

WASHBURN & MID-WHARFE CHURCHES MAGAZINE CHRISTMAS 2021



50p



Washburn & Mid-Wharfe United Benefice

Farnley, Fewston with Blubberhouses,
Leathley, Weston with Denton.

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Rhydding, Ilkley LS29 8QP
Tel: 01943 609599

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Denton Ann Chadwick
01943 600 604.

Farnley: Peter Goodwin
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Leathley: Terry Bramall CBE
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Our Magazine see page 39

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norwoodretreatcentre@gmail.com
Methodist Chapels are in the circuit of
Wharfedale & Aireborough

Websites:

St Oswald's Church, Leathley
www.leathleychurch.org

All Saints Church, Farnley
www.farnleyallsaints.org

Fewston and Blubberhouses
www.fewstonwithblubberhouses.org.uk

Weston Church
www.westonchurch.wordpress.com

Benefice web site
<https://washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk>

Norwood Retreat Centre
[www.yorkshirewestmethodist.org.uk/
people-places/norwood-retreat-centre](http://www.yorkshirewestmethodist.org.uk/people-places/norwood-retreat-centre)

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01943 466098

Cover images

Christmas by the children of year 5-
6 at Asquith Primary School.
See pages 29 - 31



Church Services December 2021



All our services will be subject to Government guidelines please check on www.achurchnearyou.com for updates or see the weekly bulletin.

1st December 10.30am.	Denton	Holy Communion (BCP)
5th December 9.30am. 3pm.	Farnley Fewston	Second Sunday of Advent Holy Communion Advent Service
12th December 9.30am. 11am. 1pm.	Leathley Denton Fewston	Third Sunday of Advent Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Baptism
15th December 10.30am.	Denton	Holy Communion (BCP)
17th December 7pm.	Fewston	Carol Service
19th December 9.30am. 2.30pm. 6.30pm	Farnley Weston Leathley	Fourth Sunday of Advent Holy Communion Carol Service Carol Service
20 December 7pm.	Askwith	Walk to Bethlehem (Meet at village Hall)
22nd December 10.30am.	Denton	Holy Communion
24th December 2.30pm	Fewston	Christmas Eve Journey to Bethlehem
25th December 9.30am. 9.30am. 9.30am. 9.30am.	Blubberhouses Leathley Farnley Denton	Christmas Day Family Service Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion
26th December 9.30am.	Weston	First Sunday of Christmas Holy Communion BCP (Benefice Service)
2nd January 9.30am.	Leathley	The Epiphany Holy Communion (Benefice Service)

December Services at Norwood Methodist Chapel
Sunday 12th December at 2:30pm – Carol Service

The View from the Vicarage

The phone call came 'out of the blue' but was welcome, nevertheless. Charlotte was told that she was now top of the waiting list for her operation and that it would happen 'sometime in December.' Like so many people in our country today Charlotte has been on a waiting list for an operation for about two years. In the early days we wondered each month if she would hear some news and then as the months passed, we more or less forgot about it. Charlotte adapted her life and so when the news came it took us by surprise. Now we just have to wait for the exact date in December to be revealed so we can plan in a bit more detail. Due to COVID all of us in the Vicarage will have to isolate for a few days before her operation and December isn't the best month for a priest to do that.

Most of December is also Advent, the time in the Church year when we anticipate Christmas. During Advent we remember how God's people waited for the coming of the Messiah, of Jesus, throughout all the long centuries of darkness before the great light that came to earth on that first Christmas. As we remember their wait we also anticipate the great feast of Christmas; even though we know exactly when it will be!

All through this month of December each of us will be making our own preparations for Christmas Day. Presents, food, cards, singing Carols either in Church or in the shower, reading the story of the first Christmas, attending school Nativity plays or the Christmas services in the Benefice. Whatever we do we cannot but help to get excited. All of us are touched in some way by the magic of Christmas however we will spend it. For some it will be a great family affair, for others it will be far quieter. But wherever we find ourselves on the 25th of December remember this. This day tells us that each of us is loved by God, loved so much that he gave us the greatest gift that anyone could ever imagine, his own Son, Jesus, the baby in the stable at Bethlehem. Jesus, the reason for this season of Joy and good will.

So rejoice that you are loved and share that love with all you meet during this most blessed time of the year. May you have a blessed and a happy Christmas. With my love and prayers
Stephen



News from Norwood Chapel

Dear Friends,

The prophet Isaiah wrote, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called [Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.](#)" (Isaiah 9:6) This reading is one filled with hope for the future for the people called Israel who are scattered during the Babylonian exile. This hope is grounded in the newborn child who will grow into a ruler and offer Godly counsel, strength, power, compassion and peace to the people. Even though Isaiah wrote these words hundreds of years before the birth of Christ, this reading is understood to be about Christ, the long-awaited Messiah, the Anointed One.

I think this reading still gives hope to us today. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ at Christmas in our homes and churches, we can anticipate anew the birth of this royal son of David and how he makes a difference in our lives and in the lives of others. As we look at our society, we readily see how it is still in need of the things that Christ offers: acceptance, love, mercy, justice, forgiveness, hope, peace and joy. I don't think we'll ever outgrow our need for these gifts and neither will the church. Our Lord is ever-so generous and will continue to give these things to us; may we put them on our wish lists! Perhaps they can't be wrapped up and placed under the tree, but they can still be given and received, can't they?!

Have a good think . . . from this list, what do you need most this Christmas?
(*acceptance, love, mercy, justice, forgiveness, hope, peace and joy*)
What does your church need most? Your family and friends? Your community?

I encourage you to pray for these things asking God to give you and others what is most needed through the gift of his Son. Don't be surprised if God asks you to be part of the answer to your own prayers! You might be needed to share God's love and peace with those who are having a bad day. You might be needed to welcome people who don't normally attend your church for the special Christmas services. You might be needed to offer hope to someone who is struggling. You might need to forgive yourself so that you can forgive others. There is no brokenness that the fullness of God's love can't heal. The birth of Christ has the great potential to transform us and bring about newness of life. May we allow his birth to change us in ways that fill us with more humility, understanding and compassion.

Let us rejoice in the One who is coming again as the gift and the gift-giver! May you and your family have a very blessed Christmas!

With Christ's love,
~ Rev. Shannon



Community Notice Board



Weston Flower and Cleaning Rota

5th December- Stephen & Marlene Turnbull

12th , 19th , 26th December Mrs H Pullan & Sally Stanley
and any Volunteers, please!

Fewston Parochial Hall

Fewston parochial hall committee would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

There are no charity teas in December,
the next one will be 29th and 30th January

Book Sales

at the

Robinson Library, Timble are back!

DECEMBER
Saturday 4 & Sunday 5
Saturday 11 & Sunday 12

Please come along and browse our
huge collection of books, there is
something for everyone!

Askwith Ladies Social

Following on from the success of the last meeting a request has been made for monthly ASKWITH LADIES SOCIAL.

Venue: Askwith Arms
Date: First Tuesday of the month -
Time: 7pm

If you indicate your intention to come light refreshments have been very kindly offered by Jane and John

Thanks Anne - (Tel: 07713884328 Email: laeatham@gmail.com)

Community Notice Board

“Valley Bible Study Group



The Valley Bible Study Group meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. The meeting are via Zoom at 2.30pm. Contact Peter Wood for details on peterwood1951@gmail.com.”

Fewston Foxy Ladies Christmas Lunch

Members are tucking into their annual Christmas lunch on Tuesday 14th December 12 for 12.30 at the Sun Inn - secret Santa is expected to make a visit!

If you want any more info, give Gillian a ring on 01943 880362; Shirley 01423 770281; Mary 01943 464507; Sheila 01943 468741; Joan 01943 466789; Margaret (new number soon!) or Ann on 01423 771393

See you there!



T&T



Come and join us for a talk by Jane McKeown on Thanksgiving in America and enjoy mulled wine, or tea, and mince pies. See you on Tuesday 7th December at 2pm Norwood Social Hall.

T&T meets at Norwood Social Hall and is for the over 60s. It is only £2 per person.

If you want to hear more about T&T, give Gillian a ring on 880362 or Gladys on 880604

We've always got time for T&T!

THEY ARE BACK

The Choir of St. Margaret's Church Ilkley will be back in the Parish Church of St. Michael and St. Lawrence Fewston

On Sunday the 5th. December at 3.00pm. when they present their very special service of Advent Hymns and Readings. Do not miss this opportunity to hear Choral Music at its finest.

Light refreshments will be available afterwards.



Barry was secretly proud of his part in the Nativity play

Mid Wharfedale Parish Council

Erratum

Harrogate Borough Council, Councillor is Councillor Oldham

Email : magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk

Magazine Subscriptions

Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2022

to all our readers, subscribers, advertisers and last but not least all the contributors to the magazine

The magazine team have sadly had to agree to an increase in the price of the magazine, due to increase costs of printing, postage and bank charges This is the first price rise for many years

New prices

delivered magazines £6.00
posted magazines to £14.00

Advertising

Rates: half page £80 pa,
quarter page £40pa.

The magazine is happy to take adverts for business' who provide a service to our community. If you own a business or know someone who does please contact Ann (ann@apmj.co.uk) to discuss your requirements

We hope you all continue to enjoy reading the magazine

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Farnley Estate
Young Farmers Club

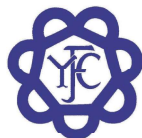
Christmas Market

Proceeds to the
Stroke Association
and the
Young Farmers Club.

On Saturday 27th November 10am -
1pm at Almscliffe Village Hall in Huby.

There will be Christmas cards, wreaths, tarot
card readings, tombola, cake stall and bacon
and sausage sandwiches and more!

£2.50 entry (includes tea/coffee).
Make a start on your
Christmas shopping!



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**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH
BLUBBERHOUSES**

LS21 2NU

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Saturday and Sunday 4th and 5th
December

Saturday and Sunday 11th and 12th
December

11.00 to 4.00 each day

**Crafts
Christmas Wreaths
Tea, coffee, mulled
wine, mince pies
and cake – enjoy!**

FREE ENTRANCE

Email : magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk

ST MICHAEL AND ST LAWRENCE, FEWSTON CHRISTMAS SERVICES

SUNDAY 5TH DECEMBER 3PM

Advent Service with the St Margaret's Choir at St Michael and St Lawrence Fewston.

FRIDAY 17TH DECEMBER 7PM

Nine Lessons and Carols by candlelight followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

At St Michael and St Lawrence Fewston



JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM'

For children and families to participate, from 1.30 pm costumes are available in the Washburn Heritage Centre, or come as you want. Light refreshments will be served after the Journey to Bethlehem.



CHRISTMAS DAY, 25TH DECEMBER 9.30 AM

Christmas Family Service

At St Andrews Church Blubberhouses

CHRISTMAS DOMINO DRIVE

NORWOOD SOCIAL HALL

Friday 10th Dec. 2021 - 7pm Start

£4 Adults, £2 (16 & under)

HOT SUPPER INCLUDED

Christmas Raffle

Tickets

Hazel 07891 254 233 / Janet 07798 862 141

CHRISTMAS JUMPERS & HATS OPTIONAL



All Ages Welcome Come Join the Fun

FEWSTON AND BLUBBERHOUSES CHURCHES

CAROL SINGING 2021

Hello, Carol Singers, first timers, regulars, one and all are very welcome to join the traditional round of carol singing – whichever nights your voice and diary can manage!

Monday 13th December, 6.30 pm Meet at Fewston Parochial Hall

Tuesday, 14th December at 6.30 pm. Meet at Fewston Parochial Hall.

Thursday, 16th December at 6.30 pm. Meeting venue will be notified.

Monday, 20th December at 6.30 pm. Meeting venue will be notified.

Contact Cheri, Tel 01943 465977 or email cheribee5977@gmail.com



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ST OSWALD'S PARISH CHURCH, LEATHLEY
WARMLY INVITE YOU TO THEIR

CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE



A FESTIVAL FEAST OF 9 LESSONS & CAROLS
WITH THE CHOIR OF THE WASHBURN VALLEY

WITH GUEST ORGANIST, DARIUS BATTIWALLA,
CITY OF LEEDS ORGANIST

SUNDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2021
6.30PM, FOLLOWED BY MINCE PIES
& A GLASS OF SHERRY

Email : magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk

Askwiths Annual Walk
with Mary & Joseph
Live donkey
Monday 20th December 7pm



**Meet at Askwith
Village Hall**
*Please dress as a Shepherd or
an Angel,
bring a torch and wear
something 'Hi-Viz'*

**For more information ring either
Rev Stephen McCaulay
01943 513340
or Hazel Pullan 01943 466098**

Email : magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk



Tuesday 21st December 2021 at
Norwood Social Hall, HG3 1TE

4.00pm - 6.00pm

**Family Fun, Disco, Party Games, Raffle
& Refreshments**

Tickets Now £10 per Child

including

**Hot Dog Supper
& Party Bag for Each Child**

For more information please contact:

Hazel Hinde - **07891 254 233**

Helen Broadbent - **07977 450 374**

Email : magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk

Don't dismiss the WI!

What do the following have in common: using a defibrillator, Yorkshire cookery, local history and caring for hedgehogs? Yes, they're all part of Farnley Estate WI's 2022 programme. Look out for it on local noticeboards towards the end of the year or come to Leathley Village Hall at 7.30 on Wednesday 8 December for Poems and Prose by Candlelight or 12 January for a hands-on first aid session. We are always pleased to welcome visitors. Former members might be pleasantly surprised if they return.

The WI has local roots and a national presence. It provides an opportunity for all women to meet, to take part in activities and above all to be themselves. It's a way to socialise without having children at school, belonging to a church or playing a sport. Our local membership in-

cludes a CEO, a chartered tax adviser and a woman who has lived and worked on the Falklands Islands. Every one of us has a story to tell and something to share, whether it's a biscuit recipe or tales of volunteering in Cambodia.

Nationally, we are currently campaigning on stopping modern slavery, improvements to local bus services, mental health and much more.

Locally, we'd love some fresh ideas and new faces so we can pass on a WI that has supported local women for over 80 years and which is needed as much tomorrow as in the past. The WI can be what you make it: not what you find. Why not give it a try for 2022?

Lesley Fidler—Farnley Estate WI
07393 540014

Bee Together

St Andrews Church, Blubberhouses

With the advice of Bee Together Officer, Catherine Mercer, on 7 October 2021, a 'pollinator patch' has been created in the grounds of the church – over and around the area of the trench arch drain for the new toilet. An ideal area of disturbed turfs for the sowing of wildflower seeds. In many summers to come, a wildflower patch for the enjoyment of members of the congregation, public, and wildlife.

In future years once the area is established, YDMT may seek permission for seed to be collected and used for other meadows projects locally. In this way it is hoped that the legacy of this project may endure so that wildflower habitats across the area are

helped to safeguard the future of hay meadow species and reduce biodiversity loss.

Fewston and Blubberhouses Churches and Friends of Blubberhouses Churches will follow the recommendations for future management of this area, years 1 to 10. The site handbook is available in church with species list. The Bee Together project covers the Washburn Valley, supported by YDMT and Yorkshire Water.



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All in the month of December

It was:

1500 years ago, on 7th December 521 that St Columba, Irish missionary who spread Christianity in Scotland, was born. He was one of the Twelve Apostles of Ireland.

230 years ago on December 5, 1791, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart died age 35 in Vienna, Austria. He had become seriously ill and rapidly declined, leading to speculation that he had been poisoned, this was later proven false. During his brief life, he created over 600 musical compositions and is widely considered one of the finest composers who ever lived.

250 years ago, on Christmas Day in Cockermouth, Cumberland 1771 that Dorothy Wordsworth, author, writer, poet, and diarist, was born. on Christmas Day She was sister to the poet William Wordsworth. She took notes on her walks and these notes often inspired her brothers poems.

175 years ago, on 21 December 1846 that the first surgical operation in Europe using anaesthesia took place. Robert Liston amputated a servant's leg at University College Hospital in London.

150 years ago, on 24th December 1871 that the world premiere of Giuseppe Verdi's opera *Aida*, was held in Cairo, Egypt.

100 years ago, on 6th Dec 1921 that the Anglo-Irish Treaty was signed in London. It ended the Irish War of Independence and established the Irish Free State (with effect from December 1922.)

80 years ago, on 7th December 1941

that the Japanese made their surprise bomb attack on Pearl Harbour, Hawaii. The USA, UK, Netherlands, New Zealand, and other countries declared war on Japan the following day. The War in Europe had now become a World War.

75 years ago, on 18th December 1946, that Steve Biko, South Africa anti-apartheid activist, was born. Founder of the Black Consciousness Movement, he was beaten to death by state security officers in 1977, aged 30. 60 years ago, on 4th December 1961, that birth control pills became available on the NHS.

50 years ago, from 3rd to 16th December 1971, that the Indo-Pakistani War took place. It was one of the shortest wars in history, but still between one and three million Bangladeshis were killed. Indian victory leading to the founding of Bangladesh.

30 years ago, on 25th and 26th December 1991, that Mikhail Gorbachev resigned as President of the Soviet Union, and the next day the Soviet Union was officially dissolved. The 12 remaining Soviet republics became independent states.

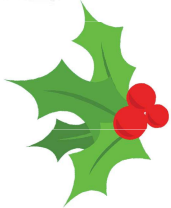
25 years ago, on 10th December 1996, that South African President Nelson Mandela signed a new constitution, completing the transition from white minority rule to full democracy.

Also 20 years ago, on 13th December 2001, that the Pentagon released a videotape of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden, in which he stated that the deaths and destruction achieved by the 9/11 attacks had exceeded his most optimistic expectations.

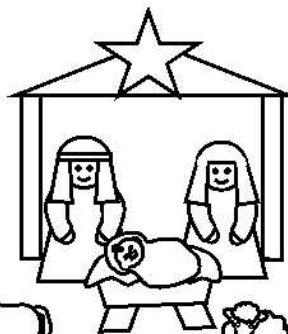
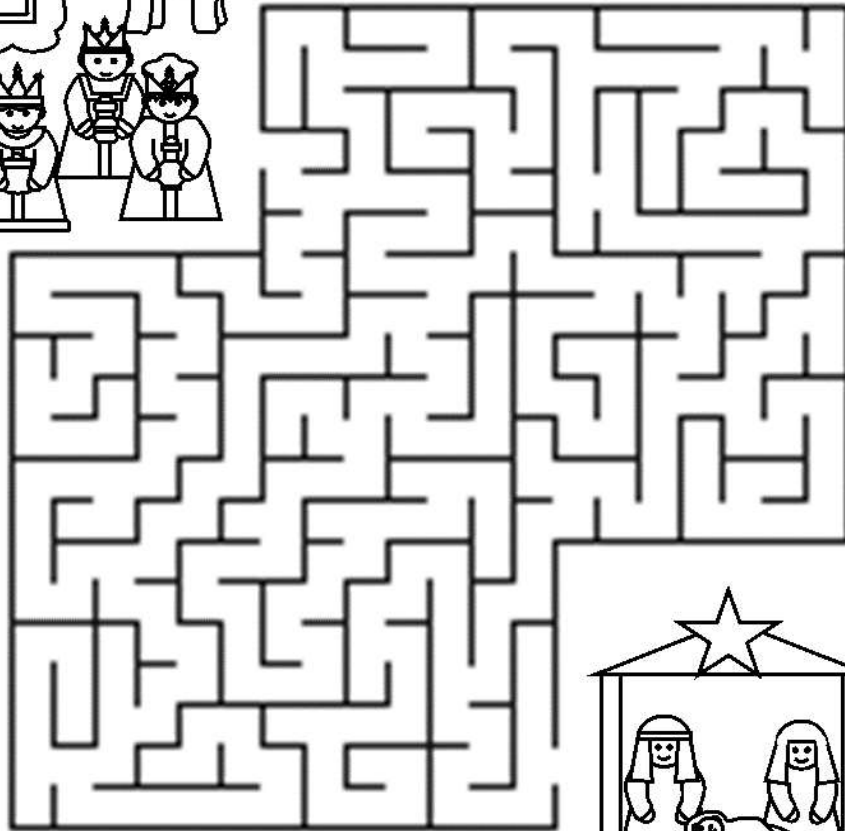
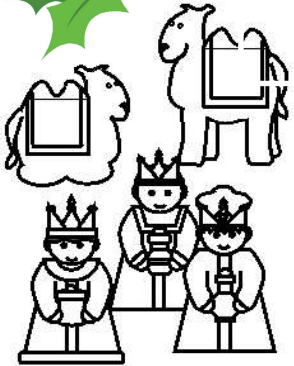
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December

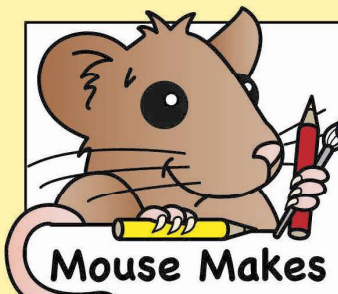
Maze, Story, Puzzles
and colouring-in



Help the wisemen follow the star
to Bethlehem to find the baby
Jesus



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Mouse Makes
Colour the tree then colour in one star each day until Christmas. Leave the large star at the top of the tree to colour in on Christmas day!

What's on the Christmas Tree?

Presents at Christmas under the tree,
A red Christmas stocking waiting for me,
But what really is Christmas,
What is it about?
Just look and the Bible and you will find out!
It's about **JESUS** - the best present of all,
JESUS our **Saviour**,
God's gift to us all!

A STAR shows the way to Jesus
Read Matthew 2:1-12

ANGELS bring messages from God
Read about Gabriel's message in Luke 1:26-38
Read the shepherd's story in Luke 1:26-38

LIGHTS AND CANDLES remind us that Jesus lights our way to God
Read Luke 2:29-32

PRESENTS remind us of God's special gift to us ... **JESUS!**

"For God loved the world so much that He gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life." *John 3:16*

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Christmas general knowledge quiz



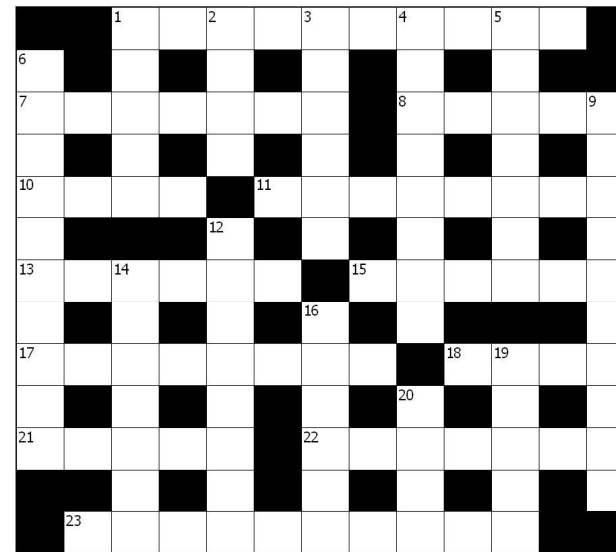
- Which real-life person is Santa Claus based on?
- The stationary chain WH Smiths is named after its founder who founded the business in 1792, what do the initials WH stand for?
- Widow Twankey traditionally appears as a character in which Christmas pantomime?
- What is the name of the singing snowman in *Frozen*?
- In what classic novel does the protagonist set sail for a sea voyage on a cold Christmas day?
- How many gifts in were given in The Twelve Days of Christmas carol?
- In 2008, which country set the current record for the world's tallest snowman?
A: Germany
B: Canada
C: USA
- Which March sister opens LM Alcott's *Little Women* by grumbling "Christmas won't be Christmas without any presents?"
- Which celebrity won the first ever *Strictly Come Dancing* in December 2004?
- How many of Santa's reindeer begin with the letter D?
- In which children's classic book is it always winter but never Christmas?
- What the name of Cliff Richard 12th number one hit?
- By what name is St Stephen's Day better known in the UK?
- What does Harry receive from Dumbledore during his first Christmas at Hogwarts?
- The Christmas tree in Trafalgar Square is traditionally given by which country each year?
- According to 1946's Christmas classic *It's Wonderful Life*, what happens every time a bell rings?
- What is the best-selling Christmas song of all time?
- Which British monarch delivered the first ever Christmas message?
- In which modern-day country was St. Nicholas born in?
- Which Australian pop star appeared in a *Doctor Who* Christmas special in 2007?
- Which fairy tale was the first gingerbread houses inspired by?
- Die Hard* takes place on Christmas Eve - but in which city?
- Which character declares "Merry Christmas, one and all!" in Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol?
- In the song "Winter Wonderland," what do we call the snowman?
- The Father Christmas Letters* is written and illustrated by which famous novelist?
- How do you say "Merry Christmas" in Spanish?
- The song 'Walking In The Air' features in which classic Christmas film?

Answers on page 51



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Crossword Puzzle



Across

- Provisional meeting place of God and the Jews (Exodus 25:9) (10)
- David's third son, killed when his head got caught in a tree during a battle with his father (2 Samuel 18:14-15) (7)
- They ruled much of the west coast of South America in the 15th and early 16th centuries (5)
- Small deer of European and Asian extraction (4)
- Seized control of (Numbers 21:25) (8)
- Terror (Luke 24:5) (6)
- First World War heroine shot by the Germans in Brussels, Nurse Edith ____ (6)
- Stormy (8)
- A bitter variety of this, together with lamb and unleavened bread, was the Passover menu for anyone 'unclean' (Numbers 9:11) (4)
- Arson (anagram.) (5)

22 How John Newton described God's grace in his well-known hymn (7)

23 Habitation (Isaiah 27:10) (10)

Down

- '____ and see that the Lord is good' (Psalm 34:8) (5)
- 'The wicked man flees though no one pursues, but the righteous are as ____ as a lion' (Proverbs 28:1) (4)
- One of the exiles, a descendant of Parosh, who married a foreign woman (Ezra 10:25) (6)

4 He escaped from Nob when Saul killed the rest of his family and joined David (1 Samuel 22:19-20) (8)

5 City and lake in Central Switzerland (7)

6 'Offer your bodies as living _____ holy and pleasing to God' (Romans 12:1) (10)

9 Pouches carried by horses (Genesis 49:14) (10)

12 One who accepts government by God (8)

14 Aromatic substance commonly used in Jewish ritual (Exodus 30:1) (7)

16 He asked Jesus, 'What is truth?' (John 18:38) (6)

19 Are (Romans 13:1) (5)

20 'You are to give him the name Jesus, because he will ____ his people from their sins' (Matthew 1:21) (4)

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Word Search



O R S H O U U G U I S T
 U E T R O G N N W O R C
 J I H J T N S E N A B N
 O E N G H I S W E M E A
 D K S R O G L H K E A I
 O A T U U N E O O S U R
 C P R I S O N E R S T E
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Messiah
 Broken Heart
 Freedom
 Darkness
 Favour
 Prisoners
 Comfort
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 Bestow
 Crown
 Beauty
 Ashes
 Son
 God
 Jesus
 Seen
 Father
 Whoever
 Longing
 thousand



Sudoku

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Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in Luke chapter 2 verses 1-7

The Roman Empire charged the countries it had invaded taxes, based on the number of people and what they earned.

Emperor Augustus gave orders that all people in the Empire were to be registered so they could be taxed.

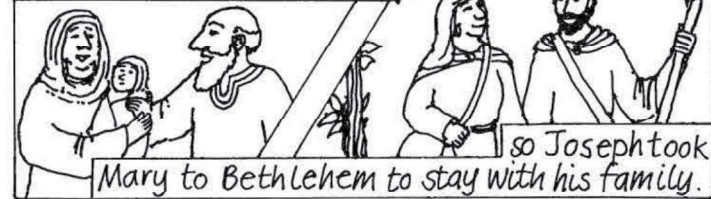


This census was before Quirinius became Governor of Syria* (*whose own census started riots - Acts 5:37)



When the order came, Mary and Joseph were living in Nazareth.

But Joseph was descended from King David, who had been born in Bethlehem...



so Joseph took Mary to Bethlehem to stay with his family.

Come and meet everyone!



A normal home in Bethlehem.

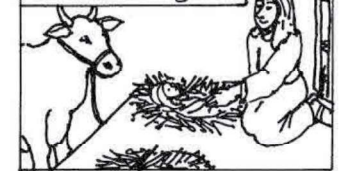


While they were staying there, Mary's baby was born.



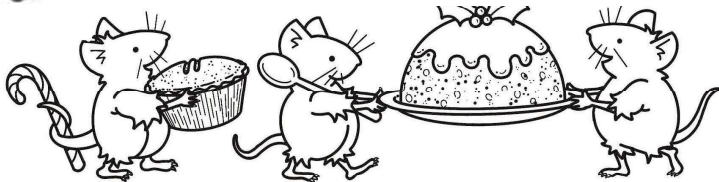
There was no space in the guest room to put a new baby!

So they made a snug bed for Jesus in one of the mangers.



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Thank you to the pupils of year 5-6 of Askwith Primary School for the beautiful Christmas Art a d the and poem

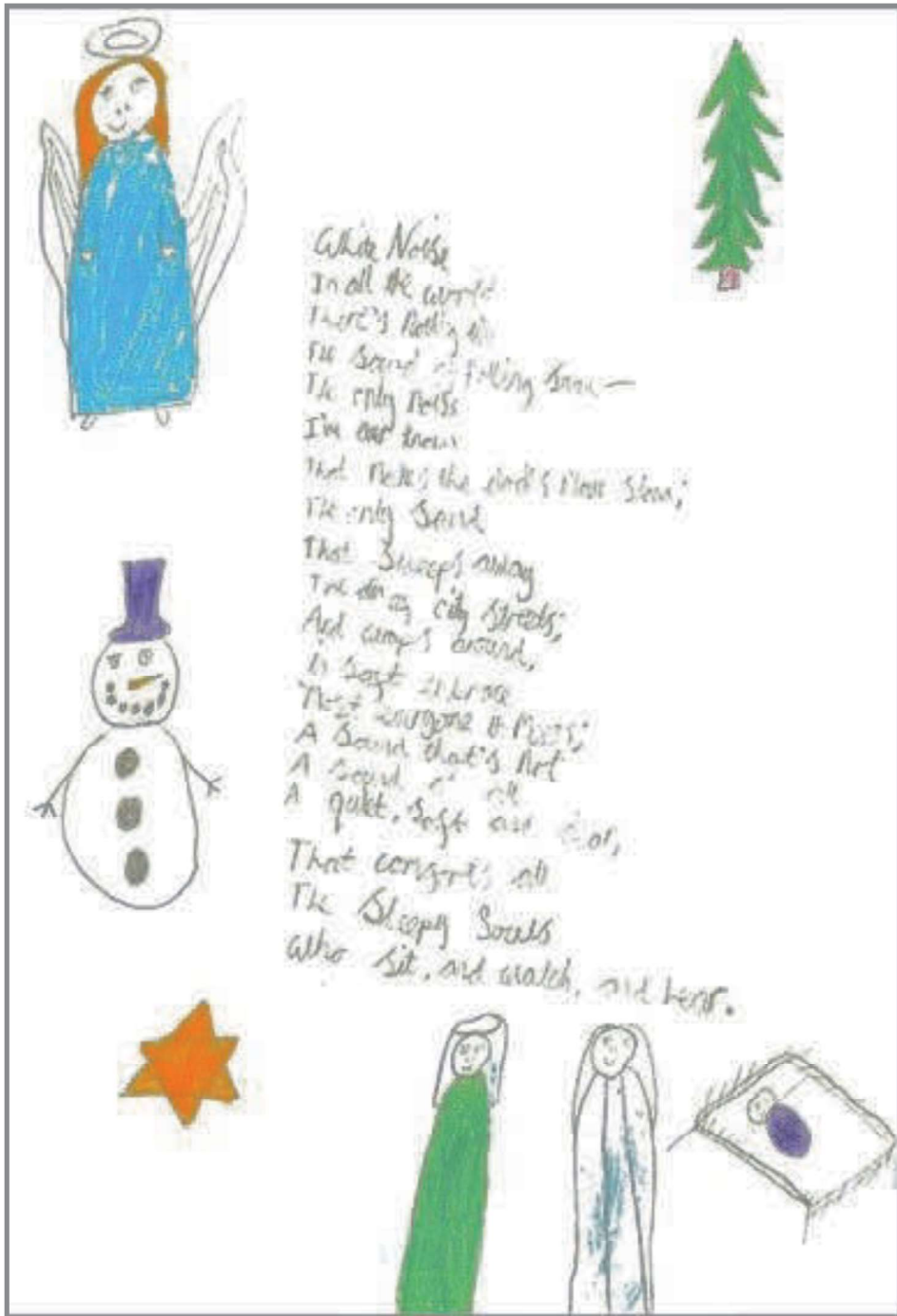
Thank you to the teachers for sending in their work.



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Look out next month for more work from the children of Asquith School.

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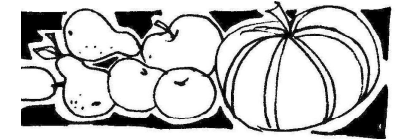
Weston and Denton Harvest Supper

All Saints' Weston with St Helen's Denton held their Harvest Supper at Askwith Village Hall at the end of October. Tickets had flown off the shelf for this popular event which was quickly sold out.

Catering was by Denton resident Chris Monkman who provided a delicious supper for sixty guests.

This was followed by a raffle and

an auction of items generously donated by those attending. Many thanks to Jeff Crabtree who conducted the auction with his usual humour, to Chris and all who helped to make the evening such a success. We couldn't have done it without you!



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Jays and acorns

A phone call last week induced me to have a closer look this year's acorn crop. My main chance to see any number of oak trees close to is on the golf course, and judging by the number of squirrels looking for acorns and apparently caching them, (whilst dodging golf balls – the safest place for them being, of course, on the fairway!) I had assumed the crop to be pretty good. However, having done a bit of reading and asking around it seems that there is more to it, and in reality, the crop is rather poor.

We had a bumper acorn crop last year, an event which is generally followed by a poor one, as the trees have used up most of their resources. Which means that it is likely that the larger than usual number of Jays and squirrels currently seen is a combination of two factors. Last year's glut of food increased survival rates, whilst this year's less bountiful harvest is forcing them to compete harder to find enough food to cache. If this is true, it will be interesting to see how Jays, which rely on the acorn crop more than most, get on over the winter. We may well see more of them on our feeders, particularly in rural or semi-rural areas. Although a wary species, individual Jays can be emboldened by hunger and may become surprisingly approachable when they visit gardens.

The spring months are important for the development of most trees and shrubs. It is when the buds burst, the leaves grow, and the flowers bloom. Oak trees usually flower between the end of April and mid-May, but as their

flowers are wind pollinated, the wet weather we had last spring will have impeded pollination, and yet further reduced the acorn crop this year.

It is in autumn that Jays are at their most conspicuous in most years, hunting on the ground for the acorns which are their staple food. They can be seen collecting them, and can carry three or four in an adapted gullet plus one more held in their bills, taking them away from the immediate vicinity of the tree under which they found them, to be cached, typically in a hole that they have made in the ground with their beaks. In many years their numbers are increased by the arrival of birds from the near continent.

Photograph credit: BTO/Mike Gray
Titles: Squirrel (right)

Photograph credit: BTO/John Harding
Titles: Jay (below)



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Jays appear to be able to relocate quite a lot of the acorns they have stored, some will be found by other birds or animals, including other corvids which have been seen watching the caching process and then raiding the store as soon as the cacher departs. Of the remainder, some will germinate to form seedlings, a good source of food for grazing animals, with those hidden in thorny patches being protected and able to grow into trees. It is this action of burying acorns away from the tree under which they found them that makes Jays, along with squirrels, such effective dispersal agents for the seeds, helping oak woodland to establish in new areas. Other corvids do behave in the same way, though to a lesser extent

This close cooperation has, over millennia, been vital for the oak tree since, when growing closely together, the dense canopy formed prevents

saplings from establishing themselves, so some form of dispersal is vital.

Squirrels, having a rather more varied diet might not fare so badly, as other nut bearing trees, such as horse chestnuts, are available for them. Time will tell, but this sort of weather variability is only going to become more common as climate change makes what are now extremes much more common.

Will we see more Jays in our gardens this winter

If you find the lives of our garden birds to be of interest, and would like to join in and count the feathered occupants of your garden, please contact me or visit the BTO Garden BirdWatch website - www.bto.org/gbw

Mike Gray
gbwmike@gmail.com

Email : magazine@washburnwharfemidbenefice.org.uk



Thank you



I would like to thank my team of magazine deliverers for their dedication in 2021.

Philip Herbert and Molly Laxton - Farnley and Otley Riverside.

As Magazine distributor co-ordinator I would like to say Thank You to our loyal team of magazine distributors who do a sterling job every month. They are Sarah Ashby, Julie Gill, Kathleen Dinsdale, Jane Jackson, Juliette Wood, Rebecca Campbell, Yvonne Dale-Winder, Gill White and John Bowers.

Sadly we said farewell earlier in the year to Margaret Ainsley who delivered the magazines for many years. Margaret is replaced by Julie Gill. More recently Denise Eagland who also delivered the magazines for many years has stood down and is replaced by John Bowers. We welcome the newcomers and are very grateful that they have come forward to help.

Family Tree

... would you like to research yours?

More than twenty years ago I started researching my family history. I had intended to wait until I retired but I realised that by that time I might have lost members of my family and, with them, vital information to help me on my quest. My journey has helped me discount family claims and unravel a few mysteries along with finding the odd skeleton in the cupboard! To start I needed to know a little about my

Nora Hawkins, John Smith and Sandra Howarth - Leathley.
Sarah West - Stainburn
Gillian Lishman and Mrs Keighley - Castley

Paul Howarth.

I would also like to say Thank You to our team of Flower arrangers/ Cleaners who help to keep Fewston church in good order. They are Jean Petty, Caroline Garnham, Kathleen and Annette Dinsdale, Ann Johnson, Alison Bowers, Yvonne Dale-Winder and Jennifer Rundle.

It all helps to keep the wheels turning in our community.

Cheri Beaumont.



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family and, from there, I worked my way through the maze.

Now I would like to offer my help to anyone who would like to start. I'm no expert and cannot promise miracles but I have learnt quite a lot along the way and have access to many records on the Internet. If you would like help, my email address is Heatha.Kitchin@gmail.com.



Washburn Heritage Centre

www.washburnvalley.org.

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook



Our **Tea Room** is open Sundays only during winter from **11am to 4pm** until the end of March 2022. Please drop in and sample our new menu with homemade food, using local suppliers and of course our legendary cakes, all prepared and served by our team of enthusiastic volunteers.

In **December** we are open on Sunday 5th, Sunday 12th and Sunday 19th. We will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

We welcome new members and new volunteers. If you would like to join our friendly team of volunteers please contact Jenny at the Centre. We offer a variety of roles, whether you would like to serve in our Tea Room or help at our many events, you will be given a warm welcome and an opportunity to meet new people. And you get to sample lovely cakes!

Events in December:

TALK – Wednesday 1 December 7.30-9pm - All about Crime, A Judge's Perspective

Recently retired QC, circuit judge and Recorder of Bradford, David Hatton will take about some of his experiences on the bench. Refreshments will be served. £7.50 non-members, £6 members.

WORKSHOP – Saturday 11 December – Make your own Christmas wreath (am or pm)

One of the Heritage Centre's most popular traditions! Florist Daphne Wilson will demonstrate how to make a fabulous wreath then guide us through the making of our own individual and unique creations. Seasonal refreshments. £20 non-members, £16 members.

SUPPER – Tuesday 14 December 7-10pm – Traditional Christmas supper

Our renowned and very popular Christmas supper will once again be prepared by Daphne Wilson and her team. Enjoy a fantastic meal in the company of your friends with carol singers and readings to enhance the Christmas spirit. Welcome drink and cash bar. £33 non-members, £26 members.

WALK – Tuesday 21 December 1.15-4pm – Winter Solstice Beat

Join us for a short afternoon walk to celebrate the Winter Solstice. We will be walking part of Police Constable Daniel Fox's beat as he would have walked in the 1870s. Meet at the Centre for a 3 mile walk followed by seasonal refreshments at the Heritage Centre. £10 non-members, £8 members.

May we wish you a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.



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Recipe



Quick Peppermint Creams

Impress your family and friends this Christmas with these delicious but exceptionally easy to make peppermint creams. Happy Christmas

(makes about 30)

Ingredients

- 40g Philadelphia cream cheese
- 2.5 ml peppermint essence
- 200g icing sugar, sieved

Method

- Blend cheese and essence together until smooth
- Gradually beat in the icing sugar
- Turn mixture out on to a board dusted with icing sugar and knead lightly
- Roll out to 0.5 cm thick
- Stamp out rounds with a plain 3cm cutter (an egg cup works well)
- Place on greaseproof paper to dry out overnight



Christmas general knowledge quiz Answers



1. The Christian bishop St. Nicholas
2. William Henry (Smith)
3. Aladdin
4. Olaf
5. Moby Dick
6. 6. 364
7. The USA. It took one month to build and measured 122ft 1in tall.
8. Jo March
9. Natasha Kaplinsky with Brendan Cole
10. Three - Dasher, Dancer and Donner
11. Narnia
12. Mistletoe
13. Boxing Day
14. Cloak of invisibility
15. Norway, who have donated the tree every year since 1947 as a gesture of thanks for Britain's help during the Second World War.
16. An Angel gets its wings
17. White Christmas by Bing Crosby
18. George V in 1932
19. Turkey, originally Patara, a city in the ancient district of Lycia, in Asia Minor.
20. Kylie Minogue
21. Hansel and Gretel
22. Los Angeles
23. Tiny Tim
24. Parson Brown
25. J RR Tolkien
26. Feliz Navidad
27. The Snowman

Christmas general knowledge quiz Answers



Gardeners Corner



Now is the time to plant deciduous trees and shrubs and bare rooted fruit trees, just as long the ground is not frozen or waterlogged. Then you can come inside and put your feet up while you order seeds from the catalogues. Try and choose those that are disease resistant to avoid the use of chemicals in the garden.

Once indoors make sure that your potted cyclamen are positioned in a cool room with good light and remember to deadhead them regularly to encourage more flowers, removing any yellowing leaves as well. Cyclamen should only be watered once the soil begins to feel dry and always from below, letting any excess water drain away. Watering from above can cause

the plant to rot. Keep the root ball moist and you can feed every three weeks during the flowering period, though this is not strictly necessary unless you intend to keep the plant form year to year.

You will be bringing your Christmas trees inside soon. Always position them away from heat and prevent early needle drop by placing cut trees in water. You can mist the needles as well before you start decorating. Getting out the decorations is always a lovely job to look forward to. Enjoy the wonder of it all and have fun!



WASHBURN & MID-WHARFE CHURCHES MAGAZINE

Feeling inspired?

The magazine is created by compiling contributions from readers, the many people associated with running the churches, societies, clubs and event holders. Thank you to everyone for sending in items each month.

If you feel inspired please send in your own poem or request share your favourite poem, a seasonal recipe, write an articles or or anything you wish to share. All items for the magazine are always welcome. Please email your items to:
magazine@washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk

Or send in by post to;
 C/O The Heritage Centre Office
 Washburn Heritage Centre
 Fewston Church
 Harrogate
 HG3 1SU

How to Subscribe

The magazine costs £6 a year to have 12 copies of the magazine delivered by hand or £14 to have it posted directly.

Please contact Paul Howarth Tel: 01943 465076 if you would like to arrange delivery and payments

Advertising

We encourage business that are happy to provide a service in our rural parishes to advertise with us.

Please contact Ann Johnson by email ann@apmj.co.uk or Tel: 01943 880000 to discuss your advert and our reasonable yearly prices

Magazine Archive

To see past issues we have an online archive. Thank you to Paul (one of three Pauls who help create and deliver the magazine) for editing the website www.fewstonwithblubberhouses.org.uk/church-life/parish-magazine/.

Our magazine

The magazine was created to link the communities of the Anglican and Methodist churches in the Mid-Wharfe and lower Washburn Valley. The Anglican churches of the United Benefice are All Saints Weston, St Helen Denton, St Michael and St Laurence Fewston, St Andrew Blubberhouses, All Saints Farnley and St Oswald Leathley. Norwood chapel is in the Wharfedale & Aireborough Methodist circuit

Contact information for all is on page 2.

The magazine is managed by our Treasurer Ann Johnson, Distributers Cheri Beaumont and Paul Howarth, our Rector Stephen McCaulay and the Editor Anna Bowman.

Email : magazine@washburnwharfebenefice.org.uk



Answers to the November Issue puzzles

9	4	8	5	7	6	3	1	2
1	2	5	4	8	3	9	7	6
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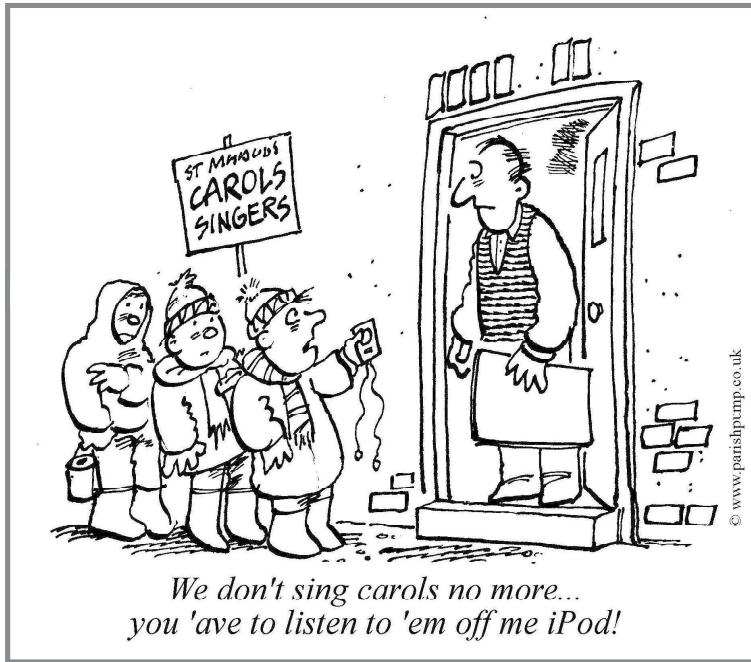
Date for your Diary

Please see the Community and Benefice Notice Board on pages 6-16 for events (including Christmas Fayres, carol singing and services all in date order) and notices this month.



December Events not on the notice board

Washburn Heritage Centre, Talks and Walks Page 36



Next Contribution Deadline: 8th December

(please note no late submissions please due to early printing deadline)

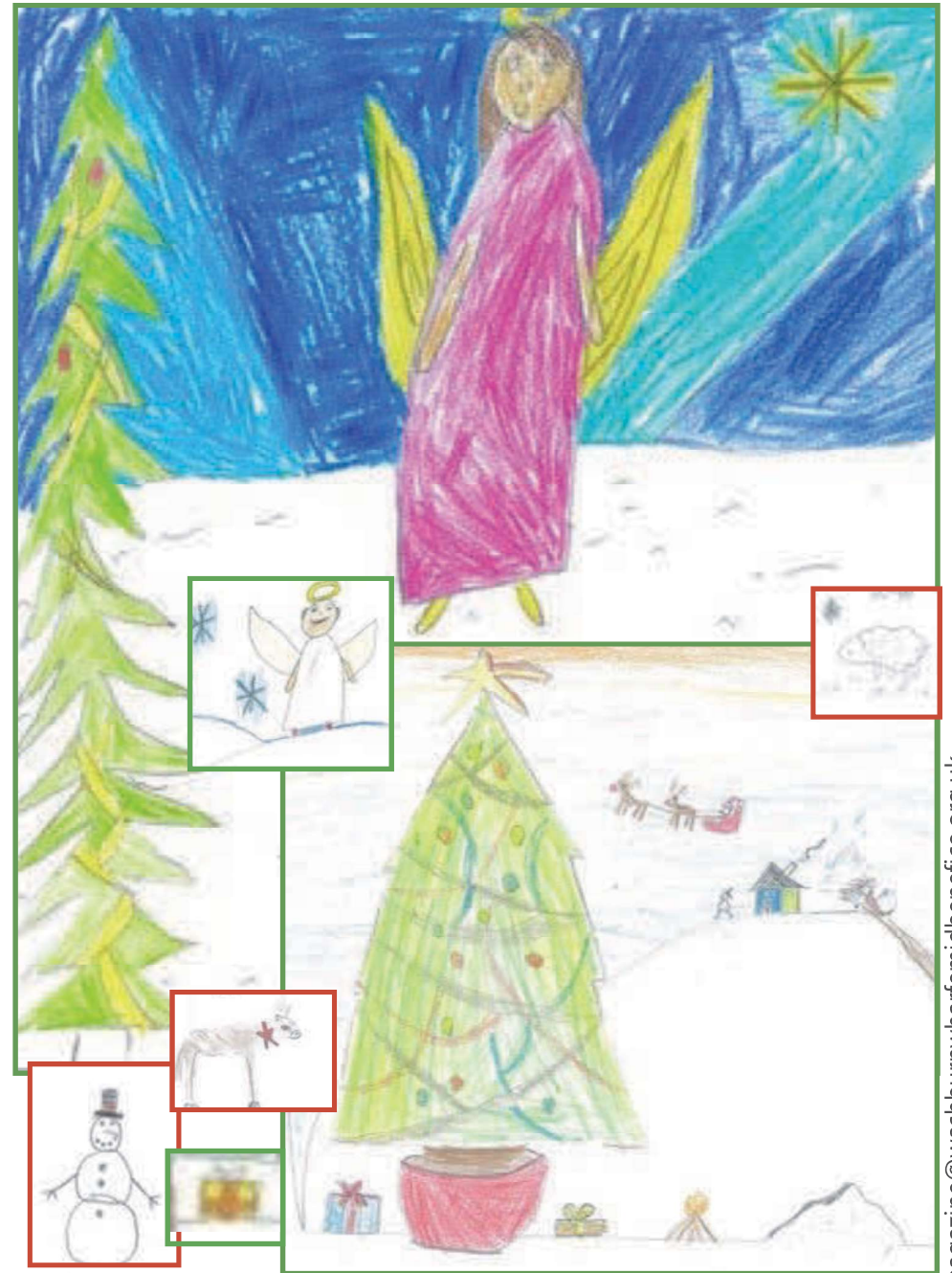
2022 Deadlines;
11th January, 10th February 10th March

Edited by Anna Bowman

Email; magazine@washburnmidwharfebenefice.org.uk

For more information about the magazine and how you can contribute subscribe or advertise please see page 39

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Puzzles and colouring in pull out section
in the centre



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