



# St. Mary's Dalton Holme Newsletter

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## Church Wardens

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## Services for June

3rd	First after Trinity	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
10th	Second after Trinity	9.30 am	Holy Communion
17th	Third after Trinity	9.30 am	Morning Prayer
24th	Fourth after Trinity	9.30 am	Holy Communion

## Thoughts from Rev. John McNaughton

Dear Friends,

Have you noticed in the Press in recent months, a number of references to the value of meditation? I have not seen any long articles, but just the occasional column in some of the medical notes describing benefits to mind and body which meditation can bring. I was pleased to see those notes. Throughout almost my entire life, daily prayer has been a priority wherever I have been. Naturally that requires a few moments of meditation to get in touch with God. Thankfully that eternal, all knowing mind has been revealed in the down to earth self sacrificial life of Christ who sends the Holy Spirit to try and clarify our little minds.

Let me stress at once; that time in prayer has been mainly for others, not myself. My tiny little prayer is just a small channel through which the love of God may move. From time to time I have been delighted to discover how effective it has been.

I always try to say "Thank you". As I begin to do that, I soon recognise what a lot there is to be grateful for. Just like old G.K. Chesterton who started to try and show gratitude for one day of his life. He was so overwhelmed, he found himself saying: "My God, just one day! Why am I allowed two!" He became a devout Christian.

There is certainly no doubt that prayer lifts us above ourselves, helps us to get on to the right track in life, reminds us we are not alone, helps us in saying sorry when we stray, helps us to get cleaned up and get cracking back on the right track. Furthermore it helps us to know where that track leads to, and keeps us close to loved ones who have got there ahead of us. Prayer really is a power!

Let me know if I can help.

John McNaughton

## July Issue

The closing date will be **Thursday 15th June**. 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

### Thursday 3rd May 2018

Glynis talked about her recent trip with Andy to Canada. They had journeyed to Vancouver for her sister's surprise 80th birthday party. Glynis made sure she took lots of photographs and we were treated to the most glorious scenic views of mountains and lakes. We saw totem poles created by people of the First Nation and intricate murals depicting different areas of life and work in the area. Glynis was full of praise for the people and way of life she observed and clearly would like to return there.

### June 7th at 7.30pm.

Mike Loughlin will entertain us with a brief re-cap of his life and work experiences.

Jan Nettleton

### Clay Shoot Fund Raising Event.

The 38th Annual Clay Pigeon Shoot will be held on Saturday 16th June at Beverley Clay Target Centre starting at 2 pm.

Last year £2,500 was raised and divided equally between the two churches forming the United Benefice of Etton and South Dalton.

### Prize Winning Caption Competition. No. 2.

The winner is Sharon Simpson as follows: pic 1 "Eat your heart out Dick Van Dyke!" and for pic 2 "Kim Jon Un, finding out No nuke weapons"

### Caption Competition No.3.

As previously, submit a caption in no more than six words by 15th June, one for each picture.



## HEDGES

My aspens dear, whose airy cages quelled,  
Quelled or quenched in leaves the leaping sun,  
All felled, felled, are all felled;  
Of a fresh and following folded rank  
Not spared, not one.

So said the English poet Gerard Manley Hopkins in 1879 when they felled the Binsey poplar trees along the side of Port Meadow outside Oxford. Still there beside the site of the poplars are the hedges and line of trees that marked the ancient boundary between Oxfordshire and Berkshire (the boundary is not there any more since they reorganised such things in 1974). Hedges are celebrated, quite rightly, for their own sake as an environmental resource- though we have lost half of them since 1950 -but it is their role as boundary markers that make them especially important to the English psyche.

Boundaries are important to private people like the English, which is why English suburbs -a kind of reflection of at least one English state of mind - emphasise them as much as they do. In fact, boundaries are so important that, in ancient days, the children of the town were beaten at key points on the borders so that they remembered them - a ceremony known as beating the bounds, and which combined two of the less attractive English vices: an obsession with borders and a predilection for corporal punishment.

Hedges are there as the remains of woods, or to provide a tall covering for the Saxon roads which, as G.K.Chesterton put it, were built by the “rolling English drunkard”. They are still there to provide a crop of fruit for the villagers around the common land and the field strips, or (at least in Kent) to protect the hops from wind. These days they also provide a home for the birds and insects that are needed to seed the crops and support the basic underpinning that the natural world provides for all our lives. Of course they also mark out the patterns of patchwork fields that tended to follow the enclosures of common land.

If you hurtled back to earth from space, the main clue you might find that you had landed in England are the hedgerows. They give an absolute distinctive pattern to the countryside. If we never win a Test match again, wrote the poet Edmund Blunden in 1935 “we shall still have the world's finest hedges”. Quite so. The English are a nostalgic lot. Their very psyche is spaced out in hedgerows which divide their relationships and their lives. They feel emotional about hedges just as they feel devastated sometimes when their trees start disappearing in one of the increasingly common arborial epidemics. They wept over the elms in the 1970s just as Hopkins wept over his aspens. They will weep again over the oak. Yet it is part of the English character, for some reason., to do almost nothing about it.

Hedgrows plants:

Holly, Alder, Willow, Elm, Hazel, Maple, Buckthorn, Crab, Elder, Dogwood, Guelder rose, Privet, Wayfaring tree, Bramble, Tamarisk, Fuchsia, Dog rose, Burnet rose, Sweet rose, Sallow, Sloe, Blackthorn.



**Wedding Celebration: 28th April**  
***Helena Barnett and Charles Dawson.***

Old friends



Wedding Belles



