PARISH NEWSLETTER December 2014 & January 2015

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 email at pastaparko@parkfamily.me.uk.



A MESSAGE OF PEACE AND GOOD NEWS TO YOU ALL FOR CHRISTMAS AND FOR THE COMING NEW YEAR

CALLING CHRISTINGLE MAKERS - URGENT!

For the Alne Christmas Eve Christingle Service we need 200 Christingles to be made! At the moment we only have offers to make 75. If you would be happy to make Christingles for us for our Christmas Eve service at St Mary's Alne would you please contact Rev Chris Park on 01347 838122 or pastaparko@parkfamily.me.uk

We supply the candles and the ribbon, if you could supply the oranges, sweets and cocktail sticks.

Copy for February issue to news@abchurches.org.uk on or before 16 January please. Or by hand or post to The Vicarage, Monk Green House, Main Street Alne, York YO61 1TB.

In a mad, bad world why is Jesus peace bringer and good news for everyone?

As I write this article we have just finished the Remembrance Day Services. On the television we have seen the pictures of the Tower of London with that extraordinary display of ceramic poppies to remember the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the 'war to end all wars.' Yet since 1918 there have been numerous military conflicts when innocent people have once again perished because we live in a world where we are still unable to solve political conflict through peaceful means.

Closer to home we are not always at peace with one another. We see relationships breaking down in our communities, whether this is between neighbours or within families. We struggle to live at peace with all.

Jesus was born into a world just like this. Israel was a small nation which had known military conflict throughout her history. The Romans occupied Israel when Jesus was born. There was a puppet king called Herod who was utterly barbaric in the way he maintained his position of power. Conflict was prevented, and a form of peace maintained, through fear. People fell out then, as they fall out now.

As we approach Christmas is it possible for us to relate to each other differently. Is there, just maybe a chance that Jesus a better way to be human..... how to live to the beat of a different drum? If so how was Jesus peace bringer and the voice of good news for everyone then and now? Can I suggest very briefly three things to ponder:

- Jesus showed us what God his Father is really like by becoming human.... that God radically loves the world he made and has a personal love and concern for each one of us....that this love is for absolutely everyone.
- Jesus taught us a different way to live...'you have heard it said love your neighbours and hate your enemies...but I say to you love your

enemies and pray for those who persecute you.' One of the most profound things I have witnessed this year was one of our soldiers praying for the



- Taliban as well as the British and Afghan people when praying about the situation in Helmand Province. Now that is radical!
- Jesus can change us from the inside out. It has been said that 'the heart of the human problem is the human heart.' Faith in Jesus is not about trying to believe something which is irrational. It is about trusting in Jesus and inviting him to live in us and change us from within.

The peace Jesus offers is not an external absence of conflict, it is a peace in our hearts which extends to peace with God, peace with ourselves, peace with each other and peace with the world in which we live in spite of the madness we see around us. This is what the bible calls 'shalom.' This is good news for everyone.

If in this mad, often bad world, you would like to know more about why a baby boy born in Bethlehem 2000 years ago is so pivotal, then do join us for our acts of worship over Christmas. If you would like a chat then please contact either; Carmel, Roy or myself, and we would be happy to meet up with you.

Happy Christmas, Rev Chris Park

St Stephen's, Aldwark Annual Carol Service Sunday 14 December, 4.00 pm

Start your Christmas by coming along to our popular Carol Service which will be led by the **Revd. Chris Park**. The service of carols, interspersed with a variety of readings and poems, caters for all tastes. Children are especially welcome. Afterwards everyone is invited to stay and enjoy a glass of wine and mince pies.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING Saturday 27 September

Thank you for supporting our coffee morning at St Michael's Church, Tollerton which raised £632.50 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Why did the Magi (Three wise men) bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh to Jesus?

Matthew 2 tells us that the magi, or wise men, travelled from the East in search of the Christ child. They asked King Herod where they might find Him, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the



Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him" (Matthew 2:2). When they found baby Jesus, "they bowed down and worshiped him, then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh" (Matthew 2:11).

Gold is a precious metal and as such was a very valuable commodity, often given to kings. Its value could very well have financed Joseph and Mary's trip to Egypt. The Bible does not tell us any other significance to these three gifts; however, tradition has it that there is a deeper meaning for each of the three. Gold is a symbol of **divinity** and is mentioned throughout the Bible. Pagan idols were often made from gold and the Ark of the Covenant was overlaid with gold (Exodus 25:10-17). The gift of gold to the Christ child was symbolic of His divinity—God in flesh, and that he was a King.

Frankincense is a white resin or gum. It is obtained from a tree by cutting the bark and allowing the gum to flow out. It is highly fragrant when burned and was therefore used in worship, where it was burned as a pleasant offering to God (Exodus 30:34). Frankincense is a symbol of holiness and righteousness. The gift of frankincense to the Christ child was symbolic of His willingness to become a sacrifice, wholly giving Himself up, as an offering for our sins.

Myrrh was also a product of Arabia, and was obtained from a tree in the same manner as frankincense. It was a spice and was used in embalming, and was a symbol of his death. It was also sometimes mingled with wine to form a drink. Such a drink was given to our Saviour when He was about to be crucified, as a stupefying potion but Jesus refused to drink it (Mark 15:23). Matthew 27:34 refers to it as "gall." Myrrh symbolizes bitterness, suffering, and affliction. The baby Jesus would grow to suffer greatly as a man and would pay the ultimate price when He gave His life on the cross for all who would believe in Him.

Blessings Carmel Gittens

Christmas Celebrations in Church



7th December

- 6.30 pm Alne Concert with Carol Singing & Easingwold Town Band

14th December

- 4pm Aldwark Carol Service
- 6.30pm Brafferton Carol Service with Easingwold Town Band

20th December

- 4pm Brafferton A Christmas Carol with Mike Barfield

21st December

- 4pm Myton Carol Service
- 4pm Thormanby Carol Service
- 6.30pm Tollerton Carols on the Green

24th December

- 3.30 pm Brafferton Nativity
 - 4.00 pm Alne Christingle
- 11.30 pm Alne Midnight Communion
- 11.30 pm Brafferton Midnight Communion

25th December

- 9.00 am Aldwark All Age Service
- 10.30 am Alne Holy Communion
- 10.30 am Brafferton Methodist Communion
 - 9.00 am Myton Holy Communion
 - 10.30 am Thormanby Holy Communion
 - 10.30 am Tollerton All Age Communion

NEWS FROM ALNE CHURCH

St Mary's Church, Alne Restoration Appeal

This next year we will embark on urgent restoration work on St Mary's Church. With this month's magazine you should receive a letter explaining in more detail what we would like to do.

In the new year we will invite any who are interested to a public meeting for a presentation with Q&A session and there will be regular updates on how the appeal and work is progressing.

Remembrance Day Service: this moving service was led by Chris Park and supported by the Archdeacon of York (Sarah Bullock) and the Rev Roy Wadsworth. The service included our traditional hymns and readings. We were very pleased to welcome a large group of residents and staff from the Cheshire Home, including three volunteers from Germany.

Afternoon Tea – 12th November – a big 'thank you' to all who helped with this event which raised more than £200 for the church

SHOEBOXES

Many decorated and filled shoeboxes went on their way from Alne Primary School on November 17th. These were filled with goodies by school families, local people and with additional boxes donated from the Methodist churches in Easingwold and Thirsk. Thank you to all those who kindly donated gifts for children around the world this Christmas. We look forward to hearing where our gifts go to this year.

Tins and Toys St Mary's, Alne and St Michael's, Tollerton Sunday 14th December 2014



Please bring items of tinned food and toys you would be happy to receive as a gift (including items for teenagers) to the churches in time for the services at 10.30am. All items will be collected for The Salvation Army in York and distributed to needy families during this Christmas Period. Thank you as always for your generosity. Bless you, Chris Park

VILLAGE HALL NEWS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Alnestock November 2014 was a resounding success! Brilliantly organised by Pete Hall we had a fantastic range of great live music. Listen



The Village Hali

out for 'The Blue Notes' in years to come, a group of talented musicians from Easingwold School. No doubt you have met 'Girl' already, a brilliant singer-songwriter duo, 'The Stray Blues' and 'The NeoYork Soul Collective' made for an amazing evening, with much dancing and tapping of toes. This was a good night out and a great fundraiser for our village hall. Thank you all for coming – the hall was packed and people went home smiling from ear to ear with tunes ringing in their ears!

Have you got any ideas for a fundraiser for the village hall? Please let us know – better still – feel free to organise something! The Village Hall is a community asset, any income is ploughed into the maintenance and refurbishment of the building. We have been incredibly fortunate to receive a most generous grant from the Garfield Weston Foundation and from APLA – monies which will go towards the renovation of the main hall – our next targeted project.

TOLLERTON CAROL SINGING

All are welcome to come carol singing around Tollerton on **Monday 15 December 2014**. Meet on the Village Green at 6.30 pm Tollerton. All proceeds to be used in aid of Tollerton Sports Field. Dot Hornby.

ALF

Thanks to everyone who joined in with Alne Local and Fairtrade Market in November, another happy morning was enjoyed with many Christmas gifts chosen, bacon butties eaten and some surprise wins on Millie's raffle raising money for her trip next year. Watch these pages for dates in 2015.

TOLLERTON CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tollerton Children's Christmas party will be held on Sunday 7 December in the Village Hall between 3 and 5pm, with a disco, raffle and food. For all children up to primary year 6. Please add your name to the list email Ann Morrisson at annmorrison @hotmail.co.uk.



Alne Oil Co-operative

Prices during October averaged 45.38ppl + VAT (Boilerjuice price 48.79ppl) a saving to Cooperative Members equivalent to £2,850 across the whole syndicate; even greater taking into account the higher prices normally charged on 500 litre minimum size loads which many Members ask for.

As agreed with Tate Fuels, the member discount will be suspended between 15th November and 4th January. You may place orders in the interim and you can either; wait until the New Year (deliveries will be made within the month commencing 5th January, or sooner if possible); or pay the market price, including delivery charges.

Please note we are using a new e-mail address: alneoil@yahoo.com – this is to try to overcome a problem with missing e-mails that have occurred with the BT account.

If you live in or around Alne and want to know more about the Alne Heating Oil Co-operative, please visit the Alne Village website at:

http://www.alnevillage.co.uk/groups_oil.html

Visit us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/AlneOilCooperative



OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER

Alne: every Tuesday Morning at 9am in the vicarage with Chris Park

838122.

Tholthorpe: every Wednesday Morning at 8.45 – 9.15 am at the Methodist

Chapel - with Pam and John Lancaster 838266. All are welcome.

St Stephen's Aldwark Flower Rota

Dec – Jenny Rudd

VILLAGE METHODIST SERVICES

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

DECEMBER 2014

<u> </u>	DESCRIBER 2014				
Date	Time	Venue	Details		
7 Dec	10.30 am	Huby Methodist	Rev Elizabeth Cushion		
		Church	Holy Communion		
	3.00 pm	Tholthorpe	Rev Elizabeth Cushion		
		Methodist Church	Holy Communion		
14 Dec	10.30 am	Husthwaite	Rev Elizabeth Cushion		
		Methodist Church	Holy Communion		
	3.00 pm	Alne Hall	Carol Service, Mr Ken Hopwood		
	6.30 pm	Stillington	Mrs Vanessa Johnson		
	-	Methodist Church			
21 Dec	3 pm	Tholthorpe	Rev Elizabeth Cushion,		
		Methodist Church	Carol Service		
	4.30 pm	Husthwaite	Rev Elizabeth Cushion		
	-	Methodist Church	Carol Service		
	6.30 pm	Stillington	Carol Service, locally led		
		Methodist Church			
28 Dec	10.30 am	St Mary's Alne	United Service		
	4 pm	Huby Methodist Church	Café Service, locally led		

Christmas Day Services

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9.30 am	Stillington	Rev Elizabeth Cushion	
10.30 am	Brafferton Helperby	Rev David Priestnall	
		Holy Communion	

ANGLICAN SERVICES - DECEMBER 2014

Wednesday		AN SERVICES - DEC	EMBER 2014
Brafferton	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Sunday 7 De	acamhar		
Aldwark	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Alne	6.30 pm	Carol Service	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Hawthorn
Myton	9.00 am	Morning Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Thormanby	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Charlotte Cranfield
Tollerton	10.30 am	Morning Worship	John Rhodes
Tollottori	10.00 am	Worming Worship	JOHN TAHOGOS
Sunday 14 [December		
Aldwark	4.00 pm	Carol Service	Rev Chris Park
Alne	10.30 am	Toys and Tins	Carmel Gittens
Brafferton	6.30 pm	Carol Service	Carmel Gittens &
	•		Rev Chris Park
Myton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	10.30 am	Toys and Tins	Rev Chris Park
Saturday 20	Docombor		
Saturday 20 Brafferton	4.00 pm	A Christmas Carol	Mike Barfield
Branchon	4.00 pm	71 Offitolinas Oafor	WINC Dameia
Sunday 21 [December		
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Brafferton	6.30 pm	Christingle	Carmel Gittens
Myton	4.00 pm	Carol Service	Carmel Gittens
Thormanby	4.00 pm	Carol Service	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	6.30 pm	Carols on the Green	Rev Chris Park
Wednesday	24 Decemb	oer	
Alne	4.00 pm	Christingle	Rev Chris Park
Alne	11.30 pm	MidnightCommunion	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	3.30 pm	Nativity Service	Maureen East

11.30 pm MidnightCommunion Carmel Gittens

Brafferton

ANGLICAN SERVICES - CHRISTMAS DAY

Thursday 25 December

Aldwark	9.00 am	All Age Service	Rev Chris Park
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Brafferton	9.00 am	Methodist Holy	Rev David Preistnall
		Communion	
Myton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Thormanby	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Tollerton	10.30 am	All Age Communion	Rev Chris Park

Sunday 28 December

Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Methodist
Brafferton	10.30 am	Baptism	Carmel Gittens & Rev Roy Wadsworth

METHODIST SERVICES JANUARY 2015

Date	Time	Venue	Details
4 Jan	10.30 am	Huby	Rev H Hanson, Holy Communion
	3.00 pm	Tholthorpe	Rev E Cushion, Covenant*
11 Jan	10.30 am	Husthwaite	Rev E Cushion, Holy Communion
	3.00 pm	Alne Hall	Mrs Lydia Harrison
	6.30 pm	Stillington	Rev E Cushion
18 Jan	10.30 am	Brafferton	Rev G Kidman, Holy Communion
		Helperby	
	3 pm	Tholthorpe	Rev E Cushion, Carol Service
	6.30 pm	Stillington	Rev Vivien Firth
25 Jan	9.30 am	Stillington	Rev E Cushion, United Covenant*
	10.30 am	St Mary's Alne	United Service
	11 am	Huby	Covenant Service*

^{*}All covenant services include Holy Communion

ANGLICAN SERVICES JANUARY 2015

Sunday	/ 4 January
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Aldwark	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Brafferton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens
Myton	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Carmel Gittens
Thormanby	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Beryl Bowes
Tollerton	10.30 am	Morning Worship	John Rhodes

Wednesday 7 January

Brafferton	9.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
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Sunday 11 January

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Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth
Brafferton	6.30 pm	Compline	Carmel Gittens
Myton	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park
Tollerton	10.30 am	All Age Worship	Rev Chris Park

Sunday 18 January

Guilday 10 c	Ouriday 10 barrdary				
Aldwark	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens		
Alne	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens		
Thormanby	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park		
Tollerton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Chris Park		

Sunday 25 January

Cullday 20 Culldary				
Alne	10.30 am	AnglicanCommunion	Rev Chris Park	
Myton	10.30 am	Morning Prayer	Carmel Gittens	
Tollerton	10.30 am	Holy Communion	Rev Roy Wadsworth	

^{**} Please Note: The following services will take place in The Millenium Hall while electrical work is completed in St Peter's Church building **

Brafferton

2.4			
18 January	6.30 pm	Compline	Carmel Gittens
25 January	9.00 am	Holy Communion	Carmel Gittens