

PARISH NEWSLETTER

November 2020

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

The Anglican ministers for the villages in the Parish of Alne are Revd. Debbie Coyne and Revd. Carmel Gittens. They can be contacted by telephone on 01423 360759 or by e-mail at rev.deborah.coyne@gmail.com and 01347 833437 or carmel-gittens@live.co.uk respectively.



There is a story in the Old Testament book of Exodus of the Israelites being saved from slavery in Egypt. Of God dramatically parting the Red Sea for them to pass through safely, avoid their captors, find freedom and head towards their promised land. Except (spoiler alert)... they end up wandering around the desert for 40 years. The Israelites expected to get to the promised land quickly. They thought it would only take a few weeks, maybe even months, to arrive and geographically, it should have done, except it didn't. They ended up with fear and uncertainty about what the future held and a long time of walking round and round in circles.

Living with the ongoing Covid situation some of us might feel like we can empathise with the Israelites. Perhaps we thought that we would only be in lockdown a few weeks, then it lasted for months. Restrictions lifted and we managed to do a couple more things than we did during lockdown, or maybe life went almost completely back to how it was pre-covid. But now we are back to unpredictable government announcements, with more and more restrictions being brought in, and further fear and uncertainty about the future.

There are unanswered questions over when we can next feel entirely safe seeing friends and family, especially if younger members of the family have returned to school and there have been outbreaks of Coronavirus there. There are questions over how we might be allowed to celebrate Christmas this year, we know Church services can't be as they would have been previously, but what about seeing parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc.?

The Israelites, unsurprisingly, very quickly grew tired of walking around and around the desert. Corona fatigue is a thing, both a post-viral symptom of having had Coronavirus, and of being in this state of uncertainty with regards our future. If you are tired and frustrated of being in this situation, of changing plans at the last minute, of not knowing if you will be able to return to work, of not seeing people you love, of hearing the statistics rise on the news, of not knowing if loved ones will recover, of being unable to move on with life, of what feels like going round and round in circles in a desert, you are not alone. According to the experts, it is a collective and cultural feeling found across our world at this time. So I think if you speak to your friends and family, in whatever safe way you are able to at this time, you will find some, if not all, of them are feeling the same way.

The Israelites got frustrated with God and yelled at Him. And we can too. For those of us who have faith, we might find we are struggling at the moment. That is ok and normal and if you want to yell at God, if that would help, then I encourage you to do so. While God isn't the cause of Coronavirus, He does want to hear everything we have to say to Him, because He loves us. He doesn't like seeing us struggle in this way, in fact it pains Him, but He promises He is with us, even if we don't acknowledge Him, even if we blame Him, even if we don't feel Him, even if... It doesn't matter He is always with us.

The Israelites were encouraged by God to actively take time to remember how He saved them from slavery and then how He provided for them as they wandered around the desert. Because God did provide for the Israelites at this time. The Jews, who today are descended from the Israelites, still remember at significant festivals these and other times God has provided for them.

God has been providing for us too. Either directly or indirectly, perhaps through the actions of neighbours, family and friends, through His creation. For me, finding a beautiful maple tree leaf in bright autumnal red was a small blessing from God yesterday. Another gift from God was time seeing my parents at points this year, or watching a movie at the same time as friends and texting about it. These are all gifts from God to me. If you are unsure you can ask Him and He will show you where He has been at work.

Normally at this time of the year I would encourage us to remember. I still want us to remember. I invite us to remember the good things that have happened to us this year, however small (especially because it seems the small things have even more value for us at the moment). I invite us to remember those who have died from this horrendous illness. I invite us to remember those who are no longer with us, for whatever reason. I invite us to remember the good times with those we miss (whether dead or still alive, but who we can't see in person). I want us to remember the stories of those of faith who faced greater trials or similar ones to us. Did you know the day after Halloween is All Saints? It is the day when the Church remembers and celebrates all the lives of Christians lived throughout history and who are living now. It is a day we often take to remember those who have died, we remember again the life they lived, celebrate and light a candle in their memory. I invite you, this year on 1st November at 6.00p.m. to light a candle, to remember those you miss this year, and (if it is safe) to place it in a window as a symbol of their life as a light shining out into the darkness. We may not be able to do this together in person in church, but we can be united in doing something together at the same time. Together we can remember.

As always, if you want to talk further about what I have said, want to receive prayer, or join in our Zoom services at 10.30a.m. on a Sunday morning, you are very welcome to contact me on: rev.deborah.coyne@gmail.com or 01423 360759.

Take care, keep safe,
Grace and Peace,

Debbie & Aslan

News from Alne Church

Alne Church

We are at a difficult stage in the pandemic with increasing rates of Covid-19 in the population all around us. In Alne, our Church has been opened for private prayer since early August and the Revd. Debbie and colleagues are now beginning to hold 'in person' services at Alne and Brafferton churches. These services will of course be run under strict government guidelines.

Sunday 8th November – Remembrance Service - 10.45a.m.

Sunday 29th November - 10.30a.m.

Please note that it is necessary to book for these services so that seats can be allocated. Contact Arthur Harland by e-mail: office@abchurches.org.uk

On other Sundays, services will continue to take place on Zoom. For access details contact the Revd. Debbie Coyne at rev.deborah.coyne@gmail.com or Arthur Harland at office@abchurches.org.uk


Churchwardens

Carol Glen and Peter Cove will be standing down as wardens at the end of October. We are seeking replacements but in the meantime it should be noted the Alne Church is supported by a considerable team of dedicated workers who help with a range of tasks in both the church and churchyard. These jobs include cleaning, flower arranging, editing the Parish Newsletter and running the accounts, to name but a few! We are especially grateful to all members of the community who support the church especially during the Street Fayre and with concerts, talks and other events. We also appreciate the help from a dedicated band of Duke of Edinburgh students.

For the last dozen years many have helped two significant projects that have provided the kitchen, toilet facilities, renewal of the roof, repair of much of the masonry and a number of other improvements. One family has transformed the churchyard. We received massive support from national charities such as the Heritage Fund. But such support was only forthcoming because the trustees of these charities saw that the church played a significant role for many in the community – **THANK YOU EVERYONE!!**

We especially wish to thank our clergy, The Reverends Debbie and Carmel, for their leadership and pastoral care during this extremely difficult time.

Peter Cove & Carol Glen



ALNE PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUP

- Purpose built setting within the grounds of Alne Primary School
- Highly qualified and experienced staff
- Ofsted rated "Good"
- Funded places for 3 & 4 year olds and eligible 2 year olds
- Childcare vouchers accepted
- Places available

Breakfast club

8:00 – 8:45

Toast, cereal or a cooked option available each day

Morning session

8:45 – 11:45

Lunch

11:45 – 12:30

Bring a pack up or purchase a hot cooked meal prepared
by Alne Primary School chef

Afternoon session

12:30 – 15:30

After school care

15:30 – 18:00

Including a light tea

For more information or to arrange a visit please contact
01347 830 011 or email - alneplaygroup@live.com

Alne Coronavirus Support Group

A coronavirus support group has been set up in Alne, initiated by the enthusiastic Street Fayre Committee and backed by Alne Parish Council. David Edwards has agreed to be the overall co-ordinator and the village (including Alne Station and Forest Lane) has been split into seven zones, each with its own team leader and its own group of volunteers. Every house should have received a leaflet identifying which zone it is in and who is its team leader with the relevant contact details.

If you are over 70, pregnant, vulnerable or with underlying health conditions, these volunteers have put their hands up to be of service to you. They can do shopping, collect prescriptions, post letters or do anything else (within reason!) that you might be prevented from doing by current government regulations.

If you are in need, please contact your designated team leader. If you need to contact the overall co-ordinator, or you have not received the leaflet, contact David Edwards on 833269, 07583 377276 or daviedwards8@gmail.com.

Alne Parish Council

Footbridge Restoration

North Yorkshire County Council has the responsibility of replacing the footbridge over the River Kyle between Alne and Tollerton that was swept away last February. The good news is that they plan to replace this with a future-proof structure similar to the one that exists on the footpath between Tollerton and Youlton. The bad news is that they do not have funds until next financial year and that it may be 12 months before it is actually done. The possibility of putting the existing bridge back *in situ* as a short-term measure has been looked at, but there are concerns about the state of both the bridge deck and the foundations and the ensuing potential liabilities. If the absence of this bridge is annoying you, please write to the NYCC Public Rights of Way Officer, Andrew Brown, at andrew.brown@northyorks.gov.uk expressing your concerns. Public opinion might help to get it done sooner rather than later.

Alne Parish Council

Alne Music Club – Becky Mills Concert Postponed

It is with regret and disappointment that I have taken the decision to postpone the Becky Mills Concert that was originally planned to take place on Saturday, 7th November at the Village Hall. I consulted with some local villagers and, in a nutshell, the consensus view was that it is better for us to be safe rather than sorry. This is in the context of York having had a higher level of reported cases of Covid recently, so it has been lifted up to the next Tier; together with uncertainty about whether further restrictions might be imposed over the half term period coming up, which may coincide with this concert.

I have been in contact with Becky Mills who appreciates the predicament that we are in, and confirmed that we will rearrange her concert for some time next year, when something like normal service will hopefully resume.

I originally had three concerts booked for this year to mark an exciting start for Alne Music Club, but having been overtaken by the Covid outbreak, all of these have had to understandably be put on hold. We will eventually start our programme of concerts, hopefully sometime next year, but in the meantime, please keep an eye on the Alne Music Club Facebook Group Page. Join this group if you want to keep up to date with future events, when early booking might be advisable to secure concert tickets. Also for news, like Becky Mills' new album "A Midwinter Miscellany" recorded with Ashley Hutchings.

I will be looking for volunteers to help run future concerts in due course, such as helping to set up and tidy away the Village Hall before and after the concert, and to help with stewarding on the night, running the bar and dealing with tickets. An incentive for regular helpers will be a complimentary ticket to see the event for free, typically worth £10-£15.

I hope you all stay well and safe and be assured that we will hold our inaugural concert eventually, when circumstances permit, so please be patient and look out for future updates.

David Lepper Alne Music Club Promoter
d.lepper27@btinternet.com 01347 838114

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

Do you know what is available in Alne?

- * Everything about Alne and up-to-date news. See <https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/>
- * Daily Newspaper delivery and general stores
Tollerton Stores 838436
- * Sunday Newspaper delivery. See https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/sunday_newspapers.html
- * Bakery van outside Village Hall every Saturday 08:00 – 09:00
<http://www.amosandwelsh.com>
- * Farmshop making weekly (Wednesdays) deliveries in the village.
See <https://farmgatefarmshop.com>
- * Milk delivery (and cream, eggs, yoghurts etc)
Contact Liz and Andrew Wade on 838806
- * Heating Oil purchase co-operative. See https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/groups_oil.html
- * Regular buses to Easingwold and York. See <https://reliancebuses.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Timetable-30.pdf>
- * Weekly bus to Morrisons in Boroughbridge. 11:00 Mondays.
See https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/buses_morrisons.html
- * Sports: Thriving tennis and cricket clubs. See https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/sport_tennis.html and <https://www.alnecc.co.uk/>
- * Alne Street Fayre, raising funds for the Alne recreation ground, sports field and play park. Now in its 36th year.
The next Alne Street Fayre is on Sunday 13-June, 2021.
- * Maps. Historical maps are displayed in the Village Hall. There is an indexed map of Alne houses on the Parish Council notice board. Other maps of Alne and Alne Station can be found at <https://www.alnevillage.co.uk/maps.html>



Call our 24/7 message service
0772 44 44 750

We will always call you back.
Confidentiality assured.

Our service:

- We deliver to Easingwold and surrounding villages.
- If you wish, we can discuss further help and offer confidential support over a cuppa in your home.
- Our food packages contain tinned and dry goods with milk, bread and spread as well as toiletries. We can't supply fresh fruit and vegetables.

Run by volunteers for
local people in need



Tollerton Coronavirus Support

A Tollerton support group, in conjunction with the Parish Council, Doctors' Surgery and the Church, has been set up by local villagers to offer support to anyone who is affected by coronavirus. If you are self-isolating or needing support we can help you with:

Food shopping

Prescription collections & requests

Posting letters

Collecting deliveries

Connecting you to other services

Dog walking

Having a chat

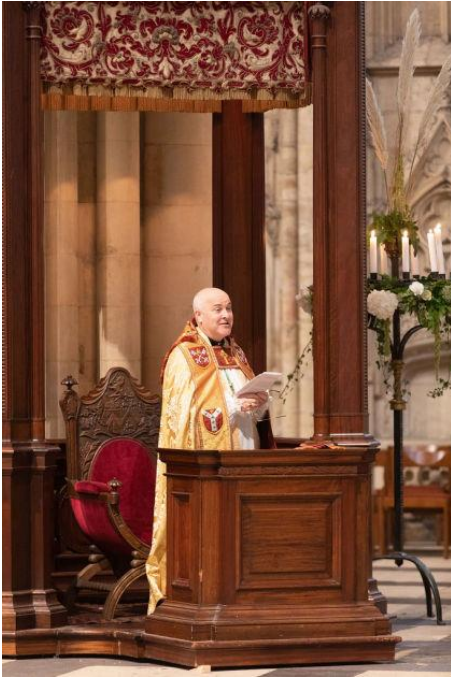
We can assure you that we will respect your privacy and your health security. If you would like our help then please call or text either of the following numbers and we will put you in touch with a neighbour who will help.

07831 306795

07835 532918

If you need any help at all please do get in touch, we are here to help.

The Most Reverend Stephen Cottrell was enthroned as the 98th Archbishop of York on the Feast day of St Luke, Apostle and Evangelist, Sunday 18th October at York Minster.



During his sermon the Archbishop said, "This is a time of huge challenge, uncertainty and fearfulness in our world. I am conscious that I'm standing in the shoes of some very great forebears, not least a man like William Temple who during the darkest hours of the Second World War with others dreamed of what the peace may look like and how literally devastated cities would be re-built, but also a moral vision for the rebuilding of a nation. He was one of the architects of that post-war consensus that gave birth to a welfare state and to that NHS that we stood out on the streets and clapped every Thursday Evening during the hardest days of lockdown.

"What were we clapping? Well, yes, all those who worked in our health service, but also all the others whose labour kept us going: those who stack supermarket shelves; volunteer in foodbanks; drive delivery vans, or collect prescriptions. But I also think we were clapping a set of ideas that are very dear to us: a belief about our common humanity which says that we belong to each other and have a responsibility to each other and that we are at our very best when we build communities of love which look out for and cherish each other, so that there is healthcare for everyone, not just for those who can pay.

"It is easy to take these ideas for granted. But they have an origin. They don't come from our observation of nature nor from the customs and cultures of most human communities. They flow directly from the revelation of God in Jesus Christ who by his sharing in our life and through his death and resurrection has formed us into a new humanity, and brought us into a community of giving and receiving love"

Contact Details:

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Revd. Debbie Coyne 01423 360759 e-mail: rev.deborah.coyne@gmail.com

Revd. Carmel Gittens 01347 833437 e-mail: carmel-gittens@live.co.uk

The Methodist Minister for the villages around Easingwold is The Rev Elizabeth Cushion.

Elizabeth Cushion 01347 821460

Church Wardens

St Mary's Alne

Church Warden Posts vacant

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