

PARISH NEWSLETTER

December 2018 & January 2019

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

There is now a vacancy for the Priest in Charge of the Alne Parish, although Carmel Gittens is still with us. Carmel can be contacted by telephone on 01347 833437 or by e-mail at carmel-gittens@live.co.uk. However please try contacting the church wardens as the first point of contact – a full list of wardens is provided on page 13 of this Parish Newsletter.



The Greatest Gift of All

I wonder what your earliest Christmas memories are? I remember finding a Tressy doll, in my mum's wardrobe, that I had asked Father Christmas for. Whenever my parents weren't looking, I would sneak up and play with it and then carefully put it back into the box hoping they wouldn't notice. All was well until I broke it! I stuffed it back into the box quick as a flash and had to feign surprise when I opened it up on Christmas Day. Mum was very annoyed that the toy shop had given her a broken doll, it was many years before I confessed my misdemeanour.

At Christmas many people get themselves into a lot of debt trying to buy the presents that they think will show their love to their friends and family. Then spend all year trying to rebuild their bank balance. The TV presenter and money expert Martin Lewis recently caught the imagination of his viewers by suggesting that they have a Christmas of promises of services instead of presents. It reminded me of a story I heard a while ago:

Christmas was coming soon, and Beth wanted to give Christmas gifts to her family to show them how much she loved them. But Beth didn't have any money. Beth thought she wouldn't be able to give any gifts, and she felt very sad. Then Beth remembered that her Primary teacher had told the class that some of the best gifts are gifts that money can't buy. Beth decided to give gifts of service.

Beth made a card for every member of her family, and on each card she wrote something that she would do for that family member. On her younger sister's card she wrote that she would play a game that her sister liked. On her older brother's card she wrote that she would wash the dishes one night when it was his turn. For her mother she promised to watch the baby while Mother took a nap, and for her father she promised to help work in the garden. Her favourite gift was for her grandfather: she promised to give him a big hug first thing every morning for a month.

On Christmas morning Beth gave her gifts to her family. Everyone liked Beth's gifts of service. They knew Beth loved them because she gave them such wonderful gifts.

What a lovely way to really show your love for someone. It is easy to forget the reason we give gifts at this time of year. I feel so happy when I give someone a present that I have made or something I know will mean a lot to them. **But Jesus Christ is the greatest gift our Heavenly Father has given us.** This is because Jesus has helped us return to live with Him and our Heavenly Father someday, by giving His life for us. And just as our Heavenly Father showed His love for us by sending Jesus to the earth, we can show our love for others by giving them special gifts, but they don't have to cost a fortune.

Jesus Christ is our Saviour, the greatest gift we can have this Christmas.

Blessings Revd. Carmel Gittens

News from Alne Church

After the long dry summer, the current cold, rainy weather comes as a bit of a shock! Hopefully the difficult news about the prolonged negotiations at home and natural disasters abroad will come to an end; so we will all be able to enjoy Christmas with our families and friends.

Restoration Project

We are hopeful that the work will commence during late November. It is now understood that apart from minor exceptions, the roof will remain sealed so the church will not be open to the winter weather! Most of our Sunday services, as well as Christingle and Christmas Day, will continue at the church during the repair work.

Remembrance Day 11 11 18

The Remembrance Day Service – on the Centenary of the end of the First World War - was well attended and as usual we remembered the many men of Alne Parish who died in both wars. This display for PEACE was made by Tricia Mitchell using woollen poppies made by Tricia, Marion Roberts and others. It reinforced the message of peace that was given by the Revd Peter Bowes during the service.



Christingle – 4.00p.m. Christmas Eve

Join us for this wonderful service at St Mary's Church, Alne! Please note that hospitality at the Village Hall starts after the service at 5.00p.m.



CHRISTMAS DAY - 10.30a.m.

Bring your families and friends to our Christmas Service at St Mary's and give thanks for our year. Enjoy your Christmas but please ensure your neighbours do so as well!

Calling Christingle Makers

If you would be happy to make Christingles for us for our Christmas Eve service at St Mary's Alne would you please contact Carol Glen on 838016, Peter Cove on 838346 or e-mail office@abchurches.org.uk

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



St Stephen's Aldwark

Annual Carol Service

Sunday 16th December at 3.30p.m.

Start your Christmas by coming along to our popular Carol Service which will be led by the Revd. Carmel Gittens. 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.

Decorating the Christmas Tree

Friday 14th December at 4.00p.m.

Children are invited to decorate the church Christmas tree. They always do a brilliant job!

Village Carol Singing

Date to be arranged

Meet at the pub at 5.30p.m. to go round the village singing Carols and offering mince pies followed by Carol Singing in the pub from about 6.15p.m. All are welcome, adults and children alike. Great enthusiasm more important than great voices!!! (Don't forget your torch!)

Christmas Day Service

9.00 o'clock

Everyone is welcome to our Christmas Morning Breakfast Service. A shortened **All Age** Communion service with coffee, croissants and mince pies. A great way to start Christmas Day!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Village Hall News and Dates for your Diary



Pub Night Dates

Christmas Eve
1st February 2019
more dates to follow

Thanks to everybody who came to see The Feens on Saturday, 10th November. The band was excellent and played a mixture of their own songs and cover versions. It was a very enjoyable evening and all profits go to towards the ongoing maintenance and refurbishment of the Village Hall.

Thursday 13th December at 7.45p.m.

Join us for an evening of festive music at the Alne Singers Christmas Concert. Refreshments will be served and there will also be a raffle.

Monday 24th December at 5.00p.m. to 8.00p.m. - Christmas Eve Pub Night

Don't forget to join us on Christmas Eve for a few drinks to celebrate Christmas. Doors will open at 5.00p.m. straight after Christingle. This year we will run two bars to avoid queues. Everybody welcome.

Saturday 16th February 2019 - The Blackheart Orchestra

Keep the date free for what should be a wonderful evening. The Blackheart Orchestra is in fact a duo who writes and performs all their own songs. They describe their music as modern acoustic music served with a pinch of electronica and classical. You can listen to their music at: <https://soundcloud.com/theblackheartorchestra> they sound really good.

Tickets will be on sale soon.

Saturday 4th May 2019 - Beautiful South Tribute Act

Back by popular demand. An evening of wonderful acoustic music performed by the very talented Andy Johnson. Keep the date free, more details to follow later.

Refurbishment and Maintenance Update

Lots will be happening at the Village Hall over the coming weeks to help improve the facilities we can offer. We are working on improving the acoustics, the heating and the toilet facilities.

Please check our webpage on www.alnevillage.co.uk for contact details and upcoming events. Follow us on Facebook. If you would like to be included on the e-mail distribution list (which is confidential) please let us know.

Alne WI - Doorstops and Notice boards

For our October meeting we welcomed Charlotte Smith. Her hobby of making doorstops in the shape of animals, (she brought dogs, rabbits and owls) has grown and now she sells them, she makes 100+ for Christmas alone. Initially she took her patterns from the internet, but found them unsatisfactory and began making her own. The best material is heavy curtaining, tweed is very popular at the moment, and they are stuffed with sharp sand. We were each given a pattern to make a dog and bring it along to our Christmas Dinner, the best will win a prize. Easier for many of us were the notice boards, covered with various fabrics and ribbons. Charlotte provided materials and tools and many members made their own. It was such a successful evening that members just didn't want to go home.

Our programme is on www.alnevillage.co.uk and on the notice board in the Village Hall. If anything interests you do come along as a visitor, you will have a lively, enjoyable evening.

JUMBLE SALE

We would like to thank everyone who helped, especially Joan, Jenny and Marion, and all those who came to buy, making the Sale a success and raising £260.

Volunteers to establish an Alne Open Gardens Day

Where I have previously lived I participated in an Open Gardens Day, where a number of local people opened their gardens for the public to look around and teas were available in the village hall. I know there are lots of attractive and interesting gardens around our village, and if, like me, you enjoy gardening, and are curious to see other neighbours' gardens, this could become an annual event for the village.

For it to be viable, we ideally need half a dozen people to agree to open their garden for an afternoon, probably on a Sunday in early summer, when the gardens will look their best. Gardens do not need to be large, but should have some interest. It provides motivation to get your garden looking neat and tidy, and allows others to see and appreciate the beauty of your plot.

A map can be produced showing the trail of Open Gardens through the village, with each garden having a clear sign outside the front to make it obvious.

The event can also be used as a fund raiser for the Village Hall and afternoon teas can be offered. It will provide a welcome new event for the community, a chance to enjoy visiting and appreciating village gardens, and I would be happy to help co-ordinate such an event.

This can only happen if at least a handful of us are willing to open up our garden for the day. If fellow gardeners in the village would like to be involved in establishing this event then please contact David Lepper on 01347 838114 or via e-mail at d.lepper27@btinternet.com.

We can set up a meeting early in the New Year to discuss how it will work, agree arrangements and fix a date for the event. There will then be plenty of time to get your gardens in tip top form.

David Lepper



Alne Oil Co-operative

Founder member of the Lower Swale Syndicate of Oil Co-operatives

 **Happy Christmas to all our Members** 

Tate Oil is closed to Co-operative orders for delivery during December and will re-open in January 2019 (our agreement with Tate is designed to encourage ordering outside their busiest period).

If you need oil in the meantime, you can order in the usual way, but the price will be the prevailing market price, not the discounted Co-operative price available for the other 11 months of the year.

You can place an order during December for January delivery, but please make it clear that your order is for delivery in January.

Members can order at any time (January to November) — Tate has undertaken to deliver within 10 working days from order. The price charged will be that applying on the delivery date.

If not a Member, why not join? You will undoubtedly save money by comparison with your existing supplier and Tate's service has been outstanding!

The Alne Oil Co-operative is a founder member of the Lower Swale Syndicate of Oil Co-operatives. Collectively, nearly 1,000 Syndicate members purchase between 1.5 and 2 million litres of heating oil annually.

Membership is open to all — if you live in or around Alne and want to know more about the Co-operative, please e-mail alne@swaleoil.org.uk or visit the Oil Co-operative pages on the Alne Village website.

Tollerton Village Hall

Thank you to all that came to the Chilli hoe down in October. It was a fantastic evening for all, raising over £500 towards the costs of running the Village Hall. Shall we do it again next year - let us know? Thank you to Yvonne and the committee for organising a fantastic event.

Please come along to the Christmas fair on **Saturday, 15th December, 1.00-4.00p.m.** Free entry, cake and mince pies, Christmas cakes from around the world, mulled wine and craft stalls to browse. At 3.00p.m. we will be entertained by Alne singers, bringing a festive atmosphere. Come early as the focus will be on the singing at 3.00p.m. onwards. There will be a collection to support the choir. Don't miss it, this is going to be awesome!

Mondays at 1.30 – 3.30p.m. - Cake, A Cuppa and a Chat

Banish those Winter Blues, bring along a friend, games and hobbies etc. Let's brighten up winter with friends and conversation.

Thanks to support from the Parish Council, we have a new group starting to meet in the Village Hall on a **Monday afternoon, from 1.30 'til 3.30p.m.** Open to everyone, just pop in for tea, cake, biscuits and companionship, and enjoy the warmth. No need to book, just turn up. As we move closer to Christmas and all it stands for, if you know of someone that may be sat at home alone, please give them a call and bring them down. ALL ARE WELCOME. Hope to see you there!

Brunch Club

Sunday 20th January 2019 will be our next Brunch Club. Please make a note in your diary and come on down. Usual times, **10.30a.m. 'til 1.30p.m.** All are welcome.

Bard of Barnsley

Don't forget we have the Bard of Barnsley coming on **Friday, 29th March.** Tickets will be available soon, but will be limited. Look out for more information closer to the time.

Tollerton Bowls Club

Wednesday evenings are the bowls club get together in Tollerton Village Hall. We are always keen for new members. If you would like to come and enjoy something new, and make new friends, come down; or you can call Margaret on 01347 844087 for more information.

Tollerton Sports and Recreation Club

Thank you to everyone for your patience. The climbing frame has now been completely overhauled and is back in use. About 95% of the wood has been replaced, making it as good as new. The total cost for this so far has come to £974.82. Thank you to the Parish Council who has provided the funds to pay for this and also the cost of replacing the wooden fence that surrounds this. Over the next few weeks, we should see this happen.

I am currently waiting to hear if we have been successful obtaining a grant from Councillor Peter Sowray, which will cover the cost of replacing all the chipped bark under the climbing frame. This will cost £576 and when completed, will give it a new lease of life and last another decade or more.

I am currently in discussions around funding to replace the swings, so I'm very hopeful that we will see these replaced over the next few months. When completed, we shall be concentrating on further equipment and enhancements to the play space.

Please note that dogs are not allowed on the playing field in the interests of hygiene. Recently there has been an increase in reports from dissatisfied users. This area is purely for sport and many children play there.

Tollerton Tennis

Please feel free to come on down and play tennis. An honesty box is provided to pay and play. Details can be found on the notice board about the club; we are always keen for new members.

Carol Singing Around Tollerton

All being well, we shall be out Carol singing around the village on **Friday, 14th December**. Meeting on the green at **6.30p.m.** and eventually ending up in the pub some time later. Please come and join us, the more the merrier. This is our only fundraising event and all money raised goes towards running the playing field. All support is gratefully received.

Tollerton Church

If you see a blackboard on the top step at Tollerton Church, then you will know that the Church is open, and you are very welcome to come in for prayer, contemplation or quiet time. A member of the church will be in the building, but there will be no formal service taking place.

Pub Quiz Night

Don't forget the bi-weekly quiz in the Black Horse, Tollerton. Always an education, but ultimately a fun quiz that raises money for good causes, kindly hosted by Margaret. With a **start time of 9.00p.m.**, the next quiz night is **Tuesday, 27th November**, then **Tuesday, 11th December**.

Don't forget there are many details about all things Tollerton on the village website, Tollerton.net<<http://Tollerton.net>> and various Facebook pages.



Love reading but can't get to the library?

NYCC and Easingwold Community Library offer a free service for people of all ages who, because of ill health or disability, find it difficult to get to the library or carry books. The service is also available to carers.

Our volunteers will select books to suit the customer's tastes and they can either be collected from the library by a friend or relative or we can deliver directly to the customer every two weeks. Our delivery volunteers are all DBS checked and cover Easingwold and all the surrounding villages. We offer free access to books (including large print and children's), audio books, DVDs, music on CD and information.

Users can opt in and out so can use the service if they are recovering from an illness or operation or can't get out in bad weather.

Know someone who may be interested?

To find out more please ask the potential customer or a representative to contact Easingwold Community Library on 01609 534584 (rings directly to Easingwold Library) and leave their name and contact telephone number. Someone will telephone back and arrange a visit to explain how to use the service and to find out what sort of books or other materials are required.

We are always looking for volunteers to help with deliveries, particularly to help cover holiday periods. Please contact Easingwold Library and leave your details if you would like more information.

GodZone

Fun sessions for children age 3 - 13 years

Sunday mornings twice a month

For more info see our facebook page



@St Michael's Church Tollerton

Easingwold Area Foodbank

If you have no income, please don't go hungry - we are here to help!

Call our 24/7 Message Line (all calls strictly confidential) 0772 44 44 750

We always call you back and deliver food support to your door. (Supported by Tollerton Church)

Church Warden Contact Details:

St Mary's Aine

Peter Cove 01347 838346 e-mail: alnescove@btopenworld.com

Carol Glen 01347 838016

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

METHODIST SERVICES – DECEMBER 2018

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	Service Details
2nd December	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	3.00p.m.	Tholthorpe	Rev E Cushion HC
9th December	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	3.00p.m.	Alne	B Taylor
16th December	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	J Freeman
	3.00p.m.	Tholthorpe	Rev E Cushion
23rd December	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	10.30a.m.	No service at Alne	

METHODIST SERVICES – JANUARY 2019

Date	Time	Venue	Service Details
6th January	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	3.00p.m.	Tholthorpe	Rev E Cushion (Cov)
13th January	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	3.00p.m.	Alne	Rev E Cushion
20th January	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	B Taylor
	3.00p.m.	Tholthorpe	Rev E Cushion (café)
27rd January	10.30a.m.	Brafferton	United Service
	10.30a.m.	Alne	United Service

**ANGLICAN SERVICES
DECEMBER 2018**

Venue	2nd December	9th December	16th December	24th December Christmas Eve	25th December Christmas Day
Aldwark	9.00a.m. Holy Communion Rev Carmel Gittens		3.30p.m. Carol Service Rev Carmel Gittens		9.00a.m. Holy Communion Rev R Davill
Alne	10.30a.m. Holy Communion Ven Chris Hawthorn	10.30a.m. Holy Communion Rev John Hetherington	10.30a.m. Baptism Rev Carmel Gittens	4.00p.m. Christingle Rev C Gittens (no midnight service)	10.30 a.m. TBA
Tollerton	10.30a.m. Morning Worship Rev Carmel Gittens	10.30a.m. Morning Worship Alison Dowson	10.30a.m. Holy Communion Rev D Senior	23rd December 6:30p.m. Carols By Candlelight Arthur/Alison	10.30a.m. All Age Christmas Service Arthur/ Alison
Brafferton	10.30a.m. Holy Communion Rev R Law	6.30p.m. Carol Service Rev Carmel Gittens	10.30a.m. Methodist Service	3.30p.m. Nativity M East 11:30 p.m. Holy Communion TBC	10:30a.m. Holy Communion Rev Carmel Gittens
Myton		4.00p.m. Carol Service Rev Carmel Gittens			9.00a.m. Holy Communion Rev Carmel Gittens

Thormanby	10.30a.m. Morning Prayer				
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Note: No services on Sunday 30th December

**ANGLICAN SERVICES
JANUARY 2019**

Venue	6th January	13th January	20th January	27th January
Aldwark	9.00a.m. Holy Communion Carmel Gittens		9.00a.m. Holy Communion Chris Mitchell	
Ale	10.30a.m. Holy Communion Canon Chris Hawthorn	10.30a.m. Holy Communion wardens	10.30a.m. Holy Communion Carmel Gittens	10.30a.m. United Service (Anglican) TBA
Tollerton	10.30a.m. Morning Worship Carmel Gittens	10.30a.m. Morning Worship Alison Dowson	10.30a.m. Holy Communion TBA	10.30a.m. All Age
Brafferton	10.30a.m. Holy Communion Canon Robert Law	6.30p.m. Compline Carmel Gittens	10.30a.m. Methodist Service	10:30a.m. Holy Communion Carmel Gittens
Myton		10.30a.m. Holy Communion Carmel Gittens		10.00a.m. Morning Prayer Warden
Thormanby	10.30a.m. Morning Prayer			

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