

AUTUMN 2020

Parish Church of Wetherby with Linton

70p

St James



**Our
Church
is open!**

This
special
Autumn
edition
of your
magazine
wishes
you
**a warm
welcome
back!**

How did **you** spend time during lockdown?
See our series of "Lockdown Leaks"

AT THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

A big warm 'Hello again!'

Inside this long awaited Autumn issue...

PAST VERSUS FUTURE AND THE 'NEW NORMAL'



Brendan our Vicar and **Jean Heaton**, Churchwarden, tell about the huge challenges of lockdown and the even bigger challenges of reopening the church.

FAMILY SERVICES ONLINE



We finally get to say a well deserved **Goodbye & Good luck** to our former youth Leader

FEATURES



Alan Smith and **Janet Cox** share their thoughts, and **Robert Haskins** asks the question, 'Building or People?'

LOCKDOWN LEAKS

We hear about experiences of lockdown from the viewpoints of a young family, the **Lunds**, **Peter Mirczuk** and one of our magazine editors, **Jennifer Siswick**



Lockdown Leaks



NOW is the time to do this! Starting at the very end of September, a new online 8 week Alpha Course. See page 3 for details of how to join in. *(Don't worry if you miss the first couple of sessions)*



New Online Alpha Course



Here at St James' we believe that everyone should have the opportunity to ask the big questions of life.

What is my purpose?

What happens when I die?

Why is there suffering?

As we can no longer gather in person, we are taking our next Alpha Course online. Alpha Online is an opportunity for anyone to ask those big questions and to explore the Christian faith in a relaxed, non-threatening, manner in the comfort of your own home.

The course consists of 8 thought-provoking weekly sessions

Starts Wednesday, 30 September, 7.30pm to 8.45pm. *(There's still time to join up if you miss the first one or two!)* Each session includes a short film followed by a time of discussion where you can share what you think with a small group of people. Alpha is low key, friendly and fun, and supported by all the main Christian denominations.

To book a place or for more information please contact:
Val Lumsden on 07984 074710 or valandjimlumsden@gmail.com

A close-up photograph of a bouquet of purple bell-shaped flowers and white baby's breath flowers.

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Office Hours: 9am – 12noon Monday – Friday

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Phone: 01937 583074 e-mail: stjames.wetherby@gmail.com

For magazine contributions: parishmagazine@gmail.com

Our Vicar Writes

Lockdown Reach Out

In some ways the announcement of lockdown seems like yesterday, in other ways a world away. When news of lockdown came, we had two immediate problems.

- 1) How were we to care for people, especially those who would now find it inadvisable to shop or collect medication for themselves?
- 2) How, when we could no longer use our building, could we gather people and be faithful in our calling as God's church to worship together?

Remarkably, the solutions to both these problems came rushing (yes, literally rushing) towards me.

As the seriousness of the pandemic became ever more apparent, I was inundated with offers of help for those who needed it. The kindness offered was wonderful. Val Lumsden and Lorna Taylor kindly stepped in to co-ordinate these offers, and an army of people were released to phone, shop and care for people.

As we were not allowed to worship in our building it was obvious that our worship had to go on-line. But how could we do it? Fortunately, Josh Taylor contacted me to offer his help. Needless to say, his offer was snapped up. Josh got us up and running, and also produced an excellent weekly kids' service.



We began very simply with worship from the Vicarage sitting room, Patrick turning the camera between our musicians, Suzannah on piano and Miriam on guitar, and myself. It was basic but it was a start and importantly we were worshipping together.

This has developed, first by finding ways to incorporate Emma Kennedy and Ruth Mayhew's beautiful singing, and then involving more people live in the services. It has been quite a journey. Live-streaming has enabled many people to join us for worship.

As a pastor though I have found it challenging. Doing the tech as well as leading the services is distracting (and stressful) – to say the least! But most of all, I guess like all of us, I have missed connecting with people face to face. I longed to see the whites of people's eyes!

Now we can worship in our building again.

As the numbers that we can accommodate, whilst remaining socially distanced, are much reduced, and also it is not safe for some people to attend church, we still need to maintain our on-line worship.

How to live-stream from a church which hasn't got broadband and isn't anywhere near a phone was the first of many challenges? Well, the churchwardens quickly sorted out a 4G connection, and Ed Taylor has done an amazing job sourcing broadcasting software so that the sound quality is decent and we can use more multiple cameras.

This is very much a work in progress. We need to upgrade our present computer, which will be an expensive investment. But I am confident that once we do so we will be able to get the most out of the new software enabling us to connect with everyone wherever they are.

What a few months. And of course, we face the reality and restrictions of the pandemic for many more months to come. As a church St James will continue to strive to be faithful to our calling to love God and to love our neighbour. This time, immensely challenging as it is, has brought out the best of the church.

I am glad that you have been part of the recent chapter of this journey. Stay with us as we travel forward loving God and our neighbours in Jesus' name.

With every blessing,

Brendan

WRITE TO THIS MAGAZINE, WE WELCOME YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS
parishmagazine@gmail.com or by dropping them into the Parish Office

Autumn Worship and Services

The PCC is committed to resuming services in as safe a way as possible.

In addition, worship will continue to be online, as it must to accommodate all who wish to participate.

September worship on Sundays will be:

- 8.00am** BCP Holy Communion
- 9.00am** Kids Service on YouTube
- 10.00am** Parish Communion in Church and live streamed to Facebook and later on YouTube.

October worship on Sundays will be:

- 8.00am** BCP Holy Communion
- 9.30am** Parish Communion
- 11.00am** Morning Worship (18th Oct Family Communion)
Live streamed to Facebook and later on You Tube.

The number of people we can accommodate in church is limited. To ensure there is space available, booking is essential for the 10.00am and 11.00am Services.
(Booking is not necessary for the 8.00am).

To reserve a place please contact the Parish Office 01937 583074. Bookings will be taken between 9am - 11am Thursday and Friday.

We will upload the service to YouTube as soon as we can afterwards:
St James YouTube page, Facebook and also available from the website.



Harvest Festival
Sunday 11
October



<https://www.facebook.com/stjameswetherby/>



Google: [St James Wetherby Youtube](#)

Monday to Friday

St James' is open for private prayer 10-11am Monday to Friday.

As very welcome this is, there are restrictions in place to ensure this is to be done safely and in line with social distancing guideline.

Daily Hope

0800 804 8044 - Daily Hope is a free phone line of hymns, reflection and prayers. It is aimed at those who do not have access to the internet. If you know anyone who you think might like to use it then please do pass this on.

Monday - Friday



9.00am Morning Prayer - please join us for Morning Prayer each weekday via Zoom. Many are finding this a great way to start the day. Click on the link and we can meet virtually to pray: [Zoom link for Morning Prayer \(see website for link\)](#).

Church Finance

Church financial planning has been turned upside down by the pandemic. We are not alone – just about every other organisation has suffered.



The church was closed from 15 March under lockdown and did not reopen again until 12 July. We opened with an 8am service; 6 Sept saw a 10am service albeit with reduced numbers, in order to observe social distancing. This has reduced our income from collections by about 50%. Standing orders have held up well, even increasing slightly as people switched from collections to standing orders.

In addition, the Church Centre had to close and our tenant in the Old School Kitchen was unable to trade. Both further reduced our income.

As a charity, we cannot operate with a deficit, so we have had to reduce expenditure to balance our loss of income. This has been done primarily by reducing the payments we make to the Diocese.

Our staff were furloughed in mid-March. Money that we have been receiving from the government covered a percentage of this. This government help will stop at the end of October, so increasing the impact on our financial situation. We cannot see the situation improving in the short term.

Naturally, any support or advice to help this situation is very welcome.

Bob Greene, Churchwarden

To reopen or not to reopen ...that was the question!

It's a question that was not easy to answer.

March seems such a long time ago now when Coronavirus COVID-19 suddenly hit every aspect of all our lives. The last act of worship took place in St James on 15 March and the doors were then locked. That's not to say that the church buildings were abandoned, Brendan, Bob Greene and I, as Churchwardens, kept a watchful eye on them.

After 2 months of restrictions, lockdown slowly started to ease and the government announced that places of worship could reopen for individual private prayer on 13 June. As welcome as this was it was not a simple matter of just unlocking the doors. The Church of England published its guidance on 3 June setting out how this could be done safely with restrictions, but it also said that just because churches were allowed to reopen, it did not mean they had to. It stated that churches should only open if they felt it was safe to do so.

I will not bore you with the details. Suffice to say that working through a risk assessment, setting out the church for social distancing and marking a one-way system took many hours. The role of a Churchwarden is varied but I never imagined it would include crawling around the church floor sticking tape down! With everything in place, we opened for Individual Private Prayer on 24 June.

The government then announced that places of worship could open for acts of worship from 4 July. On 30 June the Church of England published its guidance on this, which included safely administering communion and the dos and don'ts on singing/music. We made the decision to start with the 8am service, as it is a small service without music. The process of looking at the risk assessment and the laying out of the church started again and once everything was in place we held our first act of worship in church since March, on Sunday 12 July. We are looking at increasing our services in church, but it is better to take time.

At the time of writing we are also looking at how we can safely open our Church Centre for the many groups who use it. We hope to do this by the second week in September but, unfortunately, with restrictions in place not all groups will be able to return. Those that can, may have to limit their numbers to comply with social distancing rules.

Let us hope and pray that we can get back to normal (whatever normal is) soon.

Jean Heaton
Churchwarden



Our Online Family Service

When lockdown was imposed, in order to continue to minister to our families we felt creating a digital family service would be vital.



Our service is made up of a craft, songs, short bible story, prayer and an occasional talk. During our family services we wanted to share how we find love, hope and joy through our Christian faith.

Throughout lockdown we have covered topics from Norah's Ark to Life in all fullness. I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has joined us for



our family services, the positive feedback that we have received, but most importantly to the incredible team and young people who have made it possible. Amy Lund and Liz Foxwell have played crucial roles and I will forever be grateful for their hard work and dedication. And of

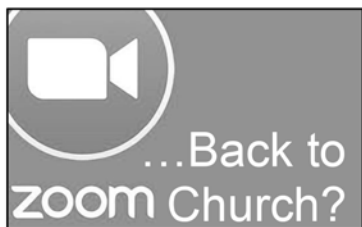
course, I have to mention Clair, Toby, Lottie, Abigail, Charlotte, Beth and their incredible parents who have produced some fantastic video content for our services.

We have loved serving the St James' family at this difficult time and I am pleased to say that the 18 family services that we have done so far are still available on our YouTube channel.

I would be incredibly grateful if the Church community could be praying for St James' families and young people as we navigate our way forward.

God Bless,

Josh Taylor



How did you feel when St James' was closed, and none of us, not even Brendan our Vicar could worship there?

I felt sad and bereft, but consoled by the news that Brendan would be live streaming worship from his sofa.

However, I am not familiar with Facebook etc., and there were a few technical difficulties at the start, so there was one Sunday when I could not get in to join in the worship. I went into meltdown. It seemed to me that my church had rejected me and God had rejected me too. I was in tears nearly all day, and then finally, in the evening our son helped us to watch the recorded version. Thankfully the technical difficulties were resolved, and I learnt a new way to access worship and I grew to love worship from Brendan's sofa, which got better every week, with beautiful singing we could join in with at home. We could even meet for coffee on Zoom.

Since Brendan could not say Morning Prayer in church every morning, he did that on Zoom too. Quite a few of us joined him. It made such a difference to our day, having something to get up for every morning when not much else was happening, and praying for all aspects of the pandemic gave us a sense of purpose. Now that Brendan can say his prayers in church, we are carrying on online with several of us taking turns to lead it.

Then came the welcome news that we could return to worship in church, beginning at 8 o'clock. I was desperate to return, but my first time back felt so alien, with a different service to the one I normally attend: no singing, no wine, Brendan in a mask, visor and gloves, and us all spaced out.

I came home and joined in online at 10 o'clock. Brendan's sofa felt so safe and comforting. In September, we began a service at 10 o'clock in church, live streamed on Facebook. It was lovely to see familiar faces in the congregation with big smiles on their faces and to listen to a few members of the choir singing beautifully as well. Michael was back on the organ. People commented on how safe they felt after the hard work of the Churchwardens and their team. By the time you read this, we shall have services in our usual pattern of 8.00, 9.30 and 11.00. *(Details of how to book on page 6)*

So what has your experience been? Maybe you couldn't access online worship. Maybe you are wondering whether to come back to church now. Maybe you feel safer at home and will stick with worshipping from your sofa. Maybe you have never worshipped at St James, but you might like to try it out online. Whatever your situation, we are looking forward to welcoming you in person or online, whichever you prefer. We will do our best to keep you safe and we hope you will feel comfortable with your choice.

Every blessing,

Janet Cox

(To join live worship, online, go to St James' Facebook page at the appointed time)

Back to Church Again!

I've been going back to church, now lockdown's allowed me to. I've been going to the 8am service. It's different in some ways but you still get that old buzz from meeting with God in his special house.



There are new Covid rules in place. At first glance it reminds me of when I attend concerts in church, with the reception table in the porch (but no tickets to pay!) And, like pubs these days, I sign in leaving a contact telephone number in case of 'track and trace'. The friendly Stewards point to "Covid instructions". "Please sanitise your hands" they ask before leading you to a seat.

Brendan (sometimes another member of the clergy), at the front, welcomes everyone and the service begins. The traditional 1662 liturgy at this service is semi-familiar to me, a normal 9.30 attender. It's just nice to join with others in prayer again and to be together to receive communion, even if the standing and sitting routine is slightly different now. It is time for Communion. Brendan puts on his visor. My wife digs me in the ribs because she thinks that I am about to get up too soon. We follow the clearly marked "one-way" lines on the floor when asked to take our turn. What do I do with the mask I am wearing? I fiddle with it a bit.

It's good to take and eat the bread that reminds me of Jesus' suffering for me (and you) on the cross to save us. But no cup of wine to pass from mouth to mouth, because of Covid. I eat the holy bread, I follow the lines on the floor back to our seat. At the end of the service, I sanitise again as I exit through a different door. Unfortunately, no coffee – no chatting inside. Brendan says goodbye outside.

It was good to be back; and I think I'll go again next week. This experience of a service under Covid rules has brought back memories of the early morning pre-breakfast communion services of my youth. You feel alone with God; you feel you have Him all to yourself. The sense of reverence was very strong. A spiritual experience for me.

Those of us who have taken advantage of these services owe a great deal of thanks to those who have organised our church building and the service format to enable us to meet like this with God in his house and partake in communion. They have put in place Covid arrangements that make you feel very safe. I would urge everyone to try this experience of "live" worship and communion for themselves.

Alan Smith

Dr David Bailey

It is with much sadness to hear of David's death earlier in the month.

David was Reader here at St James' for many years, with a great ministry of preaching, helping the bereaved and leading Church on the Corner.

Our prayers are with Hilary and David's family at this time of great loss.

Church – Building or People?

When the PCC recently met, we said ‘church’ is the people. Not the building? It’s both, I hear you say. Author Christopher Howse puts this into perspective.

The New Testament was written in ‘koine Greek’, the lingua franca of the Mediterranean world. The word the writers used there is ‘ekklesia’ (borrowed by the Latin as ‘ecclesia’), which means ‘assembly’. It was a secular term. Paul used it to refer to clusters of worshippers, and to the universal church.

The English word for church was borrowed by Germanic speakers (‘kirche’). It came from the Greek, surprising enough, in the fourth century. The Greek phrase was ‘kyriakon doma’, ‘house of the Lord’ (where kyriakon means ‘belonging to the Lord’). Anglo-Saxon settlers brought the word to Britain.

The early 20th century architect, Sir Ninian Comper, spent his life in churches. An Anglo-Catholic, his stained glass is found in Westminster Abbey, St Peter’s Huddersfield and Fulham Palace. He was drawn to 4th century Saxon churches which put the altar in the middle. For him, churches were the gateway to heaven, a ‘shelter for an altar’. They came alive through liturgy, architecture and decoration. They were somewhere to leave the stresses of the world behind. Many use our church like that. Others see it as a convenient place to ‘assemble’. It is both.

The altar is the place where the Eucharist is celebrated. According to the common doctrine, the Eucharist (Communion) is literally the making of the church, which is the Body of Christ. Christians, St Paul writes, are its parts. Not everyone who receives Communion is aware they are thus being united with all other Christians everywhere, but that is implicitly what is happening.

Pubs have been closing faster than churches over the last decade. There are currently 40,000 churches open in the UK (8,500 in the Middle Ages). The last time churches closed down (for 6 years) was in the reign of King John, because the Pope did not care for his ways. Not even the Black Death was to stop worship, and it hasn’t stopped this time thanks to technology; but when can we all physically worship together, united in fellowship?

The churchwardens have done a splendid job, making our church open again. ‘When two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them,’ said the Lord. Assemble therefore, with face masks, and partake of that central rite of the church, the Eucharist, gathered round the altar, remembering Christ.

Robert Haskins

From the Parish Registers

Baptisms: 1 March - Savannah Mann, Wyatt Mann and Louie Pawson

Funerals:

20 January	Mrs Kathleen Palmer	20 May	Mrs Laura Van Zeller
22 January	Mr Donald Walton	29 May	Mr Ronald Ward
23 January	Miss Beryl Attwell	29 May	Mr James Robinson
23 March	Mr Peter William Haw	16 June	Mr Clive Richard Bacon
24 March	Mrs Joan Green	23 June	Mrs Winifred Hartnell
14 April	Mr Michael Frank Hibbert	30 June	Mr Samuel Burke
15 April	Mr James Robert Ball	2 July	Mrs Shirley Creswyn Thomas
16 April	Mr Paul Hammond	13 July	Mrs Audrey Rawson
22 April	Mr David Holroyd	23 July	Mrs Dorothy Mary Smalley
5 May	Mrs Judith Elizabeth Davis	29 July	Mrs Anne Atkinson
6 May	Mr John Lister	26 August	Mr Jeffrey Higgins
28 May	Mrs Marie Louise Hughes		

Love, Support & Prayers



Following the Annual General Meeting in February, Christian care for families the Mothers' Union, like every other fellowship group, was put on hold.

Not many weeks had passed when all members received an appeal for donations to support the work of our worldwide organisation. There was a huge deficit at Mary Sumner House, where meeting room lettings and other fundraising opportunities were lost due to the lockdown and consequently a need to find the means to continue the work at home and overseas. Our thanks are due to all who were able to respond to this.

Our Wetherby Branch has always supported the 'Away from it all' holiday scheme with a regular collection at Branch Meetings and together with sales of produce throughout the year. We have been able to contribute significantly to this and to the General Fund at each year end, as many other branches do.

Members have kept in touch with each other by telephone, email, joining in with morning prayers and the Thursday 'Coffee on Zoom' as well as the old-fashioned 'grapevine'. Emails have come regularly from Josie Birley, our Area President, who has kept us entertained with the progress of her Sunflower, family activities, moving back to work and her involvement with Test and Tracing.

I know that, for some, the isolation and feelings of loneliness have been a real problem. For others it has been a time to stand back from normality and take stock. However, we are dealing with the situation. We all have the love, support and prayers of our church family around us, and our thanks go to all those younger and more able, who have shopped, visited and kept in touch so that no-one has felt forgotten.

Mary Gray P.S. Diary, Calendar and Christmas Card Orders will be coming soon



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People of all ages and from all walks of life become our volunteers.

For the elderly, companionship and social interaction brings a sense of being part of a community and often helps with problems of isolation. They have experiences and stories to tell that can fascinate and entertain.



If you know someone who might be interested, ask them to have a chat with Carole McLelland, our WiSE Volunteer and Befriending Coordinator. Call her on 01937 588994 or email carole@w-ise.org.uk



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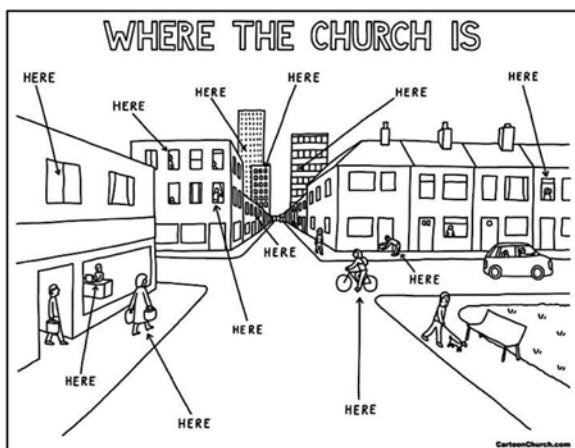
One of the church's main areas of ministry is pastoral care, but the usual ways of undertaking this ministry has been significantly affected by coronavirus. Face-to-face visiting has not been possible in most situations, and we have had to adapt very quickly to find new ways to keep in touch and to offer care, especially to those people in the Clinically Vulnerable Group and - I'd better tread carefully here – the elderly! Of whom I have discovered I am officially one! Being 70+!

However, our church family has been very active, and it's great to hear about new friendships being formed across the various age groups and congregations at church, from video-calls to good-old fashioned letter-writing, from phone conversations to sending a "wee card".

We have a 'Telephone Contacts Team', who regularly makes calls to help everyone to feel connected, especially those people who don't use email, and unfortunately don't receive Brendan's regular updates. We also have a 'Practical Help Team' who are happy to pick up shopping and prescriptions, etc., and also to feedback any other concerns where individuals may need help.

When Brendan first asked Lorna and me to try to organise something that would help people to feel connected and valued during lockdown, we didn't know where to start but, actually, it didn't take much organising. It just seemed to spring up through the many individuals wanting to share the love of Christ. Maybe there are lessons here about letting ministries "sprout up" as the Spirit inspires.

We don't know what this will look like in the future, but we are here and ready to serve where we are able. Just because folk are out of sight, we don't want anyone to feel out of mind. So, if you are reading this and need a bit of practical support, or just someone to have a regular chat with, please do let us know. Stay safe!



Lorna and Val

The Heart of the Home

The kitchen is the heart of the home and, during the Covid-19 pandemic, our kitchen table has been the heart of my workplace and world!



Lockdown Leaks

Surrounded by my children, Toby (age 9), and Clara (age 6), I stationed myself at our kitchen table. Our table has not only hosted three meals a day (plus endless snacks) but also daily maths and English lessons, science experiments, live Zoom calls, work meetings and frantic emails. It has even featured in several St. James' Family Services, hosting the kids' craft demonstrations and Bible readings!

My husband escaped being locked down in our kitchen, as his frontline work kept him busy throughout the pandemic. Nevertheless, he's done a good job in the garden and has cultivated some fantastic crops, which we've enjoyed at our family meals. Lockdown was an opportunity to spend more time as a family, do more arts and crafts and play tradition board games.

I feel very grateful to have primary school age children, because I simply can't imagine how I would have worked and looked after young infants, alone! Working from home while home-schooling made me busier than I've ever been. However, this unexpected year has brought new friendships, such as Marjorie, who has been an important part of St James for many years. Val kindly matched us so we could

assist her with her groceries, but any help we've offered Marjorie has been far outweighed by the number of Kit-Kats she's given the children!



The online services and Zoom community have literally been Godsend. I am really looking forward to the online Alpha course, a course I'd previously been unable to do, due to a lack of childcare, but now I can join in from my own kitchen table!

Amy Lund

Questions later

Some of you may have heard that BBC Radio 4's *Any Questions* was coming to our church to celebrate the 10th anniversary of U3A in Wetherby. Sadly, this has had to be postponed owing to the latest Covid precautions.



**Any
Questions?**

And then there was Lockdown!



Lockdown Leaks

It all started for us at the other side of the world!

When the lockdown was declared in the UK I was, along with Sheila my wife, overseas in Australia visiting our two sons and their families for five months.

We had stopped over for two weeks in Hong Kong, to spend time with our daughter, who works in Disneyland Hong Kong. It was *amazing* but sadly towards the end of our visit to Hong Kong we had to stay indoors because of the rioting!

Onwards to a very smoky Sydney. We had only just got over the horrendous bush fire situation in Australia when the Covid-19 virus struck! Lockdown was a few weeks earlier in Sydney, than in the UK. No pasta, no loo rolls, masks or sanitiser were to be bought anywhere! Our son had to work from home. We tried (*and failed!*) not to get in his way.

We lost our original flight home via Hong Kong (closed even to transit passengers). We had intended to stop over and see our daughter again. The UK government and our travel insurance company advised us to return to the UK as soon as possible, as airlines across the world were starting to stop flying to the UK.

We managed to get one of the few repatriation flights available back to the UK via Qatar Airlines, arriving back in Manchester on 2 April. The quiet airports were super strict about social distancing, and the airline was particularly good in making sure we were both OK throughout.

Manchester Airport was like a ghost town! Our flight was the only one arriving at the time, so it was very eerie. A hire car got us home from the airport, avoiding public transport and taxis. The motorway was virtually deserted. When we arrived home, we immediately stripped all our clothes off into the wash, sanitised all the luggage and showered to avoid the possibility of bringing the virus into our house. The car hire company were very kind and collected the car three days later!

We quarantined and had help from our lovely close friends who were wonderful and left food in the house and on the doorstep to make sure we were well supplied during that period.

After quarantine, we still kept avoiding going outside our home except in the garden and we started ordering home deliveries. It was very frightening the amount of cases and deaths recorded every day, but the nice thing was the kindness of people and the lovely weather at the time. Everyone is communicating more via Zoom – even the kids!!

Peter Mirczuk



Elderly & Vulnerable?



Lockdown Leaks

How I tackled Lockdown

When Lockdown happened those of us who, through the last 70 years, had experienced the impacts of a World War, austerity, food rationing, several economic recessions, the 'Three Day Week', the collapse of the stock market, and more recently The Brexit Debacle, now had to tolerate the indignity of being officially categorised as 'Elderly and Vulnerable'.

On the morning that my E&V notification arrived, my self-worth devalued and, florid with anger, I shouted at the TV, *'Come over here and tell me I'm elderly and vulnerable to my face!'*

The dog ran to hide under the settee.

I felt well prepared for 'social isolation' as, since being widowed, I have become very familiar with my own company. I am also an avid list writer, so I started a 'coping' list: -

THINGS TO DO

- 1) Keep a routine, exercise with Mr Motivator each morning; tidy drawers and wardrobe.
- 2) Write a daily Limerick and send it to long-standing ex-college friends (all now 'E&V's')
- 3) Each Friday, send a store cupboard recipe to *Man With A Pan* members. Recycle my stash of Amazon boxes by covering with salvaged RHS flower diary pictures.
- 4) Finish and edit my novel (it has languished untended for three years.)
- 5) Read the books I received at Christmas.
- 6) Contact other 'self isolators' regularly.

THE OUTCOME

- I kept to my usual routine of household chores and gyrated with Mr Motivator.
- I wrote 50+ limericks (of widely varying quality) examples below *
- I sent the *Man With A Pan* recipes, which were well received.
- I covered the boxes and now have my scarves, earrings and costume jewellery stored in them.
- Regular contact with other self-isolators was encouraging and helped normalise the situation.
- My novel still awaits finishing, the books are unread, and some drawers were tidied but not the wardrobe.
- I still have plenty to do should there ever be another Lockdown!

***ANTONIA AND THE BEGONIA**

The Honourable Lady Antonia
Had read, if one sang to Begonias,
They would flourish and grow
To standards of show
Only found in West Patagonia.

Each morning the Lady Antonia
Serenaded her Crimson Begonia,
Then, to her surprise,
One day it replied,
'I prefer Mozart's E flat Symphonia'

Jennifer Siswick

Task force team tackle churchyard during lockdown

Our Churchyard is usually kept in good order by Cliff, our caretaker but, with everything closing down at the end of March, Cliff was put on furlough and the area was left to its own devices, apart from the grass which was cut each week.



Passing through there was one of my routes for exercise and it concerned me to see all his efforts going to waste. I mentioned this at Morning Prayer and an unlikely task force was formed! Grandson Sam was co-opted to take care of any heavy lifting.

Two Tuesday mornings in July, as lockdown was easing, we met. We weeded, pruned and swept our own little patch. Finishing with a socially distanced take-away coffee, sat on the car park wall.

It felt good to work together after, for some of us, weeks seeing not many people. We were also able to greet the people who regularly pass through the Churchyard and were appreciative of our efforts.

Sadly, weeds don't stop growing, particularly with the warm, wet weather that we have had through August, so we look forward to Cliff resuming his duties some time soon!

Not pictured are Anne Goodyear and Sylvia Bolton who planted the pots at either side of the entrance and the flower bed by the noticeboard.

Shirley Fawcett

Lockdown, Moving On & New Beginnings

We continue to live in the strangest and most unprecedented times. As I write this I am sure most of us are trying to get used to a 'new normal'. 'Social distancing' is a phrase used daily, along with the need for wearing face coverings and staying alert.

The start of lockdown was a time of fear and uncertainty for everyone. As a family, it impacted us in many ways. I was just about to start a new job, Richard – a key worker – was suddenly working from our front room, Sam was furloughed and Lucy doing school work online at the kitchen table – Wi-Fi was in hot demand!



I was unable to start my new job as planned straight away, so my time was spent gardening and enjoying time with all our pets. Early on in lockdown, I wrote a list of my 'lockdown frustrations' and then 'lockdown blessings' – I am pleased to say the blessings far outweighed the frustrations.

Lockdown meant no time pressures (I stopped wearing my watch), peace, quiet, time for reflection and to really listen to God, time to enjoy hearing the birds sing, time to bake, grow flowers from seed, family meals and catch up on long overdue jobs around the home. Of course, I missed family I couldn't be with, and time with friends. My Dad passing away in June was particularly difficult, and organising his funeral in the middle of a pandemic somewhat challenging.

Moving on from St James' was a tricky decision but an opportunity arose, meaning I could be back as a part of the community where we live. Quite a career change from youth worker to veterinary receptionist. Those of you who know me well will know how much I love all creatures great and small. When my local vets (where I have been a client for many years) approached me to say there was a position available, I couldn't miss the opportunity. However, when all the plans were put in place none of us expected the whole country to 'pause' for so long.

I am now some six weeks into my new role and pleased to say it is everything I expected – and more! I have been made to feel very welcome by the team and clients. Of course, working in a vets brings its challenges. You can be welcoming a client with a new puppy one minute and comforting a family whose cat is being put to sleep the next. Offering

words of comfort and silently praying. God is forever near no matter what the situation. Laughter and tears can be a daily occurrence!

We are yet to return to one of our home churches in Garforth and who knows what God has in store next? We have received many answers to prayer during the last six months and have felt blessed in so many ways.

We are very much looking forward to seeing everyone at St James' in the near future – all be it from a 'social distance' – we miss you all.

Every blessing, **Sarah Sharp & Family**

Former Youth & Community Outreach Worker, St James

And at last...

A chance to say thank you to Sarah and wish her well at our Sunday 09.30 and 11.00 Services on 11 October

It was just as lock down occurred that we were about to say goodbye to Sarah Sharp, our Young People's and Community Outreach Worker.

Sadly, lockdown meant that we missed the opportunity to say goodbye and a proper thank you to Sarah. I am delighted that we can now rectify this. Sarah will be attending St James for Harvest on Sunday 11 October at our 09.30 and 11.00 services.

Sarah has been a wonderful colleague, and has worked creatively, meticulously and with great dedication with our children and young people as well as in our local schools.

It will be great to be able to thank Sarah for all her work and the joy she has shared with us and hear how she is getting on in her new role at her local vets.

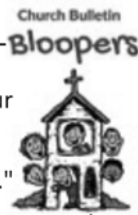
Brendan

"A cookbook is being compiled by the ladies of the church. Please submit your favourite recipe, also a short antidote for it."

"The class on prophecy has been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances."

"Illiterate? Write to the church office for help."

"The missionary from Africa speaking at Calvary Memorial Church in Racine: Name: Bertha Belch. Announcement: 'Come tonight and hear Bertha Belch all the Way from Africa.'"



‘Man With A Pan’...

Boldly Goes!

Because of CV19, we had to suspend our second MWAP group after just 2 sessions, which was very disappointing for everyone.

Of course, *lockdown* has given opportunity for all our members to hone their *Man With A Pan ‘Store Cupboard Skills’*. Judging from the feedback (pardon the pun) many have enjoyed the experience. The recipes are designed for convenience and economy of shopping and budget. Darryl Foxwell (*pictured*) is shown about to enjoy the products of his labours. We hope to re-continue our sessions in the Spring and our sponsors Leeds City Council, Wetherby Town Council, Sainsbury’s, The Co-op and The National Lottery have all been very understanding.



Well done to all our members and we look forward to getting back together when it is safe to do so.

Jennifer Siswick

St James Church Fantasy League

Calling all footie fans to have a go!

Due to the covid-19 crisis in March, this year’s fantasy league was extended to late July. The winner was Godfrey Chatters, and runner up Alan Grimes. We have a total of £120 to donate to the PCC Mission Fund.



It’s free to enter - for every team entered, I donate £10 to Church projects at the end of the season. Unfortunately it’s now too late for those not already enrolled.

However, if you want to take part next year, get involved, test your football knowledge and intuition, please let me know via email now.

I will contact you next July and enroll your selected team onto the Private League section of the online Premier League website, under the heading “St James Church”. It’s fun and it raises funds.

Peter Mirczuk - Email me at mirczuk@live.co.uk

Angels for Thy Kingdom Come.

Brendan and the team decided this year, 2020, we would make our theme 'Angels'. I showed him my 3 woollen angels. He liked them so I printed out patterns for all three and made an announcement in church calling for knitters, crocheters and wool.

This all took place at the end of January and the beginning of February. Early in the year I know but, as I pointed out, Angels don't just 'appear'... well woollen ones anyway... and we needed as many as possible for THY KINGDOM COME – in May.

Shortly thereafter (March) we were taken into lockdown and the world seemed to be put on hold. I decided I would carry on making the Angels, as obviously we would be back to normal by May.



As we now all know, May came and went. I had managed to make about 50/60 of each angel by then and I confess that being able to work on them gave me comfort and a sense of normality. I then got the number 300 in my mind and decided to set myself a goal. I would continue until I had 100 of each pattern.

People asked me why I was still making them. I told them, "We are the

Church; we love God and everything pertaining to God, which definitely includes Angels", and we can use these little symbols all year round. To celebrate the end of the virus and lockdown, to celebrate being back in church as one family again, to celebrate Christmas where there was a host of Angels. Which comes first?

The Angels are now finished and, as I planned, 300 in total are now in storage ready to be used for whichever occasion happens first. They are ready and hoping to find new homes where they can bring a little bit of joy and happiness into someone's life.

Rosslyn Richardson



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	Robert Greene.....01937 360276
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	The Very Rev'd Derek Taylor, 1 Ashburn Way, Wetherby LS22 6WD.....520922
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	Sue Taylor.....522553
	Alex Tetlow.....520189
Verger	Vacant.....
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Beaver Scout Treasurer	Peter Cox, peter_janet_cox@hotmail.com.....584453
Bell tower captain/Ringing master	c/o Parish Office or ring583074
Bereavement Support Group Coordinator	Val Lumsden584760
Bible Reading Notes	Denise Hall, eighthwetherbybrownies@yahoo.com.....07512 933938
Brownie Pack Brown Owl (Wednesday)	Tee Jones, teejones6thwetherby@gmail.com07912 699940
Brownie Pack Tawny Owl (Thursday)	Parish Office583074
Church Centre	Cliff Tetlow07555 304186
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DBS Officer	The Very Revd. Derek Taylor, c/o Parish Office918534
CMS Overseas Link	David Nield.....dnield@gmail.com
Cub Scout Treasurer	Dr Michael Payne, M.J.Payne@yahoo.co.uk.....0113 2876137
Director of Music	Robert Greene.....01937 360276
Electoral Roll Officer	Shirley Fawcett.....584816
Flower Group, contact	Pam BrittonBrittonpamela02@gmail.com
Friends of Wetherby Parish Church Music	Sue Everard, 2 Oakwood Road583600
Guide Guider (Thursday)	Greta Coles-Johnson c/o Parish Office583074
Magazine: Advertising	c/o Parish Office, parishmagazine@gmail.com583074
Editorial Team	David and Carole Startup584553
Distribution List & Treasurer	Mary Gray, c/o Parish Office520578
Mothers' Union Branch Secretary	Sue Davis01132 171428
Music Group for Family Services	Jean Heatonjean.heaton@virgin.net
Notices for Services (Slideshow)	Contact Parish Office583074
Pastoral Care	Helen Trapps, rainbows.wetherby@hotmail.com918132
Rainbow Guider	Sheila Guest, c/o Parish Office585994
Refreshment Organiser	Michael Hare.....c/o Parish Office.....583074
Sacristan	Marilyn Smith.....07803 467371
Safeguarding Officer	Karen Oakes, karen.oakes2@btopenworld.com0113 2737476
Scout Leader (Monday)	Carol Aldred, 2 Aire Road583330
Servers	Josh Taylor.....stjameswetherbymedia@gmail.com
Social Media	Hallfield Lane (Mr Roundtree - Executive Head Teacher)583379
St James C of E School	c/o Parish Office583074
Stewardship Officer	Jill Rose, c/o Parish Office586640
Gift Aid Administrator	c/o Parish Office583074
Sunday Club Coordinator	Suzannah Giblin.....520951
Wednesday Toddlers	Suzannah Giblin.....520951
Worship Group	

GETTING BACK TO NORMAL (?)



I was born towards the end of World War 2 so I don't remember VE day 1945 but I remember very clearly how in my early school years 8 May was marked as special. One of my friends had been born on that day and was christened Tony Victor Bell, I have always wondered if he lived up to his resounding name.

As many still recall, the aftermath of war was a time of *'getting back to normal'* amidst great national austerity. It was, however, as I look back, very far from normal. Rationing of food and fuel continued into the 1950's. I vividly remember going to Drabble's, our local grocer, to collect the butter ration and margarine every Saturday morning. On my return home I was detailed to sit on a small brass stool in front of the fire and, with a fork, mix the butter and 'marg' together. Every week I asked Mum *'Why am I doing this?'* It was always the same reply, *'Because it'll go further'*. This always mystified me and I mumbled to myself *'It can't do. There's only the same in there as when I started'*, but of course, in those days *'answering back'* was totally unacceptable, so I just kept on mixing.

As there was a national paper shortage my teacher, Miss Kaye, hoarded and ironed paper bags for her pupils to paint on. I first learned to write using chalk on a lino covered board. We were taught the essential skills of knitting and sewing using measured lengths of yarn and, woe betide anyone who made a mistake and had to ask for more! Sweets and chocolate were *'on the ration'* so playtime snacks were porridge oats and a sprinkle of sugar in a cone of baking paper or the more luxurious cocoa powder and sugar, the latter eaten by dipping a finger in and sucking.

We queued for everything; orange juice rations, meat, cakes, fruit, petrol, the bus, the pictures. In fact queuing was totally integrated into daily life. The advice seemed to be, *'If you see a queue join it!'*

The ravages of war were all around, bomb sites, painted over windows, concrete defence hides and misplaced road signs. The Home Guard had turned the signs around to confuse an invading enemy, but unfortunately rarely returned them to their correct position, which for a long time certainly confused everyone.

There were of course the recovering human casualties. There were men of *'The Forgotten Army'* in the Far East who returned physically broken and suffering persistent malaria attacks, shell shocked sailors, bereft mothers, traumatised soldiers.

The village did *'get back to normal'* but it took a long time.

Jennifer Siswick

St James' Church Quiz -

Great Paintings



The Deadline is 30 November 2020. There is a cash prize for the winner.

Completed sheets can be returned to

Sue Taylor, 5 Templar Gardens, Wetherby. LS22 7TG. Enclosing £1 entry fee.

All proceeds go towards Church funds.

Which artists painted the following great paintings?

- 1 The Hay Wain (1821)
- 2 Birth of Venus (1482-6)
- 3 The Fighting Temeraire (1839)
- 4 Starry Night (1889)
- 5 Blue Boy (1770)
- 6 Belshazzar's Feast (1635)
- 7 The Scream (1893)
- 8 The Laughing Cavalier (1625)
- 9 Bal Du Moulin de la Gazette (1876)
- 10 The Mona Lisa (1503)
- 11 Hunters in the Snow (1565)
- 12 Marriage de la Mode (1743)
- 13 The Astronomer (1668)
- 14 Metamorphose de Narcisse (1937)
- 15 The Treachery of Images (1928)
- 16 View of Toledo (1600)
- 17 The Bathers (1905)
- 18 The Garden of Delights (1504)
- 19 Three Musicians (1921)
- 20 Sleeping Gypsy (1897)
- 21 Conversion on the way to Damascus (1601)
- 22 The Rakes Progress (1735)
- 23 The Monarch of the Glen (1851)
- 24 The Last Supper (1495-98)
- 25 The Girl with the Pearl Earring (1665)
- 26 I and the Village (1911)
- 27 The Kiss (1908)
- 28 Boat Building near Flatford Mill (1815)
- 29 Moulin Rouge (1892)
- 30 La Grande Jatte (1886)

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