

The Plough

Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe Community and Parish Magazine

February 2021



View from Kelham Hall as the sun begins to set over the January floodwater, with Averham Church and Staythorpe Power Station in the distance.

Editor: Judith Mills. Editor.plough@hotmail.com ; 07775781591

Plough Website:

<https://www.aksplough.co.uk/community/the-plough-15062/home>

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From the Editor

It may be a little too late to say it, but as this is the first edition of The Plough for 2021, I'd like to wish all Plough readers

HAPPY NEW YEAR

even if it has been somewhat muted.

You will, I'm sure have noticed that the shape of The Plough has changed and I do hope you like this new format.

The magazine now comprises two sections. The first part—the Community Magazine— will focus on what's happening in our villages. In this edition that covers a whole range of things from a new 'Reading Circle', to articles on mental and physical wellbeing, to notices of road works, as well as reports from the Parish Council and other things of local interest. In more 'normal' times, this section would also include information about the Gardening Club or fundraising events, and let's hope that it won't be long before these can be included again.

The second section is the Parish Magazine. Here you'll find details of all the church services (all on ZOOM at the moment), church news, information relating to our two historic and important churches, as well as message from our Vicar, Georgie Hadley.

As always, YOUR contributions are always welcome, whether this is an announcement, news item, poem, recipe, short story (I'd love to publish a short story), reminiscences or questions. All are welcome.

In particular, I'd like to appeal to the artistic amongst you to come up with a **cover for the magazine**.

The photograph for February was taken from Kelham Hall grounds, looking towards Averham and Staythorpe, and therefore encompassed all three villages. I'm sure someone who is far more creative than me can come up with something for March's edition.

Just a couple of conditions—any design has to look good in both black and white and colour (as the Plough gets emailed out in full colour to those who request it). And, of course, it must be your own, original work.

I hope you enjoy this edition. Do send me your comments.

Judith Mills, Editor

VILLAGE NOTICE BOARD

Well Done to everyone who contributed to the January Collection for **Newark Food Bank** . The collection totalled 180kg (28 stone), which is almost 34 kgs more than was collected in November



Blacksmith's Cottage, Kelham features in video on YouTube.

Standing Building Archaeologist, James Wright redates this house to the late mediaeval period in his video ***A lost Medieval house at Kelham*** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q9sd7jHBx3g>) or go onto YouTube and search for the title of the video. The video takes about 25 minutes to watch and is full of fascinating details.

CONGRATULATIONS to Alison Rose and Tracey Carlisle who raised £720 through making and selling face masks. The money has been donated to Forever Stars, a charity that supports families that have suffered infant death.



INTRODUCING THE PLOUGH READING CIRCLE Not Your Usual 'Book Club' Would you like to join?

Unlike most book clubs, there won't be any regular formal meetings – after all we can't meet up at the moment anyway.

Instead, every month we'll suggest a couple of titles for villagers to read. All the books will be readily available in various formats from Amazon, Ebay, supermarkets, WH Smiths etc. and can be sourced and downloaded **for free** via <https://b-ok.cc> (you'll probably need to set up an account with this group).

Instead of meeting to discuss the books (usually accompanied by a glass of wine) you will be able to write your own book review to be published in The Plough or make suggestions for books that you think others will enjoy reading. The first book review is on p.6.

And, if you wanted to, you could set up discussion groups with your friends and neighbours, over the garden fence or via Zoom, WhatsApp, Facebook, or whatever works for you.

Who knows, when you next bump into other villagers on your daily walk, you could discuss the twists and turns of the plot as well as the weather!

Here's a couple of titles for February to get you going:

***The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman**

***Moving* by Jenny Eclair**

Two very different titles and possibly a stretch of your literary tastes.

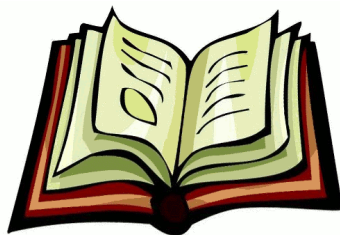
Enjoy and we look forward to hearing your feedback.

Send your Reviews, Comments and Suggestions for New Books to Editor.plough@hotmail.com . If you don't have email, then phone me on 07775781591 and I'll let you know where you can send your comments .

Reading Circle Book Review

I thought I'd kick off the Reading Circle with a review of not one but seven books. Like many other people I have a Kindle Unlimited account – for those who don't have one, it works a bit like a lending library. You can 'borrow' up to 10 books in return for a monthly subscription. Through this subscription I have come across many new authors some – to be honest – rubbish, many average and one or two who have been good reads.

A few weeks ago, I came across a 'boxed set' of seven books by Chris Collett, an author I'd not heard of before. The series begins in the early 2000s and revolves around Detective Inspect Mariner. Now, it may not be to everyone's taste, but I enjoy well written detective fiction and as the set was classed as one book/one loan I decided to download them. It seemed worth a go as, let's face it, even if the books turned out to be 'average', at the moment we all need bulk reading matter.



I was surprised and delighted to find that they turned out to be good, and rather different reads. So, what made them good?

First, unlike a lot of crime fiction which at the moment is set in remote locations – the Yorkshire Dales, Norfolk, Northumbria, Shetland or that fictional and murderous area Midsomer, these books are set in Birmingham which is accurately and sympathetically described by someone who knows all its facets very well. I grew up in Birmingham though I left over 45 years ago, so it was an added attraction to me to read about places, streets and buildings that I recognised. There was even a veiled allusion to the grammar school I attended, but you would have to know Birmingham very well to get it.

Second, a witness to the first crime is a severely autistic young man and his portrayal is sensitive and truthfully written, as are the consequences for all those people who have to care for him. These are just two examples of how Collett's depictions of places and people add depth and realism to the narrative.

Third, the police officers involved in the stories are all honest and competent. Even the senior officers, who are so often portrayed as bumbling or too focused on their own careers or dependent on their detectives to put them in a good light, are shown to be efficient, professional, and caring. It is a refreshing viewpoint.

Finally – and possibly most importantly – all the stories are intriguing and unpredictable. Of course, the main characters turn up in all the books, but each story is individual and there is little – if any – repetition of motifs or themes which is often perceived when you read a series of books ‘back-to-back’.

At the end I found myself in that awful position of not wanting to put the collection down, but sorry that I’d read them so quickly. I’m sure Chris Collett will turn up on my virtual book shelf again very soon.

I’d highly recommend these books to anyone who likes crime and detective stories. To read more about Chris Collett and the DI Mariner Books, go to

<https://www.chriscollettcrime.co.uk/books/>

Judith Mills

If you’d like to recommend a ‘good read’ or comments on either of the two suggested books, please email me Editor.plough@hotmail.com

On the River, by Paul Laurence Dunbar

The sun is low,
The waters flow,
My boat is dancing to and fro.
The eve is still,
Yet from the hill
The killdeer echoes loud and shrill.

Where neither bird
Nor beast has stirred,
The spotted bullfrog's croak is heard.
The wind is high,
The grasses sigh,
The sluggish stream goes sobbing by.

The paddles splash,
The wavelets dash,
We see the summer lightning flash;
While now and then,
In marsh and fen
Too muddy for the feet of men,

And far away
The dying day
Has cast its last effulgent ray;
While on the land
The shadows stand

From: <https://www.public-domain-poetry.com/>

"Take care of yourself ..."

"Take care of yourself"! "Stay well!", Stay Safe!". We are hearing this perhaps more than usual at the moment aren't we?

It might be said at the end a phone call, text or email, or perhaps with a neighbour as we happen upon each other whilst putting the bins out, or possibly when taking our daily exercise in our local area.

But how many of us are heading these important words?

Maybe we have equated 'taking care of ourselves' with staying Covid-free: washing our hands and staying socially distanced; wearing a mask when out and about and working from home wherever possible. Or maybe we have started this year thinking about 'taking care of ourselves' with yet another New Year's resolution promising we will do more physical exercise or by losing weight?

But how many of you have started the New Year with the resolution to look after and improve your mental health? How many of us can hand on heart say that when we hear 'take care of ourselves', we think about what this means for our whole self; not just our bodies, but our minds as well?



Since the 1st January I have been doing a sponsored walk with the hope of achieving 1,000,000 steps in 100 days. I am raising money for the **Centre for Mental Health**, a charity that undertakes research into the inequalities surrounding mental health.

Many Mental Health charities want us to challenge our default assumption upon hearing the word 'health' that this always equates to physical well-being. On training courses that I deliver (I am a trained Mental Health First Aid Instructor for Mental Health First Aid England), we explore the concept of the word health and our preoccupation with its connection to our physical well-being. This can lead to a disparity in the way we look after, accept, and understand issues we may have with our own or others mental health. Stigma and misunderstanding around mental health can impede recovery and make it difficult for acceptance to take place in our communities and our workplaces.

The tide is turning and I think the conversation is shifting, but there is more

to be done. I am going to try and write a regular column in the Plough each month about mental health in order to help increase awareness and to keep the conversation travelling in the right direction.

So if you see me stepping out between now and April whilst I plod along on my way to achieving my million steps, ask me more about why I am doing it.

Lets start a conversation to improve our mental health within the ASK community. As someone wise, once said, 'there is no health without mental health' and we can all take steps (see what I did there!) to further our knowledge around this subject.



Laura Morrell

For more information about the Centre for Mental Health and the One Million Steps Challenge, please go to

<https://www.centreformentalhealth.org.uk/>

Your Health Your Way



Your Health Your Way:

Nottinghamshire's new Integrated Wellbeing service. YHW is a free service available to support residents of Nottinghamshire (excluding Nottingham City) to lose weight, get more active, eat healthier, drink less and quit smoking.

Our intervention services include:

Weight Management (Adults, Families, Maternity), Physical Activity, Smoking (12 years+) and Alcohol

All interventions are free and delivered by our team of friendly and positive Healthy Lifestyle advisors, who will offer encouragement and advice on maintaining a positive approach to managing your weight and health behaviours.


For more information or to make a quick, easy self-referral visit www.yourhealthnotts.co.uk or call us on 0115 772 2515. Make sure to follow our social media for videos, recipes, and tips!


"All in all, I would 100% recommend Your health Your Way!" **Stuart, weight management intervention service user.**


See below—Dean our Healthy Lifestyle advisor delivering one of our outdoor adult weight management sessions



Keep an eye out on our social media pages for what we have planned for January! We want to help you kick start 2021 right so we'll be taking things back to basics with food and fitness, helping you to make the right decisions to improve your health and wellbeing. Give us a follow!

 Your Health Your Way Notts

 @yhywnotts

 @yhywnotts

Penny Phillpot
pPhillpot@ablhealth.co.uk



Well, here we are again in full lockdown keeping safe, hopefully.

We managed a very different Christmas Party event when a well know BBC broadcaster from Bristol, Jonathan Evans, shared some of his Christmas childhood memories. He was a brilliant speaker and kept the 15 or so members enthralled with his stories set around Kirby-in-Ashfield where he grew up. He hit the spot perfectly.

Jenny Caukwell conducted a Christmas themed Quiz which, as usual, was quite challenging, and brought the usual exclamations of 'Oh I didn't know that' or 'Really'. Many thanks Jenny for your hard work again.

Of course, the mood of the Christmas Party was tempered by the sad loss of our long-standing member Maureen Justice. It was such a shock to so many people at so many different levels. Maureen was one of the first members of our WI and had held office as President and for many years as Treasurer. She was always so diligent in her different roles and although she had retired from the committee several years ago she was still such a dependable member and involved herself with all the different activities. We all have many happy memories of Maureen.

At the committee meeting in January, it was decided to have a little break until the beginning of March. Perhaps by then there will be some clearer idea on the way forwards with all our lives. We have planned to have an afternoon tea party and all the members will be sent a formal invitation and a teabag. We hope to have a catch-up chat session and share WI memories. I am looking forwards to that. It will of course be on ZOOM.

If you would like to join in and give it a try send me a note (headbearsenior@gmail.com) and I will make sure you get the link. It's all free!

So until next time keep well and get the vaccine!

Jenny Quickmire, Meeting Sec.

Tributes to Maureen Justice

1938-2020

I've only lived in Kelham for seven years and I can't remember exactly when I first met Maureen – after all she lived in Averham; all I know is that she immediately made me feel welcome and part of the community. The other day, my impressions were echoed by Rev'd Georgie who described her as an 'Amazing lady' who should be thanked not just for what she did but also for the person she was. Others who knew her better and for longer can pay her greater tributes.

Anne Miller explains that Maureen hailed from Gedling and met Ian at the Sherwood Rooms in Nottingham which was a popular Saturday night venue for dancing. She was a teenage bride when she married Ian at Averham church and quickly adapted to rural life, and helped Ian with his laying hens, potato planting and growing tomatoes in the greenhouse to sell at the gate to the workers building the power station.

When Ian started to grow chrysanthemums for showing, Maureen took on the very tedious job of dressing the blooms as she had patience in abundance. In recent years they exhibited vegetables, fruit and flowers at Southwell Ploughing Match and Show, and the Gardening Club show winning several prizes over the years.

Naturally, they were members of the Garden Club and hosted the social events. Maureen was a keen member of the WI, serving as President, always an enthusiastic member in whist and quiz teams. Latterly she was Averham Church Warden.

Muriel and David Keene remember how Maureen and Ian celebrated their diamond wedding in church choosing their favourite hymns, renewing their vows and thanking God for 60 years of married life before their family and many friends. They also remember how amused they were when she used a hair dryer to



get the chrysanthemum flowers just right before exhibiting them at a show. After Ian died she became president of the Garden Club.

COVID rules allowed only 30 in Church for her funeral so, despite the rain, residents lined Church Lane under brightly coloured umbrellas to respect her dislike of black at funerals. We send our condolences to her family Steven, Sally, Roger and Victoria, and her many grandchildren and great grandchildren of whom she was very proud.

Maureen will be much missed by all who knew her.



Maureen and Ian celebrating their Diamond Wedding at Averham Church

From the Justice family

The family of Maureen Justice would like to thank everyone for all their kind words and support following Maureen's unexpected death. We know that everyone was as shocked as we were to receive the sad news and hearing everyone's kind words and seeing the number of people who stood along the road at her funeral to say goodbye has been a great comfort to us all. We are sorry that we were not able to hold a bigger funeral to give us all the opportunity say goodbye together and to share happy memories. Fingers crossed we can do something later this year to celebrate her amazing life.

Parish Council Update December and January Meetings

The Parish Council is now at Full Strength – At the Council's December meeting Nathan Morrell was co-opted to represent the Kelham Ward, succeeding Trysh Williams.



Nathan and his family have lived in Kelham for fifteen years. He is a graduate of Essex University where he read History and Politics. Nathan is one of Tesco's senior managers and is currently responsible for the management of the Ollerton Branch. He says' "As my children have got older, I have time to take a more active interest in local affairs and put something back into the community I love. I know the area very well, and have a good relationship with lots of people in the parish".

Cllr Bradey was appointed as Vice-Chairman and Cllr Phillips-Kelly was appointed to the vacancy on the Human Resources Committee.

For a full list of all the Parish Councillors, please see the Parish Council website: <http://www.akspc.org.uk/community/averham-kelham-and-staythorpe-parish-council-15064/home>

OR search for Averham Kelham Staythorpe Parish Council

Council Budget 2021/22 - The Council considered the funding that it would need to run itself and continue to provide services during 2021/22 and agreed a budget of £3,570. The budget is requested from N&SDC in the form of a precept and is funded from council tax.

Street Lighting – NCC and Via have been contacted regarding the ongoing street lighting problems in the parish and especially the ongoing issues along Main Road (A617) and Averham bypass.

Defibrillators - £168 was allocated to fund the purchase of parts for the Defibrillators which are allocated on Behay Gardens at Staythorpe and at Manor Farm, Kelham

Averham and Kelham Benches - The bench located at the West end of The Close, Averham has been damaged beyond economic repair and as it is rarely used it will be removed. The Council is still awaiting information from NCC in relation to the replacement bench at Kelham before final cost and viability can be established.

Foodbank Donations- Thank you to everyone who generously donated to the Food Bank in January a magnificent 180kg was collected (over 28 stones in old speak).

Free Trees - Community Groups within the UK can apply for grants from the Tree Council to get young people aged under 21 to become involved in tree and hedge planting and care. All the projects need to be completed by 31st March '21 Further information from <https://treecouncil.org.uk/take-action>



Power Station / Averham Walkies – In response to a resident's request the Parish Council will enquire with NCC and Staythorpe Power Station as to the possibility of constructing steps to the steep sections of the riverside walk.

Post Covid Celebration/ Jab jubilation - The Parish Council are applying to County Councillor Cllr. Sue Saddington for a grant of around £100 to help fund a post COVID celebration event for the three villages. Cllr. Phillips Kelly and Cllr. Nickson kindly said that their companies would also provide £100 donation to the celebration fund.

PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

A46 Newark Bypass Consultation - The Parish Council considered the two options in the consultation document and **is supporting option two** which involves the Cattle Market Junction becoming a flyover, with the A46 elevated to pass over the roundabout. Further information can be found on the Highways England website, as below. Comments from all residents in the Newark and surrounding areas are being sought. Please note that the consultation period closes on 2nd February 2021.

www.highwaysengland.co.uk/a46newarkbypass@highwaysengland.co.uk

Manners Sutton School Consultation - The consultation on the School's

future concludes on January 31st 2021 and comments should be sent to place.planning@nottsc.gov.uk

- **Community Assets and Access to the School Grounds:** The shed on the School grounds is owned by the Parish Council and contains chairs and tables which are also owned by the PC. The Council is hoping to find alternative storage for these items. (Residents may borrow the chairs and tables and should contact the Parish Clerk to make a booking). The PC is also liaising with NCC regarding the future use of the community room at the school, which was part lottery funded, and continued public access to the school grounds.
- **School Catchment Area:** The PC is also approaching NCC, due to the loss of the school to request Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe become part of the Minster School catchment area as opposed to Suthers School at Fernwood.

Proposed 50mph Speed Limit Consultation -Averham Bypass/Staythorpe Road, Averham Rolleston and Staythorpe: The Parish Council has responded in support of the introduction of the speed limit.

Network Rail - Parish Councillors are to take part in a video-conference convened by County Councillor Sue Saddington with Network Rail and other local parish councillors to directly discuss issues relating to the problems and reliability of local level crossing barriers.

The next Parish Council Meeting

will take place on

Tuesday 2nd March 2021

Members of the Public Welcome

Due to COVID restrictions meetings are currently held via video conference and members of the public are invited to join the conference via video link please contact Jennifer Cawkwell Parish Clerk for information.

aksparishclerk@outlook.com; 07563639379

ALL AGENDAS AND MEETING MINUTES ARE POSTED ON THE WEBSITE

<http://www.akspc.org.uk/community/averham-kelham-and-staythorpe-parish-council-15064/home>

ROAD WORKS and CLOSURES

CLOSURE: 8am Monday March 8th—6pm Friday March 12th.

Junction of The Close and Staythorpe Road, Averham for 80m to install a new gas connection.

All enquires to Joe James, MLP Traffic, 0330 0169696

NOTIFICATION OF ESSENTIAL MAINTENANCE WORKS

A1 NB & SB (NEWARK - BLYTH)

Highways England will be carrying out essential carriageway maintenance work to the A1, between the A46/A1 Newark Junction and the A614/A1 Blyth Junction.

The work comprises resurfacing sections of the carriageway and some of the slip roads, refresh road markings and renew road studs.

To minimise disruption to our customers, the work will be carried out overnight while the road is less busy. This will also ensure that the road network is as free-flowing as possible during the day.

Once completed, all road users will benefit from improved road safety and a smoother carriageway.

Work is due to start **Monday 08 February 2021** and is scheduled for completion by **mid-March 2021**. To minimise disruption to the local community and road users, the work will be done in phases. Please note that these dates are subject to change.

- **Phase 1:** Monday 8 Feb to Wednesday 10 Feb, A1 NB lane one closure between Apleyhead and Blyth, with various exit and entry slip closures.
- **Phase 2:** Thursday 11 Feb to Monday 15 Feb, A1 SB lane one closure between Blyth and Apleyhead, with various exit and entry slip closures.
- **Phase 3:** Tuesday 16 Feb to Tuesday 23 Feb, A1 NB full carriageway closures between Apleyhead and Blyth. Diversion route via the A638 towards Retford and Scrooby and then via the A614.

- **Phase 4:** Wednesday 34 Feb to Thursday 5 March, A1 SB full carriageway closures between Blyth and Apleyhead. Diversion route via the A614 and A638 towards Retford.
- **Phase 5:** Friday 5th March to Monday 8 March, A1 NB lane one closure between Newark and Apleyhead, with various exit and entry slip closures
- **Phase 6:** Tuesday 9 March to Wednesday 10 March, A1 SB lane one closure between Apleyhead and Newark, with various exit and entry slip closures
- **Phase 7:** Thursday 11 March to Friday 12 March, A1 NB full carriageway closures between Newark and Apleyhead. Diversion route via the A616 and A614.
- **Phase 8:** Monday 15 March to Tuesday 16 March, A1 SB full carriageway closures between Apleyhead and Newark. Diversion route via the A614 and A616.

The work will be carried out between 8pm and 6am Monday to Friday.

Anyone requiring access through the closures between these times should contact the Traffic Safety control Officer on 07539630489.

If you have any queries about this work, please contact our Highways England

Customer Contact Centre as follows:

- Email: info@highwaysengland.co.uk (F.A.O East Midlands Asset Delivery)
- Telephone: 0300 123 5000

**And as 14 February
is Valentine's Day,
here are some mice
to remind you to
keep in contact with
your loved ones.**





***Rev'd Georgie's Message
to all in
Averham, Kelham and Staythorpe
On HOPE***

Here we are in lock down again. I guess we could see it coming. The hope on the horizon is the vaccine programme. The days are still short and dark but we will, now, see them slowly getting longer and the evenings lighter. I guess normally at this time our minds start thinking of summer holidays. This year the words I keep hearing are, "Who knows?"

In the garden there are signs of hope as bulbs are beginning to grow, pushing their way up through the soil. I am writing this just after the snow. I have to say I am a bit of a child when it comes to snow. It seems such a contrast; signs of spring yet still in the grip of winter.

There is a saying, "Hope springs eternal", I had to look up its origins. It turns out Alexander Pope, an 18th century English poet, wrote these wise words in *An Essay on Man: Epistle 1*:

*'Hope springs eternal in the human breast:
Man never is, but always to be blest:
The soul, uneasy and confin'd from home,
Rests and expatiates in a life to come'.*

Hope is believing that something will happen although it seems unlikely. Hope is, of course, the belief one holds, during difficult circumstances, that things will get better.

Hope, I feel, very often comes out of a place of hopelessness or when we feel powerless. Christians at such time turn to God, in prayer, trusting in him as a personal beacon. A Christian group called *Rend Collective* has a song, 'My Lighthouse'. It speaks of God being our beacon, beckoning us during periods of darkness and stormy seas.

Some of the lyrics say;

*In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea,
In the silence, You won't let go
In the questions, Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through*

*My Lighthouse, my lighthouse
Shining in the darkness, I will follow You
I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You will carry me safe to shore*

When we need hope, as I think we all do at this time, we have to dig into God's word. There is much written there that we can use in prayer or as a mantra to bring peace and hope when needed.

King Solomon wrote that God

*has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity
into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done
from the beginning to the end* (Ecclesiastes 3:11, ESV)

And Psalm 42:5 reads:

*Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you in turmoil within me?
Hope in God;*

Is there an area in your life in which hope falters or in which you have lost hope? The psalmist's approach is worth trying: Reflect on a more joyful time in your life, and remind yourself that you can have that joy again. Or remind yourself of a time when God fulfilled your hopes and expectations. He can fulfil your hopes again.

In 1 Corinthians 13 it says,

and these three things remain faith, hope and love

Sadly we have been unable to sing in church, but music lifts the spirits. Listen to the Rend Collectives song or to one of the versions of the hymn by Edward Mote, *My hope is built on nothing less*, or the contemporary version by Hillsong called *Cornerstone*.

If you are feeling down, or in need of words of encouragement please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Look out for the opportunities to meet together (virtually to begin with) during Lent; joining in with a group can lift troubled minds and spirits.

Rev'd Georgie Hadley

email: georgie.hadley@yahoo.co.uk; 07811 393 920

OR find the Riverside Benefice on FACEBOOK

Church Services and Meetings

Kelham, Averham and Staythorpe are part of the Riverside Benefice which also includes North and South Muskham. At the moment, because all churches have had to close due to the pandemic, services and meetings are on-line, via ZOOM. If you'd like to join in any of these,, please contact Rev'd Georgie on

georgie.hadley@yahoo.co.uk; 07811 393 920

And she will send you a link. Currently she is hosting:

- Sunday services, starting at 9.30 am.
These are usually followed by 'chat' sessions in break-out rooms.
- Thursday evening prayer, starting at 6pm
- Saturday morning virtual coffee and cake at 10am





The local Church of England and Methodist Churches are coming together to offer Lent Courses this year.

All are welcome.

Mondays 8pm to 9pm: 22 February; 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 March

Tuesdays 2.15-3.30pm: 23 February; 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 March 2021.

There is a unifying theme running from Ash Wednesday (17 February) to Easter Sunday (4 April). Each session is complete in its own right, so don't worry if you can't come to each one. Under the current restrictions these are planned to take place on Zoom but this may change if the restrictions change

If you would like to join us

For **Monday** contact Peter Hibberts, peter.hibberts@methodist.org.uk
Tel: 01636 812166.

For **Tuesday** contact Georgie Hadley, georgie.hadley@yahoo.co.uk
Tel: 01636 821343 / 07811393920

You will be sent a ZOOM invitation

It is possible more groups will be set up so watch out for notices from The Plough or Newark & Southwell Methodist Circuit Home for more information .

COURSE BOOKLET

If you would like to take part fully you will need to order a course booklet.

You can do this by contacting Peter or Georgie (£2 charge)

or

going directly to the Church of England website (<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/livelent-2021-church-resources-gods-story-our-story>) or search #LiveLent.

Averham Church News

Yet again we are in lock down so very little physical activity is happening around St. Michael's and All Angels. We managed a very reduced Christingle this year and most of the Christingles were delivered around the village and to friends. It was decided to have the Christmas Morning Service as a Zoom event given the anxiety around the new strain of Covid-19.

What seems like old news now and I am sure everyone in the village of the very sad and sudden loss of Maureen Justice on November 25th. We managed a funeral service for our dear friend surrounded by Christmas decorations: it all seemed so incongruent as we were all feeling so sad and seemed to reflect the feeling the whole nation as we moved towards Christmas.

Most of us managed to survive the event one way or another, and so we moved into Epiphany when all the Christmas Decorations needed to be taken down. Many thanks to Team Carlisle for their terrific help taking the down all the festive stuff and putting it back into their boxes until next year. Let's hope and pray for a proper Christmas with our families next time around!

We are still keeping the faith by ZOOM. I personally was very reluctant to join in with these but I am now on board with it and try to join in most Sundays at 9.30am. One advantage, I can actually enjoy the events in my pyjama bottoms and it does beat trekking up the long church path in cold and frosty weather! If you would like to join in with a service via zoom please contact Georgie (priest in charge) and she will forward the links. Her contact is in the Plough.

Talking of paths, plans are now well in hand to repair/replace the church path with a proper lighting system, so this will open up all sorts of evening events for the future.

On practical matters: John Burbage has turned the water off to the church yard for the winter. Many thanks to John and also for removing the dead rodents as they appear in the traps in church. I have nominated him as the 'Mouseman of Averham'

There is of course now a vacancy for church warden. If anyone feels able to fill that spot please contact Hilary or myself. In the absence of church warden I have agreed to keep the church up and running for services and making sure the cleaning is done. As we are at the moment Tracy Carlisle has volunteered to run the vacuum over once in a while so no drama there. Thanks Tracey again.

Hilary is the first contact point with in the village on church matters.

Jenny Quickmire

Kelham Church News

Like Averham, the current lockdown arrangements mean that Kelham Church remains locked for the foreseeable future; we did not even manage to hold any Christmas services.

However, we are joining with our sister churches at Averham and North and South Muskham for regular services and even virtual coffee and cake by Zoom.

One of the problems of not using the church is that there has not been any heat on for many months, which is not good for the fabric of any building, especially one that suffers from damp. A recent building survey (called a Quinquennial because it's done every 5 years) identified many problems with drainage which need to be sorted out soon.



On the bright side, some of the trees and shrubs that had rooted themselves into the wall separating the church yard from the Monks Graveyard, have been removed, giving a lovely view of the south side of the church. And, of course, the snowdrops and winter

aconites are blooming in the churchyard and throughout Kelham Hall grounds.

Please support Kelham and Averham Churches

Sadly the churches are closed at the moment and there are no services allowed, but as Grade 1 listed buildings they still have to be insured and maintained. You can make a simple donation to help support the churches by following the 'give a little' link or scanning the QR Code.

THANK YOU



Averham Church

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Christian Aid report surveys climate breakdown

Having just experienced the problems of flooding, this report from Christian Aid seems very relevant.

A new report by Christian Aid, *Counting the cost 2020: a year of climate breakdown*, has identified 15 of the most destructive climate disasters of the year.

Ten of those events cost \$1.5 billion or more, with nine of them causing damage worth at least \$5 billion. Most of these estimates are based only on insured losses, meaning the true financial costs are likely to be higher.

Among them is Storm Ciara which struck the UK, Ireland and other European countries in February costing, \$2.7 billion and killing 14. The UK's Environment Agency issued 251 flood warnings.

While the report focuses on financial costs, which are usually higher in richer countries because they have more valuable property, some extreme weather events in 2020 were devastating in poorer countries, even though the price tag was lower. South Sudan, for example, experienced one of its worst floods on record, which killed 138 people and destroyed the year's crops.

Some of the disasters hit fast, like Cyclone Amphan, which struck the Bay of Bengal in May and caused losses valued at \$13 billion in just a few days. Other events unfolded over months, like floods in China and India, which had an estimated cost of \$32 billion and \$10 billion respectively.

Six of the ten most costly events took place in Asia, five of them associated with an unusually rainy monsoon. And in Africa, huge locust swarms ravaged crops and vegetation across several countries, causing damages estimated at \$8.5 billion. The outbreak has been linked to wet conditions brought about by unusual rains fuelled by climate change.

But the impact of extreme weather was felt all over the world. In Europe, two extra-tropical cyclones, Ciara and Alex, had a combined cost of almost \$6 billion. And the US suffered from both a record-breaking hurricane season and a record-breaking fire season adding up to more than \$60 billion in damages.

Some less populated places also suffered the consequences of a warming world. In Siberia, a heat wave during the first half of the year set a record in

the city of Verkhoyansk, with temperatures reaching 38°C. A few months later, on the other side of the world, heat and drought drove the fires in Bolivia, Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil. While there were no human casualties reported from these events, the destruction of these areas has a great impact on biodiversity and the planet's capacity to respond to a warmer world.

Christian Aid says that: "These extreme events highlight the need for urgent climate action. The Paris Agreement, which set the goal of keeping temperature rise 'well below' 2°C, and ideally 1.5°C, compared to pre-industrial levels, has just turned five years old. It is critical that countries commit to bold new targets ahead of the next climate conference, which will take place in Glasgow, in November 2021."

Source: Parish Pump <https://www.parishpump.co.uk/>

And picking up on the theme of Book Reviews, this might interest some Plough readers:

A London Sparrow – the inspiring and true story of Gladys

Aylward: By Phyllis Thompson, 10Publishing, £9.99

A down-to-earth London girl, without many prospects, Gladys Aylward became a Christian when she was just 18. When she felt God's call on her to go to China as a missionary, she overcame great obstacles in order to obey, and made the perilous solitary journey from London to China to join other missionaries out there.

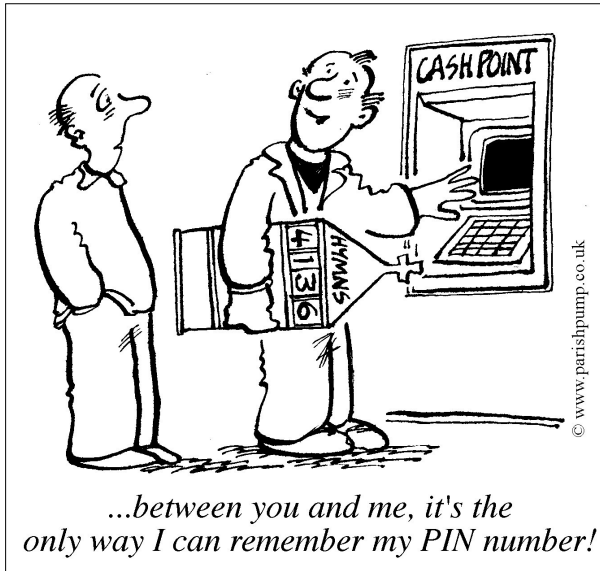
Gladys may have been little and ill-educated, but she was determined and committed, and in time became a formidable force for the gospel amongst her beloved Chinese people. Her courage was extraordinary, leading her to even going into a Chinese prison in order to stop a riot.

But she will be forever remembered for her 'incredible journey' during the Second World War, when the Japanese had invaded China. She led hundreds of Chinese children to safety on foot through the war zone, risking her life in order to save theirs.

Throughout it all, Gladys had a simple, transparent faith in God and knew she rather die with 'her people' than desert them.

Source: Parish Pump <https://www.parishpump.co.uk/>

And on the lighter side of life



A young clergyman, fresh out of training, thought it would help him better understand the harsh realities his future congregations faced if he first took a job as a policeman for several months. He passed the physical examination; then came the oral exam to test his ability to act quickly and wisely in an emergency. Among other questions he was asked, "What would you do to disperse a frenzied crowd?"

He thought for a moment and then said, "I would pass an offering plate." He got the job.



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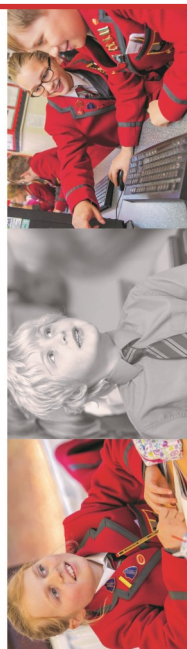
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USEFUL CONTACTS

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<https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/>

* * * * *

The Churches

Rev. Georgie Hadley, georgie.hadley@yahoo.co.uk; 07811 393 920

Kelham: Church Warden, 01636 703289 (Philip Staniforth)

Treasurer: 07889 486260 (Steve Emeny)

Averham: Church Warden, (Vacant),

Treasurer: 01636 672640 (Hilary Snell)

Parochial Church Council: Secretary: 01636 816343 (Carole Binks)

* * * * *

AKS Parish Council: website <http://www.akspc.org.uk/community/averham-kelham-and-staythorpe-parish-council-15064/home/>

Chairman: Andy Fereday, 0775 2265081; cllrfereday@gmail.com

Clerk: Jenny Cawkwell; 07563 639379; aksparishclerk@outlook.com

* * * * *

Gardening Club: Nigel Britton; 01636 700023 or 01636 812886

Walker's Group: Debs and Carla; 07974 957 684 or debs@hens-at-home.co.uk

Bell Ringers: Martin Cooper; 07810 658 627 or mlcooper2@gmail.com

Women's Institute: Angela Moore (President) angela@oranalysts.com
or Jenny Quickmire (Meetings Secretary) headbearsenior@gmail.com

* * * * *

PCSO contact details: Richard Dunn: 07595 074292

Staythorpe Power Station: Staythorpe@rwe.com; 01636 596900

Latham's Farms: Steven Gill 07966 382781; Stuart Perkins 07818 171689

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If you think I've missed a useful contact, please get in touch:

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