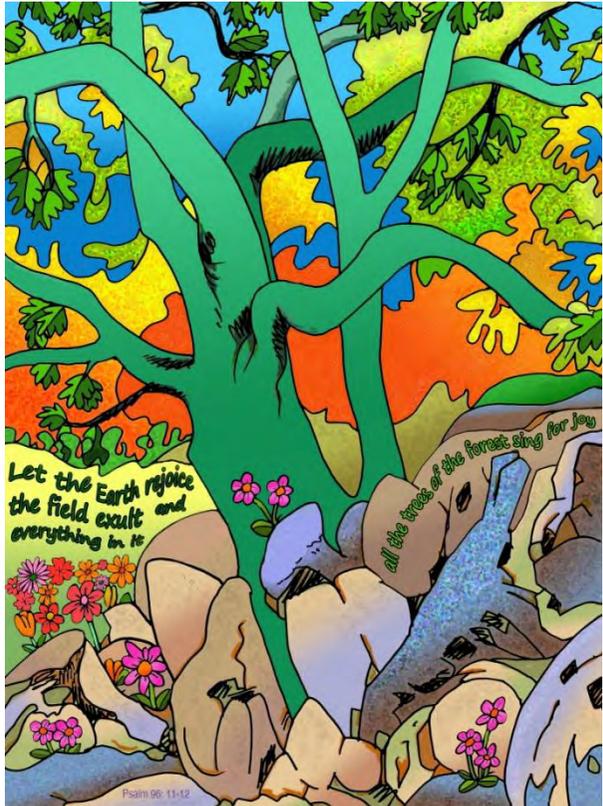




Ryburn
BENEFICE

July/August
Magazine
2019

Connected



The Ryburn Benefice Churches:

St Luke's Norland, St Mary's Cottonstones, St Peter's Sowerby

Church Contacts

| | <u>Name</u> | <u>Telephone</u> | <u>Email</u> |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <u>Vicar</u> | Rev'd Jeanette Roberts | 01422 646 371 | jeanette.roberts@leeds.anglican.org |
| Retired Priest & Magazine Editor | Rev'd Lesley Ennis | | lesleyennis@hotmail.co.uk |
| Associate Priest | Rev'd Ian Sparks | 01422 884421 | priest@luddendenchurch.org.uk |

St Mary's, Cottonstones

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| Churchwardens | Jim Skelsey | 01422822936 | skelseyfamily@aol.com |
| | Miriam Asquith | 01422 822534 | miriam.asquith@hotmail.com |
| Verger | Contact Jim Skelsey | | |
| Organist | Bill Ellis | | |

St Mary's Community Centre

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Bookings | Jim Skelsey | 01422822936 | skelseyfamily@aol.com |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|

St Luke's, Norland

| | | | |
|---------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Churchwardens | Jen Hallos | 01422 832700 | Jenhallos2@gmail.com |
| | Lynne Wheale | 01422 823683 | lynnewheale@hotmail.co.uk |
| Verger | Eleanor Mitchell | 01422832560 | |
| Organist | John Naylor | 07977846285 | john.r.naylor@live.com |

St Peter 's Sowerby

| | | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Churchwardens | Ken Cuttle | 01422 836487 | kencuttle@aol.com |
| | Fiona Butterworth | 07796 500 897 | fionabutterworth24@gmail.com |
| Verger | Contact Ken Cuttle | | |
| Organist | Richard Barnes | 01422 346215 | |

St Peter's Community Centre, Sowerby HX6 1HB

| | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Centre Manager | Fiona Butterworth | 01422 836448 | dfbutterworth@hotmail.com |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------------|

From the Pulpit ...

Some porters were hired to carry a group's possessions on a trip through the jungle. The pace quickly increased until the head porter called a halt: 'We've come so far, so fast we need to take a break and allow our souls to catch up with our bodies!'

How often do we feel like this? July is a month when many of us take a break. Jesus and his disciples often took time to withdraw from the crowds: 'because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.' (Mark 6: 31,32).

Jesus saw how tired and stressed his disciples were and wanted to give them a break from their busy lives. He loved them and cared about their wellbeing. He longs to do the same with us, so we can restore the balance of work, rest and play in our lives. Going on holiday or taking time off gives us an opportunity of letting go the burdens of everyday life and renewing our rest in him. This enables us to entrust Jesus with our issues and concerns, as we take time aside declare a holy day or holiday!

The story is told of the aged Apostle John playing with doves. A passing hunter expressed surprise at what a man as pious as John was doing. John pointed to the bow in the hunter's hand and asked him why he carried it with a loosened string. The hunter replied, 'it loses its strength unless it is given the chance to unbend'. John replied, 'why are you surprised that a servant of Christ should not relax to keep himself stronger for his work?'

Whether you are going on a vacation or a 'staycation' may this be a good time for everyone to relax and enjoy life a bit more.

The Regular Church Calendar

Sunday

- 10.00am Holy Communion St Peter's
In It Together Worship 2nd Sunday in the month
- 11.30am Holy Communion St Mary's (1st and 3rd Sundays of the month only)
- 3.30pm Holy Communion St Luke's
In It Together Worship 4th Sunday in the month

Monday

- 9.15am Morning Prayer St Luke's

Tuesday

- 9.00am Mother and toddlers group (term time) at St Luke's.
- 12 noon Lunch Club St Luke's, 1st Tuesday in the month

Wednesday

- 9.15am Morning Prayer St Mary's

Thursday

- 9am Mother and toddlers group (term time) at St Luke's.
- 9.15am Morning Prayer St Peter's
- 10.15am Holy Communion White Windows, 2nd Thursday in the month
- 12 noon Lunch Club St Peter's Centre 1st & 3rd Thursday in the month

Saturday

- 9.30am Prayer Breakfast St Peter's, 1st Saturday in the month
- 11am- 1pm Messy Church, 4th Saturday in the month

Don't forget to look us up on the web:

www.ryburnbenefice.org



SaintPeter's Church Sowerby

For details of Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, Home Communion, Holy Unction, and Confession, please contact the Vicar:

*Revd Jeanette Roberts tel 01422 646 371
jeanette.roberts@leeds.anglican.org*

Weekly groups at St. Peter's Community Centre which is just across the road from St. Peter's Church. Formerly the village school, therefore entrance via the old school yard.....

Community Café

Monday – 9.15am-noon. Term time.

Join us for inexpensive bacon butties, omelettes, home made cakes. Children's play table. Free housing benefit advice available.

Facebook: The Cafe St Peter's Community Centre Sowerby.



24Fit Halifax

Boot Camp with nutrition advice

Monday - 6.30-8pm, Wednesday - 6.30-8pm, Friday 6.30-8pm. Weekly.

Tai Chi

Monday – 1pm-2pm, beginners' class 2.15pm-3.15pm. Weekly.

Ryburn Art Club

Tuesday - 10am-12.30pm. Term time.

Brownies and Guides

Tuesday - 6.30pm-9pm - for girls aged between 7 and 14 years. Term time.

Lunch Club

Thursday – Noon-1.30pm - first and third Thursday of each month.

Slimming World

Thursday evenings from 7.30pm. Tracey is your Slimming World representative.

Stay and Play

Friday – 9am-10.30am - a free (although donations appreciated), messy play group for parents and toddlers. Sensible parenting advice given if asked for

Community Café

Saturday – 9.15am-1pm. We will be open on the first and third Saturday of each month. Or for special events.

Join us for inexpensive bacon butties, soup, home made cakes.

Children's play table. Free housing benefit advice available.

Facebook: The Cafe St Peter's Community Centre Sowerby.

Gymnastics

Sunday - 2pm-4pm. With Scott. 2 x hourly classes.



Summer School Holidays - GEN.Z

Each weekday - 22nd July - 30th August - working around our groups who will be open during the holidays, a youth Summer camp for those between 7 and 16 years old. From 8.30am to 6pm. Breakfast and lunch included. Free apart from a £10 deposit.



Please note that some of the above groups take a break over the Summer.



Are you aged from 7-16 Years Old?
Are you fed up of having nothing to do?
Do you want fun?

Tuck Shop

Sports / Games

Competitions

Exploring

Adventures

Music

Dancing

Days Out

Creative Arts

Camping

Organised Trips

Cooking

Learn New Skills

Please Contact Us to register your place: 07858069165

**Get involved,
Have your say**

Let us know what activities you would like in the future

GUARENTEED JAM PACKED FUN THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

Activities focused on Healthy Minds

Develop Life Skills

Agility

Teamwork

Strength

Confidence

Coordination

Build Friendships



Integrated4solutions
[.com](http://www.integrated4solutions.com)

The Beatitudes: 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness'

The Revd. Paul Hardington continues his reflections on The Beattitudes:

You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in You.' (Augustine).

We all have deep longings in our lives that we seek to satisfy, however Jesus points out that we can only be truly satisfied by God Himself: *'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.'* (Matthew 5:6). The words *hunger* and *thirst* are strong words referring to a truly desperate for righteousness. But what does this mean?

Longing for right relationship with God: It means putting God at the centre of all we are and do and trusting Him with the whole of our lives. It's a response to Jesus' death on the cross, rather than anything we can do for God: *'This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.'* (Romans 3:22).

Longing for right living for God: A righteous or holy life is one that is righteous 24 hours a day. It's an integrated Christian life lived out of our ongoing relationship with God, affecting everything we do, say or think.

Longing for right relationship with others: God's righteousness will influence how we relate to others in the community, so that all our relationships are loving and just e.g. at work, with family, friends or neighbours.

When we are really desperate Jesus says that God will *fill* us and our desire for righteousness will be satisfied. The problem is that often we are not desperate enough! We don't want to let go the deep desires that get in the way of God. *'It would seem that Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are far too easily pleased.'* (C S Lewis).

News From Sowerby ...



The 4th Saturday of every month,

St Peter's Community Centre, Sowerby

Next on Saturday 27th July

11am – 1pm

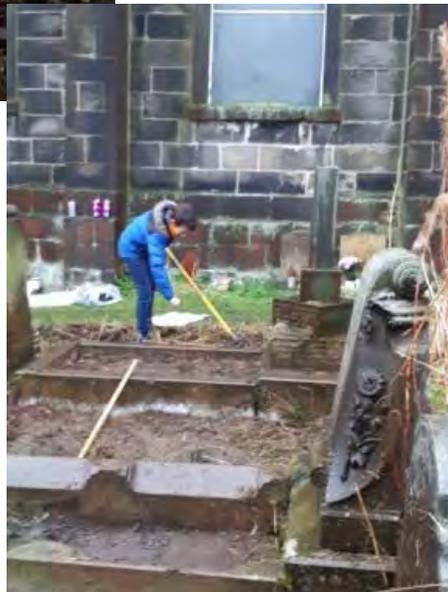
Inclusive fun and worship for all people of every generation...not just for children!

Come along to spend time together; get creative; offer worship & share a meal together

Community Spirit Group

Next Graveyard Clean Up Day :-

Saturday 20th July, 10am



Sowerby Scorcher May 2019

Bev Patel writes:

Just some feedback to finish off this year's race:

Firstly, for those who haven't heard, we made **£1622 profit**, an amazing total so again, thanks for all your great work everyone.

We had a lot of comments and feedback on the Facebook page I really wanted to share with you all:

- What an absolutely fantastic event, very well organised and run – the cake and the medals! Gorgeous J
- Absolutely loved it and will definitely do it again
- Fantastic event, really well organised and friends...well done to all involved
- Enjoyed it, thank you
- Great race – thank you very much! Really well organised
- Thank you very much. Loved the cake J
- Tea & cake, what's not to like?
- A really good run, thanks!
- Cake was lovely too
- Thank you, great race
- Thank you, great run. Hopefully see you next year J
- Thank you. Great run, and cake!
- First time I've done it and it was great. It was certainly a nice change to have a coffee and a piece of cake at the end
- Great event, Thanks
- Amazing views and community support – thank you!
- It was great thank you, and the most beautiful medal I've seen yet!
- Yes..great race, very well organised with special thanks to the marshalls...now run the last four
- Great race and well organised, thanks to all involved
- Great run, well organised
- Brilliant event, Thanks to all the marshals and wonderful ladies with tea at the end

- Brilliant event! I've reviewed on RaceCheck. I'll be back next year to tackle them hills again
- Well done for organising a great event once again

So...are we all ready to do it again.....Saturday 16 May 2020!!!



A particular thanks again go to Bev and Sanjay and the team for organising this event so successfully, and for all who supported it - Editor.

#####

When children write to their minister:

“Dear Vicar...

- I know God loves everybody but then He never met my sister. Yours sincerely, Arnold. Age 8.
- Please say in your sermon that Peter Peterson has been a good boy all week. I am Peter Peterson. Sincerely, Pete. Age 9.
- My mother should be a minister. Every day she gives me a sermon about something. Robert, aged 11.
- I'm sorry I can't leave more money in the plate, but my father didn't give me a raise in my allowance. Could you have a sermon about a raise in my allowance? Love, Patty. Age 10.
- My mother is very religious. She goes to play bingo at church every week even if she has a cold. Yours truly, Annette. Age 9.
- I would like to go to heaven someday because I know my brother won't be there. Stephen. Age 8.

What's On at Norland ...

Christian Aid Week

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with the door to door collection in Norland this year and to everyone who gave so generously. We raised **£826.34 and £455.14 of it was Gift Aided which adds another £113.78 - over £900 !**

According to Christian Aid we have raised enough money to provide 3 new delivery beds in Sierra Leone.

Well done to everyone who helped



Countrywise Cat Sitting and Pet Services



Cat sitting • Letting dogs out for a toilet break
short walks • Small pets, rabbits etc.

*"Jean has looked after my cats for over
14 years and provides a fabulous, caring
and efficient service" AF Triangle*

Please ring or email Jean for more
information: 07905 330962

countrywiscatsitting@aol.com

 Countrywise Cat Sitting and Pet Services

Based Norland

Norland Parents and Toddlers

Ceramics Family Painting

July 31st
2019

Session

£2 a go!



More
than
10
designs
to
choose
from!

To book a place contact
Norland Parent and Toddlers

Visit our Facebook page to message us or

E-mail us on Norlandparenttoddlers@gmail.com

Current sessions available

10^{am} - 11:30-12:30

1pm - 2pm

*Children 12y and
under welcome*

St Luke's Church,
Berry Moor Road,
Norland,
HX6 3RN

St Mary's News

More from our Undercover Correspondent from Beddingfield

Tales from a country Church.

The two women could not have been more different.

Irene was brusque, capable and had the air of a scout leader well used to marshalling the troops. Her hair was cut in a manageable bob, the style not much changed since her days at university in the sixties. She was kind and efficient and used to being in charge

Prue fluttered like a bird, articulating breathlessly, gesticulating nervously, she was her own dawn chorus. Her hair was an intricate winding of snaking tresses pinned with combs and clasps, a gravity defying ice pack of a concoction. Many a penitent sinner had wondered in awe at its magnificence when their mind had wandered from the sermon.

For Church was where these formidable women met.

This particular Sunday Prue had taken extra care with her dress and hair for she was to deliver the first reading. Acts 5, vv 27-32.

She had seated herself at the end of the pew in order to facilitate an unhurried walk down the centre aisle where she would take a sharp turn to the right and arrive at the lectern .

All was going according to plan. Prue reached the end of the aisle when the PA system burst into life and the brisk voice of Irene delivered the opening lines of Prue's reading.

Prue stopped in her tracks and more furious than embarrassed turned and marched back to her seat.

"..... and we are witness to these things....." Irene drew to a close, rushed from the lectern and slipped into the pew beside Prue.

The congregation mouthed hymn 107 but their attention was riveted on the two women. They all lip read Irene's "sorry" and saw Prue's curt nod her eyes intent on the pew sheet in her hand.

As the last verse drew to a close, Prue rose, with no haste and much dignity, retraced her steps to the vacated lectern.

"The second reading is taken from the Book of Revelation, chapter 1, beginning at verse 4 and continuing to verse 8.

".....*I am the Alpha and the Omega*....." each consonant crisp, each vowel elongated. Prue was in no rush.

As she sailed back to her pew, those with an eye for these things would see the satisfied glint of victory in Prue's eyes.

Irene 129 words. Prue 153

The battle lines had been drawn.

#####

More from children who write to their minister:

- I think a lot more people would come to your church if you moved it to Disneyland. Loreen. Age 9.
- I liked your sermon where you said that good health is more important than money, but I still want a raise in my allowance. Sincerely, Eleanor. Age 12.
- Please pray for all the airline pilots on Sunday. I am flying to California on Monday. Laurie. Age 10.
- I hope to go to heaven someday, but later than sooner. Love, Ellen. Age 9.
- Please say a prayer for our school football team. We need God's help or a new goalkeeper. Thank you. Alexander. Age 10.
- I liked your sermon on Sunday. Especially when it was finished. Ralph. Age 11.

Hello God

Nigel Beeton writes: ‘In Acts 10:9-16 we read of how Peter went up on a roof to pray and, while doing so, was shown a vision of all kinds of food specifically banned in Leviticus. God, of course, was preparing Peter for ministry to the Gentiles, starting with Cornelius, but the lesson about God cutting through our prejudices is a very valuable one. I’m not sure if God uses sarcasm as depicted in verse three, but then He does use rather heavy irony, such as in his dealings with Job. Perhaps God needs to show me a vision of curbing my tendency to see the funny side of things!’

Peter’s Vision

Peter knelt upon a roof –
He’d gone up there to pray;
He’d gone to seek his Father’s face
In the middle of the day.
He saw a sheet of dodgy food
And heard an angel say,
“I know you’re hungry, Peter, so
Come, eat your fill today!”

But Peter gazed with horror at
This gift of food, divine;
Filled with things he mustn’t eat
Like birds, and prawns, and swine.
“I can’t eat that!” he said to God,
“Leviticus’ line:
“I may not eat this kind of stuff
“Not now, nor any time!”

This drew a sharp response from God,
“Who do you think you are?
“What food did you expect, perhaps
“A bowl of caviar?
“A champagne sorbet? Quails’ eggs?



“And then a nice cigar?
“No! Food that I’ve declared is good
“You have no right to bar!”

So help us Father, as we seek
Your guidance from above;
Our prejudices, fears, and sins –
Those may you rid us of!
But may your Holy Spirit come
Upon us, like a dove
That we may very clearly see
The visions of your love. *By Nigel Beeton*



Glory

Oh, you gotta get a glory
In the work you do;
A Hallelujah chorus
In the heart of you.

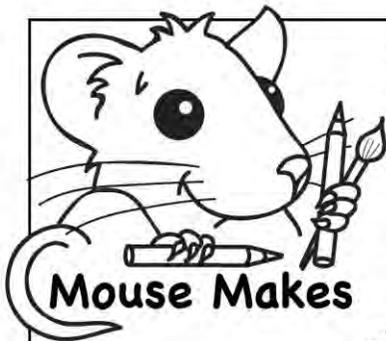
Paint, or tell a story,
Sing, or shovel coal,
But you gotta get a glory,
Or the job lacks soul.

Anonymous

.....

**A garden is a mystery
It makes me question ‘why?’
The plants I nurture with such care
Just shrivel up and die?
While seeds that I don’t know about
All vigorously thrive
And grow like fabled beanstalks
From cracks within my drive!**

By Nigel Beeton



Mouse Makes

Who did Jesus choose as His first disciples?
 _____ and

Matthew 4:18

Which disciple was a tax collector?

Matthew 10:3

Who was John's brother?

Matthew 4:21

Which disciple betrayed Jesus?

Mark 3:19

Which Apostle wrote Revelation?

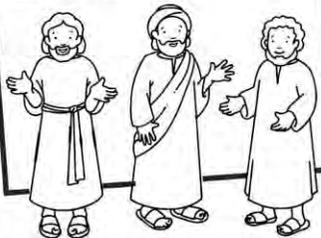
Revelation 1:1

Who became the Apostle to the Gentiles?

Acts 13:9
 Acts 9:1-18

In the time of the disciples it was usual for men to have two names. Which second name belongs to which Apostle?

| | |
|-------------|-----------|
| JUDE | BOANERGES |
| MATTHEW | SIMON |
| JOHN | DIDYMUS |
| PETER | THADDEUS |
| THOMAS | SAUL |
| PAUL | NATHANIEL |
| BARTHOLOMEW | LEVI |



DID YOU KNOW?

Some of the Apostles recorded the stories of Jesus and wrote about what it means to be a Christian.

Matthew and John wrote gospels.

Paul wrote many letters to the new Christian churches. (Look at the New Testament to see how many he wrote.)

James, Peter, John and Jude all wrote letters.

John wrote the book of Revelation.

DID YOU KNOW?

Four of the disciples were fishermen: Andrew, Peter, James and John. They would have used **two** different nets to fish: a circular one in shallow water and a large dragnet in deep water.



A J O J E S J U D P A U L J
 T M J U D M A T T H E W A E
 J A O D J A M E S I M O N S
 A T H A D D E U S L E H D U
 M T N S M A T T H I A S R S
 E N O T H O M A S P E T E R
 S A B A R T H O L O M E W S

Can you find **JESUS** and all the Apostles in the word search?
 PETER • JAMES • JOHN
 ANDREW • PHILIP
 BARTHOLOMEW
 MATTHEW • THOMAS
 THADDEUS • SIMON
 JAMES • JUDAS
 MATTHIAS • PAUL



July 2019 Crossword (Answers at bottom of page 23)

Across

1 'I pray that out of his glorious — he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being' (Ephesians 3:16) (6)

4 'Saul's father Kish and — father Ner were sons of Abiel' (1 Samuel 14:51) (6)

7 'Praise the Lord, O my — ' (Psalm 103:1) (4)

8 See 5 Down

9 Laws (1 Kings 11:33) (8)

13 'Who of you by worrying can — a single hour to his life?' (Luke 12:25) (3)

16 Artistry (Exodus 31:5) (13)

17 'Your young men will see visions, your — men will dream dreams' (Acts 2:17) (3)

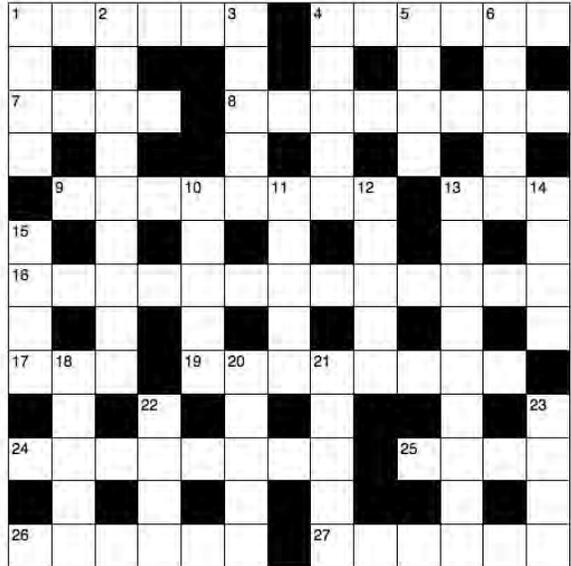
19 How David described his Lord (Psalm 19:14) (8)

24 'If this city is built and its — — restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates' (Ezra 4:16) (5,3)

25 'The holy Scriptures, which are able to make you — for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus' (2 Timothy 3:15) (4)

26 Intended destination of arrows (Lamentations 3:12) (6)

27 Eve hit (anag.) (6)



Down

1 'For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find — for your souls' (Matthew 11:29) (4)

2 Where Peter was when he denied Christ three times (Luke 22:55) (9)

3 Remarkable early 20th-century Indian evangelist, a convert from Hinduism, — Sundar Singh (5)

- 4 'Now the king had put the officer on whose — — leaned in charge of the gate' (2 Kings 7:17) (3,2)
- 5 and 8 Across The Lover describes this facial feature of the Beloved thus: 'Your — is like the tower of Lebanon looking towards — ' (Song of Songs 7:4) (4,8)
- 6 'Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled — your waist' (Ephesians 6:14) (5)
- 10 Trout (anag.) (5)
- 11 Easily frightened (1 Thessalonians 5:14) (5)
- 12 The ability to perceive (Ecclesiastes 10:3) (5)
- 13 One of the clans descended from Benjamin (Numbers 26:38) (9)
- 14 "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who — bread into the bowl with me"" (Mark 14:20) (4)
- 15 Resound (Zephaniah 2:14) (4)
- 18 Traditional seat of the Dalai Lama (5)
- 20 Precise (John 4:53) (5)
- 21 Build (Ezekiel 4:2) (5)
- 22 Beat harshly (Acts 22:25) (4)
- 23 Darius, who succeeded Belshazzar as king of the Babylonians, was one (Daniel 5:31) (4)

Too grand a piano

The story is told how after the concert hall at Broadcasting House was built there was doubt whether the door would admit a concert grand. "Try it," said somebody. But the musical director objected on the ground that if his beautiful Bechstein got stuck it would be damaged. So they instructed the carpenter to take measurements and make an exact replica in plywood. This was done, and then they found they couldn't get the model out of the carpenter's shop. (from Alexander Donald)



ARETHA FRANKLIN

AMAZING GRACE



**MOVIE
MOMENTS**

Nick and Carol Pollard from EthosMedia.org share thought-provoking reflections on the latest films.

Glimpsing the face of God?

'Extraordinary', 'transcendent', 'spine-tingling'. This is just some of the praise from reviewers of *Amazing Grace*, the film of Aretha Franklin's 1972 recording of what became the best-selling live gospel album of all time. Intimately filmed in a small church before a local congregation and brought to our screens just as it was recorded almost fifty years ago, why has the film provoked such a positive response from contemporary film critics?



Its huge impact is clearly due to Aretha's deeply personal rendition of so many powerful gospel songs such as 'What a friend we have in Jesus' and 'Precious Lord take my hand'.

Singing at the church pulpit, with a cross in front of her and a mural of Jesus behind her, Aretha uses her amazing vocal mastery and artistic excellence not to draw attention to herself but rather to draw out the message of the music. No wonder *Rolling Stone* magazine says: 'It will make you feel as if you've seen the face of God'.

Halfway through, her father Rev C.L. Franklin, gives a short talk in which he refers to criticism of Aretha that she should come back to church (until 1961 she had mainly sung gospel songs, but in the intervening decade she had recorded a string of 'secular' hits). Quite rightly, he says, 'she never left the church.'



Certainly, Aretha faced many trials and challenges in her life and faith. And one can palpably feel them through this intimate recording of her emotional rendition of these powerful songs. Watching it on the big screen, we are not distant observers of a slickly packaged musical performance. Rather we feel right there with her, in the midst of the intimate reality of an open-hearted woman honestly expressing, through her music, the grace that she has received – the amazing grace through which we glimpse the face of God.



**ETHOS
MEDIA**.org

EthosMedia.org provides free resources to help people explore spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues through the latest feature films.

Special Screenings and
Viewer's Guide at
EthosMedia.org/AmazingGrace



According to the guide book, the
tower was Perpendicular

Crossword Solution for July 2019

ACROSS: 1, Riches. 4, Abner's. 7, Soul. 8, Damascus. 9, Statutes. 13, Add. 16, Craftsmanship. 17, Old. 19, Redeemer. 24, Walls are. 25, Wise. 26, Target. 27, Thief.

DOWN: 1, Rest. 2, Courtyard. 3, Sadhu. 4, Arm he. 5, Nose. 6, Round. 10, Tutor. 11, Timid. 12, Sense. 13, Ashbelite. 14, Dips. 15, Echo. 18, Lhasa. 20, Exact. 21, Erect. 22, Flog. 23, Mede.

And Finally.....

❖ You are what you eat

“Tell me what you eat, and I’ll tell you what you are,” said the pub’s philosopher.

Whereupon a meek little man, sitting a few feet away, called softly to the waitress: “Cancel my prawn salad, please.”

❖ Whispers

A curate lost his voice at the local football match one Saturday and being due to preach the next morning, he thought he should call in and consult his vicar. When he rang the vicarage bell the door was answered by a very attractive teenage daughter.

“Is the vicar in?” the curate managed to whisper very quietly.

“No,” she whispered back, thinking she had got the message. “Come on in!”

❖ Sky fright

An airliner flew into a violent thunderstorm and was soon bumping around in the sky. One very nervous lady happened to be sitting next to a clergyman and turned to him for comfort. “Can’t you do something?” she demanded forcefully.

“I’m sorry ma’am,” said the minister gently. “I’m in sales, not management.”

#####

If you have enjoyed reading our magazine, and would like to advertise the activities of your group or business in our next edition, please contact the editor, Revd Lesley Ennis tel 01422 832747, or email your request to lesleyennis@hotmail.co.uk

For voluntary organizations there will be no charge. For commercial organizations, £2 per issue or £10 per year, for a quarter page insert. All articles are accepted subject to Sowerby PCC editorial policy.

Cut off date for items for the following month’s edition is 15th of the preceding month.

If you would like to receive future editions (in PDF format) direct to your email box, please email the editor with your details, which will be used solely for this purpose only.

Grateful acknowledgement is given to all our magazine contributors, and also to the contributors of the website Parishpump.co.uk, for kindly allowing us to use some of their material.