

PARISH NEWSLETTER

July/ August 2023

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

Please contact the church wardens as the first point of contact – a full list of wardens is provided on page 16 of this Parish Newsletter.

Thin places

A few years ago, I found myself on a Royal Jordanian flight to Amman and was curious to see what kind of in-flight entertainment would be offered on an Arab airline. Alongside *The Smurfs Film* and readings from the Qur'an, I found an absorbing documentary on the search for the site of Jesus' baptism.

John's Gospel describes the baptism happening at Bethany 'on the other side of the river Jordan', but no such place now exists. But thanks to the discovery of a 6th century mosaic map in nearby Madaba and the 1994 Jordan-Israel peace treaty that allowed the area to be cleared of mines, archaeologists believe they've found it, some distance from the Jordan because the river has shifted its course. They've since been excavating early Christian shrines built at the spot before the memory of it was lost.

Fascinating stuff. But what also caught my interest in watching the documentary was one contributor talking about the concept of 'thin places' – certain locations where heaven seems to stoop very close to earth.

Although, as Christians, we say that God is everywhere and where you worship doesn't matter, it's also part of our belief that we live in parallel worlds – the earthly and the spiritual. Sometimes the spiritual world clearly and decisively breaks in, as happened with the coming of Jesus. But could it be that there are certain locations where the membrane between earth and heaven is extra-thin and the feeling of God's presence more tangible?

I'm sure many of us will have had the experience of sensing something beyond ourselves in particular places. What does it for me is sitting alone in the deep silence of an ancient church where centuries of prayer have imprinted themselves on the atmosphere and the air feels almost palpably thicker. We have a wealth of such churches in our part of North Yorkshire, so why not look one out and see what you discover? The churches at Alne and Aldwark, for example, are open most days during daylight hours and visitors are welcome.

The fact that Christians in every age have gone on pilgrimages to sacred sites speaks further of the spiritual pull of 'thin places'. And if these places exist, the spot where the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus like a dove must surely be one.

For more on the rediscovery of the baptism site, take a look at www.baptismsite.com.

Graham Jones
Reader in Alne Parish

BBC Radio 2 Pause for Thought

On 13th June Archbishop Stephen Cottrell gave the Pause for Thought on Zoe Ball's breakfast show on BBC Radio 2

Last month I visited Rome for the first time.

I walked up the Spanish Steps, round the Colosseum, into the Pantheon, drank many delicious cappuccinos, ate gelato and shed loads of lovely pasta. And also had an audience with the Pope. I wasn't sure what to expect.

Would it all be over in a few minutes? Would we shake hands, exchange a few pleasantries, and that would be it? Well, how wrong can you be. I was greeted warmly. He is a very warm human being.

We sat down and chatted. About the scandal of our disunity as Christians; and we laughed about the need for theologians (and bishops!) to catch up with what the Spirit of God is doing in drawing us together. And about the need for all of us to do what we can where we are to make peace, serve the poor, and live sustainably on the Earth.

'We must walk together, work together, and pray together,' said the Pope.

And then we did just that! We prayed the prayer that Jesus taught us. The Lord's Prayer. The prayer that begins, 'Our Father.' He in Italian. I think! Me in English. But both of us speaking the language of the heart which is the language of prayer, the longing for God and the longing to build God's kingdom in the earth.

And as I prayed, I was powerfully struck by that opening word. Our. Not 'my father', not 'my God.' Not 'your father' or 'your God.' Ours.

We belong to each other. And when we say this prayer, we defiantly proclaim that belonging. Despite our divisions, and, despite all the cynical and selfish forces in the world that would drive us apart, we are one humanity, and when we say this prayer, we declare our commitment to each other and to the whole household of God.

Perhaps service sheets in church should carry a health warning. Be careful: this prayer might change you.

News from Alne Church

Street Fayre – 11th June

There were many visitors to the church again this year for refreshments, especially as it was a little cooler than elsewhere. Music from our organists, violinist and pianist was much appreciated and some visitors and locals took the opportunity to join tours to hear a little more about some of the church history and notable features. Various children's competition entries were also on display.

Many thanks to everyone involved, including those who baked cakes and treats for everyone to enjoy!!

The plant stall was full of welcome donations, many of which sold quickly this year, with most sold by the end of the afternoon.

All contributions will go towards the cost of church repairs, improvements and more regular maintenance.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Saturday 30th September at 7.30p.m. - Easingwold Town Band concert

Always a popular event, this will be a lively start to the autumn season!

Friday 6th October at 7.30p.m. - Restoration of Victorian Rail Carriages - Nick Stringer

Nick works with a voluntary group that has restored a number of railway carriages, some of which are leased to the North Yorkshire Moors Railway. Nick will describe how a considerable group of volunteers give about 15,000 hours of their time to restore one carriage at a cost of £100,000. This will be a fascinating talk.

Coffee Mornings – Please note that the next coffee morning at St Mary's will be on **Tuesday, 5th September** following a summer break.

Easingwold Community Bible Study Group - will be studying the Gospel of Mark plus Colossians and Thessalonians this autumn.

For further information please contact Margaret Price at
pricehm870@gmail.com

Recruiting a new 'Vicar'

We hope to be in a position to advertise for a 'new vicar' in the next month or so. In fact, we will be recruiting for a 'Priest-in-Charge', which will be a full-time post and this Priest-in-Charge will be responsible for the parishes of Skelton, Shipton and Newton as well as Alne.

We are very much looking forward to joining with this new group of churches and we have been assured that the post will be an attractive one for those clergy looking for a new position. We will update you again as things progress.

Parish Records

<i>Baptisms:</i>	Sunday 9 th July	Maximilian Lambert-Ellis will be baptised
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<i>Weddings</i>	Saturday 15 th July	Rosemary Whitehead and Samuel Dean are to be married
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<i>Burial:</i>	13 th June 2023	John Gill
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<i>Funeral:</i>	15 th June 2023	John Thompson
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Alne Singers

Summer Concert

Thursday 13th July - 7.30 pm
Alne Village Hall



FREE ENTRY
with a retiring collection for UNICEF

Interval Refreshments

Alne Annals

A new edition of Alne Annals is planned for 2024.

Alne Annals is not a definitive history of Alne but is an excellent collection of tales from many authors and many publications from many sources. It thus forms a fascinating insight into the village and parish of Alne over the years. First created by David Newton in 2002, it was updated in 2018 by Robert Brech with the addition of much new material. The 2018 edition sold out some while ago however, and the 2024 edition will again include as much new information as we can gather.

Do you have interesting historical stories that should be included in this new edition? Do you have old postcards, photos or newspaper cuttings that haven't yet seen the light of day? Do you want to write something up for the new edition? If so, please contact Robert with all information, before the deadline of **30th September 2023**, at 838265, 07724 185661 or brech28@btinternet.com

Also, if you would like to be put on the waiting list to ensure you don't miss out on getting a copy of the new 2024 edition in due course, please contact Robert as above.

The 40-year story of APLA – *A Ruby Treasury*

Marking the 40-year anniversary of Alne Parish Leisure Association (1983-2023), *A Ruby Treasury* is hot off the press. Learn the story behind the establishment of the excellent playing and sports facilities and the politics and hard work that were necessary. And, if you have been a member of either APLA or the Street Fayre committees at any time over those years, you will find your name in print and be able to bask in the shared glory of the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service!

Obtain your copy (price £5) by contacting Robert on brech28@btinternet.com or 838265. All proceeds to APLA (UK registered charity No 516566).

Alne Path Keeper Group Update

A work walk party took place on the evening of 10th May with good work being done clearing vegetation, replacing signs, adding waymarks and a general check of conditions on the footpath East of the rail line. Big thanks to those who took part.

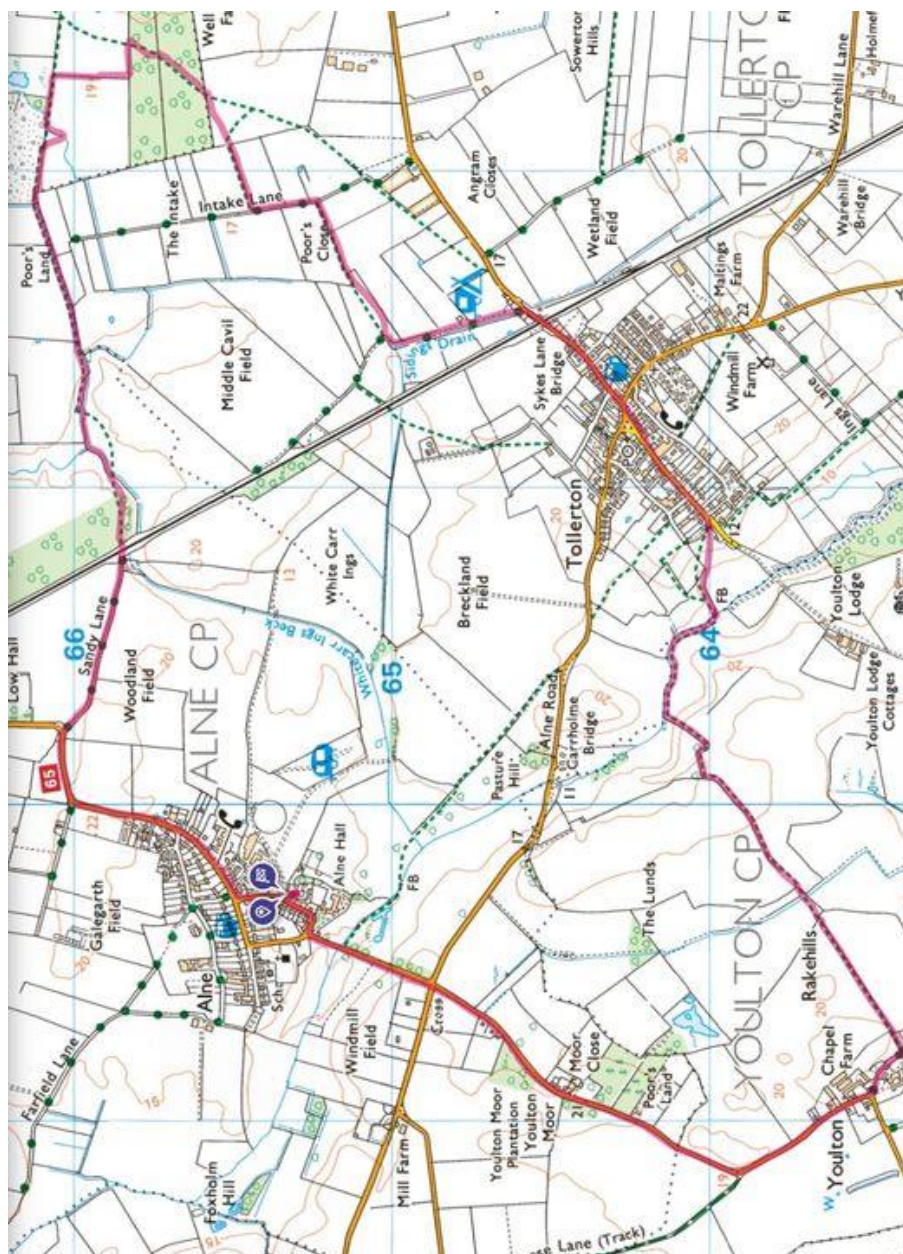
Goose Lane has been cut back recently and is now easily passable giving a nice loop of around 3 miles from the village. The route can be seen opposite. Road traffic conditions on the road to Youlton and Aldwark Bridge are very light because of the bridge closure making walking or running more pleasant.

The replacement Kyle Bridge tender for installation process has begun, installation is now projected to be late August or September depending on weather and access to site. It will make a huge difference to our walking and running routes from the village. We are planning to hold a couple of guided walks on the possible circular routes from the village once it is in place.



We are continuing to replace and add signage to the network, the replacement and guidance signs have been funded by the Parish Council.

If you are interested in being involved in our group please contact colin.j.fletcher@gmail.com



Alne WI Meeting - Wednesday 14th June 2023

This month's meeting was held in Maggie and Peter Bond's beautiful garden. It was a very hot sunny afternoon, although the morning had been rather windy which caused the tent that was going to be used for shade, food & drink, to capsize. In usual WI fashion everyone got together and dismantled it before it flew into neighbouring gardens!



The theme of the afternoon was Mocktails and Cocktails. The members enjoyed iced cold Pimms and refreshingly fruity alternatives.

Maggie Bond said a few words to remember our friend and Alne WI member of over 50 years Jean Macrae. Jean sadly passed away on 24th May this year. We all raised a glass to her and another friend and Alne WI member



Mary Tym who was also a member for over 50 years who sadly passed away last year.

Thank you to Maggie and Peter Bond for your hospitality. We all had a wonderful afternoon.



Next Meeting - **Wednesday 12th July 2023 (2nd Wednesday of the month).**

July's meeting activity is Choir Singing with Maggie Soper.

Non-members are always welcome to us (£4 each).

Alne Street Fayre Tombola

As many of you know, 11th June was Alne Street Fayre day and what a wonderful and very hot day it was, with so much going on. A lot of work by everyone goes into making this event so special.

Our Tombola stall had a fabulous time and our grateful thanks goes, not only not to residents and local businesses, who so kindly and generously donated prizes for the stall, but everyone who came to try their luck on the day. We had an absolute sell out and we can't thank you all enough for your support.

A huge thank you to the Tombola team who worked so hard preparing everything. We had lots of fun and laughs and we are delighted it was so successful. Being our first year with the Tombola, our hats off go to the teams who worked so hard on previous years.

Jenny Dalleywater



Carrie Martin gave us a brilliant show at Alne Music Club in an intimate solo concert on Friday 23rd June. She is a talented singer songwriter from Hull, and a technically accomplished guitarist. She brought along 4 different guitars, and a dulcimer that she switched between throughout her show. In a first set she played original songs from her earlier albums plus a range of covers including Joni Mitchell's Both Sides Now. After a break her second set featured a number of tracks from her recent fine 4th album Evergreen, where she provided background context, then performed them beautifully.



Marion had asked in the interval if she could perform some songs purely acoustically. Carrie gamely obliged playing a memorable version of Cyndi Lauper's Time After Time in the centre of the appreciative audience, a stunning highlight that was very special. She also performed a few songs on her dulcimer, not an instrument that you see and hear every day, which looked complicated to play on her lap, but sounded fantastic, something distinctively different. Carrie is an engaging performer who charmed the audience and she seemed to really enjoy the concert. She finished the evening with a well deserved encore of Joni Mitchell's Big Yellow Taxi with the audience joining in enthusiastically with the singing to close the show.



Carrie played through the night with real passion and the audience were won over by her committed heart and soul performance.

Future Shows

Simon Kempston – Sunday 3rd September. He is one of Scotland's very best songwriters (The Sunday Herald), a composer and leading fingerstyle guitarist based in Edinburgh. He draws from disparate genres of classical, Celtic and blues. With more than a decade of international touring in over 30 countries his live performances are well known for their intensity. He has released 9 albums, his latest "Moonrise Over Mostar" is a departure into classical guitar pieces from his more usual singer songwriter mode. Tickets available for £12 from <https://buytickets.at/alnemicclub/951081>

Winter Wilson - Friday 20th October One of the hardest working duos on the circuit (Mike Harding). Kip Winter is a fiercely Scottish Hebridean who has a fine voice to die for and she also performs on accordion, guitar and flute. Dave Wilson mainly plays Martin guitars and his original songs have been covered by many, such as Storm Around Tumbledown by Vin Garbutt. They excel in live performance with stunning harmonies and musicianship. Tickets available for £12 from <https://buytickets.at/alnemicclub/950923>

Katie Spencer - Sunday 26th November An up and coming fine young singer songwriter and distinctive guitarist who already had a couple of critically lauded albums under her belt. She has performed with Martin Simpson and has a guest guitar slot on Belinda O'Hooley and Heidi Tidow's new album Cloudheads. Tickets available for £11 from <https://buytickets.at/alnemicclub/924421>

For more details on forthcoming events visit the **Alne Music Club Facebook group**

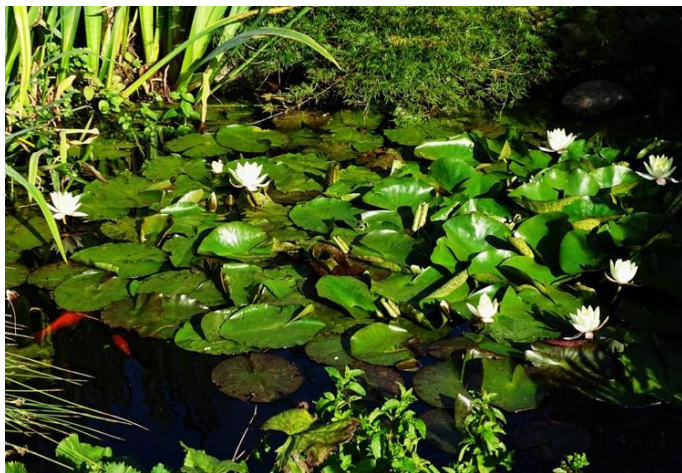
David Lepper
Alne Music Club Promoter

Alne Open Gardens afternoon Sunday 25th June

It turned out to be a very hot humid afternoon with the threat of a heavy shower lingering in the background. A dozen gardens were open around the village, with plenty of visitors turning out, despite the weather and the closed Aldwark Toll bridge. Lots of positive feedback was received from people wandering around the varied gardens on offer. The WI did a sterling job providing much needed teas and refreshments at the Village Hall. Many



thanks to our 3 sponsors from Easingwold: Bradshaws Direct (Pond and Water Gardens); M.E. Willis traditional ironmongers and tools shop; and Hebdon & Sons Plant Nursery, who generously supported the printing of our 8 Page Program. We also had local art on display in the Village Hall thanks to Jenny Dalleywater and her art group, who also provided the Program cover artwork and Yvonne Costello who produced the central location map.



Car Parking was helpfully provided on the Playing Fields with support from the Alne Parish Leisure Association, with thanks to the attendants who guided people to the Village Hall.

Overall numbers were down on last time with the impact of the weather largely responsible. However, this was still the biggest single fund raising event of the year for the Village Hall, with over £800 raised. Biggest thanks goes to the dozen garden hosts who put in time and effort to get their gardens looking their best, meeting and greeting visitors and answering questions about their plants and gardens. A good time was had by all and thankfully the rain stayed off (just).

David Lepper
Alne Open Gardens Co-ordinator

Tollerton War Memorial Institute (Village Hall)

The Village Hall Committee would like to thank all those who supported Sunday 7th May 2023 Pop Up Vintage Café as part of the Kings Coronation and VE day. It was a great success so a big thank you to all those who baked, helped, came to celebrate and enjoy a community event. Congratulations to the winners of the competitions and raffle.

Next Exciting Event:

Saturday 2nd September 2023 – Snake Davis and The Snake Davis Band

– The Music Man Legendary UK Saxophonist coming to Tollerton Village Hall for 1 night only. Doors open 7.30pm & fully licenced bar. Tickets available to purchase £18 per ticket before the end of July and £20 per ticket thereafter. Tickets are limited and selling well – contact Yvonne Brown at yvonne52b@aol.co.uk

Don't forget the Hall is available for private functions, including an outside space at the back, an added extra for a summer party. To book contact Tim Brook on timbrook757@hotmail.com mobile: 07789 298117.

The Pearson and Others Charitable Trust

The Pearson Trust is a small local charity which was established in 1882 to help people in need who live in the parishes of Aldwark, Alne, Flawith, Tholthorpe, Tollerton and Youlton.

The charity makes grants to residents of these villages who are perhaps struggling to meet their everyday living costs or who have a particular need. This might include help to pay for essential household items or repairs, fuel bills, healthcare, or clothing and equipment for a baby or children and young people who are in education or training. All applications are treated in the strictest confidence.

The trustees are particularly keen to help people who are experiencing financial difficulties caused by the pandemic or the rising cost of household essentials.

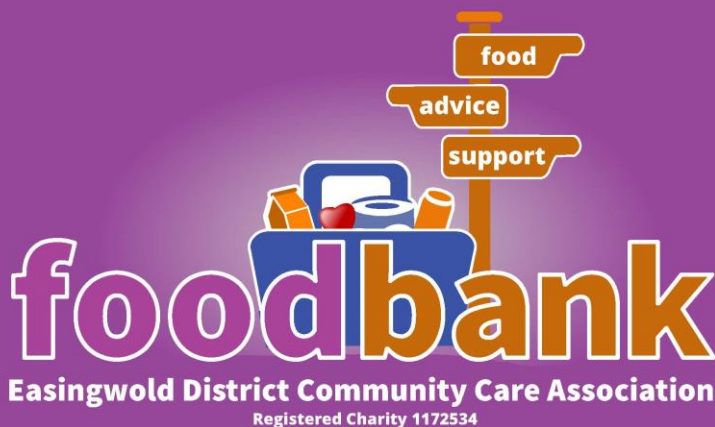
The charity also makes grants to local organisations for charitable activities which benefit people in need living in these villages. Organisations must have a bank account and a constitution.

Applications can be made at any time using the appropriate application form which can be downloaded at the Alne and Tollerton websites:

<https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/the-pearson-trust.html> or

www.tollerton.net/the-pearson-trust

To find out more about the charity and how to apply, please contact the Chair, Colin Stroud on 01347 838780 or 07779 552484 or by e-mailing colinstroud456@gmail.com



Call EDCCA on
01347 822875

or our 24/7 message line
0772 44 44 750

Our service:

- We deliver to Easingwold and our many surrounding villages.
- If you wish, we can discuss further help and offer confidential support over the telephone during lockdown.
- Our food packages contain tinned and dry goods for 3-5 days supply. We include UHT milk, bread and spread as well as toiletries. We can also try to supply fresh fruit and vegetables.



info@edcca.org.uk



<https://edcca.org.uk>

ANGLICAN SERVICES

July

Venue	2 nd July	9 th July	16 th July	23 rd July	30 th July
Aldwark	10.30a.m. Holy Communion			10.30a.m. Joint Parish Holy Communion	
Alne		10.30a.m. Baptism			
Tollerton	10.30a.m. Morning Worship	10.30a.m. Holy Communion	10.30a.m. Morning Worship		10.30a.m. Morning Worship

August

Venue	6 th August	13 th August	20 th August	27 th August
Aldwark	10.30a.m. Holy Communion			
Alne		10.30a.m. Holy Communion		10.30a.m. Holy Communion
Tollerton	10.30a.m. Morning Worship	10.30a.m. Morning Worship	10.30a.m. Morning Worship	10.30a.m. Morning Worship

METHODIST SERVICES for Villages Together

Revd David Bidnell is the Methodist Minister for the villages around Easingwold.

David can be contacted on 01904 345429. You are welcome at all of the village services listed below

July 2023

Date/ Venue	Alne	Huby	Husthwaite	Stillington	Tholthorpe
2 July 3.00p.m.					
9 July 3.00p.m.			10.30		
16 July 3.00p.m.					
23 July 3.00p.m.			10.30		
30 July 10.30a.m.					

August 2023

Date/ Venue	Alne	Huby	Husthwaite	Stillington	Tholthorpe
6 August 3.00p.m.					
13 August 3.00p.m.			10.30		
20 August 3.00p.m.					
27 August 3.00p.m.			10.30		

Husthwaite services in the Parish Church on 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Contact Details:

Please Contact the Church wardens / Co-ordinators in the first instance.

Church Wardens/ Co-ordinators

St Mary's Alne

Sharon Oliver 07778 158770 e-mail mandsoliver@btinternet.com

St. Stephen's Aldwark

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

St. Michael's Tollerton

Arthur Harland 01347 823575 e-mail janeatwoodyedge@yahoo.co.uk

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

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