

PARISH NEWSLETTER

December 2023/ January 2024

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.

To the Saints of the Diocese of York



The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, writes:

The first Nowell, the angels did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay. The words of this hymn have echoed in our churches since the 1700s. This year, there has been a renewed call by the Church of England for choirs across the country to 'Join the Song', adding their voices to a new carol by Bob Chilcott, reinterpreting the words of this much loved hymn.

But 'Join the Song' is much more than just singing. It is an invitation to sing together, to be with others. And being with others is so important. It is something we've learned the hard way over the last few years. It is also central to our celebration of Christmas.

Inviting others to share in our community, offering hospitality is what we do at Christmas – carol services, Christingle services, Midnight Mass and the joy of the service of Christmas morning are all ways in which we tell Christ's story, often to many people who don't normally worship with us.

But we aren't simply retelling a well-known story. We have opportunities to share the joy, hope and meaning of that story.

This year, with so much war and violence unfolding around the world, our message needs to echo the angel's message to the shepherds on that first Christmas morning: do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news.

The peace and the hope and the joy of the Christmas story aren't just festive frivolities. Not something to be sung about one day and forgotten the next. We hold onto this message throughout the year, and especially in dark times. Because at Christmas we remember that God is with us. The Christ child in the manger is the hope of the world.

So, join the song: • Tell others about the Good News of the birth of Jesus. • Say your prayers. • Join a choir! • Organise some carol singing in the streets where you live. • Come to Church. • Invite your neighbours and friends. • Let the song the song of the angels shape your life. • And pray that the peace of God which passes all understanding may be a gift to the world this Christmas.

Merry Christmas!

News from Aine Church

Christingle making and service

Packs of candles and ribbon, with instructions, will be at the back of the church **from 1st December**, if you can help make some Christingles for our service at **4.00pm on 24th December**. We aim to have enough Christingles for each child there and at least one per household attending. If you prefer to do this together on the day, there will be a workshop in church on the **morning of the 24th from 10.00a.m.**

All are welcome to attend this popular family service, which promises to be lively and interactive this year.

Christmas Eve midnight communion – Bishop of Selby

In addition to the Christingle service, for the first time since lockdown, there will also be a Holy Communion service starting at **11.15p.m. on Christmas Eve** at St Mary's.

We are very thankful that Bishop John is able to lead this service for us, so please do come along.

Other Christmas Day services will take place at Aldwark and Tollerton (see details on page 16 of this newsletter).

WI Christmas service and Outwood Primary Academy Alne nativity events

It is great that the church will host this year's service of carols and readings for the area's WI groups on **4th December**. There will also be two school nativity services in St Mary's during the afternoon and evening of **14th December**.

Coffee Mornings

These will not be taking place on the first Tuesdays of December and January. Also, due to unforeseen circumstances, the **Christmas lunch** planned for Tuesday, 28th November will unfortunately not now take place.

Shoe Boxes – very many thanks to all who returned these. Any late boxes left in church will be used for the **Salvation Army** Christmas Angel appeal. Please leave unwrapped presents on the pew by the kitchen area by 10th December.

Thank you so much for any donations you can make to children who might not otherwise get a present this Christmas.

Parish Records

Interment of Ashes:

1st December – Stephen Kerr

11th December – Janet Sadler



In preparation for a new Priest in Charge, we are looking to the comments made in the questionnaire at the start of the year to set some priorities for St Mary's.

Those who responded, regardless of religious affiliation, said they value our churches in the parish. In addition to this, another survey in Alne showed that villagers also value the recreation field and Street Fayre.

As current organisers of church events and other village activities are getting older and more fully retiring, more help will be needed for things to still take place in the village.

Several people asked for more **children's activities and parents' groups**, which can only start up with some support from some interested people who can work with a new vicar or others to provide these. These could be in the week if that suits families better than weekends.

Other **community and social activities** were requested, so if you have **any ideas** for what would appeal to you and others in the villages, please let us know as it would be great to make the most of all village facilities.

Cuthbert: an award-winning film

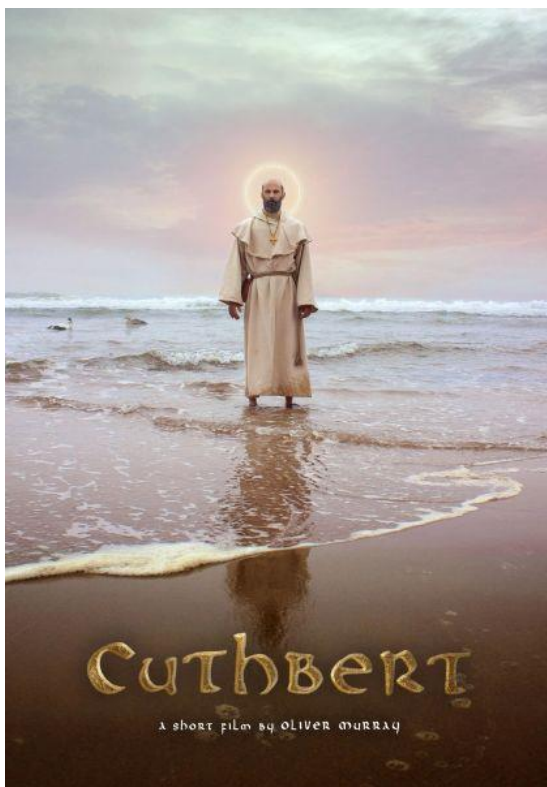
North Yorkshire film-maker and ordinand Oliver Murray won a 'Panel Award' award at the Sheffield Christian Film and Media Festival in October for his independently produced short film 'Cuthbert', about the early English saint.

Oliver spoke at the Festival about the power of cinema to tell the Christian story in fresh ways, and ultimately to re-enchant audiences with the power of Christ's story. "The film was a joy to make," said Oliver. "It took a great deal of work as it was made entirely by myself, but I'm happy with the finished piece and have been very moved by the attention which the film has received online without any major promotion." "The film is missional, evangelistic (in rather a different way)," he adds.

The author of the saintsofthenorth.co.uk blog says, "I'm fascinated by the saints local to my region, a time when the Celtic Christians and those from Rome were invited amongst the pagan Anglo-

Saxons to show a violent warrior people The Way." Oliver's epic short film, shot over two days and edited over four months has been inspired by Saint Cuthbert's mystical story. It aims to depict the orthodox Christian vision afresh, touching upon the battles we all still face today. "I'm fascinated by the early medieval era in the history of my island home," adds Oliver. "A world of miracles and of enchantment, of living alongside nature rather than athwart to it, of Gandalf-like figures and of deeply symbolic stories. "I'm unapologetic about that. I don't think life is all about comfort." Watch the film at

www.dioceseofyork.org.uk/cuthbertfilm





Alne Singers

Christmas Concert

14th December - 7.30 pm
Alne Village Hall

Raffle
Christmas Carols
Festive refreshments

FREE Entry

Retiring collection for York homeless charity HOPING

Alne WI Meeting Wednesday 8th November 2023

(Also the Annual General Meeting)

This evenings meeting was opened by our President Joan, with her usual warm welcome.

Diane (Secretary) then took charge, as we had a lot of WI business to get through.

Diane, confirmed the Tellers for the secret vote for The Committee. We were all delighted that the present post holders were very happy to remain in post but the correct procedures were followed. While the ballot was counted

Diane invited Jean Yorston, who had represented us at the recent Autumn Council Meeting held at Manor School, to give us a briefing, which was interesting and entertaining. Jean was delighted that the meetings give WI members from the area a chance to meet. We were reminded about the organised outings,



Panto, a further visit to Alne Brickyard, WI Christmas Dinner, WI Regional Carol Service, hosted by Alne WI to be held in St. Mary's, Christmas Afternoon Tea at Castle Howard.

Diane handed over to Jane Neville, Treasurer, for her Annual Report. Jane had prepared our Financial Statement, which she presented excellently, each member will be receiving a copy with our monthly minutes. Diane then gave her Secretary's Annual Report. The happy news is we are thriving and growing, the sad part of the report was saying goodbye to Jean Macrae, a long standing integral member of Alne WI, who is no longer with us. Diane closed her report with heartfelt praise for all the wonderful members of Alne W.I.

The voting for the committee was announced, it was unanimously agreed that the present committee will carry on for this year, with all parties in the room raising their hands and cheering.

Our Wonderful Committee: Joan President, Diane Secretary & Jane Treasurer

This year's overall winner of the monthly challenge cup: Ann Brown

Our President Joan (Baram) had organised her highly anticipated "Posh Carrier Bags Charity Tombola" - such fun & all proceeds go to charity. This year's charities are Hearing Dogs for the Deaf and York Breast Friends **the total raised was £211.** Thank you Joan for organising this great event & well done members for being so generous.



Fantastic Hostesses this month. The Committee

Next meeting 13th December: Christmas Dinner - The George, Easingwold

January meeting is on the 10th at 7.30p.m. (second Wednesday of the month)

Resolutions, a Quiz and a toast to 2024

Hall Set Up - Denise Wrathall & Chris McRae

Hostesses - Cassandra Bullock & Rosie Ness

Visitors (£4) always given a warm welcome

KIDS FESTIVE FANCY
DRESS COMPETITION
SUPERB PRIZES TO BE WON!

YOU'RE INVITED TO A CELEBRATION

XMAS
RAFFLE

ALNE VILLAGE HALL 2023 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS & MINI MARKET

COME AND CELEBRATE THE START OF THE FESTIVE SEASON
WITH THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS "BIG SWITCH ON" AT 6.00PM

- INDOOR CHRISTMAS MARKET STALLS FROM ALNE BUSINESSES
- CHRISTMAS CAROLS • HOT CHOCOLATE
- MINCE PIES • MULLED WINE

SPECIAL
VISIT FROM
SANTA

FUN FOR
ALL THE
FAMILY

EAT DRINK & BE MERRY

XMAS ADVENT
WINDOW TRAIL...
• MAPS AVAILABLE
• DONATIONS WELCOMED
FOR FOODBANK

SATURDAY
**9TH
DECEMBER**
FROM **5-7PM**

CHRISTMAS TREE
COURTESY OF
DAWKINSON
CHRISTMAS
TREES

FOR MORE INFORMATION HEAD TO:
Alne Community
ON FACEBOOK

Jack Hole
DON'T GET TOO CLOSE!

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE-WIN A HOST OF GREAT PRIZES
ALL KINDLY DONATED BY ALNE VILLAGE BUSINESSES.

DESIGN & PRINT KINDLY PRODUCED BY YORK APOTHECARY.

Tollerton War Memorial Institute (Village Hall)

The Tollerton War Memorial Institute (TWMI) committee would like to thank everyone who attended the Brunch on Sunday, 12th November 2023, especially the 1st Kyle Valley Scout Group who made it a very memorable Remembrance event. Thank you to all who lined the way, joined the Scouts on the Green and the laying of wreaths, at the Hall, to remember the service and sacrifice of all those who have defended our freedoms. Thanks also to everyone who helped with the event.

Important News

After more than ten years at the helm, Tim Brook is stepping down as Chair of the Tollerton War Memorial Institute (Village Hall) Committee. The TWMI Committee members are sure you will all join them in thanking him for his tireless hard work and dedication to the role. Without Tim the War Memorial Hall would not be in as good a shape as it is today. He has been instrumental in the improvement of the fabric of the building, both behind the scenes, in the securing of financial aid, and by physically getting stuck into some of the less than glamorous repairs!

Thanks to his commitment, the Village Hall is very firmly at the heart of our community. Tim's leadership and camaraderie have been greatly appreciated by all the committee members and helpers, not to mention his egg frying and pint pulling skills. We are genuinely and sincerely grateful for all he has done and everything he has achieved. Tim will be greatly missed by all of us.

In the interim, as Vice Chair, Yvonne Brown will take over the role until a new chair is elected. Elections will take place at the committee meeting on Monday, 15th January 2024. Expressions of interest should be made to yvonne52b@aol.co.uk or on 07981 832531.

The role of booking secretary will be taken on by Barbara Walker (Secretary) contact 07510608300 to book the hall for activities, parties and events.

We are also on the lookout for new Committee Members. It is a very friendly committee, not too onerous, with 4 committee meetings and 4-5 events to support per year. For further information please contact Yvonne Brown on 07981 832531.

If you find it difficult
to get to the Library,
why not try our...



Home Library and Information Service

Our team of friendly volunteers will deliver
library items right to your door fortnightly.

Books
Audio books

Movies on DVD
Large print books

Contact the Library for a home visit to talk about
your reading, listening and watching preferences.

Telephone: 01609 534584
Email: ecl.generalenquiries@gmail.com
www.easingwoldcommunitylibrary.com



Easingwold Community Library

Market Square YO61 3AN

Registered Charity No. 1170759

In Partnership with



Tollerton

Hot Spot

Every Thursday

2nd Nov-21st March

(except 21st & 28th December)

at St Michael's Church

11.30am - 2.30pm



**Come and meet the neighbours you never knew you had over a
delicious light lunch!**

**All villagers are welcome - children too-
(and the odd dog)**

No charge

ANGLICAN SERVICES

December

Venue	3 rd Dec	10 th Dec	17 th Dec	24 th Dec	25 th Dec	31 st Dec
Aldwark	10.30a.m. Holy Communion		4.00p.m. Carol Service		9.30a.m. Christmas Day Communion	10.30a.m. Joint Parish Communion at Tollerton
Alne		10.30a.m. Holy Communion		4.00p.m. Christingle 11:15 Midnight Communion		
Tollerton	10.30a.m. Morning Worship	10.30a.m. Morning Worship	6.00p.m. Carols by Candlelight		10.30a.m. Christmas Day Worship	

January

Venue	7 th Jan	14 th Jan	21 st Jan	28 th Jan
Aldwark				
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. Holy Communion	10.30a.m. Morning Worship

METHODIST SERVICES for Villages Together

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



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

December

Venue/ Date	Alne @ Alne Hall	Huby	Husthwaite	Stillington	Tholthorpe
Saturday 2 December 3.00p.m.				Thanksgiving Service refreshments after in Village Hall	
3 December 10.30a.m.		Ruth Duck Holy Communion	4pm St Nicholas Service		
10 December 3.00p.m.	David Bidnell Carol Service				
17 December 3.00p.m.					John Schofield Café Service
24 December 6.00p.m. Christmas Eve		David Bidnell			

25 December 9.30a.m. Christmas Day				United Service Stillington Village Hall	
31 December	10.30a.m. Andrew Foster, Easingwold. United Service in Sutton on the Forest Parish Church (time tbc)				

January

Venue/ Date	Alne @ Alne Hall	Huby	Husthwaite	Stillington	Tholthorpe
7 January 10.30a.m.		David Bidnell United Covenant Service			
14 January 3.00p.m.	Ruth Duck		10.30a.m.		
21 January 3.00p.m.	Churches Together at Easingwold Methodist Church				
28 January 3.00p.m.			10.30a.m.		Elizabeth Cushion Holy Communion

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

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St. Stephen's Aldwark

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St. Michael's Tollerton

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