



# St. Mary's Dalton Holme Newsletter

Volume 4 Issue 2

December 2017



## Church Wardens

The Lord Hotham 01430-810771  
Mr. Giles W. Peacock 01430-810254  
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## Head Sidesman

Mr. Geoff Creaser 01430-810662

## Services for December

3rd	Advent Sunday	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
10th	Second Sunday of Advent	9.30am	Holy Communion
17th	Third Sunday of Advent	3.00 pm	Christmas Carol Service
24th	Christmas Eve	9.00 pm	First Communion of Christmas
31st	Christmas I	9.30 am	Holy Communion (Said)

## Thoughts from Rev. John McNaughton

Let me ask you a question. Which event in all human history has had the best impact on humanity? Naturally, I would love to know your answer! Perhaps if you come along to church we could discuss it! I cannot help thinking that Christmas will be top of your list.

Sadly, we are moving into a new dark age, when we prefer to speak of the Mid-Winter Festival. It is still a time of festivity when many try to overcome the gloom and darkness of the short mid-winter days. You can't do that in Australia, or New Zealand or South Africa. There's really quite a long list.

Before we turned our back on Christ, Christmas was not a time for overcoming gloom, it was a time of happiness and rejoicing, when we counted our blessings, looked with wonder at all the beauty to be found on our magnificent little planet, rejoiced in the goodness in the hearts and minds of those around us, were astounded at the miracle of our own existence, amazed at all our capabilities, grateful to our creator who gave us all this and more, and so profoundly thankful that Christmas reminded us year by year that he came among us to share our little lives and keep us on the right track for time and eternity.

Christmas was always a time for remembering those loved ones to whom we owe so much, that divine love is a bridge with eternity which constantly holds us close to them. Christmas reminded us that we could walk with God who came to earth in Christ and with complete confidence trust him to lead us into brilliant new life in eternity.

All this and so very much more came into human life and awareness with the birth of a very humble babe. Every babe is unique, awakens love somewhere. The Christmas babe had a remarkable gift for awakening love everywhere. It is still needed.

May I wish you a really Happy Christmas.

John McNaughton 01377-270869

## January Issue

The closing date will be **Thursday 14th December**. Articles should be sent to me in **word format only** at [rac.pfl@btinternet.com](mailto:rac.pfl@btinternet.com)

Robert Coates 01430-810504

## South Dalton Ladies Club

On Thursday, 2nd November, Paul Schofield spoke at length on the history of old Hull. Paul will celebrate 30 years of guiding tours of Hull in 2018 and is a mine of information about the city. He is especially proud of working this year when Hull has the honour of being the City of Culture. He described the origins of Hull, its importance as a port and showed many photos of fine buildings situated in the old town. Paul made us laugh when he spoke about some of the well-known houses and museums, all of which appear to be in close proximity to different, very old public houses! Apparently that helps sustain you when walking around!

His message is 'Visit Hull, wander around and look up at the ornate decorations and building styles from a few hundred years ago'. A splendid evening, full of interesting facts interspersed with humour, guaranteed to encourage a trip or two to a fascinating area on our door-step!

Next month on **Tuesday December 5th and NOT the usual first Thursday of the month** as the village play-group is holding a Xmas fair on that evening, we are meeting to plan the village Xmas meal on December 14th. Please come and offer your services as potato peelers, carrot scrapers and sprout toppers or whatever!

Jan Nettleton

## Church Repairs. Update.

Several parishioners have asked why the ladders are still attached to the spire and what the potential cost of repairs may be. So, if you are sitting comfortably I will begin....

In 2016 the church had to undertake an inspection which is required to be conducted by an architect approved by the Diocese of York every five years, a quinquennial inspection (Q.I.) This revealed certain defects and concerns that would need further detailed and specialised inspection for which a faculty (diocesan permission) would be required. In July and August of this year a thorough inspection of the whole building was undertaken including the tower, the spire, the stained glass windows, stonework etc. with some cost estimates attached. This survey concluded that some elements of the Victorian steelwork of the spire, which could not be seen from a visual inspection, would need to be investigated by means of an x-ray examination. Hence the need for another faculty! The application procedure is bureaucratic and time consuming. The application (many pages long) was submitted in October and will be considered by the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) to be held on 27th November. If the DAC approves the application it will be submitted to the Diocesan Chancellor for ratification, following which the Parochial Church Council (PCC) will be informed in December. The PCC is then required by law to display the faculty for a period of 28 days inside and outside the church. If no objections are raised the faculty will be granted probably by the end of January 2018.

Work could possibly commence on the x-ray survey by February or March.

The cost estimates contained in the original survey indicated that between £300,000 to £500,000 will be required with a potential further £200,000 to £400,000 for the spire, depending upon the x-ray findings. So in short somewhere between £500,00 to £1,000,000 will be needed. I will be busy making several applications for grant funding during the coming months.

John Langham has kindly supplied many photographs taken during the survey showing the steeple jacks at very close quarters. I will be including some of these in the next issue.

RAC



## Church Lights – Christmas 2017

Following the success of the floodlighting appeals for the past eight years, The Village Hall Committee are once again appealing for the sponsorship and contributions towards the cost of floodlighting the church.

To help towards the cost of the electricity we are seeking people to sponsor a night each from 3rd December 2017 until 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018. Dates will be allocated on a 'First come first served' basis with a minimum donation of £5 per night, there is **no maximum amount!** You may want to choose a date that has some significance for you such as a memorial, birthday or a special anniversary. If your preferred date has been taken we will allocate the nearest date. If all dates have been taken then all monies will be put towards the cost of the electricity.

**The official lighting will take place on Sunday 3rd December 2017 at 6.00pm.**

Giles Peacock 01430- 810254

Cash or Cheques (Payable to: Dalton Holme Village Hall)

## Carol Service

The Annual Carol Service will be held on **Sunday 17th December at 3.00 pm**



## Symbols of a nation

There are few more dignified and moving events in the national calendar than the Annual Service of Remembrance at the Cenotaph.

On a chill November day in Whitehall, this year's formalities were notable for the Queen's decision not to play a direct part. She watched, with the Duke of Edinburgh, from a balcony as the Prince of Wales laid the sovereign's wreath on behalf of the nation.

The ceremonial has developed over the decades since the Lutyens-designed Cenotaph was inaugurated as the nation's central monument for remembering its war dead in 1920. The massed bands of the Armed Forces play Elgar, Purcell and Handel; the two-minute silence is followed by Last Post; the choirboys of the Chapel Royal, resplendent in their red and white livery, sing the hymns; members of the Royal family, politicians and senior officers in the Services lay wreaths; and thousands of veterans march past the Cenotaph to tunes including It's a Long Way to Tipperary.

It is a fitting ritual that honours those who have sacrificed their lives for their country. But it is also redolent with the symbolism of nationhood. The Crown, Parliament, the Armed Forces, the Church, the Commonwealth – all are institutions that define the United Kingdom.

The Cenotaph service is first and foremost staged to honour the fallen; but it also acts as an annual renewal of the symbols of the nation for which they died and whose continuation is evidence that their sacrifice was not in vain.

### **In Flanders Fields**

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

In 2018 we will mark the centenary of the signing of the Armistice on 11th November in 1918 with a special service of remembrance.

During the service this year a collection amounting to £140.00 was taken for The Royal British Legion.

