

PARISH NEWSLETTER

April 2018

for the villages of Aldwark, Alne, Flawith,
Tholthorpe, Tollerton and Youlton

There is now a vacancy for the Priest in Charge of the Alne Parish, although Carmel Gittens is still with us. Carmel can be contacted by telephone on 01347 833437 or by e-mail at carmel-gittens@live.co.uk. However please try contacting the church wardens as the first point of contact – a full list of wardens is provided on page 14 of this Parish Newsletter.



April Fool!

I wonder what is the best prank anyone ever played on you. In years gone by, it was always fun to spot articles in newspapers, or items in television shows that were pranks on the nation. Whilst at the time they did make an impression, I must admit the only one I can recall now is from before I was born – in 1957 the BBC made a spoof documentary about the spaghetti harvest in Switzerland. The reason I remember it is that it is often trotted out as a classic example of taking in the nation.

Were we to tell someone the story of the first Easter – that some women went to their friend’s grave and his body wasn’t there – for the first time this year, they might well think we were pulling their leg with an April Fool’s joke. No one could make up the story of a God who became a flesh and blood human, lived a perfect life, died a criminal’s death though innocent and then came back to life! Of course it sounds foolish. It IS foolish and that foolishness made the gospel a stumbling block to the Greeks who considered themselves wise. It is an equal stumbling block to those who count themselves as wise today.

We may be fools for Christ, but better that than to be worldly wise, because as Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, “what seems to be God’s foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and what seems to be God’s weakness is stronger than human strength.”

May this Easter be a time of joy and hope to us all, and may we revel in the foolishness of the God who loved us enough to come and save us.

Blessings

Revd Carmel Gittens

Monday Morning Prayer Meeting at Monk Green House

There will be a prayer meeting at Monk Green House, Main Street, Alne, YO61 1TB, **every Monday morning at 9.30a.m.-10.00a.m.** All will be welcome.

News from Alne Church

Restoration work

We are happy to be able to report steady progress with the restoration work. Currently we are keeping the church open for both regular services and occasional weddings and funerals. However, especially at present when the roof is being repaired, we have held some Sunday services in Alne Village Hall. Quite a contrast compared to the church but very acceptable indeed – thank you to the Village Hall team!



Photos showing the very effective altar at the Village Hall on 17th March and the church roof being prepared for the next stage of restoration. The lower photos show two corbel ends carved with faces – rather worn (but they have been there since the 12th century!).

Alne PCC AGM

Monday 15th April at 7.00p.m. in Alne Church.

All are eligible and most welcome to attend

Vacancy

Following a successful open day for potential candidates for various clergy appointments in this area, we are awaiting further news.

Programme

Ian Bullock has kindly agreed to give an illustrated talk on his experiences serving with the Sultan of Oman's Royal Yachts and life in the Sultanate of Oman. Date to be confirmed.

Alne Street Fayre

In spite of the restoration work, the church will be fully engaged with activities during Alne Street Fayre on **Sunday, 9th June 2019**.

Diary Date

Easingwold Town Band will be holding a concert at the church on **Saturday, 2nd November 2019**.

Admin help needed!

Life is pretty busy at Alne Church at the moment and we are seeking help from someone with administrative skills, for a few hours a week. Please contact Carol Glen (838016) or Peter Cove (838346) if you are interested.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Village Hall News and Dates for your Diary



Pub Night Dates

Friday 3rd May 2019

Upcoming events

We have decided to reschedule the “Beautiful South Tribute Act” planned for 4th May as this is a Bank Holiday weekend. Watch this space for the new date.

Saturday 27th April “The Desert Queen “7.00p.m. for 7.30p.m.

We are delighted and extremely fortunate to present a new play by award winning playwright David Farn, directed by Neil Armstrong. Join Gertrude Bell archaeologist, mountaineer, map maker, librarian, confidante to Lawrence of Arabia and Churchill, on her pioneering adventures in the Alps and desert at a time when women were supposed to be home doing crochet.

Tickets £10. For info/tickets contact Cassandra on 07464 815629.

Spring Plant Sale and Alne Open Gardens Sunday 19th May

Plans continue for what should be a great event. If you have green fingers and would like to donate any plants for sale at the plant sale we would be very grateful.

See separate entry on page 9 for more information on Alne Open Gardens.

Village Hall Refurbishment

Our latest improvement is the installation of an inner double door in the vestibule, to help with keeping the Village Hall warm in the winter. The door was custom made by a local joiner and then painted by a local professional.

We have finished all the decorating/ painting works for now but will continue to complete improvements to the facilities we can offer as funds become available.

Please check our webpage on www.alnevillage.co.uk for contact details and upcoming events. Follow us on Facebook. If you would like to be included on the e-mail distribution list (which is confidential) please let us know.

Sale of the Alne Restaurant/Pub

The Bluebell Country Inn is an Alne Community Asset which means, that when it is put up for sale, the Community has the right to try to buy it within a designated time period.

The Parish Council has been notified of the intent to sell the freehold, with the existing tenant having a short tenure left on the existing lease, and we are therefore looking at the establishment of a Working Group to see if such a purchase by the Community would be feasible. There would be a fair amount of work, sounding out the market, laying out a business case, checking the legalities, seeking finance and grants, negotiating with the vendors etc. etc.

If you would be enthusiastic and interested in joining such a Working Group, please contact the Parish Council Clerk (clerk@alneparishcouncil.uk) as soon as possible, but no later than **10th April 2019**.

Traffic Congestion issues in Alne

A Working Group has been established to examine in more detail the traffic congestion in the village, which is particularly acute at school drop off and pick up times resulting in problems for through traffic, inconvenience for residents and safety issues for children and parents.

We would very much like to hear your views, on both the issues and any possible suggestions you may have to alleviate the problem.

Please approach us or forward any comments you may have to:

John Newton: mayfieldnewton@gmail.com

Dennis Myers: dennismyers5@btinternet.com

Suzi Scott-Rix: alnestreetfayre@btinternet.com

Peter Bond: petebond@hotmail.com

Update on the Restoration of the Alne Verges



It is hard to remember what the verges looked like before the restoration programme, with the gulleys more than 18" from the verge and mud everywhere.

Work on the Parish Council project to restore the ancient verges along Main Street started in autumn 2017. This project is in partnership with North Yorkshire County Council but is partly financed by the residents of Alne through an increase in the Council Tax precept over five years, two of which have already passed. Progress over the winter of 2017/18 was slow and it was only in May 2018 that a binder layer of tarmac was put on the road alongside the new granite setts, and only in October 2018 that new turf was laid on the verge edges, following the failure of the original seed.

NYCC acknowledge that the programme has not been without its problems and they have agreed further enhancements to take place in the spring and summer of 2019 at no extra charge to the parish. They will repair the pavements and the made-up driveways along Main Street and Church Wind, they will surface-dress the road and they will install dropped kerbs in Mitchell Lane.

We need everyone to continue to keep all vehicles off the new verges, particularly with the 1,500 new crocuses now showing and the new turf yet to integrate, but we are pleased to announce these plans to finish this project – complaints about the state of the verges have been recorded for at least the last 50 years!

Alne Parish Council

Clerk: clerk@alneparishcouncil.uk

Alne WI Meeting Wednesday 13th March

For our March meeting at Alne WI we were treated to an illustrated talk by Catherine Terry, the West End Theatre, Cabaret and TV performer, entitled "A Life Treading the Boards".

Catherine has endless energy and enthusiasm for her craft and entertained us by recounting her start as a small child, whose love of singing and dancing and a scholarship led on to a successful and ongoing career in musical theatre. She provided us with a polished performance of anecdotes, stories and songs accompanied by photos and video footage. It was a most interesting insight into life behind the scenes for a musical theatre star from Hull who has moved back to the area and is performing along the coast, as well as teaching and developing a side-line of chocolate bouquets. Pam Marlow gave the vote of thanks and Maggie Bond and Helen Taylor provided star quality refreshments.

Next month we are focusing upon small garden designs, so if you have a boring corner or a patch in your garden that needs a facelift, come and be inspired. Further details of the rest of our programme for this year are available on the Alne Village website so do come and join us for a meeting.



Alne Open Gardens

Preparations are now well underway for the Alne Open Gardens Afternoon to be held on **Sunday, 19th May from 1.00p.m. until 5.00p.m.** A big thank you to the dozen plus gardeners that have generously agreed to throw their gardens open for visitors.

After a record warm February followed by a wet and windy March, including storm Gareth, it now looks like we are going to be enjoying a fine early spring. The trees and shrubs are certainly far more advanced than last year when “The Beast from the East” held plant growth in check and the ground conditions were so cold and wet.

I will be giving a full update in the May Parish Newsletter on the confirmed arrangements for this year’s Alne Open Gardens event. There are quite a few gardeners who advised that they are either away for 19th May, having building work done or having a garden makeover this year, but who have indicated they hope to participate in future. This is fine because it should create a rotation of fresh gardens that can be included in the future. I am anticipating that this will become an annual event in the Alne calendar and next year we may switch to a day later in June, when summer bedding and borders should be at their peak.

It is still not too late to have your garden included for this year, so if you would like to come on board, then please contact David Lepper on 01347 838114 or via e-mail at d.lepper27@btinternet.com before the **end of April**.

The final Programme for the Open Gardens, together with a map, and details of other attractions that will be produced in early May.

We will hold a meeting for all the participating gardens a couple of weeks beforehand to meet each other and clarify final details for the day. There will also be a special local discount offer available exclusively to the participating gardens only. Let’s hope we will be blessed with a fine sunny day.

In the meantime enjoy the lighter evenings now we will be back on British Summertime and happy gardening to you all.

The Power of Nature

At the start of the week beginning Monday, 18th March storm Gareth hit Alne hard and caused some damage around the village. A large alder tree, which on close examination proved to be rotten at its core, fell partly across The Avenue out of the village, near the river Kyle bridge. During the morning rush hour vehicles could only just manage to squeeze past with care.



On a more positive note the crocuses planted by the community volunteers down Alne Main Street last October have been providing a welcome splash of spring colour and will get even better in future years. Hopefully the gaps that currently exist will be filled in by a second community planting scheme in the coming autumn. So nature gives with one hand, and takes away with the other adding to the ever changing village scene.

David Lepper



Hare Spring Cottage Plants
Hardy Plants Grown in North Yorkshire
CAMASSIA NATIONAL COLLECTION HOLDER
WIDE RANGE OF HARDY PERENNIAL PLANTS

2019 OPEN WEEKEND

Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th May
10.00a.m. – 4.00p.m.

Cakes & Refreshments
Plants for Sale

Dogs on short leads are most welcome
Please park with care & courtesy in our beautiful village

CHURCH ORCHARD ALNE YORK YO61 1RX



Hardy Plants Grown in North Yorkshire
stella@harspringcottageplants.co.uk | www.harspringcottageplants.co.uk



Boroughbridge Easter Walking Festival 19th-22nd April 2019

Join us for interesting walks around Boroughbridge. These walks are free for everyone. No need to book – just turn up.

For further details go to - www.boroughbridgewalks.org.uk/easter-festival/
e-mail: info@boroughbridgewalks.org

The Aldwark Ramble - Easter Sunday 21st April

Meet outside the **Aldwark Arms Pub** at **10.00a.m.** for a pleasant stroll through cultivated, wildlife rich countryside under wide open skies.

The walk is 4 miles (6km).

Tollerton Mini Show

This year's show is on **Sunday 1st September**. Please support the show by growing flowers, vegetables, fruit; taking photos, making Jam or baking etc. for the many categories that we have. All items are then auctioned to raise money for local charities and good causes.

This event needs everyone's support, and is a fun day at the Black Horse pub. Anyone willing to help with the set up before and afterwards, would truly be appreciated, as many hands make light work.

Cake and a Cuppa

"Cake and a "Cuppa" is continuing on Mondays in Tollerton Village Hall from 1.30 – 3.30pm. Interest is growing and we hope to see more of you there in the future. All are very welcome, including all ages, bring along a friend.

A small donation of £2 is gratefully received to cover our costs.

This is YOUR facility so please come along and use it!!

Ann & Sue

Easingwold Area Foodbank

If you have no income, please don't go hungry - we are here to help!

Call our 24/7 Message Line (all calls strictly confidential) 0772 44 44 750

We always call you back and deliver food support to your door.
(Supported by Tollerton Church)

Good Friday Treasure Hunt

A black silhouette of three crosses of varying heights on a small mound of earth. The tallest cross is in the center, flanked by two shorter crosses.

Where Start at St Michael's Church, Tollerton

When Friday 19th April 10:00-12:00 (Prompt Start)

Children MUST be accompanied by a responsible adult

Find the treasures around the village and return to St Michael's church to build the Easter garden, have a hot cross bun and hear the quiz answers



GodZone

Fun sessions for children age 3 - 13 years

Sunday mornings twice a month

For more info see our facebook page

 @St Michael's Church Tollerton

Contemplative Prayer / Quiet Group

Had a rubbish day? A great one? Or just a normal, unremarkable one?

Whatever your day, Michèle will be helping you to bring it into your prayers and make the most of it before it slips away.

Next meeting is **Tuesday, 9th April at St Michaels Church, Tollerton at 7.30p.m.**

Church Warden Contact Details:

St Mary's Alne

Peter Cove 01347 838346 e-mail: alnescove@btopenworld.com

Carol Glen 01347 838016

St. Stephen's Aldwark

Vivienne Bird e-mail: viviennebird@hotmail.co.uk

St. Michael's Tollerton

Arthur Harland 01347 823575

e-mail: janeatwoodyedge@yahoo.co.uk

Alison Dowson 01347 838138 e-mail amcd2350@gmail.com

METHODIST SERVICES – APRIL 2019

The Rev Elizabeth Cushion is the Methodist Minister for the villages around Easingwold. Elizabeth can be contacted on 01347 821460. You are welcome at all of the village services listed below.

Date	Time	Venue	Service Details
7th April	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	3.00p.m.	Tholthorpe	Rev E Cushion
14th April	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	3.00p.m.	Alne	J Skitt
21st April	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	R Jackson
	3.00p.m.	Tholthorpe	Rev E Cushion HC
28th April	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	10.30a.m.	Alne	United Service: V Firth

ANGLICAN SERVICES APRIL 2019

Venue	7th April	14th April Palm Sunday	21st April Easter	28th April
Aldwark	9.00a.m. Holy Communion Carmel Gittens		9.00a.m. Holy Communion Robin Davill	
Alne	10.30a.m. Holy Communion Rev D Senior		10.30a.m. Holy Communion Carmel Gittens	10.30a.m. United Service Rev V Firth

Tollerton	10.30a.m. Baptism Carmel Gittens		10.30a.m. Holy Communion (with GodZone) Rev J Hetherington	10.30a.m. All Age
Brafferton	10.30a.m. Holy Communion Rev J Hetherington		10.30a.m. Methodist Service R Jackson	10:30a.m. Holy Communion Rev C Gittens
Myton		9:45a.m. Tholthorpe and walk to Myton 11:00a.m. All Age Holy Communion Carmel Gittens	10.00a.m. Holy Communion Rev D Senior tbc	
Thormanby	10.30a.m. Morning Prayer			

Maundy Thursday: Tollerton 6.30p.m. Alison/Arthur

Good Friday: Tollerton 10.00a.m. to 12.00 noon - Good Friday
Treasure Hunt

Brafferton: 2.00p.m. Last Hour at the Cross: Rev C
Gittens

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e-mail: news@abchurches.org.uk