

FEBRUARY  
2025



# The Bridge



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

# RICHARD WHITTLESTONE

## Wildlife Gallery



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Church websites:  
[www.stpetersedensor.org](http://www.stpetersedensor.org) & [www.stannesbeeley.co.uk](http://www.stannesbeeley.co.uk)

February 2025

Dear Friends,

A recent article I read talked about the days when, in the cold months of winter, cricket fans would listen under their duvets in the middle of the night to the commentary on their transistor radios as the England team played test matches in warmer climates. At such a moment the love of cricket and the wish to experience the warmth of the Caribbean or the antipodes came together in boys of all ages, even if only through the medium of Test Match Special.

Winter is often very beautiful especially if you are wrapped up or in the warm but it can be a hard time with dark mornings and evenings, the cold temperatures and snow and ice making walking and driving more challenging. I suspect that things are less hard than they were in the past as temperatures rise but it can still be tough and for some a depressing time when there is little sunlight.

There are, though, often glimmers of something different - on a snowy walk into the park seeing the snowdrops beginning to push through or realising that the days are slowly getting longer are reminders of the year moving on.

The wider world seems a difficult place at the moment. In our 24/7 news society we know of terrible things happening in the world - in the Middle East and in Ukraine, but in natural disasters as we have seen in Los Angeles. There seems to be too, a sense of uncertainty and transition with the inauguration of Donald Trump and more generally in relations between countries. Institutions like the Church of England struggle over past failures and the missed opportunities to protect the vulnerable.

All these things are hard. It seems glib to simply say look for the positives, but the stories of faith and the constancy of God guide us towards not being overwhelmed by the weight of events but instead towards looking to do what we can to make things better in our own small way. All of us in our own lives and environments are not just looking for the positives around us but actually trying to be the positives and doing the right thing to influence where we can.

Mother Teresa was once asked of her work in India “Aren’t you just a drop in the ocean however hard you try?”. She replied “Maybe but the ocean is made up of many drops”.

May each of us make that difference.

Mark

### **Easter Inside Out - the story as if you were there**

By David Kitchen, BRF, £12.99  
(Book review)

Step into the Easter story...

Acclaimed storyteller David Kitchen reimagines the Easter narrative through a varied cast of characters, from Mary Magdalene to Caiaphas.

If you want to understand who might have been where and doing what as the Easter story unfolds, this book gives you answers. It also lets you sense what it could have been like to be one of those involved in the twists and turns of one of the most extraordinary stories in the whole of history.

### **Telephone Numbers**

<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 312168
<u>St. Peter's</u>			0786 669 5132
	Wardens:-	Elizabeth Bradshaw	01246 582421
		Lynne Clark	07767 652 624
	Treasurer:-	Mark Titterton	01246 601475
		e-mail: <a href="mailto:mtitterton@me.com">mtitterton@me.com</a>	

## **Former head of MI5 to lead search for new Archbishop of Canterbury**

The Prime Minister has appointed The Lord Evans of Weardale KCB DL to chair the new Crown Nominations Commission for Canterbury.

The Crown Nominations Commission is the C of E committee that will nominate the candidate to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. Archbishop Welby completed his duties on 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Jonathan Evans has been a Crossbench member of the House of Lords since 2014. Until October 2023 he was Chair of the Committee on Standards in Public Life. He is currently Chair of the HALO Trust, the anti-landmine charity, and of the Public Interest Committee at KPMG UK. He is a former Director-General of the Security Service, MI5. He is an active and communicant member of his local parish church.

## **‘THE BRIDGE’**

*Reminder*

**The magazine subscription for 2025 is now due - £12 per year.**

Please give the money to the person who delivers your magazine. **Cash or Bank transfer are the preferred payment methods. If you pay by bank transfer the account name is Edensor PCC -**

**Co-op Bank**

**Sort Code: 08-92-99**

**Account Number: 65414327**

Please use the reference ‘parish magazine’ and let me know if you have made a payment this way so that I can mark you down as ‘paid’.

If you are only able to pay by cheque this should be made payable to **Edensor PCC.**

If I post the magazine to you please add the cost of a book of 12 stamps (12x 2nd class stamps = £10.20) to your subscription or send a book of stamps to me, Liz Bradshaw.



## 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](http://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](http://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.

## St. Peter's Church, Edensor ~ Bookstall

Following the success of Lynne's notelets and Christmas cards, we want to create an area at the back of Church where we sell and promote the work of local artists and crafts people. As well as promoting local creative people, this will also be an opportunity to raise funds for the Church. If you are a local crafts person or if you know of someone, please contact Clare at [clareg04@gmail.com](mailto:clareg04@gmail.com)

## St. Peter's Edensor

### Why Your Support Really Matters

Regular giving from worshippers, visitors and the community is the primary way that St. Peter's Church in Edensor resources itself.

By scanning this QR code and making an online donation, you will be enabling regular worship together with weddings, baptisms & funerals, Christmas and Easter celebrations, together with all of the activities the church undertakes in Edensor for future generations.

**Scan this QR code with your phone camera to donate now!**



## ST. ANNE'S, BEELEY

TheGivingMachine is a unique registered charity that enables you to generate sales commissions with every online purchase. They convert these commissions into free donations for the schools, charities and other community



organisations you choose. **St Anne's, Beeley** is one of the organisations you can support. The donation is calculated without going via another website so doesn't affect your shopping experience.

Please sign up at <https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk>

### St. Anne's Beeley

#### Why your Support Really Matters

Your support is very important to St. Anne's.

If you would like to make a gift, please scan this QR code with your phone camera. Your gift helps to keep St. Anne's open every day for visitors and the local community, and available for weddings, baptisms and funerals, together with services throughout the year.

St. Anne's church has a long story of faith; your gift enables this beautiful church to be enjoyed and treasured by future generations.

Thank you for your gift.

Scan this QR code with your phone camera to donate now!



### The Parish Giving Scheme - St. Anne's & St. Peter's

#### Do have a chat with the Wardens if you are interested in this

The Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) is a direct debit system set up to help parishes in the Diocese of Derby encourage and grow regular donations and is offered to all churches in the diocese free of charge.

Donations can be made on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis by Direct Debit online, on the phone, or using a PGS gift form.

PGS manages the donation process to ensure all donations are delivered quickly and safely to the parish, and will process the gift aid on those donations meaning the parish receives regular gift aid payments each month.

A unique feature of the scheme is the option for the donor to commit in principle to increase their gift annually in line with inflation.

Whilst this is a voluntary decision, it is one that could potentially have a huge impact on the life and future of the church by tackling static giving.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - FEBRUARY 2025

- 11 BEELEY WI Monthly Meeting** - 7.30pm Beeley Village Hall  
Chatsworth Collections - Charles Noble  
*Refreshments & raffle: Laura Boyce and Jude Shore*
- 19 CHATSWORTH WI Monthly Meeting** - 7pm Cavendish Hall  
'The Role of a Celebrant' - Anna Wright  
*Competition: 'Bring a certificate'*
- 21 BEELEY HERITAGE GROUP** - 7pm Beeley Village Hall  
Ian Else talking about 'The Parish of Pilsley'
- 27 CHATTY CRAFTS - St. Peter's** 10am-12noon in the  
Cavendish Chapel  
Do come along for a cup of tea or coffee, a chat and even some crafting!

### Hearing (Smile...)

A tiny lady was the guest preacher. A few minutes into her sermon, she paused and said: "Can you all hear me at the back?" A kind voice replied: "We can hear you fine. But sadly, we can't quite see you."

## Looking for romance?

February can be lonely if you want a partner but just can't find one. The world seems full of couples buying each other Valentine cards and planning romantic meals for the 14th.

If that is your problem this month, why not at least visit the Christian dating site, Christian Connection? (<https://www.christianconnection.com>)

They have brought literally thousands of people together

since they started in 2000. It is free to join, and you can cancel your subscription any time.

Most important, visit their page on how to prepare yourself for online dating. There is a downloadable guide full of very practical tips of how to have the best chance of finding and connecting safely with someone, who just might become special to you. (<https://www.christianconnection.com/gettingstarted>)





## No place to park

It is often hard to find a parking space. So, a lot of us are taking chances – and getting caught.

As a nation we were handed six million penalty charge notices in 2023 alone, according to recent research by Confused.com, the insurance comparison website.

With 42.3 million driving licences on issue, according to the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA), this suggests that one in seven

drivers received a fine for parking offences in 2023.

Rhydian Jones, a spokesman for Confused.com, said: “If you’re unsure whether you can park in a space or not, don’t take the risk, even if it’s only for a few minutes.”

Parking charge notices handed out by local councils can cost up to £100 for parking infringements, although according to Confused.com the average parking fine is £47.

### St. Peter's Church 100 Club December Draw 2024

1st Prize £25 - no. 64

Maureen Adams

2nd prize £15 - no. 53 David Neale

Funds to church this month - £50

Ann Hall

Did you know that 75 years ago, on 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 1950, the world's first payment by credit card took place? The founders of Diners Club (now Diners Club International) used it to pay their restaurant bill at Majero's Cabin Grill in New York City.

### St. Peter's Church 100 Club

**Subscriptions for 2025 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 2025 to ensure a membership of 100 throughout the year.**

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

Thanking you in anticipation.

**Ann Hall**

## The Padley Centre

Nadine Harrington has received an email from the Padley explaining that their new premises are still not finished and that the other donation facility used for dropping off donations is totally full.

They will let her know when this changes, but it does not look as if this will be for at least a few more weeks yet.

However, if food is donated, Nadine can take this down to Derby, as this will be used immediately for those in daily need, as will hygiene products.

Padley Centre have said they most need - tins of meat, fish, soups, tomatoes, fruit etc. and packets of rice, pasta, cereal, tea and coffee and long life milk as well as toiletries and sanitary products.

## The new trend of clapping in church

Some people are beginning to clap in church, if they are pleased with something.

For tired vicars and timid curates, having a sermon greeted with warm clapping might be an encouragement, if also a complete surprise.

But the applauding of sermons, or applause at the end of services, also reveals a dark side: churchgoing has now declined to

such a degree in the UK, that even the knowledge of 'how to behave' in church is fading.

That leaves some people unaware that in the UK, aside from a few 'mega churches' where American style singing, dancing and clapping is the norm, applause is not something we 'do' in church.

As one vicar puts it: "I think it has to do with cultural expectations. People are less and less familiar with acts of worship directed to God. Instead, they have a sense of a performance."

It was 75 years ago, on 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 1950, that the *Red Scare* began in the USA. US Senator Joseph MacCarthy announced that he had a list of "known communists" who worked in the US State Department. He went on to make further sensational claims that Communists, Soviet spies and sympathisers were in the federal government and US Army. None of these claims could be substantiated.

## **The crime that runs in families**

How many parents team up with their offspring to commit fraud? The answer might surprise you.

For research has found that nearly one in five young motorists are lying to their car insurers as to who is the main driver of their car.

The practise is called 'fronting'. Young drivers claim that a parent is the main driver of the car, not them. Sometimes the parent knows this has happened; but sometimes they do not.

'Fronting' results in a cheaper insurance premium to pay, but it is insurance fraud, and a very real criminal offence. Anyone who is

caught can face a driving ban, having their car seized by the police, and being issued with an unlimited fine.

The reason for 'fronting'? Car insurance premiums for newly qualified young drivers have soared to an all-time high. A 17-year-old who has just passed their driving test faces an eye-watering annual premium of about £3,075.

But the AA urges parents to "have open conversations with their young driver about the importance of providing accurate information when applying for car insurance. By doing so, they can help their children avoid the serious legal and financial repercussions associated with 'fronting' and ensure they are driving safely and legally."

## **How many minutes of walking might help you avoid a heart attack?**

It seems that keeping your heart reasonably healthy may not take a lot of time.

Researchers at the University of Sydney have found a link between short but intense bursts of activity and a significant drop in heart disease among people who otherwise engage in little activity.

Sedentary women who did just 3.4 minutes of "vigorous intermittent" exercise, such as brisk walking or climbing the stairs, each day, suffered 67 per cent fewer cases of heart failure, with an overall reduction in heart disease of 45 per cent, compared to those not exercising at all.

Sedentary men who did 2.3 minutes of exercise, which could include carrying heavy shopping or heavy garden work, saw an 11 per cent reduction in heart attacks and strokes.

## **Middle aged? Don't skip breakfast!**

If you skip breakfast in your middle age, it can make you fatter and unhealthy.

Instead, a recent study advises that having a well-balanced breakfast helps manage daily calorie intake and lower cholesterol, BMI and waist size.

Breakfast “serves the critical role of breaking the extended fasting period from sleep.”

NHS guidelines recommend 2,000 calories a day for women and 2,500

for men. Breakfast should account for a quarter of this: 500 calories for women and 625 calories for men.

The study was carried out at the Hospital del Mar Research Institute in Barcelona. It disregarded the ‘full English’ breakfast as being too full of saturated fat levels. Instead, it recommends cereals, protein, a healthy fat source, fruits and vegetables.

## ***So, how about having an egg.....?***

### **In praise of the humble egg**

■ We love eggs. On average, we eat at least two of them each week, which makes eggs one of Britain's most popular foods.

■ Eggs are exceptionally good for you – high in protein, containing all the essential amino acids, rich in the B vitamins, vitamin D and A, and choline, and a source of healthy fats.

■ Eggs are also filling, and with 7.5g of protein in less than 80 calories

per egg, there are few other foods that can match them for so much protein per gram. They are also inexpensive and easy to cook.

Experts recommend eating one or two eggs a day, and choosing a low-fat way of cooking them, by boiling or poaching. Cooking them in butter is a bit lower in fat than frying them in olive oil. Free-range eggs generally contain more vitamin D.

## **Rome bracing to welcome 60 million visitors this year**

If you like peace and quiet, it is best to avoid Rome this year.

For 2025 is a Jubilee Year for the city, and tens of millions of visitors worldwide are expected to converge on Rome. In all, a staggering 60 million are expected.

As Pope Francis has recently explained: "Once again, Rome will welcome pilgrims from across the globe, as it did in 1300 during the first Church Jubilee." Many religious and cultural events on the theme of 'Pilgrims of Hope' are planned.

The Pope foresees that this year Rome will be a "place of hospitality, a

melting pot of diversity and dialogue, a multicultural hub where the world's colours come together like a mosaic. Rome can embody an eternal spirit, rooted in its glorious past yet committed to building a future without barriers, discrimination or mistrust."

The Jubilee tradition harks back to Old Testament Jewish practices. The modern tradition of Jubilee began with Pope Boniface VIII. It was seen as a time of grace, "offering freedom to those imprisoned by sin, resignation, and despair."

The 2025 Jubilee coincides with the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, as well as a rare common celebration of Easter by all the Churches.

## **C of E is "glad to play its part" in the rural economy**

So says the Bishop of St Albans, Dr Alan Smith. He was speaking in a recent House of Lords debate.

He said that local churches are "at the heart of many of our rural communities across the country, wanting to contribute to their flourishing and thriving."

Dr Smith, declaring his interest "as president of the Rural Coalition and

as a vice-president of the Local Government Association", went on to say: "Nearly 20 per cent of the population of this country live in the countryside, and over half a million businesses are registered in rural areas, employing 3.8 million people.

"The rural economy contributes over £315 billion a year to England alone. It is vital, then, that the Government's missions not only deliver for rural communities but enable the rural economy to play its part in helping to deliver them."

## **C of E facing an 'existential crisis'**

The C of E is facing "one of the biggest existential crises ... since the Reformation," following the Makin review of abuse perpetrated by John Smyth. That is the view of the Bishop of Rochester, Dr Jonathan Gibbs.

He was speaking recently after his diocesan synod had voted in favour of a motion that expressed no confidence in the Archbishops' Council's past oversight of safeguarding.

Dr Gibbs said: "In many people's views, and I think I would share it,

this is one of the biggest existential crises that the C of E has faced since the Reformation. There is a real need for what I would call a pastoral response, acknowledging that hurt and pain, particularly of victims and survivors, that so many people are feeling."

The bishop said there should also be "a call to prayer and repentance across the Church, leading to a period of deep reflection on the kind of cultural change that is needed at all levels."

## **Should the Churches agree on a common date for Easter?**

That is the question for the leaders of the Roman Catholic and the Eastern Orthodox Churches, as this year (2025) marks the 1700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea.

Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople believes that 2025 is a 'golden opportunity' for Catholic and Orthodox believers to finally agree on a joint date for Easter, because this year also brings a 'fortunate alignment' of the Easter dates of both churches.

"It is indeed regrettable that 1700 years later, we are still debating this issue," he says.

Any agreement would only pertain to the date of Easter's celebration. It would not involve any joint liturgical practices. Those would require ecclesial communion between the churches, something which does not yet exist.

In 2016 the Archbishop of Canterbury held talks with Coptic Pope Tawadros II in Cairo, when he hoped that a unified date for Easter might be achieved within ten years. He commented that, for the C of E, either the second or third Sunday in April would be acceptable.

## You can count on me

*David Pickup, a solicitor, considers the challenge of counting in church.*

*"Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." (Matthew 18:19-21)*

I cannot count in church. I do not know why, but I cannot.

I mean that, when I am at the front and leading a service, I try to add up how many people there are in the congregation. We are supposed to do this and enter the figures in the church register, but I find it difficult. I usually give up and hope a warden has counted them. Do you include the leader and the organist? Well, yes, to increase the figures!

I am not sure why counting in church is a problem, as people do not move around. Yes, it is sometimes difficult to see heads in pews, but it should be easy. I start on one side and go to the back and then up the other side but then I get lost and have to start again. Sometimes the congregation see me looking from one to another and nodding gently to myself.

Numbers are important of course, but I am in two minds. Sometimes there are only a few and I think the pressure is off me, but it is disappointing, working hard to prepare a service and then not have many there. Often it seems that the congregation try a trick on me - and wait until the very last minute to rush in!

Numbers are important, but the most important figures are two and three. The most important relationships are between partners or a child and their parents. There is the same idea in the Bible.

The Church of England's Order for Evening Prayer puts it like this:

*"Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests".*

I always like to pause between saying out loud the words two and three, which is good because I can just about count up to three!



# That Big Freeze of 1955

*Tim Lenton looks back on an exceptionally bitter winter.*

Seventy years ago, from early February 1955 and well into March, a Big Freeze took place in Britain. Deep snow and freezing temperatures caused havoc, with many places cut off. The RAF dropped food and medical supplies to affected areas, while thousands of sheep died from exposure.

Although the winters of 1947 and 1963 have attracted more publicity, 1955 saw severe weather in most parts of Britain, as well as in other parts of Europe and North America.

Snow fell in many areas of the UK from 11<sup>th</sup> February onwards, with night frosts gradually worsening and blizzards developing over the north of Scotland, where the RAF scrambled to do several rescues: in Caithness the response by emergency services was known as Operation Snowdrop. An exhausting search for a postman from Thurso, who went missing in the deep snow, eventually led to his being found at a remote farm where he had sought refuge.

Several snowploughs were stranded, and the heavy snow spread gradually south, reaching as far as the Scillies and the Channel Islands. In North Norfolk there were 10ft drifts on the coast road, and Lancashire had its worst storm for 14 years. Devon, Cornwall and the Peak District had similar experiences.

More than 70 roads in Britain were blocked by snow, according to the Automobile Association, and hundreds of vehicles were abandoned in snowdrifts. Many parts of the country were cut off from essential supplies, and rail travel was disrupted. Church attendance was also hit, of course.

Temperatures in some places fell below 28F (-3C) – the lowest for 30 years, and February's record UK minimum was set. That year also experienced the last May snowfall of the century, but despite all that, there was plenty of sunshine, and as a total contrast, there was a drought and a heatwave the following summer.

## **13<sup>th</sup> February - Modomnoc and the bees of Ireland**

Legend tells us that it was St Modomnoc who first brought bees to Ireland, in the early 540s AD. Although it's more likely that the bees had drifted over from Britain after the last Ice Age all by themselves, certainly Modomnoc did his bit to help them.

Modomnoc was a 6th century abbot, probably one of the royal O'Neill family of Ireland. When he sailed over to Wales to study under St David in his Pembrokeshire monastery of Menevia, he was given the duty of caring for the bees of the monastery.

This he did so well that the bees must have grown very fond of him,

because when he was setting sail to return to Ireland, a swarm of his bees settled on his ship and went back with him. Thus apiculture – and hopefully lots of honey – was introduced to Ireland.

Even the Martyrology of Oegus the Culdee (c800) records that it was “in a little boat from the east over the pure-coloured sea my Domnoc brought ... the gifted race of Ireland's bees.”

In time, Modomnoc, and presumably his bees, settled in Tibberaghny (Co. Kilkenny). Today, there are about 3,500 – 4,000 beekeepers in Ireland.

## **National Society calls for long-term curriculum and assessment reform**

The National Society for Education has published its response to the Department for Education's Curriculum and Assessment Review, calling for a long-term vision for reform that places equity and aspiration at the heart of education.

The response advocates for systemic changes, to ensure that “all children

flourish, regardless of their background or circumstances.”

Key proposals include:

- Blending academic, technical, and vocational pathways
- Strengthening the quality and status of Religious Education (RE)
- Addressing the needs of marginalised groups
- Resourcing teachers and schools to deliver high-quality learning

## **Danger ahead for Britain's canals**

Our historic canals are in danger of disappearing.

Caught in a 'perfect storm' of extreme weather events and funding cuts, the canals could be facing irreparable damage to huge stretches of their waterways. The Canal and River Trust (CRT) warns that even the historic sections of the Grand Union Canal and the scenic Oxford Canal are at risk.

Now the CRT, which is responsible for the upkeep of the country's historic canal network, has launched a major fundraising campaign. Millions of pounds are needed for a programme of replacing ageing lock gates and repairing tunnels and bridges.

The problem is huge because our canal network, dating back to the 1760s, runs for a whopping 2,000 miles, providing a haven for wildlife as well as thousands of jobs along its routes.

But major storms caused almost £10 million of additional repairs to the network in just the past 18 months alone. This included a

major landslip involving 4,000 tons of mud on the Oxford Canal, which severed one of the busiest and oldest canals in the country. Then parts of the Grand Union Canal bank and towpath near Leicester collapsed, needing £500,000 of repairs. Elsewhere, dams were breached and other canals flooded.

Meanwhile, the CRT says the money it receives from DEFRA is set to fall by more than £300 million from 2027.

Yet CRT points out: "Britain's ageing canals are a national treasure. They have been re-purposed for modern society for leisure, recreation and for their wildlife, supporting thousands of jobs and the economy and saving the NHS more than £1 billion annually because of the health and wellbeing benefits they bring to millions of people."

## The world of P G Wodehouse

*Tim Lenton looks back on a well-loved writer.*

Fifty years ago, on 14<sup>th</sup> February 1975, P G Wodehouse died. The well-loved British-born comic novelist, short story writer, lyricist and playwright who lived his later life in Long Island, USA is best known as the creator of Jeeves.

He was always a prolific writer, publishing more than 90 books, 450 plays, 200 short stories and much else between 1902 and 1974. He had an unusual first few years, being brought up by relative strangers in England while his parents lived in Hong Kong. He later went to Dulwich College, with which he formed a close attachment.

Wodehouse's genius was primarily in his writing; in person he was described as "dull," and was certainly very shy. Baptised an Anglican, he had an agnostic outlook: Evelyn Waugh once said that Christianity didn't really apply in his work because he – or his characters – had never left the Garden of Eden. He wrote sympathetically about "pious but fallible" curates, vicars and

bishops, and his work revealed an unexpectedly deep knowledge of Scripture.

Born in Guildford, he moved to France for tax reasons in 1934 and was later taken prisoner by the advancing Germans in 1940. After his eventual release he made the naïve mistake of making five broadcasts on German radio to the USA, which had not yet entered the war. The broadcasts were humorous and apolitical, but they provoked some anger in Britain, to where he never returned.

Wodehouse took US citizenship in 1955, while retaining his British one. He had always loved America, and his biographers suggested that this "exile" may have benefited his writing, helping him to go on describing an idealised England, rather than the harsher reality of the post-war years.

He died in Southampton, Long Island, New York, a month after he was made a Knight in the Order of the British Empire (KBE).

# Reflecting Faith: Church Buildings

*The Revd Dr Jo White considers the visual impact of church buildings.*

We have been thinking about different aspects of church buildings. But what about ‘the whole thing’? - the impression you have when you first see a church building?

Most of us have visited many church buildings, either to worship or as a tourist: to enjoy the splendour, the colours, the style and the architecture, with or without necessarily a time of prayer or worship.

There are some amazingly staggering designs around the world – one only has to think of the complex and intricate stone carving of Gaudi’s catholic basilica in Barcelona, Spain (due to be completed next year!) and then compare that to the sleekness of the Lutheran (Church of Iceland) parish church in Reykjavík, Iceland.

How about the grandeur of St Peter’s in Rome, full of baroque gold and rich colours? Or what about St Basil’s Cathedral in Red Square, Moscow – now a

museum but topped with amazingly coloured onion domes?

Just looking at the outside of a building tells you a lot about what it is likely to be like inside, the purpose of the building and the style of worship to expect there.

It’s not just about the condition of the fabric, or the tidiness of the grounds but rather the architecture itself.

When we see a contemporary modern building, we will expect the worship to match it: whether that is Protestant, Catholic or any other denomination.

*This month -*

If you were designing a brand-new church building today, what would you put into it and therefore what would the exterior look like? What would you want on the outside, to express your faith? Would you include any specific Christian symbols, or be more all-encompassing?

## **Eric Liddell – from Olympic star to Japanese internment prisoner**

*Tim Lenton looks back on a much-loved Olympic runner.*

Eighty years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> February 1945, Scottish athlete Eric Liddell died. An Olympic gold medallist in 1924 at Paris, he had withdrawn from the 100m heat because it was held on a Sunday, and had entered the 400m instead. The story is featured in the film *Chariots of Fire*.

Liddell died in a Japanese internment camp in China, aged 43. He wrote to his wife on the day he died saying he was suffering from a nervous breakdown brought on by overwork, but he was also malnourished and had an undiagnosed brain tumour. Five months after his death, the camp was liberated.

Liddell was born in China to Scottish missionary parents and attended boarding school at Eltham College in South London, where he is remembered as an outstanding all-round athlete “entirely without vanity”. He later

went to the University of Edinburgh, which awarded him a posthumous degree last year in recognition of his contribution to sport and humanity.

Originally intending to run in the 200m at Paris, Liddell discovered en route that the heats for the event would take place on a Sunday. So, he switched to the 400m – and won in an Olympic record time of 47.6 seconds.

“God made me fast. And when I run, I feel His pleasure,” he said.

He returned to China the following year and stayed there until his death, apart from two furloughs to Scotland, during one of which in 1932 he was ordained a minister of the Congregational Union of Scotland. He then continued his selfless missionary work, largely as a teacher, in China, where he married Florence Mackenzie, a China-born Canadian. Their daughter Heather died in 2023.

When Scotsman Allan Wells won the 100m gold medal in Moscow in 1980, he dedicated his victory to Eric Liddell.

## God in the Sciences

*Written by Dr Ruth M Bancewicz, Church Engagement Director at The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge. Ruth writes on the positive relationship between Science and Christian faith.*

### The Love of Wisdom of Natural Things

Some time ago a scientist was invited to speak at the Dewsbury Women's Institute. He spoke about his research on polymers, hoping that the women of this Yorkshire mill town would connect with his desire to develop new fibres.

One person in particular, a woman called Betty who had worked in a mill since the age of 15, listened as if her life depended on it, and peppered him with questions afterwards. She had always been interested in how things work, but until that day had not found anyone to answer her questions. Whenever she had asked about the processes that they were using in the mill, she was just told to get on with her job.

From the outside, science can seem a closed specialty, hemmed in by intimidating jargon. When McLeish described science as 'the love of wisdom of natural things', however, he realised he was opening a door. He was moved to see that Betty was

not the only person who shed a tear when her questions were finally taken seriously, confirming that her enquiring mind was indeed probing in the right direction – only 50 years too late.

Hearing about people like Betty reminds me that science is a very natural activity for anyone to be involved in. McLeish is convinced that there is a future in 'science therapy'. In his book *Faith and Wisdom in Science*, where this story appears, he asks the question "If a reintroduction to the activity of representing both inner and outer worlds in paint, music and drama can help to heal minds, what hope might there be for a participation in a gentle and contemplative science in restoring a broken or misunderstood relationship with the physical world?"

This story inspired me to run a number of hands-on science activities with adult audiences in churches. I have extracted DNA from strawberries with a midweek group for older people, organised hands-on exhibits to liven up lecture or discussion events, and even had groups extracting DNA from their own cheek cells.

Every time I lead activities like these, I find that grown-ups are grateful for

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the opportunity to have a go at science themselves. I love helping church-based groups, in particular, to reconnect with science and celebrate what they find. Science is not just for

children and professionals – it is for everyone to enjoy and explore the world God made.

## **That marmalade colour in cats**

It has been a mystery for cat lovers everywhere: what makes some cats ginger?

Now – after 60 years of searching – scientists have good news. They have finally found the chunk of DNA that is responsible. The so-called Garfield gene is Arhgap36.

Arhgap36 has been hiding away on the X chromosome, of which males have one copy while females have two. When the Arhgap36 gene is present on a cat's X chromosome, it forces the pigment-making cells in

the skin to produce more pheomelanin, leading to the orange morph.

It seems that if a male inherits this gene from either parent, he will be Garfield-ginger, while a female will usually turn calico or tortoiseshell.

This may sound simple, but it took two teams of scientists, one at Stanford University in the US and one at Kyushu University in Japan, to find the Garfield gene independently, thereby solving a 60-year mystery.



## **The Poetry of Pilgrimage:**

### **Reflections on Celtic Pilgrimage sites in Ireland and Britain**

**By Michael Mitton, BRF, £12.99 (Book Review)**

Drawing from his experience of co-leading pilgrimages in Britain and Ireland, Michael Mitton captures the essence of 23 significant pilgrimage sites for anyone from experienced pilgrims to armchair pilgrims. Each chapter outlines the story of the Celtic saint who founded the site, together with information about the location, a poem inspired by the author's experience of that place, a reflective question, a suggested Bible reading and a photo of the site.

## God in the Arts

*The Revd Michael Burgess considers the sacred in Art.*

### **‘My First Sermon’ by John Everett Millais**

There is a story of two men talking about their new vicar. One says to the other, “This new one’s not a patch on the old vicar. With the old one preaching I was asleep in five minutes. With the new one it takes all of ten.” Some churches in times past employed ‘sluggard-walkers’ who had long rods and walked down the aisles, ready to wake up the faithful if they had nodded off during the sermon.

Sluggard-walkers are not needed for this month’s painting, *My First Sermon* by John Everett Millais. It hangs in the Guildhall Art Gallery in London, which houses the art collection of our capital city. The Gallery is built on the site of an amphitheatre and was only completed in 1999, having replaced a building that was destroyed in the blitz of 1941. It has over 4000 works, many of them from the Victorian and Pre-Raphaelite period. Among them is this painting by Millais which depicts Effie, his 5-year-old daughter sitting in Kingston Church. She is dressed properly and sensibly for the occasion with feathered hat, muff and a cloak of vivid red. Her mother’s prayer book

and gloves are by her side. Effie is listening with great concentration.

When the painting was exhibited in 1863, it was a great success. In the following year Millais produced *My Second Sermon* – a very different occasion, for Effie has now fallen asleep with her hat by her side. Millais was often criticised for his sentimental portraits of children as in *Cherry Ripe* and *Bubbles*. But in 1864 the Archbishop of Canterbury, Charles Longley, praised this second painting for reminding us of ‘the evil of lengthy sermons and drowsy discourses.’

As we look at Effie alert one Sunday, asleep the next, we can smile. But we might also ask how we respond to the Word that comes to us through the medium of words in the weekly sermon. The preacher has the daunting task of using this everyday coinage of words to draw us into that mysterious, life-giving realm of the Word, Jesus. The words spoken must make a straight path for the Lord to reach each human heart.

The two paintings of Millais depict the reality and fragility of this endeavour. Sometimes our attention is engaged; at others, drowsiness closes our eyes and even our hearts to the good news of salvation. On occasions the sermon sows seeds,

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

January  
solution



February  
Sudoku

		1		6			8	
8			5				7	2
		9	2	4		3		
	5							
		3	7	1	5	2		
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## National Nest Box Week – 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February



Where can family-minded birds raise their young these days? As our gardens and parklands become smaller and tidier, too many natural nest sites – such as holes in trees, old buildings and unkempt hedgerows – are rapidly disappearing

No wonder that our sparrows, greenfinches and swifts are in precipitous decline, and that one in four of our UK bird species are now under serious threat.

This makes it more important than ever to care for our remaining birds. By feeding, providing water and putting up nest boxes we can give them a safe space to raise their chicks.

The National Nest Box Week initiative encourages bird conservation across the UK, and it's easy to get involved, whether you're a teacher, part of a local wildlife group, or just wanting to boost the bird numbers in your own garden.

Visit: <https://www.countryfile.com/wildlife/birds/national-nest-box-week-how-to-help-birds-in-your-garden>

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which can bear fruit. At other times, all kinds of factors mitigate against the sermon's success. Let us pray that as listener or as preacher, we may be aware of the dynamic power

of the Word, which, as Karl Rahner wrote, calls us 'out of the little house of our homely, close-hugged truths into the strangeness of the mystery of God that is our real home.'

## **Baslow Health Centre – Church Lane, Baslow**

[www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk](http://www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk)

### **Patient Online:**

Have you registered to use the online service? This allows you to book or cancel appointments on line (during normal service) 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

District Nursing Team 01332 564 900

Health Visitor: 01629 816633

### **Normal Surgery Opening Times**

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

(closed Bank Holidays)

(Phones 8am – 6.30pm Mon - Fri).

### **Surgery Closure**

The surgery will be closed on  
**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February from  
1pm for training purposes.**

## **Ordering Repeat Medication**

You can order repeat medications in the following ways:

- In writing or with our on-line access service
- Return your repeat request form to surgery by Post or Fax

Please allow **three** working days before collection and **collect between 8am and 5pm**

**Prescriptions can be collected from reception inside the surgery.**

**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, either through the letterbox or at reception.

**Test Results** – Please ring for **test results after 2.30pm** as we do not receive test results back from the hospital until lunchtime.

**For Urgent Calls when  
we are closed call 111**

## **Pilsley C of E Primary School NURSERY**

### **FREE childcare places AVAILABLE**

- Exceptional grounds for exploration and play, with Forest School activities, and an outdoor classroom.
- Highly experienced, well qualified early years practitioners.
- Daily 'Read, Write, Inc' phonics and maths sessions.
- High quality child-led learning and continuous provision.
- Links to the local churches and community.
- State of the art interactive smartboard technology in every classroom.
- Dedicated music, baking and PE sessions.
- Delicious home-cooked lunches, prepared on site.

## **Love the children**

The original St Valentine gave love in the form of compassion for some needy children.

That sort of love is still needed today, as UNICEF says that about 1 billion children worldwide are currently facing 'multidimensional poverty.' That means they lack necessities like food, water, shelter, education and health care.

No one can get their minds around the needs of one billion children, but most of us could do something to help at least one child in need.

With World Vision's Sponsor a Child campaign, you can choose

how much to give. It could be as little as £5 a month. It could be as much as £26.

Whatever you can give, you will be joining an "incredible community" of child sponsors who, like you, simply want to give the most vulnerable children a brighter future.

To learn more, visit: <https://www.worldvision.org.uk/sponsor-a-child/>





## THE CAVENDISH CLUB

The Cavendish Club is a wonderful facility for the people and associates of Chatsworth, located at the rear of the Estate Office building opposite Edensor village.

All Estate pass holders, tenants of Chatsworth, and Chatsworth sports club members are granted automatic free membership of the Club and are welcome to come along and enjoy the great atmosphere with their guests. We serve classic pub dishes and fabulous local beers and wines all of which are very reasonably priced in accordance with the core Chatsworth value of looking after our people.

**We are open:** Tuesday 16:00 - 23:00  
Wednesday/Thursday/Friday 11:00 - 23:00  
Saturday 16:00 - 23:00

**Lunch options and light bites** 11:00 - 14:00 Wednesday, Thursday & Friday  
**Evening meals available** 17:30 - 21:00 Wednesday - Saturday

**Check out our Facebook page for details on our monthly quiz nights and special evenings**

For enquiries, bookings and any other business just give us a call on 01246 565392 or email [Andrew.Garrod@chatsworth.org](mailto:Andrew.Garrod@chatsworth.org). We look forward to seeing you!

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## **CAVENDISH VILLAGE HALL, BEELEY**

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- Small meeting room seating 12 persons.
- Main hall seating 100 persons.
- Situated within a well maintained garden.



Currently used for Yoga, Flamenco dancing, band practice, Society meetings, Wedding receptions and of course parties. An ideal venue for anything from small one off meetings to regular courses.

Available for ½ day, full day or evening bookings.

For more information or to make a booking please contact 07900 214 286 or look at our website [www.beelevillage.org.uk](http://www.beelevillage.org.uk)

## **27<sup>th</sup> February - George Herbert, vicar and poet**

On this day the Church Calendar celebrates George Herbert. For those who are muttering 'never heard of him', just think of the hymn 'Let all the world/ In every corner sing', which he wrote, along with several other hymns which are still popular, even if they are well over 300 years old. In the course of his short life he was a graduate of Cambridge University, a favoured politician of King James, a distinguished poet of the so-called 'metaphysical' school, and a much-loved parish priest at Bemerton, in Wiltshire.

He was born in Wales but grew up in a wealthy family in England. As a student he felt called to ordination, but when he had graduated, he was drawn instead into the government of the time. As a

protégé of King James (yes, the one of the 'King James Bible') he could have pursued a career in government, but that youthful call persisted and after a while he turned instead to the ministry of the Church of England. It was an era when many clergy were absentee incumbents, paying someone else to do the parish work while they lived elsewhere, but Herbert set himself to be a true parish priest, noted for his pastoral care and practical support of his parishioners. The whole of his ministry was fulfilled in that one parish, until he died at 39 from what we would now call tuberculosis.

It is of course his hymns for which he is chiefly remembered today, though his Collected Poems are also regarded as jewels of English poetry.



# READINGS & ROTAS FOR FEBRUARY 2025

<u>ST. ANNE'S, BEELEY</u>		<u>FLOWERS &amp; BRASSES</u>
2	3pm Family Communion	Barbara Hawksworth
9	9.30am Holy Communion	“ “
16	9.30am Holy Communion	Fiona Lichfield
23	9.30am Holy Communion	“ “
<u>ST. PETER'S, EDENSOR</u>		<u>SIDESMEN</u>
2	10.45am Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Wardle
9	10.45am Holy Communion	John Caws/Diana Walters
16	10.45am Matins	John Bowns/Mike Pindar
23	10.45am Holy Communion	Mr & Mrs Gordon
<u>COFFEE</u>	<u>CLEANING*</u>	<u>FLOWERS</u>
2	Mr & Mrs Sherwood	Mr & Mrs Wardle Diana Walters
9	Mr & Mrs Jackson Kate Green/Nadine Harrington	Wilma Day
16	Mr & Mrs Hubbuck	Fabulous Cleaners “ “
23	Clive & Joy Thrower	Marian & Terry Grealey Amanda Neale
* Please note the dates given are the Sunday dates when the cleaning should be done for		
<u>READINGS</u>	<u>ST. PETER'S</u>	<u>ST. ANNE'S</u>
2 Hebrews 2:14-end Luke 2: 22-40	Mike Woodcock Candlemas	TBA
9 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 Luke 5:1-11	Christine Robinson Fourth before Lent/ Epiphany 5	Fiona Lichfield
16 Jeremiah 17:5 -10 Luke 6:17-26	Roger Wardle Third before Lent/ Septuagesima	Claire Cadogan
23 Revelation 4: 1-end Luke 8: 22-25	Trevor Grimshaw Second Sunday before Lent/ Sexagesima	Fiona Swain
Items for the <b>MARCH</b> magazine should reach me <b>NO LATER THAN MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY</b> : email to: <a href="mailto:liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk">liz.bradshaw@w3z.co.uk</a> The 'Bridge' Parish Magazine £1 per copy (£12 per year)		

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## Fresh food *sourced* from the land

Our curated menus tell a story of the land with Chatsworth Garden fruits, vegetables and herbs, and ingredients from some of Derbyshire's best suppliers.



From the natural interior touches and views across Chatsworth Park, to the seasonal ingredients we serve, The Garden Room celebrates a strong connection to the surrounding landscape.

The Gallery Restaurant is a serene space to enjoy an ambitious take on the very best local produce. We look forward to welcoming you for lunch, dinner or afternoon tea soon.



For bookings and enquiries call 01246 582311  
or visit [cavendishhotelbaslow.co.uk](http://cavendishhotelbaslow.co.uk)

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