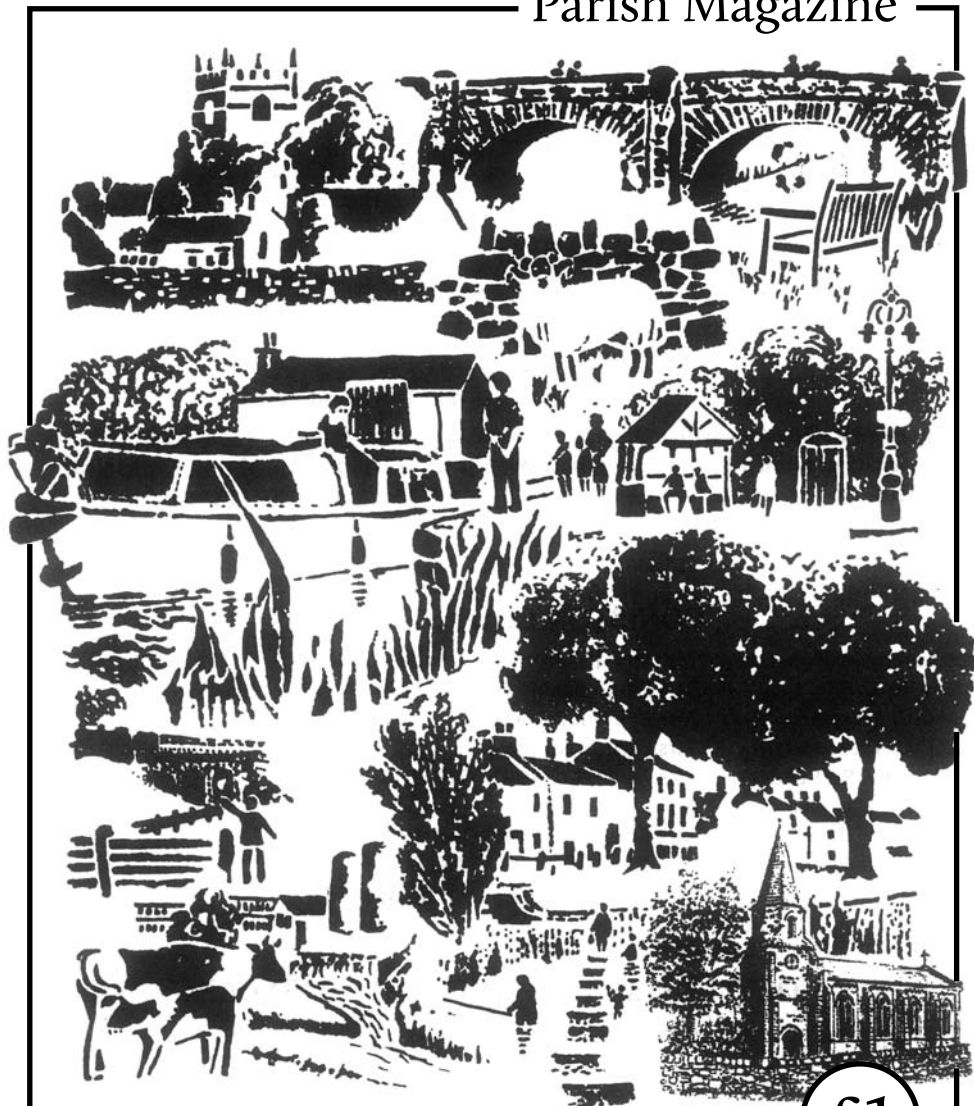


GARGRAVE & CONISTON COLD

Parish Magazine



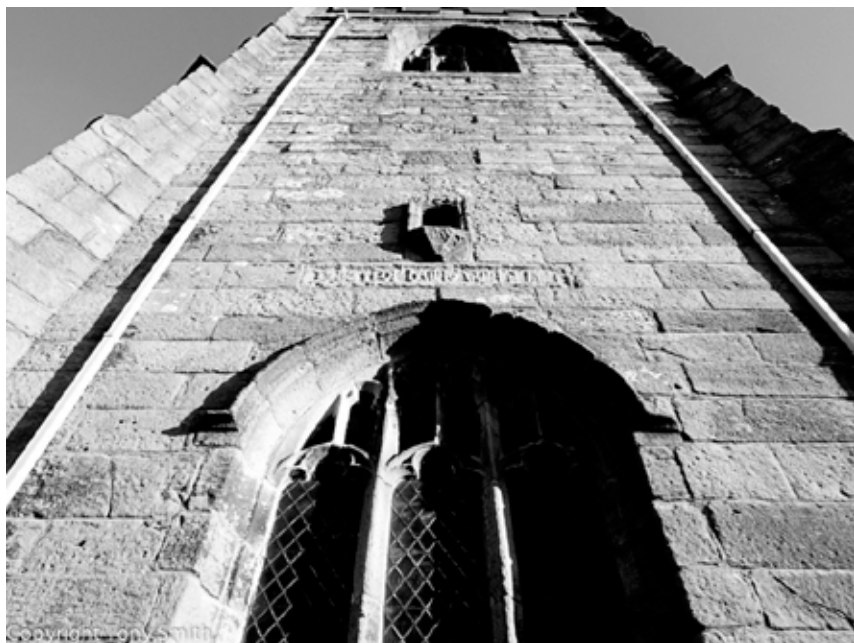
MARCH 2012

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APRIL ISSUE DEADLINE: Thursday 8 March

gargravemag@btinternet.com, 01756 749443

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Churchwarden and treasurer	Jerry Ford	27 Marton Road, 748563 stan_drew@hotmail.co.uk
Churchwarden	Pat Cockshott	11 West Street, 749586
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Pastoral team co-ordinator	Valerie Geddes	748548
PCC secretary	Ron Humphreys	6 St Robert Close, 748779
Gift Aid	Sarah Curtis	11 Marton Road, 748510

St Peter's Church, Coniston Cold

Priest-in-Charge	Revd Rod Geddes	contact details as above
Churchwarden	Gerald Hall	Robin's Barn, Coniston Cold. 748497
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PCC secretary	Sue Hutchinson	01729 851082
Electoral Roll	Jacqui Coates	01729 749300

Catholic Parish of Broughton and Gargrave

Priest	Father Geoffrey Parfitt	The Manse, Broughton, 793794 geoffrey.parfitt@dioceseofleeds.org.uk
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Gargrave Parish Council

Clerk	Helen Carruthers	668209 gargravepc@yahoo.com
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Coniston Cold Parish Council

Clerk	Sandra Crawford	01729 830248 davidra@talktalk.net
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Gargrave Church of England Primary School

Head teacher	Sarah Peel	749433 admin@gargrave.n-yorks.sch.uk www.gargraveceprimaryschool.co.uk
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Gargrave Pre-School

Leaders	Janet Bolland Kathy Thomson	748377 info.preschool@btconnect.com www.gargravepreschool.co.uk
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Gargrave Village Hall

Bookings	Sally Thomas	01756 748098 roland.sally@sky.com
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Parish magazine

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Subscriptions	Ruth Abbott	7 Marton Road, Gargrave, 748483

Organisations

Please let us know if you'd like to amend your entry or add a new one.

Caterpillar Club (0+) – St Andrew's, Wed 10-11.30am, Claire Cadman-Bond 748527
Rainbows (5+) – Debbie Gomersall 01729 830589
Brownies (7+) – Rose Turner 01729 825886
Young Farmers Club - Coniston Cold, Tues 7.30pm, Janet Bolland 01729 830505
Over 60s – Village Hall Annex, Wed 1.30-3.30pm, Veronica Fletcher 749347
Phoenix Group (over 65s) – The Anchor Inn, alternate Thurs 9am-1pm,
Jean McHale 01729 850329, 07775 880557
Meals on Wheels – Mon & Wed, Brenda Longbottom 749883
Bowling – Gargrave Bowling Club, Marton Road, Ruth Abbott, 748483
Bowling - Indoor Bowls, Village Hall, Tues & Thurs 2pm, Doreen Lambert 749495
Cricket – Gargrave Cricket Club (over 13s) Tony Cockshott, 07788 100199
Croquet – Craven Lawn Tennis Club, Gargrave, Tues 2-6pm, Roy Berry 748065
Cycling – Gargrave Tuesday Club, Dalesman Café, Tues 9.30 for 10am start,
Thurs 10 for 10.30am start, Trevor Pickles 01282 844788
Football – Gargrave AFC (over 16s), Tues eve training, Sat games
www.gargraveafc.co.uk, Caroline Thompson 749235
Golf – Mason's Arms Golf Society, www.masonsarmsgolfclub.co.uk, 749304
Tennis – Craven Lawn Tennis Club, Beth Whitley 749664, www.craventennis.org.uk
Tai Chi – Village Hall Annex, Thur 7.30-8.30pm, Ian Cresswell 748540
Walking – GAP Group, start outside V Hall, 2nd Sun of mth 10am Olive Coates 748379
Walking for Health – 1st Thursday of the month, 10am, Jean Maxwell 748851
Yoga - Village Hall Annex, Wednesdays 9.30-11.30 am, Polly Leach 748118
Zumba - V. Hall (16+) Tues 5.45-6.45pm & Thurs 5-6pm, Julia Priestley 07769 692471
Modern sequence dance – Village Hall, Mon 7.45-10pm & a monthly Saturday
(see diary, p.2), John Stephenson 01535 632935
Chance 2 dance – Village Hall Annex, Tap (3-18, adult) Tues 4.15-7.30pm
Ballet (3-18) Sat 9am-2.30pm, Theatre-craft Thur 5-6pm
Jaki Prescott 0758 2086345 chance2dance@hotmail.co.uk
Thomson's Dance Centre – (3+, teens & adults) School Hall, Wed 5.30pm,
Sat am, Kathy Thomson 748003, 07912 441913
Bell ringing – St Andrew's, Mon 7.30pm Sun 9.30am David Cockshott 07772 179561
Bingo – Village Hall Annex, 4th Wed of month 7.30pm, Joan Philip 749468
Dog training – Village Hall, Wed 5-10pm, Helen & Brian Coates 751816
Fuschia & Geranium Club - V.Hall, 1st Wed of month 7.30pm, Paula Jackson 752175
Knit and Natter - St Andrew's, Tues 2pm, Norma Brothers 748392
Mothers Union – Ethne Bannister, 749551
Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall side room, 1st Mon of mth, or 2nd on bank hols
Snooker Club – Village Hall Snooker Annex, every day, Stewart Smith 749340
Stan Drew's Community Choir – Ruth Abbott, 748483
WI – Village Hall Annex, 2nd Wed of month 7.30pm, Moira Sonley 740634

ROD'S REFLECTIONS

The Whole of the Moon

ONE OF MY CLEAREST MEMORIES of my childhood was coming home from my Gran's house one winter's night and seeing the full moon rising above the houses up the hill from where she lived. It looked huge and orange in the frosty night sky, and I felt as if I could reach out and touch it.

We had big skies where I lived, there was nothing across from our house except the canal, fields, the Common and the woods, so I spent a lot of my time as a child watching the stars, the moon and once, gloriously, the Northern Lights.

The phases of the moon fascinated me. When I was very young I thought that part of the moon actually used to disappear and then come back again. It was only when I was in Junior School and someone gave me a book about the night sky that I found out how wrong I was and realised that, if I looked very carefully at a crescent moon, I could see the rest of it in shadow. I could see the whole of the moon.

As we travel through Lent and approach Easter, I am reminded that seeing the whole picture, the "whole of the moon" so to speak, is exactly how Jesus approached people and indeed healed them.

There were many people that he came across who were in desperate need of some form of healing in their lives, whether it was physical healing or the healing of relationships.

To those around them, they presented obvious problems. Some were deaf, blind, suffered from leprosy or were even in types of work or indeed relationships that separated them from what could be termed the "polite society" of the time.

When Jesus met them, some asking for healing, some scared of what the effect of a change in their status would be, he never dealt with only the outward, obvious problems. He dealt with the deeper, darker problems that perhaps only the person themselves had an inkling of.

That is why so much of his healing was to do with forgiveness and giving people "worth", letting them know that God loved them equally as much as he loved everyone.

Often that was the source of the problem and that sense of being forgiven, having worth in God's eyes was what the recipient of the healing actually needed, rather than what they, and others, thought that they wanted.

The classic case of this was when Jesus told a paralytic, brought to him by friends, that his sins had been forgiven. When challenged by the outraged religious nearby, Jesus replied asking what was easier, to tell someone that their sins were forgiven or to tell them to get up and walk? Without waiting for a reply, he said that in order to show that he had the authority to do both he would, and did, say "Get up and walk", and the man did!

Perhaps one failing of human beings is that when faced with perceived problems in others, we try to tackle the obvious, without looking deeper into what is really the whole picture. This is made even worse if we apply this way of "dealing with a problem" to sections of the society in which we live. The outward signs might be obvious, like the "crescent moon" but there will always be that not – quite hidden underlying aspect that is often the biggest part of the whole.

As Christians, we are called to follow in Jesus' footsteps, to attempt see the whole picture, and try, with God's help, to address what is needed.

**Yours in Christ,
Rod Geddes**

DIARY FOR MARCH

Gargrave

- Thu 1 Walking for Health, 10am from the Summer Seat
- Fri 2 Women's World Day of Prayer Service, 7.30 p.m, Church
- Sat 3 Coffee Morning, 10am to Noon, Village Hall
- Sun 4 Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10am, Church**
- Mon 5 Parish Council Meeting, 7.15pm, Village Hall Committee Room 1
- Tue 6 Communion 9 am, Church
- Wed 7 Compline 7 p.m; Church
- Fri 9 Ladies Section Dance, 8pm to Midnight, Village Hall
- Sat 10 Book Fair, 10am to 4pm, Village Hall.
- Sun 11 Communion 8 am; Service of the Word with Prayer for Healing 10 am, Church**
Flea Market, 10am to 4pm, Village Hall.
- Tue 13 Communion 9 am, Church
- Wed 14 Compline, 7pm, Church
WI Meeting, 7.30pm, Village Hall Annex
- Sat 17 Coffee Morning, 10am to Noon, Village Hall
- Sun 18 Mothering Sunday: Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10am, Church**
Inn Faith (informal songs and fellowship) 5pm, Anchor Inn
- Tue 20 Communion 9am, Church
Mother's Day Afternoon Tea, Gargrave Pre-School
- Wed 21 Compline, 7pm, Church
Yoga – 6 week session, 9.30 to 11.30am, Village Hall Annex
- Sat 24 Coffee Morning, 10am to Noon, Village Hall
- Sun 25 Communion 8am; Morning Prayer 10am, Church**

- Flea Market, 10am to 4pm, Village Hall
- Tue 27 Communion 9am Church
- Wed 28 Compline, 7pm, Church
Bingo, 7.30 pm, Village Hall Annex
- Thu 29 NSPCC Fashion Show, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Pre-School Easter Egg Bingo, Gargrave School Hall
- Sat 31 Coffee Morning, 10am to Noon, Village Hall
- Sun 1 April Palm Sunday: Communion 8am; Sung Eucharist 10am Church**
- Thurs 5 Walking for Health, 10am from the Summer Seat
- Each Sunday:** prayer time in church open to all, 9.30 - 9.50am

Coniston Cold

- Wed 1 Gargrave and Coniston Cold Mother's Union
Meeting with Kirkby Malham branch at Spire Garth 2pm.
- Sun 4 Holy Communion 6pm, St Peter's**
- Sun 11 Service of the Word 10am, St Andrews**
- Sun 18 Mothering Sunday: Book of Common Prayer 9am, St Peter's**
- Sun 25 Evensong with Gargrave 6pm, St Peter's**
- Sun 1 April Palm Sunday: Holy Communion 6pm, St Peter's**

Catholic mass times in Broughton and Gargrave

- Sundays: 9am at Broughton Hall Chapel
11.30am Latin Sung Mass first Sunday of month
- Thursdays & Holydays: 9.30am at the Oratory, 3 West Street, Gargrave

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mother's Union Gargrave and Coniston Cold

Ethne Bannister

- 26th March: Lady Day Service Holy Trinity Church Skipton, 2pm
- 14th April: Jumble Sale Coniston Village Hall, 1pm. Collect all you can!

Knit and Natter

Norma Brothers

Our weekly meetings resume on Tuesday 13th March at 2pm in St Andrew's Church.

Zumba

Sally Thomas

Zumba classes are every Tuesday from 5.45 to 6.45pm and every Thursday from 5 to 6 pm in the Village Hall.

Open Gardens - help needed...

Bea and Duncan Faulkner

GARGRAVE OPEN GARDENS is on Saturday 30th June. It has been a great community event in past years, and we're hoping it will be this year too. For this to happen:

we urgently need help with the refreshments operation in the village hall - making and serving teas and lunches to our visitors. The current team is ageing and would love some new blood - if you're able to help out, please contact Norma Brothers on 748392;

we'd appreciate assistance with the advertising campaign too - please let us know if you can give us a hand with this (tel 749443);

and finally we'll need err... gardens to open... Once again, we'd like to have a variety of gardens to share on the day - tiny ones, large ones, wild ones, neat ones, flower ones, foliage ones, vegetable ones, wildlife ones, children's ones... Please have a think about whether you might be willing to open yours - if so we'd be delighted to hear from you (tel 749443).

Women's World Day of Prayer

Enid French

This year the interdenominational service will be held on the 2nd March at 7.30 pm. Arranged by the Christian Women of Malaysia, it is entitled 'LET JUSTICE PREVAIL'.

This day is celebrated worldwide, using the same format, although there will be variations in different countries and even adjacent parishes!

Come and join women everywhere praying that justice will prevail!



Future Events at the Village Hall

Sally Thomas

Coffee Morning: Saturday 21st April with all the proceeds being donated to a charity for the blind.

Ceildh with Sean Gilligan: Saturday 19th May.

Coffee Morning: Saturday 2 June - proceeds to the Mothers Union.

Hobbies and Crafts Weekend: Saturday and Sunday the 16th and 17th June.

Gargrave Art Show: Thursday 12th to Sunday 15th July.

Jumble Sale: Saturday 15 September between 10am and 1pm. All proceeds will go towards the running of the hall. Further information to follow.

Concert: Sat 28th Sept - the ever popular group 'The Beer House Boys'.

Arts and Crafts Weekend: Friday 19th to Sunday 21st October.

Dance: Saturday 9th November - the 'Swing Commanders' will be back.

NEWS

Parish Magazine

Duncan and Bea Faulkner

FOR ANNUAL SUBSCRIBERS - the new magazine subscription year starts with this March issue. **The March 2012 to February 2013 fee is £6, payable in advance to your magazine deliverer - please put it through their door if it hasn't already been collected.** This is a big discount on the £1 cover price payable in shops.

If you'd prefer to receive it for free by email, please send in your request to gargravemag@btinternet.com. Thank you.

We are planning this year to have a May-June double issue, for family reasons. This will mean that any June events whose date is not fixed before mid-April will not be included in the magazine. It has been suggested that a news sheet might help fill the gap. **If anyone would like to volunteer to compile a news sheet for June, please let us know** (tel 749443 or email gargravemag@btinternet.com) so we can advertise your contact details in the preceding magazines.

The competition from last month was won by Jean Maxwell, who correctly spotted that the silhouette of the tree was a shadow on the wall of the Masons Arms.

Parish Magazine Advertising Directory

Bea Faulkner

MARCH ALSO SEES THE START of our new advertising year with a new directory of local businesses filling the central pages. We'd like to thank all the advertisers for contributing, and to welcome all the new ones, including architects, insurance, a physiotherapist, a mobile vet, a personal fitness trainer, another electrician, more joiners, the Gargrave taxi, our Primary School, a baby sitter, an artist, a dog walker and cat sitter, as well as more B&B and self catering accommodation both in the village and further afield in Kettlewell and even America.

Many many thanks to Cressida Ford who has reset many of the adverts, and then made various further amendments to them.

Gargrave & Malhamdale Library News Update

Dave Smith

AS MENTIONED LAST MONTH volunteers are continuing to put their hands up and the fund raising took a major step forward on Saturday 11th February when the Gargrave W I held a Cake and Coffee morning in aid of Library funds.

The cake stall was overflowing with cakes, jam and chutney, a beautifully decorated 'save our Library' cake was produced for a guess the weight competition and raffle tickets were sold by the bucket full. The Library committee would like to thank all those who lent a hand, donated cakes and raffle prizes. Also, our grateful thanks go to the two main ingredients, the W I

for organising the event and all the residents who braved the weather to give their generous support on the day. The event raised £ 700 which far exceeded our expectations.

Following the 'letter drop' the donations are pouring in, for which again, the Committee are most grateful.

An update on progress, NYCC will close the Library on the 31st March and during April a stock check will be carried out, minor alterations to the interior and training of volunteers will be carried out by NYCC. When we have further details of the training Ruth Abbott, our Volunteer Coordinator, will contact all the volunteers with details.

The Library will reopen on the 1st May as a community library. Whilst the library is closed residents are encouraged to take out as many books as they require to sustain themselves over the closure period, fines will not be levied when the books are returned.

From the 1st May the Community Library will still be part of the NYCC library service in that the books still belong to NYCC, the book stock will continue to be rotated and the public access PC will still be connected to the NYCC library service for the ordering of books etc.

The letters and envelopes together with the logo were kindly donated by Peter Clough of Hart & Clough Printers (01274 863200) and the Committee would like to record their gratitude to Peter.

Volunteer numbers are rising but we still need more, so if you know anybody who may be able to help, we will be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Alan Simpson 01756 749418 or sylsam.gargrave@virgin.net. Or speak to Ruth Abbott.

Young Farmers

Janet Bolland

DURING FEBRUARY members have enjoyed a beauty night with Susan Darwin of Features, Skipton, a skiing trip to Rossendale, pancake night and "I'm a Young Farmer get me out of here."

The Settle District hedging and walling competitions had to be cancelled due to the frosty weather, however the indoor competitions went ahead and Coniston gained overall 3rd place

2nd Ellie Saxby – Vegetable Animal

3rd Hannah Saxby – Six decorated Cup Cakes

4th = Sally Handford and Katie Handford – An item of jewellery

Hannah Bolland was placed 3rd as the Chairman in the Yorkshire Junior Public Speaking competition at Harrogate. Mackenzie Forster will go forward to compete as the junior vote of thanks at the Northern Area competition in March.

March meetings are at 7.30 p.m. as follows:-

Tuesday 6th March Rugby training at North Ribblesdale Rugby Club

Tuesday 13th March – Bingo Night at The Buck Inn, Malham

Tuesday 20th March – Coniston Cold Village Hall – details to be confirmed

Tuesday 27th March – Smell Taste and Touch

Walking for health

Jean Maxwell



18 PEOPLE MET at the Car Park in Hellifield on the first Thursday in February to join in the second Walking for Health stroll. We set off to walk to Hellifield Peel and back on a cold, clear morning and the photo shows that we achieved just that. Some of us made a hurried and rather undignified exit from the Station Cafe as our train back to Gargrave came onto the platform with us still chatting!

The next walk will be in and around Gargrave on Thursday March 1st meeting at 10 am at the Summerseat. We hope some new found friends from Hellifield and Long Preston will join us. This is your opportunity to come along, get some fresh air, make new friends, have a gentle walk and get some exercise.

The following walk will be on Maundy Thursday, 5th April, in Hellifield again, so we need to meet at the Summerseat to go on the bus at 9.59 to meet in the car park behind Aherne's. We hope to see you there.

Pantomime: The Queen of Hearts

Isobel Nicholson and Duncan Faulkner



Thank you to Isobel Nicholson, the cast and many helpers for a superb performance. Everyone pulled out the stops to make a great show.

WI News

Marguerite Mason

ALTHOUGH CHRISTMAS IS NOW A MERE MEMORY, 36 members of Gargrave WI met to share a festive meal at the Devonshire Arms in Cracoe, complete with crackers and a free raffle. It was, as usual, a real "jolly", good food, good friends and conversation and a series of verses, written by our resident poet, Moira Sonley, as clues for the raffle prizes. There was much laughter when the winners unearthed their prize tokens from beneath plates, under chairs and other unlikely places, where they had been hidden.

Social contacts are a very important part of our organisation, and so we start to congregate at the Village Hall Annex from 7pm ready for our meetings, held on the second Wednesday each month; this way we have time to move about and chat to other members before the proceedings begin. We are happy to welcome visitors to share our meetings and also to come on outings for which we pay a sum to cover costs. Please contact our Secretary, Moira, for details if you are interested (01756 749634).

Anticipating much worse weather than we actually had in January, we arranged a meeting with a flower arranging demonstration by our own member, Jean Banks, who is well-known for her expertise. She certainly didn't disappoint us! Starting with only five irises and a handful of leaves from her own garden she produced an elegant arrangement which would have graced a palace. While she was working she explained, incidentally, why we should place a block of oasis in a deep bowl of water and allow it to soak up the water before use, ensuring that the block is thoroughly saturated. She also showed us how to use a "frog" and sticky tape to anchor the oasis to the base of the container. Later we also learned how to prepare flowers for arranging, how to wire stems, and how to trim large leaves to suit our purposes. All the five displays she produced were lovely and everyone must have felt that they had gained enough knowledge to have a go themselves. A super evening!

The British Wool industry is organising a nationwide effort to make enough woosack cushions to give one to each competitor in the Olympic games as a souvenir. Members were asked if anyone would volunteer to make one. It was agreed to pay for the material out of WI funds.

The National Federation is attempting to involve as many members as possible in taking healthy exercise. Each WI has been asked to walk or swim, collectively, at least 209 miles in the coming year. There is a trophy to be won by the WI which involves as many members as possible in this effort and covers a distance commensurate with the numbers of people they can call on. Never say we do nothing but make jam!

CONNECTING WITH CULTURE

Margaret Killingray, London Institute for Contemporary Christianity



A corporate Good Samaritan?

ONE OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES, I believe, of the NHS is that everyone should receive all necessary treatment free at the point of need. I'm deeply proud of that - a national acceptance of the lesson of Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan. I've visited affluent countries where that is not the case, where long-term chronic disease, for example, can lead to the impoverishment of whole families and some heart-rending choices.

A recent news item revealed that a number of UK hospital trusts were owed large sums by patients who were not entitled to free treatment. The trusts had written off many of these debts because they couldn't justify spending money trying to retrieve costs from people who are unable to pay. They would be unlikely to recover the cost of heart surgery from an illegal Ukrainian who has picked strawberries for a month in Kent. Nor would, I hope, any hospital turn away someone who had had an accident or was about to have a baby, because they had no money or entitlement.

In the late 1950s, I worked in St. Thomas' Hospital, London. It served a large part of south London with many new immigrants, particularly from areas of the world where people were entitled to British citizenship of one kind or another. I interviewed a man who spoke Greek and very little English. I asked for advice on his status. 'If they speak Greek or Turkish, just put them down as Cypriot and admit them', was the reply. I suspect we extended free treatment to many people that way! We lived in Toronto in the mid 1960s, where my husband worked for the social services. He vividly remembers going with an ambulance to an emergency call, where an unconscious man was shaken violently and shouted at, his squalid room searched for insurance papers, before any attempt was made to check him out and take him to hospital.

Now, these are merely personal impressions, not backed up with research. But perhaps someone else needs to write a paper for the Minister. Of course, there are legitimate concerns about those who come to the UK specifically for treatment, who could pay and don't. More crucial, however, are the questions about all kinds of cost-cutting economies that could leave someone lying dying on the Jericho road.

ASK SHEILA AND TED

Dear Ted and Sheila,

My wife of 55 years has recently been diagnosed with dementia. It's not a surprise – she has been increasingly forgetful and absent for the last few years. I'm partly relieved at the diagnosis, but it also feels a confirmation of my worst fears. I'm her main carer. I love her dearly but still find the situation hard, particularly when I think of the future.

Yours faithfully
Edward

Dear Edward

It must be terrible to see someone you have spent your life with gradually slip away. Some illnesses are more cruel than others. That said, **you** have to look after yourself; make sure you have some respite care so that you can keep going. Check out any support that your wife may be able to access. Have time with your friends out of the house. Consider even whether you can continue to care for her at home or not. Have you tried reading the book 'Contented Dementia'? I have heard people have found it helpful.

Yours in sympathy
Sheila

Dear Edward

In these situations the marriage vows 'in sickness and in health' are particularly important. Marriage is a means of grace and even in your situation there is a work of grace God can do in you both. Nothing is too difficult for God.

The future is always an unknown, you may see your wife progress through dementia; or something else may happen: you don't know. So whilst not being foolish and giving the future no thought, I would not allow it to dominate the present. Try and enjoy what you have now – both as a couple and you yourself. It is a bereavement as you see someone you love no longer be the person they were. Allow yourself to grieve. But, remember that with God hope goes beyond the grave.

Yours in faith
Ted

THE GARDEN IN MARCH

Barbara Walker Sharp

"A Garden is: one of a vast number of free outdoor restaurants operated by charity-minded amateurs in an effort to provide healthful, balanced meals for insects, birds and animals"

from "Gardening: A Gardener's Dictionary"

THE GARDENER'S SPRING arrives in March and it heralds the beginning of the best few months of concentrated enjoyment for the keen gardener.

This month sees the winter flowering shrubs go out in a blaze of glory but the first spring flowers are waiting in the wings. It is the turn of bulbs to take centre stage. Soon the predominant colour will be yellow as daffodils start to flower, together with aconites, primroses, polyanthus, yellow coloured tulips, violas and pansies.

Jobs to do this month

- Mulch bare soil in borders and around trees. A mulch helps to suppress weeds and improves the soil. It looks good too.
- Clematis that flower in late summer should be pruned now.
- Overgrown ivies should be trimmed back as required.
- Rockeries and alpine beds should be thoroughly weeded, adding new plants. Spread a fresh layer of coarse grit around new plants as alpine plants dislike excess moisture.
- Herbaceous perennials will benefit from division if they have formed large clumps or if the centre of the plant is becoming bare. Dig up the entire clump, discarding the old woody centre and replant small pieces with several shoots and plenty of root.
- If you grow delphiniums and hostas remember slugs love them. Take action as soon as they come into growth, either a good layer of sharp grit or slug pellets if you use them.
- Rake the thatch (dead grass, moss etc) out of lawns. Then the lawn will greatly benefit from a granular or a liquid feed.
- Winter flowering heathers should be lightly trimmed.
- In the greenhouse, seeds of half hardy annuals and tender perennials can be sown
- Lift and divide snowdrops. Spread them around the garden. They are the antidote to "winter blues".

A poem for the Month of March

*It is the first mild day of March
Each minute sweeter than before
The redbreast sings from the tall larch
That stands beside our door.
There is a blessing in the air
Which seems a sense of joy to yield
To the bare trees, and mountains bare
And grass in the field.*

William Wordsworth

WILDLIFE FROM MY WINDOWS

Sue Smith, Gargrave, February 9

"Stopping by woods on a snowy evening"

"To watch his woods fill up with snow..."

*The woods are lovely, dark and deep
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep."*

Robert Frost

LET US PAUSE, LOOK AND REFLECT.

The milder weather continued into mid January, and life was racing towards the Spring. There were a few touches of frost, occasional beautiful hoar frosts, with magical white picking out the shapes of the trees, and jewel like crystals on the frozen mosses, looking like a green carpet with white buds and berries. The days were for the most part warm and sunny, with radiant blue skies.

Nature responded. Collared doves flew around and landed in the conifers or on the bird table, full of the joys of Spring. Tits, blue, great, and coal, and finches now regularly including the greenfinches, and blackbirds, robins, dunnocks, and nuthatches came to feed on the hawthorn and rowan, and on the birdtable, seed feeder and nut dispenser. One day a woodpecker visited the rowan, a solitary magpie landed on the hawthorn, and two cock pheasants walked among the lightly frozen grasses.

Longtailed tits came to feed on the rowan and nut dispenser often singly, rather than in the family parties of autumn and winter, but this all changed when the cold weather arrived and families and parties were again the order of the day.

The tits and finches during the milder weather and afterwards, not only find food on the rowan with a nibbling action, but also have started tapping the branches sometimes gently, and others vigorously with their bills.

Birds began to come into breeding plumage. There are some very showy blue tits about, and all the cock chaffinches have very bright breasts. Fortunately all this activity did not actually result in pairing, which would have been torpedoed by the onset of the cold weather.

The rowan buds were swelling during the warmer days, but did not burst, which would have exposed them to the truly wintry temperatures.

The bitterly cold weather from the east began at the end of January and continues to this day.

The snows that swept the country in early February were not excessive or prolonged here. They started with powder in the afternoon, and with overcast dark grey skies, poor light, the absence of birds, and no snow settling on the trees; the outlook was stark and desolate. Later, a little more snow fell, and in

the moonlight the landscape was enchanting, with shining virgin snow on the grass, but more muted on the shrubs.

When daylight came, the fir trees were layered with snow; the deciduous trees had snow on their horizontal branches, with build ups in the forks between the trunks and lower branches, and these and the more slender higher ones. A truly idyllic scene, especially when the birds came to feed there.

Later, that morning, the sun came out radiantly, and there came the drip, drip of the thaw, and chunks of soft snow sliding from the evergreens.

OWD BILL'S OWD TALES

AH RECKON AH MUN er telld thee afore a bit abaat an owd mate o' mine, owd Joss. 'E wor a reight daredevil, allus inter mischief, a reight pest ter t' teychers – but, thanaws, 'e 'ed a 'aart o' gold, an' allus thowt abaat uthers.

When we wor kids, ther wor two places we 'ed n't ter goa ter – t'level crossin', an' t'filter beds – an' o' coorse, them wor t' places we 'ed ter see! Mi dad telld mer 'at a kid 'ad bin draanded theer when e' wor a yung un.

Ther wor a game called "dares". Owd Joss wor good at makkin' up reeigh scary dares, an' thanaws, 'e wor daft enew ter do 'em fust, burr ah worrent good at folleerin'! Wun wor walkin' across parapet o' t' railway bridge, an' anuther (tha weean't believe this 'ere) wor ter ger on top o' t' wall raand t' top on an owd mine shaft and walk all t' way raand! Ah nivver did awther o' these, an' ah felt a reight cardy custard!

When 'e wor a bit owder, Joss thowt on anuther adventure. 'E started cerlectin' church towers – thanaws, 'e'd find t' door ter t' staircase, an' up e' went. Nobbut a fairly 'armless pastime, yer might say! Onnyrooad, one time, abaat afe a dozen on us fun t' door ter tower at Wakefield Cathedral wor oppen, an' we gorr all t' way up ter weer t' spire started. But thanaws, wen we cum daan, t' door wor locked! A bit freetenin'! Back we went uppards, an' we fun' a winder oppen, an' ther wor a ladder daan ter ' main roof, an' anuther daan ter t' graand, soa we gorr away wi that theer scot free! Burr ah reckon we lernt a lesson, an' ah think 'appen we wor a bit better be'aved atafter!

In t' waar time, ther lerr us off schooil ter goa pey-pickin. We thowt this 'ere wor summat alreight, cos we got paid an' all! Joss wor a dab 'and at fillin' t' secks – ah reckon yer got paid abaat one an' thrippence a beg – an' 'e could fill two begs ter my wun! Ther wor a gaffer theer, ter see 'at tha didn't put rubbish in ter mak weight, thanaws. An' ther wor a railway line next ter t' field – wun day wun o' t' kids purr a awpry o' t' rails, 'opin 'at engine 'ud run ower it an' flatten it. But t' gaffer saw 'im, an' played 'ell – 'e sed "Tha mooant put coins o' t' realm o' t' railway line"

Ah well, ah reckon that's abaat enew thru me fer naa. Dooan't thee think up onny daft dares, 'cos ah'm nooan bahn ter do 'em! Translation: Stories by William

I BELIEVE THAT I HAVE mentioned my friend Joshua previously. He was always into trouble, and a cause of infinite discomfiture to the teaching staff. But in spite of that he was a generous person, and thought of the needs of others.

As children, we were enjoined to avoid the railway level crossing and the sewage works. – but of course, this made it all the more necessary that we should visit these dangerous places. My father had informed me that an unfortunate occurrence took place when he was a child, when someone drowned there.

A foolish game espoused by children was called "dares". Joss enjoyed making these up, but always went first. I was never any good though! He would walk along bridge parapets, and, unbelievably, on top of a wall surrounding a deep pit shaft. I felt that I was something of a coward in not emulating these things.

Later on, Joss had another idea. He found it interesting to find a way into and up church towers, which I admit was fairly harmless. A group of us noticed that the tower door at Wakefield Cathedral was open, and this enabled us to reach the base of the spire. Unfortunately, on our return, the door was locked, and we found this rather disconcerting. However, we were able to escape via ladders conveniently placed on the church roof. Perhaps this taught us a lesson!

As a result of the exigencies during the second world war, we were allowed time off school to bring in the pea harvest. In addition, we were paid (I believe, one and threepence per bag), so this seemed to us as a double benefit. Joss found it easy to fill bags with peas, at twice the rate which I could achieve. In the field there was an overseer, whose job it was to ensure that pickers did not cheat by including rubbish as well as peas in order to add to the weight. He had to remonstrate with a child who thought it was a good idea to place a halfpenny on a railway line, and came up with the immortal words "It is not permitted to place Coins of the Realm upon railway lines".

I am sure that is sufficient from me. By the way, I would not dream of conforming if some of you came up with suggestions for "Dares".

GARGRAVE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sarah Peel (Head Teacher)

"Every Child Counts; Every Child Contributes"

Past Pupils: We are keen to expose the pupils to the wider perspective of education. Did you come to the school and could you talk to the pupils about your memories? Possible aspects to share are around key decisions, your skills, your ambitions and careers; even if they didn't follow a traditional path.

If you didn't come to the school, but live in the community and have a story to tell on a similar theme, please come forward. Don't be shy, we will look after you! The pupils' love hearing personal stories.

Learning Our curriculum in the next couple of months is based around World War 1 and 2. If you know of people or places who could help to give a personal perspective please let us know.

Sierra Leone: We currently have a member of staff out in Sierra Leone and we are swapping work about farmers and farming. In May we shall be welcoming a member of their staff for a week, more news about this in next month's piece.

Ambitions: We continue to create a culture where the pupils aspirations are raised. The pupils have targets set in maths, English and Science. They know what we believe they can achieve and the next steps in the learning. All the staff use marking to give progress on a regular basis to achieve these. Our priority is to raise standards in maths, the pupils are all having daily times tables practise.

Parking: We enjoy and try to ensure good relations with our neighbours. Please would all people visiting school park so as not to block the drive ways? Your co-operation on this matter is much appreciated.

GARGRAVE PRE-SCHOOL

Janet Bolland

THE CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION was enjoyed by everyone who attended. There were lots of different Chinese food and activities to take part in from face painting, colouring, costumes to dress up in and children could write a wish for the Chinese Wish Tree. A big thank you to everyone who supported us.

Our topic next half-term until Easter is "Transport and Travel" – we will be looking at different forms of transport and how we travel around the world.

Our next fundraising event is **Mother's Day Afternoon Tea** when all Mums, Grandmas and anyone connected with Gargrave Pre-School is invited to attend on Tuesday 20th March 2–3pm, cost £3, please give us a ring on 01756 748377 to book a place. EVERYONE WELCOME.

Our very popular Family Night **Easter Egg Bingo** will be held in Gargrave School Hall on Thursday 29th March at 6pm. Everyone welcome to come and win an Easter Egg; £1 per bingo book.

GARGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL

Janet Turner

Monthly Meeting, 6 February

Apologies: None. Mr Robert Marshall was introduced as a new Parish Councillor replacing Peter Perls.

Condolences: On behalf of the village the Council has sent a letter of condolences to Mrs. Sandra Crawford for the sudden loss of David Crawford who had served as a Craven District Councillor for the area for several years.

Public participation: Police Sgt Les Moorhouse introduced himself. He has taken over the duties of the Sergeant at Grassington as well as his duties at Settle where he is based. He reminded the Council of the non-emergency number, 101 and went on to explain about a website entitled "Immobilise". It is nationwide and enables the public to register their personal property. Police forces throughout the country are using the website to verify the ownership of stolen goods which come into their possession.

He also told the Council the procedure to follow if it wants to borrow the matrix equipment to measure the speeds of vehicles on the roads in the village.

District Councillor's report: Cllr Simon Myers reported that there will be no increase in Craven DC's share of the Council Tax for 2012/13.

County Councillor's report: Cllr Shelagh Marshall reported that the County Council's share of the Council Tax for 2012/13 will also be frozen at the 2011/12 level. She also gave an update on matters concerning the library which are still in progress.

Playground: The Council was given a report on the advice given by the Council's solicitor on the scope of the permitted use of the playground to two Councillors who had visited his office.

The Diamond Jubilee: A group of interested volunteers had met to develop ideas and proposals for events for the Jubilee weekend at the beginning of June. A report was given to the Council on those ideas and proposals.

Next meeting will be on Monday 5 March at 7.15pm in the Village Hall.

Naughty mummy

A mother asked her young son, as they waited for the bus, to tell the driver he was five years old, because then he would ride for free. As they got into the bus the driver asked him how old he was. "I am five years old," said the little boy proudly.

The driver had a son of his own that age, and smiled. "And when will you be six years old?" he asked.

"When I get off the bus," answered the boy.

Bump

A man was trying to pull out of a parking place, but bashed the bumper of the parked car in front of him. Witnessed by a handful of pedestrians waiting for a bus, the driver got out, inspected the damage, and proceeded to write a note to leave on the windshield of the car he had hit. The note read: "Hello. I have just hit your car, and there are some people here watching me who think that I am writing this note to leave you my name, phone number, and driver's license number, but I am not."

TAKE A STEP FOR FAIRTRADE

Duncan Faulkner

27 February to 11 March is Fairtrade Fortnight.

Why take a step for Fairtrade?

Because millions of people still urgently need a better deal from trade. Fairtrade's already benefitting 1.5 million farmers and workers, but if everyone already buying Fairtrade just put one more Fairtrade item in their basket – went one step further for Fairtrade – we could double that number and make our call for trade justice stronger and louder, proving that there is a fairer way to do business, and it works.



What is a step for Fairtrade?

A step is an action that supports Fairtrade. We're all at different stages on our journeys with Fairtrade; taking a first step could be buying your first bag of Fairtrade coffee from the Co-Op, or persuading cafés or canteens that you frequent to start offering Fairtrade options.

Harriet Lamb, who heads the Fairtrade Foundation, says: "As companies engage more and more with producers, everyone learns and understands, creating a basis for lasting change. Working alone on a small plot, a farmer can change very little, but working with her neighbours she has power. Step by step, we are beginning to achieve transformative change."

OK – some of us have less to spend this year, but can we honestly say that we are as poor as those who produce so much of what we consume?

How many church members does it take to change a light bulb?

What do you mean CHANGE??? That light bulb was given in memory of my grandmother! My father installed it with his bare hands! He donated his time AND the use of his ladder to do it, too! My family's been members of this church for four generations! And if you think you're going to come in here and make a bunch of changes all of a sudden, vicar, you've got another think coming!

INFORMATION

Rotas for St Andrew's Church

Readings for worship

4 Mar	<i>The 2nd Sunday of Lent</i> Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Romans 4:13-end; 8:31- end
11 Mar	<i>The 3rd Sunday of Lent</i> Exodus 20:1-17; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22
18 Mar	<i>The 4th Sunday of Lent / Mothering Sunday</i> Exodus 2:1-10 or 1 Samuel 1:20-end; 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 or Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:33-35 or John 19:25b-27
25 Mar	<i>The 5th Sunday of Lent (Passiontide begins)</i> Jeremiah 31:31-34; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33
1 April	<i>Palm Sunday</i> Liturgy of the Palms: Mark 11:1-11; or John 12:12-16

Sidesmen	8am	10am
04-Mar	Marion Scarborough	Stanley Preston John Bailey
11-Mar	Kay Craven	Sarah Curtis Tim Warner
18-Mar	Janet Sturgess	Eileen Holden Jean Coldwell
25-Mar	Colin Chapman	Joyce Brotherton Isobel Lacey
01-Apr	Marion Scarborough	Stanley Preston John Bailey
Readings	Offertory procession	
06-Mar	John Bailey	Joyce Brotherton Isobel Lacey
13-Mar	Ruth Abbott	
20-Mar	Hugh Turner	Eileen Hoskin Pat Cockshott
27-Mar	Valerie Geddes	
03-Apr	John Bailey	Norma Brothers Judith Douglas
Church cleaning	If you can't carry out any of these duties, please arrange a swap.	
27 Feb - 9 Mar	Beatrice Faulkner	Annie Faulkner
12 - 23 Mar	Eileen Holden	Eileen Hoskin
26 Mar - 6 Apr	Sylvia and Ron	Humphreys

Public Transport

TRAINS from Gargrave to:

Leeds

Mon - Fri	0747	0814	1204	1349	1452	1730	1814	2029	2131
Saturday	0746	0928	1204	1345	1452	1744	1814	2029	2131 ¹
Sunday			1121	1352	1547	1557	1909		2124

Morecambe

Mon - Fri	0545 ²	0905	1105		1439	1730			
Saturday	0645 ²	0905	1105		1439	1730			
Sunday		0931	1135		1541		1805		

Carlisle

Mon- Fri	0545 ³	0932	1105 ³	1331	1439 ²	1730 ²	1846		
Saturday	0645 ³	0932	1105 ³	1331	1439 ²		1840		
Sunday		0953	1135 ²	1400	1541 ²		1805 ³		

Notes 1 Change at Skipton, 2 Change at Lancaster, 3 Change at Hellifield

BUSES from Gargrave to:

Skipton

Mon - Fri	0706	0756	0820	0841	0956	then every hr until	1756		
Saturday	0956	1110	1156	1325	1356	1455 1556 1710	1756		
Sunday				1208 ⁶		1508 ⁶	1658 ⁶		

Settle

Mon - Fri		0740	0859	then every hour 'til	1659	1804	2129		
Saturday		0740 ⁴	0859	then every 2 hrs 'til	1659				
Sunday	<i>No Sunday bus service to Settle during the Winter timetable</i>								

Malham

Mon- Fri	0725		1000 ⁵		1300 ⁵		1610		
Saturday			1015		1230	1400	1615		
Sunday (18 th March only):				1102 ⁶	1242 ⁶		1242 ⁶		

Notes 4 Saturdays during term time only, 5 Monday, Wed & Friday only
 6 There is just one Sunday in March (18th) when buses run to Malham and Skipton.
 7 The Bus Timetable will change on 1st April.

Little Red Bus "Dial-a-Ride" service to Skipton, Tuesdays only, (leaving Eshton, Newfield, Airton, Bell Busk, Coniston Cold and Gargrave between 9.45am and 10.15am) and returning from Skipton at approximately 12.45pm.

The Little Red Bus is equipped with lifts for passengers using wheelchairs, and passengers who are not able to manage steps. Please phone a day in advance – 01756 795666 – to book your place and pick up location.

TAXI from Gargrave: phone Gargrave Private Hire 07877 054698, see page A3

Refuse and recycling collection days

Collections	Gargrave – Mon & Tue	Coniston Cold – Mon
05-Mar / 06-Mar	Blue bag & brown bin	Blue bin & blue bag
12-Mar / 13-Mar	Green bin	Green bin & brown bin
19-Mar / 20-Mar	Blue bin, blue bag & brown bin	Blue bag
26-Mar / 27-Mar	Green bin	Green bin & brown bin
02-Apr / 03-Apr	Blue bag & brown bin	Blue bin & blue bag

Doctors

Gargrave Branch Surgery, Higherlands Close BD23 3RF
 Tel 749226 from 8am. Open Mon-Fri mornings and Fri afternoon.

Gargrave Library

West Street BD23 3RD, 0845 034 9535
 Mon 4-7pm; Wed & Fri 2-5pm; Sat 10am-1pm

Gargrave C of E Primary School & Pre-School holiday dates

	School Closes	School Opens
Easter	Thursday 29 March 2012	Monday 16 April 2012
May Day	Friday 4 May 2012	Tuesday 8 May 2012
Half term (Summer)	Thursday 31 May 2012	Monday 11 June 2012
Summer	Friday 20 July 2012	Tuesday 4 September 2012
Autumn half term	Friday 26 October 2012	Tuesday 6 November 2012
Christmas	Friday 21 Dec ember 2012	Monday 7 January 2013
Spring Half term	Friday 15 February 2013	Monday 25 February 2013
Easter	Thursday 28 March 2013	Monday 15 April 2013
May Day	Monday 6 May 2013	Tuesday 7 May 2013
Half term (Summer)	Friday 24 May 2013	Tuesday 4 June 2013
Summer	Friday 19 July 2013	

Magazine contributions, adverts and subscriptions

This magazine is produced by St Andrew's Church for the benefit of the whole community of Gargrave & Coniston Cold parishes. We welcome short articles, news, notices of events, anecdotes, announcements, obituaries, letters & photos, free of charge, subject to space and relevance. One-off adverts within the editorial are £8 per ¼ page, £2 for 1/16 page etc.

Please email contributions, if possible, to gargravemag@btinternet.com. We can also accept short contributions by phone 01756 749443, text 07979 304914 or post to 2 Riversway, Gargrave, Skipton, BD23 3NR.

The deadline for the April issue is Thursday 8th March.

An annual subscription from March is £6 - contact Ruth Abbott 748483. Or subscribe for free to receive it by email - gargravemag@btinternet.com.

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Gargrave Poor's Lands Charity

Are you currently experiencing financial difficulties and **need** help?

Do you need financial assistance to pursue higher or further education or vocational training?

If you live in Gargrave, Flasby, Eshton, Winterburn, Coniston Cold or Banknewton then Gargrave Poor's Lands Charity may be able to help!

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Contact one of the trustees listed below to discuss your situation.

Absolute discretion and confidentiality assured.

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Geoffrey Gardner
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Graham Thomson
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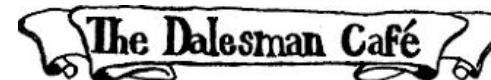
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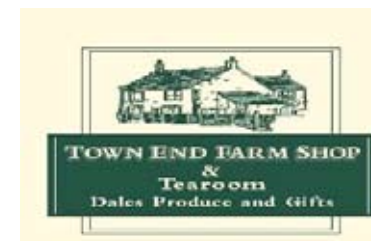
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- "Overall the quality of the provision is outstanding."
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Pre-school currently runs all day on Monday and Wednesday and mornings on Tuesday and Thursday during term-time. More sessions become available as the school year progresses.

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“Lent for Losers”

**The Rt Revd Nick Baines
Bishop of Bradford**

When I was younger I thought Lent was the worst period of the Christian year. The weather's usually pretty grim still, and you get encouraged to be miserable by giving up things you like for five weeks. In fact, it gets worse: the more you try to give stuff up, the more you keep thinking about it, and the harder it is to keep giving it up. Whatever it is.

How could I have got this so wrong for so long?

Well, some Christians have turned 'giving up' into either 'giving' or 'taking up'. That is to say, they turn a perceived negative into something positive. So, instead of giving up chocolate, they start running. Or, instead of resisting interesting drinks, they decide to try spiritual hang-gliding or something. The intention might be a good and constructive one, but it still sort of misses the point.

Lent takes seriously the story that Jesus was led into the desert to be tested (Matthew 4:1-11). Really. Straight after the

spiritual high of his baptism, he is led by the Spirit into the desert. There are two things to note here: (a) Jesus was led by the Spirit into the dry and hard place, and (b) the 'testing' was intended to help him sort out what really matters in what would be called 'the Kingdom of God'.

There is a temptation to think that if you find yourself in a dry place spiritually – or life has become hard and God seems distant – it is because either God has abandoned you or you have done something naughty that has distanced you from God. But, Jesus was led 'by the Spirit' into the dry place and it might just be that the Spirit does the same to us from time to time. So, if it is the Spirit who has led us into the desert, we must resist the temptation to run straight out of it again to the place where the Spirit has not led us. In other words, hang on in there. And wait. And see what happens.

This was not the last time Jesus would be tested (or 'tempted'), but it sums up at

the outset the challenge he must face. Is his Kingdom just a shadow of all other empires – run by force and brutal power, manipulation and ego? Will he ultimately take the short-cut to glory – or walk the way of the cross? What is he really about?

Lent simply offers us a short time once each year in which we can slow down, drive out the million distractions that anaesthetise us from digging deeper into God and our own soul. Lent is a gift – beckoning us to make space for some deeper thinking and contemplation, alone or with others. We might just want to give space each day or each week to asking a simple question: am I really a disciple of Jesus or am I really motivated by something else?

I feel I lose something in Lent. I am invited to lose my preoccupations with trivia and distraction, my constant busyness, my superficial engagement with God. I am invited to make space for reality and the still, small voice of the God who promises never to desert us – even when we are in the desert.

+Nick

CLERGY NEWS

The Revd Beverley Mason has been appointed as priest in charge of All Saints, Bingley. Since 2005 she has been vicar of St John the Evangelist, Upper Norwood in the Diocese of Southwark - where she's also Area Dean. She studied Theology at Chichester and then Trinity College, Bristol and was ordained in 2001. She served her curacies in the Diocese of Rochester.



Beverley's licensing will take place on Saturday 28 April, 3pm at All Saints, Bingley.

BRADFORD COURT CHAPLAINCY SERVICE (BCCS) - JOB VACANCY

BCCS seeks to appoint a committed and enthusiastic Christian minister to work as **Court Chaplain** at the Bradford Magistrates' and Coroner's Court, and at the Bradford Combined Courts Centre alongside our Muslim chaplain. The post is for **17 hours each week** (times negotiable) for 6 months initially. The starting salary is **£11,250** plus pension contribution. The starting date is negotiable.

Candidates are invited to visit the Magistrates' Court to have an informal chat with staff and trustees. To arrange a visit, discuss the post further, or obtain an application form, please phone (01274) 722422 or e-mail info@bradfordcourtchaplaincy.org.uk

The closing date is 4pm, Friday 2 March. Completed applications should be sent to Mrs Ruth Smith, BCCS, c/o Bradford Magistrates' Court, The Tyrls, Bradford, BD1 1JL.

AROUND THE DIOCESE



ENGLISH LANGUAGE LESSONS

English language classes for women are being hosted by St Philip's Church in the Girlington district of Bradford. The **Maryam Project** provides classes for 20 women per class each week, and some 100 women have benefitted from them. Large numbers of immigrants from Pakistan, Bangladesh and the EU as well as

asylum seekers live in Girlington and reductions in Government funding have meant that fewer have been able to access English learning. This church based English language project, staffed by three trained instructors and supported by six church and community volunteers, is meeting an increasing need for the women from these communities.

BUS THAT'S TRANSFORMING A COMMUNITY

Young people from some of the most deprived communities in Bradford are benefitting from the **@the Bus Stop** project – a partnership between the Bradford Diocese, Holme Christian Centre and e:merge - a local youth charity. Using a new, fully equipped bus, trained youth and sports workers are working with local volunteers in two districts, soon to expand to five. One of them is Bierley, where up to 70 young people come to the bus for each evening session. The bus has a kitchenette, TV for DVDs and table top activities while sports are played on land near the bus. Activities centred around the bus help to address anti-social behaviour, self esteem and boredom. Warren, a Bierley Life Centre manager, said: "Bierley had nothing happening for young people and it was rife with problems. The bus has been a catalyst for activity with young people and the estate is buzzing with their excitement."



NEW DIOCESE DISCUSSIONS

The Bishop's Councils of the Dioceses of Bradford, Ripon & Leeds and Wakefield met together on 7 January to discuss the **Draft Scheme** on the reorganisation of the Diocese. Over 70 people attended and participated through group discussions and questions to speakers. Parishes and Deaneries are asked to send their comments to the Diocesan Office by 24 February; responses can

continue to be sent to the Dioceses Commission until consultation ends on 30 April.



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

PARCEVALL HALL

Quiet Days at Parcevall Hall 2012. A series of reflections on the nature of blessings and the importance of names led by The Revd Andrew Tawn. Mondays 5 March, 14 May, 17 September and 5 November, 10am-4pm. Bring your own packed lunch (drinks provided). No fee.

ADDINGHAM ST PETER

Christian Writers' Day. Saturday 24 March, 10.30am-4.15pm in the Church Hall. Led by Andrew Tawn, who will speak about *Naming and Blessing*, his book of acrostic name prayers. Writing workshops in the afternoon. £5 on the door, or ring (01943) 830276 to book.

BRADFORD CHORALE

Messiah, arranged for choir and brass, will be performed at the Cathedral with the Bradford Chorale and the Reg Vardy Band on Saturday 31 March, 7.30pm. Tickets £12 in advance, £14 on the door from www.bradfordchorale.org.uk or for information, phone (01274) 594659.

CULLINGWORTH ST JOHN

Art exhibition in St John's Room, with proceeds to the church. Saturday 17 March, 10am-4pm. Free but donations welcome. Refreshments available.

KIRKBY MALHAM ST MICHAEL

Saturday 17 March, 7.30pm. Choral Music for Lent performed by Pinsuti, the Ilkley chamber choir. Tickets £10/£8 including refreshments. (01943) 863734.

ILKLEY ST MARGARET

The Music Room Players present *Agnes of God* by John Pielmeier. Saturday 3 March, 7.30pm. Tickets £8 (including refreshments) from Pat Riley on (0113) 230 0312 or pat.riley12@ntlworld.com.

SHIPLEY ST PAUL

The Aire Valley Singers present Gloria by Vivaldi and Mass in Bb by Hummel, with Sinfonia d'Amici. Saturday 3 March, 7.30pm. Tickets £8/£6 to include refreshments. Enquiries - (01274) 584787.

THE CATHEDRAL

A Yurt will be located in the North Transept of the Cathedral during Lent, an initiative with Touchstone to develop mission in the district. Over the six weeks, a wide range of events are planned including speakers, craft workshops and bible study groups on the theme of Listening Lent. Please come along to any of our planned events or visit the Yurt between 9.30am and 4.30pm, Monday to Saturday (please call first), for self-guided reflection and prayer.

SKIPTON CHRIST CHURCH

Organ Recital Series 2012. The first concert will be performed by Ben Saunders from St Anne's Cathedral, Leeds, on Easter Monday 9 April, 11.00am. Coffee and tea served before and after the recital, there will be a retiring collection. Contact Enid Pyrah on (01756) 792642.