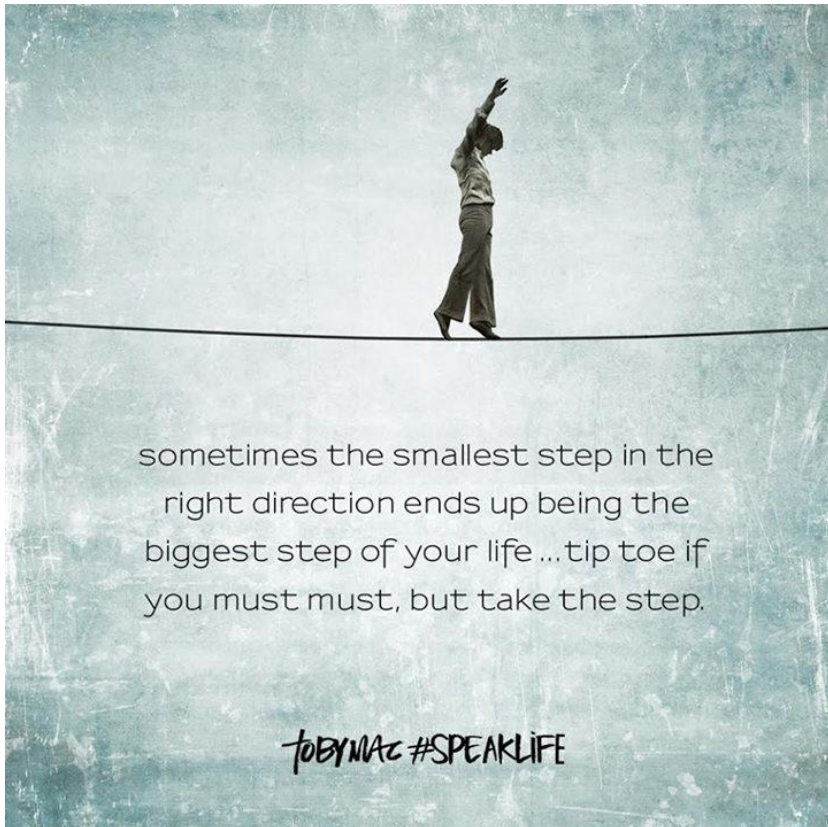


PARISH NEWSLETTER

February 2016

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

The Anglican minister for the villages in the Parish of Alne is Rev. Chris Park. He can be contacted by telephone on 01347 838122 or by e-mail at pastaparko@parkfamily.me.uk.



sometimes the smallest step in the
right direction ends up being the
biggest step of your life ... tip toe if
you must must, but take the step.

TOBYNAZ #SPEAKLIFE



Choices for 2016

Happy new year to you all!

Today a key value we have in UK society is choice. Wisdom is perceived as maximising choice. Some choices we make are more important than others. Which toothpaste to use at one end of the spectrum, to more significant choices like the way we earn a living, whether to marry and if we do who to marry. What type of career/job to choose and the implications this has for relationships with those who we love.

A friend of ours returning to the UK after 20+ years in India developed depression because she was overwhelmed by the consumer choices before her. They became too much for her mind to contain!

I saw an article on-line today which said that the most common verbally expressed emotion was love. This could be expressed between a married couple, within families or friends etc. However the second most commonly expressed emotion was regret. 'I wish I had not done this' or 'I wish had done that.'

New Year's resolutions are often a time when we think about making positive choices to live better. Whether we choose to love more and regret less, to go to the gym to work off Christmas, or to pursue healthier eating. Whatever the choices we make for 2016, God has good things in store for those who would seek him. Why not join us on an Alpha course in 2016! That would be a positive choice.

Rev Chris Park
Vicar

Seeking God?



Over the Christmas period Carmel and I were thrilled to see so many of you join us in church to celebrate the birth of Jesus. During these celebrations a number of you have expressed a desire to know God more and know about God and his love for us. If you would like to follow this up please contact either myself or Carmel. We will work out the where and when questions once we know who would like to meet.

Chris is on 01347 838122 and pastaparko@parkfamily.me.uk

Carmel is on 01423 36077702 and carmel-gittens@live.co.uk

Rev Chris Park

The Church Seasons and Colours: Epiphany

Many people have asked about the Church's seasons and why we change the colours of our various cloths and robes in Church. The historic Church Calendar observes six special seasons: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost.

The Church seasons follow the life of Jesus Christ, beginning with the preparation for his birth in Advent, the birth of the Christ child at Christmas, the journey of discipleship in Epiphany as the Wise Men follow the star to Bethlehem, the preparation for remembrance of Jesus' passion and death during Lent and Holy Week, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead at Easter and his ascension into Heaven.

After His ascension, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost and build our relationship with the risen Christ during this season. This is also a good time to review what we are doing both individually and as a Church, to fulfil Christ's "Great Commission" to go into all the world and preach His Gospel (Good News) of Salvation.

We are back to Advent and while we begin preparing again for the coming Nativity celebration, we remember that we also look forward to another, coming advent of Christ, His Second Coming to judge the world.

I will explain each season as it occurs with the colours associated as they arrive in our Church calendar, but let's recap a little as we go back to the start of Advent which is the beginning of the Anglican Church year.

Advent: The First and Second Coming of Christ

The Church year begins with the Season of the Advent of Our Lord, the four weeks of getting ready for the coming birth of Jesus in Bethlehem on Christmas Day. Advent is a time of joyful preparation for the wonderful time when the Son of God came to earth to live as a person among ordinary people. The colour we use in Church during Advent is purple.

In the Anglican Church observance of Advent Season occurs during the period of the four Sundays before Christmas. The beginning of Advent can therefore fall any time between 27th November and 3rd December.

Christmas: Christ's Gift of Salvation

Christmas Season begins with Christmas Day, 25th December and continues until Epiphany. Christmas is a season of thankfulness for Christ's first coming to provide salvation. The colour of Christmas is White or Gold.

Epiphany: Wise men Still Worship Him

The Church of England's Epiphany season begins at Evening Prayer on the Eve of the Epiphany (which may be celebrated on 6th January or the Sunday between 2nd and 8th January) and ends at Evening Prayer (or Night Prayer) on the Feast of the Presentation (which may be celebrated on 2nd February or on the Sunday).

Epiphany means "manifestation" or revelation, and is the official season for proclaiming the identity of Christ. Epiphany commemorates the Wise Men coming to Bethlehem to worship the Baby Jesus. The shepherds that came to visit Jesus were Jews and the Wise men were foreigners. There is symbolism in this to show that Jesus was born to save everyone be they

Jew or Gentile. Epiphany is a season of worship, as the whole world follows the Wise Men to find and honour Jesus. The colour of Epiphany is green.

Today we tend to celebrate our Holidays (Holy Days) as individual days and so we like to celebrate the Magi as part of the Christmas Nativity---why single them out again in early January?

In previous times (and still in some countries, such as Mexico) it was "the twelve days of Christmas" (like the Song) and then the Wise Men "arrive", and while they are "here" it is the Epiphany Season which includes:

- The Baptism of Our Lord, on the Sunday after the Epiphany
- The Presentation of Jesus at the temple.
- The Last Sunday after the Epiphany is Transfiguration Day.

Carmel Gittens

Thank you for Christmas

Could I just say a huge and heart felt thank you to everyone in the communities who helped us to celebrate the birth of Jesus over Christmas. Musicians, Christingle makers, those who welcomed or decorated churches. It was wonderful to see the community coming together to celebrate.

Rev Chris Park

Community Bible Study - the Easingwold CBSI group meets at the Galtres Centre every Wednesday morning. This very lively gathering is led by the Revd Roy Wadsworth. If anyone is interested, please contact: Barbara Smith (01347 823538).

NEWS FROM ALNE CHURCH

As usual December was a very busy time for the Church! Attendance at the Christmas services increased once more and over two hundred and fifty children and adults were at the Christingle service.



In addition, Chris Park re-launched the Carol Service which was supported by both the Salvation Army Band and also the Alne Singers (which had started last September). A big “thank you” to all members of the band and the choir for their support.



However, after Christmas came the floods in York and in our area and we offer our sympathy to all our neighbours whose houses and property have been damaged.

The damaged beam in the belfry floor has been repaired at a cost of £2,395 and we now plan to repair the walls of the churchyard. This will be carried out in two phases; starting with the wall down Church Wind.

St Mary's Church Restoration Appeal

Due to your generous contributions the Fund has now reached £35,000 and still growing – please keep up the good work!!

Village Hall News and Dates for your Diary:**The “All New Alne Quiz Night” - Saturday, 27th February 2016 at 7.30p.m.**

Back by popular demand, but shorter, more fun and less paper than ever before! There will be a bar and refreshments to keep those brain cells working. Put the date in your diaries for what should be a sociable and entertaining evening. There will be plenty of time for chatting with friends and the quiz rounds will include something for everyone. Tickets £3 for adults, children free.



Alan Bennett “Talking Heads” 19th March 2016. We are very fortunate to be able to bring to Alne, not one, but two, “Talking Heads” plays to be performed by the library theatre touring company. The plays “A Lady of Letters” and “Bed Among the Lentils” should prove popular with young and old alike. This is a one night only performance so to avoid disappointment book your tickets early. Call either Gudrun on 838864 or Rosemary on 838384 to reserve your tickets. Tickets £8 adults, £5 students.

Old Red Eyes – 16th April 2016. Tribute to Paul Heaton and songs from The Housemartins and The Beautiful South. This is a really fantastic act. Put the date in your diaries now and watch this space. For a taster listen to <https://soundcloud.com/oldredeyes>

It is our goal during 2016 to hold several diverse, entertaining and thought-provoking (quiz!) events at the Village Hall, partly to help raise funds for the ongoing renovation works and partly to have some fun! We wish to offer something for everyone. If you have any good ideas for an event let us know and we can work together to make it happen.

Please help us and attend our events if you can, we cannot provide them without your support.

Date For Your Diary

30th April 2016..... More **live music** coming to Alne Village Hall. Local covers band **A Bit of a Gamble**, supported by **The Hammer Party**, a rock covers band. In aid of The Teenage Cancer Trust. Contact Vikki on 07807 240456 or vnixon@btconnect.com. More information to follow soon!

Other news

Hopefully you received our newsletter over the festive period. Thanks for all the positive feedback! Our aim is to do this at least annually in order to keep you informed about what is happening and how the Hall refurbishment project is progressing. We are also delighted to tell you that following our appeal for help, a very generous local person has made a most welcome gift to the village hall, which will help with some of the necessary renovation work. We are so grateful.

We are in need of an upright vacuum cleaner. If anybody has one they don't need, please let us know.

You can contact us at alnevillagehall@gmail.com You can check our webpage on www.alnevillage.co.uk for more information on the Hall and upcoming events or follow us on Facebook.

Jumble Sale and Cake Stall

Jumble Sale and Cake Stall in Alne Village Hall on **Saturday, 5th March at 1p.m.** Proceeds to finance outdoor activities for Rainbows, Brownies and Guides in the Easingwold District.

We will be collecting clothing, toys, books and bric-a-brac house to house on **Thursday, 3rd March** and **Friday, 4th March** in the evenings. Please leave your donations on the doorstep for us to collect. Alternatively jumble can be left at the Village Hall from **10a.m. on Saturday, 5th**.

Thank you for your anticipated support

Shelagh Kenny
01347 838278 (ansaphone)
e-mail: shelaghkenny@btinternet.com

Alne Street Fayre

Alne Street Fayre has discussed with North Yorkshire County Council their proposals for the road closures in Alne on **Sunday, 12th June 2016**. The plan, which takes into account the safety considerations proposed by NYCC, is the same as 2015 and is posted on the Alne Parish Council notice board. Emergency access and free off-site parking will be maintained as in previous years. If you have any comments, please contact Di Watkins, Alne Street Fayre Chairman, on dianewatkins@btinternet.com or 848366, by **Monday, 8th February**. Thank you.

Alne Cricket Club 2016 Lottery

A lottery membership canvas will commence on the **weekend of 27th February**. The tickets will cost £10 for 20 weekly draws with prizes of £25, £15, and £10. First draw on **Saturday, 7th May**.

Lottery members enjoy the facilities of the cricket pavilion and a complimentary barbeque on a **Saturday in July**.

Brian Kenny

e-mail: briankenny@btinternet.com

Alne WI

All WIs throughout the UK have celebrated the centenary in different ways. We chose to celebrate by having a Christmas party, and inviting members from neighbouring WIs to join us. Over fifty of us enjoyed an amazing buffet, at beautifully decorated tables followed by a quiz and Irish raffle. An evening to remember!

The **January** meeting is "Puppy walking for Guide dogs" and **February** Maggie Bond talks about her South African trip. All our details are on Alne village web site, come along if you see something you fancy or contact Pam on p.marlow27@outlook.com or Joan tel. 838805 for more information.



Alne Pre-school Kiddy Kit 50/50 Sale

A sale of good quality, used baby and children's clothes, toys, books and nursery equipment, raising vital funds for Alne Pre School.

Saturday 5th March

Selling starts at 10am until noon,

NEW VENUE

Galtres Centre, Easingwold

Come and grab a bag full of bargains or have a good spring clear out and make some easy money!

If you'd like to sell items its simple.

What can I sell?

Alne Pre School accepts any goods for children from new born to 11 year olds.

How do I sell and what do I price it at?

Please label everything clearly with your name, chosen price and for clothing size/age. All labels must be securely attached (with string, Sellotape or safety pins no sticky labels please).

New for 2016: Alne Pre School are delighted to announce that we are accepting small bundles of clothes parcelled together such as 6 x 0-6 month baby grows, 5 x t-shirts, 3 x leggings etc.

Pricing items is totally up to you but please remember that items are second hand and people are looking for a bargain in a very competitive environment.

.....continued

Where do I bring my items to?

Bring any items that you wish to sell to Kurts Bar at the Galtres Centre on Friday between 7.00p.m. – 8.30p.m. or on the morning of the sale, Saturday 7th March (9.00a.m. - 9.45a.m.). If you cannot make these times but would still like to sell, please contact Alne Pre School directly on the number or the e-mail below.

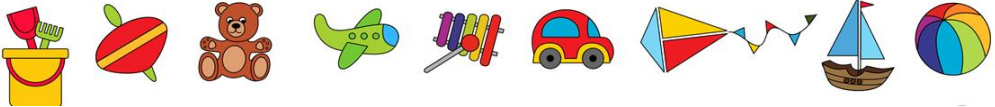
How do I make sure I get the money?

Post sale, all your labels from the items that are sold are collected and we use them to calculate how much money you have made. If sold on the day, half of the money goes to you the seller and half to Alne Pre School. For any unnamed goods, all the profit all goes to Pre School.

Unsold Goods:

- If you would like any unsold goods to be returned, please collect them from the Galtres Centre after the sale (between 12 and 12.30).
- We politely ask that all large items of equipment e.g. cots, large outdoor items, car seats, large prams be collected after the sale if unsold.
- All unclaimed/unsold items will be used to raise funds for Alne Pre School or donated to charity.

**For more information please contact
Dawn - 01347 830 011
Visit our Facebook page
or e-mail - alneplaygroup@live.com**



Alne Pre-School Playgroup: Outstanding childcare

Alne preschool playgroup was inspected by Ofsted in December and we were delighted to be awarded the highest possible grade of outstanding across all areas. Alne is the only day nursery within a 5 mile radius of Easingwold to currently hold such a status.

The inspector commented:

“Teaching is outstanding. Staff provide an inspiring range of learning experiences that enthuse and challenge children. Their interactions are first-rate and support children to develop key skills rapidly, in preparation for future learning. Partnerships with parents are exemplary. Staff exchange extensive information with them to support children's learning, both at home and in the setting. This promotes a collaborative approach to children's learning.”

She continued:

“Children's welfare and happiness are given the utmost priority. Staff are caring and responsive to children's needs. This helps children to feel emotionally secure and ready to explore and learn.”

Dawn Grainger, manager added:

“Although the group has been running since 1971, we moved into our own purpose built premises in 2013 after a huge amount of fund raising from parents and the local community to whom we are eternally grateful. It has enabled us to extend our opening hours which are now Monday to Friday 8.00a.m. – 6.00p.m. to further support families. Such a report is a credit to all the staff, management, families and the wider community who continue to support us.”

Tollerton Children's Christmas Party

Thank you again to all those that came to the party this year, a great time was had by the children with super dancing and lots of games.

Due to increasing work and social commitments to The Friends of Alne School I will not be able to run the party for Christmas 2016. Thank you to John Ward, a musician who lives in Tollerton who for the third year has provided his disco freely to the village & to all the parents who have helped over the last 4 years. I would like to pass over running this party to another parent in the village, I am happy to help but someone else will need to lead it.

Funds are available from Tollerton Parish council to provide a free party for children up to primary year 6; it would be a shame not to use them! Many thanks to Tollerton Parish Council for funding the party and to the village hall committee for allowing us to use the hall.

If you are interested in running this party please get in touch on 833129 and I can hand over to you. Thank you. Ann Morrison

Easingwold Branch of the Guide Dogs

We are sorry to announce that the Easingwold Branch of the Guide Dogs for the Blind has now closed after over 25 years of dedication by a small committee led by John and Laura Oakley and Margaret and Chris Thompson from Sheriff Hutton. They have had support from a band of volunteers along with Evelyn and Bob Shead and Evelyn's Guide Dogs, over the years.

An enormous amount of money has been raised the Total being £268,762. Of this Total £5,756 was raised in Alne at the annual Afternoon Teas. Foil has raised over £10,000 and will still be gratefully received.

Mary Tym and Janet Harrison

St Peter's Brafferton New Pre-School 'Class 1'

Our purpose-built Pre-school offers fantastic educational provision for Reception and Pre-school children from the age of 3 years old (the term after their 3rd birthday).

Our professional and highly qualified teacher-led team delivers the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum through carefully planned, fun, stimulating and purposeful activities.

We are open **Monday to Friday 8a.m.-6p.m.** during Term Time

If you would like to come and see how much we love learning why not come and pay us a visit, or if you would like more information please call

Mrs. McEvoy, Headteacher on 01423 360250

St. Peter's C of E Primary School

School Terrace, Brafferton, York YO61 2PQ

Opportunities for Prayer

Every **Monday** at Tollerton church **11.00 a.m.**

Every **Wednesday** at Tholthorpe Methodist Chapel **8.45a.m.**

Parish Records

19th November 2015

15th December 2015

30th December 2015

10th January 2016

Burial - Ronald Albert Shaw

Service of Thanksgiving – Dorothy Mary Wright

Burial and Service of thanksgiving - Betty Redmond

Baptisms - we especially welcome Samuel George Tree, Abigail Emily Harland and Ronnie Bruce Tree who were baptised as a family.

METHODIST SERVICES FEBRUARY 2016

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

DATE	TIME	VENUE	SERVICE DETAILS
7th Feb	10.30a.m.	Huby Methodist Church	Mrs Lis Johnstone
	10.30a.m.	Husthwaite Methodist Church	Revd Elizabeth Cushion, Holy Communion
	10.30a.m.	Stillington Methodist Church	locally led service
	3p.m.	Tholthorpe Methodist Church	Revd Elizabeth Cushion, Holy Communion
14th Feb	10.30a.m.	Husthwaite Methodist Church	Professor Ted Royle
	10.30a.m.	Raskelf Church	All Age Worship led by Mrs Angela Storer
	3p.m.	Alne Hall	Revd Elizabeth Cushion, Holy Communion
	6.30p.m.	Stillington Methodist Church	Revd Christopher Humble
21st Feb	10.30a.m.	United Service Brafferton / Helperby	Mr Peter Halls
	10.30a.m.	Huby Methodist Church	Revd Elizabeth Cushion, Holy Communion
	10.30a.m.	Husthwaite Methodist Church	Mrs Lydia Harrison
	3p.m.	Tholthorpe Methodist Church	Mr John Freeman, Café Service
	6.30p.m.	Stillington Methodist Church	Mr Vic Paylor
28th Feb	10.30a.m.	St Mary's Parish Church Alne	United Service
	10.30a.m.	Husthwaite Methodist Church	Mr Robin Jackson
	4p.m.	Huby Methodist Church	Revd Julia Skitt, Café Service
	6.30p.m.	Stillington Methodist Church	Revd Elizabeth Cushion, Holy Communion

**ANGLICAN SERVICES
FEBRUARY 2016**

7th Feb

Aldwark	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Brafferton	10.30 am	Baptism	Rev Chris Park
Myton	10.00 am	Morning Prayer	Dorothy Bailey
Thormanby	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Tollerton	10.30 am	Morning Worship	John Rhodes

Wednesday 10th February (Ash Wednesday)

Brafferton	9.30am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
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14th Feb

Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Brafferton	6.30 pm	Compline	Carmel Gittens
Myton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park

21st Feb

Aldwark	10:30 am	Baptism	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Brafferton	10.30 am	Methodist Service	P Halls
Myton	10.30am	Baptism	Rev Chris Park
Thormanby	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	10.30 am	All Age	Tim Adams

28th Feb

Alne	10.30 am	Anglican/Meth HC	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Myton	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Tollerton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth

*COPY DATE for March 2016 issue: 22nd February 2016 please. Thank you.
e-mail: news@abchurches.org.uk*