

PARISH NEWSLETTER

February 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 NEW YEAR – A NEW CHALLENGE

The Parish Newsletter is a community asset brought to you by the local churches in conjunction with other local community organisations. Having edited the magazine for 4 years our current editor is looking to move on to new challenges. Do you also fancy a new challenge? Would you like to take on the role? All you need are basic word-processing skills, an eye for detail, access to a computer and the commitment to work to the once a month deadline. Full training given. Please contact Chris Park on 01347 838122 or by email if you might be interested. Editor.

Copy for March 2015 issue to news@abchurches.org.uk on or before 16 February please. Or by hand or post to The Vicarage, Monk Green House, Main Street Alne, York YO61 1TB.

JE NE SUIS PAS CHARLIE!

Can I firstly say that the violence of the so called Muslim terrorists is to be condemned and we must always support peaceful ways of learning to live with people who are culturally different to ourselves. However, at the risk of offending our friends in France, I would like to respond to the 'Je suis Charlie' campaign as I understand it is about freedom of speech rather than terrorism.

Firstly, in a healthy society, freedom to offend is an abuse of freedom and today, in this country, to our credit, there are some areas which most would now consider off limits when it comes to causing offence. As I write Ken Morley has been evicted from the Big Brother reality TV show for racist comments. Indeed racism, homophobia and sexism are all forms of 'speech' where we are no longer free to offend.

Charlie Hebdo has made its name from a mixture of gentle satire to vicious aggression in its editorial. However, in a tolerant healthy society, freedom to offend and abuse others verbally is a mis-use of that freedom. Real freedom would look to understand, debate, critique and ultimately, where possible, live with difference.

As well as Islam, Charlie Hebdo has targeted the Queen, President Putin, the Pope and politicians of anything but a left wing persuasion – indeed one of the surviving cartoonists commented on the march through Paris saying: 'It is not easy to be supported by idiots such as Angela Merkle.' Those they were used to lampooning were identifying themselves with the magazine!!

In a healthy society there is a balance to be struck between free speech and tolerance. Free speech should mean we have the right to respectfully critique others rather than insult them.

The danger now is that the West remains on a high level of alert and is at the risk of further terrorist attacks. However, in the medium term we also run the risk of playing into the hands of our own political extremists who would turn Muslims into modern day lepers. In all this there is a higher law. Jesus said 'love as I have loved you!'

Rev Chris Park



ARE YOU HUNGRY?

Some starving beggars were picking over the rubbish heap outside a town. Occasionally they found a crust that provided some nourishment. Then one of them wandered off into the town and found a baker's shop full of bread, with a sign up, reading: 'Today is my daughter's wedding day – help yourself to free bread.' The beggar began to eat hungrily, then he remembered his friends, realized he was being selfish in keeping this news to himself, and rushed to tell them: 'I've found where bread is being given away free.' The other beggars rounded on him furiously. 'Are you criticizing us?' they asked. 'What's wrong with the crusts we've found here? What makes you better than us?' The first beggar was amazed; he replied, 'I'm not criticizing anybody. I was as hungry as you are. It's just that now I've found where my needs can really be met, and I wanted to share the good news with you.'

In the 1960s, a preacher; D. T. Niles, said, 'Christianity is one beggar telling another where he found bread'. The Christian gospel is the good news that God loves us and forgives all those who repent. Our reason for telling the good news is not from any sense of superiority, but the desire to share with others something that we find has met our own deepest needs for love, purpose and meaning.

A perfectly ordinary person sees Jesus, and finds in him what they were looking for. They speak to a friend or family member, and persuade them to take a fresh look at what Jesus has to offer. They persuade, not by theological argument, but by admitting that they had the same needs, and Jesus has met them. Human beings all have the same need to be loved. In the cross, Christians have found the proof of God's love. We mustn't selfishly keep that love to ourselves, we have to share our faith. By talking about Jesus to our friends, we're not criticizing anybody or claiming to be any better than they are. Certainly we're not denying that there is much good in their lives and in what they may already accept about God. It's just that we've found our needs met in Jesus and we want to share the good news. That's what the Bible means by evangelism.

So, the next time someone says, 'I'm not a Christian, I don't need to go to church' look at them lovingly and reply, 'What a pity – you don't know what you're missing. At the church I've found love, acceptance and a meaning for my life. Come and see!'. Then tell them the story of the starving beggars. Carmel Gittens.

Family Time

Fun, Faith, Food

Sunday 22 Feb 2015

4pm – 6pm

Tollerton Village Hall

PANCAKE DAY!

Everyone Welcome

Contact Rev Chris Park 01347 838122

NEWS FROM ALNE CHURCH

Christmas is always a very busy time! We held a small but very enjoyable Christmas Lunch with soup, sandwiches and a marvellous apple pie. On Christmas Eve we had another very successful Christingle service with Midnight Mass in the late evening and the service on Christmas Day (then back to our homes to concentrate on our families!).

A big thank you to Chris Park and Roy Wadsworth who led our services during this most important time and to everyone who worked so hard to keep the church clean and tidy or who arranged the flowers and those who provided food and refreshments at the various social events.

Parish Church Records

Funerals

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 4 Nov 2014 | Theodora Elizabeth Middleton |
| 6 Jan 2015 | Florence Marjorie Coleman (funeral at Easingwold Methodist Church, burial at Alne) |
| 10 Jan 2015 | Elizabeth Mary Jeffels |
| 20 Jan 2015 | Dorothy Rhodes |

St Mary's Church, Alne Restoration Appeal A big thank you to everyone who has already donated to this Appeal. We are starting 2015 with over £20,000 in the fund!! We look forward to your continuing support.

Church cleaning: Gill Charlton, Pat Stafford
Flower arranging: Vanree Cove



ALNE VILLAGE HALL

The Seasonal Wreath making demonstration

which took place in the village hall on 26 November 2014 was a great success. Chris Brown and his team from Brown's Nurseries showed us the art of wreath making, a skill for which you require both tough fingers and lots of patience. We all enjoyed a glass of mulled wine to warm our bones on what was a cold winter's night. Thanks to the organisers and to all those who attended.

As we have a custom made **new store room** for the tables and chairs, we also have a **new small meeting room** available for hire. The room has its own heater and is very comfortable. For hiring rates please see website.

JuJitsu a new weekly class from Friday 23 January 3.45 to 4.45pm. The class is aimed at 4 to 11 year olds. For more information see call 01347 868876 or 0780 8514914 or info@rockcrossmartialtraining.com.

Plant Sale. Spring may seem a long way away but put a note in your diaries now for Sunday 17 May at 10 am.

The Village Hall is a community asset, any income is ploughed into the maintenance and refurbishment of the building. We need your support to help the Village Hall reach its full potential. Tell us what events you would like to see in the hall, or even better why not organise an event yourself. Check our webpage on www.alnevillage.co.uk for more information on the hall and upcoming events or follow us on Facebook.

FOAS

A flash of tartan, a splash of firewater and the swirl of pipes.....what more did we need to help the haggis go down? Friends of Alne School held their customary Burns Supper in the Village Hall on 24th January this year and the rafters are still ringing to the sounds of speeches, laughter and dance

music, which filled the hall with mirth and merriment until the closing Auld Lang Syne. As ever, this was a popular celebration and FOAS is indebted to the witty speakers, the army of helpers and especially to this year's sponsors, Loch Fyne Seafood Restaurant, Yorkshire Outdoors at The Hawkhills, The Cloister Spa at The Parsonage Hotel and Easingwold Golf Club for their generous donation of raffle prizes. Footsore revelers completed the picture and a total of over £1,000 was raised for the Friends of Alne School. Will ye no come back again.....?



Alne Oil Co-operative

The delivered price for heating oil in the most recent delivery (6 January) was 33.79ppl + VAT (Boilerjuice price = 39.46ppl — a saving to co-operative members of nearly 6p litre with the VAT; even greater if one takes into account the higher prices charged on 500 litre minimum size loads.

If you are already a member of Alne Oil Co-operative and need oil, either:

- log onto Tate's website www.tateoil.co.uk (preferred option), look for the Lower Swale login button, and fill in the online form with your requirements (you will need the password provided by Tate) or
- If you are unable to use the website, phone the dedicated Lower Swale order line: 01943 854 888

Tate Fuels will deliver within 30 days of the order, but it is usually within a week. The price charged will be that applying on the delivery date.

In a recent e-mail, a member said: "*Just tested the system, ordered a top up on the 5th January, delivered early pm 6th - fantastic! Being a member, as I have said before, is a "NO BRAINER".*"

Membership is open to all. If you live in or around Alne and want to know more about the Alne Heating Oil Co-operative, please e-mail alneoil@yahoo.com or visit the Alne Village website at: http://www.alnevillage.co.uk/groups_oil.html



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

Our new e-mail address is: alneoil@yahoo.com to try to overcome a problem with missing e-mails that have occurred with the BT account.

PRAYER

Prayer is a vital part of the life of the church whichever denomination. You are warmly invited to join us at our regular prayer meetings. These take place

- every Tuesday morning at 9am in the vicarage with Chris Park 838122 and
- every Wednesday morning at 8.45 am at the Methodist Chapel Tholthorpe with Pam and John Lancaster 838266. All are welcome.

VILLAGE METHODIST SERVICES

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 below.

| Date | Time | Venue | Details |
|--------|----------|-----------------------------|--|
| 1 Feb | 3.00 pm | Tholthorpe Methodist Church | Rev Leslie Newton Holy Communion |
| 8 Feb | 3.00 pm | Alne Hall | Rev Leslie Newton |
| 15 Feb | 10.30 am | Brafferton Helperby Church | Rev Gerald Wilson United Common Service |
| 15 Feb | 10.30 am | Tholthorpe | Mrs Hilary Blake Care Service |
| 22 Feb | 10.30 am | St Mary's Church Alne | Rev Elizabeth Cushion United Covenant Service |
| 22 Feb | 4.00 pm | Huby Methodist Church | Villages Together Café Service |

Fellowship Group at Alne Hall on Tuesday 7 February at 2.30 pm

**ANGLICAN SERVICES
FEBRUARY 2015**

Sunday 1 February

| | | | |
|--------------|----------|-----------------|----------------|
| 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 | 10.00 am | Morning Prayer | Dorothy Bailey |
| Thormanby | 10.30 am | Morning Prayer | Carmel Gittens |
| Tollerton | 10.30 am | Morning Worship | John Rhodes |

Wednesday 4 February

| | | | |
|--------------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| **Brafferton | 9.30 am | Holy Communion | Rev Chris Park |
|--------------|---------|----------------|----------------|

Sunday 8 February

| | | | |
|--------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 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 15 February

| | | | |
|--------------|----------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Aldwark | 9.00 am | Baptism | Rev Roy Wadsworth |
| Alne | 10.30 am | Holy Communion | Carmel Gittens |
| **Brafferton | 10.30 am | Methodist Communion | Rev Gerald Wilson |
| Thormanby | 9.00 am | Holy Communion | Rev Chris Park |
| Tollerton | 10.30 am | Holy Communion | Rev Chris Park |

Sunday 22 February

| | | | |
|--------------|----------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Alne | 10.30 am | Methodist Covenant | Rev Elizabeth Cushion |
| 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 |
| Tollerton | 4.00 pm | Family Time | Chris Park |
| Village Hall | | | |

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