



ST JOHN'S NEWS AND VIEWS

Number 21
November 2021

Worship



Online services (morning and evening) continue via our Facebook page and on YouTube.

Our preachers in church at 10.30 a.m. for the next few weeks will be:

7th November Mrs Susan Wilson

14th November at **10.15 a.m.**
Wendy Holt

21st November Revd. Stephen Caddy
(with Holy Communion)

28th November Revd. Tim Broughton

Remembrance Sunday (14th Nov.)

Our morning service will begin at 10.15 a.m. There will be an opportunity for anyone who wishes to go to the War Memorial to leave at about 10.50; alternatively, you will be able to remain in church for prayers and to observe the 2 minutes silence.

Coffee Pot



Coffee Pot is now open on **Wednesday** mornings, from 10.30 - 12.0 noon. At our last leadership team meeting we looked at the weekly schedule of activities and recognised what a busy day Tuesday is. It is Market Day in the town, the Parish Church have a coffee morning and our new Dementia Forward group have just begun "Time Together" on Tuesday afternoons from 2pm at St. John's. By contrast, there seems very little happening on a Wednesday morning. In order to make space for all of the activities, we are going to run our weekly coffee pot

EVERY WEDNESDAY morning for the next few weeks, to see how it goes and with a view to moving it to a Wednesday on a regular basis. If you would be willing to help in the kitchen or by serving, please add your name to the rota in the Coffee Lounge. Cakes do not have to be home made!

After Wainwright: A Coast-to-Coast Walk

You are invited to join us at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 24th November, when Bob Swallow will present an audio-visual account of the Coast-to-Coast Walk. Bob undertook this venture with the late Bill Mitchell and other friends.

Admission is free, although donations will be received and given to the Church. Refreshments will be served. Come along and bring your friends!

Knitted Angels



Members of local churches are being asked to join in knitting small angels, to be placed in plastic bags with a message from Churches Together in Settle and District and put in places at random around the town and villages, to be found by children (and adults!). Finished angels can be left at Holy Ascension or St Alkelda's.

The pattern can be found at www.christmasangel.net. If a loop can be put on the top, the angel can be hung on a Christmas tree.

Time Together Tuesday (2.0-3.30pm)

A relaxed, friendly group for people living with dementia and their carers, meeting at St. John's every Tuesday, with tea, cake, games, activities and good company. Please contact Dementia Forward to register your interest. Local Helpline 03300 578592



Craven Disability Forum is run by disabled people for disabled people. They have created a survey so that disabled people, their friends and families, and others interested in disability issues can share their stories and tell people what is important to them. The answers will be used to write a report which will be shared online and with local authorities and service providers.

You can fill in the survey online at <https://nypartnerships.org.uk/cdf> or collect a paper copy (with a freepost envelope) from the library. Completed surveys can also be handed in at the Craven District Council reception at Belle Vue Mills in Skipton (please return in an envelope). Closing date: Friday 7th January 2022.



LATEST NEWS FROM ST. JOHN'S ECO GROUP

We met last month and, after two hours of box ticking and fact checking, we discovered that we are very close to achieving our Silver Eco Church award. Well done to everyone at church: this is a team effort and your work and commitment is being recognised. We have

a few relatively small issues to address and you will no doubt hear about them in the coming weeks.

Our next meeting will be later this month and you will be given advanced warning of it. Everyone is welcome.

Meanwhile, do keep those Ecommit slips coming. We have easily covered the bottom of the jar. Let's start climbing upwards now.

Ecommit suggestions:

- you can put in as many slips as you wish each week.
- You can repeat a previous Ecommit if you think it's a good one.
- Encouraging someone else to do something 'green' counts as an Ecommit.
- Saying a prayer about the environment, COP26 or similar counts as an Ecommit.

Hymns you have probably never sung: No. 4

Ludowicke Muggleton (1609-1698) and his cousin John Reeve (sect founders) identified themselves as the two angels mentioned in Revelation, chapter 11. This hymn, shortened, is number 133 in "Divine Songs of the Muggletonians" published in London in 1829. It was written by Martha Carter.

I do believe in God alone,
Likewise in Reeve and Muggleton,
And that true witnesses they be,
Which sets me in sweet liberty.

There was none alive on this earth could tell,
What was heaven, or what was hell;
Nor yet the soul's mortality,
Which sets me in sweet liberty.

So now, my friends, let's all agree,
In love and peace and unity;
Since we are sure our God we shall see,
When we are in perfect liberty.

Jane Mansergh

Sermons

"I hope you didn't take it personally, Reverend," an embarrassed woman said after a church service, "when my husband walked out during your sermon."

"I did find it rather disconcerting," the minister replied.

"It's not a reflection on you, sir," insisted the churchgoer. "Ralph has been walking in his sleep ever since he was a child."

(From *A Barrel of Fun*, J. John and Mark Stibbe, Monarch Books)

Dear God,

While shopping recently I was offered a fir-tree shaped chocolate brownie - very nice it was too! The aisle which normally houses basic essentials had been made over with "Seasonal Must-haves!". Shoppers were assailed by fragrant, gimmicky toiletries; sickly glittery-wrapped sweets and liqueurs; lakes of mulled alcohol as well as the obligatory chocolate reindeer/bear/snowman... Meanwhile in the first aisle there had been a sudden downpour of pumpkins, toffee apples and cakes slathered in vibrant green icing! I wonder how long it will be before the Easter eggs and chocolate bunnies arrive? Don't get me wrong, I love all of the above (except pumpkins - when did we turn into Americans and start carving pumpkins instead of scooping out turnips and lighting them with candles? Nothing quite said Halloween like the smell of burning turnip and bobbing for apples!) but it diminishes the special nature of each event if we muddle up seasons. Is it perhaps another side effect of global warming or the idea of one-

*earth community that we celebrate every festival and expect to move seamlessly from one to the next? I understand all about the need for pre-season marketing and promotions but also fear that it can backfire. Starting Christmas in October can mean that people get panicked into buying lots of unnecessary items or become depressed because they simply can't afford to do so. Last year's Covid clampdown led to numerous customers trying to cancel or return items on Christmas Eve, meaning massive amounts of food were wasted or sold off at ridiculously low prices. One store opened up the unwanted luxury hampers to donate the items instead to local food banks - never have so many people unexpectedly received lobster thermidor and Thai prawn parcels. A lovely gesture, but also a sign of consumerism gone mad. Never mind - less than two months to go... Happy Season-mas, whatever you're celebrating!
Love
Old Lil Nongle.*



Journey to the Cross

Good Friday is still a long way off, but Sally

Waterson would like to

know of anyone who would be willing to take part on 15th April, 2022. Covid restrictions meant that this could not take place in 2021, but for many years prior to that it proved to be a powerful witness in Settle. Several members of previous casts are no longer available, so new recruits are needed.

Newsletter

Thank you to all those who have contributed to this newsletter. Please send any material for inclusion to Philip or Wendy by the 1st of the month. Wendy is also providing weekly notice sheets as and when necessary; please let her have any items for this by the previous Friday.

Church Hall

Some of our regular users are not returning, so the hall is now available on more occasions (including Mondays and Fridays). If you know of any groups which might be interested in hiring the hall (or one of the other rooms), please encourage them to get in touch with Anne Martin (01729 824661).



Prayer for Cop 26:

Creator God, we are sorry when we have taken your world for granted, and we invite you to come and bring transformation. Protect and bring hope to those who are suffering; mobilise leaders all over our planet to bring long term solutions; and show us, Lord, how we can play our part. Your Kingdom Come, Your will be done. Amen
(from *All We Can* resources)