

# PARISH NEWSLETTER

March 2021

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

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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](mailto:rev.deborah.coyne@gmail.com) and 01347 833437 or [carmel-gittens@live.co.uk](mailto:carmel-gittens@live.co.uk) respectively.



## Lent

The season of Lent has been likened to a retreat or mission undertaken by the worldwide Church. Over forty days three themes are presented and explored: penance, baptism, and the passion of Christ. It is a time when we are encouraged to take time out, to go to our room, close the door and pray to our Father in private (cf. Matthew 6:6).

During this last year, we have been confined to our rooms, perhaps more than we'd like. It has been a lonely experience for us. It has not been possible for us to come together very much as members of the Church community due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Last year our Lenten journey was changed rather quickly. The continuing restrictions and our obligation to protect the health and life of others demand of us that Lent 2021 will be quite similar. This year, for example the ancient and popular custom of receiving ashes – expressing a willingness to do penance – has not been possible.

The call to do penance is an ever-present invitation in Scripture. Lent invites us to an inner change of heart; a turning to God; a rejection of all that is evil; an opportunity for us to walk in a new direction. In the Gospel passage proclaimed on Ash Wednesday we are reminded that the traditional works of penance are fasting, almsgiving and prayer.

The season of Lent invites us to renew our dedication to prayer and reflection on the Word of God. This is a good time to renew the practice of family prayer. Covid-19 has caused many in our world to plead for the bare necessities of life. Fasting from alcohol, TV, and the consumption of certain foods are traditional favourite forms of penance for Lent. Maybe we can do something this year, such as supporting our frontline workers or encouraging compliance with public health regulations in an effort to protect others. These actions could be undertaken as a form of fasting this year. Whatever you undertake, know that God's grace and blessing is showered upon you.

As part of the 'digital Church', please continue to join in our online services and other prayer moments from our churches that are now reaching out to you using modern technologies. We have a church service of the word every Sunday at 10.30a.m. via Zoom. If you would like to join in the service, please contact Arthur Harland for the link email at [office@abchurches.org.uk](mailto:office@abchurches.org.uk). May I also ask that any requests for weddings or baptisms be made in the same way, via the church office. Our Administrator Arthur will then send the relevant application forms to you.

We are hoping that Covid restrictions will be lifted sufficiently to enable in person services to resume as soon as possible, and plan to have a Good Friday service at both St Peter's Brafferton and St Mary's Alne at 2.00p.m. Then on Easter Sunday a service at both churches at 10.30a.m.

Over the course of this Lent we will hear the words of Scripture speak to us of God's closeness; that God has made a covenant with us and that he has sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved (cf. John 3:14-21).

Jesus is the new covenant; a covenant brought to its fulfilment in his passion, death, and resurrection. As followers of Jesus, we are called to bear witness to truth, mercy, and love. Lent is always a good time to begin again on that journey.

This year, amidst all the suffering and anxiety of so many, I invite you, wherever you may be in terms of your own journey, to take up that ever-present invitation; to turn around and walk with Christ – that, in the words of today’s Gospel acclamation, he may ‘enlighten the eyes of our mind so that we can see what hope his call holds for us’ (cf. Ephesians 1:17-18).

May I also ask that you keep our priest in charge, Revd Debbie Coyne, in your prayers for a swift recovery from her current illness, and I thank you all for your continued support and patience as I “hold the fort” in her absence.

Blessings as always

Reverend Carmel Gittens

## **News from Alne Church**

### **Easter Services at Alne Church**

**Good Friday - 2.00p.m.**

**Easter Sunday – 10.30a.m.**

These will be “live” services and will be open to a limited number. To attend please contact the church office on [office@abchurches.org.uk](mailto:office@abchurches.org.uk) or contact one of the wardens.

### **Parish Registers**

29<sup>th</sup> October 2020 – Bromwyn JENNISON – Interment of ashes

25<sup>th</sup> January 2021 – Barbara Jane HIRST - Funeral

5<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – Christopher BIRKITT – Funeral

### **Reverend Debbie Coyne**

We understand that the Reverend Debbie Coyne is making good progress and hope she will return from sick leave by mid-March.



## **Alne Preschool Playgroup**

Alne Preschool Playgroup would like to thank everyone who supported us in our Autumn fundraising, visiting or having a stall at our Christmas market (which was a great success,) donating raffle prizes, following our Christmas trails in Tollerton, Tholthorpe or Alne, or donating clothing for our charity clothing collection. We really appreciate your support.

We have a bag hung in the phone box in Alne for any used ink cartridges for our recycling scheme, which we will check regularly.

Our next event is our Muck Chuck, we will be selling wheelbarrow loads of quality manure, ready for your spring planting.

We do have places available at Alne Preschool Playgroup for children aged 2 to 4 years, e-mail us for more details. [alneplaygroup@live.com](mailto:alneplaygroup@live.com)

Thank you.

## **Fundraising Muck Chuck – Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

Alne Preschool Playgroup is offering to deliver manure to your garden or allotment ready for the growing season to raise funds for the preschool. We will be delivering to local villages on **Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> March**. We will be delivering by the barrow load and you can order as many as you would like at £5 a Barrow. Smaller quantities available upon request. To maintain social distancing we would ask that you complete the form below with all the relevant information and pay in advance either by cash, cheque or bank transfer made payable to Alne Preschool Playgroup. Electronic versions of this form are available by e-mailing [alneplaygroup@live.com](mailto:alneplaygroup@live.com) or [nicola.morris3@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nicola.morris3@hotmail.co.uk).

Completed forms can be sent to:

Alne Preschool Playgroup,  
Main Street,  
Alne,  
York  
YO61 1RT

Name	
Address	
Phone number	
Number of barrows	
Method of payment	
Delivery instructions	

Bank Transfer details – Alne Preschool Playgroup

Account number – 61287591

Sort Code – 40-20-02

Registered Charity Number 1147197



# FRIENDS OF ST MONICA'S HOSPITAL

from David Kenworthy, Chair of FOSMH

In January last year, we held a briefing for members in the Galtres Centre. Members were actually there and not appearing on a screen. What a difference a year makes! Many of us are 'zoomed' out but just think how we would have coped if this pandemic had happened 20 years ago. Skype was in its infancy, and many of us were still on dial up connections spending many minutes looking at spinning stars on a screen waiting for downloads. Now, I can speak instantly to many of you at no cost. However, I am conscious that not all our members have access to a computer.

If you know of a member who cannot receive or read this newsletter, please help them access it.

The trustees have been busy during the various lockdowns making sure that we will be in good shape when we are able to resume some kind of social or work life.

## **New trustees**

Towards the end of last year we advertised on the website, in the Easingwold Advertiser and village newsletters to see if we could attract new trustees. The response far exceeded expectation and produced a list of talent from which to choose. After all applicants were interviewed by the chairman and vice-chairman, five new trustees were appointed, bringing with them additional expertise in marketing and communications, legal matters, general practice, the NHS and sales management. The Executive Committee is now stronger and the two sub-committees, covering grant making and fund raising, are better equipped to meet the coming tasks.

Details of the new trustees; Peter Berry, Lorraine Boyd, Ian Jackson, Graham Pratt and Terry Saeedi have been added to the website.

## **Grant Making Report**

*(from Graham Pratt, Chair of Grant-making Committee)*

Sadly, Steve Dann has stood down as a trustee. Steve was the first chair of the committee and under his guidance the committee produced excellent guidelines and processes to ensure that the trust's money was used wisely and properly accounted for. Our sincere thanks to Steve for his work.

## **Helping the Covid Vaccination Effort**

Many of you will have had your first Covid vaccination at either the health centre or the Galtres Centre. I'm pleased to say that Friends of St Monica's has been playing a role in the vaccination programme. We bought equipment for the volunteers who have been working outside in some pretty grim weather and, probably of more concern to the volunteers and staff, we have paid for their meals and refreshments. Easingwold District Community Care Association (EDCCA) staff then organised the delivery of these from the local cafes that produced them.

Two of our new trustees have played a very important role in the centre. Lorraine Boyd has led the setting up of the vaccination centres across the Primary Care Network area and deserves our congratulations and thanks for a very well executed plan. Ian Jackson, a retired anaesthetist, has been giving the injections. Because we had to conduct trustee recruitment via Zoom, David Kenworthy had never met Ian in person. He met him for the first time at the Galtres Centre and Ian stabbed him! Fortunately, only with a syringe.

## **GP Surgeries Support**

We have already contributed to the purchase of a bladder scanning machine, defibrillators and are also purchasing ear suction machines that will be available for use at the surgeries. Now we will consider requests from the GP surgeries for support where they could demonstrate an improvement or increase of Health and Well Being services to their registered patients. Due to current Covid pressures, this process will begin as soon as time and resource allows later this year.

## **IT Knowledge Equipment**

This project plan enhances the IT skills of those residents across our area that are particularly isolated and in need of support. It has emerged from the Easingwold Surgery. It involves a partnership of volunteers, businesses and health organisations. Through the use of donated, used IT equipment, and training, we will support this.

## **Working with EDCCA**

### **Meals on wheels**

As many of you know, EDCCA organises the meals on wheels service around the district. At the beginning of the pandemic, FOSMH agreed to fund additional meals so that the service could be extended over more days.

### **Transport for cancer patients**

We have also worked with EDCCA to provide services such as transporting cancer patients to St James's Hospital in Leeds.

### **Future Working Together**

EDCCA employs staff and has a large number of volunteers. FOSMH, whilst having wonderful volunteers who give their time to make life in the hospital more comfortable, has no capacity to deliver services in the community. We have been working closely with the trustees of EDCCA to plan what services we can offer together with our funds and their expertise. This is a result of FOSMH changing the constitution to allow us to fund projects to improve the health and well-being of our communities.

### **Changing the status of FOSMH**

At the moment the trust is an unincorporated association. This means that the trust cannot enter into contracts as an entity in its own right and it leaves the individual trustees potentially liable for actions of the trust and its funds. When the trust's remit was limited to St Monica's Hospital, this was of little concern. You will see in other stories that we are working closely with EDCCA as part of our goal to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities. We hope to work with other organisations in the future. Some of that work will require us to enter into contracts and other arrangements of a legal nature. Having taken legal advice the trustees propose to incorporate the trust as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Association Model). This is a model recognised and promoted by the Charity Commission. The change will require the consent of Friends, which will be sought later in the year, when more information will be provided. Depending on the state of Covid-19 restrictions, this could take place at the AGM in June or July. In the meantime if you have any comments or queries on this proposed change please contact the secretary.

## **Fundraising report**

*(from Terry Saeedi, Chair of the Fundraising committee)*

I am delighted to have been appointed a trustee of this wonderful organisation. The funding position of the trust is very healthy; however we know that we will be funding some significant projects in the near future and have established a fundraising committee. This will make sure that we can continue to support the hospital and the wider community in the longer term. The members of this new committee are Lorraine Boyd, Jenny Rhodes and me, with David Kenworthy in attendance. We will be putting together a fundraising strategy and will share this with you in due course. There is no monopoly on good ideas, so please do share with us any that you have.

## **Gardens and grounds report**

*(Jenny Rhodes, trustee overseeing gardens and grounds)*

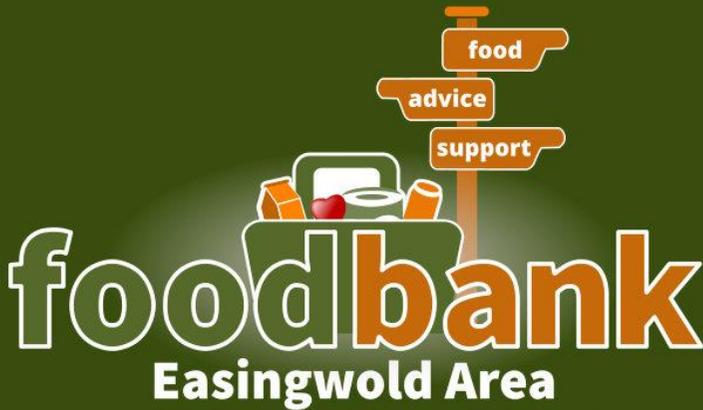
The garden and grounds are well looked after by Rob and Christine Burns, who work once a week throughout the year to keep them looking tidy. They keep the tubs well stocked and there is a good array of bulbs in the borders which will bring some much needed colour over the next few weeks.

The furniture on the patio at the rear of the hospital will soon have a spring make over ready for any visitors who may need to be with their relative until they are able to see them inside the hospital and to be ready for residents to sit out and enjoy the sunshine and warmer weather. There are two bird tables in this area being looked after by a Trustee who will put food out to encourage wildlife. There is also a hedgehog house in a secluded corner of the front garden which has been inhabited by at least one hedgehog.

The Summer House, which was built in memory of Barry Sanderson, a well-respected Trustee and Chairman, is a lovely refuge for those residents who can walk in the grounds. This last year it hasn't been used due to social distancing but we are looking forward to opening it up later in the year.

## **Last Word**

We have been very quiet over the last few months but I hope you will now realise that we have been very active on your behalf. The Pandemic will leave our communities with many challenges, including continuing loneliness and mental and physical health problems. FOSMH, through your generosity, can help alleviate these challenges in partnership with health professionals and other local charities. If you see an opportunity for us to get involved, please get in touch. Our contact details are on our website at [www.fosmh.org.uk](http://www.fosmh.org.uk).



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



# Thanksgiving for Jobs!



**Give thanks for your  
vaccination**

Help protect the most vulnerable people, while  
the vaccine is out of reach.

As the government's vaccination programme rolls out across the country and protects a growing number of people from the COVID coronavirus that has made life so difficult for the last year, why not take the opportunity to offer thanks to God for your 'jab' in a practical way as well as in prayer?

**Christian Aid** works with some of the poorest and most vulnerable communities across the world, where there may be little hope of a vaccine rollout. These people already face a lack of water, food, and healthcare. Some are homeless. Some are living with underlying health issues such as HIV.

**Christian Aid** is already on the ground, helping keep people safe from coronavirus with practical support – but with your gift of thanks can do more.

If you or your loved ones have had your “jab”, visit Christian Aid's vaccine thanksgiving page: [Give thanks for your coronavirus vaccine - Christian Aid](#)

You can make a donation, and in leaving your message feel free to mention that you're from the Diocese of York.

**It's something positive you can do when life is quite austere anyway!**

## **Contact Details:**

The Anglican ministers for the villages in the Parish of Alne are Revd. Debbie Coyne and Revd. Carmel Gittens. Their contact details are:

Revd. Debbie Coyne 01423 360759 e-mail: [rev.deborah.coyne@gmail.com](mailto:rev.deborah.coyne@gmail.com)

Revd. Carmel Gittens 01347 833437 e-mail: [carmel-gittens@live.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:viviennebird@hotmail.co.uk)

**St. Michael's Tollerton**  
Arthur Harland 01347 823575 e-mail: [janeatwoodyedge@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:janeatwoodyedge@yahoo.co.uk)  
Alison Dowson 01347 838138 e-mail [amcd2350@gmail.com](mailto:amcd2350@gmail.com)