



Methodist Post

Boston Spa • Clifford • Bramham
April 2019

CHRIST
is
RISEN



Holy Week

Wednesday, 17th April

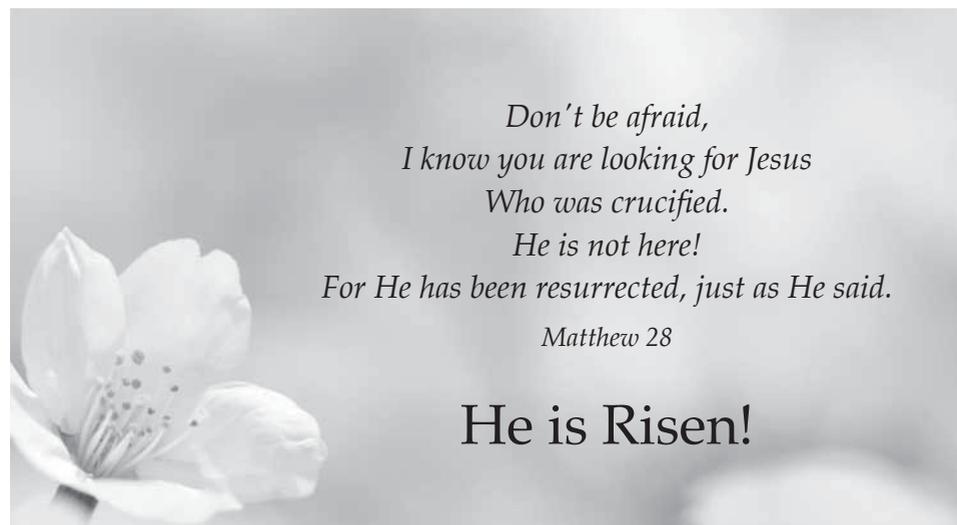
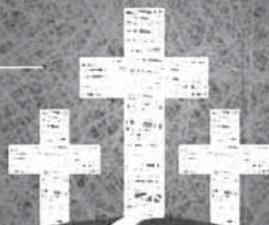
7.00pm: **Tenebrae** Service
– Boston Spa Methodist Church (BSMC)

Maundy Thursday, 18th April

6.00pm: **Foot-washing & Messianic Passover Haggadah** (Seder Meal)
– Clifford Methodist Church

Good Friday, 19th April

12.30pm: **Ecumenical Walk of Witness** from St Mary's Church to BSMC
1.00pm: **Good Friday Reflections** – BSMC



*Don't be afraid,
I know you are looking for Jesus
Who was crucified.
He is not here!*

For He has been resurrected, just as He said.

Matthew 28

He is Risen!

Ideas and contributions for future editions of the Methodist Post are always welcome. For the May issue, please send copy

by 10th April to: jovernon1@gmail.com

Jo Vernon, Editor (01937 360016)

Don't forget, the magazine is also available to read on our website:

www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk



Cover design and photograph: Jo Vernon



Minister's Letter

Dear friends,

This season of Easter is a wonderful time of year as we celebrate the joy of God's love for us – it seems that nature itself joins with us in praise as all the beauty of spring bursts forth into wonderful new life.

The link between the new life of Easter and spring is one that is often made by Churches. It's a helpful reminder each year of how Jesus' death on the cross (winter) is miraculously transformed into new life (spring).

This new life is one we are all invited to share in. I'm sure we'll all agree it's a great picture but for it to mean anything to us it first has to mean something for us personally, as individuals, and that requires a step of faith.

Faith is a strange thing; if you have it you can't imagine living without it, if you don't it seems like nonsense.

The Bible says in Hebrews 11 v1-2 'faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.'

Reason goes a long way in helping to discover faith and is vital in the process but there comes a point when you just need to step out and trust. We all need to grow in faith and so can I urge you this Eastertide to do just that... step out and discover (or rediscover) a new and wonderful faith in Jesus. What have you got to lose?

A good 'first step' might be to come along to church for one of our services or give me a ring and make an appointment for me to come and see and talk about what 'new life, new faith' might mean for you. Go on, step out, start a new life today!

Are you using Lent productively: Even if you are an old hand, a regular member of a worshipping community, using some time to assess your faith and relationship with God is important. A good Lent is not one that makes you miserable, but one that makes you thoughtful. A time of self-examination does not have to be depressing, it can be an opportunity for a Spiritual MOT.

Continue to look for times when you can reflect in more quiet ways on your relationship with God. Don't forget that the pattern of Jesus' ministry very much supported going to quiet places; The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 5, verse 16 reminds us that even during a busy day in Christ's ministry he took himself off to a quiet place to pray.

As a church community we're stepping forward in faith looking for new ways of serving the communities where we live and looking to build on what we already do. At both Clifford and Boston Spa, green shoots can be seen within both Busy Bees and Tots 'n' Toys (which has only been running for about nineteen months) that are leading us to consider how we take things forward. At the heart of all these things is a desire to birth new life and new faith within our communities. Not just for those who are already members but for everyone who lives in the Clifford and Boston Spa area.

So In the power of the risen Christ let us each examine what we have to offer and then step out in faith and trust. God will surprise us.

May you know the resurrection life of God through Jesus Christ this Eastertide.

Every Blessing, Rev Steve





April Diary Dates

Sunday 7th	10.30am	Morning Worship, led by Revd Steve Jakeman
	6.00pm	Reflections Service, led by Revd Mark Stennett
Tuesday 9th	2.00pm	Women's Friendship Group – Mrs Janet McBride
Wednesday 10th	7.00pm	Sacred Space – Reflective Worship
Friday 12th	12 noon	Light lunches to be served prior to...
	1.00pm	Lunchtime Concert (<i>see p.11</i>)
Sunday 14th	10.30am	Palm Sunday Service, led by Mr Joseph Kwallah
	2.00pm	Baptism of Louie Sharp
	6.00pm	United Service of Holy Communion at Wetherby
Tuesday 16th	10.30am	Evergreens Luncheon Club
Wednesday 17th	7.00pm	Tenebrae Service
Thursday 18th	6.00pm	Maundy Thursday (at Clifford) – Foot-washing and Messianic Passover Haggadah (Seder meal)
	7.30pm	Men's Group – Speaker Mr Brian Taylor "International Crime Fighting"
Friday 19th		GOOD FRIDAY
	12.30pm	Ecumenical Walk of Witness from St Mary's
	1.00pm	Good Friday Reflections at BSMC
Sunday 21st	5.30am	Easter Sunday Sunrise Service with Holy Communion led by Revd Steve Jakeman
	10.30am	Holy Communion Service, led by Revd Steve Jakeman
		NOTE: No evening service
Tuesday 23rd	2.00pm	Women's Friendship Group – Mrs Pauline O'Melia
Wednesday 24th	3.30pm	Messy Church
	7.00pm	Sacred Space – Reflective Worship
Sunday 28th	10.30am	Morning Worship, led by Revd Don Tuttell

See page 9 for details of further events in and around the district

Other Weekly Events

Mondays:	3.15pm	Ping Pong Club	5.00pm	Senior Table Tennis
Wednesdays:	9.30-11am	Busy Bees for pre-school children and their carers		

For up-to-date information, see noticeboards/website:
www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk

Church rooms may be booked for private functions. Contact Anne Hovell: 01937 843445

Boston Spa Church Rotas – April

	Church Stewards	Welcome Stewards	Flowers	Coffee
7	Bob Hutchinson Val Woodhams	Anne Hovell David Hovell	Bob Hutchinson Kathy Hutchinson	Barbara Hudson Joy Ackroyd
14	Heather Grant J/K Grimditch	Val Woodhams Julie Thompson	Carmen Ashton	Sheila Anderson Jackie Faulkner Diane Burton
21	Pauline O'Melia Barbara Hudson	Angela Coleman Pat Winstanley	EASTER DAY	Kathleen McGuire Graham McGuire
28	Arthur Faulkner Val Woodhams	Les Kellett Diane Burton	Heather Grant	Dennis Ashton Carmen Ashton

Cleaning		Busy Bees	
1-14	Julie Thompson, Val Woodhams	3	EASTER HOLIDAY
15-28	Les Kellett, Sheila Anderson	10	EASTER HOLIDAY
29 April to 12 May	Anne & David Hovell	17	Barbara Hudson
		24	Christine Mitchell



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CLIFFORD
METHODIST CHURCH



The church is a bit tucked away at the end of Nursery Way, or from the High Street, where a blue noticeboard points the way

Diary Dates – April

7th	10.30am	Morning Worship, led by Mr Andrew Marshall
14th	10.30am	Palm Sunday Service, led by Revd Steve Jakeman with Mrs Sue Jakeman as Worship Leader
18th	6.00pm	Maundy Thursday – Foot-washing and Messianic Passover Haggadah (Seder meal)
21st	8.30am	Holy Communion Service, led by Revd Steve Jakeman
	10.30am	Easter Sunday Service, led by Mr Donald Milne
28th	10.30am	Morning Worship, led by Revd Colin Cheeseman

Weekly on Tuesdays, 9.30am-10am, Service of Holy Communion

	Door Stewards	Flowers	Vestry
7th	Carol Smith, Margaret Suggate	Alison Smith	Alison Smith
14th	Sheila and Katy Biercamp	Carol Smith	Michael Whaley
21st	(8.30am) Catherine Catton (10.30am) Hazel Greenwood Catherine Catton	Carol Smith	David Barrow Jason Turner
28th	Alison Smith, Julie Norman	Margaret Suggate	David Mountain
Schoolroom cleaning – Margaret Suggate			



David Barrow
Margaret Suggate

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Life is like a taxi: the meter keeps ticking whether you are getting somewhere, or just standing still.

BITS 'N' BOBS CRAFT GROUP

Fridays 7pm-9pm (term time only) in the Methodist Schoolroom. £1 per evening including refreshments. An Easter project is underway but you are welcome to bring your own crafts/project. Everyone welcome.

Breakfast Service – Sunday 17th February

Soon after 9am, with the smell of grilled bacon wafting through the hatch, we gathered for our 'Breakfast Service'.

Orange juice and cereal were on offer along with the ever popular bacon rolls, toast and assortment of spreads and jams. An ample supply of tea and coffee was also made available as we chatted together sharing our news and giving our views.

Our worship, led by Rev. Steve Jakeman, took us to the 'sea-side', to buckets and spades.... to the disciples as fishermen... and on to Christ's teaching and his desire for his disciples and all his followers to be 'fishers of men'.

With some hearty singing... a 'fishing net'... and some thoughtful prayer, the morning proved to be an enjoyable time of friendship, fellowship and worship.

Alison Smith



Tots 'n' Toys is our Baby & Toddler Group

9.30-11am every Friday (term-time)

The Schoolroom, Clifford Methodist Church

£2 for 1 adult and 1 child, 50p for each additional child (First visit is FREE!)

THIS IS A GROUP FOR THE COMMUNITY – EVERYONE IS WELCOME

For more details about the group, please ring 01937 845511.



Operation Bobtail – Bunny Blessing

Entering Clifford Methodist Chapel on 10th March, we were greeted by almost 180 'bunnies' (of the knitted variety!) all dressed in their 'Sunday best' and standing to attention!

For the last six months the knitting needles have been clicking away in Clifford making the squares required for the 'amazing transformation'. With some clever manipulation, stuffing and stitching the bunnies were ready for their..... BIG MOMENT!



Following a brief explanation Rev Steve Jakeman 'blessed' the bunnies, keeping in mind their valuable role in taking the message of Easter out into the community.

Perhaps we too, shaped by the transforming love of God, should make the most of our opportunity to go out into the community and spread the 'good news'.

**"Hop,hop hooray! Jesus lives today!!
He is Risen!"**

Alison Smith

Baptisms of Theo and Amelie Norton

On the 3rd March the church celebrated the Baptisms of both Theo and Amelie, son and daughter of Louise and Brett Norton.

The service was led by Revd Steve Jakeman with other members of both Boston Spa and Clifford Methodist Churches taking part, where Theo and Amelie attend both Busy Bees and Tots 'n' Toys.

The Baptism was a joyous occasion as we, along with their family and friends, welcomed Theo and Amelie into the fellowship of the Christian Church.



Note from Ed: I loved the words of the poem which was read at the baptismal service, reproduced below for those of you who couldn't be there.

Family

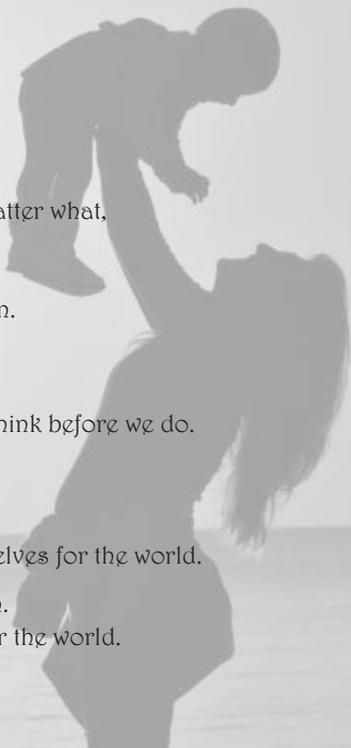
A family is a place
to cry, to laugh, to vent frustration.
To ask for help, and tease and yell,
to be kissed and hugged and smiled at.

A family is people
who care when you are sad, who love you no matter what,
and share your triumphs.
Who don't expect you to be perfect,
just growing, with honesty, in your own direction.

A family is a circle
where we learn to like ourselves,
where we learn to make good decisions and to think before we do.
Where we learn integrity and respect for others,
Where we are special, where we share ideas.
Where we listen and are listened to.
Where we learn the rules of life to prepare ourselves for the world.

The world is a place where anything can happen.
If we grow up in a loving family, we are ready for the world.

anon



More Dates for your Diary

April

2nd Churches Together Lent Journeys: the fourth in the series of five meditations led by Revd Nick Morgan, St Mary's, Boston Spa, 7.30pm

3rd Clifford Lent discussion, 2.30pm
5-7 Methodist Women in Britain, Swanwick Conference

9th Churches Together Lent Journeys: the final meditation (as above)

10th Clifford Lent discussion, 2.30pm

12th Riding Lights passion play, St James Church, Wetherby, 7.30pm, Tickets £8 from Wetherby MC

May

5th Plough Service, 3pm, Tadcaster Methodist Church car park

10th Light lunches, BSMC at 12 noon, followed by...
Lunchtime concert, at 1pm

12th United Christian Aid Service at BSMC

17th An Evening of Comedy and Magic with Paul Kerensa (*see below*)

June

8th BSMC Spring Fayre, Wetherby Town Hall, 10am to 1.30pm

9th Churches Together Pentecost Praise Service, St Mary's, Boston Spa, 10am

14th Light lunches, BSMC at 12 noon, followed by...
Lunchtime concert, at 1pm

28th An Evening with Graham Kendrick at BSMC

30th BSMC Annual General Meeting

July

13th Literary Lunch at BSMC, as part of Boston Spa Festival – Guest author: Imogen Clark

28th BSMC Anniversary Service, led by Revd Steve Barlow, 10.30am

August

11th Circuit Leaving Service for Revd Steve Barlow, Wetherby

October

18-20 'Flourish' District weekend, Scarborough



Boston Spa **Methodist** Church

An Evening of Comedy & Magic with

Paul Kerensa

and Friends

Friday 17th May 2019

at 7.30pm

Tickets – Main Sanctuary or Gallery Circle - £10
Rear Sanctuary or Gallery - £8⁵⁰

NB: non-specific seating within each price bracket

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Paul Kerensa
Comedian/Writer



Jo Enright
Comedian



Steve Price
Comic/Magician



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LUNCHTIME CONCERTS AT BOSTON SPA



Friday, 12th April at 1pm

Concert admission £5 Light lunches from 12 noon
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All are welcome. Please bring your friends.

Judith England

Our next lunchtime concert will be on Friday, 10th May – Adam Parrish, organ

Check our website for further details of all of our concerts:
www.bostonspamethodistchurch.org.uk

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Yorkshire North and East District's Marriage and Relationships Conversations

The next three sessions are:-

Tuesday 2 April: Wesley Centre, Nidd Valley 7.30pm - 9pm
Wednesday 1 May: Goole Central, 7.30pm - 9pm
Thursday 6 June: Lidgett Church, York 7.30pm - 9pm

These are important conversations that we have all been called to engage in...

Within the Church, people have many views about human relationships and the nature and purpose of marriage. There are fundamental issues in relation to human relationships in the modern world in the life of the church which may or may not lead the Methodist Church to reconsider its understanding of relationships and definition of marriage. These issues include the fact that a major change to the law in 2014 enabled the introduction of same-sex civil marriage, and gave churches and other religious groups the legal ability to opt-in to conduct weddings for same-sex partners if they so wished. But same-sex marriage is not the only consideration.

The Conference in 2014 and subsequently has therefore urged the Methodist people to engage with each other honestly, prayerfully and graciously in a process of deep reflection and discernment about matters relating to marriage and human relationships.

The 2018 Conference directed the Marriage and Relationships Task Group to bring a report to the Conference in 2019 setting out a number of theological arguments and recommendations concerning the most pressing issues in the Church's understanding of relationships and marriage.

The Conference also adopted a Notice of Motion which directed the Task Group to ensure that the recommendations to be brought to the Conference include options for "a way forward that is consistent with the existing commitment to live with contradictory convictions" and enable, amongst other things, "those who feel called by God to solemnise same sex marriages to do so" and "protection for ministers, probationers, members and churches prevented by conscience from participation in such services".

There were several comments in the debates at the Conference that, despite numerous opportunities over many years for consultation about the Church's understanding of relationships and marriage, many individuals and local churches had not engaged much in discussion of the pressing issues. The Task Group is keen to encourage such conversations in every part of the life of the Church in this current connexional year, leading up to the Task Group's presentation of its report to the Conference in 2019.

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/about-us/the-methodist-church/marriage-and-relationships-2018/talking-of-marriage-and-relationships-overview-2018/>

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From our Lay Pastor...

So ... what exactly do you do?

At time of writing, I'm about 9 months into my role as Lay Pastor, supporting Boston Spa and Clifford churches. The folk of both have been very supportive, with many saying things like "it's really good to have you" – but then often followed up with "what exactly do you do?".

I tried to work out a shorthand response like "I'm Steve's No 2" – but for those with a juvenile sense of humour (e.g. Steve and myself) that has unpleasant connotations, so perhaps it's time to give a more definitive answer.

I am contracted to work 9 hours per week, with a job description that allows me to be involved in pretty much any aspect of Church life, with no split between the two Churches – I go wherever I can add some value. So far that has involved:

- Boston Spa review – doing the research to provide the Church leadership team with the information they need when deciding priorities over the next few years
- Supporting the extensive work we do with young families. This means:
 - o Mucking in at Busy Bees (Boston) and Tots 'n' Toys (Clifford), where Heather, Kathryn and Alison are doing sterling work. I try to be an extra Grandad to the kids and a known and friendly face, so that when life's troubles come, the Mums and Grans have someone they know they can turn to.
 - o Supporting Sue and the team's work with Messy Church and any new initiatives bringing young families into Church
 - o Working with Sue to deliver assemblies and lessons to help Primrose Lane Primary School with their acts of collective worship and teaching on "values"
- Researching new initiatives, like "pop up cinema" – of which more anon!
- Supporting the Tuesday Coffee at Clifford – as you can imagine, if I wasn't there the table of 20 women would have nothing to talk about (as if!)
- Of course, it wouldn't be a Methodist job if it didn't involve attending lots of meetings – yay!
- Researching and leading a Lent Study Group at Clifford
- Visiting folk at home and taking Communion to those who might not be able to get to Church on a Sunday. I left this one till last because, arguably, taking Communion out from the Church is perhaps the purest form of my Christian service. It is the part of the "job" that reminds me that everything we all do, from the menial to the strategic, from sitting on the floor building Duplo towers for the kids to knock down, to discussing theology or deep meaning of life questions, it is all done in the name of Christ. Never mind being a No 2, for all of us, if we're in his team, doing his work, we have the best job description possible!

Donald

WHAT'S MY LINE?

In this series of articles, Arthur chats with members of our church family about their working life.

This month we feature Dennis Ashton...

Life in the fast lane

Dennis was born in Bury in Lancashire into a faithful Methodist family. Both parents worked in local government and Sundays for Dennis meant three visits to Church and Sunday School. He told me that he accepted Christ as his Saviour in 1953 and became a member of the Bury Gospel Team. This led him to preaching and he was accredited as a Methodist Local Preacher in 1962.

Education played an important role in Dennis' life and his local church Primary School set the tone for hard work. Manchester Grammar School prepared him for Queens' College, Cambridge, where he gained an MA in Law. Despite the studying, life was not dull and Dennis coxed and later rowed in a College Boat. One of the College regulations was that the Porters' Lodge book had to be signed by students returning after the gates closed at 9 p.m. and an exeat was needed after 10 p.m. On one occasion, after an evening out, Dennis climbed into college only to be met by the Senior Tutor. As a first offender he was fortunate to receive no more than a caution.

Coming down from Cambridge, he was articled to a solicitor in Bury and qualified as a solicitor in 1960. He went to work in local government for Bury County Borough Council with the prospect of eventually becoming a Town Clerk. Climbing the ladder of achievement meant gaining experience and, as a rock climber, Dennis knew that each move upwards meant new experiences and new challenges both in the mountains of Snowdonia (where he had spent several summers as excursion leader at a Christian Endeavour Holiday Home) and in the workplace.

In 1964 he moved to Leicester City Council and from there in 1968 to the City of Liverpool. Liverpool was one of a small number of local authorities who promoted local legislation to meet new needs and deal with new problems. This was part of his job and between 1968 and 1972 Dennis drafted and promoted five local Acts, working with Parliamentary agents and appearing before Committees of both Houses of Parliament. The powers given to the City by two of these – relating to the use of pedestrian walkways for commercial purposes, and the licensing of private hire cars – were later extended by the government to all local authorities. Once, when chairing a particularly difficult meeting in Liverpool, an earlier slipped disc found him in great pain while seated on a hard Victorian chair. The meeting acceded to his request to vacate the seat and to lead the meeting lying down on the table. According to Dennis, this 'released' the sympathy vote.

Dennis married Jean in 1959 and Mark, Joanna and James were born in the 1960s.

Liverpool City Council brought in international management consultants in the early 1970s to advise on work planning and budgeting. Dennis was assigned to work with them. He left Liverpool in 1973 and worked for a British consultancy before being appointed Deputy Director of Administration with the City of Manchester. However,



changes in local government working led him to leave, and, in 1977, he was appointed Regional Secretary of the North Western Region of the Central Electricity Generating Board. In 1983 he took over as Regional Secretary of the North Eastern Region as well. The two Regional Secretary roles were combined in 1987 and Dennis was responsible for the administrative, public relations, commercial, estates, facilities and security work across the Regions.

With the advent of privatisation, in 1989 Dennis was appointed by National Power Plc as Head of Administration and Board Member of its conventional generation (oil and coal) subsidiary with a personal role as Project Director for the fitting-out and occupation of its Headquarters in Swindon.

In 1980, when early retirement became available, Dennis took advantage of this opportunity and worked as a management consultant until 2014, both in his own business and as an associate of other organisations. As well as the UK, this work has taken Dennis to several other EU countries. Life has not always been easy for Dennis, but he is deeply thankful for the many blessings he has experienced.

Over the years, Dennis has tackled his voluntary work with the same diligence as was the hallmark of his paid employment. In consequence, he has been appreciated by many as a preacher and also as a leader in Bible study.

Work brought Dennis to Wetherby in 1987. He met Carmen in church, both were living alone, and in 1996 he moved to Boston Spa when they married.

As Dennis approaches 60 years as a Local Preacher, we wish him many more years of active Christian service.

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Brian M Atkins

Those of you who read the Methodist Recorder may have seen the obituary for Brian Atkins, written by Helen Grimditch (Ken and Judith's daughter-in-law). Apart from being a Methodist local preacher for almost 50 years, Brian had led an interesting life: below are some extracts about his post-retirement years.

Brian took early retirement aged 52 in 1991, which coincided with his wife becoming ill with breast cancer. He nursed her at home until her death in 1998. Through this time of sorrow Brian felt a yearning to go and work in Africa and his 15 years in Tanzania were probably the happiest and most fulfilling of his working life.

In 1999, his daughter Helen introduced Brian to Bishop Mdirni Mhogolo of the Diocese of Central Tangayika in Tanzania, a connection from her time teaching there. The Bishop invited Brian to create and run a programme of management training for the diocesan staff who ran the 30+ businesses and services the diocese had, ranging from hospitals and schools to a bureau de change and a printing press, then later to get involved in four programmes helping vulnerable people.

The first was the Carpenter's Kids Programme, aspiring to get the 50 most vulnerable children in each parish, often HIV orphans, into and through primary school. Brian and Bishop Mhogolo travelled to the US to encourage the diocese of New York to partner in funding an initial group of parishes, which they did. Later support was provided by the dioceses of Virginia, Atlanta and Rochester and supporters in Australia, New Zealand and the UK.

The second programme was supporting the Buigiri School for the Blind which, in 2000, was about to close. The government funded teaching staff, but not support staff, the braille text books or the provision or maintenance of buildings and vehicles for the school. The School for the Blind Project was set up to rescue the school and provide revenue to cover such costs. As a result, the school consistently came in the top one per cent of all primary schools in Tanzania in the National Examinations.

The third programme was the Hombolo Hospital Community Health Programme. Trained staff went into the villages around Hombolo Hospital and helped identify those in need of attention for tubercleriosis, leprosy, sexually transmitted diseases or HIV. More than 4,000 villagers were identified in need in 2013/14 and these were then supported by the long-standing work of Leprosy Mission from Northern Ireland.

Finally, Brian established a programme to reach out to the 14,000 deaf and hearing impaired villagers in the diocese, to teach sign language in the parishes and to sign the service each Sunday, and this is gradually being rolled out.

Brian recognised that all this was possible because of so much support; through donations from individuals and churches in the UK and abroad, prayers and encouragement, and especially from the people of Tanzania who ran the programmes. He saw it as the work of the Holy Spirit Brian was made an honorary Canon of the Cathedral in Dodoma in 2016.

Brian and Diane married in 2009 and Diane accompanied Brian on a number of his trips to Tanzania and helped out in one of the schools. Between them they have four children and eight grandchildren. He was a fantastic dad and a devoted grandfather.

He was unaware of his cancer until very late, five weeks from beginning to end. He felt he had more to give but was at peace and ready to be with God.



Ceilidh of the year

Don't you just love it when a plan comes together? Bramham Village Hall was the perfect setting for our annual Ceilidh event with the wonderfully talented Lairum Rise

providing the music with dancing instructions for those less familiar with the routines. It was amazing to watch a dance that looked so incredibly difficult with everybody having two left feet at the start to then finish looking as if they had been doing it for years! The young and not so young having so much fun, so much laughter and for those not wishing to dance, there was clapping and the tapping of feet to the rhythm of the beat.

Meanwhile in the kitchen the Churches Together team were preparing the pie and pea supper for the interval when the raffle was drawn.

There was a wonderful sense of church community within the wider community, for whilst we may worship at different churches we had all come together on this occasion not to raise funds for our own churches but to give generously to other charitable causes. The total raised from this event was £1,300 and these proceeds will be divided equally between Help the Refugees and St George's Crypt.

The Churches Together would like to thank all those too numerous to mention who freely gave their time and energy into making this yet another successful event.

Gay Childe

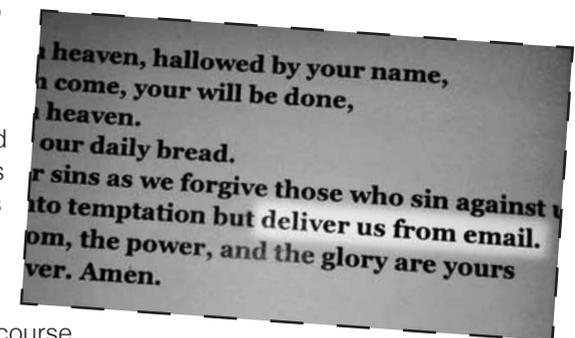
'But deliver us from email'

– Typo voted nation's church favourite

It may be a glaring error that slipped under the righteous radar, but it's left many wondering whether it was divinely inspired. A typo caught the eagle eye of the vicar officiating at a wedding.

The service sheet should, of course, have read 'Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil'. Instead, it read '... deliver us from email'.

The bride and groom had come up with a draft for the service which seemed good but, in one instance, wasn't. The sheet had been printed before the error was spotted, so, before the Lord's Prayer, the vicar suggested that people recite it in the way they remembered it from school! It didn't seem to worry the young couple, anyway.



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Jeremiah becomes the bible's most quoted

According to a recent article in the Daily Telegraph, John 3:16, once the favourite bible passage of many Christians, has been knocked off its pedestal. The verse, which reads: "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life", has been eclipsed in the UK by the offer of hope and prosperity in Jeremiah 29:11.

The passage reads:

"For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future'."

According to the experts, the switch is a product of social media and young people's expectations of the Bible, in line with the trend of displaying wellness and spirituality online. Jeremiah 29:11 is also the favourite in nine other countries, including Canada and Australia.

Ed

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Spa Surgery – A further brief update

Doctors

Dr Louise Boyle is on maternity leave and her duties are being covered by Dr Bond.

Nursing Team

Sarah Rushworth has joined the team. She is an experienced Practice Nurse who is also a prescriber. A new Health Care Assistant, Carla Donahue, has been appointed to replace Samantha Battye who decided to pursue nurse training.

Support Team

Two encoder staff have been appointed to ease the burden of all correspondence having to be viewed by the doctors. These members of staff add a code to each piece of correspondence which ensures only essential correspondence is seen by doctors. This will result in more appointment time being available for patients.

New Services

Telephone appointments are now available in the evenings with a pharmacist covering medication reviews/queries; a mental health practitioner to help patients who may be struggling with anxiety, bereavement or sadness; a physiotherapist to advise on new musculoskeletal problems. Limited access is also available for GP, Nurse and Healthcare assistant appointments on Saturday mornings at Wetherby Health Centre. All these bookings are to be made through the Surgery.

Telephone & Patient Online Services

The new telephone system is working well and, generally, patients are more comfortable in explaining to receptionists their need for an appointment so that the appropriate clinician is identified.

The patient online service is now used by almost a third of all patients and it is hoped that many more will sign up for this easy to use system for booking appointments with a doctor or with a nurse for a blood test. This online service also enables you to order prescriptions and allows you to access your test results. If you use a computer, do please sign up to this easy to use system.

The Surgery communicates with patients wherever possible using text messages. Please provide the Surgery with your mobile number if you have one.

Practice Patient List

Whilst there has been pressure on the Practice list of patients, some patients outside the Practice boundary have moved elsewhere which has eased the position. On the other hand, recent housing developments in Boston Spa were not notified to the Practice nor has the proposed development of 68 houses and 10 flats off Church St been drawn to the attention of the Practice which of course will add to the Practice list. I understand that the planning authorities do not have to consider the impact of new developments on a GP Surgery as that is a matter for the NHS! I mention, in passing, that the former Primrose Hill Home site off Westwood Way has been purchased by Housing and Care 21 who will provide a mixture of 40 rented and owner occupied units for the elderly. No details are available at present.

Additional Services

Thought is being given as to how important social issues such as loneliness and isolation could be mitigated. Medication prompts to assist patients in ensuring medications are taken at correct times are being considered, as is the problem of transport for housebound patients.

Telephone evening appointments via the Surgery can be made with a pharmacist to review repeat medications every 12 months with this review to take place during the patient's birthday month. Similarly, patients with ongoing medical problems such as Asthma, Diabetes, and Heart Disease etc. should also book an annual review during their birthday month. A telephone evening appointment with a physiotherapist to discuss new musculoskeletal problems can also be arranged via the Surgery.

A Healthy Minds service is being introduced for patients suffering from anxiety, stress or bereavement etc. Evening telephone appointments can be made through the Surgery. Furthermore, a Connect Well service offers patients a valuable introduction to a wide range of social services and Andrea Vickers, the social prescriber, can be contacted on Tuesdays via the Surgery.

Disabled Parking

We are advised that a disabled parking bay should be in place on the main road opposite the Surgery entrance by the 31st March 2019.

Summary

Without doubt, there is a great deal of effort being made to ensure that patients are provided with as much medical and social help as possible given the limited resources available. We can help by providing the Surgery with our mobile numbers and by signing up to use the patient online service which I urge you to do please. As I have said previously, if I can use the online service then you can!

We are fortunate in having an excellent GP Surgery in our village and we must do everything we can to support it.

David Coates, Patient Participation Group Member

Tony Barker and Sons

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