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*St John's and St Luke's Together*

*St John's Church*



*St Luke's Church*

**June  
2023**

**50 pence**



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## DEAR CONGREGATION OF ST JOHN'S AND ST LUKE'S

I want to take this opportunity to say a very big thank you, on behalf of myself and all of the young people, for your over-whelming generosity and faithful support of the youth worker role at St John's and St Luke's. It means that everything we are doing to pass on the gospel to the next generation can continue: all those meetings, the 1:1 chats, the discussions, the games, the walks, the worship nights, the hot chocolates,



the sleepless nights at camps and the mountains of donuts and pizzas!



But I want to ask you to do one more thing for our young people, which I believe is the single most important thing you could ever do for them; that is, to lift them to the Father regularly in prayer. Because I believe that God intends for our young people to have a far greater impact for good on the world than we have had. And

so I ask you to pray that they will take God more seriously, follow Jesus more diligently and will be reliant more fully on the Holy Spirit.

It can be a bit of a thankless task, tucking yourself away in private to pray for people. There's no one saying thank you, no Instagram or Facebook 'Like' and not nearly as many miracles as we'd like. If we're honest, there've probably been times that we've all wondered if we are wasting our time when we pray. But let's look at the example of Jesus: Jesus prayed all night; he prayed more than he preached. He told Peter, 'I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail.' (Luke 22:32). The whole of John chapter 17 records a prayer that Jesus prayed for us – you and me – his disciples. The book of Hebrews says that 'he lives to intercede.' (Hebrews 7: 25). And Romans 8 says that the Spirit is interceding for us right now in groans beyond words.

And the amazing thing about our prayers is that they are eternal. God stacks them up; he remembers them, and when we don't get an immediate answer, the book of Revelation says that our prayers are held in golden

bowls and one day they will be poured out with a big fat 'Amen' from heaven.

Here is a prayer, adapted from the Church of England website, that you may like to use when praying for our young people:

*Loving God,*

*We bring before you the children and young people of St John's and St Luke's as well as those in the wider community of Harrogate:*

*We pray for those who already know they are your children.  
Please protect them, bless them and keep them firm in their faith.*

*We pray for those who would like to find out more about you.  
Please provide ways for them to do that and help us all to play our part.*

*We pray for those who know little or nothing about Christian faith.  
Please stir up curiosity in them to find out more and in your mercy give them encounters with you that transform their lives.*

*Please give us courage, faith and hope as we continue to pray, knowing that every single prayer is heard by you; is precious to you and is answered by you.*

*In the name of Jesus Christ,*

*Amen*

Please be encouraged by these words from Pete Greig, the founder of the 24-7 Prayer

Movement: 'No moment spent in prayer is ever wasted: it is the most strategic, most powerful and most loving thing you can possibly give to another human being **Thank you.**

**Emma**



## QUESTION CORNER



Q Who, or what, is a saint?

A If someone were to say 'You are a saint', you might reply 'Oh no, not me. I'm no saint!' Some time ago I was preaching at St John's about saints and sinners. I asked the saints to raise their hands; only one person did (since we are well aware of our failings). But a saint is not someone without faults, and nobody is perfect. When St Paul wrote to Christians in Rome and Corinth etc he called them 'God's Holy people' or 'saints', despite their faults. ALL Christians are saints when they repent of sin and receive forgiveness, so brought into a closer relationship with God. BUT, whether in word or deed, or just lack of love, we continue to sin and need to ask forgiveness again. In the creed we profess belief in a 'holy church', even though the institution is flawed and UNHOLY in places! The church is holy because it's GOD's creation, as we receive new life from God's spirit (the Holy Spirit, as celebrated at Pentecost), and yet it's still imperfect because of human failings. So a 'holy church' means GOD's church, as he wants it to be.

In the above-mentioned sermon I also asked the sinners to raise their hands. Every hand shot up, including the hand of the one who said he was a saint. Yes, each of us is a mixture of saint and sinner (and the word 'saint' is not a compliment). We happily join in the old spiritual 'When the saints go marching in, I'm gonna be in that number'. And since Jesus gave his life to forgive us, we can sing that with assurance – not because of OUR goodness, but HIS.

*David*

### PARISH BULLETIN GAFFES AND MISPRINTS

(not from this parish!)

- You are invited to join the choir if you enjoy sinning.
- The evening sermon topic will be 'What is hell?' Come early and listen to choir practice

*Thanks to David for these.*

# COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 10th June

in St John's Hall

Bilton HG1 3DT

10 till 12 noon

£1 inc drink & biscuit

For people in Malawi  
through  
**CHRISTIAN AID**



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BOOKS

PLANTS

# Brownies

## 4th Bilton Brownies

never found, roasted fox, owl ice-cream and scrambled snake were eaten... There were plenty of crafts including flannel bunnies and wooden owls, pansies were planted, and there was even a trip to Spa Gardens where we played crazy golf



The last weekend in April saw 4<sup>th</sup> Bilton Brownies set off to spend the weekend on Pack Holiday in Ripon looking for a Gruffalo!

Whilst the Gruffalo was



before doing the

Tree Trail and going to the play park. We even managed to call in and see the Guides who were staying down the road and were putting on a "Show in a Weekend".

This was the first pack holiday for a few years and the first time that many of the girls had been away from home. It was lovely to be able to go away again and spend time with the Brownies and they were all amazing.

## *Barn Owl*



### DR MARGARET E MANNING

Peter and family are pleased to invite  
all our friends  
from St John's and St Luke's Together  
to our thanksgiving service to celebrate  
Margaret's life and work

3.00 pm Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> June at St John's Church,  
Bilton Lane Harrogate, HG1 3DT

Light refreshments to follow

It would help if you could let Peter know if you can attend  
by email [pvcmanning@tpiz.co.uk](mailto:pvcmanning@tpiz.co.uk) or 01423508260



## CORONATION CELEBRATION

As a church community it was wonderful to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III in many ways. Children, staff, parents and governors from Richard Taylor School came to St John's church to stage their very own coronation service, where we all enjoyed hearing the children



explaining beautifully the various elements of a coronation service, singing songs and leading prayers. We were even treated to some creative dancing! Simon very much enjoyed taking on the role of Archbishop for an afternoon and crowning 'King Charles and Queen Camilla'.



At the well-being café guests wore their finest red, white and blue and were treated to some delicious food, coronation-themed cakes, a glass of fizz and some live music.



Thirsty guests also enjoyed celebrating the coronation

Over the weekend itself, a few members of our community gathered at St Luke's church on Saturday to watch the big event on screen. Again, the theme was red, white and blue and the tables were filled with decorations, flags and tasty cakes.



On Sunday at our various worship services we celebrated King Charles III with liturgy, prayer and music. We prayed for our new king and queen and also for each other as we reflected on our calling 'not to be served but to serve'. Everyone noticed that the floral arrangements - at both churches - looked magnificent. After the service we enjoyed a glass of something fizzy and.....yes, you guessed it, more cake!!



During the service at St Luke's, the newly formed children's work team were encouraging the children to think about the kingdom of God, and the children made their very own palaces to take home.



On bank holiday Monday, people across the country were encouraged to find ways of volunteering for the day within their communities. This reminded me how much work is done EVERY day by volunteers within our churches and our local community. The work of

the church relies on the time, gifts, love, money and prayer of its faithful, servant-hearted volunteers. Much of it is unseen and sometimes it may feel unappreciated. So, may we take this opportunity to thank every single one of you for what you give to your community; to God's people. The way in which you minister God's love to others in such a rich variety of ways is truly inspiring - thank you.



God save the King!

**Laura**

# Guides

1st Bilton

2nd Bilton

Over 40 Brownies and Guides joined together on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May to celebrate the King's Coronation.

Bunting for the church was made along with various coronation themed crafts with the evening ending with cake!!



The girls were then all presented with a special badge to mark the occasion.

## SUMMER FAIR

Planning is well under way for this exciting event  
- barbecue, refreshments, entertainment, cakes,  
plants, preserves, books, grand raffle and tombola

Also a bouncy castle, plus hook-a-duck and other activities

Donations of cakes and plants and prizes will be very welcome

See you there?



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FOR MORE INFORMATION**

# NO MOW MAY™

Plantlife



By the time this issue of Focus is printed, it will probably be the end of May, however, it's never too late to start!

The environmental charity, Plantlife, has again launched its annual No Mow May campaign. Starting at the beginning of May, it calls all garden owners and those who manage green spaces to not mow during May. Sadly, as a nation, we have lost nearly 97% of flower rich meadows

since the 1970s and with them have gone a vital food source for pollinators, such as bees and butterflies. A healthy lawn with some long grass and wildflowers benefits wildlife, helps tackle pollution and can even lock away carbon below ground. All you need do is not mow your lawn in May. If you choose to carry on after the end of this month, even better, as the benefits will keep coming. You might find all sorts of interesting wildflowers pop up in your lawn that you never knew were there!

With over 20 million gardens in the UK, even the smallest patches of grass add up and can, if looked after effectively, deliver great gains for nature and the climate. In addition to helping the wildlife, having longer grass protects the roots from drying out. During last year's very hot summer, because I had let my lawn grow long and hardly ever cut it, my grass was still green when everyone else's lawns were just patches of bare earth. It also provided shade to insects and small birds from the heat. Yes, my lawn may be more dandelion than smooth bowling green, but the bees and other insects love it; these in turn attract birds into the garden to feed on the insects. The final bonus of not mowing my lawn so frequently is, of course, less work for me! What's not to like?!

For further information, see:

<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay/>

**KNOT**  
**ANOTHER CHOIR**  
 CHARITY CONCERT

IN AID OF:  
**FRANK'S FUND**

Supported by:  
**THREE STRIKES**  
 @threestrikes3

**Saturday 17th June 7.30pm**  
**St John's Church, Bilton, Harrogate**

Tickets £10 / £5 children  
 Refreshments, cake stall and Raffle

Tickets:  
<https://fienta.com/franks-fund-concert>

Get ready for a night of unforgettable music and entertainment.

Knot another Choir performs pop, rock and gospel classics and will have you singing along in your seats!

Three Strikes are a youth Jazz-Funk band that have performed at the Fireworks on the Stray and at the Harrogate Christmas Market and are regularly hired for gigs and parties.

The concert is in aid of Frank's Fund, which raises vital funds for research into Ewing sarcoma, a rare form of bone cancer. Frank was just 11 years old and in year 6 in Pannal primary school in

Harrogate when he was diagnosed with Ewing sarcoma. During the next 12 months, he endured 14 exhausting cycles of chemotherapy, 2 months of proton therapy in the US and an horrific 8 hour operation to remove the tumour and a substantial part of his pelvis. His positivity, resilience and raw courage in learning to walk again after his operation and the way he quietly got about rebuilding his life and getting back to school were awe-inspiring.

However, after just 5 months in remission, the disease returned and Frank's short life ended on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

Ewing sarcoma most commonly affects children and young adults aged 10-25 years old and makes up about 1.5% of all childhood cancers. A child, teenager or adult is diagnosed with primary bone cancer every 10 minutes somewhere in the world.

By buying a ticket and coming to the concert, you'll be helping to raise money that can be invested in much-needed research into Ewing sarcoma, as well as enjoying a wonderful evening of music!

*Emma, our Young People's Worker, is part of the choir!*



# PEOPLE



## BAPTISMS / BLESSINGS

*Florence Frances Chamberlain  
Xavier Michael Evans  
Hayley Violet Longstaffe  
Evelyn Rose Longstaffe*

## PLANTS AS WELL AS BOOKS!



St John's and St Luke's were pleased to support our local library at May's coffee morning. Some library volunteers stocked and manned a superb plant stall, and there was brisk trade at all the stalls, including of course the book stall.



It was wonderful to welcome so many customers as they enjoyed browsing the stalls before chatting over a cuppa and biscuit or toasted teacake.

Thanks go to everyone who supported by volunteering or by coming along.

We raised £800, which will help with the running of our volunteer-run library on Woodfield Road.



## WEDNESDAY 14<sup>th</sup> JUNE

is Copy Date for

### JULY 2023 Focus

Items for inclusion to:

[SJSLFocus@gmail.com](mailto: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

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# JUNE'S CALENDAR

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	12.30pm	Baptism (SJ)
<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Parade Service (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SL)
	3.00pm	Celebration of the life of Margaret Manning (SJ)
	6-7.45pm	Youth Worship Night (Artizan Café)
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	4-5.00pm	4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group) (Emma's House)
	7.30pm	Time to Pray (SJ)
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes Parent & Toddler Group (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery in Church (SJ)
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Junior Choir Practice (SJ)
	7-7.45pm	Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12noon	Coffee Morning (SJ Hall)
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Parade Service (SL)
	12.30pm	Baptism (SJ)
	6-7.45pm	Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.00am	Walking Group (SJ)
	2-3.30pm	Comfort Café (SJ)
	4-5.00pm	4twelve (Year 8+ Youth Group) (Emma's House)
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am-3.00pm	Team Vicar Interview Day (SL)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	12.15pm	Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)

Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	9.30-11.30am 1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm 7-7.45pm	Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL) Wellbeing Café (SL) Junior Choir Practice (SJ) Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Knot Another Choir Charity Concert (SJ)
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am 10.30am 6-7.45pm	Holy Communion (SJ) JOINT Morning Worship (SJ) Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am 4-5.00pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) 4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group) (Emma's House)
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am 10.30am  12.00pm	Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre Thirst Table at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am 6.30-7.15pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL) Evening Surgery in Church (SJ)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm 7-7.45pm	Wellbeing Café (SL) Junior Choir Practice (SJ) Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am-2.00pm	Summer Fair (SJ and hall)
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 6-7.45pm	Holy Communion (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) All Age Morning Worship (SL) Ignite (Year 7+ Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am 4-5.00pm	Morning Prayer (SL) 4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group) (Emma's House)
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer (SL) Holy Communion (SL) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am 1.30pm	Morning Prayer (SL) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL) Wedding Rehearsal (SJ)
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm 7-7.45pm	Wellbeing Café (SL) Junior Choir Practice (SJ) Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
<b><u>JULY</u></b>		
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	1.00pm	Wedding (SJ)
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 6-7.45pm	Holy Communion (SJ) Parade Service (SJ) Holy Communion (SL) Youth Worship Night (Artizan Café)

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9-9.30am 7.30pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Time To Pray (SJ)
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am 4-5.00pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) 4twelve (Year 7+ Youth Group) (Emma's House)
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm 9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am TBA	Archdeacon's Visitation Service (St Marks) Morning Prayer (SL) Little Fishes (Parent & Toddler Group) (SL) Wedding Rehearsal (SJ)
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	10am-12noon 1.00pm 4.00pm	Coffee Morning for Ukraine (SJ Hall) Wedding (SJ) Family Walk (Pateley Bridge)

## LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	2.00pm	Comfort Café (SJ)
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	12.15pm	Community Lunch (Bilton Community Centre)
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> August	10.00am	Coffee Morning for Mission Partners in Uganda (SJ Hall)
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> September	10.00am	Coffee Morning for Dignity Through Education (SJ Hall)
	Morning	Heritage Weekend Activity (SJ Church and grounds)



**The Blue Book**

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

Parish Office Phone No: 01423 565129

Parish Office email: [church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk](mailto:church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk)

For parish information including services and events

visit Parish Websites: [www.stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk)

[www.stlukesharrogate.org.uk](http://www.stlukesharrogate.org.uk)

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## The Ministry Team

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*Vacant*

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## Churchwardens

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## Editorial Team

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**Magazine email:** [SJSJfocus@gmail.com](mailto:SJSJfocus@gmail.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



**Bilton & Woodfield**  
Community Library



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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](mailto:info@biltonandwoodfield.org.uk)  
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