

St John's Church



St Luke's



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March 2023 50 pence

St Luke's Church



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LETTER FROM LAURA

Dear All,

As I write this I am nearing the end of a three week chaplaincy placement at Harrogate District Hospital. One difference between parish ministry and chaplaincy that strikes me is the balance between longer-term relationships and brief – but



nevertheless meaningful – encounters. Within parish ministry there are



some spontaneous encounters, for example on the street, in the local café, in the shops, with visitors to the church or perhaps with those celebrating a family wedding or a baptism. However, much of the work in parish ministry involves the building of longer-term relationships; with parishioners, with teams and groups, with schools, community centres and with other

churches. Meanwhile, chaplaincy involves the nurturing of a few longer term relationships, whilst the bulk of the ministry is built from short encounters and chance conversations.

When we look back on our own lives so far, we can perhaps clearly see the golden strands of long-term relationship that thread right through; our families, friends, neighbours, church communities, school communities or colleagues. These relationships have a huge impact on us and are essential to our well-being. But what about those



brief encounters, those 'moments in time' that add a rich array of small but colourful stitches to our existence, filling out the finer detail within the tapestry of our lives? Often we feel that these are less significant. Perhaps when we meet someone only briefly, when we are only a tiny part of a person's story, we think we cannot possibly make a difference. But actually, most of our life is built up from these small moments and so they really do matter.

I can remember the chaplain who visited me briefly in the High Dependency Unit at St James' Hospital in Leeds back in May 2006. I can't remember his

name or his face, and I think he probably stood by my bed for less than ten minutes. But I can remember that his words were reassuring, and I still have the small wooden cross that he gave me. That chaplain is part of my story and he was a significant person on my journey to ordained ministry. But I am sure he doesn't know that. I was just one brief moment of



time in his busy day 16 years ago, just one young woman who identified as Church of England but no longer went to church very often. He has no idea that the stitch he made on my life tapestry was to be a crucial one.



Then there was the lady in the canteen on my first day working as a nurse. I had selected my lunch and was at the cashier by the time I realised that I had left my purse on the ward. Feeling like a prize idiot, I was just about to walk back past everyone without my lunch when the lady behind me in the queue smiled kindly and insisted on paying for my soup

and a roll. She probably doesn't even remember, but I definitely do.

I used to rather enjoy the season of Lent. I liked the simplicity, the stripping back of things that can often get in the way of my spirituality, and even the incentive to give something up and be more disciplined for a season. But I

have to say, I have struggled more with Lent since Covid. So much has already been stripped away, and we have been required to exercise discipline in ways we perhaps wouldn't have chosen to. Perhaps you share some of those feelings? Another way of approaching Lent might be to actively seek



opportunities for momentary encounters. Can you smile at someone in the coffee shop queue? Can you speak to someone you have never interacted with before at the school gate? Can you chat to the shop assistant and ask them how their day is going? Can you send a card to someone and share a few words of encouragement?

Who knows, God might use those brief moments of encounter to create a stitch in someone's tapestry that vastly improves the pattern, that adds a

unique vibrancy to that particular section of their story, that alters the entire direction of their life. Never underestimate the significance that a momentary encounter can have – small things truly can make a huge difference!

"Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much." Matthew 25:21

Blessings,

Laura



YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

The first two Sundays in March will be **GIFT DAYS** to raise funds for our **YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORKER FUND**.

The coffee morning in April will also be in support of this valuable position.

Please help us in any way you can.





MOTHERING SUNDAY - 19th March

Chris and Anna Hembury, our Link Partners through the Church Mission Society, will be in the parish, and will talk at our main services about their work in Hull. Do come and support them, and collect a Mothering Sunday gift.

HELP NEEDED

Could you give an hour once a month to help with cleaning St John's Church? You choose day and time; all equipment and some training provided. Contact the church office to offer (see page 19)



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me.

Mark 9:37

Our church family, here at St John's and St Luke's, are blessed with a wonderful team of children's volunteer leaders, who journey together, giving of our time, energy, love and commitment to help

our children and young people get to know Jesus better through craft, song, prayer, discussion and lots of fun.



A quote from the Bible:

I wanted you.

I appointed you.

I set you where you are.

John 15:16

Here are just some of our Bright Sparks' craft sessions, which have taken place over the last few months



We have also covered Noah, The first Christmas, Epiphany and many parables of Jesus.

Look out for our next craft journey, in church.

Anne Saxon



CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY LUNCH

It was a cold day outside but inside Bilton Community Centre there was a lovely warm atmosphere as all our diners arrived for their Christmas lunch

on Wednesday 14th

December.

There was a glass of sherry for those who wished it whilst waiting for their meal to be served and we were so pleased to welcome Simon and Laura as well. Simon gave thanks and the festivities began in earnest.

The menu started with prawn cocktail and brown



bread and butter. Roast turkey followed accompanied by pigs in blankets, roast potatoes, carrots, sprouts, parsnips, stuffing and gravy.

Non -alcoholic wine was also served. Next was Christmas pudding and rum sauce and finally coffee or tea together with mince pies and chocolates.

We are so grateful to Alan of Grimsby Fish who gave us the prawns and also to Roots and Fruits who supplied the potatoes and vegetables free of charge. It was extremely kind and generous of them both.

If there is anyone who would like to join us in future we meet at Bilton Community Centre on Bilton Lane on the second Wednesday of every month with the exception of August. Admission is by ticket, which needs to be booked in advance, and it costs £6 for a three course meal and coffee or tea. If anyone is interested in coming along and would like to know more please contact Sheena on 01423 525787 or Ann on 07772169172. Also, we would love to hear from anyone who would like to join us as one of our team of volunteers. If so, please do ring either of the numbers above for a chat.

Another year gone by, with its ups and downs and difficulties for so many people. "Happy New Year" everyone and our very best wishes for 2023.

Apologies that this didn't make it into the January magazine. Editor's error



Some of you may have heard directly that Traidcraft has gone into administration. I attended an on-line meeting to hear more about the situation. Sadly, a combination of Covid and recession led to the Board accepting that they had to close the business because they couldn't afford to pay staff, and buy new stock. Many people have devoted themselves to Traidcraft, giving their time and money, so do pray for them, and for the board as they take difficult decisions.

Traidcraft had three different parts:

- the trading arm which is going into administration
- the fair trade charity, which supports small producers around the
 world and campaigns for fair trade this was spun off last year and is
 now called Transform Trade. Transform Trade received a portion of
 the surpluses from Traidcraft, so they are now seeking additional
 funding. If you would like to support their work, you can do so at
 Transform Trade (transform-trade.org)
- the parent charity board, which may well continue. I've no doubt that
 God is at work in this and we can pray that new seeds are being
 nurtured for the continued work of trading fairly. We'll be kept
 informed as a church supporting Traidcraft.

What does this mean for us?

<u>Fair trade stalls</u>—we have some stock, so Caroline Randall and I will continue to sell this in both churches. We have supplies of chocolate, dried fruit, nuts, sweets and a few gifts, so do support the stalls. We will be looking at other sources of fairly traded goods, and we will access Real Chocolate Easter Eggs, for example.

<u>Coffee supplies for church</u> – we have now accessed fairly traded coffee

from Kingdom Coffee Fairtrade
Coffee - Kingdom Coffee and we'll
start using this in two or three
weeks. Last year the Traidcraft stall
made a small surplus of about £260



which contributed to the cost of coffee in our churches.

Traidcraft thanked all the fair traders who have supported them, and I pass that on to all of you who have supported the stalls, often over many years.

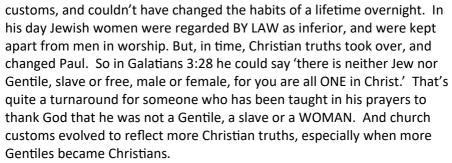
We hope to find new ways to enable us all to continue the work of ensuring all trade is fair, and God's justice prevails.

Sarah Shepherd

QUESTION CORNER

- Q. St Paul says in 1 Corinthians 14:34 'Women should be silent in church.' What are we to make of that?
- A. He also adds 'Women should be submissive as the law says. If they want to know something, they should ask their husbands at home, for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in church.' (If you say this to your wife, let me know how you get on!)

Paul became a Christian after a sudden conversion. But all his life he had followed Jewish laws and



So how do we apply 1 Corinthians 14 etc today?

We don't, because Paul was expressing the Jewish culture of that day, before his ideas changed. Those who say that we should apply everything in the Bible literally (fundamentalists) try to use Paul's words as 'proof texts' to oppose women priests. Obviously we don't, since our curate is a lady – and who would want to bar or gag Laura? (that's a rhetorical question!)

David

TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

We will be pledging money to the Disasters Emergency Committee to help those affected by this week's devastating earthquake and would encourage you to donate online if you are able to.

FAMILY WALK

on Saturday 4th March, starting at 1.30pm from The Cricketer's Inn, Calcutt, and following a circular mixed terrain route, of 4.71km (about 2 hours) going via Knaresborough Lido. All are invited to attend, dogs on leads welcome. The Cricketer's Inn have generously allowed parking and welcome those attending to enjoy refreshments there afterwards. Car sharing would be useful and a sign up list will go up on the notice board if you can offer or need a lift. For more details please get in touch with the parish office or speak to Jake and Naiomi Kempton.

PROJECTOR AND SOUND SYSTEM APPEAL

Thank you to all those who supported last week's **coffee morning** at St John's. A fabulous £585 was raised so we are now able to proceed with gaining the necessary permissions to have the new system installed.



THE GREEN PAGE

GET SOWING READY FOR SUMMER!



During the March coffee morning (Saturday 11th March), the Green Team will be holding a seed and plant pot swap. Come along and either swap packets or part packets of seeds that you already have for something different or just acquire some seeds in return for a small donation. So, instead of growing so many courgettes that they all turn

into marrows before you can pick them, why not swap your excess seeds for a different variety and grow something new this year? Please either bring your seeds to the coffee morning, or, alternatively, give them in advance to either Gill in the church office, Simon, or a member of the Green Team (Claire Golightly, Tracey Walton, Madeline Wolfe or Jane Norman). Please ensure that

any seed packets are clearly marked with the plant name and any growing instructions if possible. Thank you.



Get sowing and growing!

You can also either swap or donate plastic plant pots at the coffee morning. Lots of us probably have too many pots at home but they are not always the right size. Come along and stock up on pots to grow all your new seeds in! Please bring these along to the coffee morning if possible. Please ensure that any donated pots have been washed thoroughly in advance to remove any previous plant

remains or soil. Thank you.



COFFEE MORNING
ST JOHN'S CHURCH HALL
Saturday 11th March
10-12 £1 includes



drink & biscuit
supporting
our
mission partners
in Hull

cake jigsaws books greetings cards raffle tombola

SUMMER LOVIN'

(more news from Anna and Chris Hembury)

Each summer we take a bunch of children and young people away on camp for a week's holiday. It's an opportunity for them to experience a real soaking in the fullness of life: the challenge of new activities and experiences, the opportunity to develop new friendships with people from other places, a clear telling of the gospel in words and a



chance to mull it over and make sense of it all in the context of a loving community that "spells it out" in the way we are with each other.

After a three-year hiatus (two camps off during lockdowns), we were apprehensive about our own energy and enthusiasm for what is always an intense week. But the week was as magical as ever. Handing over the responsibility of Crew Leaders to young adults who had come as campers and watching them flourish, seeing children from some painfully difficult circumstances enjoying unbridled laughter and carefree fun, watching young people from our youth club fast forward in growth and maturity before our eyes, even singing terribly cheesy action worship songs with "cool" teenagers



who decided to let their guard down – the whole week was a blessing and a reminder of another possible world (maybe with some different songs!).

Give thanks for the team who make camp happen and please pray for the children and young people

who came with us from Hull, that their first steps on their faith journeys might be nurtured and nourished through the year.

"I have never been very religious but I do believe there is a God. The first few nights I didn't really find it very interesting, but it got to Monday and I got really interested in what they were saying. When we left I had more of an understanding about faith and Jesus which was quite interesting."

D, young person from Hull

Shalom. Anna & Chris

PEOPLE



FUNERALS

We extend our sympathy to the families of those who have recently died:

Stuart Dobson Tom Brooks

LOOKING AHEAD

SYWC Celebration

APCM

Joint Evensong

Celebration of Life of Margaret Manning

Summer Fair

Family Walk from Pateley Bridge

Sunday 23rd April

Sunday 21st May (SJ)

Sunday 21st May, 6.00pm (SJ)

Sunday 4th June, 3.00pm

Saturday 24th June (SJ)

Saturday 8th July, 4.00pm

WHO'S WHO

We are in the process of updating and will then be reissuing our Who's Who booklet, which is a directory of those in our parish but is also our daily prayer list. If you have already signed a consent form to be included then you don't need to do anything. If you need to change your listing (address, phone number, email); or would like to be a new addition then please pick up a form from the back of church, and request a consent form from the parish office or pick one up in church.

SUNDAY 12th March

is Copy Date for

APRIL 2023 Focus

Items for inclusion to:

SJSLFocus@gmail.com

or Editor, 6 Old Trough Way, HG1 3DE

or leave them in the drawer at the back of St John's Church

St John's & St Luke's

CHURCH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY
9.30am to 1.00pm
TUESDAY 11.30am to 1.00pm
FRIDAY CLOSED

565129 (+ Answerphone) church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk



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information about how we can help you.

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Outings & activities

- Household tasks
- Medication support
- Wellbeing
- Dementia care

Personal care

We are extremely proud to support older people in our community to live independently in their own homes.

Our team is passionate about delivering the highest standard of care and will always go above and beyond to help our clients.



MARCH'S CALENDAR

Wednesday 1st	9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 2 nd	7.00pm 9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am	Alpha Course (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
Friday 3 rd	1.45pm 1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm 7-7.45pm	Lent Group (SJ) Wellbeing Café (SL) Open Junior Choir Practice (SJ) Open Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 4 th	1.30pm	Family Walk starting in Calcutt
Sunday 5 th	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 6-7.30pm	Holy Communion (SJ) Parade Service (SJ) Holy Communion (SL) Youth Worship at Starling Café (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 6 th Tuesday 7 th	9-9.30am 9-9.30am 4-5.00pm 7.30pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ) 4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group) (Emma's House) Time to Pray (SJ)
Wednesday 8 th	7.30pm 9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Lent Group (SL) Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 9 th	12.15pm 7.00pm 9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am	Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre Alpha Course (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL) Lent Group (SJ)
Friday 10 th	6.30-7.15pm 1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm 7-7.45pm	Evening Surgery in Church (SJ) Wellbeing Café (SL) Junior Choir Practice (SJ) Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 11 th	10.00am-12noon 9.30am-2.00pm 7.00pm	Coffee Morning in Church Hall (SJ) Holy Spirit Day (SJ) Ceilidh (SL)

Sunday 12 th	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 12.30pm	Holy Communion (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Parade Service (SL) Baptisms (SJ)
Monday 13 th	6-7.45pm 9-9.30am	Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL) Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 14 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
,	10.00am	Walking Group (SJ)
	2-3.30pm	Comfort Café (SJ)
	4-5.00pm	4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group)
	7 2000	(Emma's House)
Wadnasday 1 Eth	7.30pm	Lent Group (SL)
Wednesday 15 th	9-9.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park
	10.50a111	Community Centre
	12.00pm	Thirst Table at Dene Park Community
	12.00pm	Centre
	7.00pm	Alpha Course (SJ)
Thursday 16th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group)
		(SL)
Friday 17 th	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.15-7.00pm	Junior Choir Practice (SJ)
	7-7.45pm	Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 18 th	9.30am-12noon	Marriage Preparation Session (SJ)
Sunday 19th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
,	10.30am	Morning Worship (SJ)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SL)
	6-7.45pm	Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 20th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 21st	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	4-5.00pm	4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group)
		(Emma's House)
	7.30pm	PCC Meeting (SJ)
	7.30pm	Lent Group (SL)
Wednesday 22 nd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
		TI: . C ((. D D)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park
	10.30am	Community Centre
Thursday 22rd	10.30am 7.00pm	Community Centre Alpha Course (SJ)
Thursday 23 rd	10.30am 7.00pm 9-9.30am	Community Centre Alpha Course (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ)
Thursday 23 rd	10.30am 7.00pm	Community Centre Alpha Course (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group)
Thursday 23 rd	10.30am 7.00pm 9-9.30am	Community Centre Alpha Course (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ)
Thursday 23 rd	10.30am 7.00pm 9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am	Community Centre Alpha Course (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL)
Thursday 23 rd Friday 24 th	10.30am 7.00pm 9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am 1.45pm	Community Centre Alpha Course (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL) Lent Group (SJ) Evening Surgery in Church (SJ) Wellbeing Café (SL)
,	10.30am 7.00pm 9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am 1.45pm 6.30-7.15pm	Community Centre Alpha Course (SJ) Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL) Lent Group (SJ) Evening Surgery in Church (SJ)

Sunday 26th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
- · · · · · · ·	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Morning Worship (SL)
	6-7.45pm	Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Manday 27th		
Monday 27 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	7.30pm	Finance & Buildings Committee
T 1 20th	0.0.20	Meeting (SJ)
Tuesday 28 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	4-5.00pm	4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group)
		(Emma's House)
	7.30pm	Lent Group (SL)
Wednesday 29 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park
		Community Centre
	7.00pm	Alpha Course (SJ)
Thursday 30th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
,	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group)
	5156 1 1156u	(SL)
	1.45pm	Lent Group (SJ)
Friday 31st	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
Thuay 31	6.30-7.15pm	Junior Choir Practice (SJ)
	7-7.45pm	Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
	7-7.43pm	Adult Choir Fractice (5J)
APRIL		
Sunday 2 nd	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
Palm Sunday	10.30am	All Age Service (SJ)
Fulfil Sullady		
Manadan 2rd	10.30am	All Age Holy Communion (SL)
Monday 3 rd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 4 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	7.30pm	Holy Space (SL)
Wednesday 5 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park
		Community Centre
	7.30pm	Holy Space (SL)
Thursday 6 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Maundy Thursday	7.30pm	Holy Communion (SL)
Friday 7 th	11.00am	Act of Witness at The Cenotaph
Good Friday	1.30pm	Reflective Service (SJ)
,	7.00pm	Good Friday Choir Service (SJ)
Saturday 8th	10.00am-12noon	Youth Work Coffee Morning and
, .		Family Easter Trail (Hall and SJ)
		, (23,
Sunday 9th	5.45am	Sunrise Service (SJ)
Easter Day	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
• /	10.30am	All Age Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Holy Communion (SL)
	3 - -	3,

Looking ahead is on page 14

ST JOHN'S AND ST LUKE'S TOGETHER WHO'S WHO

Parish Office Phone No: 01423 565129

Parish Office email: church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk
For parish information including services and events
visit Parish Websites: www.stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk
www.stlukesharrogate.org.uk
www.facebook.com/groups/stjohnsandstlukes.harrogate
www.facebook.com/stlukesharrogate

www.facebook.com/stjohnsandstlukes - for livestreaming

The Ministry Team

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simon.dowson@leeds.anglican org

Laura Martin—Curate

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Emma James—Young People's

Worker

Tel 07803 586566

YouthWork@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

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St Luke's

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Editorial Team

Collation: Katie Burke 569563 and team Editors: Jean Burton 569907 Liz Hickling Magazine email: SJSLfocus@amail.com

Need to get out more?

Thirst Coffee Morning

every Wednesday 10.30-12 at Dene Park Community Centre Tea, coffee and cake

Well-being Café

Fridays in term-time 1-3 at St Luke's Church Centre Home-made soup and rolls and cakes Activities - jigsaws, dominoes, art, games

Pebbles Breakfast Club

Mondays 9-10.15 at the West Street entrance to New Park School



YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

You can use computers or find out about local events and information. We run storytimes for pre-school children and reading groups for all. YOU could become a member of our team of volunteers

We are open five days a week:

Monday 1.00pm - 5.00pm Tuesday 9.30am - 5.00pm Wednesday CLOSED Thursday 9.30am - 5.00pm Friday 9.30am - 1.00pm Saturday 9.30am - 1.00pm Sunday CLOSED

In the grounds of Woodfield School, Woodfield Road Telephone: 01423 564630 Email: info@biltonandwoodfield.org.uk

www.biltonandwoodfield.org.uk

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St John's Church Hall and St Luke's Church

can be hired for single occasions or for regular events. Contact the Church Office for more information.



30 King Edwards Drive, Harrogate, HG1 4HL.

Telephone: 01423 538445

Opening Times: 7.30am - 5.30pm Monday - Saturday