ADEL BELLS

Parish Magazine 70p

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2026

A section of our "All things bright and beautiful window" in the South wall of Adel Church

My volunteering role in the café gave me an outlet
A comforting illusion · A deeply personal service
It is not all doom and gloom · Journeying together
Poppies needed · We learn from one another
How can I pass that help along? · For fun

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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

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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds

Adel PCC Members 2026—2027

Anne Andrews, Paul Barker, Lucy Best-Shaw, Trevor Brown, Bruce Buchan, Marisa Clayton, Marjorie Cole, Bob Holloway, Alison Howarth, Sarah Johnson, Jenny Jones, Sandra Lavery, Sue Lawson, Loveday Loveridge, Andrew Neal, Carole Smithies, Bill Winlow, Leanne Winfield

Magazine Editor

Marjorie Cole

Illustrator

Val Crompton

Church Open for Visitors

Monday and Saturday 1.45pm to 3.45pm

Parish Registers

Baptisms

7th June
Harry Matthew and Max Phillip Chapman, sons of Amy Elsegood and Matthew Chapman

Funerals

22nd June
Neil Gaydon

30th June
Alan Jones

Burial of Ashes

15th June
Wendy Patrick

16th June (with Memorial Service)
Mike Gledhill

21st June
Rona Towey

Burial

15th June
Kevin McGuire

Festivals & Feasts

6th August
Transfiguration of our Lord
15th August
The Blessed Virgin Mary
24th August
Bartholomew the Apostle
14th September
Holy Cross Day
21st September
Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist
29th September
Michael & All Angels

This is my Father's world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings; and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world:
the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
He shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world:
O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring!
God reigns; let earth be glad!

Maltbie Davenport Babcock

ACE
Association for Church Editors

Adel Parish Church
St John the Baptist

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

From the Editor

As usual August is a quiet month in Adel. If you are lucky enough to be on holiday I hope you have a rewarding and relaxing time.

We have had some enjoyable social events this year at Adel Church, where we have welcomed new faces. Our next event is a talk given by Professor Joyce Hill on 26th September. Joyce is always very informative and has an incredible ability to answer fully any question you might put to her. Details of this event are on p. 15.

Last month I gave thanks to the many volunteers who make such a difference in our community. I thought afterwards that it would be good to hear of specific examples, so I asked Nonie Varney who volunteers at York Gate to give us some idea of what she does and why she does it. I was amazed by how much she does and plans to do in the future. You can read all about it on p. 14. In the next edition we will be hearing from Sandra Mclean who leads a vitally important group of volunteers called 'Litter Free Adel', the need for them being a sad reminder of how easily people drop litter that they could take home with them.

Please note that our churchyard work party does not meet in August, but they will be meeting again on **Saturday 12th September at 9.30am.** Do consider joining them if you can. More volunteers to thank?

Marjorie Cole

Postage Stamps

Thank you to all those people who leave used postage stamps for me in church. I take them to Guiseley WI who send them to Bone Cancer Research. Last year the amount raised from stamps for this charity was £12,000. There seems to be less stamped mail these days so it is important to re-cycle all the ones we can, especially as postage is so expensive.

Beryl Thompson

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RECTOR ALISON'S LETTER

July 2026 was definitely the month of the World Cup, and due to the magazine deadline, I am writing this before we know the end of the story! I wonder what it meant for each of you?

Was it staying up until the early hours of the morning? Or trying desperately **not** to come across results of an England match before you had chance to watch it? Were you glued to the television; fed up of football; or just too busy watching Wimbledon?

I'm not a great football lover. I have been fascinated though by the reporting and the social media around the event. Football, it seems, brings out the worst and the best in us.

There was from the first the irony of the USA being joint hosts with a country their president has repeatedly condemned, and another he suggested annexing. There were the scandals involving ticket pricing, and travel bans on referees, staff and fans from some countries. There was the red card incident…

However, once the tournament began, we heard of locals getting behind the teams training in their neighbourhoods. Places sought to outdo each other in their welcome events: the University of Kansas marching band learned the Algerian national anthem; windows were full of national flags; locals flocked to watch training sessions; cities celebrated with home fans when their nations triumphed.

Perhaps US citizens were reminded that different doesn't necessarily mean dangerous. Perhaps the rest of the world remembered that a few high-profile people do not show what the average American is like. I'm sure mistakes were made along the way, but the intent was wonderful. However sick we were of football by the 19th July, those can only be positive things for the whole world.

Summer is traditionally a time for travel, to new areas of the country or the world. Hopefully it is also a

time for learning about local customs, meeting people from other cultures. We might be the visitors, or we might be in Britain meeting travellers from other lands. Either way, the chance to meet in person almost always leads to increases in understanding and the breaking down of barriers.

One of the lovely things about our church family is the range of ages and life experiences represented, and how much we learn from one another. We would love to have your presence, and your wisdom, in our worshipping community, churchyard or church sitting teams. We hope to be welcoming, but the best way to improve is by people telling us when we don't quite get it right.

Wherever you are travelling this summer, far or near, I pray that you do so safely, and are blessed by those you meet.
With love and prayers

Alison

A new gospel stand

A team from Lighthouse Church, working at Horsforth Shed, helped make the gospel stand which was presented to us last month. It was made in memory of Mary Larner and her love of wildlife. This is what they said about their experience.

Charlene, *'I met Mary once. She was lovely. It was great to make something to remember her.'*

Tom, *'We enjoyed going to choose the wood - we chose Oak and some Wenge wood.'*

Andrew, *'Going to the Horsforth shed gives us the chance to make nice things.'*

David, *'It was a privilege to help make something for the church.'*

Coming up soon

Sunday 20th September
1.30pm
FAMILY FUN AFTERNOON
Details to be announced later

St JOHN's Junior CHURCH

Term Time Sundays at 10am*

Fun, stories, crafts and friendship for children age 3 – 11 years.

Held in the Old Stables Hall next to church.

Children start in church with their families and then enjoy age-appropriate groups with caring leaders.

New families always welcome.

No booking needed — just come along!

*Except the third Sunday of a month where there's an All-Age Service in church

https://adelparishchurch.org.uk Adel Parish Church

May 2026 v2

Adel Parish Church
St John the Baptist

REV'D IAN REFLECTS

Religion v Opium

Do you think your faith is a sop to calm you in a troubled world? Of course not. But Karl Marx opined (or believed he observed) that "Religion is the opium of the people."

He meant that religion is a comforting illusion produced by oppressed people themselves (that's us) in response to their material suffering. Further, religion was a tool used to dull people's willingness to fight to change the world, and that religion generally promotes a sense of resignation rather than individual and collective agency.

I find it curious that even today there are people who believe this to be the case. Curious because that doesn't at all sound like the reality of our Christian lives, of Christian faith and activity in the world. Marx sees material suffering as the product of unjust political systems rather than suffering being the reality of our lives, of which material suffering is but a part. No political system can protect us from death and grief.

But the line we can really challenge and refute is that our faith makes us passive in the face of injustice and makes us unwilling to fight to change the world. Whilst we have to admit that the universal Church has not always been on the side of the poor and marginalised, it has been and continues to be the people of the Church - you and me - who are precisely seeking to address injustice and heal divisions - to build the Kingdom of God.

And not only do we reject passivity and resignation, we have, thanks to research in South America, evidence that belief in the importance of religion is directly correlated with belief in individual agency. That is, respondents to a survey who said that religion is important also believed that "individuals like me can make a difference in the world." Contrariwise, those who did not believe religion to be important did not think that they could make a difference to the world.

Those who think religion a sop to calm us are just plain wrong. What they do not see is the power that drives our Christian lives. Not material things but love, love for all, love that inspires the action to make the world better for all. It is love that drives us to go out and make a difference, to build the very Kingdom of God - a Kingdom precisely of justice, where all flourish.

Ian Johnston

IN BRIEF

Your opinion is important

At Ripon Cathedral they aim to be there for everyone. Next year they will be celebrating a 1350 years anniversary. They would like to hear people's thoughts as they look to the future and identify their priorities. The PCC has been asked to help with this process. A questionnaire can be accessed online by using the following QR code. Please could you complete the questionnaire before the end of August?

Poppies needed

For Remembrance Sunday, Adel Community Garden would like to have a display of poppies similar to the ones at Adel Church. Help is needed with the knitting/crocheting of the poppies. Patterns can easily be found online. If you can make some and hand them in by mid-October, we would have time to get the display ready. Please email me if you can help in any way.

Barbara Wright
wrighties@hotmail.co.uk

Deanery Synod

With many thanks to Mark Seaward on his years of faithful attendance at the Deanery Synod, as he steps down in 2026. I have been a Deanery Synod representative since 2023, and at that time Mark was already involved on the Synod. Thank you, Mark, for your support, guidance and friendship.

What is a Deanery Synod?
Here in Adel we are not all on our own as a church. We are part of a group of local churches in the "North West Leeds Deanery Synod". This group forges links between our local churches, and the diocese, and has an important role in working towards the future within Leeds.

What is a "Synod"?
A Synod simply is an official assembly of clergy and lay members, the word coming from the Ancient Greek words for 'Journeying Together".

So, what do we talk about?
Lots of different things! Over the past year topics have included - Vision and Mission, Parish Share, Safeguarding, Growing Faith and Church Growth, Identity and Race.

Adel has an allocation for 4 Lay Members on Deanery Synod, and we currently have 1 vacancy. Our current representatives are Paul Barker, myself, Bill Winlow, and Alison Battye (as clergy). If you feel like you'd like to be involved too, just get in touch!

Leanne Winfield

Letter from Lily

Hi Everyone,

I hope that you are having a good summer and managing to keep comfortable. It's been a bit hot for me and I have had to suffer yet another indignity, another one of my Mum's 'bright' ideas for my 'comfort!' I'll tell you in a minute.

YESSSS! We have been on holiday – it wasn't what I was anticipating, but one can't have everything! We were supposed to travel on a Wednesday, but it was far too hot so my Mum & Dad decided to have a resting day, all the blinds were down to keep cool – very boring. Then, now listen to this! They decided to go to bed early and then leave home at *2.00 a.m.* It was *DARK!* My Mum had had one of her brainwaves (always makes me apprehensive – there you are! I've learned how to spell it since last month! Who's a clever Poodle then?). She put a cotton sheet in the freezer for two days, put it into *my bed* in the car with my pink towel on top and expected me to sit on it! I slept all the way and actually, it was super. I was cool all the time but please don't tell her I said so.

We got down to Uphill at about 7.15 and went straight to the beach – best idea they'd had all night! It was lovely and cool, I had a good sniff and run on the sand, chased a few seagulls and then we went to our family's house. Hmmm, now where is my rabbit friend? No hutch, not a good start and then I heard that the last one had died. Not sure what 'died' is so I'm presuming it has gone on a sort of holiday.

Anyway, back to my Mum's bright idea. As I've said, it is HOT. Hotter here than at home and I learnt that we were in the reddest part – don't understand that bit. So, my Mum gets a parcel delivered for me. Lovely, I like these, was it treats? Not this time. She had bought me *boots* with bobbly bits on the underneath. Apparently they were to stop my pads getting burnt on hot roads and pavements. I gave her one of my 'looks' and patiently endured these being put on, but she finally realised that the grass was cool and took them off. I'm keeping my paws crossed she loses them!

I know, sorry, I'm being very ungrateful. Once I had thought about it I realised that she was only doing as God does for us. She was trying to make sure I was cared for and had what I *needed.* I did say 'thank you' as we must say to God when he gives us the good things we need.
God bless and see you soon.
Woofs & Lix
Lily xxx

Something to think about

We all need a boost in life

In the foyer of a theatre hosting our great-nieces' dance-show, there was a stack of plastic items. "What are these, mummy?" a kid in front asked. "These are booster seats," came the reply. "What's a booster?" "You put one on the seat, to makes it higher, so that little people can see better. It boosts you, lifts you up." "I'll need one, mummy!" And in seconds, a delighted child was heading into the theatre with her personal booster seat, kindly provided by a helpful attendant. When we got into the theatre, it was clear that lots of kids were benefitting from their own personal booster seat. Which is just as well, for the dance-show was excellent.

We have a new Wi-Fi system at home. After it was installed, we found there were "dead spots" in the house, areas where the Wi-Fi signal was weak. An engineer came, checked the signal strength throughout the house (with some clever equipment) and installed boosters – "relay equipment, sir" – in two rooms. Marvellous! No dead spots now, eh? From kids in theatres to Wi-Fi systems at home, boosters clearly matter.

It was no different for the actress, Lucille Ball, it appears. Not that she needed her seat raised, and she was around long before Wi-Fi. But she knew what it meant to be boosted, to be encouraged, helped, lifted up. She knew who her boosters were, and she was grateful. But she also knew that she could never repay those who had given her a boost. A *quid pro quo* might never be possible. So, what was she to do? The obvious! Pass on the good will and offer a boost to someone else who needed help.

Offering a boost
really, really matters

Today, I invite you to think about the people who have given you a boost in life: recently or a while ago; in small or big ways; in knowledge or faith; in emotional or practical offerings. Make a note. Say a prayer. Appreciate, appreciate … And then ask yourself, "How can I pass that help along? Who else needs an encouraging boost from me right now?"
A theory from Lucille Ball? I'm grateful to her for assisting me with this thought – because offering a boost really, really matters.

An original reflection
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Swallowsnest.wordpress.com

Environmental news

The Hidden Cost of an EV
Last month I wrote about our experience with EVs, often seen as a solution to cutting our carbon footprint. They promise cleaner air, quieter roads, and a future with fewer greenhouse gas emissions. While they certainly have many environmental benefits compared to traditional petrol and diesel cars, they are not as "green" as many people believe. Behind every shiny electric vehicle is a story of mining, manufacturing, and waste that has a real impact on the planet.

Most EV batteries rely on minerals such as lithium, cobalt, and nickel. Mining these materials can have serious environmental consequences. Large-scale mining operations, often in poorer countries, exploit workers' rights, destroy natural habitats, contribute to deforestation, and consume enormous quantities of water, where it is already scarce. Where there is money to be made, human rights and environmental protection often come last.

There are also concerns about the long-term availability of critical minerals. As demand for electric vehicles continues to grow, with over 64,000 new EVs registered in the UK in June alone, competition for battery materials is expected to increase. This could lead to increased mining activity and greater tensions between countries.

Battery production is highly energy-intensive. It requires substantial amounts of electricity, which can produce significant carbon emissions. Although electric vehicles may offset these emissions over their lifetime, the environmental impact of battery production remains considerable. Battery disposal and recycling present another obstacle. Recycling technologies are improving, but they are not yet widespread enough to efficiently recover all valuable materials. If batteries are not handled properly, hazardous chemicals could contaminate soil and water, creating additional environmental risks.

Despite these challenges, it is important to recognise that electric vehicles still offer significant environmental benefits. Rather than viewing EVs as a perfect solution, policymakers, manufacturers, and consumers should acknowledge both their advantages and their limitations. Continued investment in cleaner mining practices, ethical sourcing, improved battery recycling, and the development of alternative battery technologies will be essential to reducing the hidden costs of the transition to EVs.
Tang x

To volunteer or not?

Volunteering makes my life worthwhile

I have always been a person who cares very much for others. From a young age I knew that nursing was the career for me, because I felt the need to help other people.

Since I retired from my job in medical research, and during my dear husband's illness and subsequent death, my volunteering role at York Gate, in the café, gave me an outlet, a bit of time when I could just be away from my daily routine and enjoy meeting the many visitors we have to the café and the beautiful gardens. In the café we have a diverse number of visitors, even some who come the same time each week, sit at the same table, and place their regular order. We get to know them, hear about their holidays, their grandchildren and their own gardens. When we don't see them for a couple of weeks, some are grateful if we say we've missed them, ask about their health, and simply take an interest in their welfare.

Its good also to work with other volunteers at York Gate, and see how they regard their roles; some like gardening, work in plant sales, or in the shop. Others like meeting and greeting guests in the car park to direct them to the café or gardens, some work taking card payments in admissions. Some do the very important job of taking people on guided tours round the garden I'd worry I might forget the names of the plants if I was put on the spot.

In the café they are usually four or five of us, serving, clearing tables, and tackling the never-ending piles of washing up. When the call of "Food/ Drinks to go!" comes, we line up in the kitchen to collect and deliver the teas, coffees, and delicious food to the visitors, which gives us a chance to exchange a few words with them, likewise when we clear up at the end.

I have recently been able to extend my volunteering by combining it with my Christian commitment; I used to sing in the church choir, but

circumstances prevented me from doing so. However now with more time to spare I have really enjoyed being part of it again. Singing is so joyful that I leave church refreshed and with a renewed spirit. More recently I assist at funerals; my role is greeting mourners and directing them to their seats, answering any questions they may have, and making sure they have an Order of Service. I may also be needed at the graveside for a burial of ashes or an interment.

I am hoping to add Church Sitting to my list very soon, welcoming visitors to our beautiful and historic church, and I've just joined the Social Committee. All these ways of combining my Christian commitment with my desire to help people.

Volunteering is a great job; I would recommend it to anyone who has a few hours to spare.

Nonie Varney

Time-Travel through Place-Names: A Sideways Look at the History of Leeds

Saturday 26th September

An illustrated talk
by **Professor Joyce Hill**
in the Old Stables

Meet at **2pm** for tea/coffee and biscuits. The talk will start promptly at 2.30pm

£5 per person, booking needed

An illustrated exploration of what lies behind the names we are so familiar with – the name of Leeds itself, our river, the major streets of the city centre, and some of the surrounding areas, once separate from Leeds, but now but very much part of the city? It's a detective story that, as we unravel it, tells us a lot about our city's deep history.

Book in church at the start of September or email

adelparishchurch@gmail.com

From the PCC

The PCC met on a very hot evening in July. Here are a few of the items discussed at that meeting.

Bill Winlow, whom most of you will know as a member of our choir, was welcomed as a new representative on the Deanery Synod. It was noted, however, that we have room for one more. We also thanked Mark Seaward for his service in this role over many years.

It was noted that when we reach the end of the month we always have a surplus of copies of Adel Bells, our award-winning magazine, and they end up in recycling. We shall reduce the number of copies we order to avoid such wastage.

The ramp in church needed to facilitate wheelchair use will be repaired, although a vital component has gone missing. Paul will investigate what can be done.

The fabric committee highlighted the problem of cyclists racing along the path through the Churchyard and ignoring our signs or instructions. The new footpath, the Corpse Way exiting opposite the church gate, seems to be encouraging this. The fabric committee will discuss the possibility of metal signs which will not be easy to tear down.

It was suggested we take part in the Yorkshire in Bloom campaign next year. This would help to increase the ethos of our much loved and appreciated churchyard.

Leanne reported to us the discussion at the last Deanery Synod about finance and parish share. The need for our worshipping community to understand the importance of parish share was discussed. We shall be running a Stewardship Campaign in September and information leaflets will be distributed. Leanne also told us about a Leeds Area Forum to be held on 4th November to which all are welcome.

Alison spoke about the joyful moment when we took possession of a beautiful wooden Gospel Stand in memory of Mary Larner. It was created for us by members of Lighthouse Church and was presented to us on 5th July. The stand, decorated with flora and fauna, things of great importance in Mary's life, bears a brass plaque with her name engraved on it.

Leanne has agreed to act as deputy churchwarden, ready to take over if Anne or Alison are not present.

The meeting closed with us saying the Grace.
Marjorie Cole

Adel pharmacy explained

Welcome to Adel Pharmacy
At Adel Pharmacy, we are proud to be more than just a place to collect your prescriptions. As your local, independent community pharmacy in North Leeds, we provide trusted healthcare, expert clinical advice, and a deeply personal service for the people of Adel and our surrounding neighbourhoods.

Good healthcare starts with speaking to someone who genuinely knows you, your family, and your medical history. That is why **Nira** and her experienced pharmacy team are always on hand to answer your questions, manage your medications, and help you access the right care precisely when you need it. Whether you have lived in Adel for decades or are completely new to the area, we look forward to welcoming you into the pharmacy.

Why Choose Adel Pharmacy?
• Benefit from consistent, face-to-face care for your ongoing health needs.
• No GP Appointment Needed – Skip the long wait times at your surgery by speaking directly with our team for immediate healthcare advice.

Our Core Clinical Services
Free NHS Care & Prescriptions
• NHS Pharmacy First – seven common minor illnesses (including earaches, shingles, and UTIs) without you needing to see a GP.
• NHS Vaccination Clinic – Protect yourself and your loved ones against seasonal illnesses with our convenient, in-pharmacy vaccination services.
• Prescription Management – Easily nominate Adel Pharmacy for your electronic prescriptions (EPS). We ensure your medicine is prepared accurately, safely, and on time.

Private Healthcare & Wellness Clinics
• Travel Health Clinic – Planning a trip abroad? We offer expert country -specific health consultations, travel vaccinations, and preventative medications.
• Ear Wax Removal Clinic – Clear your hearing safely and gently with our modern, in-house ear micro-suctioning equipment.
• Medically Supervised Weight Management – Achieve your personal health goals with discrete, professional support and access to the latest clinical treatment options.

Visit Us or Get in Touch Today
Pop in to meet the team, discuss your prescriptions, or ask us any healthcare question.

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Words from Joyce Hill

Bernard of Clairvaux and the Cistercians

Last month, prompted by the Feast of St Benedict on 11 July, I wrote about the origins of monasticism and how Benedict's Rule of Life gradually came to be *the* monastic Rule in early medieval western Christendom. The complete dominance of this Rule, written in the sixth century, can be dated to the early ninth century and came about with the support of Charlemagne. Before that, the monasteries of the Western Church followed many different Rules: some used Benedict's, some used often fairly similar Rules written by others, and many used individual Rules drawn up by the founding abbot of the particular monastery, which often brought together elements from these earlier sources and from mixed Rules that they were familiar with in the monasteries of their day.

By the end of the eleventh century, however, there were those who thought that Benedictine monasticism needed to be reformed, to go back to what they saw as its purer and more austere ideals, and so the Cistercian Order was founded. It still followed the Benedictine Rule, but more strictly, with a greater degree of geographical withdrawal; it laid more stress on manual labour; and, although it spread across Western Europe, it remained centralised in its governance, with Provinces owing allegiance to the Mother House. With the Cistercians we also see the development of a standardised layout of monastic buildings, familiar to us from the great Cistercian ruins of England such as Rievaulx and Fountains. This powerful centralisation and standardisation had not been characteristic of Benedictine monasteries up to this date. Of course, the Cistercians did not supplant the existing Benedictines, and were always quick to say that they were Benedictines themselves, but they rapidly became the most popular, prosperous and powerful Order, even absorbing some smaller Orders and individual monasteries that attempted similar reform around this time.

Bernard of Clairvaux, whose feast-day we keep on 20 August, was not the founder of the Cistercians, but he was by far the most influential of the Order's early leaders. The actual founders were monks from the Benedictine Abbey of Molesme, led by Robert. In 1098 they established the first Cistercian monastery at Cîteaux (Latin Cisterium, hence Cistercian) near Dijon. This was a modest enterprise at first and it was not until the time of their third abbot, an Englishman named Stephen,

who was abbot from 1109 to 1134, that the new monastic house really began to flourish and plan to establish new foundations. Bernard, born of noble parents nearby, entered Cîteaux in 1113, along with thirty other young Burgundian noblemen, including his own brothers. Only two years later, Abbot Stephen directed him to choose a place for a new monastery. Bernard chose Clairvaux which, under his remarkable leadership, became one of the most influential religious houses in Europe. It was largely because of him — ascetic, mystical, learned, outspoken, sometimes obstinate, prolific in his writing and preaching, and with the ability to build connections within secular and ecclesiastical society — that the Cistercian Order spread dramatically throughout western Europe. In 1145 a Cistercian monk and former pupil of Bernard was even elected Pope, and it was this Pope, Eugenius III, who announced the Second Crusade (1147-49). It turned out to be a failure, but its initial popularity was largely driven by Bernard's powerful preaching, and its sorry outcome was a great disappointment to him. Bernard died in 1153 and was canonized in 1174. He was created a Doctor of the Church in 1830.

MY ADEL - MY HOME

Part 2

At the end of last month's piece we learned of Ian's interest in stained glass, so we take up the story at that point.

When I retired in 2010 I envisaged a future in which I would be able to develop my love of stained glass and I undertook a few commissions. But through the Adel Association I became aware that the government was keen to promote neighbourhood planning, for communities to have a say in their local area, to develop a Neighbourhood Plan that would become part of local planning law and should be considered in planning applications. With the encouragement of Barrie Hopson, Chairman of the Adel Association, and Councillor Barry Anderson, Nick Brown, a local architect, and I agreed to work towards the establishment of the Adel Neighbourhood Forum. Starting from scratch, we called on the favours of a few people we knew to get a steering group established, to consult the community about what they wanted to see in Adel and to invite local residents to become part of the Neighbourhood Forum. It took a long time to get the plan established- 12 years in total! This was far longer than we anticipated as the plan had to comply with planning law and be subject to independent scrutiny. But we got it over the line with the plan being endorsed by the local community in June 2025.

We commissioned an Adel Housing Market Assessment in 2014 to determine the housing needs of the local area as there were concerns that developers were not interested in the needs of the local area. I remember Sylvia, a longstanding member of the Church and Adel Association saying, 'I live in my family home. It is far too big for me now. I want to remain in Adel near to my friends but the developers don't want to build smaller houses suited to my needs for which I could pay the market rate, and which would release a family home back into the market.' When we put this to the developers, their response was that they didn't build this kind of smaller housing. (with a subtext that it didn't produce the return they were looking for.)

My experience over the last 14 years is that this attitude mainly applies to the large developers, but there are some, such as the one currently involved at the Adel Reformatory site, who have shown a genuine willingness to engage with the local community. They have produced imaginative designs and made best use of a difficult historic site that had been allowed to deteriorate over many years by the previous owners - the council.

As I enter my later years I have now stepped back from the Neighbourhood Forum's steering group to allow others to take up the challenge. Adel will continue to see change and cannot stop development but it needs to be appropriate to the needs of the area and to respect its green environment – once it's gone it's gone. Adel has its locally elected representatives but they need help to understand the nature of the community's wishes and this will not happen by chance.

One of my biggest disappointments is that we have not been able to see a play area in Adel. Nearly everyone with children or grandchildren has wanted to see this come to fruition and sites have been suggested, but either the landowners are not interested or the site fails the council's criteria that it has to be overlooked by housing. In Sure Start we followed the principle that play areas should be in pram- pushing distance from home, would provide stimulation and fun for children and provide a meeting point for parents and relieve social isolation.

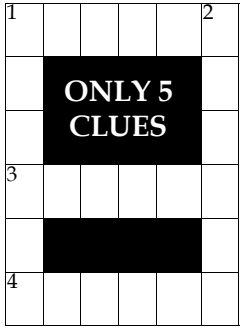
I feel I failed in delivering this for Adel; I know many are concerned about this issue. If you care about Adel I hand over the responsibility to you to fight for its future.

Ian Bond

In my introduction last month I mistakenly referred to the Adel Neighbourhood Design Forum. Please ignore the word 'Design' . Editor

PUZZLES

General Knowledge Clues



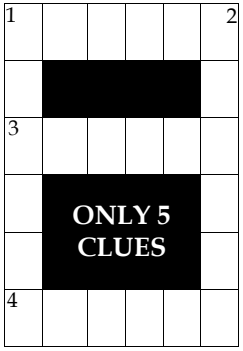
Across
1. Traditional usage
3. You put these up to signify approval
4. Ukraine peninsular, scene of war (1853-1856)

Down
1. Reviewer of eg. a play
2. Unhealthy vapour

Cryptic Clues

Across
1. In Cyprus settlers find apple
3. Do it perhaps before leaving PC, and turn in hooligan
4. Obstruct basket

Down
1. Greatly enjoy sauce
2. Element of vote the right must secure



Up or Down?

This is a new type of puzzle. Look at the following confusing words. Study each letter in turn and move it one up or one down in the alphabet until you have a word that makes sense. For example QNMX (an animal) would be replaced by PONY. Now have a go at these three words.

T	O	B	H	M	A country

C	F	Q	M	J	O	A Capital city

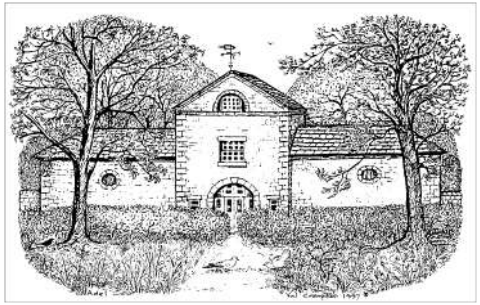
Z	B	M	H	S	Y	D	A world river

Puzzles compiled by Marjorie
solutions p. 53

HERITAGE OPEN DAY– 14TH SEPTEMBER

Adel Walk round Adel St John's Conservation Area

2pm-3.30pm*
Monday
14th Sept
with Val Crompton,
Wendy Grisedale
and Andy Mc George



Meet at Adel Stables **at 2pm**. End at Adel Church **3.30pm**.
*Book with Val
vjcrompton@ntlworld.com
for the
Conservation Area Walk.

Adel Church will be open until 4pm, then there will be a short walk in Adel Churchyard, with Val & Andy.

Adel Churchyard Walk
4pm

Guided Walk with Val Crompton & Andy McGeorge

We visit the listed graves - and other graves of special interest, including: The Inchbold White Cross, The Bray Cross, Sir George Martin, Capt Alec Gordon and P.O. Alec Bird.

In your garden

"August is the slow, gentle month that stretches out the longest across the span of a year. It yawns and lingers on with the light in its palms"

-Victoria Erickson

Now that we are in August we will all be searching for ways to prolong the feeling of summer. By the end of the month the evenings will certainly be drawing in and those incredibly hot sunny days of July will be a fading memory. The feeling of summer will be helped by more long, sunny days and warm weather but since this is never guaranteed then keeping your garden healthy, vibrant and in full flower will be far more reliable. The simplest and most productive thing you can do is to deadhead flowers regularly, ideally daily. It only takes minutes but provides weeks of subsequent reward. In many species this will encourage repeat flowering, significantly extending the season. For example Dahlias, roses and Penstemon are likely to benefit, but also your hanging baskets and summer bedding. If you deadheaded roses and geraniums earlier in the year then you will already be reaping the joys of a second flush of blooms. Most annuals will produce new flowers if the old blooms are removed before they go to seed. The likes of marigolds, petunias, begonias and pelargoniums and many more might continue to flower until the first frosts.

At the time of writing it is baking hot in the 30sC and I fear that some form of drought restrictions may be looming, if not already in place. By whatever means is available to you, do your level best to make sure you keep your hanging baskets and pots well watered, plus any new plants you have acquired, and of course any vegetables you may be growing. Collect or recycle as much water as you can. The plants are almost always so much healthier with consistent, regular watering. If you mulched your growing areas earlier in the year then you will now be really reaping the benefits. The soil beneath will be cooler and with less evaporation, and with no weeds taking out moisture, whatever moisture remains will last a lot longer for the benefit of the plants that you want.

If you like your spring bulb display then August is the perfect time to be ordering them. If you want new or enhanced spring colour then scour the newly released catalogues or search online. You should receive your orders in the autumn ready to be planted for a fine display next year.

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

Local History

Heritage Open Days

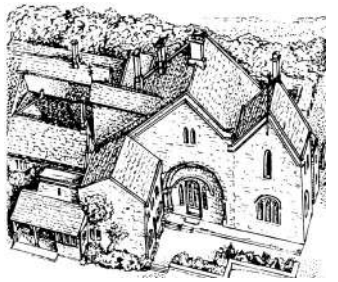
Adel Friends Meeting House and burial ground,
New Adel Lane, LS16 6AZ

will be OPEN on

Sunday 20th September

This 19th-century site features a free exhibition on Quaker history, local community life, and its historic grounds.
No pre-booking required.

Adel Friends Meeting House on New Adel Lane.
is a meeting place for walkers on the ***Adel Boundary Walk***.



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.
This a free, friendly local history group for adults aged 55+
Includes a hot drink.
No booking is needed.
Patrick Bourne. Kirkstall Abbey, Leeds LS5 3EH
Kirkstall.abbey@leeds.gov.uk
For details, **0113 378 4079**
or contact **Val Crompton**

6th August Pat Bourne
Comparative Snapshots of Leeds Past and Present

10th Sept Jackie Depelle
(Family Historian)
'A Grand Day Out'

We must act now

'The People's Emergency Briefing'

We are considering arranging a screening of the 'The People's Emergency Briefing'. This is a 45minute film calling for the Climate Crisis to be taken seriously. The people who produced the film want the Climate Crisis to be treated in the same way as the Covid pandemic with National Briefings on TV, so that everyone can understand what we are facing and what needs to be done.

It is not all doom and gloom. It is a call to act now to avoid the worst effects of our changing climate. Last November a conference was held in Westminster to brief our MPs on what needs to be done to mitigate the climate crisis. Experts from all walks of life – National Security / Health / Economy / Food Security / Nature / Energy Transition / Tipping Points / Climate / Nature / Weather Extremes - gave a short, c 5min, talk covering the likely impact climate change will have and what we need to be doing NOW to manage the inevitable changes we will face and to prevent some of the more extreme outcomes.

All of these talks are available on You Tube under the **National Emergency Briefing**. The film simply highlights the main points of the talks, interspersed with people's reactions. The main message is that we know what we can do to help ourselves and children and grandchildren – but for the most part we either aren't doing it or not moving fast enough to adapt our systems to cope with the new climate realities. The film is a call to get us to take the threat to our future seriously and ACT NOW.
We are planning to arrange a screening this autumn…we will publish the date in a future issue.

Sue Degnan

ADEL
Gardeners' Club
FLOWER & PRODUCE
SHOW

SATURDAY
29TH AUG
2.00 - 4.15 PM
(Prize-giving at 3.45pm)

METHODIST CHURCH
HOLT LANE
LEEDS LS16 7NX

Plant Stall
Flowers
& Floral Art
Fruit & Vegetables
Cookery
Arts & Crafts
Photography
Tea Room

Find full show details and the entry form at:

THE ADEL GARDENERS' CLUB WEBSITE:

www.adelhort.chessck.co.uk

NON-MEMBERS WELCOME

Entry–£1 for non-members UNDER 16s FREE
PLEASE NO DOGS (except assistance)

York gate update

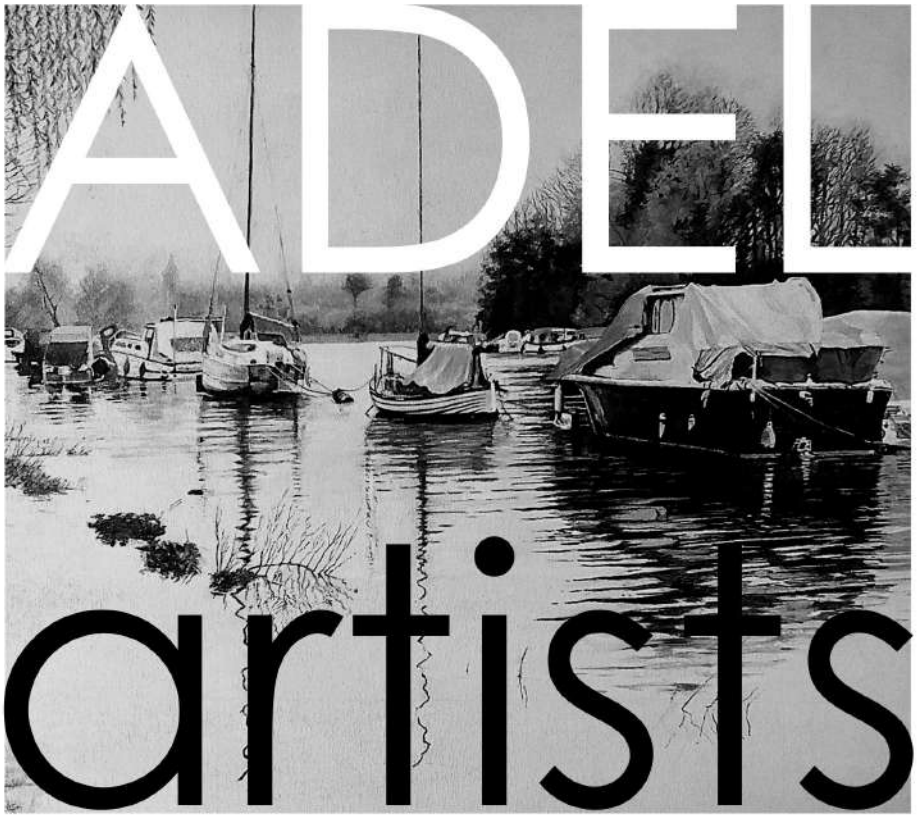
August brings the joys of high summer, a time of riotous, blowsy flowers, populated with bees and butterflies. It is also time to harvest salads and early vegetable crops and in the redesigned Kitchen Garden there are lettuces, leafy greens, chives and radishes as well as French and broad beans, courgettes and beetroot, most of which are destined for the Café. This year new stone pathways have been placed in the garden to allow easy access to the beds and a new feature are the espaliered fruit trees, apple and pear, which will be providing fruit in the coming years.

The Spencers arrived at York Gate at a time of food rationing after the Second World War and, in Robin's words, "it was a point of honour never to buy veg." There were originally two kitchen gardens providing sufficient vegetable crops to feed the family for the whole year. It was, therefore, quite amusing to read that he would "smuggle in some delicacies early in the year" adding that "life seems too short to deny oneself these luxuries." Although with the advent of the freezer, it became considerably easier to grow and store the fruit and vegetables which were gathered fresh.

As I write, we are having our second heatwave of the summer with more predicted in the months ahead. But then there's also the chance of sudden rainstorms, high winds and cooler temperatures. That's British weather! Whatever the weather throws at us, the gardeners will be hard at work ensuring that the garden is looking wonderful, creating a space for visitors to wander at their own pace, to search for hidden gems, or simply relax and find inner calm in our fast-paced and stressful world.

If you have visited York Gate recently, you will have noticed that there are new seats and benches dotted everywhere inviting you to sit a while and contemplate your surroundings in calm and peace. I always seek out one of my favourite seats and allow my senses to engage with the natural world around me, be that listening to a bird singing, watching a bee on a flower or taking in the scents around me. I try to be in the present but sometimes a past memory will be invoked and I let it take me to another time. Spending time in Nature, or in a garden, makes a massive difference to people's health and well-being, so do come along, find inspiration in the Kitchen Garden, enjoy the colourful confection of flowers and plants and reconnect with Nature.

Gillian Smith
Heritage volunteer.



OPEN GARDEN SHOW
17 WHINFIELD LS16 6AB
Sat 5th and Sun 6th September 2026,
11am to 4.30pm

Discovering, encouraging and sharing creativity in our community

SCAN THE CODE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE

What's on

Bramhope Flower Club
Wednesday 2nd September
'Blooming Trends'
7.30pm 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

Guided Walk

Sunday 13th September
'Kindness Remembered'
Meet at 2pm in front of the chapels
This walk is part of this year's heritage open days activities. It will be led by Ann Lightman. This is a free activity, but booking is recommended,
c.lightman@sky.com.

Adel Gardeners' Club
Monday 14th September
'Climate Change'
Sally Morgan
7.30pm Sally, who shone on Gardeners' World in Autumn 2025, says: "The long-predicted greater extremes of weather caused by climate change are well and truly upon us and our gardens are suffering. Our gardening practices need to catch up". Sally will offer us practical ideas to help us cope.
This meeting will be via a Zoom link to Adel Methodist Church Holt Lane Leeds LS16 7NX
Adelhort.chesssck.co.uk

The Arts Society Leeds
Wednesday 16th September
'Pevsner in Yorkshire—Nikolaus Pevsner and the Buildings of our part of England' Susie Harris
1.30pm
How did a German refugee from Hitler, an internee and a jobbing journalist, become the Grand Old Man of English architectural history? The answer lies in his extraordinary one-man survey of all the architecturally significant buildings in the country, county by county. Non-members are welcome to attend (Fee: £10).
Book in advance if possible: jcollins.tasl@virginmedia.com and arrive by **1.00 pm** to register.
At Castle Grove Masonic Hall, Headingley

Opal activities

OPAL continues to increase our offers to the local community and the school holidays is the perfect time to come and see us as we are offering some fantastic children's activities.

On **5th and 12th August** we are holding a Cheerleading Workshop for ages 4-12yrs (1-2pm). it is only £5 per child and includes a free hotdog and juice afterwards in the café. To book please see the Welcome In website (welcomein.org.uk).

On 6th and 14th August we are holding our seaside craft session for ages 3+ (**10-11am**), this session is only £3 per child. Please see the Welcome In website to book.

On 12th September we are holding our annual Community Day. There will be fun for all ages and everyone is welcome, so please come along and see what we do and the difference we make for our members all year round.

If you would like any more details about the services we can provide to our members please contact us on 01132619103, email admin@opal-project.org.uk or call in to see us at The Welcome In Community (55 Bedford Drive, LS16 6DJ

Shelley Clarke (she/her)

For fun

Initial Letters

Can you work out what the initial letters stand for, as in this example:
12 = M in a Y
12 = Months in a Year

1. 21=S on a D
2. 1440=M in a D
3. 8=P in a G
4. 3=W on a T
5. 5=G R
6. 1953=C of Q E
7. 101=D
8. 3=B M
9. 6=W of H the E
10. 7=C of the R

Answers on page 55

From our councillors

Hi everyone
I am writing this in the middle of Wimbledon. We still have a few weeks before autumn sets in so let us enjoy the warm weather while it lasts.

Ward councillors - keeping residents informed and vice versa

David Stoddart-Scott and Lee Farmer, our two new councillors, are now well bedded in and working hard to learn the ropes and cope with the labyrinth of council bureaucracy. One of the main priorities we agreed on quickly was to improve communications to and from residents, particularly those who are not terribly fond of social media – like me! We now have a regular newsletter that will usually be delivered by email – first edition went out on 5 July - which will cover ward and city news and events, plus special editions covering urgent roadworks, infrastructure work, emergencies, i.e. burst pipes that lead to road closures and so on. We have a new ward website and are liaising with local Facebook Groups that are very good at spreading the word in local communities. We have had to start from scratch on building up our email contact list and ensure that we comply with GDPR legislation on confidentiality, so this is taking a little time. Some of our readers are already on the contact list and if you would like to receive our newsletter, this is the link www.adelwharfedaleward.uk/#subscribe. I should emphasise that the communication vehicles we use are all strictly non-political and concerned only with keeping residents informed.

Forthcoming ward events

The Eccup 10-mile race has quite literally just finished as I write this and I followed the Rob Burrows marathon earlier this year. While these events do cause some disruption locally, I think most people are happy to put up with a little inconvenience for such good causes. Clearly, our fame is spreading because we will shortly also have the following events.
Ironman - This year's Ironman event takes place on 16 August. It just skirts the ward area via Arthington Lane (coming from the Harewood/Weardley direction.) Turning left up Black Hill Rd, Arthington Rd, then right into Church Lane (Adel) left into Back Church Lane and left again into Stair Foot Lane and onwards to Alwoodley.
Breeze in the park- This year's event again takes place at West Park Rugby Club on 27 August. It involves

giant inflatables, arts, crafts, games, sports and much more. Breeze in the Park is a lovely day out for children in Leeds. With 25 events (and 12 relaxed sessions for children with additional needs), it's local, low-cost, and full of high-energy fun. Tickets are just £1 per child and all activities inside are FREE. No pressure. Just a chance to play, explore and enjoy. You can book your tickets now at breezeleeds.org

PACT (Police and communities together) meetings

These are regular police meetings held out in the community to meet residents and discuss their concerns. The following are the PACT meeting dates this year. Please note that you can go to any of the meetings to discuss your local area. We will notify you if any of the dates change.

10/08/26, 6.30pm-7.30pm
Holt Park Active
21/09/26, 6.30pm-7.30pm
Headingley Golf Club (tbc)
02/11/26 6.30pm-7.30pm
Cookridge Village Hall (tbc)
14/12/26 6.30pm-7.30pm
Bramhope Village Hall (tbc)

The Leeds Local Plan – new consultation

The Local Plan will guide how Leeds grows and changes up to 2043. Your views are requested on the proposed scope of the Local Plan and how you would like to be involved in future consultations. The council is **not** consulting on detailed policy options or proposed site allocations. The next main consultation on sites is likely to take place in winter 2026/27. This will give you an opportunity to comment on policy options and potential site allocation choice. This consultation is open from **24 June to 5 August 2026**. You can view the consultation material and make comments online at: **https://leedslocalplan.commonplace.is**
You can also send your comments by email or post:
Email: leedslocalplan@leeds.gov.uk.
Post: Leeds Local Plan Consultation, Policy and Plans Group, Merrion House, Leeds, LS2 8BB. If you need any information, please contact the council by telephone - 0113 378 7993, or email at leedslocalplan@leeds.gov.uk.

If you would like further information on the items above or have questions about anything else in the ward, please do contact any of the ward councillors.

Group email:
cllrs@adelwharfedale.uk

Individual emails:
billy.flynn@leeds.gov.uk
Lee.Farmer@leeds.gov.uk
David.StoddartScott@leeds.gov.uk

Church Services in September

Wed 2nd	11am	Holy Communion followed by coffee & biscuits
Fri 4th	1.30pm	JJs in the Stables
Sunday 6th	**14th Sunday after Trinity**	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Parish Communion
	6.30pm	Evensong
Wed 9th	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 13th	**15th Sunday after Trinity**	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Parish Communion
	5pm	ACE meeting in the Stables
Wed 16th	11am	Holy Communion
Thurs 17th	3.15pm	Holy Communion in the Stables, with tea & coffee
Sunday 20th	**16th Sunday after Trinity**	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	All Age Service with Communion
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong followed by refreshments
Wed 23rd	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 27th	**17th Sunday after Trinity**	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Parish Communion
	5pm	ACE meeting in the Stables
Wed 30th	11am	Holy Communion

Junior Church 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.

ACE 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+ starts 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

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.

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This what some of our residents and relatives had to say:

"Excellent!"

"Very attentive service from the minute you walk through the door."

"The facility is exceptional."

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

For more information, or to arrange an appointment to view either **Adel Manor** or **Guiseley Manor**, please call the team on the numbers below or email **enquiries@newcarehomes.com**

Guiseley Manor Care Centre Otley Road, Guiseley, Leeds LS20 8FE Tel: 0113 323 0200
Adel Manor Care Centre Adel Gardens, Otley Road, Leeds, LS16 7FP Tel: 0113 841 1000
newcarehomes.com

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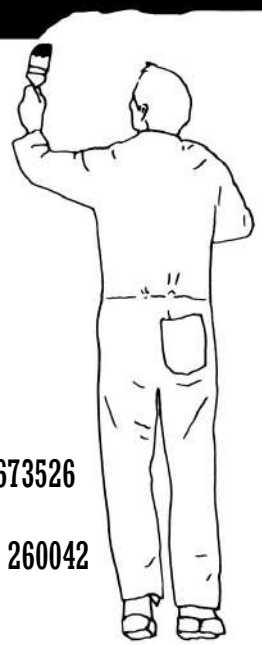

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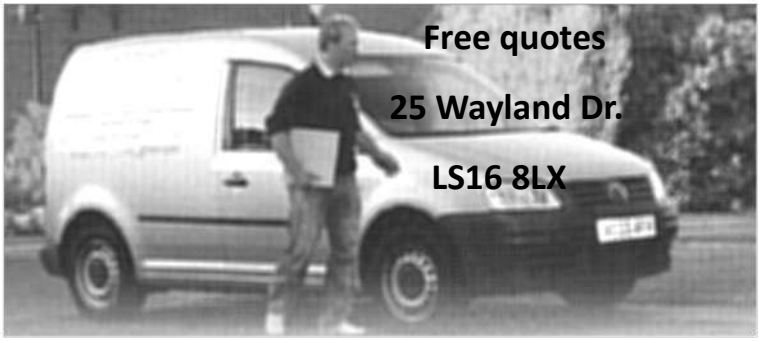

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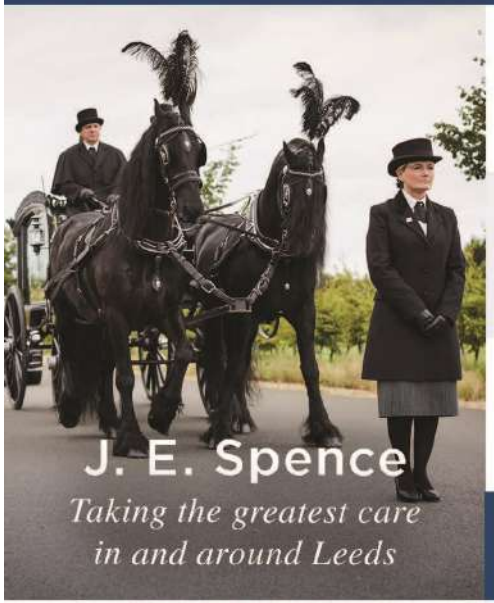

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Church Services in August

Details of September services are on p. 34

Sunday 2nd	**9th Sunday after Trinity**	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Parish Communion
	6.30pm	Evensong
Wed 5th	11am	Holy Communion followed by coffee & biscuits
Sunday 9th	**10th Sunday after Trinity**	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Parish Communion
Wed 12th	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 16th	**12th Sunday after Trinity**	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	All Age Service with Communion
	6.30pm	Choral Evensong followed by refreshments
Wed 19th	11am	Holy Communion
Thurs 20th	3.15pm	Holy Communion in the Stables, with tea & coffee
Sunday 23rd	**12th Sunday after Trinity**	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Parish Communion
Wed 26th	11am	Holy Communion
Sunday 30th	**13th Sunday after Trinity**	
	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am	Parish Communion

Junior Church, JJs and ACE do not meet in August