absence of a Vicar both through times of illness and times between appointments. He has had a huge impact on our communities and leaves us all the richer for his service. Eleanor has also been an active enabler, especially in her work as Branch Leader of our Mothers Union. She has also been a 'reluctant' organist at St Stephen's for several years. At a special Benefice Service last month we bid them a fond farewell.

We also bid final farewell to another much loved church member and loyal servant of Christ - Myrtle Braithwaite, who died after a long struggle with her health over this past year. Myrtle was a life long member of the congregation at St Stephen's, a former Sunday School Teacher, and more recently a Church Warden for nine years. She will indeed be greatly missed.

There are new beginnings too this month. The new academic year begins, and wish the staff and pupils of the schools in our Benefice a bright future as they start up again. Mrs Isaac, Head Teacher at Brompton School, takes over as Head Teacher of Wykeham School as well as we embark on a new partnership with them. Our Benefice fellowship and study group 'BUDS' begins its 5th year.

We also look forward to Harvest time, and the services of thanksgiving later this month and into the beginning of next month. As the agricultural calendar reaches its pinnacle, before beginning all over again as the cycle of the season continues.

Summer and Winter. Harvest and Seedtime. Fallen leaves and green shoots. Death and Resurrection.. The circle of life continues, and all is secure in God's hands.

*Stuart*

September



2015

## Brompton Blog

### Harvest Festival

For the last couple of years we have celebrated our Harvest Festival by having a Sunday evening service on the fourth Sunday in September at 6.30pm followed by supper at the Village Hall. This year our Harvest falls on 27th September. Food is free but donations towards costs are welcome.

### Threads of War

An advance date for your diary is the weekend of 7th - 8th November for the events in All Saints Church associated with this year's Remembrance Sunday. Di Ford has organised a Poppy Concert in Church on Saturday 7th November. Contributors will include Manhattan Voices led by Sue Hartley. This concert also will include the opening of "Threads of War", an exhibition of Contemporary Textiles inspired by the First World War, in the Church and the Village Hall. If anyone has an item which they would like to contribute to the exhibition it would be welcomed. They will remain on display until 22nd November and we hope that a number of the creators will be in Church during that time. The secular concert commemorates all who gave their lives including the men recorded on Brompton's War Memorial where on the 8th there is the customary Act of Remembrance before moving on to the Church service. Further details will follow in the October Blog.

*Mary Jones*

### From St Matthew's, Hutton Buscel

Two special dates for your diaries. On Sunday 27th September St Matthew's Hutton Buscel will be hosting our joint Harvest Festival Service with St Helen's Wykeham. This will be followed by a Harvest lunch in the village hall to which all are welcome (approximate number for lunch to either Church Wardens would be appreciated but not essential). All harvest gifts will be most welcome, especially non-perishable, these will be taken to the Rainbow Centre together with monies received from the lunch collection plate.

On Sunday 25th October in the afternoon (times to be confirmed) F Mary Callan is bringing her 'Blazing Grannies' biblical drama fresh from this year's Edinburgh Fringe Festival to St Matthew's. This will be followed by refreshments and for those able to stay a shortened Evening Prayer.

We do hope you will be able to join us.

With best wishes

*Beverley, David and Malcolm*

*Retreat and Repair*

## **BUDS enters its 5th YEAR**



of Prayer and discussion  
at the Downe Arms Wykeham  
Monday 14th September 2015  
6.30 for 6.45pm Supper  
7.30pm Meeting

Our new season opens with Prayer,  
Commentary and Discussion on the  
significance of

St. Paul's Letter to the Galatians



Come and join us for supper, friendship and  
fellowship

or just come along to the meeting at  
7.30pm

you will be equally welcome at either or  
both.



*Phone Pat Wood  
862227 for more  
details or to book  
(for numbers)*

**Is it Christlike to ignore the plight of  
the poor and needy on our own  
doorstep?**

**Would you like to help people who are hungry  
and homeless?**

**Please support the Rainbow Centre**

**NOW**

Collection points

St. Matthew's Church Hutton Buscel,  
St. Helen's and All Saints Church Wykeham,  
St. Peter's Church Langdale End  
All Saints Church Brompton,  
St Stephen's Church Snainton,  
Snainton Methodist Church,  
Ayton Methodist Church,  
BUDS, and MU Meetings.

**Please support this appeal for food**

## Pray for One Another

A white man opened fire in a black church in Charleston, South Carolina, in June this past summer. He killed nine people during a prayer meeting. What was amazing in the church's response was their willingness to pray together and forgive the perpetrator, Dylann Roof.

Here is the power of praying in operation, as James says, 'The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective' (James 5:16). He encourages us to 'pray for each other' (vs 16), especially for those who are 'in trouble' (vs 13), especially sickness, difficulties or setbacks.

Pray with expectation: James addresses specifically praying for the sick: 'And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. (vs 15). But what about those who are not healed? He calls us to pray with expectation for healing, as God hears and answers prayer.

However, James is not just talking about physical healing. He literally talks of the sick person being 'saved', indicating that he is talking about prayer for wholeness, including emotional and spiritual healing eg. guilt and hurts, unforgiveness and sin in our lives.

Pray with faith: James also calls us to pray with faith, following the example of Elijah, who was human just like us: 'Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.' (vs 17). We can pray powerfully and effectively, not because we are righteous, but on the basis of our relationship with Christ.

Did you know that the apostle James was nicknamed 'camel knees', because he spent so much time praying! 'The prayers a man lives on his feet are just as important as those he says on his knees.'

## Wydale Hall - Retreat and Repair

What do you do if you have a spare few days in the middle of August? Well of course you come to Wydale Hall and help to maintain the Diocesan Retreat and Conference Centre! Well at least that's what 55 brave souls did from 12-16 August.

Volunteers ranged in age from 4 to late 70s. Some had never been to Wydale before and some had been coming since the late 1950s. All shared one thing in common – a willingness to serve and to be part of the community at Wydale and to work at bringing back to life some of the areas of the hall which have been looking a bit sad of late.

Each day started with Morning Prayer at 0830 which most people came to (getting increasingly bleary eyed as the week progressed). Then after breakfast (Chef Robert's porridge was, as ever, a great favourite) we spent time worshipping together before working from 10am to 1pm. The afternoons were free and in the evenings the Wydale bar was open and we had a series of fun nights – a quiz, the mandatory viewing of 'Bake-Off', a film showing ('Paddington' which we all loved) and we had a night of worship, celebration and prayer ministry led by Rev'd Ben Doolan from York and based around the theme of personal Retreat and Repair. We had prayer stations in the small chapel all week.

The work consisted of hundreds (literally) of jobs: painting, cleaning, varnishing, sorting, weeding, tree chopping, sweeping, brass cleaning, IT work, administration and more. Highlights included the total sweeping of the tennis court (and re-staining all the wood around it), the creation of a new garden which involved very skilled building work and dry stone walling and the sorting out of the basement including the ritual late-night burning by the General Manager of 30 years of accounts (after checking with the Finance Manager of course!)

We have been totally amazed and humbled by what happened at Retreat and Repair. From the outset we had been keen to catch up on maintenance and to utilise the enormous voluntary skillset which is to be found in churches across the Diocese (and beyond) but we had no idea that we would get so much done! But beyond the practical work we have built community. Wydale is striving to be A Prayerful Community Renewing the Church's Mission and Retreat and Repair has provided tangible evidence that this is beginning to happen. The community at Wydale is growing!

We hope to run Retreat and Repair again in 2016 and are always happy to welcome individual volunteers for days or weekends at any time. If you would like to be involved do contact us – 01723 859270

### Christian Meditation Group

9.30 am at St Stephen's Church, Snainton

Saturday 5th September

Saturday 19th September



## Bible Study with Provost John Allen

### Paul's Letter to the Galatians 4.

Never boast of anything, except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ!

(Chapter 5; verse 16 to Chapter 6; verse 18 (end).)

So we come to the last of our four brief studies of Paul's letter to the Galatians, one of the shortest, but most interesting of all his letters. Basically he has been trying to counter the attractions of belonging to an authoritarian and fundamentalist and controlling church. It may be easier to be told what to do, what to believe and how to behave if you wish to achieve salvation; but actually, Jesus, through his death and resurrection, has given us the freedom to make our own choices. We are already saved. That truth should govern how we act, not the other way round.

Paul characterizes the difference as living in the spirit, as opposed to living in the flesh. Do not make the mistake of supposing that Paul believes that all carnal delights are evil. Far from it! It is just that our bodies, and indeed our whole human existence, are to be seen as tools, to be used in God's service of love. So in verse 14 of Chapter 5, Paul echoes Jesus' teaching and says "the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'"

He follows that up, as he does in many of his letters, with a check list of examples of some of the things that demonstrate a failure to love the other as ourselves. You will note that all the examples of the 'works of the flesh' given in verse 19 and 20 are types of behaviour that break relationships, - enmities, jealousy, anger, quarrels, envy, etc. Whereas the examples of the fruits of the spirit, in verses 22 and 23, are all types of behaviour that help to build and cement relationships, - peace, kindness, generosity, reliability and so on. Neither list is exhaustive, nor mandatory; but they help us to recognise when we are following Christ, and when we are denying him.

We each have the responsibility to monitor our own behaviour, as well as to observe the behaviour of others, and help them if we can. But the Christian life is not competitive; any suspicion of supposing that one is 'holier than anyone else' is wrong (verse 26). But that leads Paul, in the following paragraph, to make two apparently contradictory assertions. First he says 'Bear one another's burdens', verse 2 of Chapter 6; and then in verse 5, 'All must carry their own burdens'. This dichotomy lies at the heart of all good counselling, Christian or otherwise. If you want to help another person, you have to let them unload their issues on to your shoulders; your careful listening will then help them to carry them themselves.

The important thing to recognise is that we should not set out to judge or condemn anyone else. You do not reprove; you restore them in a spirit of gentleness. (verse 1). "Take care that you yourselves are not tempted," he goes on. The Greek word he uses really means much more than tempted. It is the same word that is used in The Lord's Prayer. Some readers may remember my discussion of this phrase in my earlier series on Luke's version of the Lord's Prayer. 'Lead us not into temptation' we pray; but it really means 'do not put us to the test,' - not least because if we are tested, or inspected like an OFSTED inspection, we may well find that we have been claiming to be

## Wydale Hall

### Creative Arts Retreat @ Wydale Hall

Sep 15 @ 11:00 am – Sep 17 @ 4:30 pm

Led by the Revd Ann Coleman with Jane Hinton

During this retreat we shall explore prayer by learning to observe and see the world around us through Icons, paintings, poetry and prose. There will be opportunity to use your own paints or camera and write prose or poetry to record your discoveries. Please bring your own sketch pad, art materials and notepad, also your own camera if you wish to use one during the retreat.

Ann is gifted with a deep understanding of the human heart and has considerable experience in spiritual formation and growth, Ann was at Wydale as Priest Director prior to moving on to St Mellitus College in London.

Jane loves to encourage people to recognise their own voice and observe and discover God in the world around them. She has a background in visual arts and her home is affiliated to the Quiet Garden Movement.

This is a gentle, warm hearted retreat where we can celebrate the thread of joy and light weaving throughout our lives.

The retreat begins with coffee at 11.00 am on Tuesday 15th September and ends after afternoon tea on Thursday 17th September.

### Who Do You Think You Are? @ Wydale Hall

Sep 22 @ 9:45 am – 4:00 pm

Led by the Revd Adam Reed.

### Spirituality in the Third Age @ Wydale Hall

Oct 19 @ 9:45 am – 4:00 pm

Led by Revd Dr Keith Ibans, Group Director, Spirituality & Chaplaincy MHA.

### Advent Retreat "Coming Soon, A Celebration of the Coming of Christ" @ Wydale Hall

Dec 2 @ 12:00 pm – Dec 4 @ 2:00 pm

Led by Revd Andrew De Smet

Advent means coming. It is traditionally a season of watching and waiting in preparation for the celebration of the coming of Christ. Yet it can be easily overwhelmed by the pre-Christmas rush. We will use some of the traditional advent signs and symbols and even Christmas cards!

Andrew De Smet is a parish priest on the edge of the North York Moors, York Diocesan Adviser and Coordinator of Pastoral Care, a counsellor and a spiritual director.

## ***Most popular Bible Stories:*** **No. 1 - The Feeding of the 5000**

This month sees the start a new series on Scripture Union's Top Ten Must Know Stories. These were voted by parents and teachers as the most important Bible stories to share with the next generation. We begin with the feeding of the 5000, a story found in all four gospels and telling us important truths about Jesus and our relationship with Him.

Jesus and His disciples were confronted with a huge crowd (at least 10,000 including the women and children) in a lonely place with no food! When the disciples suggested that He send them away, Jesus challenged them: 'you give them something to eat' (Matthew 14:16). When we see the spiritual needs of own community, Jesus challenges us with the same words! So how do we respond?

Look with compassion: 'When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them' (14). Do we see people in the same way, as those in all kinds of need, often lacking meaning and purpose in their lives? Unless we feel the needs as Jesus did, we cannot respond to those we meet at work, school, or in our community.

Respond in obedience: The disciples simply offered what they had to Jesus: 'Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, He gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then He gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people.' (19).

When meeting the needs of others we simply offer to Jesus what we have, however insignificant it may seem, for Him to multiply to feed the crowd. He will use our plans, skills, time and energy. However, it is often only when we come to the end of ourselves, that God's power can be released through us.

better than we really are. That is the risk we run whenever we judge anyone else. In this, once again, Paul is carefully following Jesus' teaching.

Then in verse 11, the mood suddenly changes. "See what large letters I make when I am writing with my own hand!" It appears that Paul generally used a secretary, a stenographer, to write his letters as he dictated. We do not know why; but it could be that the disability he talks about may have been something to do with his eyesight. If so, that would explain his comment about writing with such large letters himself. Parchment, of course, was so very expensive, and hard to come by; so most writers used letters as small as possible, getting as much on the sheet as they could. They did not practise criss-cross writing, turning the paper through ninety degrees, and writing on top of their earlier writing as our eighteenth century forebears did; but they never used punctuation, they did not leave any gaps between words, nor at the end of a line. They had no use for the space bar, in their quest to get as much in as they could. So it was rare for Paul to write in his own hand; he took up too much space!

So it is all the more serious when he writes himself, with the clinching argument. You may think you can gain righteousness and heaven by following the law, or any law; but being human, no one has ever kept the whole law! If only because, if you think you have kept the law, and insist that you are in all things perfect, you are then caught out boasting - which is against the law!

My own father was an example of this double bind in reverse, for he used to say that he could never ever be bored, because, as he never had been bored, if he was bored, he would be so interested in the experience that he would not be bored!

Never boast about anything, except the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, says Paul! (verse 14) That way, no one can challenge you, no one can put you to the test, no one can tempt you. All you need know is that the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ will be with you always, brothers and sisters.

So he introduces us to that lovely simple prayer, the grace, that we use so often; and I, as I bid you farewell, echo his words, "May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all, brothers and sisters."

Your good friend,

***John E Allen***

## **Balaam's Donkey**

*Find the story in Number 22*

A prophet called Balaam one day  
Took his donkey away from its hay.

When Balaam said "Go!"

The donkey said "No!"

"There's an Angel of God in the way!"

*by Nigel Beeton*

## Murder most popular

It is curious that a woman who spent years thinking up ingenious ways to kill people should be so loved by us, even 125 years after her birth.

Yet Agatha Christie's crime/mystery stories made her the best-selling writer of all time. Born into a wealthy middle-class family in Devon on 15th September, 1890, Agatha Christie's first published novel in 1920 introduced Hercule Poirot to the world. Soon Miss Marple joined him, and the rest is history. Christie's 66 detective novels and 14 short story collections have sold two billions copies, just behind the Bible and Shakespeare. Her play, the Mousetrap, was the world's longest-running play.

Why does murder and detection appeal to so many millions of us at the end of a busy day, as we slump over our meal in front of the TV? Perhaps it is our anticipation that no matter how bad things are, that in the end, evil will not beat goodness, but instead truth will triumph. Sounds like an echo of the Christian message.

## Women's Institute turns 100

100 years ago this month, on the 16th of September 1915, a small group of women met in Anglesey, and the Women's Institute was born. With the First World War raging, they had priorities: to encourage women to keep the rural communities going, and to produce food.

As the years have gone by, the WI has acted like social jam across the UK – sweetening and enriching the life of rural communities. It has acted like social eggs and flour, combining together women of good intent to produce some excellent community efforts of substance.

Nowadays the WI still excels in excellent food – but also offers classes on everything from floral arrangements to astronomy, dancing to earthquakes. As the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK, with 212,000 members in around 6,600 local WIs, it has a lot to celebrate. See more at: [www.thewi.org.uk](http://www.thewi.org.uk)

## Christian bookshop survive on volunteers

Christian bookshops in the UK rely increasingly on volunteers for their viability. When Together magazine recently conducted a small survey among them earlier in 2015, it received 106 responses. From the replies it emerged that over 80% of shops use volunteers, with 70% regarding them as "absolutely vital." 60% of shops are staffed "mostly by volunteers" and more than 60% of shops feel it is harder to recruit volunteers now. Without volunteers, half, 50%, of shops would be unable to continue, and the decline in Christian bookshops would be dangerously accelerated.

## All in the month of September . . . .

**100 years ago:-** on 16th Sept 1915 that the first Woman's Institute in Britain was established, in Anglesey.

**Also 100 years ago:-** on 21st Sept 1915 that Stonehenge was sold at auction to Cecil Chubb for £6,600. It is thought that it was intended as a gift for his wife, but as she did not want it, he gave it to the nation in October 1918.

**80 years ago:-** on 3rd Sept 1935 that British driver Malcolm Campbell set a new world land speed record of 301.13 mph (484.62 km/h) in Bluebird at Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah.

**75 years ago:-** on 7 Sept 1940 (to 21 May 1941) that Germany waged The Blitz on London and other British cities in an attempt to destroy its war production capabilities.

**60 years ago:-** on 22nd Sept 1955 that Britain's first independent television channel ITV was launched, ending the BBC's monopoly and broadcasting Britain's first TV advertisements.

**40 years ago:-** on 5th Sept 1975 that the IRA bombed the Hilton Hotel in Park Lane, London. 2 people were killed and 63 injured.

**30 years ago:-** on 1st Sept 1985 that the wreck of the RMS Titanic was found in the Atlantic, 400 miles off the coast of Newfoundland, Canada, 73 years after it sank.

**20 years ago:-** on 28th Sept 1995 that the Israeli Government agreed to give Palestinians control of much of the West Bank, which Israel had occupied for 28 years.

**10 years ago:-** on 19th Sept 2005 that the deputy leader of al-Qaeda, Ayman al-Zawahiri, claimed responsibility for the 7th July London bombings in which 52 people (plus four suicide bombers) were killed

## What is Beauty?

When we look at a landscape, mountains or lakes and describe the scene as 'beautiful', what do we actually mean?

What makes something beautiful is a very difficult question to answer, because we apply it to so many different things: a human face, a flower, a piece of music, a painting or sculpture, a sunset and even a cover-drive at cricket. Beauty is something we recognize, but can't really define. Not everything beautiful is 'pretty' (think of some of Picasso's paintings!). 'Beauty is in the eye of the beholder', we say – a matter of individual taste. In that case, it's surprising that almost everyone would agree with the most common assertions of beauty, whether scenes of nature or works of art.

My own suspicion is that beauty is linked to awe. 'Awe' is the recognition of something beyond our normal experience. The dictionary defines 'awe' in terms of 'respect', and that perhaps begins to capture how we feel when we encounter beauty. This is 'beyond' us, something which we can enjoy with others without being able to analyse it. It shares something with religious or mystical experiences.

The poet John Keats attempted a definition: 'Beauty is truth, truth beauty'. There is undoubtedly a sense in which beauty speaks of truth, because surely beauty exists when great concepts of light and shade, form and contour, colour and context - truths of our human experience - work perfectly together.

The opposite of truth is falsehood, and there is nothing false about a thing of beauty. The Bible speaks of the 'beauty of holiness'. Could it be that there is also a 'holiness of beauty'? For those who believe in a Creator God, there is something truly awesome about the fact that the created world is so indescribably beautiful.

Is a snow-flake an evolutionary accident? Or a starry night? Or an open rose in the garden? Why does God bother making things beautiful? It's an intriguing question! Perhaps, like us, He simply enjoys it.

**Canon David Winter,**

## Abiding in Jesus

This is the time of year for many churches to hold their Harvest Festival services. No doubt, there will be displays of food, some bought with others grown in gardens and allotments. While gardeners can have pleasure growing fruit and vegetables it can be hard work tending to them and dealing with pests.

Jesus knew about the care given to vines. In John 15:1-8 Jesus compared Himself to a vine and referred to God as the gardener. These verses are both challenging and reassuring. In this parable, God is responsible for pruning the vine. He sees what parts are useful and what parts are useless. The unproductive parts are cut away, so that growth is encouraged. Jesus is telling us that God will prune our lives, not to harm us, but to encourage our spiritual growth.

God's pruning cuts away wrong attitudes and wasteful behaviour, all of which serve no useful purpose in our lives. This pruning is required so that we become more fruitful. And the fruit God wants is love, joy, patience etc. (see Galatians 5:22-23) These holy qualities are intended to influence the world to change it from the bad to all that is good.

Too encourage its growth a vine has to be regularly cut back. The effect looks drastic, but essential. When God cuts away the dead wood in our lives He does it because He knows how our lives can grow. The pruning knives are in the hands of our Father God who only desires the best for us. This pruning process can be painful, but Jesus says that it is vital if the Holy Spirit is to flow through us to produce the fruit that God wants. Also in this parable, Jesus said He was the vine and we are the branches. We have no existence apart from Jesus. We can do nothing for God on our own and must be joined to Jesus. In the same way a vine utilises the life-giving sap to flow into the branches, so we need the Holy Spirit to flow His life into us. It is only by remaining in Jesus can He give us the inner resources for an effective fruit-producing life.

Jesus said 'Abide in Me' (John 15:4 King James Version). Abiding speaks of sustenance, being upheld and supported, enduring and withstanding. So, if we are to reap a harvest of holiness, may we be prepared for God's pruning, and continue to abide in Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

## September Prayer

Loving Father,

Please help us with all the new things September brings: a new school year, new stages of life, with children moving on or out, new challenges for many as summer gives way to autumn. Help us in this season of change to know the constant reality of Jesus. Thank you for the new life He freely offers to all who turn to Him. In Jesus' name. Amen.

*By Daphne Kitching*

## St James the least of all

### On church management consultants

The Rectory,  
St. James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren

I'm sure your church's team of management consultants meant well, but their visit here was not wholly helpful. It is all very well when they are co-ordinating office staff, secretaries, clergy teams and legions of volunteers, but here, there is me, Miss Margison and a golden retriever.

Our simpler pattern works perfectly well: if it happens in church, I do it; if it involves drawing up rotas, stoking the boiler, visiting the sick or clearing the car park of snow or the churchyard of leaves, Miss Margison does it. If something small and furry or flapping and feathery has strayed into the church, the golden retriever does it – by carrying it back outside.

Inevitably, there are legions of people around the parish who are always "glad to lend a hand if needed." Having said that, they then feel satisfied, and actually do nothing – but complain about those of us who do do things.

Rotas are irrelevant, as whatever is written down never bears the slightest resemblance to reality anyway. As soon as someone finds that they are booked on a certain date to read a lesson, make coffee, or mow the churchyard, they immediately book a holiday for that week.

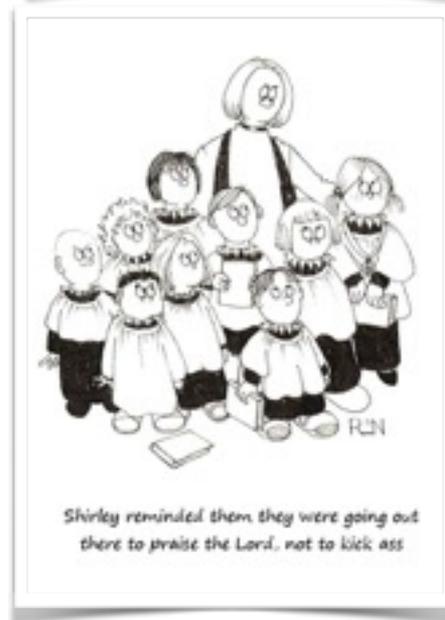
If we are lucky, they may find a replacement - apart from one occasion. Major Hastings was unable to read the lessons on a certain day, so he booked another, then forgot and booked a second person. Cometh the day, they both went to the lectern and neither would give way, so we had the lessons read by two people. It would not have been too bad if they read at the same pace, but they got ever more out of phase as the reading progressed, one having returned to his pew while the other was still doggedly finishing the last few verses.

I did, however, greatly appreciate your team's advice on time efficiency. From now on, on Sunday mornings, the lessons will be read while the hymns are sung, the collection taken while the anthem is given and the sermon preached while the notices are delivered. In future, we should get through Mattins in twelve and a half minutes.

Your loving uncle,

*Eustace*

## Just for fun!



## Free

A mother asked her son, as they waited for the bus, to tell the driver he was four years old. That way he would ride for free. So as they got into the bus, and the driver asked Jimmy how old he was, the little boy replied solemnly: "I am four years old."

"And do you know when will you be five years old?" asked the smiling driver.

"Oh yes, that's easy," replied Jimmy – "just as soon as I get off the bus."



**Mouse Makes**

Use the picture clues to solve the harvest crossword puzzle, then using the words in bold from the Bible quotes, fill in the remaining squares.

**HARVEST PRAISE**

"Shout out praises to the Lord all the earth! Worship the Lord with joy! ... Acknowledge that the Lord is God ... Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise! Give Him thanks! Praise His name. For the Lord is good, His loyal love endures all generations." - from Psalm 100

"May the people praise you God... The land yields its harvest, God, our God blesses us" - from Psalm 67



**St GILES**

St Giles was a hermit, someone who lived a quiet life of prayer away from other people. His special day is 1st September and he lived in a forest near Arles in France, sometime in the 9th century.



The story goes that he had a pet deer. One day the King was hunting in the forest and shot an arrow at this deer.

When the huntsmen found the deer it was in a woodland clearing with St Giles. The saint himself was wounded by the arrow and held the deer in his arms - and all around them were the hunting dogs, silent and still as if held by an invisible power.

St Giles is the patron saint of cripples and beggars. His emblem is an arrow and in the United Kingdom there are over 150 churches dedicated to him.



**WOODLAND WORDS**

Can you find all these words from the forest? The words go up, down, backwards, forwards and diagonally and some letters are used more than once.

**M U S H R O O M S S  
B H M O S D I A S L  
U A O N T V K A K O  
T F D L Y S S O M O  
T N O G L F S S R E T  
E I A K E Y A D G S  
R V Y C G R R E E D  
F S N A K E G W O A  
L M R O W F O X O  
Y E R O M A C Y S T**

\* ant \* badger \* butterfly \* deer \*  
fox \* grass \* holly \* ivy \* moss \*  
mushrooms \* oak \* snake \*  
sycamore \* toadstools \* worm \*

Did you hear about the car with the wooden wheels and wooden engine?  
It wooden go.

What is the smallest ant in the world?  
An infant.



What do ants take when they're ill?  
Antibiotics.

## Benefice Diary - September 2015

### Sunday 6th September

8.00 am	BCP Communion	Snainton
9.30 am	Sung Eucharist	Hutton Buscel
11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	Brompton
2.30 pm	Evening Prayer	Langdale End
7.00 pm	Concert	Wykeham

### Saturday 12th September

2.00 pm	Wedding	Wykeham
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### Sunday 13th September

8.00 am	BCP Communion	Hutton Buscel
9.30 am	Eucharist & Baptism	Wykeham
11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	Snainton
11.00 am	BCP Matins	Brompton

### Monday 14th September

2.00 pm	Mothers Union	Snainton Chapel
7.00 pm	Snainton PCC	West Bank, SN

### Tuesday 15th September

7.00 pm	Hutton Buscel PCC	The Vicarage
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### Sunday 20th September

8.00 am	BCP Communion	Wykeham
9.30 am	Holy Eucharist	Brompton
11.00 am	Sung Eucharist	Hutton Buscel
4.30 pm	<b>Ecumenical Harvest Service</b>	Snainton Village Hall

### Monday 21st September

7.00 pm	Messy Church Planning Meeting	The Vicarage
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### Tuesday 22nd September

7.00 pm	Brompton PCC	The Vicarage
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### Wednesday 23rd September

7.00 pm	Wykeham PCC	The Vicarage
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### Sunday 27th September

9.30 am	Holy Eucharist	Snainton
11.00 am	<b>Joint Harvest Service with Wykeham</b>	Hutton Buscel
6.30 pm	<b>Harvest Service</b>	Brompton

### Sunday 4th October

8.00 am	BCP Communion	Snainton
9.30 am	Sung Eucharist	Hutton Buscel
11.00 am	Holy Eucharist	Brompton
2.30 pm	<b>Harvest Service</b>	Langdale End
7.00 pm	BCP Evensong	Wykeham

## Church Wardens

### St Stephen, Snainton

**Bob Williams**

01723 859130

**St John Harris**

01723 850684

### All Saints, Brompton

**Don Jones**

01723 859437

**Mark Evans**

01723 859233

### All Saints, Wykeham

**Robert Sword**

01723 862434

**Anthony Tubbs**

01723 850620

### St Matthew, Hutton Buscel

**David Knowelden**

01723 864670

**Beverley Waldie**

01723 863812

### St Peter, Langdale End

**Diane Collins**

01723 882204