



# ADEL BELLS

Parish Magazine 70p



## February 2025

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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)

## Contents

### Our Church

Rector Alison's Letter	6
For your Diary	7
Also in February . . .	8
Paying for Adel Bells	9
In Brief	10
As Busy as a Bee	11
Letter from Lily	12
Environmental News	13
My Church Journey	14
Churchyard Enquiries	16
Window on the Past	18
Just for Fun	24
Lent 2025	26

### For your Interest

Joyce Hill	19
Puzzles	20
Candlemas Wordsearch	21
Ping-Pong A-Plenty	22
In Your Garden	23
OPAL	25
York Gate Update	27
What's On	29
Barry Anderson	30
Billy Flynn	32
List of Advertisers	59



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## Parish Registers

### Wedding

19th December

Brooke Elizabeth Nicholson and  
 Noel David Whelan

### Funerals

21st November

Deborah Hainsworth

22nd November

Ann Thornton

28th November

Hilary Abbott

14th December

Ivy Handley

16th December

Robert Barker

17th December

John Firth

### Burial of Ashes

29th November

Peter Larner

21st December

Ivy Handley



## Festivals & Feasts

2nd February

Presentation of Christ  
 in the Temple



### A Prayer for a New Year

Dear Lord,  
 Thank you for your wonderful world.

I hope there is lots of love and hope  
 around the world for the new year for  
 everyone.

I would like to pray for those who  
 don't have a home in the cold  
 weather and that someone can help  
 them keep warm.

Lord, hear our prayer.  
 Thank you.

**Rosie Rostron**  
**Age 5**



**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

Happy New Year to all our readers. It promises to be an exciting year for Adel Church with many things being planned at the moment. One thing the PCC is discussing is the possibility of a new kitchen for the Old Stables. The present one is in a sorry state and is beyond the stage where simple repairs can be made. A sub-committee has been formed to look into this, so keep watching here for more news. Hopefully, we might have something installed by the time of our Patronal Festival on 28th/29th June.

I was contacted recently by a reader who came across a very early copy of Adel Bells when sorting through his late wife's belongings. As many of us might do, she had kept the copy in which her son's baptism was announced. Dating from 1978, it bears little resemblance to the present day magazine, but these old copies still make interesting reading. Trevor Brown, the reader in question, has written something about his find on p. 18. What fascinates me is the appearance of sheep on the church step! Does anyone know anything

about that? Were there sheep grazing in the churchyard?

This month is the time to pay for your subscription to Adel Bells, whether you have it delivered, posted to you or you pick it up in church. Please read carefully the notes on p. 9 and don't hesitate to get in touch with me if there is anything you don't understand.

Meanwhile, please make a note of the diary dates on p. 7, particularly in respect of the Patronal Festival weekend, which is a week later than you might have expected. Please support us and help us to make this a joyous occasion.

### Preparation of a new Church Electoral Roll

Every six years we must prepare a new Church Electoral Roll. If you wish to be on the Roll, you must apply for enrolment, **whether you are on the present one or not**. The new Roll will come into effect on 6th April. More detailed information will be available by 6<sup>th</sup> February, either in church or by means of a poster on the church door.

**Marjorie Cole**

## Rector Alison's Letter

Dear Friends,

What is your relationship with social media? No doubt the readership of Adel Bells will include a wide array of responses to that question. I was quite slow to catch on, but out of COVID was born our family WhatsApp group. It's a way of checking in on people, but also allows three generations to share what they are doing. Six cousins are far more in touch than I have ever been with my extended family, and their Grandad loves seeing their exploits.

Facebook has been a great platform for our parish as we share church family news and keep up to date with each other. Val's photos often bring a bit of beauty into our lives, and the general election posts of Poppy (the dog) courtesy of Trevor, brought humour to what could be a quite unpleasant campaign at times.

On the other hand, many of us are aware of how much time we can spend on social media rather than getting on with our lives. Of late we have also been faced with the evil that can come out of such platforms. Lies are posted, and hatred stirred up... governments around the world have to deal with the power of social media to interfere in politics and the very running of countries.

Modern life is complex and it can

often be a challenge to know what to do for the best. One current topic of debate is whether to leave X (Twitter) because of the way it allows hatred to be spread...or to stay to try to be a voice for good.

Perhaps the best thing we can do, whether on social media or real life, is to remember that we are part of a community: local, national, international. Our decisions can affect those around us, for good or not so good. Words that amuse some can hurt others.

We are very lucky, here in Adel, to be members of a usually supportive local community. But as members of a beautiful church in a relatively affluent part of one of the safer countries of the world, we know how easy it can be to exist in a little bubble cut off from the world. We try hard to avoid this, and are grateful for the support of the wider community. We were especially grateful last year for help raising £1100 to help the desperate plight of the people of Sudan.

This year we will be looking outwards to the wider church in our Lent course, hearing other people's stories and considering how we might support them. Details are opposite, do consider coming along.

Later in the year we are hoping to host a 'Green Fair', as we try to work

out our response to the climate emergency affecting our brothers and sisters around the world.

If you have any other suggestions to help us engage with the world around...please get in touch.

With love and prayers

**Alison**

### 'Part of a Bigger Family'

A series of talks for Lent

Join us this Lent to hear other experiences of what it means to be a Christian in today's world.

Monday evenings in church  
7.00 to 8.30pm

**10<sup>th</sup> Mar** Kay Brown – chaplain, Abbey Grange C of E Academy

**17<sup>th</sup> Mar** Rev'd Stephen Hanscombe – vicar of Leyburn and Bellerby

**24<sup>th</sup> Mar** Rev'd Jon Swales – mission priest, Lighthouse Church, Leeds

**31<sup>st</sup> Mar** The very rev'd Andrew Nunn, formerly Dean of Southwark

### Dates for your diary

**5th March**

Ash Wednesday

**30th March**

Mothering Sunday

**20th April**

Easter Sunday

**28th June**  
Green Fair  
With stalls and refreshments

**29th June**  
Service of Confirmation  
led by Bishop Arun  
as part of our  
Patronal Festival weekend

## Coffee Morning

### Saturday 22nd February

in  
the Old Stables

at  
**10.30am**



Fresh filtered  
coffee, tea,  
friendship and  
cakes: what's not  
to like?

Also in February...

### Bible Study

10 am in the Stables

Thursday 13th February

Thursday 27th February

### Churchyard Workparty

9.30am

Saturday 8th February

'Rake, Cake & Chat'

### Coffee Morning Saturday 22nd February

10.30am

In the Old Stables

See p. 7

### Prayer Meetings

10am every Wednesday

In church or at home

Praying this month for:

Safeguarding Team

Environment Team

Crafting and flower Teams

# Paying for Adel Bells

**Subs are due (£6 per year/ £14 for postal subs)**

## Pay cash or cheque

If you have the magazine delivered to your door you can give your payment to the person who delivers it. Cheques should be made payable to Adel PCC. If you wish to post your cheque, please ring Sandra Lavery on 0113 261 2008 and she will tell you the address to use.

If you usually pick up a copy in church, do consider paying £6 at the start of the year instead of 70p every month. This makes it easier for us to know how many copies to have printed. You can give your payment to me (Marjorie). Alternatively, you can pay online - see below.

## Pay online

Use this link: [tinyurl.com/AdelSocial](http://tinyurl.com/AdelSocial). If the magazine is delivered to you, you MUST email [adelbellscm@gmail.com](mailto:adelbellscm@gmail.com), giving us your address and date of payment, so that we can inform the person in charge of distribution.

If you pick up the magazine in church, an email would help me to know the numbers of copies needed.

## Postal deliveries

If you do not live in Adel and choose to have Adel Bells posted to you, please send a cheque for £14 to Beryl Thompson, 10 New Adel Gardens, Adel, Leeds, LS16 6BD. Tel: 0113 267 3875

## New Subscribers

To have the magazine delivered to your door, you must live in Adel. Please send an email to [adelbellscm@gmail.com](mailto:adelbellscm@gmail.com), giving us your name and address. You will receive a reply containing information as to how to pay.

## Marjorie Cole (Editor)

# In Brief

## Fantastic Fungi

Have you walked round the churchyard recently? Have you seen that the beech tree has been felled and the trunk cut into circles to sit on? On all the cut sides you can see a purple spongy growth. It is Purple jellydisc, a fungus identified by the Mid Yorkshire Fungus Group on their recent foray.

In case you are interested in what fungi are in the churchyard they gave us a list of what was found. Unfortunately, it is too long to publish here, but there is a copy on the notice board inside the main room of the Old Stables.

## Hilary Taylor

## Foodbank donations

Many thanks indeed for your generosity in the couple of weeks before Christmas. We raised £96 in the collection box at the back of Church and topped this up with some of the money collected for coffee and ordered food at £135 cost from Approved Foods which bought us 2.5 times this amount in value. The money was spent three ways: some treats, plenty of staples and baby requisites.

Sadly, it is an absolute necessity that we continue to support the food bank

to help those who are struggling to feed their families. This collection is by no means a substitute for your very important and much-needed donations every week, which are a lifeline to so many, and so please do continue to give.

The collection box helps those who are unable to carry goods to church. This was a 'trial run' to see if this would work – I'm sure you will agree it was a resounding success thanks to everyone's generosity. Going forward, the collection box will be at the back of church, collecting through Lent for Easter, through mid-June to mid-July to help support families through the school holiday and again in mid-November into December for next Christmas.

God bless and many thanks,  
**Keith & Chris**

## 100 Club Draw

### November

- |                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| 1. A Hitchens    | £80 |
| 2. J Attebrah    | £40 |
| 3. E Cheesbrough | £30 |

### December

- |             |      |
|-------------|------|
| 1. G Steel  | £100 |
| 2. V Hinton | £50  |
| 3. A Dixon  | £40  |

# As Busy as a Bee

We hear a lot about how important insects are to our environment, particularly through pollination. Bees are fascinating, though they have suffered in recent times.

Whenever bee keeping comes up in the media it takes me back some forty years or so... When Pete started keeping bees I learned so much more about them. The story began for him during the war, visiting a relative who kept bees. He watched, and thought that was something he would like to do when he had his own home with a big enough garden. When the relative was disposing of his equipment Pete stored it - just in case.

Opportunity arose whilst officiating at a Sports Day at Foxwood School. When bees swarmed on to the school wall, Pete helped the rural studies teacher sweep the bees into a box which he put into the back of his car, driving with all the windows open, and bees flying everywhere. I had been alerted to expect Pete home, plus bees, so I prepared two young children eager to see what was about to happen. The hive was assembled, and we watched to see what would happen. If the Queen bee was in the box, all would be well, as she would enter her new home with the workers and drones following.

What an interesting sight it was, as a

mass of bees crawled out of the box and into the hive.

Our introduction to bee keeping had begun. We invested in the appropriate equipment: protective clothing, helmet, gloves, combs for the hive, smoker and extractor for the honey. Oh the honey! Absolutely delicious honey which we shared with family and friends. Over the years we watched the bees as they operated as a community together.

There is so much for us to learn from bees. They must live and work together in large numbers. They must operate as a team fulfilling different roles, for example the Queen producing eggs, the nursing bees looking after the larvae, worker bees collecting nectar to feed the larvae. Bees even communicate with each other. When the scout bees return to the hive they perform a special kind of waggle dance which indicates the flight path of a good source of nectar. So, teamwork, hard work, effective communication. The saying, 'as busy as a bee' is very true.

So, if you see me performing a waggle dance next Sunday, you know I will just be remembering that great communication is essential if we are to work as teams to support each other within our communities.

**Anne Dixon**

# Letter from Lily

Happy New Year Everyone!

I don't understand what a 'new year' is; I've heard everyone wishing this to their families and friends. I know it's a bit late so, as I didn't write a letter to you in January, I wish you one now.

Listening to your conversations, I've learnt that it's a time when you think about changes you would like to make and you make things called New Year Revolutions. No, that's not right – the 'v' should be an 's': Resolutions – that's it! Anyway, I decided to make some changes and try to be a better puppy.

First of all, after trying my hardest and running my fastest, I still can't fly. This probably comes as a surprise to those of you who have seen me run, and I promise you it's not from lack of perseverance. So, I have resolved to give up on birds. Crows, Magpies and particularly Kytes (or is it Kites?) can, well, just fly away and I shall turn my attention elsewhere – maybe squirrels or perhaps cats, but I don't like the looks they give me, so maybe not.

My best new achievement so far this year is I have learnt how to bark. I had to be firm with myself once I found I could really make a noise! It came out as a sort of howl, but now I can woof and bark properly. I'm very proud of myself – and my Mum doesn't have to say, 'bark properly' anymore; instead she says, 'good barking!' I also use my

bark to let them know there are unknown humans or dogs approaching.

I'm also working on helping my Mum to put my harness on me. I just *can't* resist teasing her – I ring my bell when I want to go out, she picks up my harness, I pick up a toy and run away. She's learning how to thwart me though. By shutting the lounge and bedroom doors she can trap me in the hall. So to be helpful, I am learning to do a 'paws-up' – that means back legs and tail on the floor, back very straight and front paws lifted up. I think she's grateful for my help. Mind you, I still haven't worked out what to do to help when she puts my coat on, but one thing at a time.

I've come to the conclusion that I really like helping – it's much more satisfying than doing my own thing all the time. The only exception is my chewing sticks – *no-one* must join me!

Jesus liked to help people and set us a very good example of putting other people's needs before our own. For example: when He wanted peace and quiet but the people around Him wanted Him to teach them, He felt their need and put their needs before His own. Let's make a New Year's resolution together: let's be helpful! Woofs and lix,

**Lily x**

# Environmental News

## Don't Give Up

**A**fter reviewing some of my past work, I realised that there was much negativity in my articles. As I write this, it may not have felt like it this year in the UK, but 2024 is once again beating records for the wrong reasons as it looks like it's going to be the warmest year on record, reaching 1.5° C above average. But let's not dwell on that; I want to start the year on a more positive note!



Portugal running entirely on renewable sources for 149 hours. This might not sound much, but at just over 6 days, it is a huge achievement in the fight against our reliance on

fossil fuels. This success demonstrates the feasibility of a clean energy future.

Around the UK there are more electric vehicles on the road than ever before. However we still have some catching up to do compared to Norway where there are now more electric vehicles on the road than petrol and diesel combined.

Here at Adel we still have some way to go to meet the Church of England's aim to be carbon neutral by the end of the decade. Having written this column since 2022 I am passionate about our environment and the kind of world we are leaving for our children, but I would like your help to make a difference and achieve this carbon neutral goal. If you would like to be involved, my contact details are in the front of the magazine or come and say hi on a Sunday. We usually sit at the back of the church; listen out for the uh oh!

**Thang**

142 years after operating the world's first coal-fired power station, the UK led the way for G7 nations in September 2024 by closing the doors of the last UK coal-fired power station, Ratcliffe-on-Soar. This marks a huge milestone as we ditch coal, the most polluting of fossil fuels, and look to the future as wind farms across the UK produced more energy than last year; over 83 terawatt-hours, compared to 79 terawatt-hours in 2023. Also, the government published its Energy Trend Report in December, showing that for three consecutive quarters, just over 50% of the energy generated has been from renewable sources. Yay!

And it's not just us! In 2024 a record 30% of the world's electricity was produced from renewable sources, mainly from solar and wind farms, with

# My Church Journey

It started with my baptism at St Stephen's Church in West Bowling, Bradford, the church in which my parents were married in 1945. As a child, I attended Bethel Methodist Church Sunday School, and later when my mother became the caretaker of Annesley Methodist Church, which we then attended, we moved into the former Minister's House.



John Lloyd, who was an amazing friend and guide and readily agreed to marry us in 1989.

At age sixteen I started my career with British Rail. By the time of my marriage at St Mathew's Church of England in Bankfoot, Bradford, I had set up home in Elmstead Woods, Kent. I became Station Manager at Bellingham, Beckenham Hill and Ravensbourne before being promoted to Assistant Station Manager at Orpington in Kent, where we joined Orpington Methodist Church and were joined by my parents following father's transfer from Bradford.

When we moved back to Yorkshire we lived in Gomersal and joined the Methodist Church; it was here where eldest son Mark first mentioned he wanted to be a Preacher. He is now Rector of Uphill, Weston-Super-Mare.

Chris and I met in 1985 and married in 1989. Chris was brought up a Christadelphian and needed to find another church. When we moved to Ben Rhydding we were guided to the local Methodist Church and were very blessed with the Minister, the late Rev

We then moved to Gilstead, bought a new house and met Malcolm the joiner who had a very deep faith and when asked where the nearest Methodist Church was he responded by saying, 'Don't go there! Go to Eldwick Parish Church, they've got a new 'swinging Vicar!' – by which he meant that the Vicar had introduced a music group, similar to our own! This was the Revd Brian Woodman who was an excellent spiritual guide and counsellor for us all. We became firm friends with him and his wife Brenda.

Chris and I were both confirmed members of the Methodist Church, and, after having had a chat with Brian, in order to complete our commitment to the Church of England we were confirmed at Thornton Parish Church, accompanied by my Mother who was confirmed with us. Our daughters,

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Candy and Ruth were subsequently confirmed too.

In 1996 we moved to Adel. On our first visit to St John's on Christmas Eve 1996 for the Midnight Service, we met Churchwarden Bruce Buchan who made us so welcome and provided kneelers so that we could sit on the Church steps as there was nowhere else to sit!

My Church journey then embraced becoming Churchwarden during Revd Tim Gill's time at Adel. It was at this time I met Revd Peter Burrows, Archdeacon of Leeds, and we embarked on a wonderful friendship which is still maintained today.

In 2009, Peter asked me to join the Diocesan Secretary and him on a panel to recruit the first ever Minister for Business which resulted in the appointment of the Revd Rob Hinton. We based Rev Rob, as he was affectionately known, at the Leeds Club in the centre of the Leeds Business Community. It was a sad day for us when he and his wife left to fulfil his appointment as Vicar of Beckenham.

I met Bishop John Packer in 2013 at Leeds Trinity University who told me the delightful news that he was placing the Revd Ian Johnston as a curate in Adel with a responsibility to also take some time in his working life to carry on some of the work undertaken by Rev Rob in Leeds and we all benefit

greatly from Ian's ministry to this day.

In the December before Bishop John retired from Ripon and Leeds, I was very moved to receive a letter from him appointing me a Lay Canon of Ripon Cathedral as a thank you for the work I had undertaken for the Church in the previous few years. The Ceremony at the Cathedral was quite amazing and will last with me forever. I became involved with some of the committees at Ripon and enjoyed several visits to the city for meetings. It was also a time when the Diocese was changing to eventually become the Diocese of Leeds and so I was involved with several ceremonies as the Bishops were appointed.

When Bishop Peter (Burrows), became Bishop of Doncaster he continued his mission of bringing the business community and the church together and I attended most of his business breakfasts at Doncaster College. I am so pleased that the first Boar Lane Business Breakfast, which I am delighted to support, was held at Holy Trinity Church in September chaired by Bishop Arun.

So, my Church Journey continues at our beloved spiritual home, Adel Parish Church, hopefully for many years to come, where we receive much spiritual guidance from Alison, Ian and Paul and have made many dear friends.

**Keith Madeley**

## Churchyard Enquiries

*Val receives many enquiries about Adel families and churchyard history.*

*She is always quick to reply.*

*Here is one very recent enquiry.*  
Editor

*2 January 2025*

*Hello Val,  
I note from the Adel Parish magazine that you are involved with local history. I was wondering whether you could tell me if the gravestones in the churchyard have been catalogued?*

*I'm researching my family history and my 6x Great grandparents, Thomas Burton and Sarah Hargrave, married at Adel Church, in May 1751.*

*Strangely, according to the Parish records, they were both buried in the same grave on 27th June 1808 aged 81 & 85. They lived at Blackhill Wells.*

*I was wondering whether or not their gravestone exists or those of other Burton or Hargrave?*

*Kind regards,  
Ray Thackrah*



*4 January 2025*

*Hello Ray,  
Thank you for your family history 1808 enquiry. We have records of more recent gravestones. We have records of those gravestones which could be read in Aug 1998.*

*Wharfedale Family History Group spent 3 years transcribing readable gravestones, 1995-8 - but many older graves were completely overgrown. I have now checked in the St John the Baptist Adel, Monumental Inscriptions Book - sadly Thomas & Sarah Burton's grave 1808 is not recorded in the 1998 Book. (It is in our Burials register and it will be one of the overgrown graves.)*

*I will ask the churchyard work party to look for the Burton 1808 gravestone. It is likely to be in the 'A' Section, near Eleanor Spence who died 1809. This is easy to find in the 'A' section, No. 055A. We hope to clear some overgrown plots nearby, in the Spring.  
Val*

Last week, Andy McGeorge, an enthusiastic member of Adel Churchyard work party, emailed me, asking

“What is the history of this ironmongery by the West Gate?”

The lantern top has gone - but the old cast iron lamp stand remains. If you look at the back of the iron stand, you can see that it was cast by Walter MacFarlane of Glasgow, in 1852.

Please think of helping out at our next churchyard workparty,  
9.30am  
on Saturday 8th February.



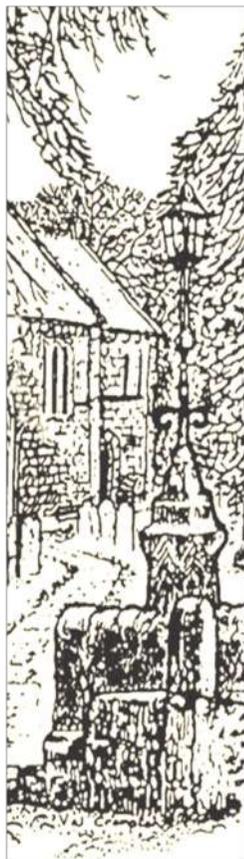
## A Winter's Night at Adel Church

A winter's night, at Adel Church, where the gate, once lit by gaslight, still has a tall, cast iron stand, close by the mounting block; useful for those who came by horse - a puzzle now - to those who call to see our ancient church?

Adel's amazing porch, now brightly lit, and stone-flagged path, welcomes us to Evensong, in snow, sleet or rain. Black 'Conservation Area' lamp posts line our way - and crosses, on the flags, deter others from stealing stones from our church path again.

Light shines through stained-glass windows, as I pass. I look for baby Jesus, safe in the arms of Mother Mary, with St George and the dragon close by. While among small flowers, at Mary's feet, a rabbit, birds and mole all meet, on a winter's night, at Adel Church.

**Val Crompton**



# Window on the Past

## Her enduring legacy

They say if you remember the sixties, you weren't really there. But I do remember. I remember taking Pauline, a girl I desperately wanted to impress, to see "The Graduate" at the Clock Cinema in Roundhay. Not just any cinema would do; it had to be the Clock, with its sweeping staircase and waterfalls (long before it became a hi-fi shop, and later, an ice cream parlour). Go big or go home, right? I've always been a film buff, and the Simon and Garfunkel's soundtrack was brilliant, more memorable, frankly, than some of the big-name actors, though Katherine Ross – who later rode on Paul Newman's handlebars in "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance kid" – was captivating. Pauline seemed impressed. Whether it was me or the venue, I wasn't sure.

We married in April 1972 at Adel Church. Simon arrived in November 1977, baptised at Adel Church, followed by Matthew in April 1988, also baptised there. Pauline passed away in September 2023, after 51 years of marriage. Sorting through her meticulously kept archive of photos and paperwork, I found a 1978 issue of *adel bells*. Sixpence – the price printed on the cover, a stark reminder of inflation – and a grainy photo of the church's front door. Inside, a message from the

Archbishop of Canterbury highlighted the pressing issues of the day: crime, unemployment, broken homes, and the challenges facing the police. Eerily familiar, aren't they? But there was good news too: £206.25 raised from Christmas collections, funding an eye camp in Uttar Pradesh where eighty-five people had their sight restored.

The magazine also detailed the sweeping powers of magistrates in earlier times: fixing wages, appointing constables, overseeing the construction of "houses of correction." They even performed marriages, and when this stopped an act was passed by Charles II to legitimise the existing unions. Speeding tickets and road tax dodgers weren't on their agenda back then.

Why was this magazine in Pauline's memory drawer? Because printed inside was the announcement of Simon's baptism, along with our address on Gainsboro Drive, our first Adel home. While the faces at Adel Church have changed, *'adel bells'* has not only endured but flourished.

Pauline now rests peacefully in the churchyard, just off the north path. But the treasures she preserved, like this 1978 *adel bells*, live on, a tangible link to our past, her enduring legacy.

**Trevor Brown**

# Words from Joyce Hill

## St Polycarp

Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, Martyr, c. 155 is a saint about whom most of us know very little, if anything. Polycarp's day is not a major feast-day, but is more than a simple commemoration: he is honoured as a significant figure in the history of the church. He was martyred in the mid-second century in Smyrna (known today as Izmir), and has the distinction of being a very early saint.

Shortly after his death, another church in Asia Minor asked for an account of his martyrdom which was sent in a letter with the narrative partly recorded in the first person, suggesting the contribution of an eye-witness account. This text is the earliest surviving genuine account of a Christian martyrdom after that of Stephen in the Acts of the Apostles. What we know about Polycarp's life comes from Irenaeus (c.130-c.200) who had known Polycarp personally, and Tertullian (c.160- c.220). Both say that Polycarp had been a disciple of the Apostle John, who had ordained him as bishop of Smyrna. That gives him a special place in the history of the church as one of the three chief Apostolic Fathers, along with Clement of Rome (flourished 96) and Ignatius of Antioch (35-107).

In those very early days of the church, Polycarp will obviously have been

more of an evangelist than a scholar. But we do have one work from his pen: an Epistle to the Philippians, although the form in which it survives today may be a combination of two epistles of different dates. It is little more than a collection of references to and quotations from some of the texts that would come to form our New Testament, but it is important for this very reason since it shows that these texts were already circulating and seen as authoritative.

We know that Polycarp travelled to Rome, when he was already quite elderly, to consult with other church leaders about differences in the practices of Rome and the churches of Asia (as it was then called: Asia Minor as we know it). It was shortly after his return that he was arrested at a public festival, when the participants were required to burn incense to the Emperor. Polycarp refused, and since such behaviour defined him as a traitor, he was burnt at the stake and pierced with a spear.

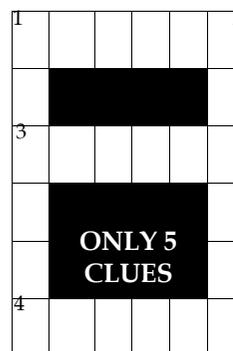
The Martyrdom narrative describes how his bones were collected up and revered as relics, with the intention in future years of celebrating his 'birthday of martyrdom' (i.e. birth into eternal life) on subsequent anniversary dates, making this Christianity's first account of the veneration of relics and annual commemoration.

# Puzzles



For those of you not confident with cryptic clues, I have compiled a version of this puzzle using general knowledge clues. Do let me know how you get on with this one.

## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CLUES



### Across

1. Imperfection
3. Fleet of Spanish warships in Elizabethan times
4. Dairy product

### Down

1. Lethal
2. Tea is brewed in this

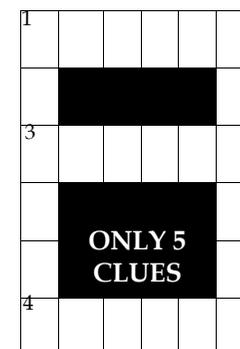
## CRYPTIC CLUES

### Across

1. Local, unsophisticated around town at first
3. Nouns may be so appropriate
4. Older Spanish gentleman touring India

### Down

1. Fellow needing sleep first in Italian port
2. Profitable job student hasn't started



Solutions to be found on p 33. Each puzzle has different answers.

Please support our advertisers and mention Adel Bells

We celebrate Candlemas on 2nd February, when we hear about the presentation of Christ at the Temple, 40 days after his birth. If you still have your crib scene on display, it is time to take it down.

The wordsearch below contains 15 words that are connected with that event.

## Candlemas

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

LIGHT  
FORTY  
SIMEON  
BABY  
BLESSED  
CHRIST  
WARMTH  
TEMPLE

JERUSALEM  
CANDLES  
FEAST  
WINTER  
ANNA  
TRADITIONS  
FEBRUARY



**Solution on p.33**

## Ping-Pong A-Plenty

If you happen to walk past the Old Stables on a Friday morning, you may hear:

- the sound of table tennis ball on bat
- the delighted shout for a good shot
- the groan when a fluky one wins the point
- the chatter of tea & coffee drinkers

If so, you've been listening to the Adel Table Tennis Group of neighbours and friends who meet up to play and chat every Friday morning.

We started this group in March 2024, having discovered the ideal local venue, within walking distance for many. The Old Stables is a great space which is well decorated, heated and lit, and has toilets, a kitchen and parking – just perfect.

The idea was to create a friendly, informal and non-profit making table tennis group where you didn't need to be a member or to make a booking but could just turn up and play for £4 per session, including all equipment, hot drinks and biscuits.

Starting from scratch, we used a weather-worn table from our garage and a few family bats. We didn't know what the response would be, but as

soon as we started, it was clear that there would be enough players to keep the group going. We were then lucky enough to get a grant of £250 from local Councillor Barry Anderson which enabled us to buy a second table.

As a group, we don't take ourselves too seriously. We won't be entering any leagues or competitions and are fairly relaxed about the finer points of the rules. We just want to have some fun with the added bonus of improving fitness. Player numbers each session vary between 5 and 15, with 10 or 11 being typical. We have good players and beginners but we all mix together on the tables and in the kitchen and anyone who watches one of our doubles matches will know that we definitely have fun. For most of us, the chance to chat with neighbours and make new friends is as important as a good workout on the tables.

At our last session before Christmas we had Christmas nibbles and mulled wine. We resumed on 10<sup>th</sup> January and are looking forward to an action & fun packed 2025.

We hope you can join us. Just call in to the Old Stables any Friday morning between 10.00 & 12.00.

**Neil & Susan Bate**

# In Your Garden

*"February is the border between winter and spring"*

- **Terri Guillemets**

..and like many border territories the February garden can be a wild and lawless place, with the utmost caution required at all times, some fast routes through it and plenty of places visited only by the well-prepared! They can be cosmopolitan places with significant trade, but also a safe haven for ne'er do wells! Expect anything and you won't be disappointed.

The colour in February might be subtle and typically modest but now is the time to appreciate the snowdrops and crocuses that will increasingly appear through the month, the pastel shades of the various hellebores starting to flower, the spidery flowers of the witch hazels and the red and green hues of the dogwoods that are now at their best. If you are very lucky you might also catch the luxurious scent of a Daphne.

Few gardeners are ever entirely happy with their gardens. Some plants grow, thrive and spread whilst others compete less well with inevitable casualties along the way. You may have inherited someone else's garden, or perhaps your own needs have changed as, for example, children grow older and no longer need the sandpit and the swing, so that over time all gardens evolve. If you want to make

changes then it will require both a plan and some action, in that order. If you are considering significant changes, or even a revolution, it is well worth getting input from a local professional garden designer. Their input, local knowledge and advice will help you to get the best out of your plot, as near to what you want as your individual site, location and budget will allow. They should also point out the limitations of your site, soil or aspect so that you can work with it rather than against it.

As well as all the bird feeders that I keep topped up and the fresh water that I ensure is available, I grow many plants that help sustain birds and encourage them to linger a little longer. Berry-rich shrubs such as cotoneaster and pyracantha and trees like rowan, hawthorn and holly provide food and shelter. Even the humble ivy, when allowed to mature and flower, will provide nectar for early and late insects, fruit for birds, and then shelter and nesting sites. February and March are when the natural food supplies of our resident and over-wintering birds are most depleted so any assistance will be gratefully and greedily received.

**George Turnbull**

enquiries@adelgardencare.co.uk  
www.adelgardencare.co.uk

# Just for Fun

*Betty Pearson sent me in these sentences which actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services. I hope they make you smile!*

Weight Watchers will meet at 7 PM at the St. Martin's Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water." The sermon tonight "Searching for Jesus."

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say "Hell" to someone who doesn't care much about you.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Miss Charlene Mason sang "I will not pass this way again," giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.



Barbara remains in the hospital and needs blood donors for more transfusions. She is also having trouble sleeping and requests tapes of Father Jack's sermons.

The Priest will preach his farewell message after which the choir will sing "Break Forth Into Joy."

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.

# OPAL Activities

Now that February is here, we are hopefully past the worst of the Winter weather and we are starting to see the first signs of Spring. Spring marks the return of our popular Walking Group. This group meets every two weeks for a walk that takes around 90 minutes; public transport is used to get to the start of the walks and return back to The Welcome In or in exceptional cases car sharing is used. There are refreshments provided and each walk is led by a trained leader. If you would like more information about the first walk in March, please call and ask to speak to Ellen on 01132619103 or email her on [ellen@opal-project.org.uk](mailto:ellen@opal-project.org.uk)

Ellen can also provide details of the Book Club we set up at the end of 2024, so if this year your New Year's Resolution is to read more, this could be for you. A whole world of exciting new authors is just waiting for you.

We would like to put a call out for volunteer drivers (particularly for Tuesdays and Fridays), to drive our accessible minibus and wheelchair accessible car. Our members rely on volunteer drivers to be able to access our activities as well as attend vital medical appointments. Our volunteers can claim expenses back and often find a great sense of achievement in helping others. If you would like to speak to our transport co-ordinators,



please call on 01136719103 and ask for Gayle or Ron or email us at [gayle@opal-project.org.uk](mailto:gayle@opal-project.org.uk) or [ron@opal-project.org.uk](mailto:ron@opal-project.org.uk)

Our trips and activities continue to be extremely popular and if you are interested in anything you read in our newsletter or on our website and social media, please call us or if you want to have a look round our wonderful community centre please call in to see us. We can highly recommend our community café (Wednesday - Friday 9-3pm) for a relaxing drink and a delicious homemade cake.

If you would you like more information about OPAL or any of the activities we offer please contact us on 01132619103, email us on [admin@opal-project.org.uk](mailto:admin@opal-project.org.uk) or come in and speak to a member of the OPAL team at the Welcome In Community Centre (55 Bedford Drive, LS16 6DJ).

**Shelley Clark**  
Project Worker

# Lent 2025

It starts next month

Very often Lent begins in February, but not this year. Ash Wednesday falls on 5th March, but you have plenty of time to think about what you are going to do to mark Lent.

One thing we can all do is listen and learn, by attending our Lent talks, as advertised on p. 7. The theme is based on the idea of hearing other people's stories and considering how we might support them. But there are smaller things we can all do on a more personal level.

Will you do as many do and give up luxuries as a form of spiritual discipline? Or will you make some lifestyle changes which would actually benefit you as well as the world we live in? Or will you commit yourself to daily habits that are helpful to others?

You may need a few ideas to help you start planning

## Luxuries

Abstain from sweets and sugary foods.

Refrain from alcoholic beverages.

Give vegetarianism, or even veganism a try, even if only on certain days.

## Lifestyle changes

Take a break from social media.



Limit time spent watching TV.  
Resist shopping for unnecessary things, focussing on needs rather than wants.  
Cook more meals at home rather than eating out.  
Reduce single-use plastic.  
Donate items you no longer need, aiming to give away a certain number of items each day.

## Commitments to action

Make sure to pray daily or do some meditation.  
Think of carrying out a daily act of kindness or service to others.

Please don't be put off by this long list. Select what is best for you. I think for myself I might consider the donations option. I have so many drawers full of stuff I never wear but tidying them in one session seems a daunting task, so it would suit me to put one item in a bag each day

How about you?

**Marjorie Cole**

# York Gate Update

The New Year is a time for looking forward and making new plans, especially for our gardens. For me, it is also a time for settling down on a cold winter's afternoon and reading about beautiful gardens. I am filled with inspiration and would love to emulate some of the garden ideas in my own small plot, but more often, I can only look on in envy and make plans to visit.

I was reading the January issue of the RHS magazine, *The Garden*, when I was excited to come upon an article about EA Bowles and the story of his corkscrew hazel tree. Why such joyful surprise? Well, it was because Sybil Spencer wrote in her memoirs about her own corkscrew hazel being one of the first things she planted at York Gate and that "a bit like Bowles and his lunatic asylum" she too had a love for all that was weird and wonderful - a trait that is matched today by our garden manager, Jack, with his introduction of many botanical curiosities! You can still see Sybil's twisted corkscrew hazel overlooking the dolphin fountain.

Many people find the winter months dark and gloomy, but the appearance of snowdrops is one of the most joyous times of the year. Snowdrops always bring me a "Wow" moment whether it is on seeing a single flower discovered in the most unlikely corner or a carpet of blooms beneath the

trees, which is nothing short of spectacular. Snowdrops don't last for very long, so do come along to York Gate and enjoy their beauty. There are many different cultivars to seek out: some are quite imposing, if you can say that about a snowdrop, with large outer petals dangling like enormous pearls; others have unusual green markings on their delicate petals. You may even find the pure white snowdrop that was named for EA Bowles! As well as the iconic Nut Walk, snowdrops can be found all around the garden and throughout The Dell as well as in terracotta pots and the Istrian font.

As I write, the ground is covered in the first snow of this winter. I am looking forward to seeing the snowdrops, which always steal the limelight at this time of year, but also to enjoy other winter favourites including aconites, cyclamens, irises and hellebores as well as witch hazels and viburnums which are in flower too. And then, with my face tingling from the cold, I shall return home, sit down with a warm drink and resume my reading. Happy New Year!

**Gillian Smith** (Heritage Volunteer)

## **Snowdrop Days\***

**Friends of Perennial** Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 10am-3pm.

**General Public** Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 10am-3pm.

\* Please check with website

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# What's On

## Headingley Flower Club at Bramhope

**Wednesday 5th February  
AGM**

7pm Guests are welcome **N.B. ALL FUTURE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAYS!**

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 10th February**

'A Tapestry of Foliage'

Geoff Hodge

Zoom link into the church

Geoff is a freelance gardening and horticultural writer, journalist, author, editor, radio and TV broadcaster with 23 years' experience in the horticultural / gardening industry.

Tonight's talk will help us understand how to plan our gardens to provide colour all year round

<https://adelhort.chessck.co.uk/>

## Leeds & District Association of the National Trust

**Tuesday 11 February**

"China"

Peter Palmer

Peter, a former teacher, talks of his visit a few years ago, covering seven different cities/areas and weaving a little history into his account.

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 Church's Charitable Giving

The PCC recently agreed to £250 being given to each of the following charities.

St Anne's Community Services, US (formerly known as USPG), Progress to Change, Wheatfield's Hospice, Christians against Poverty, St Gemma's Hospice, Martin House Hospice, Emmaus Leeds, the Governors of Adel St John the Baptist Primary School, Caring for Life, St George's Crypt, Kids in Kampz, Lighthouse West Yorkshire, Open Country.

In addition, the donations given at the Christmas Community Carol Service were divided between the Children's Society and Adel Church.

# Barry Anderson

## Rob Burrow Marathon

Once again, the Rob Burrow Marathon will come through Adel. It will take place on Sunday 11th May 2025 and road closures will be implemented around the city and locally. The full Leeds Marathon start time is 9am and the Half Marathon Start Time is 10am. The last runner is expected to finish around 4.45pm. If you would like information on the specific road closures and the routes you can do that by visiting the website [www.runforall.com/events/marathon/leeds-marathon](http://www.runforall.com/events/marathon/leeds-marathon)

## Speed Limit signage and White Lines - Sir George Martin Drive

You will have seen the new zebra crossing on Sir George Martin Drive which has been funded fully by the developer of the Eastmoor site (now called Adel Square) but you may be wondering what has happened to the speed limit signs. I have been advised by the Highways Engineer that the Council's contractor took down the speed limit signs in error as they were referring to a general arrangement plan, not the contract drawing for sign installations. By the time you read this, the signs should be properly in place again. There is also the intention to adjust the extent of the 20mph speed limit towards East Causeway, but this requires a full legal process which shall

be carried out in the new year.

I am also advised that the yellow lines have similarly been laid incorrectly and for the same reason. These will be left in place, but unenforced, until the legal process has been carried out to legally implement and enforce these, to avoid removing the lines and then re-marking them again in a short period, which would be a waste of funds and time.

## Complaints about Bus Services

I received a lot of complaints about the bus services when they changed recently. First Bus sent me information about their complaints dealing process which may be useful to you. They would like customers to contact their Customer Services team which can be done in various ways:- If a customer has access to the First Bus app there is a Live Chat function which enables direct contact with a member of the team in real-time, so if waiting at a stop they should be able to get an explanation of any delay on the network and the latest information. Messages can also be sent direct to the team through their X channel @FirstWestYorks for a quick response. Alternatively, there is their website <https://www.firstbus.co.uk/help-support/contact-us> which also has a live chat option or by calling 0345 646 0707.

Generally in respect of the changes they advise as follows: “We have added resources to the Headingley corridor to alleviate difficulties with journeys in the first instance. As part of our wider review of this corridor we will be announcing some alterations in January and are working through the details with the relevant authorities to do so.”

If you have any problems accessing the various channels or you get no response, please let me know. In the meantime, when I get any updates I will circulate the information.

### **Footpath 17 from Church Lane to Otley Road**

You may already be aware but the replacement footpath from Otley Road to Church Lane (also known as the Corpse Way) is finally open. I hope you find it a useful route to church or to Otley Road. It is wide and suitable for wheelchairs and cycles.

### **Road Junctions – Meanwood and Headingley**

I have received a lot of comments about the new road layouts, particularly where Meanwood Road meets Monkbridge Road and the staggered traffic lights on Otley Road at the Shaw Lane junction. I contacted the senior Highways Engineer for our area and he provided the following information.

**Meanwood junction** - this scheme is ultimately a road safety project. The

junctions of Meanwood Road/ Monkbridge Road/Green Road/ Stonegate Road saw significant levels of traffic collisions and it was decided that signalisation of that junction would be the only feasible way to prevent these collisions. However, to avoid congestion through Meanwood certain manoeuvres had to be prohibited, including the left turn from Meanwood Road to Monkbridge Road and from Green Road to Meanwood Road.

**The A660/Shaw Lane junction** - this was designed to have a 24-hour bus gate, to enable more efficient bus journeys from the outer areas, towards the city centre. This may have resulted in slight additional delays to general traffic, however Leeds City Council seeks to promote the use of sustainable travel options where at all possible and the bus services are benefitted here by the project that has been introduced. Additionally, other arms of this junction have had pedestrian crossing aspects added, where previously there were none. This area sees significant numbers of pedestrians crossing the road and this project will seek to keep them safe.

Cllr. Barry Anderson  
Adel & Wharfedale Ward  
Direct Dial 0113 3367742  
[www.barryanderson.org.uk](http://www.barryanderson.org.uk)  
Twitter @barryanderson19

# **Billy Flynn**

I hope you had a lovely Christmas. My very best wishes to everyone for a happy, healthy, and peaceful New Year. Let us hope the world is a much more peaceful place in 2025.

### **An explosion of pedestrian crossings - maybe!**

I have been asking the council for years for additional road safety features in the vicinity of our two primary schools in Adel and elsewhere in the ward, and finally there has been some pleasing progress. In addition to the new zebra crossing on Sir George Martin Drive (SGMD), the council highways department is looking at the possibility of another crossing on Sir George Martin Drive adjacent to Woodstock Close. On-site pedestrian crossing counts were conducted in early November and once all the data has been collated, a decision will be made on whether to proceed, probably in the new financial year.

The assessment looks at several factors, for example how many people cross the road, road safety history, schools in the vicinity and therefore younger children using the road, along with whether the crossing benefits a large residential area or just a few properties. The location appears to fit the bill now, certainly at school times, but please note that assessments at this location in the past did not justify

crossings. If agreed, the improvement will complement the extension of the 20mph zone on SGMD making this section and Long Causeway much safer, rather than the racetrack it has been in the past. You may have noted that the bus turnaround point at East Moor Lane has at long last been converted to a one-way system, though no signage is up as yet (early January.)

As part of the planning process for new housing developments, the council received a contribution from David Wilson Homes towards road safety upgrades to the A660/Church Lane/ Farrar Lane junction. Traffic and pedestrian surveys have been carried out to allow highways officers to check what improvements are possible. These include the introduction of formal pedestrian facilities and whether this is achievable with an 'all-red' phase on the signals without unacceptable vehicle congestion. If the latter looks likely, consideration will be given on how to achieve safe pedestrian crossing at the junction, while maintaining traffic flows.

### **Golden Acre car parking charges**

The consultation has now closed and the decision to implement car parking charges at Golden Acre has been made, despite huge public opposition with a likely implementation date early

this year. The council has indicated that the Arthington Road car park will be improved first using the funding raised. We are not alone in Adel, because similar car park charges are being introduced all over the city. For example, in Wetherby, despite 97% of the near 6000 people who responded to the consultation objecting to the charges, the council decided to impose them anyway. So much for local democracy!

### Lawnswood Cemetery

A resident reported to me prior to Christmas that the drainage ditch running alongside the cemetery boundary wall on the New Adel Lane side was blocked with debris and close to overflowing. This might well have led to flooding at the junction of New Adel Lane and the A660 and possibly the cemetery too, but the timely warning allowed me to arrange for flood management officers to clear the blockage.

### Solutions

#### Cryptic Clues

##### Across

- 1. NATIVE
- 3. PROPER
- 4. SENIOR

##### Down

- 1. NAPLES
- 2. EARNER

#### General Knowledge Clues

##### Across

- 1. DEFECT
- 3. ARMADA
- 4. YOGURT

##### Down

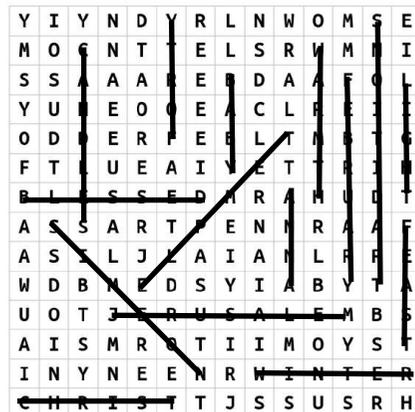
- 1. DEADLY
- 2. TEAPOT

### Housing developments

The new Adel Square development is progressing well with show houses likely to be ready in January, weather permitting. However, there was bad news for residents on The Heath housing development off the Dunstons. Camstead Ltd the developer has gone into administration with lots of outstanding work still to be completed onsite. I am working with planning officers to see what can be done to help the residents. This was awful news for these families just before Christmas.

If you would like further information on the issues above or have questions about anything else in the ward, please do get in touch with me.

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



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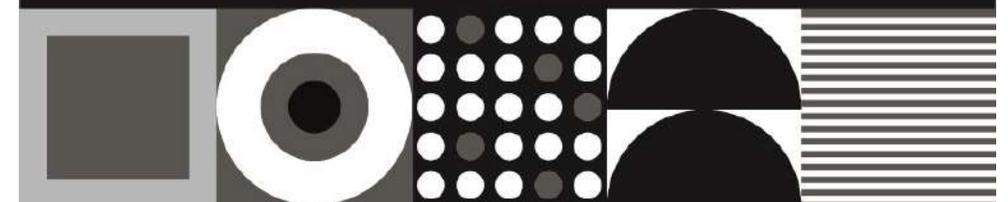
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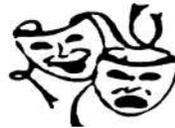


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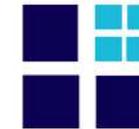
*"The facility is exceptional."*

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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](mailto:enquiries@newcarehomes.com)



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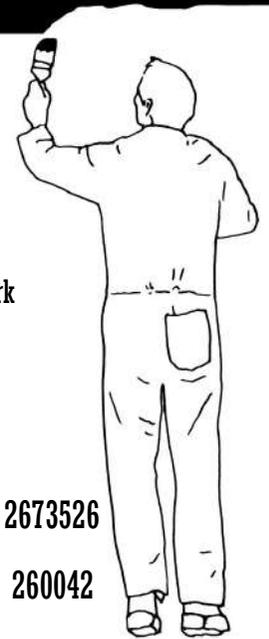
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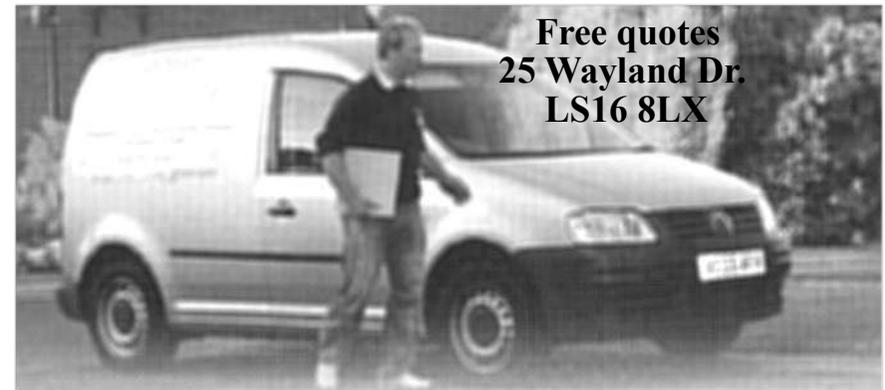


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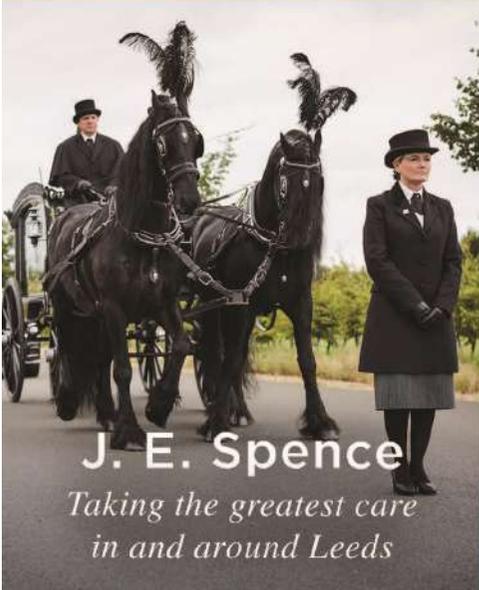
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For further information contact:

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## *Index of Advertisers*

	<b>Aerials &amp; Satellites</b>		<b>Health Care</b>
50	Aerial Solutions	35	Care Your Way
	<b>Beds</b>	41	Adel Manor Care Home
40	Bedside Manor	48	Mercure Health Club
	<b>Home Improvements</b>	55	Quality Care in your own home
42	MSC	57	North Leeds Physiotherapy
47	Alan	58	N. Simpson, Chiroprapist
47	Interior Design		<b>Leisure Interests</b>
50	DPA Fletcher Ltd	37	Adel War Memorial Association
54	APplastering	38	Meet the Cones
57	Blueberry Automation		<b>Locksmith</b>
	<b>Building Supplies</b>	43	Locksmith & Security Installer
49	Mone Bros.	58	The Lockdoc
	<b>Education</b>		<b>Opticians</b>
54	Glenis Moss Tuition	54	Lawrence Gaunt
56	Kip McGrath		<b>Painters &amp; Decorators</b>
	<b>Electrical &amp; Plumbing</b>	44	Matthew Holmes
52	Pearson	57	Harperddiy
	<b>Estate Agents</b>		<b>Pharmacies</b>
53	Manning Stainton	49	Adel Pharmacy
	<b>Food Outlets</b>		<b>Services</b>
28	Caring for Life	46	David Bransby
36	The Foundation	40	Roxton Tree Services
	<b>Funeral Directors</b>	45	Adel Garden Care
45	Slater's		<b>Tiling</b>
53	J E Spence Ltd	44	Adel Tiling Solutions Ltd
	<b>Hair and Beauty</b>		<b>Wills &amp; Finance</b>
51	Padd Hair	34	Financial Advice
		42	Jane Wintringham

## Church Services in February

<b>Sunday 2nd</b>	<b>Presentation of Christ in the Temple</b>
	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am Parish Communion
	6.30pm Evensong
<b>Wed 5th</b>	11am Holy Communion followed by coffee & biscuits
<b>Fri 7th</b>	1.30pm J Js (for the under sixes)
<b>Sunday 9th</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday before Lent</b>
	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am Parish Communion
	5pm ACE meeting in the Stables
<b>Wed 12th</b>	11am Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 16th</b>	<b>Third Sunday before Lent</b>
	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am All Age Service with Communion
	6.30pm Choral Evensong followed by light refreshments
<b>Wed 19th</b>	11am Holy Communion
<b>Thurs 20th</b>	3.15pm Holy Communion in the Stables, with tea & coffee
<b>Sunday 23rd</b>	<b>Second Sunday before Lent</b>
	8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
	10am Parish Communion
	5pm ACE meeting in the Stables

**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+ 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.