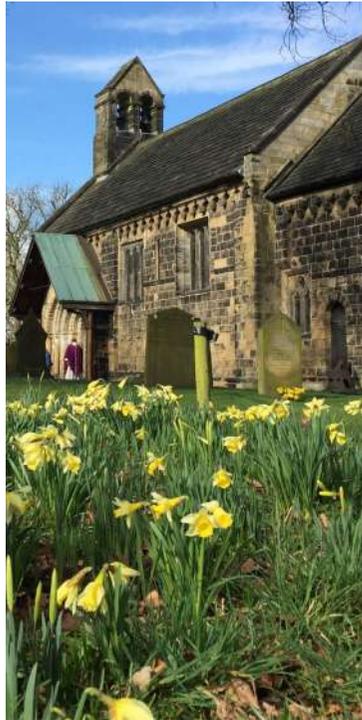




# ADEL BELLS

Parish Magazine 70p

APRIL 2026



**Adel arrived in instalments · I love freebies  
Not just an old person's sport · 3 mothers  
Watching an arrangement taking shape  
A stone owl's home · A decision to retire  
The darker side of chocolate · Green bins**

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## The Parish Church of St John the Baptist, Adel

Enquiries including Home Communions, Baptisms, Confirmation,  
Weddings, Funerals, please look at the church website  
[www.adelparishchurch.org.uk](http://www.adelparishchurch.org.uk)

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### Adel PCC Members 2025—2026

Anne Andrews, Paul Barker,  
Lucy Best-Shaw, Bruce Buchan,  
Marisa Clayton, Marjorie Cole,  
Tina Gledhill,  
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Sarah Johnson,  
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### Magazine Editor

Marjorie Cole

### Illustrator

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### Parish Registers

#### Weddings

#### Baptisms

22nd February

Amy Akhunbay

#### Funerals

24th February

Wendy Patrick

24th February

Betty Pearson

#### 2nd March

Anne Baxendale



### Festivals & Feasts

#### 2nd April

Maundy Thursday

#### 3rd April

Good Friday

#### 5th April

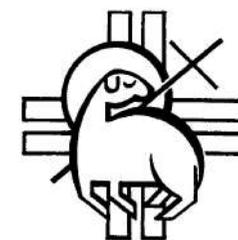
Easter Day

#### 23rd April

George, martyr,  
patron of England

#### 25th April

Mark the Evangelist



### Prayers for today

Living God,  
help me find your signs of Grace  
in the ordinary as well as the  
special.  
Amen

Lord, help me to be honest and  
open with you,  
even when my false behaviour  
doesn't allow me  
to be as honest and open with  
myself and others  
as I should be.  
Amen

*Tom Gordon at Swallow's Nest*



Association for Church Editors

### Church Open for Visitors

Monday and Saturday 1.45pm to 3.45pm



**Part of Christ's family, welcoming everyone, sharing God's love and being a voice of hope**

# From the Editor

## Adel Church Lighthouse Appeal

Lighthouse Church who nurture the faith of those who are battered by the storms of life are in need of our help. They meet 5 days a week but they would love to offer a 6th day, which would require extra staff. A 6 month trial would cost £3000. How wonderful if our community can make this happen. If you would like to support this, use this QR code to make a donation, type this link into your browser <https://tinyurl.com/AdelLH> or pop into church and leave cash in the basket.



I have lived in Adel for almost 40 years. I am sure many of you have been here longer. Our human interest stories this month feature two people with very different experiences, one who has had a

lifetime connection with Adel and one who has travelled and worked in different countries before settling here. Trevor Brown's story on p. 12 will no doubt awaken many memories, whereas Bill Winlow's on p. 20 opens our eyes to a different world but one which has still led him to Adel in the end.

Spring is hopefully on its way to Adel. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Easter.

### Marjorie Cole

We would hate to lose you, but some of you have not renewed your subscription, which was due in February. Please pay £7 to your deliverer or pay online: <https://tinyurl.com/AdelSocial> Please email me (address below) to let me know you have paid.

If you have it posted to you, the cost is £16 which should be sent to Alison Browne, 7 Meadow End, Bramhope, Leeds, LS16 9DA Email: [alibrowne51@hotmail.com](mailto:alibrowne51@hotmail.com)

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## RECTOR ALISON'S LETTER

Dear Friends

It was wonderful in March to finally enjoy some sunny days, especially as these arrived with the peak of spring flowers in the church yard. I am sure I am not the only one who greeted the sun with joy.

Actually, I love rainy weather. So long as I have the right clothing, I love walking or running in the rain. But even I was tiring of grey days by the end of February. Apparently, some places in Britain had 40 – 50 consecutive days of rain at the start of 2026!

Sadly, this is a sign of the climate emergency we are living in. Many places suffered flooding, and for farmers it has been a very difficult time. Thankfully we were spared the worst, but lack of sunny days can affect our mood even when we have a warm dry home to retreat to.

Somehow our worries weigh more heavily, our aches and pains feel worse. A bright sunny morning puts a smile on people's faces and we greet each other with the very British, 'Lovely day, isn't it?' Our troubles don't disappear, but they

can feel less oppressive, more manageable.

By the end of February this year, it felt like we hadn't seen the sun for weeks, but of course it was there all along. Day did follow night and plants used the sun's rays to begin their spring growth. Although it felt as though the crocuses appeared overnight, they had in fact been steadily pushing their way up. The sun works its magic even when we feel it is absent.

At the start of April this year, our church family will be celebrating Easter Sunday. This is the day in the year when we feel God's light shining most brightly as we recall Jesus' resurrection on the first Easter Day. Earlier in the week, we will have acknowledged the darkness as we walk with Christ, the journey to the cross.

Lent, and especially Holy Week, can feel a bit like those endless grey days of rain. We recall the things we are not so proud of in our lives. We try to focus more on our faith, perhaps by giving something up. We get swept up in Jesus' story, and can feel

with him, that God seems to have abandoned us.

But although resurrection brings new joy on Easter Sunday, it doesn't remove all the problems of the present. It is most of all a reminder that even in the dark times, God is always there with us. Resurrection says that even the worst humans do to each other cannot overcome God's love for us all.

Easter Sunday doesn't just bring joy out of sorrow; it strengthens us for any grey days that might be coming. It reminds us that just as the sun is there when the sky is grey, God's love is with us even when things are hard.

You are very welcome to join the church family as we walk through the dark of Holy Week and greet the light of Easter Day. Whatever you will be doing, and whatever the weather, I pray that you will know the joy of Easter this April.

With love and prayers

**Alison**



**CHARITY COFFEE  
MORNING**  
in aid of  
**Adel Church  
Lighthouse Appeal  
Saturday 11th April**



**10.30 to 12 noon**  
In the Old Stables  
Come and enjoy a warm  
welcome, washed down by  
tea or coffee and be  
tempted by an array of  
delicious homemade cakes  
and scones.

**Easter Raffle**

**ALL WELCOME  
PAY WHAT YOU WANT!**

## JUST AS I AM

**Just as I am**

**The moon belongs to everyone,  
the best things in life are free.  
The stars belong to everyone;  
they gleam for you and me."**

Buddy De Sylva and Lew Brown, *The Best Things in Life Are Free* (1927)

I love freebies. At conferences, I collected freebies: post-it notes from drug companies; bookmarks from publishers; a logo-covered mug; computer mouse-mats emblazoned with brand names; and pens, always pens. These days, when I order printer ink, I get a free pen. I have dozens of them, all over the house. My wife reminds me that "It's not free at all. It's been included in the price." She's right. But it still feels like a freebie to me.

In church recently, we sang Charlotte Elliot's hymn, *Just as I am*, to Arthur Henry Brown's melody, *Saffron Walden*. It's a powerfully evocative hymn, and one that means a great deal to me. In 1828, aged 32, Charlotte Elliot suffered a serious illness that left her a semi-invalid. This caused depression, and within the year she experienced a severe spiritual crisis. Swiss evangelist Henry A Cesàr Malan gave her a thought about her Lord: "Come to him just as you are." But his comfort appeared useless,

and Charlotte's depression continued. Twelve years later, however, she decided to meet her spiritual troubles head on and conquer them by the grace of God. Writing her own "formulae of faith," she remembered the words of her friend from all these years before.

As I sang *Just as I am*, I had a wonderful memory of my mother singing it to the tune *Woodworth* by William Bradbury, which she first heard sung by the George Beverly Shea choirs at the Billy Graham rallies in Glasgow's Kelvin Hall in the 1950s. And when I came to the first line of Charlotte Elliot's final verse, I was singing it with my mother again. *Just as I am, of that free love  
The breadth, length, depths and height  
to prove.  
Here for a season, then above –  
O Lamb of God, I come.*

"The best things in life are free"? A love as great as that was a freebie I was more than happy to share with my mother once more.

**Tom Gordon**

*Tom Gordon is a former Church of Scotland parish minister. His blog 'Reflections and Hymns' at <https://swallowsnestnet.wordpress.com/> are certainly worth looking at.*

# REV'D IAN REFLECTS

## The pursuit of happiness

When I was much younger, I would deride the US Constitution's idea that one could pursue happiness. For me happiness was a byproduct of how one lived, not something one could pursue on its own. Pursuing happiness as one's goal would surely be to miss the desired target.

Well, it turns out, I was both right and wrong. Because of my inherent distaste for revolutionary constitutions, I was judging rather than thinking about the idea of the pursuit of happiness. As Carl Jung said, "Thinking is difficult; that's why most people judge." I recently attended a seminar on 'Happiness in the Psalms' that set me straight.

Shortly after, I came across a poster headed, "Great Dream: Ten keys to happier living." It was published by a 'non-religious' charity Action for Happiness [[actionforhappiness.org](http://actionforhappiness.org)] They say that, "Members of the movement make a simple pledge: to try to create more happiness in the world." And members are supported by advice and guidance.

This set me thinking. How did the charity's approach compare with the Bible's, particularly the Psalms, and what could we learn from the comparison? The charity's ten keys

are: Do things for others; Connect with people; Take care of your body; Live life mindfully; Keep learning new things; Have goals; Find ways to bounce back; Look for what's good; Be comfortable with who you are, and Be part of something bigger.

We couldn't disagree with any of these. In fact, being Christian ticks all these boxes! And, most importantly, what Christianity provides, and these keys lack, is the context and the grounding.

The Bible teaches us that happiness, or, in the Psalms, blessedness, comes from walking in God's way and trusting in God. God's way provides the context for pursuing happiness. It means that happiness cannot exist individually; it is contingent on community/human flourishing. For this we need justice, which requires reconciliation.

Working for justice and reconciliation is hard work. Yes, we have to connect with people but we have to do more, we have to love them. Happiness comes from wrestling with reality as it is, following God's way and abiding in his love. The ten keys lack the 'key' ingredients: love God and love one's neighbour as oneself.

**Ian Johnston**

# IN BRIEF

## Basic, Better, Best.

I am arranging another version of Basic, Better, Best for anyone interested in arranging flowers in church – or just want to watch and see how it is done. We are meeting in church on

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April at 1.30pm.

As you may know it is in 3 parts. The Basic part will be in church. If on a scale of 1 to 10 your knowledge is about 1 or 2 (or even 0) please come along and learn a few tips or just enjoy watching an arrangement taking shape.

Part two, Better, will be in The Stables. There I have a few things to show you all which you may find interesting and useful.

Part three, Best, is as usual coffee and cake or biscuits.

We will certainly be finished by 3.00pm if anyone has children to collect from school. It is not essential that you let me know who is coming but I am thinking of the cake...

## Hilary Taylor

### World Day of Prayer

by Christian Women of Nigeria  
**"I Will Give You Rest, Come"**

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March Hilary Taylor and I went to St John's

Church in Yeadon to a very well attended Service.

We were given a warm welcome and there were the usual readings, telling the stories written by the women of Nigeria. Listening to them interspersed with prayers and hymns, made us realise what a different world we live in here in England. We really are very fortunate as women that we are able to have a voice. Our way of life is so different to theirs. There were some very well written prayers with responses.

*"Loving Jesus give us strength to keep trusting you, even when the burdens seem too heavy to bear."*

*"Help us be a light to others, sharing hope and extending a helping hand where we can. We trust in your promise that you will never leave us or forsake us."*

More lovely hymns ending with a blessing and of course "The Day Thou Gavest, Lord, is Ended" where we thought of women all over the world praying on the same day. It was a very special and thought provoking service and very much "of its time."

**Beryl Thompson**

## LETTER FROM LILY

Hi Everyone,

I wonder if you can help me. I am trying to learn about what you call 'time.' I understand when the alarm goes off it's time (or nearly time) to get up – not my favourite occupation but I do try to be brave. You humans so confuse a dog with time. "Time for walkies," "dinner time," "it's not time" now whatever does *that* mean? 'Not time?' I thought time was all the time. Then, just to make things more difficult, you confuse us with phrases like, "Won't be long!" or "See you soon," "Soon be dinner time." What is 'soon?' What is 'long?' My Mum & Dad confuse the issue even further by saying things like, "We're just going to church," or "We're just going shopping," what is 'just' about this? Sometimes 'going to the shops' takes *forever*, sometimes they are back before I find all the treats they've hidden to keep me amused!

I have tried measuring time as sleeps – that's how you humans tell your children about time: "It's only three sleeps until . . ." This only works for me when it's dark. I know 'bed-time' means, cuddle up, go to sleep. 'Sleeps' during the day don't count, they're just a string of interrupted naps. Back to the drawing board!

I do understand 'spending time' – that is when we have good fun such

as holidays, days out, having friends round or visiting. Playing with my friends Elvis and Tilly is one of my favourite ways of 'spending time.'

Jesus was good with His time. He really wants people to know about Him and how to live our lives as God wants us to. Jesus gave lots of time to some people who didn't expect it. We've been reading the Gospel of John at church and at home which tells how much time Jesus spent with people who really wanted to know Him and His mission. People such as Nicodemus (John 3 v 1-18), a Pharisee, was seeking truth. Jesus spoke in great spiritual depth concluding with those beloved words "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life." God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn people but to save them.

As we commemorate Christ's death and celebrate his glorious resurrection let us copy Him. Even from the cross He had **time** to spare for those He cared about and loved.

Alleluia, Christ is Risen, He is risen indeed. Alleluia.

God bless you this Eastertide.

Woofs & Lix,

Lily

## MY ADEL

*I have revived an idea I started a few years ago in Adel Bells, asking people to write about what living in Adel means to them. We start here with Trevor Brown's fascinating account, which I am sure many of our readers will relate to as memories of days long gone come to life again.*  
Editor

"Adel didn't rush into my life — it arrived in instalments and gradually grew to be my home."

### Beginnings

My first encounter with Adel came in the early 1960s, soon after I'd left school and started work as a trainee TV engineer. TV was black and white then and sets often needed attention. I was eager to learn, oblivious to how quickly technology was racing ahead.

One of my first service calls took me to a prefabricated estate along Adel Lane — or perhaps Sir George Martin Drive — streets of temporary homes built long before we understood the dangers of asbestos. I had never seen anything like it, and the memory stayed with me. "Looking back, that call was my quiet introduction to Adel."

I didn't know then that this place would one day define my life.

### A Promise in Stone

A decade later, Adel returned — this

time wrapped in "white lace and promises," to quote the Carpenters. It was April 1972, and Pauline and I stood together in Adel Church. It wasn't the ideal day; the rain was relentless. Rector Donald Thompson presided, though it may have been the vicar from St Paul's who spoke the words that made us husband and wife.

Outside, our photographer waited patiently, worried about the weather. On the final prints, I noticed that one or two umbrellas had been airbrushed out. Nothing could spoil the day. The reception was at the Lawnswood Arms — something else that has changed over the years. My second encounter with Adel had arrived. The penny still hadn't dropped.

### Number 25, Gainsboro Drive

Not long after, we bought our first house in Adel — Number 25, Gainsboro Drive.

A white, snowcemmed semi just behind the Lawnswood Arms. It cost a staggering £8,500. I worried about the mortgage, but life had changed. I was now working in ITV, and it paid better. Pauline loved the house — every aspect of it — and so we took the plunge. Here, our sons Simon and Matthew were born and later baptised in Adel Church.

The house was old and frequently needed repairs. We replaced the metal guttering with modern PVC as a DIY project and flushed with success tackled something more ambitious: a stone fireplace. The fireplace itself turned out well — but then we varnished it. Why, I'm not sure. Bad advice from the place that sold us the stone. It shone like a mirror and refused to dull, even after thirteen years. "If any later owner managed to dull that shine, I salute your patience."

Outside, a cherry blossom tree we'd carried home in the car boot took root. By the time we left, it was strong enough for a small treehouse — though that never came to be — but

we did manage a snow house (not quite an igloo) during one especially severe winter.

Our children attended Adel Church School — not the old one on Church Lane, but its shiny new replacement. Happy days. The staff were brilliant, especially the head, Mrs Learmont. Life was good. We simply outgrew the house. Many of our neighbours moved on, and we shared their wanderlust.

Leaving Number 25 was hard. Pauline cried as we drove away. But we weren't leaving Adel; we were carrying it with us.

**Trevor Brown**



*Here is the snow house with Simon and Matthew inside. Trevor's enthusiasm knew no bounds and he wrote twice as much as I have been able to use this month. Part 2 will be in the May magazine.*

## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

### **Are Easter eggs all they're cracked up to be? The darker side of chocolate.**

Chocolate feels like an uncomplicated pleasure. It can lift your mood, ease stress, and even offer some health benefits when enjoyed in moderation. In the UK alone, we buy an astonishing 80 to 90 million chocolate Easter eggs each year. But behind this indulgence lies a darker story.

The global chocolate industry is worth over a trillion dollars, and meeting that demand comes with a high environmental cost. Most of today's cocoa is grown in West Africa. Expanding production has driven widespread deforestation and habitat loss, particularly in Ivory Coast and Ghana.

Cacao farming is intensely labour dependent. Most cocoa is produced by smallholder farmers who rely on hand tools to plant, grow, harvest, process, and transport the seeds on limited infrastructure. Hidden behind layers of middlemen, after everyone takes their cut, many farmers earn less than \$1 a day. This lack of transparency has made the industry vulnerable to forced labour and human rights abuses, including child labour. Also, as Cacao trees depend on tens of thousands of litres of

water a day, this results in water scarcity and poor sanitation.

Chocolate's carbon footprint doesn't end with cocoa. Other added ingredients, such as palm oil and soy, also contribute to deforestation in tropical regions. On average, producing just one kilogram of chocolate generates around 14 kilograms of carbon emissions, with the vast majority coming from agriculture.

Yet there is hope for more ethical indulgence. Certifications such as Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance, and B Corp help us easily identify brands that aim to pay farmers fairly and support sustainable practices. Some companies, such as Divine and Tony's Chocolonely, take this a step further by working directly with farmers to ensure they receive a fair share of profits and to combat exploitative labour, with the aim of ending child slavery and worker abuse.

By choosing ethical chocolate, we can support a supply chain built on fairness, environmental stewardship, and respect for the people who make our favourite treat possible.

Have a happy Easter and may it bring you peace and joy,

**Tang x**

*It's Back!*  
**Quittingo!**  
2026

**A fun multi-media quiz with a hint of bingo.**

**Anyone can win, all you need are 5 correct answers and a bit of luck!**

**7pm in the Old Stables on 16th May**

**£12**

*including a fish and chip supper*

**Tickets must be purchase in advance.**

**To book please**

**email: [adelparishchurch@gmail.com](mailto:adelparishchurch@gmail.com)**

## **ADEL BOWLING CLUB**

I am sure we all know that regular exercise is good for us; it has many health benefits and also boosts our mental health, mood and sleep quality, but do we always take advantage of the opportunities in our own neighbourhood? Here in Adel we are very fortunate to have access to green spaces for daily walks, but we also have many sports available for us to try at Adel War Memorial Association. I recently interviewed Brian Ward and Sue Pagdin who are both members of the Bowling Club there to find out what attracts them about bowling.

**Fresh air, exercise  
and making friends too!**

For Brian it is more than just the exercise. He enjoys the social interaction and meeting prospective new members and helping them to get the same enjoyment from the sport that he has. Playing in a team brings him particular pleasure. Sue appreciates the fresh air and feels that playing bowls has helped her cope with her health problems in all sorts of ways. She also likes the social interaction and has made a lot of friends. She is a very active member of the group, helping to organise social events, such as the annual quiz with fish and chip supper they were



Sue's trophy

planning when I met them. She is the driving force behind the annual weekend away in Scarborough.

As we talked I also learned about the game: the difference between crown green bowling (which they do) and flat green bowling, that the balls are called woods and have a dimple in them (called a bias) which causes them to curve, that the jack which gets thrown first also has a dimple. You gain points when your wood is closest to the jack and usually you win when you get 21 points, although this can be different in social bowling. In pairs matches you play first to 26 points.

There is something happening every day, from moments when people can

just go and practise or play friendly games with other members to playing matches in one of the leagues they are part of. Some members just want social play, others, like Brian, like playing in teams. Tuesdays and Fridays are for social play. The green is open every day from 10am and the season this year opens on 2nd April and closes in September.

New members are always welcome and any of the longer-standing members will meet them and teach them how to play. There are also open days when you can go and give it a try. You can borrow equipment

but eventually most people buy a couple of woods of their own. Sue feels it is not just an old person's sport. In fact they have a competition with the cricket club whose younger players get a lot of fun from playing.

There is a membership fee and you are also entitled to join in with social activities in the bar area. If you are interested in having a go, you can make enquiries at the bar, have a word with people on the green, or you can contact Brian Ward, the chairman of the club, by phone or email: telephone: 07552 656765 Email: bandmward69@aol.com

## ALSO IN APRIL

### **Bible Study**

**10 am in the Stables**

Thursday 9th April

Thursday 23rd April

### **Rake, Cake and Chat**

**Saturday 11th April**

9.30am

In the churchyard

### **Prayer Meetings**

**10am every Wednesday**

**In church or at home**

Praying this month for:

Wednesday Prayer Group

Churchyard Group

Coffee Rota Team

## WORDS FROM JOYCE HILL

### **Commemorating the Resurrection**

With Easter Day, the Feast of the Resurrection, falling this year on 5 April, and with a title of 'Commemorating the Resurrection', you might well expect this article to be about Easter in some way. But it isn't, at least not directly. We think that the early church began to commemorate the Resurrection as an annual celebration sometime in the mid-second century, making it the earliest of the annual feast-days of the church's year. Other feast-days associated with Christ's life gradually grew up around it, mostly in the fourth century, when — thanks to Constantine's edict of toleration early in the century, and the adoption of Christianity as the religion of the Roman Empire under Theodosius towards the end of the same century — Christians began to worship publicly and, in the churches that they went on to build, developed a yearly cycle of special days, a practice that was modelled on the annual cycle of public rituals of the secular world. But before the Resurrection came to have its own yearly day, Christians celebrated the Resurrection every Sunday. We still do, of course. And so the purpose of this article, in this

year's month of Easter (it is March in some years) is to explore the history of this weekly commemoration.

From the gospels we learn that the Resurrection occurred on the first day of the week (Sunday), the day after the Jewish Sabbath (Saturday), the seventh day of the week. The Jewish holy day, a day of rest and prayer, is on the seventh day of the week because the creation narrative in Genesis tells of how God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh. Within Christian communities, which soon came to include non-Jews, the practice of commemorating the Resurrection on the first day of every week quickly became established. There is a reference in Acts chap. 20 v. 7, to the coming together of the disciples to break bread on this day, and it is referred to as if it was already a regular habit. That it was on the first day of the week is perhaps not immediately obvious to us as we read the text, because the time-reference is 'on the Saturday night'. But the Jewish Sabbath extends from sunset to sunset, so the time indicator in Acts carefully tells us that the disciples' practice of breaking bread together was very early on the first day of the week in the usual sunset-to-sunset terms..

Within the Christian tradition, the first day of the week soon came to be called 'The Lord's Day', which in the Latin of the Roman Empire, and then continuing in the Latin of the western medieval church, was *Dies Dominica*, later often shortened to *Dominica*. This is the origin of *Dimanche* in French, *Domenica* in Italian and *Domingo* in Spanish, all languages that derive from Latin. In England, however, which came to speak a Germanic language as a result of the Anglo-Saxon invasions in the fifth and sixth centuries, our days of the week were (and still are) named

after pagan gods, the sun and the moon. So *Dies Dominica*, or *Dominica*, as it was officially called by the pre-Reformation church, continued to be called Sun-day, the day of the sun, in everyday speech. Sabbath began to be used in English as a term for the Lord's Day only after the Reformation and is generally restricted to particular church traditions. As a leading liturgist once said, 'Christians sanctified the week before they sanctified the year'.

## Adel Boundary Walk

Saturday 9th May

8.30am start at the Stables



Join us for all (14/15 miles)  
or just for part of the walk.

**Booking is essential**

Contact: [carole.smithies@gmail.com](mailto:carole.smithies@gmail.com)

ring 0113 281 3190 or 07786 485 485

## IN OUR CHOIR

*I asked Bill how he came to be one of our newest Adel residents and join our church choir.*

### She said "I think Bill is a tenor"

I was born in Sunderland in February 1945. At that time my father was an RSM in the pioneer corps and had hoped to be a Methodist minister, but the army changed his view on that. During the war my mother worked as a sorter in Sunderland post office, often having to travel through blitz conditions to get there, as the bombing was severe due to the shipyards on Wearside. I was christened at St. John's Methodist Church and as a small boy I went to Sunday School at St Nicholas Church which was quite close to my home, where there were six adults and one small boy. My two aunts were part of our family and I was often described by other kids as the boy with 3 mothers! Then in the early 1950s Dad, Mum and I moved near Ashington in Northumberland. I eventually went to Morpeth Grammar School, two bus rides away. Our music teacher was also an organist at St James Anglican Church, close to the school, and was on the lookout for boy sopranos, so I ended up in their choir until my voice broke. Eventually I joined the local Methodist youth club and also became a member of the local

Methodist church, where I greatly enjoyed the excellent congregational singing and later joined the choir.

After leaving school, I studied Zoology at Newcastle University, and lived at home, which allowed me to stay at my local church, but which required a 45 minute bus ride morning an evening – getting to 9:00 am lectures was tough, but I usually made it! At Newcastle, I met my wife Pam, but then went to St Andrews University for a PhD place at the Gatty Marine Laboratory in 1967. We married in September 1968 at the Church of St Michael and All Angels in Foulridge, near Colne in Lancashire.

We had a 4<sup>th</sup> floor flat in St Andrews overlooking the West Sands looking North towards Dundee – idyllic at £20 per month! Pam did a Dip Ed at Dundee University during our time there and we often went to St Andrews Baptist church on Sundays. After St Andrews the great permanent job chase started for me with postdoctoral fellowships at Glasgow University (2 years) and then on to New York University.

While in New York, friends introduced us to the Judson Memorial Baptist Church, just south of Washington square and only a few minutes' walk from our apartment

block. It was remarkable, doing all sorts of outreach work to local communities, and also housed the Judson Poets Theater at that time. The assistant minister, the late Al Carmines, was a gifted pianist and wrote memorable musicals, performed in the church. We particularly enjoyed “Christmas Rappings” about the birth of Jesus which includes a wonderful song/hymn “No room in the inn”. We were only in NYC for 15 months, but it was quite an experience. After that I went to the University of Sussex, in Brighton, for almost 3 years. Here, our two daughters were born - they think of themselves as being from Leeds, because my next job was a permanent full time Lectureship in Physiology at Leeds University where we stayed for the next 23 years and added our son Robbie to our tribe. It was certainly a busy time for us as we were also deeply involved in local politics.

In 1999, I was offered a chair at the University of Central Lancashire and became head of the Department of Biological Science and we settled into the small village of Newton-with-Scales, a few miles west of Preston. A few years later Pam became chairman of Newton with Clifton Parish Council. The main Anglican church in the area is St John the Evangelist, Lund, to which parish councillors were invited to periodic concerts by their choir. We went to

one and enjoyed it. At the end there were drinks and nibbles. Pam had a chat with the choir master and politely asked how things were going with the choir. He said they were OK, but always short of tenors, at which Pam said “I think Bill is a tenor”. He left Pam standing and rushed over to me! By the following weekend I was a member of their robed choir, became an Anglican, and stayed with them until we moved back to Leeds last April.

It has been wonderful to participate in the services and friendly atmosphere in our ancient church dedicated to St John the Baptist, and good to have the opportunity to continue to sing in our church choir!

### Bill Winlow



## QE CORNER

Here it is again..... QE (Quite Enlightening) Corner. You all know that I like trivial information, so for your enlightenment I am presenting you this month with another miscellany of “facts(?)”

Baby blue whales put on 4kgs an hour until they're 8 months old.

The Peruvian Escuadron Verde is a specialist police unit who disguise their agents in fancy dress to bust drug rings. Last year, they dressed as capybaras.

Colmar in France gives live chickens to its residents. By feeding the chickens kitchen scraps, they have avoided 273.35 tonnes of bio-waste since 2015.

During the Beijing Olympics, Usain Bolt ate 1,000 chicken nuggets over 10 days.

The Italian village of Villavallelonga celebrates the Feast of St. Anthony the Great with a 50 course meal. No leftovers are allowed.

In 2021 a Russian woman sued McDonald's for tempting her into breaking her Lent fast. She demanded total compensation of 1,000 roubles - approximately £9.60.

From the early 1900s until 1948, the Korean National Anthem was sung to the tune of Auld Lang Syne.

The oldest haggis recipes are English.

In the Ukrainian versions of Paddington and Paddington 2, the voice of Paddington is dubbed by Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

In 2021, the Swedish tourist Board placed signs in 21 locations which share their name with IKEA products. One read: 'Welcome to Bolmen - more than an IKEA toilet brush'.

Rhode Island, the smallest US state, has a bigger population than the largest, Alaska.

The longest game of cricket ever played was a 1939 Test match between England and South Africa. It lasted 12 days and eventually had to be abandoned so the English team didn't miss their ship home.

In the 18th century, a 'sluggard waker' would be employed by churches to wake up sleeping parishioners by hitting them on the head with a stick.

*Please note these “Facts(?)” are all from the internet, so don't blame me if they are not correct!*

**Trevor Cole**

## IN YOUR GARDEN

"April showers bring May flowers"  
-Trad

Now that all our reservoirs have been replenished we might feel like we have had enough rain this winter, so roll on some sunshine.

The clocks have gone forward, the days are longer than the nights and the sun is ever higher and warmer in the sky and so your garden is really bursting into life. Buds are breaking, grass is starting to grow and early flowers are tilting towards the sun. All great news – but be cautious. Snow, frosts, drought, gales or floods are all perfectly possible and the tender early growth of most life is susceptible. Many early flowers, bulbs and new shoots growing in east facing areas are badly damaged or lost by the combination of a hard frost and the sudden thaw brought on by a warm rising sun. A protracted cold spell might impact on future crop yields, as many fruiting plants have April flowers which can be scorched by frost, or do not get pollinated whilst the necessary insects delay their emergence.

I like to start the outdoor season with the weeding and hoeing. It is so much easier to tackle small emerging weeds rather than those larger, more established ones that will take up residence if you don't! Also, by

getting you close to the soil you can check on its health and fertility. Any remaining dead-heading can be tackled together with removal of any dead stems and branches to make way for fresh growth. You may also want to resume the mowing of your lawn by the end of the month. Start with a relatively high blade setting and lower it with successive cuts.

Woodland flowers take centre stage in April, together with their garden cousins. They are making the most of the spring sunshine before the tree canopy closes in, so enjoy the anemones, primroses, brunnera, euphorbias and the smell of wild garlic. By the end of the month it will be time to remove any faded daffodil flowers and some early tulip flowers, nipping off heads and the developing seed pods at the same time, but leaving the green leaves.

Keep an eye on any nest boxes you can see. They may be occupied, but not all are chosen every year. And do enjoy the comings and goings of the occupants! Your denser shrubs and hedges may also have nest-building activity so always check before pruning and if you can delay serious cutting until mid-summer.

**George Turnbull**  
enquiries@adelgardencare.co.uk  
www.adelgardencare.co.uk

## HISTORY

**Haworth Parsonage**  
Home 1820 -1861 of **Revd Patrick Brontë**

Visitors have been asking about Adel links with the family. Patrick Brontë married Maria Branwell, in 1812, at Guiseley Parish Church. Guiseley was our next Parish. In the late 17th C., Adel Rector Breary was (with the help of a Curate) Rector of both Parishes. in the old Diocese of York.

In 1831, Charlotte, on her 1st day at Roe Head School, met Ellen Nussey. They became life-long best friends. During school holidays, they spent time with each other's family. Ellen had two older brothers. Joseph



Nussey is buried with his wife & family, in Adel ChYd. When in 1839, his younger brother, Richard Nussey became a curate, he wrote to Charlotte, proposing marriage—but she refused.

It is easy to spot the dark NUSSEY Monument, on your right, as you walk from Adel Church door, along the footpath towards the Stables. Branwell Brontë became tutor to the two Robinson boys, who were related to Adel's Rector Postlethwaite.

In 1847, when Emily's 'Wuthering Heights' and Charlotte's 'Jane Eyre' were published, they were an instant

success! As was Anne's novel 'The Tenant of Wildfell Hall'.



**The 1152 Club meets  
once a month on  
Tuesdays at 10am -  
11.15am, during  
term-time,  
at Abbey House  
Museum.**

Free parking near Abbey House. **Contact Pat**

**WELCOME IN  
WELLBEING WALKS**

**Every Thursday at 10 am,  
meet at OPAL, LS16 6DJ  
for a one & a half Hour  
Wellbeing Walk.  
Contact Ellen Stoker**

## GUIDED WALKS IN LEEDS

**Civic Trust Guided Walks**  
start in April, **book now.**

These Walks are led by experienced volunteers and cover a range of subjects.

***They are open to all***

**Leeds in Three Squares**

**Fri 22 May 2pm - 3.30pm**  
**Tues 7 July 6pm - 7.30pm**

We meet our walk leader, **Professor Joyce Hill**, in the entrance to the train station next to the Queen's Hotel on City Square. From there we will explore our three very distinctive city-centre squares: Park Square, City Square, and Millennium Square.

There are two booking links, one for each of the two dates. Please only book tickets for the date of the walk you would like to attend. Tickets are not transferable between the two walks.



Meeting Point: City Square entrance to Leeds train station, next to the Queen's Hotel.

Locations covered:

**Leeds City Centre** : Park Square, City Square and Millennium Square.

Approximate walk distance: 1 mile  
There are no steps, although we will, be on and off pavements.

The ground is not level, though the gradients between the squares are slight.

See website for more details -  
[www.leedscivictrust.org.uk/guided-walks-season-2026](http://www.leedscivictrust.org.uk/guided-walks-season-2026)

**Val Crompton**

## OPAL ACTIVITIES

Springtime at OPAL means we can start to utilise our garden areas more, including our new sensory garden which was kindly supported by B&Q and the Morrison Foundation: the work has been undertaken by TCV and their fantastic volunteers. This garden has been specifically designed to be accessible, with seating areas and planting that not only looks beautiful but also smells and feels good. This means all our members and the wider community can enjoy the area (fingers crossed the weather stays good); our patio is also getting a revamp in time for the warm weather.

**They discussed rubbish  
and green bins  
over lunch**

Our first "hands off" trip was a fantastic success this trip was for more mobile members (over 100 stairs were climbed) who didn't need extra support and this trip was to the Leeds Recycling Centre. Members found the guided tour fascinating and they all learnt so much about how Leeds aims to increase recycling. They then had lunch where the main topic of conversation was rubbish and green bins. As this trip was so

well received we will be running more "hands off" trips through out the year as well as our regular trips where all abilities are supported; please see our newsletter for more details of all our trips.

Membership of OPAL runs from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April until the 31<sup>st</sup> of March, so if you have not renewed your membership can you please contact us ASAP if you want to renew it. Membership is just £12 for the year but if you want to pay extra this is very gratefully received as a donation. For this you receive the newsletter 6 times a year as well as access to all the activities OPAL runs. I am sure you will agree this is fantastic value for money. Your continuing support allows us to be there when you need us and to reach out and support some of the most vulnerable members of society.

If you would like further information about OPAL or any of the activities or services we offer please contact us on 0113 2619103, or email [admin@opal-project.org.uk](mailto:admin@opal-project.org.uk) or call in to see us at the Welcome In Community Centre (55 Bedford Drive, LS16 6DJ)

**Shelley Clark** (she/her)  
Project Worker

## YORK GATE UPDATE

As I write, the sun is shining and the sky is blue; spring is upon us at last and the season is inviting us outdoors. At York Gate the garden is bursting into life again ready to open the gates and welcome our visitors. The garden team has been working hard during the very wet days of winter preparing for your return with lots that's new for you to enjoy.

One of my favourite places to visit is the Paved Garden and it didn't surprise me to discover that it was Sybil's favourite part of the garden too. Originally part of the Front Garden, with a lawn and herbaceous border, it was Sybil's idea to create a paved garden in front of her new greenhouse and she declared it to be "a wonderful success." She added, "that the seats in the corner of the garden were also a favourite place for Robin to sit and have his pre-dinner drink when he got home from work. The seats catch the last rays of the setting sun – a lovely spot to relax."

The Paved Garden was also home to a stone owl which was created from the mullion windows removed from the house, but one day he vanished without trace – was he stolen? Or perhaps he flew away.

As I look at old photographs of the Paved Garden, I can see that over the

years the planting has changed frequently. In recent years a rock garden has been created with stones reclaimed from the neighbouring garden during the developments at York Gate Cottage. I have always been fascinated by alpine plants in stone sinks, troughs and rockeries, which create visions of vast, rocky landscapes on a tiny scale. With Alpines you can create your own miniature world!

The Paved Garden is also the place where some tender plants that have been wintering indoors will be returning to for their summer holidays. There is always something to see and enjoy, not least the stunning red flowers of the Chilean Lantern Tree that I recently wrote about which will be in full bloom in the summer.

The Garden is now open for the new season as well as the Shop and Plant Sales, so do come along and see all the wonderful things the gardeners have created during the winter months. And even though, as Val Crompton wrote in her poem in 1977: -

*"The York Gate Owl has gone –  
But the mystery of his fate  
And the memories live on."*

**Gillian Smith**  
Heritage Volunteer

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## WHAT'S ON

### Bramhope Wednesday 1st April Workshop

7pm Guests are welcome at all meetings. A guest fee will be charged. Bramhope Village Hall, Old Lane, Bramhope. LS16 9AZ Contact Mrs Jean Money Tel 01924 468714



### Adel Gardeners' Club Monday 13th April 'Growing in Sand'

Tom Nicholls

Tom is based at York Gate and will have lots to tell us about the Mediterranean Garden there, but also about the summer of 2024, which he spent working in Sweden for the famous Peter Korn, expert in growing plants in sand.

**7.30pm** at Adel Methodist Church  
<https://adelhort.chessck.co.uk/>



### Leeds & District Association of the National Trust Tuesday 14th April "Yorkshire's Coastal Secret"

David Banks

A return visit from this superb NT volunteer speaker

All meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month, 10 for 10.30am in St. Chad's Parish Centre, Far Headingley. Easily accessible by Otley Road (A660) buses - nos. 23-28. There is a car park.

Guests welcome - entrance fee £7.00. Refreshments before the meeting by donation.

Further information:

[c.lightman@sky.com](mailto:c.lightman@sky.com) (Ann Lightman)



### Adel Players Wednesday to Saturday 22nd to 25th April 7.30pm 'A Month of Sundays'

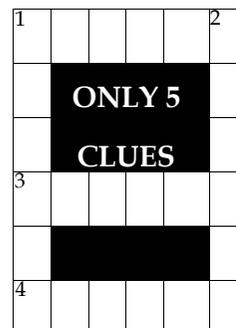
By Bob Larbey, directed Gary Jarvis  
A comedy about the difficulties inherent in growing old. Cooper who has gone into a nursing home rather than become a burden on his family, flirts valiantly with the female staff, banter with the other old folks and keeps a close check on his "record of physical deteriorations"

Bob Larbey is well known for writing many television series such as *The Good Life*, *Please Sir*, *Get Some In* and *Ever Decreasing Circles*, with his co-writer, John Esmonde.

To book tickets (£10 per person), please email  
[boxoffice@adel-players.org.uk](mailto:boxoffice@adel-players.org.uk).

## PUZZLES

### General Knowledge Clues



#### Across

1. Woman's hat
3. Delight, satisfy
4. Wooden alpine house

#### Down

1. Film of a person's life
2. Natural aptitude

### Cryptic Clues

#### Across

1. Make large container, carrying eggs, principally
3. Warden called lady in palace
4. Over the moon, no longer living In outskirts of Enfield

#### Down

1. Part of ulcer is extremely red
2. Attention new edition deserved



Puzzles compiled by Marjorie Cole  
Solutions on p. 34

## BARRY ANDERSON

### Happy Easter and Personal Note

Caroline and I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Easter. As some of you may know, I have made the decision to retire from the Council and will not be seeking re-election in May. Caroline is also standing down from the Council with effect from the end of March so that a by-election can be held the same day as the local elections. We have enjoyed working with you and for you. A lot has been achieved over the last 27 years since I first became the Councillor for Adel in 1999.

### Crimestoppers

I attended a presentation by Crimestoppers recently. A lot of people are fearful of reporting crime in case of retribution. Residents can report any crime they see to Crimestoppers completely anonymously. For example, if you know there is drug dealing going on regularly in a specific location you can let Crimestoppers know. Anyone calling their number or reporting online is protected by the fact that phone numbers coming into their system are scrambled and not retained and ip addresses are also scrambled and not retained. Crimestoppers is a charity that provides a way to give information about crime anonymously **24/7, 365**

**days** a year. Just ring them and tell them what you know about a crime over the phone on **0800 555 111**. They will never ask for your personal details, just what you know about crime. This means no police contact, no witness statement and no courts. There are some things they cannot deal with: Report an emergency, You are a victim of crime, Benefit fraud, Scam emails or phone calls, Untaxed vehicles, Minor driving offences, Dumped vehicles, Noise complaints, Fly-tipping or Missing people.

### Foster 4 Leeds

Leeds is looking for foster carers. Applications are welcome from any ethnic background, religion and sexuality, and it doesn't matter whether you are employed, unemployed, married, single or divorced. The most important thing is that you have a spare bedroom and time to give to a child. If you would like to find out more about fostering in Leeds you can email them at [Foster4Leeds@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:Foster4Leeds@leeds.gov.uk) or call 0113 378 3538.

### Airport Pick Up & Drop Off Charges – Increase

I have been advised of a change to the pricing structure of the airport's Pick Up & Drop Off (PUDO) car

parking offer from 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026. They attribute this to ongoing increases in the airport's operating costs, therefore have taken the decision to increase the PUDO charge to £8. Travelling Blue Badge holders will still have access to the PUDO for 60mins for the £8 fee. There is still the offer of one hour free parking onsite within close walking distance of the terminal.

### Leeds 400 Celebrations

On 13<sup>th</sup> July 2026 it will be 400 years since Leeds was granted its Royal Charter by King Charles I. Leeds 400 is a year-long celebration inviting residents, communities and visitors to come together to celebrate the city's rich heritage and vibrant future. With themes spanning sport, heritage, culture, learning, communities, innovation, and the future, Leeds 400 will showcase the

## BILLY FLYNN

Hi again. Spring has finally arrived and with it better and warmer weather. The Spring Equinox this year is on 20 March when day and night will be roughly equal in length.

### Potholes – bigger and deeper. The drivers among you are well aware

You may recall that some time ago I asked you to get in touch with me

creativity and diversity of the city and its people.

There will be concerts, music hall, dance, exhibitions, talks, lectures and much more. A dedicated website has been set up and has all the details you need. Just type "Leeds 400 celebrations" into your browser. Many events are free. If you are holding your own event you can have this added to the Leeds 400 web pages.

If you would like to celebrate by holding a Street Party you can apply to have the road closed. Schools may also want to get involved with a project.

The Leodis photographic archive has thousands of images of Leeds old and new. This can be easily accessed on the Leeds 400 webpage.

**Cllr. Barry Anderson**  
Adel & Wharfedale Ward  
Direct Dial 0113 336 7742  
[www.barryanderson.org.uk](http://www.barryanderson.org.uk)

about any large potholes you came across and a number of you did just that. I think it fair to point out the immense problem the council has had with carrying out repairs. The huge volume of rain we have had over the Winter period wreaked havoc with the road surface, notably where previous potholes had been repaired and where the road surface had any erosion. The heavy and persistent rain since mid-December

seeped into cracks, weakening the surface layers underneath with passing vehicles exacerbating the damage. It was so severe that in one week in February the council received ten times the normal number of complaints, 300 against 30. To address this, the council is trialling a new three in one system designed to make a permanent repair in just 8 minutes. We shall see! Highways are concentrating on repairing potholes on more heavily used routes but will eventually address those on side roads, but please do keep reporting problem areas and I will do my best to have repairs carried out.

**Green initiatives – to be (green) or not to be**

The council has announced its first on-street electric vehicle charging point. It is located on St Paul’s St and has four bays. A further seventy charge points are being rolled out across Leeds in residential areas, community centres, sports centres and so on. This is part of the government’s and the city’s drive to reduce carbon emissions and although the preferred green approach is to use public transport, cycle or walk this is not always an option. Plans to establish a Greenway on Holt Lane, to facilitate foot, cycle and horse traffic, are well underway. Although the proposal was received favourably by the public, a number of objections has caused a delay.

Highways officers are hoping that, following a meeting in mid-March, they can give the go ahead to the preferred contractor and work will start as soon as possible.

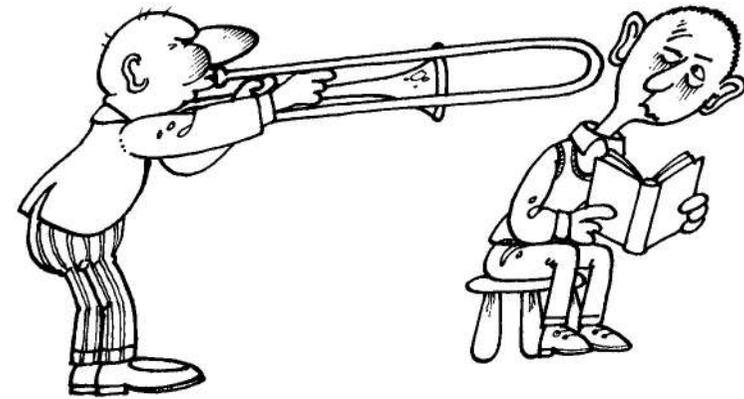
**Building, building everywhere and ne’er a green field to see**

I have been notified of another planning application for housing in Adel & Wharfedale Ward, although the suggested location is confidential at present. The ward is obviously a very pleasant place to live but it is essential that we have the proper infrastructure to support new residents. I can assure you that I will be emphasising to planning officers the need to fully consider the additional demands on GP surgeries, schools, public transport, highways and so on before planning permission is granted.

**Brown bin collection including food waste**

Garden waste collections are due to resume end March/early April: please check the council website for your own collection day. As notified previously, a food waste collection service is being trialled this year in Wetherby and Collingham, and if successful will be rolled out over time throughout the city.

Please do contact me.  
Telephone 07810 640282 or email [billy.flynn@leeds.gov.uk](mailto:billy.flynn@leeds.gov.uk)



Love thy neighbour – even when he plays the trombone.

**SOLUTIONS**

**Only 5 Clues  
General Knowledge**

- Across**  
1. BONNET  
3. PLEASE  
4. CHALET  
**Down**  
1. BIOPIC  
2. TALENT

**Only 5 Clues  
Cryptic**

- Across**  
1. CREATE  
3. RANGER  
4. ELATED  
**Down**  
1. CERISE  
2. EARNED

## Advertising

The magazine is published 10 times a year and goes out to 400 homes. It is also made available on our website so can reach a much wider public.

Full page £140 per annum  
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For further information contact:

**Gerald Gaunt**  
**0113 267 6708**  
geraldgaunt@btinternet.com

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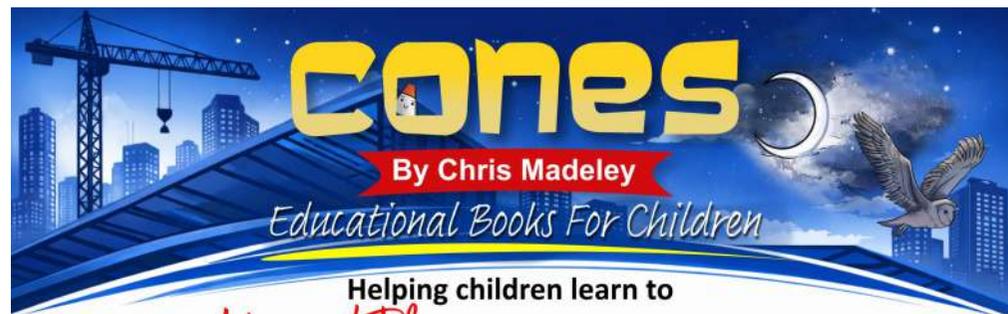
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Andy Wallis CMgr MCMI - Persimmon Homes

★★★★★

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## Two outstanding care homes in Yorkshire



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*"The facility is exceptional."*

*"Every member of staff shows kindness, support and care."*

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## Matthew Holmes

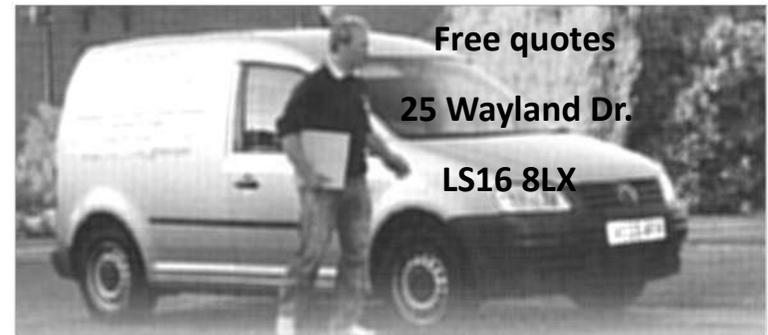
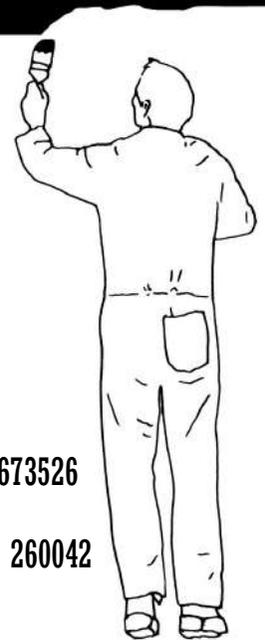
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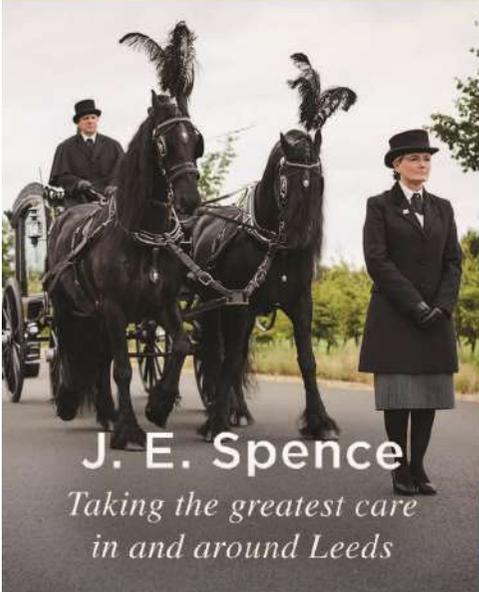
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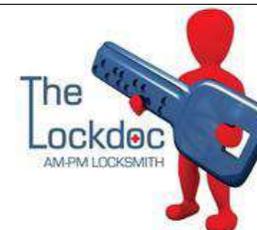
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# Church Services in April

<b>Wed 1st</b>	7.30pm	Compline
<b>Thurs 2nd</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	
	7.30pm	Sung Eucharist with foot washing, stripping of the altar and (optional) watch until 10pm
<b>Fri 3rd</b>	<b>Good Friday</b>	
	2pm	Good Friday Liturgy
<b>Sunday 5th</b>	<b>Easter Day</b>	
	6am	Dawn Eucharist
	10am	Parish Eucharist with a baptism
<b>Wed 8th</b>	11am	Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 12th</b>	<b>Second Sunday of Easter</b>	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Parish Communion
	5pm	ACE meeting in the Stables
<b>Wed 15th</b>	11am	Holy Communion
<b>Thurs 16th</b>	3.15pm	Holy Communion in the Stables, with tea & coffee
<b>Sunday 19th</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	All Age Service with Communion
	6.30pm	Evensong
<b>Wed 22nd</b>	11am	Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 26th</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Parish Communion
<b>Wed 29th</b>	11am	Holy Communion
<b>Junior Church</b>	is held during term time, but not on the 3rd Sunday when there is a 10am All Age service, with communion, and children are welcome for the whole of the service in church.	
<b>ACE</b>	is a group for school year 4 and above. We meet in the Stables in term time to discuss our faith and play silly games. Ace+ start s at 6pm on 2nd Sunday of the month in church (at the Ace communion) and 6.15pm on 4th Sunday of the month in the Stables.	