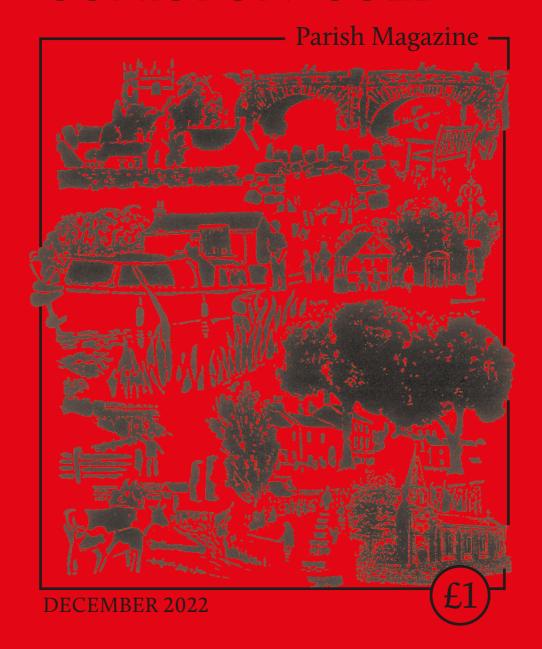
GARGRAVE & CONISTON COLD



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Parish magazine www.standrewsgargrave.org.uk

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Adverts can be included throughout the year



Photo by Ray Bracewell

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.

Advertising:

07711 718153 - Les & Kim Hatfield parishmagads.gargrave@outlook.com

Ads costs £11 per ¼ page per month, other sizes pro rata (discounts for annual ads)

Subscriptions:

Position currently vacant.

An annual subscription is £9

Editorial:

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January editorial deadline: 15 December

Read the magazine online at https://www.standrewsgargrave.org.uk

Printed in Skipton by EP Print on FSC recycled paper

Revd Andrew Steer

Have yourself a merry little Christmas...

Let me start by saying that I love Christmas. I love the Channel 5 Christmas films, the smell of mulled wine, the distant sound of carol-singers, the schmaltzy scenes on Christmas cards. I love Christmas pudding, tinsel and turkey, jingle bells, shops decorated to the nines for the festive season. I love the colourful lights, the Christmas trees, the nativity plays and the scenes of the manger, the wise men, and the shepherds. In the darkest, bleakest time of midwinter all of these things can warm our hearts, tapping into imaginations and romantic dreams of an Edwardian Christmas card scene – 'Happy golden days of Yore', where every Christmas is a white one, everyone is happy.

Then, I remember that Christmas is not really like this at all – this is pure escapism, a nostalgic fantasy that most of us buy into each year. Whilst we live out this annual make-believe formula, we try to forget that half of the world will be hungry on Christmas Day, millions will be dodging bullets and shells in war zones. Hospitals will be full of sick and dying people, whilst many more will know gnawing loneliness or be dealing privately with unbearable grief. Even more families will rely on Foodbanks or Community Larders (like the one at St Andrew's) and have to choose between heating or eating. Many will be homeless. Plastics and pollution will still pour into our rivers and seas on Christmas Day, and more rainforests will be lost.

Here we have two diametrically opposing views of Christmas; two seemingly irreconcilable pictures of the season – one pure fantasy, the other dark, grim, and unpleasant. 'Why do you have to spoil your Christmas message, Vicar? We all know the reality of the world in 2022. Can't we just enjoy it without being reminded of the real world?"

The truth is that the Christmas we know is a manufactured one - just like a really good John Lewis advert, we are being sold a dream. The real Christmas story is a gritty affair starring an unmarried mother, an illegitimate child laid in a filthy manger, a homicidal maniac king, some sweaty shepherds and some notvery wise men who got lost and told the killer king all about the new baby! A bit like real life really.

And that is the whole point of Christmas. The real message of Christmas is that God enters our world, not the Christmas card one but the real world, where suffering, sadness, hunger and loneliness abound. He enters a world of addiction, debt, abuse and mental health crises. He even enters a world of climate change, pandemic, nuclear threat and political upheaval. He enters an ordinary world.

You see this is the really good news of Christmas—that God doesn't leave us to inhabit a fantasy world. As a loving Father, He comes into our mess and helps with our real-life struggles. He helps us personally by showing us the incredible love, hope, peace and joy we can find in Jesus Christ, and he helps us collectively by inviting us into His magnificent plan for the world. He reminds us

that this is His world and that He hasn't given upon it. This is why he sent His Son, not to be nursed by a warm fireside in a very big house, but to experience the ordinary, desperate struggles of life as we know it.

So please do, 'Have yourself a merry little Christmas'; enjoy the mulled wine and mince pies; smile at the Christmas cards from distant friends, the ecards and happy-ever-after movies. Take time to be with friends and family, listen to the carol-singers and smile at the baby in the manger. Do all of this and more, but above all, make it even more merrier by knowing that the God who loves you lavishly, immeasurably and abundantly is in your corner, living out every experience of your life with you. He is sharing every joy, every hardship and sadness with you, and inviting you into the continuation of the real Christmas story.

No matter what you are going through this Christmas, no matter what happens in this messy world, I invite you to come to church and to experience something of God. It won't be perfect, it won't be that comfortable or warm, and you won't meet any especially good people, but in all of this ordinariness you might just experience an extraordinary God who has an extraordinary gift – His eternal love for you.

May you have a very Happy Christmas,

Reverend Andrew and all at St Andrew's and St Peter's.

DIARY FOR DECEMBER

Coniston Cold

Sat 5	Children's Christmas party, 2pm, Village Hall
Sun 4	Compline evensong, 4pm, Church
Sun 11	Carol service with Settle and Giggleswick Brass Band, 7pm, Church $$
Sun 18	Compline evensong, 4pm, Church
Sun 25	Christmas Day Holy communion, 9.30am, Church

Gargrave

Sat 3	Book Fair. 10am - 3.30pm, Village Hall. Refreshments available until
	3pm. 50p admission. Details 01524 752968/ 07989 585564.

Sun 4 Second Sunday in Advent Prayer book communion, 8am, Church Breakfast 10.30am followed by 11am Family service, Church Christmas lights switch-on, 4.30pm, Summerseat, followed by mulled wine and mince pies at church

Wed 7 Parish Council meeting, 7.15pm, Village Hall Annexe.Charity quiz night for Candlelighters, 8pm, Masons Arms. See page 6.

Thurs 8	Big Little Nativity performance by Gargrave Primary School, 1.30pm Church. All welcome.					
Fri 9	Picnic Supper Dance with live music from Alan Cookson. 7.30pm - 11pm, Village Hall. £6 admission.					
Sat 10	St Andrew's Church Christmas party, 5.30-7.30pm, Church					
Sun 11	Third Sunday in Advent (Gaudete Sunday)					
	Prayer book communion, 8am, Church Sung Eucharist, 11am, Church					
	Gargrave Village Hall Management Committee Vintage, Collectable and Craft Fair, 10am - 3.30pm, Village Hall. Refreshments available until 3pm. 50p admission or by donation.					
Fri 16	Library film night: Downton Abbey A New Era. 7 for 7.30pm, Village Hall. See page 6.					
Sat 17	Coffee morning run by Village Hall and library, 10-12, Village Hall. Bacon sandwiches and Homemade cakes. Raffle and Book stall. Christmas concert by Pinsuti chamber choir, 7pm, Church. See page 7.					
Sun 18	Fourth Sunday in Advent					
	Prayer book communion, 8am, Church					
	Morning worship, 11am, Church					
	Carol service, 6pm, Church					
Wed 21	Christmas Crackers concert by Voices of Craven, 7pm, Village Hall. See page 8.					
Thurs 22	Roving Nativity, 6pm, outside Church. See page 9.					
Sat 24	Christingle service, 4pm, Church					
	Midnight Communion, 11.30pm, Church (to be confirmed)					
Sun 25	Christmas Day Prayer book communion, 8am, Church Christmas Day Family communion, 11am, Church					

EVENTS

Coniston Cold Christmas dates

Helen Barrow

Saturday 3 Dec: Children's Christmas party with a visit from Santa including a children's tea and afternoon tea for parents and other guests. A community Christmas party will follow with bar and food. 2pm onwards, Coniston Cold Village Hall.

Sunday 11 Dec: Carol service with Settle and Giggleswick Brass Band followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the village hall. 7pm, St Peters Church.



Library news and events

Film nights

On Friday 16th December we will be screening "Downton Abbey A New Era". The film reunites the beloved cast as they go on a grand journey to the South of France to uncover the mystery of the Dowager Countess' newly inherited Villa.

The customary Cafe style seating will be in place, so please bring you own refreshments. The Village Hall doors open at 7.00pm with the film starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5.00 on the Door with under 16s free. Sorry but we can only allow Guide Dogs into the Hall.

On 20 January 2023 we welcome

DOWNTON ABBEY

A NEW ERA

OSISIMAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACE
MUSIC BY JOHN LUMM

in the New Year with the widely acclaimed comedy starring Mark Rylance in the role of Maurice Flitcroft who, despite never having played a game of golf, managed to bluff his way into the 1976 British Open. Maurice is golf's equivalent to "Eddie the Eagle" of the skiing world!

Dave Smith

All proceeds from the film nights go towards the running costs of the Community Library and the Library Committee thank you for your support.

Christmas Reading Challenge: The Challenge is for children aged 0 to 11 years to read 4 books between now and Christmas to receive a small reward. To enrol please call in at the Library where the Volunteers will be happy to help.

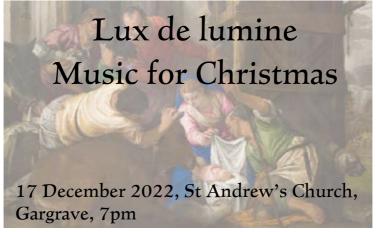
Coffee Morning: Our final Coffee Morning with the Village Hall will be held on Saturday 17th December when we will hold the bumper 100 Club Draw.

<u>Christmas Closing: The Library will close at 4.00pm on Wednesday 21st</u> <u>December and re-open at 10.00am on Tuesday 3rd January 2023.</u>

Finally, Christmas Greetings and a big thank you to everybody who has supported us over the past year.

Christmas music by Pinsuti, 17 December

Duncan Faulkner



Pinsuti return to St Andrew's Church for a concert of Christmas music on Saturday 17 December. Tickets available on the door.

We will be singing music to celebrate the mystery, beauty and joy of the Christmas message, from acapella 8-part Renaissance polyphony to pieces by contemporary composers such as Morten Lauridsen, who worked as a US Forest Service firefighter in Washington State before embarking on a career as a composer of "choral works combining musical beauty, power and spiritual depth that have thrilled audiences worldwide".

Pinsuti is the Ilkley and Skipton chamber choir, directed by Robert Webb. After reading Music at Merton College, Oxford, where he was a choral scholar, Robert moved back to Leeds to train as a music teacher. He has conducted numerous choirs around West Yorkshire, and is also Music Director of Skipton Choral Society.

An audience member described Pinsuti's most recent concert, in November, as "executed with sublime floating high notes, decibels to shake your body, emotion that pulled at your very soul".



On December 21st at 7.00 pm at Gargrave Village Hall, The Voices of Craven choir is delighted to bring you a selection of your favourite musical Christmas Crackers!

The choir will be directed by Simon Watkins and accompanied by Mike Nicholas.

There will be lots of opportunity for you and all the children to get into the Christmas spirit and sing some popular Christmas songs and carols.

Come and join us, wear fancy dress, Christmas jumpers, bring your party hats and prepare to ring in Christmas with a great evening of festive fun!

Tickets £8 adults/under 16's £4

Mulled Wine, Mince Pies and a Raffle

Tickets are available from Gargrave Library, The Dalesman Tea Room and from Joan Horsfield on voicesofcraven@gmail.com.

St Andrews Christmas Party, 10 December

Clare Maslin

Saturday 10th December
5.30-7.30pm
Jacob's join
Join us for party games and chat!
All welcome
Contact Clare Maslin on 07809 561672 for more details

Gargrave Roving Nativity

Thursday 22nd December 6pm ~ Outside Church

Everyone Welcome! Come and join us ~ wrap up warmly and bring a lantern or torch. We will be walking around the village, stopping at various points to sing carols and collect a real donkey, sheep, shepherds, an Angel, a quantity of Kings and a camel (aka alpaca) along our journey! Arriving at The Dalesman 'Stable' at around 6.45pm for refreshments & a 'Christmas Sing Along' with members of Gargrave choir.



Follow The Star!

Events at Kirkby Malham Parish Hall Film Night: Saturday 10th December, 'The Holiday', 7pm start

Starring Cameron Diaz and Jude Law. £5 including pie and pea supper.

We have a new projector now, so the screen size is bigger, and the sound is good!

New Year's Eve Party

Jacob's Join meal, bar open, come and spend New Year's Eve with friends. Saturday 31st December, 8pm start, look out for details nearer the time on social media and village noticeboards.

Revd Sue McWhinney



Film Night: Saturday 14th January, 'Their Finest', with Bill Nighy, 7pm start.

Burns Night: Wednesday 25th January, 6.30pm. Look out for more information nearer the time. Tickets will need to be booked in advance.

Valentines Night: Tuesday 14th February, (no Valentine needed!). Look out for more information nearer the time. Tickets will need to be booked in advance.

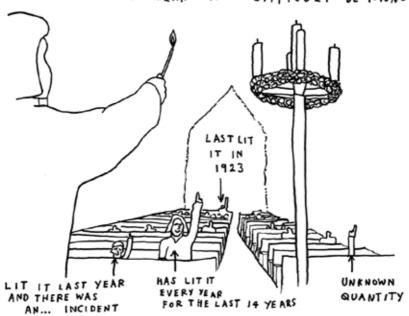
Please look out for news of other events including our regular Film Nights on village noticeboards and our FB page: www.facebook.com/
MalhamdaleParishHallKirkbyMalham

Any enquiries about events or bookings, please email Sue on malhamdaleparishhall@hotmail.com or call 07484 181699.



ADVENT

DURING THE SUNDAYS IN ADVENT THE VICAR MUST CHOOSE SOMEONE TO LIGHT THE ADVENT CANDLE. IT IS ONE OF THE YEAR'S MOST DIFFICULT DECISIONS



This CartoonChurch.com cartoon originally appeared in the Church Times and is taken from 'The Dave Walker Guide to the Church', published by Canterbury Press.

Gargrave Church of England (VC) Primary School

Sarah Peel

'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord'
LOVE, PEACE, HOPE

Remembrance 11am 11th November

The whole school visited the cenotaph in the village to remember those who have died or injured in the wars. The Year 6 pupils read the Poem Invictus and stood in silence for 2 minutes. It was very moving to be together and still for this time alongside many people in the community.



The Big Little Nativity

On Thursday 8th December at 1:30pm in St Andrew's Church our pupils will be sharing the Christmas Story. It will be led by our very youngest pupils. Please come along and enjoy their singing and storytelling.

PTA

There will be a Christmas raffle for our amazing school. If you are able to donate a prize for the raffle that would be amazing, we can include it in the raffle or the secret Santa event. The Secret Santa is the opportunity for the pupils to buy something for their family.

Are you interested in volunteering in school?

We are looking to increase out volunteer reader team in school. If you are interested and are able to commit to an hour or two a week, you will be trained and made most welcome.



Eco Church: How do you travel?

Chris Bolas

How we travel is a significant issue when it comes to climate change. We have all become used to travelling quiet freely and without a



second thought. The impact of travel upon the environment is part of St Andrews Eco Church engagement. On Sunday Dec 4th we will be asking those attending Family Service to describe how they travel, by completing an annual survey.

Looking back over my life there has been a significant shift in travel patterns. I recall going on holiday to a cottage in Westmoreland (as it was then) from our home in Birmingham. My family holidayed at the same cottage for about 20 years and got to know the farmers where we purchased our eggs and milk. That family had never travelled further than Tebay, 16 miles from their home. I guess that would not have been unusual then, but would be very rare today. In my 20's it was European travel that was highlighted on TV travel shows. Today it is the far east, Australia and New Zealand which is the focus and cruising on large ships across the world now peppers holiday conversation.

What impact do the various forms of travel have on the environment? The major concern is the emissions of CO_2 . When it comes to travel, CO_2 is measured by the amount of CO_2 emitted per distance travelled. Understanding this is important because we are always having to make choices about travel whether for work or leisure. When CO_2 becomes part of our thinking not all choices are easy and may challenge us to change pleasurable habits of a life time.

Here are the levels of CO_2 produced per mile by various forms of transport.

Medium sized Cruise ship - 430g/mile

Medium sized car Petrol - 309g/mile

Medium sized Car Diesel - 275g/mile

European Air Flight - 251g/mile

Long haul Air Flight - 241g/mile

Bus - 169g/mile

Motorcycle - 174g/mile

Petrol car (2 passengers) – 155g/mile

Electric Car (UK Electricity) - 85g/mile

National Rail - 66g/mile

Ferry (Foot passenger) – **31g/mile**

Eurostar Rail (French electricity) - 7g/mile

A few points of clarification: the electric car you would expect to not produce any CO_2 . However, this calculation assumes that not all the electricity used in the UK comes from green sources. If you want to calculate your CO_2

usage just multiply the grams per mile by the number of miles you travel, E.g. the average car mileage is about 15,000 miles a year, a medium petrol car (309g/mile) would produce 4.6 tons of CO_2 per year.

Some ideas that will help to reduce the impact of your travel on the environment.

- Walking instead of using the car to go to the co-op/Church is a 100% reduction in emissions.
- Using a bike for short trips instead of the car will reduce your emissions by 75%
- Taking the train for medium length trips instead of the car reduces emissions by 80%
- Car sharing on regular journeys will reduce emissions by 50% at least.
- Thinking carefully how you travel on holiday can make big differences to your emissions. Avoiding long-haul flights and cruising will make very big differences to your emissions.
- Buying an electric, more efficient, or smaller car

Last month I mentioned COP27. From the current messages coming from the conference there is significant concern that we will fail to prevent global warming exceeding 1.5°C and are heading towards in excess of 2°C, which will have a profound impact on our lives. It will have significant effect on global migration, drought and floods. The climate will not be very stable and therefore the production of food crops will become very unreliable for us all, pushing food prices up globally.

If we care about the planet we need to make changes to how we live our

lives NOW and there are lots of things we can do. As I have indicated earlier in this article our attitudes to travel have not always been the same. Different is not bad. necessarily it iust means new opportunities. Explore living differently. It will not be the same but it could be exciting, trv something new today!



Gargrave & Surrounding Area

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Christmas jokes

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

Santa's helpers are subordinate clauses.

The mystery revealed

Duncan Faulkner

Congratulations to all involved in the murder mystery evening in November. If you missed it, you can see the nine suspects below along with various potential weapons. The church was transformed into a 1920s era theatre, with uniformed waiting staff and evocative music. Some of the guests had costumes that easily rivalled those of cast members in their sophistication. Thank you to Clare Maslin and team for organising a great evening out.



Gargrave Village Hall news

Caroline Thompson

The energy rises continue to dominate our thoughts and much discussion takes place on a regular basis. Unfortunately, we have had no alternative but to raise hire charges and these will come into force in January. The hire charges will be increased by 20%. We are in the process of contacting all our regular Hirers to inform them of the changes and at present everyone is very understanding. One lady who also uses the kitchen facilities even offered to donate more hire fee to the Hall before our decision on raising prices was made as she realized that her use of the equipment was going to be much more costly than it had been previously. How kind is that?

We remain in contact with Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE), they were extremely helpful when we were dealing with the Covid situation. They are a national charity who speak up for and support rural communities. They are concerned that without some form of intervention Village Halls may face closure during the Winter unless support can be found for them to cope with rising energy prices. ACRE recently undertook a survey which found that many Village Halls date back to the early 20th century and are difficult to heat, few were considered to be currently energy efficient, and pre the energy

increase around 1 in 10 Village Halls were already spending half their income on energy bills. Many reported that the biggest barrier to improving energy efficiency was the age and fabric of the building and the lack of funds to make improvements. ACRE are calling on the government to give temporary financial support and to provide dedicated grant funding for making energy improvements to community buildings. The Government have now applied an energy bill relief scheme for non-domestic users and this assistance will be in place initially between now and March 2023. It is basically a discount on gas and electric unit prices and will be based on the wholesale portion of the unit price and the baseline government supported price. It means there is at least a little short-term re-assurance. Our supplier will apply the reductions to the bills and then the Government compensate the suppliers. It is however ultimately down to us to look at how we can cut costs down in the future. We cannot expect the Government to wave a magic wand!

.Several years ago, we did begin to investigate the possibility of fitting solar panels, and we now return to consider this option. Our reservation formerly was down not only to the cost but concerns about the suitability of the roof on an old property and the weight of the panels. There was also the visual appearance to consider. Production has moved on now and the panels are more streamlined and include lighter weight options. However, the cost will still be a major one but hopefully we may be able to apply for some grant assistance. We are currently busy researching all our options and we will need to get expert advice before we make any final decisions. There are so many considerations to look at including adding solar battery storage which will increase the overall costs but would store the electric. Perhaps we should consider absorbing not just sunlight to useable energy but wind power too – our flag has just come to grief on the flagpole after the recent strong winds!

We are slowly introducing more LED lighting to the premises as they use less energy and watts than fluorescent bulbs. The sensor lights already previously fitted in some areas have already made savings.

We do look forward to your continued support in both the remainder of this year and in the future. Every person through the door literally counts and helps boost our funds. We shall be hosting a Book Fair on Saturday 3rd December from 10.a.m until 3.30.p.m. There will be hundreds if not thousands of books for sale on every subject. Please don't think the books are all rare and collectable and out of your price range. There will be lots of paperback titles at very low prices and hardbacks on every subject at bargain prices. The dealers who hail from all over the Northwest will have several specialist books for sale too so there is something for everyone. The Management Committee will be hosting their last Collectable and Craft Fair of the year on the 11th December. Again, there are some fantastic bargains and a good array of stock ranging from Collectables, Vintage, Jewellery, Books, Jigsaws, Bric a Brac and Crafts. Admission is just 50p to either event and light refreshments are available until 3.p.m.

The last Coffee morning of the year will be held on the 17th December.

Looking toward 2023, we would like to advertise a claiming date of Sunday 7^{th} May when we shall be celebrating the King's Coronation with an afternoon tea with live music.

The Village Hall has been very lucky to have had the support of two amazing ladies for many years. Joan Phillip joined the Management Committee in 1978 and Jennifer Heselton in 1991. Both have now taken the decision to retire but they intend to still help with the door duties at the monthly dances and at the Collectable Fairs. I know I speak on behalf of all my fellow committee members when I say it has been a pleasure to work alongside Joan and Jennifer and we thank them for all their work over the years and the enjoyable camaraderie we and others have all shared with them.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Christmas from all at Gargrave Village Hall.



Split

A professor was lecturing his physics class. "If molecules can be split into atoms and the atoms split into protons, neutrons and electrons, can the electrons be broken down any further?"

"I'm not certain," replied one of his pupils, "But a sure way to find out would be to post some of them in a Christmas package marked 'fragile.'"

Shortly before the service began, , I made my way to the back of the church and, strictly in the interests of telling the truth to the congregation (and because I wanted one) I partook of a bacon sandwich.

What was that about? Well, the service began with what we-in-the-trade call an "icebreaker." It introduced the theme of the day, which was "Hospitality," and as part of the dialogue I had to say I had eaten a bacon sandwich.

Did the church breakfast count as hospitality, we wondered, those bacon and sausage sandwiches and those French things you spread jam on? Culottes I think you call them - no – croissants, that's it. And what about the free meal at the Alpha Course, and the church foodbank in the porch? Do they count?

Well, our intense intellectual discussion concluded they did and having satisfactorily disposed of the matter, Jo wandered off to see if there were any culottes left and the worship group burst into song.

But is hospitality mentioned in the bible? That, too, was one of the burning questions we explored in our little dialogue. Perhaps it's mentioned in the Old Testament, or in one of those little books in the New Testament that are a bit difficult to find? Well, someone had obviously done their research and come up with quite a few biblical references to hospitality. Turns out we should all be doing it, being hospitable - and not doing it grudgingly, either. Jesus definitely identified with that and said that if we are hospitable to the hungry, the thirsty and to strangers, it's as if we are being hospitable to Him.

It also seems that occasionally (very occasionally, I reckon!) if you're hospitable, you might get to entertain an angel or two. That happened to a chap called Abraham who lived in Old Testament times. One day three visitors turned up. Two of them were angels and the other one was the Lord. Abraham fed them – and quite honestly, I think he went a bit over the top, because he provided them with a whole calf and about 56lbs of bread. We really don't need to go that far; anyway, most of us don't have a spare calf. Sometimes a cup of tea and a biscuit is all that's needed. The point is, we need to get on and do it, not just talk about it.

Speaking of cups of tea, the children had been learning about hospitality, too and they came forward and distributed tea bags to the congregation. Oh I think I left mine in my coat pocket. I hope it hasn't split.

Then Peter gave us a very good talk, telling us among other things, that God is hospitable and as we are made in his image, we should be hospitable too. He then elaborated on some of the readings we had heard earlier. Hospitality does seem to be one of those things we ought to be getting round to.

The prayers that morning were most impressive and relevant to the theme - and having prayed and sung another worship song, Reverend Andrew finished us off with a blessing. Then it was time for coffee and biscuits.

Good service, I think.

From the belfry

Ali Lucas

November has been a month of remembrance and so the muffles have been back on the bells. This time half-muffled, so one side of the clapper was covered in the leather patch. This gives the beautiful echo effect as on one stroke the bells ring out and on the next they are muffled to give a much softer sound.

We are always privileged to ring for the Remembrance Sunday service. This year we also had the opportunity to pay our respects to two ringers from the past, Pat and Tony Cockshott, whose memorial service we rang for on 3rd November. Both were ringing at Gargrave before I came to the village, however many of our current ringers remember them well. Pat was a key player in getting the bells ringing at Gargrave after they had been silent for a period in the early 1970s. When Dr Elphick's widow offered some money to buy new ropes and hear the bells again, Pat gathered together a group of her friends persuading them to learn the art. Eileen Hoskin from that original group, still rings today and is testimony to Pat's enthusiasm to get the Gargrave bells ringing.

As December approaches we look forward to more celebratory ringing. I hope we will be able to ring a quarter peal over the holiday period and mark the end of a busy year for the bells. Our new ringers have all done brilliantly this year meaning we now have a strong and regular band for Sundays and all our special occasions in the village.

As well as the church bells, the Gargrave Handbell group are also busy practicing for the Christmas season. We have a performance at Milton House on Wednesday 7th December and hope to have an opportunity to play in the church over the festive period. The handbell group meet most Wednesdays at the church 2pm to 4pm. We ring all sorts of tunes from traditional music, classical pieces and well-known songs. If you would be interested in joining us come and find out more – you would be most welcome.

Organ on the mend

Duncan Faulkner

The work to restore parts of the organ at St Andrew's Church is well under way now and it should be complete by Christmas. Many thanks once again to those who have so generously contributed to this project to preserve a special instrument that plays a central part in the worship of the church.

Coniston Cold Young Farmers Club

James Mellin

The Coniston Cold Young Farmers had a busy and enjoyable month of events in October.

Starting the month we held our Annual General Meeting. This is where jobs are assigned to members for the coming year. For the second year Alfie Wright remained as the club chairman after doing such a great job the previous year. Harry Hargreaves became vice chairman and other jobs include: sectary, treasurer, program sectary, minutes sectary and one of our most important jobs,

show secretary once again held by Charlie Walker. The club also discussed a donation from Hellifield Beer Festival. Members would like to thank everyone involved and have purchased a gazebo with the donation this will be used for rainy meetings and our show day.

On the 11^{th} we had a great evening at North Ribblesdale Rugby Club competing in the district quiz.

District darts was another competition, held at Settle Social Club we were split up into different age groups, and it was decided by the end of the night our club definitely needed some practice.

Later in the month we met for pumpkin carving where we carved our own design to scare the trick or treaters away.

We ended the month back at Ribblesdale Rugby Club for our annual dinner, we all enjoyed a great meal and the desserts were to die for. Thanks to our new president Sue Wright for presenting the annual trophies. We were all entertained by a great speech from Rodger Charnley reminiscing his youth shearing sheep in Greece!!!! (and other things!!) The night was concluded with dancing and brilliant music from DJ Allister Walton and friends.

We are always looking for new members, just call 01729 830123 to find out more.

FARMING ON SCALEBER HILL

Iohn Hall

Remember, remember the 5th November was the vicar's opening line in last month's magazine. This brings back memories of bonfire nights on Scaleber Hill. The first was held for the Queen's Coronation which proved to be a great success. This was followed by a bonfire every year on bonfire night supported by the local Coniston Cold Young Farmers Club and anybody local in the mood! There was always a plentiful supply of soup, jacket potatoes and plot toffee. Being November and on a hill top, we had all types of weather to contend with – snow, hail, rain, gales and occasionally mild and dry. However, being hardy country folk we never missed a bonfire night. With all the concern over carbon emissions – what is the future for Guy Fawkes night?

I always treat November 5th as the start of the sheep farming year as we turn out the Tups for April lambing. The tups are all fitted with a harness containing a colour marker crayon for 2 purposes. Firstly, to show that the sheep has been mated and secondly to indicate an approximate due date. The colour marker is swapped after the first week and again after 17 days (the sheep's natural breeding cycle). This also enables us to know should a tup be infertile as one colour will be covered by another.

Ordinarily prior to "tupping time" the sheep would be given a drench to control liver fluke. However, following a long dry summer and monitoring by the vets it appears that the fluke challenge this year will be later than normal. Although a horrible parasite the size of your little finger nail and looking like a

flattened slug the liver fluke has a fascinating life-cycle. The adult fluke attach to the liver and bile duct of sheep and other ruminants where they feed on blood and secretions. Eggs are laid in the bile duct which then pass out of the sheep onto the grass (incredibly up to 25,000 eggs per day are produced!). The eggs hatch into microscopic miracidia which then somehow track a mud snail and worm their way into its breathing tubes. These are known as redia which, after a while, burrow out of the snail and turn into yet another form. The tadpole-like cercaria then swims around and wriggles up a blade of wet grass. Here it turns into a cyst. Finally, when it is swallowed by an unwitting sheep it burrows through the intestines and migrates to the liver changing one last time into an adult fluke. The whole cycle takes a year or more.

The cattle are all settling in well to winter housing. When bringing them in we always clip off a wide swathe of hair from their backs – this helps to stop them sweating in the mild, damp weather conditions. Keeping them drier also helps to reduce the risk of pneumonia.

I feel very privileged to be able to still do odd jobs on the farm as the years take their toll. I like a project such as walling and repairing fences, checking sheep and working my dogs.

The re-furbished buildings are proving successful, especially the cattle and sheep handling facilities which are now under cover and enable one person to operate safely. I must have been born too soon when I think of all the times I have struggled in pens made from hurdles and held together with hay band in wind, rain and gales!!

The bowling green is now closed for winter but frequent visits to village hall dances may ease any boredom.

NOTHING STANDS ALONE

Richard Rohr meditations

The above title is the theme of a current series of meditations by the popular spiritual teacher Richard Rohr. As we might expect he offers us much to reflect on with an alternate view of Christmas.

Incarnation – a bigger picture!

As we enter the Christmas season perhaps you are hoping for a special meditation. I don't think I have one, because there's really only one message. Christianity's true and unique message and storyline is, and always has been, the incarnation.

What I would call an 'incarnational' view of the world is the profound recognition of the presence of the divine in literally 'every thing' and 'every one'. It is the key to mental and spiritual health as well as a basic contentment and happiness. Without some form of incarnation, God remains essentially separate from us and from all of creation. Without incarnation, it is not an enchanted universe at all, but somehow a vast, empty meaningless one There is no doubt our scientific-material view of the world continues to bring us enormous benefits, but it can never satisfy our spiritual needs for meaning and connection!

Perhaps that's why too many of us end up feeling disconnected, cynical or depressed.

God who is infinite love first incarnated that love as the universe itself. That began with what we now call the 'Big Bang' nearly 13.8 billion years ago when God first 'materialised'! Then a mere 2000 years ago, as Christians believe, God incarnated in the personal form of Jesus of Nazareth. And so the Eternal Word of God described in John's prologue (John 1:14) leapt down and took its abiding place on Earth, in order to heal every bit of the separation and splitness that we experience. That splitness and separation is the sadness of the human race. When we feel separate, when we feel disconnected, we also feel split off from our self, from humanity, from reality, from the Earth, and from God. We know, often only unconsciously, that we weren't created for that separateness; we were created for union.

Jesus - the human face of God!

For all practical purposes, our western dualistic mind finds it difficult to accept the orthodox teaching that Jesus is both fully human and fully divine at the same time. Our dualistic mind needs to choose one or the other - we seem to have chosen 'fully divine'. That misses and avoids the major point he came to bring. Our preoccupation with Jesus' divinity did not allow us to hear about his clearly emphasised humanity despite all the scriptural and mystical affirmations to the contrary. Remember, virtually Jesus' only form of self-reference - eighty-seven times across the four Gospels - is that of the Son of Man, rather than the Son of God!

We still think of ourselves as mere humans trying to become spiritual. But we are already spiritual and our difficult but necessary task is to become human. Watch today's evening news if you doubt that! Jesus came to model for us the full integration of both the divine and the human (1 Corinthians 15:47-49). God sent into the world the one who would personify that union, who would put human and divine together; who would put matter and spirit together. The Christian spiritual journey is primarily one towards human wholeness and the birth of a new humanity,

An alternate Christmas!

Christmas is not just about celebrating the historical birth of Jesus, it also means celebrating our own ongoing birth as sons and daughters of God. The full and participatory meaning of Christmas is that this one universal mystery of divine incarnation is intended for us, and continuing in us. God is primarily something to actively participate in and not just to believe in. In typical bluntness, the German mystic Meister Eckhart (1260-1328) proclaimed that Mary was not unique, we are all meant to be 'Mothers of God', giving birth to God in our being, in our personhood, and in the world. Put simply we are all invited by God to manifest, or incarnate God's very presence in our own particular time and culture. Like Jesus we are called and empowered by his Spirit, to create a more loving and compassionate world. That is the ultimate gift we can offer both to our troubled world and to God this Christmas.

Richard Rohr Meditations: Available free, daily or weekly at cac.org

WATER IN AND AROUND GARGRAVE

Duncan Faulkner

2. The River Aire

Every day about 200 thousand tonnes of material passes through Gargrave, powered not by diesel or petrol but by nuclear fusion in the sun. It's solar energy that is the engine for driving water by evaporation up into the sky and thence on to the land, to begin its journey back to the sea. The average flow in the River Aire at Gargrave is about 2 cubic metres per second, although in a big flood that can increase by more than 20 times. The biggest floods in recent decades have been in Jan 1995, Oct 1998, Nov 2000, Aug 2002 and Feb 2020.

No-one seems to know why the Aire is named as it is. Speculations about its meaning range as widely as "strong one", "island" and even "slaughter". There's a similarly wide variety of spellings that have flourished over the centuries, including Yr, Eyr, Eir and Air. There's at least one other River Aire, but that's near Geneva.

Our own Aire has rather mysterious subterranean origins at Malham, where most of the water that sinks into the bed downstream of Malham Tarn reappears not at the foot of Malham Cove but at Airehead Springs south of Malham Village, having followed a tortuous underground route. By the time the river reaches Bell Busk it has a catchment of 49km². Its flow is then augmented by Otterburn Beck, and the catchment further increases to 87km² by the time the river encounters Gargrave Bridge, and 146km² at the Scapa factory once the Eshton Beck joins the party.

Last year my son Chris and I attempted to cycle the full length of the Aire all the way to the North Sea at Spurn Head. We actually started at the eastward end and only made it as far as Leeds, but it was still an eye-opening tour of the flatter part of the river's route as it joins the Ouse and then the Humber Estuary. Between Gargrave and Goole there are 38 washlands by the River Aire, which can store 33 million cubic metres of water – nearly 200 time the volume that flows through Gargrave Bridge on an average day. One consequence of all this storage is that while floods at Gargrave rise and fall in the space of hours, they last for days downstream of Skipton and a week or more in the lower catchment.

There has been a river crossing at Gargrave for millennia, as evidenced by the reputedly Roman ford just down from the bridge. The present bridge was built in 1816-17 by Thomas Anderton, a resident of Gargrave - occupation architect and surveyor of bridges. His son William was also an architect and is remembered as the builder of St Andrew's Church. The old bridge was damaged by floods in 1815 and 1816, and needed to be replaced. It appears that the new bridge was built immediately upstream of the old one. Until the 1990s there was a private bridge to Airebank House, 200m upstream of the main bridge. You can still see its foundations in the river bed.

The course of the river has shifted over time. Naturally rivers are constantly on the move, despite human attempts to corral them into fixed channels. The OS 6-inch map from the turn of the $20^{\rm th}$ century shows how much has changed over

the past 100+ years, most noticeably in the meander upstream of the canal aqueduct.

The river has had a recent success in its resistance to human interference, destroying the weir at Airebank Terrace which was one of four weirs around Gargrave, originally built to provide a fall of water to power Airebank Mills. One consequence of this incident was the need for Yorkshire Water to replace the sewage pipe under the river which became exposed by the loss of the weir. Another was that the Environment Agency's river level gauge upstream of the weir was left high and dry. It has now been moved to a new home by the A65 opposite High Green.

Look out for more about water power, mills and fish in future articles. With thanks to Sue Lyall of Gargrave Heritage Group.

Gargrave 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 Bank Newton then Gargrave's Lands Charity may be able to help!

Financial assistance readily available in approved cases.

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

Absolute discretion and confidentiality assured.

Phil Ellis 07907 308313 Christine Charlton 748817

Joyce Garner 748447

Mike Maiden 07876 886313

lan Reed-Peck 07527 269915

ROTAS FOR ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

	8am SIDESMEN	10.45am SIDESMEN/WELCOMERS			BIBLE READER	INTER- CESSOR	REFRESH- MENTS
4 Dec	Colin Chapman	Family service team					
11 Dec	Kay Craven	Yvonne	Peter	Jane	Yvonne	Jo	Carol and
		Poulter	Poulter	Dallas	Poulter	Ackroyd	Trish
18 Dec	Colin	Mark	Claire	Jean	Kim	Zena	Sarah
	Chapman	Preston	Preston	Banks	Hatfield	Gardner	and Joan

Public Transport leaving Gargrave Compiled by Peter Hardyman 17 Nov 2022

Face coverings requested on all public transport - the wearer's nose & mouth should be covered.

TRAINS from Gargrave NEW TIMETABLE FROM 11 DECEMBER 2022

To Skipton (arrives approx. 9 mins later) & Leeds (arrives approx 55 mins later) Mon-Sat 0744 0754 0950SO 1019SX 1048 1150 1351 1522 1551 (continued) 1645 1813 1848SO 1850SX 2019 2134 2216 22371 1121 1210 1420 1448 1656 1856 2107 2123 Sunday

To Giggleswick (arr. ~ 20 mins later) & **Lancaster** (arr. ~ 65 mins later)

Mon-Sat 0525SO 0528SX 0731 0902 1103 1304 1504 1815 2006

0922 1115 1412 1615 1814 Sunday

To Settle (arr. ~18 min later) & Carlisle (arr. ~2hrs later)

Mon-Sat 0604SX 0711SO 0832SX 0833SO 1004 1133 1604 1732 1902 20332

1315 1509 Sunday 0950

NOTES: Location of Pick Up in Gargrave for Rail Replacement Buses is uncertain: may be beside The Summerseat on High Street OR at Station Entrance: CHECK WITH NORTHERN. Generally, only DIRECT journeys are shown. 1. Mon-Fri change at Skipton for Leeds. 2. Ribblehead only. As of 17 Nov: No Engineering works affecting Gargrave in December have been identified. That may change. Check with Northern Railway. 25 DEC: No Train Services. 26 DEC: Details not available at 17 Nov. 1 JAN: Replacement buses between Lancaster & Morecambe. For live info on next 2 trains text GARGRAVE to 84950, or go to www.realtimetrains.co.uk/

BUSES from Gargrave *Except Bank Holidays

To Skipton (arr.~15min later) (Services 75, 210/211, 580) (M = from Malham)

M-Fri* 0820 0910 0955 1055 1057M7 1155 1255 1355 1357M7 1455 1555 1810

Saturday 0820 0910 0955 1055M 1155 1255 1355 1455M 1555 1655M 1755

Sundays + B.Hols No Winter Service

To Settle DIRECT (arrives ~ 25 mins later) (Service 580/75) and (++) onward

to Kirkby Lonsdale (Service 581) and thence to Lancaster (Service 81/82)

Mon-Fri* 0905++ 1000 1100++ 1200 1300++ 1400 1500++ 1600++ 1700++ Saturday 0905++ 1100++ 1300++ 1500++ 1700++ 1800++ 1900++

Sundays + B.Hols: No Service

To Malham (arrives ~ 25mins later) (Services 210/211, 75)

Mon-Fri* [210/211] 1000^{7} 1310⁷

Saturday [75] from 5 Nov: 1400 1600 1000

Sundays + Bank Hols No Winter Service

NOTES. 7. Tues & Thurs (as service 211) stops at Coniston Cold 4 mins after Gargrave.

Public Transport back to Gargrave

TRAINS to Gargrave FROM 11 DECEMBER 2022

Last DIRECT

 From Skipton (arr. Gargrave ~ 6 mins later)
 from LEEDS to GARGRAVE

 Mon-Sat 0519SO 0522SX 0559SX 0706SO 0725 0826SX 0827SO 0856 0959 1057 1127 1258 1458 1559 1727 1809SO 1810SX 1856 2000 2027

Sunday 0917 0945 1110 1309 1406 1503 1609 1808

1731

From Lancaster via Giggles'k (<u>Trains</u> arr. Gargrave ~ 65 mins later) Mon-Sat 0648 0941 1046 1248 1447 1745 2030 2131 Sunday 1103 1344 1552 1752 2017

From Carlisle (direct: arr. Gargrave ~ 2 hrs later)

Mon-Sat 0549SX $\underline{0713SO}^{13}$ 0753SO 0824SX $\underline{0927SO}^{15}$ $\underline{1058}^{15}$ 1340

1450 1618 1824 <u>2013</u>¹⁴SX <u>2015</u>¹⁴SO <u>2145</u>¹³

Sunday 0925 1223

<u>1520</u>¹⁵ <u>1607</u>¹⁵ <u>1725</u>¹⁵ 1911

NOTES: 13. From Ribblehead only. 14. For Gargrave, change at Settle. 15. Stops at Hellifield & Skipton, <u>but NOT GARGRAVE</u>. Living in BD23 post code, you can buy a DALES RAILCARD: £10.00/ year. 1/3 off Anytime and Off-peak rail tickets between Gargrave, Leeds, Bradford, Carlisle, Morecambe, Lancaster. Large discount for children with you, and WINTER OFFER on Off-peak services 30 Oct 2022 – 1 Apr 2023.

BUSES to Gargrave

*Except Bank Hols.

M is a Malham service

From Skipton Bus Stn.(arr. Gargrave ~15 min) (Services 75, 210/211, 580)

Mon-Fri* 0850 0945 0950M8 1045 1145 1245 1300M8 1345 1445 1545 1645 1845 Saturday 0850 0945M 1045 1145 1245 1345M 1445 1545M 1645 1745 1845

Sundays + B.Hols No Winter Service

From Settle DIRECT (arr. Gargrave ~25 mins later (Service 580)

+ from Kirkby Lonsdale (581) and ++ from Lancaster (81/82)

Mon-Fri* 0755++ 0845++ 0930++ 1030 1130++ 1230 1330++ 1430 1530++ 1745++ Saturday 0755+ 0845++ 0930++ 1130++ 1330++ 1530++ 1730++

Sundays + B.Hols: *No Service*

From Malham (arr. Gargrave ~25mins later) (Services 75, 210/211)

Mon-Fri* [210/211] 1035⁸ 1335⁸ from opp. Buck Inn Saturday [75] *from 5 Nov:* 1030 1430 1630 from opp. Buck Inn

Sundays + B.Hols *No Winter Service*

NOTES 8. Tues & Thurs service stops at Coniston Cold 4 mins before Gargrave

Service Operators: northern railway www.northernrailway.co.uk 0800 200 6060

[Travel Assistance 0800 138 5560]; 210/211, NYCC www.northyorkstravel.info/operators/n/nycc/ 01609 780780; 75/580/81/82, Kirkby Lonsdale Coach Hire www.klch.co.uk 01524 733831; Buses (general) www.dalesbus.org

Traveline 0871 200 22 33 <u>www.traveline.info</u>; National Rail Enquiries 03457 48 49 50 <u>www.nationalrail.co.uk</u>; Rail Ombudsman <u>www.railombudsman.org</u> 0330 094 0362

Organisations Please let us know if you'd like to amend or add an entry.

Caterpillar Club (0+) - St Andrew's Church, Wed 10am, Kirsty Smith 07525 619950

Gymnastics (5+) - Mon and Wed, 4-6.30pm, info@ambitionsgymnastics.com

Rainbows (5+) - Tue 5-6pm, Gargrave Primary School

Brownies (7+) – Tue 6.15-7.30pm, Primary School, malhamdalebrownies@gmail.com

Guides (10+) - Tue 7.30-9pm, Primary School, gargraveguides@gmail.com

Young Farmers Club - Coniston Cold, Tues 7.30pm, Sarah Hargreaves, 01729 830123

Lunch Club, Neville Crescent Community Centre, 2nd Wed each month, 12.30, Carol / Carys 748990

Bowls - outdoor, Mar to Oct, Gargrave Bowling Club, Martyn Cox, 07745 018 459

Bowls - indoor, Oct to Mar, Tues & Thurs 2-4pm, Joan Griffin, 749277

Cricket - Gargrave Cricket Club, Mark Jones, 07498 288654

Cycling – Gargrave Tuesday Club, Dalesman, Tues and Thurs Trevor Pickles 01282 844788

Golf - Mason's Arms Golf Society, www.masonsarmsgolfsociety.com, 749304

Hunt – Pendle Forest & Craven Hunt, Tony Holmes, 748200

Pilates – Classical, Zoom Mon 9 & 10.15 am, Village Hall Tues 6 & 7pm Wed 7 pm Thurs 9, 10 & 11.15 am, Cate Davies 079 5533 8775

Tennis and Croquet – **Craven Lawn Tennis Club**, Beth Whitley 749664, www.craventennis.org.uk

Tai Chi & Qigong – Village Hall, Wed 1pm. Ian Cresswell. See https://gargravevillagehall.org.uk

Tai Chi Qigong – Village Hall, Tues 11am; Green by War Memorial, Wed and Thurs 9am, Zoom Mon 9am, Bee Faulkner, 07778 90994

Gentle Hatha yoga – See https://gargravevillagehall.org.uk

Art – Gargrave Art Group – Village Hall, Mon 1pm-3.30pm, Bev Parker 749910

Bell Ringing – St Andrew's, Mon 7.30pm, Sun 10.00am, Ali Lucas, 07921 970961

Handbell Ringers - St Andrew's, Wed 2 - 4pm (not all Weds; phone to check). Cynthia Hardyman 748839

Bingo – Gargrave Community Centre, Neville Crescent – Mondays 1.30-4pm, Carol/Carys 748990

Gargrave Community Choir – 749802

Gargrave Heritage Group – Tues 10am, St Andrew's Church, Martin Thompson, 748309 Gargrave Community Library - email admin@gargravelibrary.co.uk, Patsy Simpson 749489

Craft and Chat – St Andrew's, Tues 2pm, Sylvia Humphreys 748779

 $\textbf{Parish Council Meeting -} \ \textbf{Village Hall side room, 1}^{\text{st}} \ \textbf{Wednesday of the month}$

Snooker Club – Village Hall Snooker Annex, every day, Stewart Smith 749340

Gargrave 22 Group – Village Hall, 2nd Wed in month, 7 for 7.30pm, Glenys Riley 07715 878709

Note from the editor: We have been short of space in the magazine this month and last. I haven't been able to include articles kindly provided by Ann Heselton about life in Coniston Cold but hope to re-start them in January.



Hugh Woolmore

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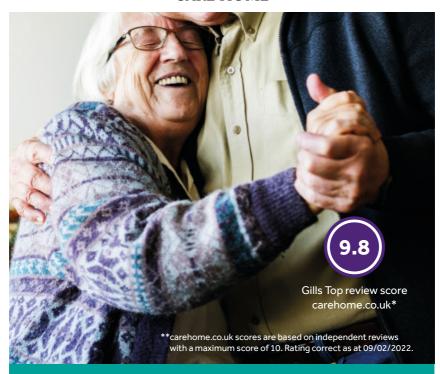
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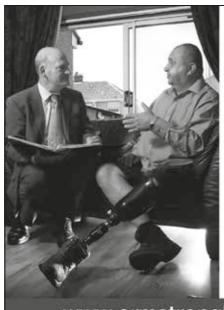
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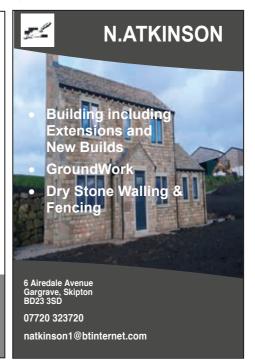


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