

DECEMBER
2019



The Bridge



BEELEY WITH EDENSOR
including CHATSWORTH, CALTON LEES & PILSLEY
PARISH MAGAZINE



Rev'd Canon D. Perkins,
The Vicarage, Edensor, Bakewell,
Derbyshire DE45 1PH Tel: 01246 386385
(Church website - www.stpetersedensor.org)

December 2019

We hear so much these days about 'causing offence', it is almost as if a whole industry has grown up around it with people going out of their way to take offence, or at least be offended on behalf of others. Sadly, the festival of Christmas is often caught up in all this because we can find ridiculous examples of local authorities, charities, schools and shops diluting or even doing away entirely with this Christian celebration because of the fear of causing offence.

Why should this be?

The Christmas story is actually very modern and multicultural. An unmarried mother, homelessness and sleeping rough, foreign visitors. Refugees fleeing persecution and seeking shelter in a far off land. What is there to get worked up about you might wonder?

Indeed you might question why Christianity is being more and more marginalised across Europe and for that matter, persecuted in numerous other regions across the globe. Perhaps it is because the true message of Christmas is indeed offensive to our modern selfish way of thinking because it demands a response from us.

The angels' message that "Christ is born in Bethlehem" is truly amazing. This message would transform the world for the better, if only we'd let it. But it demands a response from us. The response is either to acknowledge that Jesus is the Lord over history and to bow down and worship him, or to see him as false and to move on, ignoring Christmas altogether.

Of course, Christians believe all the events that surround the Christmas story and that when he grew up, the teachings of Jesus have spoken powerfully across generations right into our lives today. They are transforming lives for the better and they can transform ours.

Help the stranger, love the outcast, love each other, and love God. It is really so simple, but the world thinks it knows best. Yet here is the answer to the world's many, many problems. Here is God's answer to the mess we so often make of our own lives.

It is a message so alien to the way humanity conducts itself, and God knew that. He knew what was needed, and so he gave it to us. He gave freely of his love, his guidance, his forgiveness and his redemption, clothed in the fragile, yet perfect form of the Christ Child. Yes, this message is uncomfortable for many people. Much better to gloss over it and hold a shopping festival, beginning in October and using the excuse that we don't want to cause offence.

What really lies at the heart of these negative responses to Christmas is an unwillingness to engage with that simple invitation that God gives us in the person of Christ. The Lord of all the ages calls us into a relationship with him, yet so many would rather pretend they haven't heard it because of the inconvenient challenges that such a relationship would bring to their lives.

The all-embracing, loving example of Jesus of Nazareth has been causing offence for over 2000 years. Remember King Herod, Pontius Pilate, the Pharisees of Jerusalem, the Roman Empire and we still see such violent reactions across the globe today. All have been offended by the teachings of Christ and by his followers devotion.

As we enjoy our Christmas celebrations, let us spare a thought for our persecuted brothers and sisters who face danger and death every day simply for loving God.

The light that first shone from Bethlehem's stable will never be extinguished. It continues to shine all around the world, usually at its brightest when facing the greatest resistance.

Why do so many fight it?

The gracious invitation is for all of us. 'Peace on earth, goodwill to all people, forgiveness of our sins.' It is freely available to each and every one of us. During our short temporary lives, we would do well to follow the example of the shepherds and wise men; to acknowledge, like them, that something truly amazing happened that night in Bethlehem, something that we cannot ignore. Christ the Saviour of the world came to bring us light, hope and peace. What is our response to be?

A happy and blessed Christmas to you all.

Canon Dave

Dates for your Diary - December

- 3 Pilsley CoFE School Christmas Fair 3 - 5pm in school**
- 6 Canine Partners Carol Service - St. Peter's Church, Edensor 6.30pm**
 Tickets £15/children £5
- 10 BEELEY WI Monthly Meeting - 7.30pm Village Hall**
Christmas is coming! Making our now traditional and ever popular Christmas wreath followed by the Christmas Party Fuddle!
Refreshments: Co-ordinated by Sarah
Secret Santa: All Competition: Best wreath and award ceremony
- 14 St. Anne's Church, Beeley - 5pm Tideswell Male Voice Choir**
 Tickets £10 from Sarah Porter 01629 732365 or Rupert Turner 01629 732793

ADVENT SERVICE OF LIGHT

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER 6PM



ADVENT

A candlelit service to mark the beginning of the Christian year, this service will include anthems sung by the Derbyshire Singers, Advent hymns, readings and prayers.

EVERYONE WELCOME

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

EDENSOR

18TH DECEMBER ~ 7.30PM

A Service of Lessons & Carols

Everyone Welcome



ST. ANNE'S CHURCH

BEELEY

24TH DECEMBER ~ 6PM

A Service of Lessons & Carols

Everyone Welcome

FROM THE REGISTERS - ST. PETER'S, EDENSOR

WEDDING

26th October ~ Andrew Thomas Hogg & Amanda Louise Fry

FUNERAL SERVICE FOLLOWED BY BURIAL

5th November ~ Moira Christina Tilson aged 80years

"Live your life while you have it. Life is a splendid gift"

Florence Nightingale

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
via 'THE BRIDGE'
Donations to Church Funds



With all good wishes for Christmas & the New Year

To friends, fellow members of both congregations and readers of 'The Bridge' from:-

*Liz & Ray Bradshaw; Ann & David Hall; Roy & Pat Bosett; Lynne & Joe Clark;
Pauline Mather; Jennie Ball; Gloria & Roger Sherwood; Duncan & Cynthia Gordon;
Margaret & David Jackson; David & Lisa Hartington; Margaret & Gary Nelson;
Jill & Michael Gowdey & Jayne Boyd*

'THE BRIDGE'

As reported in last month's magazine, the PCC decided that an increase in the cost of the magazine to £1 per copy would take effect from January 1st 2020. The last increase in the price of the magazine was in January 2009! While the cost of printing the magazine has risen over this period of time our price to you has remained the same, so we hope that you will appreciate the need for this increase and continue to support it by carrying on buying your copy of the magazine.

Your magazine subscription is now due - from January 2020 the price of the magazine will be £1 per copy - £12 per year. Please give the money to the person who delivers your copy of the magazine.

If I post the magazine to you please enclose a book of stamps, or include payment for a book of stamps, with your subscription (a book of 12 second class stamps is £7.32) bringing the total due to £19.32)

Cheques should be made payable to Edensor PCC. Thank you for your continued support.

Items for the **JANUARY** magazine should reach me **NO LATER THAN MONDAY 9th DECEMBER 2019**; email to: liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk
'The Bridge' Parish Magazine £1 per copy (£12 per year) from January 2020.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Canon Dave and Margaret Perkins are leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land from 9th to 19th November 2020. Please ring 01246 386385 for details.

		<u>Telephone Numbers</u>	
<u>St. Anne's</u>	Wardens:-	Rupert Turner	01629 732794
		Fiona Swain	<i>ex directory</i>
<u>Both Churches</u>	Treasurer:-	Fiona Lichfield	01629 813382
	Safeguarding:-	Sarah Porter	01629 732365
<u>St. Peter's</u>			07866695132
	Wardens:-	Elizabeth Bradshaw	01246 582421
		David Jackson	01246 583452
	Treasurer:-	Mark Titterton	01246 582245
		e-mail: mtitterton@me.com	

The Travelling People Concert

The concert at the Cavendish Hall on Saturday 2nd November was a real tonic for everyone there. After expenses and including the raffle, sale of cobs and donations, £1,517.60 was raised for church funds. It was a tremendously enjoyable evening, thank you to everyone who came along.

Bridget Flemming 1945 - 2019

Older parishioners were very sad to hear of the death on 24th October in Ireland of Bridget Flemming. She will be very much missed by all who knew her. We send our condolences to her husband Andrew, sister Susan, her sons James and David and their wives, Andrew's daughter Hannah and all Bridget's grandchildren.

Bridget was always full of life and laughter, and a very kind and friendly neighbour to all in Edensor, where she and Andrew moved in 1986 to care for her mother, who had moved to the Old Vicarage when it was first divided into two houses. Bridget's connection with the Chatsworth estate went back much further, to when she was born in 1945 in Calton Lees House, the daughter of Geoffrey and Isobel Wales. Her uncle Claude Wales lived at Park Lodge Baslow. A cremation tablet for her parents is beside the entrance path to St. Peter's Church.

Bridget was an exceptionally gifted photographer and created many beautiful, award-winning landscapes, seascapes and portraits. The late Dowager Duchess of Devonshire valued her work highly and illustrated the later books she wrote with Bridget's photographs. Other talents included cooking, baking and making fancy knitwear.

Her friends were sad when she and Andrew moved to Ireland in 2010 but she could not have been more at home among the warm-hearted and laughter-loving people of the Dingle peninsula where they settled, and where she will now be equally missed.



TIDESWELL MALE VOICE CHOIR

ARE PERFORMING AT

ST ANNE'S CHURCH BEELEY

ON

SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER

DOORS OPEN AT 4.30PM FOR A 5PM CONCERT START
£10 per ticket (ticket only event)

Tickets available from

Sarah Porter: 01629 732365 chatsworthchurches@gmail.com

Rupert Turner: 01629 732794 rupert.turner@btinternet.com



PILSLEY COFE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR

**Tuesday 3rd December 3 - 5pm
in Pilsley School**

Stalls - Games - Refreshments - Raffle

Everyone Welcome



Canine Partners East Midlands Carol Service

St. Peter's Church, Edensor

Friday 6th December

6.30 - 8pm (doors open at 5.45pm)

Enjoy an evening of carols and readings, a demonstration from Canine Partners and meet some of our inspirational partnerships.

All followed by mulled wine and mince pies to really get you into the festive spirit.

Tickets: Adults £15/children £5

For more information please contact: Cat Howourth - 01530 225937

cathowourth@caninepartners.org.uk


See differently

Stamp appeal



Collect your used stamps and help us create a future where sight loss is no longer a barrier.

Order your pre-paid envelopes and boxes today!

 rnib.org.uk/stamps

 0345 345 0054

 rnibstamps@rnib.org.uk



© RNIB registered charity in England and Wales (226227), Scotland (SC039286), Isle of Man (1226). Also operating in Northern Ireland.

By collecting used stamps for us to recycle you can help raise much-needed funds to help people living with sight loss. Every kilogram of used stamps collected raises £20, which could help someone feel more confident about living with sight loss, with personalised support on a topic like reading, technology or their eye condition, from our expert Advice Service.

There are currently over 2 million people living with sight loss in the UK and estimated to be 3,070 people in the Derbyshire Dales district alone.

Your support can help RNIB create a world where sight loss is no longer a barrier.

RNIB is one of the UK's leading sight loss charities.

Easy Fundraising

If you already SHOP ONLINE, or if you haven't yet done so, then why not use Easy Fundraising and help raise money for St. Peter's Church? There is no extra cost to you and a percentage from your purchase will come back to the church.

To Register

- Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- Click on **Register**
- Choose **Saint Peter's Church - Chatsworth Park** as your charity and fill in the rest of the form

To Shop

- Go to www.easyfundraising.org.uk
- Search for your store in the alphabetical list
- Go ahead and shop

Choose from over 2000 of the UK's best-known retailers including names such as Amazon, M&S, Argos, John Lewis and HMV and when you shop using the links on the easyfundraising site up to 15% from every purchase you make is donated to St. Peter's Church.

The Padley Centre

We are collecting all types of clothing for adults including waterproofs, warm socks, gloves, hats, scarves etc. these are always much appreciated. Warm sleeping bags are also very welcome as the nights are very cold. Food - tins of meat, fish, soup and tomatoes; dried food such as pasta; biscuits and chocolate are always welcome.

Items can be brought to Sunday services or left at the back of the church at any time.

These donations of food and clothing are always very welcome at the centre.

NB The Centre is unable to accept bedding e.g. sheets, blankets, duvets, pillows.

BAKEWELL & ASHFORD FILM SOCIETY

THE MEDWAY CENTRE, NEW STREET, BAKEWELL

7.30pm 2nd Sunday of every month (except July & August)

December 8th 2019 (Christmas Buffet)

Yesterday

2019, UK, Cert. 12A, 116 minutes. Comedy, Fantasy, Music

A struggling musician realizes he's the only person on Earth who can remember The Beatles, after waking up in an alternate timeline where they never existed.

Introduction by Ken Watson

BASLOW CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERTS 2019

Baslow Choir will be performing their Christmas Concerts this year on **Friday 6th and Saturday 7th December** in **All Saints Church, Curbar** at **7.30pm**.

We will be singing a wide variety of Christmas music, including 'Sweet was the Song', a new piece by Andrew Marples ; *The Lord Comes* by Telemann; *Bethlehem* by Boubilil and Schoenberg; *Carol of the Bells* by Wilhousky ; *Christmas Day* by Holst and *O Magnum Mysterium* by Lauridsen. There will also be audience carols for you to join in with.

Our guest artists are Plague O' Bells and we will be accompanied by Andrew Cummings on the organ and Carol Barnes on piano. Our musical director is Andrew Marples.

Tickets are £10 and £5 for children. This includes mulled wine and mince pies, which will be served in the interval. Tickets are available from choir members, the Spar shop in Baslow, online at wegottickets.com , by email from tickets@baslowchoir.co.uk, or on the door or ring 01433 63158 .



Leftovers don't need to be boring

Are you stuck for what to do with all the food leftover from Christmas? Take a look at the church website - www.stpetersedensor.org - for inspiration.

Joy Thrower has typed into the computer all the recipes from the book at the back of church, which makes use of leftovers, and these are now available on the church website under the [Review button](#).

Don't waste all those lovely leftovers, turn them into something delicious. Leftovers are for life, not just for Christmas!



Free parking for 12th year throughout December

'Shop Local this Christmas' is the big message as Derbyshire Dales District Council reintroduces free parking across the district again from 1st December.

In a scheme designed to boost trade, for the 12th year in a row it will be free to park in any District Council pay and display car park after 2pm throughout December.

The free parking initiative was introduced by the District Council in 2008 to help local residents and businesses during the economic recession.

District Council Leader Councillor Garry Purdy said: "Supporting and encouraging a thriving district is a key priority for us and we are committed to helping local people and our business community at this vital time of the year.

"That's why we are delighted to announce the continuation of this important initiative.

"In a perfect world we would love to make parking free all the time, but local government finances are still incredibly tight and car parking income plays an important part in helping us to maintain some of the excellent car parking, environmental and recreational services we provide for local people and visitors."

The free parking from 2pm throughout December comes on top of residents' parking concessions that allow local people to park free every day of the year up to 11am and after 4pm.

Free parking permits were issued to every one of the 34,000 households across the Derbyshire Dales back in March.

It means Dales residents have free parking for 21 hours each day over the festive period, which helps local people and local traders.

Free parking extends to midnight each day and motorists are reminded not to leave anything valuable in their vehicles as the lead up to Christmas can also be a choice time for thieves.



It was 80 years ago, on 1st Dec 1939, that Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer made his first ever appearance, in a children's colouring book given away by Montgomery Ward stores in the USA.



God in the Sciences

This series is written by Dr Ruth M. Bancewicz, who is Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith. A copyright-free image of a fertilised human egg is available at <https://wellcomecollection.org/works/bfsnpdbb?query=human%20egg%20fertilised&page=1>

The Incarnation: fearfully and wonderfully made

*My frame was not hidden from you
when I was made in the secret place,
when I was woven together in the
depths of the earth.*

*Your eyes saw my unformed body; all
the days ordained for me were written
in your book*

before one of them came to be.

Psalms 139:15-16

You began life as a single cell. For a few hours you were a miniscule but highly complex blob of jelly, until it began to divide: two cells, four, eight, sixteen, a ball, a hollow ball, and then something more recognisably like a living organism. You were still tiny, but developing a nervous system, a head, a body, arms and legs.

Until recently I hadn't thought much about Jesus being an embryo. Somehow, I find that thought even more shocking than His birth. How could God, who made the universe, have become something so completely and utterly vulnerable?

Maybe in the past, when the development of a child happened in 'secret', it was possible just to let that part of the Christmas story go untold.

Today, when we see images of a developing child, or even embryos outside the womb, it is harder to ignore the process of Jesus developing into a baby. The incarnation meant that God's Son went through all the stages in the diagram in my developmental biology textbook: 'zygote', 'morula', 'blastocyst', implantation, and so on.

Jesus was there in the beginning, and all life owes its existence to Him. But instead of remaining aloof, He chose to become one of us. The Son of God shared the same kind of DNA as every other organism on the planet. He knows what it feels like to have a body, to feel hungry and thirsty, pain and pleasure, dark and light.

In Psalm 139, the writer is meditating on God's intimate knowledge of Him, which began when He was an embryo. There is nothing God doesn't know about Him, and even darkness cannot obscure Him from God's sight. The incarnation means that God's intimacy with us now extends even further. He became one of us, lived alongside us, and shared our very fragile material nature. *Continues over page.....*

Continued from previous page.....

The transcendent God is also immanent, longing for us to relate to Him as Father. He became as fragile as we are so He could rescue us from the messes we so often find ourselves in. With His help, we can

remember what it means to be fearfully and wonderfully made.

Reproduced by permission from [Merry Christmas Everyone: A festive feast of stories, poems and reflection](#), Edited by Wendy H. Jones, Amy Robinson & Jane Clamp ([Association of Christian Writers](#), 2018)

A life for a life

Canon David Winter on the 50th anniversary of the abolition of capital punishment.

When do you think capital punishment was abolished in Britain? It was actually 50 years ago this month, in December 1969. It ended the macabre ritual of a judge donning a black cap, solemnly declaring that the accused was found guilty and would 'be taken hence to a place of public execution...and there to be hanged by the neck until you be dead.' On the day of execution, a crowd would gather outside the prison waiting to hear the eight o'clock bell confirming the execution was complete.

A movement against capital punishment had grown steadily during the 1950's, fuelled by 'public' shock at the execution of a woman for a crime of passion. Her name was Ruth Ellis and she was found guilty of shooting her lover, David Blake.

Though Ruth's story was tragic the incident that remains on my mind is

that of Timothy Evans. Found guilty of murdering his wife and infant daughter he was hanged in March 1950. Subsequently it emerged beyond any doubt that the murder, and several others, was the work of John Reginald Christie. Christie lived with his wife in the ground floor flat of his property 10 Rillington Place, Camden.

Evans, who was mentally immature, had been persuaded to confess to a murder in which he was not, in any way, involved. It was a grave miscarriage of justice. Years later a friend gave me a book which told the whole appalling story. He had been one of the lawyers in the team that had tried to defend Evans. Today, Evans would have been released, pardoned and paid compensation. But we cannot bring someone back from the dead.

Detection and judicial judgement are not infallible, and people today would not want the abolition of capital punishment reversed. Though the question remains – what is a suitable punishment for murder?

Christmas - the most beautiful story ever told

Canon David Winter considers the Christmas story...

On the BBC's 'Today' programme last Christmas a distinguished atheist revealed that his Christmas routine included attending Midnight Mass. Asked why, he replied that it was the most beautiful story ever told and he didn't want it to be forgotten.

Up and down the country this month, thousands and thousands of parents will be attending school and church nativity plays. They're good fun, the children like them, and they remind us of the most lovely and memorable story of all time.

First, there was the actual birth. Excluded from the shelter of the 'inn', Mary and Joseph found themselves in a stable. Soon after, Mary gave birth to a boy, wrapped Him in His birth-robe, and laid Him in the only secure place she could find – the feeding trough.

Next came the shepherds, bursting in from the fields, eager to see the baby that the angels had told them to look for, 'lying in a manger'. They worshipped him, in wonder of all that had happened that night.

Finally, at some point came the so called 'Wise Men'. The gospel calls them 'Magi', and says they were from

the East. The word 'magi' comes from the Greek 'magos' (magic) and further back, from the old Persian word 'Magupati'. The Magi could have been priests from an ancient Persian religion that watched the night sky. Today they would be called astrologers.

Whoever they were, their influence at that point in history was immense. All over the ancient world their predictions were regarded with awe, but they knelt before Jesus and offered Him gifts. They were the first Gentiles to recognise a divine and kingly power and purpose in the baby in Bethlehem.

150 years later the great bishop Clement of Rome described this as the moment when the old order of fear and fate gave way before this new era of love and grace.

What a story!



Bethlehemian Rhapsody

If you enjoyed the song Bohemian Rhapsody, and would like the 'Christmas version', complete with singing puppets, do visit this on YouTube. It is from last year, but still well worth the visit! <https://youtu.be/lxvMkSKRWOA>

This is brilliant do watch it if you can!

26th December: In praise of Good King Wenceslas

When I was a choir boy many years ago, writes David Winter, 'Good King Wenceslas' was a very popular carol. A man sang the King's lines, a boy sang the Page's, and the choir filled in the narrative. It was not of course technically a Christmas carol but one for which most people know as 'Boxing Day' – the 'Feast of Stephen' the first Christian martyr.

But you don't hear Good King Wenceslas these days. It fell foul of political correctness. The king was wealthy and very kindly, helped a poor man, but the last verse was the problem. It called on 'Christian men, wealth and rank possessing'. To help the poor and be blessed in doing it. All very patronising, class-conscious, and chauvinistic. So, it has simply disappeared.

I think that's a pity, and I also think it's a serious misunderstanding of the carol. It relates to the good deeds of a tenth century Duke of Bohemia,

Wenceslas I, and concerns a king and his page, and a poor man freezing and potentially starving whom he saw from his window.

The king didn't, as he might well have done, simply order some minion to take the man some food or fuel. He decided to do it himself assisted by his young page. Together they braved the bitter wind and snow in order to take pine logs and food to this humble dwelling. That is not patronising but true Christian grace.

Yes, the last verse does express a Victorian view of characters but that's when it was written. No one should condemn the carol and its message. Who would shrink from following its example? I'm afraid texting a token ten quid to a charity does not quite qualify.

Love requires action, if we don't see that then we have missed the point. That is the message of this lovely carol.

Who may be most happy by your Christmas gift?

If anyone is not going to like your present, it will probably be a millennial (aged 25 – 34 years). Last year some 37 per cent of millennials unwrapped presents which they found deeply disappointing, according to recent research by *Which?*

You will do better with someone from 'Generation X' (aged 18 to 24 years). Last year only 31 per cent of them were unhappy with their gifts.

You are almost certain to be a success with your friends and relatives aged 55 and over, who reported only a 19 per cent disappointment with gifts last year.

THE WAY I SEE IT: Protecting the Innocent

David Winter on Holy Innocents....

The day most of us call 'Boxing Day', was when tradesmen used to collect their annual tips from customers. It is named in the Church Calendar as St Stephen's Day, in memory of the first martyr, stoned to death by an angry crowd because of his faith. That is a shocking footnote to the celebration of Christmas, but worse is to follow.

Three days later the Church asks us to remember the 'Holy Innocents'. These were the young children of Bethlehem killed by Herod's soldiers in a vain attempt to annihilate the potential new-born king. The Magi – the so-called 'Wise Men' – had told him the child had been born in that town. In fact, the child Jesus was by then safely across the border in Egypt, his parents having been warned to do so in a dream.

But that did not save the innocent toddlers of Bethlehem, who were brutally put to the sword. They were subsequently named the 'holy innocents' because that is what they were: holy and wholly innocent,

victims of a man's determination to cling to power, whatever the cost.

Innocent children still suffer, of course: in refugee camps, in enslaved families, in unhappy homes and at the hands of abusers. Because they are weak and helpless, and utterly innocent, the rest of us have a duty to protect them.

When Jesus wanted to portray pure innocence, He took a small child in His arms. He then uttered a warning, probably the harshest words to leave His lips. Anyone who offends against such little ones would not escape severe punishment.

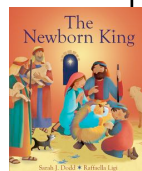
The fate of the 'holy innocents' is a sharp reminder, just after the Christmas celebrations, that Jesus was born into the world as it is: light and darkness, compassion and cruelty, love and hatred. He didn't come to endorse that world, but to change it. Darkness cannot defeat light. In the end the angel's song will be fulfilled: 'Peace on earth' in the kingdom of God.

The Newborn King

By Sarah J Dodd & Raffaella Ligi,
Lion Children, £5.99 (Review)

A new king is born! His name is Jesus. Share the gladness of Mary, the joy of the shepherds, and the journey

of the wise men. An engaging retelling for children of the first Christmas, with bright and appealing pictures that bring the wonderful scenes to life.



The writer who gave us Treasure Island and Kidnapped

Tim Lenton remembers a much-loved children's author.

Robert Louis Stevenson died 125 years ago, on 3rd December 1894. The Scottish novelist, short story writer, poet and travel journalist was best known for novels such as *Treasure Island* and *Kidnapped*.

He travelled widely, but always suffered from serious bronchial trouble. During his early years his parents and nurse immersed him in Presbyterianism and Calvinism, and although he rebelled and became an atheist in his twenties, by the time he died he had returned to the basic doctrines of Christianity.

His family were lighthouse engineers, and he spent a great deal of time as a

child with his mother's father, Lewis Balfour, who was a Church of Scotland minister. But although he was given both those names, he dropped Balfour completely and changed Lewis to Louis.

He married an American divorcee, Fanny Van de Grift Osbourne, and after trying various climates to ease his lung disease, the family ended up in Samoa, where he was much loved by the locals. He died at 44, not of lung disease, but of a stroke.

He was much admired by distinguished fellow writers during his life, though he was overlooked during the early part of the 20th century before his outstanding qualities as a writer for adults were once again appreciated.

Follow the Star 2019 – 12 Days of Christmas Wonder

By Mina Munns, Justin Welby and John Sentamu, CHP, £1.50 (Review)

Follow the Star returns for 2019 with 12 brand-new reflections for the Christmas period. Each day includes a reflection, a short Bible passage, a simple prayer and a challenge to reflect or act differently.

Wherever you are on your own journey, Follow the Star will help you

see your life afresh through the light of the Christmas star, a sign of God's hope and promises.

The booklet will be supported by additional free digital materials, including suggested activities for families based on each day's theme.



The poet and hymn-writer who gave us 'In the Bleak Midwinter'

Tim Lenton looks back on the talent of an outstanding woman.

Christina Rossetti, British poet and hymn-writer, died of cancer 125 years ago, on 29th December 1894. She was 64.

Christina was the youngest child of poet and Dante scholar Gabriele Rossetti, who emigrated to England from Italy in 1824, and the half-Italian Frances Polidari, who he married in 1926.

Christina was also sister of the pre-Raphaelite painter-poet Dante Gabriel Rossetti, whom she resembled in some ways: she had an innately passionate and sensuous nature and a fine sense of humour.

But she was consummately religious and put self-denial at the top of her priorities. Her brother much admired her poetry and helped to promote it.

She was a serious and devout High Church Anglican and broke engagements twice for religious reasons – to James Collinson in 1850 and to Charles Bagot Cayley in 1864. After this she led a quiet and almost saint-like life, and in 1871 she contracted Graves' Disease, a disfiguring and life-threatening thyroid disorder.

Some of her poetry was published under the pseudonym Ellen Alleyne, and she is widely regarded as one of the two best women poets of the 19th century. Her widest known hymn is possibly *In the Bleak Midwinter*, a Christmas favourite.

In the Bleak Midwinter – Advent and Christmas with Christina Rossetti

By Rachel Mann, Canterbury Press, £12.99 (Review)

Best known for her poems-turned-carols *In the Bleak Midwinter* and *Love Came Down at Christmas*, Rossetti's rich and wondrous faith provides an inspiring seasonal companion.

For each day from Advent Sunday to the Epiphany, Rachel Mann selects a

poem and reflects on it, drawing on Rossetti's many other writings including her devotional journals and commentary on biblical narratives. At a time when commercial pressures are at their most intense, this volume aims to lead readers to an encounter with God's time and space, to find our true identity beyond all that would limit and diminish our humanity.



Signing choir debuts at Remembrance service

One of the newest choirs in the Diocese of Derby has been practising hard for a Remembrance Sunday performance – the group's first public outing.

Signs from the Peaks started when Buxton Team Rector Liz England got together with a group of other people who were keen to start a signing choir.

Liz has a Level 1 in British Sign Language (BSL). She joined forces with Steph Bennett, a BSL teacher, Elaine Hill, who works with the deaf community, and Liv Lazarus, also BSL qualified, to form Signs from the Peaks – a now 20-strong ensemble. And after around six weeks of rehearsing, Liz decided to invite the choir to perform at the church's Remembrance service.

That in itself is a milestone for some of the choristers who have never before attended a church service.

Liz said: "I love the inclusivity of it. Not only do we have people who

use sign language regularly, but also members of the community who have never signed before.

"The choir is open to anyone, whether they have experience in signing or not.

"The aim of this amazing choir is to get people involved who are passionate about being creative and like a bit of tea and biscuits too!

"And one of our founding members, Ana Mankiewicz, runs Grapevine Wellbeing Centre, a mental health charity in Buxton - so she invites people who feel isolated to join in. This is a win-win for all concerned."

Signs from the Peaks meets on Tuesday evenings at 6pm at St Mary's Church, Dale Road, Buxton.

See them on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/704810786658751/> or contact Liz England on 01298 212667.

Shake hands

If you are attending various Christmas social events this month, consider this: when you shake hands with someone, how long should you hold on for? It seems that the ideal time is no more than three seconds.

Recent research at the University of Dundee found that shaking someone's hand in a 'prolonged manner' (longer than three seconds) triggers anxiety in the other person. Apparently, the U.S. President hangs on to people's hands for up to 13 seconds.

How to help someone who is lonely this Christmas

The Rev Paul Hardingham considers an annual challenge...

It's gonna be a lonely Christmas'. The pressure to have fun with friends and family is real over the Christmas period. In fact, over nine million people in the UK say they're always or often lonely. (Red Cross).

When Mary became pregnant with Jesus, she probably felt very alone. Her situation would be seen as scandalous, as few believed that she was pregnant by the Holy Spirit! Yet, God was with her: *'The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call His name Immanuel', which means, 'God with us'.* (Matthew 1:23).

The true meaning of Christmas is that Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be with us. The separation we may feel from others is nothing compared to the distance that God has already gone for us.

Here are 5 tips for helping those who are lonely:

Take time to talk

Take time to talk to an older person this Christmas, at the supermarket, pub or on a walk. Just saying hello can make a big difference to someone who's lonely.

Give someone a call

Take the time to speak to friends and family that you won't be with this Christmas. A short phone call can have a big impact.

Give a neighbour a card

Ring the doorbell and give your neighbour a Christmas card. Start a conversation and make a connection.

Having a party?

Hosting a Christmas party or meal? If you know somebody who might be alone, invite them to join you!

Pray for Others

If you hear of someone who's on their own, pray for them. Pray that God would show you how to respond!

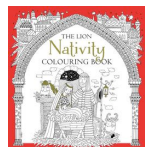
'The most important thing I can tell you is that we are never alone when we know Christ.' Billy Graham).

The Lion Nativity Colouring Book

By Antonia Jackson and Felicity French, Lion Children, £4.99 (Review)

Join the colouring craze and add a splash of colour to the story of Christmas with these beautiful and

intricate black and white line drawings, just waiting for your creative input! Follow the Nativity scene by scene until you have a stunning masterpiece - your own personalised picture book.



The News Quiz for 2019

How well did you read the News this year? Try this quiz and find out

1. What is a Gillet jaune?
2. The famous fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld died this year leaving his £150 million fortune to Choupette. Who or what is Choupette?
3. In March an aeroplane left London City airport flight with number BA3271 to Düsseldorf. Where did it land?
4. Volodymyr Oleksandrovych Zelensky won the Ukrainian Presidential election in April. What was his job before the election?
5. There was a serious fire at Notre Dame in April. Who wrote a book in 1831 about the cathedral and to draw attention to the restoration it then needed?
6. What is Pteridomania? The Victorians had it.
7. Blackpool Tower celebrated its 125th anniversary in May 2019. What landmark inspired it?
8. Which former member of the cabinet was named after a battleship?
9. Which country has coins nicknamed loonie and toonie?
10. Politicians talked about red lines. What was the thin red line?

11. What would you use a French press to make?

12. In July we were told to look out for a "Painted Lady Summer". What is that?

13. What were male members of the RAF allowed to grow this year that that they have never previously been allowed?

14. What were seashiders advised to stare at to stop them stealing chips and bothering them?

15. Which person has the following titles in other languages? (All one person)

Leading Star; The Son of the Big Boss; The Sun Looks at Him in a Good Way; The Helper of the Cows (literally he whom the cows love so much they call for him when they are in times of distress)

16. Which territory did Donald Trump say he was interested in buying for the US?

17. Where would you find a small copper and an Essex skipper?

18. What did Goldsmiths, University of London, ban the sale of to try to fight global warming?

The answers can be found on Page 22

Shopping (smile...)

The manager of a department store put this notice in the window: 'If you need it this Christmas, we have it.' But in the window of a rival, a sign appeared, stating: 'If we don't have it, you don't need it.'

'Tis the season for Angels!

Angels make a big appearance in the story of Christmas, but over the next few weeks other kinds of angels will be making appearances throughout the country, on streets and inside nightclubs.

Teams of Street Angels and Club Angels will work hard this month to help to keep communities and people, especially within the night-time economy, safe.

At an hour when most of us are safe at home in bed, these volunteer angels will be out on patrol, offering people in need some flip-flops or a plaster, a bottle of water or time to chat. They will make a massive difference as a result.

Paul Blakey, founder of Street Angels, tells how earlier this year one of the Street Angels teams came across a young man holding his head and kneeling over, very dazed, having had his head bashed against a wall. "The team took him to a safe hub and left him. Three months later this same man came to say 'thank you for saving my life'. It turns out the safe hub team had got him to A&E and a brain scan revealed a bleed on the brain.

"We are called to be angels! We can all be God's hands and feet, delivering good news of great joy through words and action. We can all take

the time to look out for others. We can all ask God to make his Kingdom known through our daily living.

"So, this Christmas do pray for our teams out on the streets and in clubs. Or maybe you could even consider volunteering if there is a team near you!"

Meanwhile, if you are going on a night out yourself, have a SafeNightOut party and remember these top tips:

- Stay with friends, don't go off alone, and have contact info somewhere other than your phone.
- Ladies - carry a pair of slip-on shoes for when high heels become unbearable.
- Always eat before a night out and don't start cooking once you get home.
- Know what you are drinking and how much you have - mix alcohol with soft drinks.
- Pick a venue right for you - if you feel out of place, leave!
- Keep your taxi money in another part of your handbag / wallet. Take a picture of the taxi and taxi drivers ID and message it to a friend.

For more information on the work of Street, Club and Festival Angels or to make a donation check out cninetwork.org (CNI Network is the umbrella organisation for all things angelic.)

Millennium yew trees – 20 years on

20 years ago, as 1999 drew to a close, the Church of England marked the Millennium by distributing thousands of young yew trees across England. In all, about 7000 seedlings were given to parishes requesting them.

It was explained that the yew tree could be seen as 'a metaphor for the life of faith in this country over the last 4000 years', as well as a symbol of the spiritual life, 'with its dormant periods and its coming to life'.

David Shreeve, director of the Conservation Foundation, said that the yew trees were "planted in the spirit of a living link with the birth of Jesus, and as a symbol that, if we wanted this millennium yew to live

for another 2000 years, we would need to care for and cherish our local environment."

Mr Shreeve believes that the project made an impact on the Church, helping to pave the way for a greater emphasis on caring for Creation, including the appointment of more diocesan environment officers.

Yews are the oldest living things in Britain. The Woodland Trust explains that a yew is not even considered 'ancient' until it is over 900 years old. The oldest tree in the UK, the Fortingall Yew, is estimated to be between 2000 and 3000 years old.



Answers to the News Quiz of 2019

- 1: A Gillet jaune is the yellow reflective vest French drivers have to carry by law in their cars. It became associated with protest.
- 2: Chouquette is a cat, a very rich cat.
- 3: It landed in Edinburgh by mistake.
- 4: He was a comedian.
- 5: The Hunchback of Notre-Dame by Victor Hugo
- 6: Love of ferns.
- 7: Eiffel Tower in Paris.
- 8: Penny Mordaunt was named after the Arethusa-class cruiser HMS Penelope.
- 9: Canada. The loonie is the type of bird featured on the dollar coin. Toonie refers to the two-dollar coin.

10: The Thin Red Line refers to an episode in the Battle of Balaklava during the Crimean War. Around 500 men of the 93rd (Sutherland Highlanders), aided by a small force of 100 walking wounded, 40 detached Guardsmen, and supported by a substantial force of Turkish infantrymen, led by Sir Colin Campbell, fired at the Russian cavalry.

- 11: Coffee
- 12: Lots of butterflies.
- 13: Beards
- 14: Seagulls. (Please do not try this at home. It probably does not work!)
- 15: HRH Prince Charles
- 16: Greenland. It was not for sale.
- 17: They are butterflies. You might find them in a churchyard.
- 18: Beef

Baslow Health Centre – Church Lane, Baslow

www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk

Flu Vaccination: Flu clinic appointments are available from the 30th of September onwards, please contact the surgery to check your eligibility and book an appointment.

Appointment Times: Clinicians will endeavour to keep to time; however, they also need to afford the patient the appropriate consultation time, which may lead to them overrunning. Therefore, it is imperative that patients arrive on time for their appointments as it will have a rolling knock-on effect if you are late.

Patient Online: Have you registered to use the online service, allowing you to book and cancel appointments on line and order your repeat medications? You can also request access to your Summary Care Record, and Detailed Coded Data contained within your medical records. You can also look at your test results.

Telephone Numbers:

Reception: 01246 582216

Surgery Fax: 01246 583867

Dispensary: 01246 582366

District Nursing Team - now CAP (Community Access Point)
01332 564 900

Health Visitor: 01629 816633

(The Dispensary line is open 12noon – 1.00pm and 2.00pm – 3.00pm)

Normal Surgery Opening Times

Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 8am-6.30pm;

Wednesdays 7.30am - 6.30pm

(closed Bank Holidays)

(Phones 8am – 6.30pm Mon - Fri).

Surgery Closure for training -

None in December

Christmas & New Year Closures:

the surgery will be closed on

Christmas Day 25th December

and **Boxing Day 26th December,**

re-open Friday 27th December.

Closed 1st January, re-open 2nd January.

Patient Participation Group - (PPG)

– If you want to be kept up to date and have the opportunity to express your views please consider joining Baslow's PPG. Contact Keith Maslen on

kmaslen@aol.com Tel: 01246 582274

Virtual members welcome.

Ordering Repeat Medication All requests for repeat prescriptions must be:-

- In writing or with our on-line access
 - Return your repeat request form to surgery by Post/Fax/Box on Dispensary Reception
 - **Please allow two working days before collection**
- ! To ease the parking congestion, please collect your prescription between 12noon – 4pm

Samples – if you need to leave a sample with us please ensure it is labelled with your name and date of birth and returned in a bag if provided.

Test Results – As we do not receive test results from hospital until lunchtime, please ring for these after 2pm.

For Urgent Calls when we are closed call 111

8	9	4	2	5	3	1	6	7
7	3	5	8	1	6	4	9	2
6	1	2	9	7	4	3	8	5
9	8	6	5	4	2	7	1	3
5	7	3	1	6	9	2	4	8
4	2	1	7	3	8	6	5	9
3	5	8	6	2	1	9	7	4
2	6	7	4	9	5	8	3	1
1	4	9	3	8	7	5	2	6

November
solution



December
Sudoku



		1		7				3
			8				7	
		5				6		
1				4			3	
9			7		6			5
	8			3				1
		6				5		
	9				4			
4				8		7		

© 2011 KrazyDad.com

St. Peter's Church 100 Club October Draw 2019

1st prize £30 no. 69 Kirsty Law
2nd prize £20 no. 22 Jenny Shimwell

Funds to church this month - £50

Subscriptions for 2020 are now due, in order to be eligible for the January draw.

These are payable at £12 per number held.
Please make out cheques to:-

St. Peter's Church 100 Club.

Thank you for your continued support.

We would like to invite new members for 2020 to ensure a membership of 100 throughout the year.

Membership is open to everyone from the villages, the church, their families and friends.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Ann Hall

Nigel Beeton writes: *An old joke about Christmas presents is that men always get given socks by unimaginative present givers. Well, I must say I always seem to get exactly the right number of socks, it always seems to roughly equal the ones that wear out each year. And some socks are really fun! But, if we had more feet, we could enjoy more socks!*

The Christmas Caterpillar

Sometimes, upon a Christmas day
I wonder if there's any way
That Christmas might be quite a treat
For those who have a few more feet!

I really love my Christmas socks
That fill, each year, my Christmas box
O Santa, festive stocking filler,
I wish I were a caterpillar!

By Nigel Beeton

Chimney (Smile)

Why doesn't Father Christmas suffer from claustrophobia when he climbs down the chimney? Because he's had his flue job.





SERVICES & ROTAS FOR DECEMBER 2019



<u>ST. ANNE'S, BEELEY</u>			<u>FLOWERS & BRASSES</u>	<u>CLEANING</u>
1	9.30am	Holy Communion	Fiona Swain*	28 ^{Nov} - 1 st Dec Jane Hornsby
8	9.30am	Holy Communion	Liz Turner *	All - Pre Christmas clean & decs up
15	9.30am	Holy Communion	" "	
22	9.30am	Holy Communion	Sarah Porter*	
24	6pm	Service of Lessons & Carols		
25	9.30am	Holy Communion for Christmas Day		
29	9.30am	Holy Communion	Sarah Porter	
*NB Brasses only during Advent				
<u>ST. PETER'S, EDENSOR</u>			<u>SIDESMEN</u>	
1	10.45am	Holy Communion	John Bowns/Mike Pindar	
	6pm	Advent Service of Light		
8	10.45am	Matins	Ann & Tony Hubbuck	
15	10.45am	Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Gordon	
18	7.30pm	Service of Lessons & Carols		
22	10.45am	Holy Communion	Mrs Jackson/Liz Bradshaw	
24	11.30pm	Midnight Mass		
25	10.45am	Holy Communion for Christmas Day		
29	10.45am	Holy Communion	R S Sherwood/Diana Walters	
NB We will be dressing the Christmas tree on Tuesday 17 th December from 10am, ready for the Carol Service on 18 th . You are very welcome to come along to help.				
<u>COFFEE</u>		<u>CLEANING</u>		<u>FLOWERS</u>
1	Ann & Tony Hubbuck	Mr & Mrs Jackson		No flowers - Advent
8	Mr & Mrs Carter	Mr & Mrs Grimshaw		" "
15	Clive & Joy Thrower	Mr & Mrs Wardle		" "
22	John & Jill Caws	Mike Pindar/Jennie Ball		Christmas Decorations
29	Mr & Mrs Sherwood	Mr & Mrs Nelson		" "
<u>READINGS</u>		<u>ST. PETER'S</u>	<u>ST. ANNE'S & SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>	
1	Isaiah 2: 1-5 Matthew 24: 36-44	Gloria Sherwood Advent Sunday	Phoebe Porter Children in Service	
8	Isaiah 11: 1-10 Matthew 3: 1-12	John Caws Advent Two	Fiona Swain SS Claire Cadogan	
15	Isaiah 35: 1-10 Matthew 11: 2-11	Diana Walters Advent Three	Sarah Porter No Sunday School	
22	Isaiah 7: 10-16 Matthew 1: 18-25	John Bowns Advent Four	Rupert Turner No Sunday School	
24	Isaiah 9: 2-7 Luke 2: 1-7	To be arranged Midnight Mass		
25	Isaiah 52: 7-10 Luke 2: 8-20	To be arranged Christmas Day	To be arranged	
29	Isaiah 63: 7-9 Matthew 2: 13-23	Mike Woodcock First Sunday of Christmas	Fiona Lichfield No Sunday School	