

St Andrew's Church Chilton Moor



BONTONTV

Love

Please join us for our
Valentine's Coffee Morning
Saturday 15th February
10am until 11.30am

Parish Magazine February 2025

50p

St Andrew's Church

Chilton Moor



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Vicar's Letter February 2025

Rev Christine



Dear Sister and Brothers
Here we are already a month in to 2025 with Advent and Christmas a distant memory. We have put behind us the season of preparation and waiting and begun a new year. How are the New Year's Resolutions going? Do you feel like things are moving along, new opportunities popping up or are you still waiting?

Many of the conversations I have had of late, and my own personal journey seem to have the theme of waiting. Not waiting for God but waiting for things in our lives to move on or even start. There is perhaps a sense of us waiting for God to show us the right direction as we struggle to find purpose and something new after retirement or after a bereavement. We may be waiting for a medical appointment or test results or a phone call from an elusive friend. Waiting can be very frustrating. Waiting can make us feel helpless especially when any progress forward is dependent on others.

Waiting can feel like wasted time but we must remember that God will be working with us and for us even though it might feel like we are standing still.

"Remember, waiting isn't just about what you are hoping for at the end of the wait, but also about what you will become as you wait." Paul Tripp – Shelter in Times of Storm.

This quote reminds me that even in what appear to be times of inactivity where purpose seems far removed, we are growing and changing and becoming what God needs us to be. When I look back over the many periods of waiting, I have experienced I can see this, and I feel sure that if those of you reading this do the same you will recognise it too.

Welcome to our first edition of 2025. A Happy & Peaceful & Blessed New Year. This month brings us Candlemas and Valentine's Day. We have wide range of content which we hope will enrich our magazine for you.

With warm wishes The Magazine Team

There are many passages in the Bible that offer encouragement about waiting, I find the Psalms a particular source of comfort and aid to prayer when I become disheartened. Psalm 130:5 "I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my trust." Psalm 27:14 "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord."

So as we move along in February if you find yourself wondering and waiting take heart, trust in God and be patient. Use your waiting time wisely and remember



Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.” Isaiah 40:31

Prayers and blessings Revd. Christine



The world of P G Wodehouse

Fifty years ago, on 14th February 1975, P G Wodehouse died. The well-loved British-born comic novelist, short story writer, lyricist and playwright who lived his later life in Long Island, USA is best known as the creator of Jeeves.



He was always a prolific writer, publishing more than 90 books, 450 plays, 200 short stories and much else between 1902 and 1974. He had an unusual first few years, being brought up by relative strangers in England while his parents lived in Hong Kong. He later went to Dulwich College, with which he formed a close attachment.

Wodehouse's genius was primarily in his writing; in person he was described as “dull,” and was certainly very shy. Baptised an Anglican, he had an agnostic outlook: Evelyn Waugh once said that Christianity didn't really apply in his work because he – or his characters – had never left the Garden of Eden. He wrote sympathetically about “pious but fallible” curates, vicars and bishops, and his work revealed an unexpectedly deep knowledge of Scripture.

Born in Guildford, he moved to France for tax reasons in 1934 and was later taken prisoner by the advancing Germans in 1940. After his eventual release he made the naïve mistake of making five broadcasts on German radio to the USA, which had not yet entered the war. The broadcasts were humorous and apolitical, but they provoked some anger in Britain, to which he never returned.

Wodehouse took US citizenship in 1955, while retaining his British one. He had always loved America, and his biographers suggested that this “exile” may have benefited his writing, helping him to go on describing an idealised England, rather than the harsher reality of the post-war years.

He died in Southampton, Long Island, New York, a month after he was made a Knight in the Order of the British Empire.

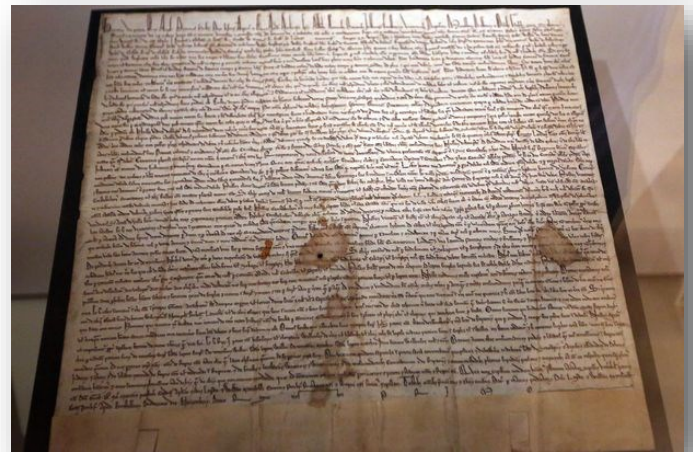
Magna Carta at Durham Cathedral tickets go on sale offering rare chance to view historic gem

Rare documents will go on show this summer to mark 800-year-old anniversary of moment in history

Durham Cathedral is offering visitors a rare opportunity to view the Magna Carta this summer, marking over 800 years since its creation. The cathedral, which houses three copies of the historic document, will display them for the first time in eight years. Tickets for the exhibition are now available and expected to be highly sought after.

The Magna Carta, originally sealed by King John at Runnymede in 1215, established the principle that no one, including the king, is above the law. After King John's death, a revised version was issued in 1216, and Durham Cathedral holds the only surviving copy from that year. Its collection also includes editions from 1225, which celebrates its own 800th anniversary this year, and 1300.

These remarkable documents will be the centerpiece of a new exhibition titled *Magna Carta and the North*, opening on July 11 and running until November 2. The exhibit will explore the enduring legacy of the Magna Carta, often referred to as the Great Charter, which remains a symbol of social justice and a cornerstone of British democracy. To enhance the experience, the cathedral will also feature community artworks and immersive light and sound installations. Notably, three clauses from the 1225 Magna Carta are still part of British law today.



Tickets for the exhibition, held at the Durham Cathedral Museum, are priced at £7.50, with free entry for under-18s. Time slots can be booked online now.

As part of the exhibit, visitors will also have the chance to see three Forest Charters—documents granting rights to access land and natural resources. Alison Cullingford, Head of Libraries and Collections at Durham Cathedral, noted: “Our extensive medieval archive includes the Magna Cartas and Forest Charters, which are among the most extraordinary items in our care.”

She emphasized that due to their fragility and historical significance, these documents are rarely displayed to the public. “We’re thrilled to showcase them again for the world to see,” she said. The documents last went on display in 2017, attracting nearly 19,000 visitors over 11 weeks.

Aspects of Romantic Love



God obviously approves of romance – after all, putting Adam and Eve alone together in the Garden of Eden was His idea. And romance has been around ever since.

The history of the Israelites began with three great romances: Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, and Jacob and Rachel. The on-going history of Israel was deeply affected by later romances: Esther and King Xerxes, David's love affair with Bathsheba, and Solomon's marriage to hundreds of foreign wives. There is even an entire book in the Old Testament devoted to the love of a man and woman: the Song of Solomon!

When we reach the New Testament, we find real love between Joseph and Mary (even when Joseph thought Mary had been faithless, he did not want to harm her). St Paul, though himself a bachelor, nevertheless spent a lot of time urging Christians to love and be kind and faithful and considerate to their spouses. He even wrote 1 Corinthians 13 – the great love chapter that is read at millions of weddings worldwide 2000 years later.

Down the centuries ever since, romantic love has been critical in shaping history (Antony and Cleopatra), in shaping cultural ideals (King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table). Some of our favourite stories are built on romance : Puccini's *Tosca*, Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*, Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*.

Romance remains as prominent now as it ever was, added to which we have films, television and drama all flying the romantic flag. Wherever we look, whatever we do, romance continues to permeate every aspect of life.

People make amazing sacrifices for love. They defy their family, forsake their culture, turn their back on wealth and position, to be with their loved one. People give their loved ones amazing gifts. Surely the most extravagant was the gift of the Shah Jahan, who built the Taj Mahal in India for his favourite wife, Mumtaz Mahal.

Romance is still alive and well in Britain – last year we sent about 25 million Valentines to our beloved ones.

And what of the future? Well, just as the Bible begins with a love story, so it ends with one. And *you are involved!* For actually the greatest Love Story of all time is that between God and His people.

Christ is described in Revelation as our heavenly Bridegroom, and the Church is His beloved Bride. He has given us the most expensive present of all – Himself. And, just as in all the best romances, the story will end with the bride and groom getting together at last, so at the End of Time, Christ will return for His Bride.



"It may well attract more young folk to join the congregation but I still prefer the old church notice board"

Cow and choir

From a Cambridgeshire local newspaper in January 1900:

'WANTED - a steady respectable man who is able to look after a garden, milk a cow, and sing in the church choir.'

Those notices which didn't come out quite right...

Notice in health food shop window: Closed due to illness.

Spotted in a safari park: Elephants, please stay in your car.

In a Laundromat: Automatic Washing Machines. Please remove all your clothes when the light goes out.

This coming Sunday our special service will be gin at 11:00am.

Jean will be leading a weight-management course on Wednesday nights.



... are you late with your 'Vicar's Letter' again dear?

Visit

The new vicar was doing the rounds to meet his parishioners. At one house where he knocked, a woman inside called out: "Is that you, Angel?" The vicar hesitated, and then replied: "No, but I'm from the same department."

Boots

My young daughter needed new boots. When her friend arrived one morning in a lovely pair of new boots, I asked where she had got them. "At the store," she answered.

"Which one?" I asked patiently. She looked confused, and then down at her boots. "Both of them," was her reply.

Love in Action

'Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.' (1 John 3:18).

The writer Gary Chapman describes how love can be expressed in 5 different 'languages': words of encouragement, quality time, gifts, acts of service and touch. Do you have a preferred language of love? As we think about St Valentine during this month, let's consider how God's love language is expressed in the word *agape*. This is exclusively found in the New Testament and is uniquely defined by Jesus: *'This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.'* (1 John 3:16). Jesus' giving of His life on the cross provides the model for how we can demonstrate God's love in our relationships with others.

It is self-giving: are we ready to put the other person first, as Jesus did when He died for us in our place. Are we generous with our time, words, money and service, whatever the cost?

It takes the initiative: are we ready to show love to those who don't deserve it or who we find hard to love? Do we have eyes of compassion to see their needs and a heart to love and serve them?

It is intentional: are we ready to get close to those in need around us, irrespective of the time we have or how we feel?

The story is told of Jesus asking a little child, *'how much do you love me?'* The child replied *'lots and lots and lots!'* Then they asked Jesus how much He loved them. Jesus stretched out His arms wide and said *'I love you this much'*, as they nailed Him to a cross.



Editor's Note: Are you sure it's 90 Marjorie?

Reflecting Faith: Church Buildings

We have been thinking about different aspects of church buildings. But what about 'the whole thing'? – the impression you have when you first see a church building?

Most of us have visited many church buildings, either to worship or as a tourist: to enjoy the splendour, the colours, the style and the architecture, with or without necessarily a time of prayer or worship.

There are some amazingly staggering designs around the world – one only has to think of the complex and intricate stone carving of Gaudi's catholic basilica in Barcelona, Spain (due to be completed next year!) and then compare that to the sleekness of the Lutheran (Church of Iceland) parish church in Reykjavík, Iceland.

How about the grandeur of St Peter's in Rome, full of baroque gold and rich colours? Or what about St Basil's Cathedral in Red Square, Moscow – now a museum but topped with amazingly coloured onion domes?

Just looking at the outside of a building tells you a lot about what it is likely to be like inside, the purpose of the building and the style of worship to expect there.

It's not just about the condition of the fabric, or the tidiness of the grounds but rather the architecture itself.

When we see a contemporary modern building, we will expect the worship to match it: whether that is Protestant, Catholic or any other denomination.

Former head of MI5 to lead search for new Archbishop of Canterbury

The Prime Minister has appointed The Lord Evans of Weardale KCB DL to chair the new Crown Nominations Commission for Canterbury.

The Crown Nominations Commission is the C of E committee that will nominate the candidate to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. Archbishop Welby completed his duties on 6th January.

Jonathan Evans has been a Crossbench member of the House of Lords since 2014. Until October 2023 he was Chair of the Committee on Standards in Public Life. He is currently Chair of the HALO Trust, the anti-landmine charity, and of the Public Interest Committee at KPMG UK. He is a former Director-General of the Security Service, MI5. He is an active and communicant member of his local parish church.

What you have in common with a woodcarving

Woodcarving isn't as straightforward as it seems. You don't begin with a block of wood; you begin with a piece of paper. The first step is to draw a plan of what you want to carve, and only when you've got that right do you start to shape your piece of wood.

The carver then works his block with his plan alongside it. He cuts those bits of wood away that he doesn't want, and shapes what's left until it ever more closely resembles that original plan.

Only when the design on the wood and the paper plan *are identical* has the carver finished his job. He's then made exactly what he'd hoped for, while working all along from that original plan.

It's the same for our lives. God is the master carpenter. He has a unique plan for each one of us, which is a blueprint of what He hopes we will become.

As we go through life, God shapes us, cutting away those bits of us that He doesn't want and which would spoil what He hopes we'll come to look like. He then gradually moulds what's left until we look ever more like that original blueprint. Only when the two are identical will God's work be over.

But there's one big difference between a human being and a block of wood. A block of wood sits impassively on the carver's bench while he works at it. The wood cannot help the process along and has no idea what's happening to it.

God very much hopes that we'll help Him in the process of being moulded and shaped into His pattern. That's why we read the Bible and worship and pray: to find out just what His plan is for each one of us. Only when we have some idea of what He wants us to be can we help Him in the process.



14th February – Valentine's Day

There are two confusing things about this day of romance and anonymous love-cards strewn with lace, cupids and ribbon: firstly, there seems to have been two different Valentines in the 4th century – one a priest martyred on the Flaminian Way, under the emperor Claudius, the other a bishop of Terni martyred at Rome. And neither seems to have had any clear connection with lovers or courting couples.

So why has Valentine become the patron saint of romantic love? By Chaucer's time the link was assumed to be because on these saints' day -14th February – the birds are supposed to pair. Or perhaps the custom of seeking a partner on St Valentine's Day is a surviving scrap of the old Roman Lupercalia festival, which took place in the middle of February. One of the Roman gods honoured during this Festival was Pan, the god of nature. Another was Juno, the goddess of women and marriage. During the Lupercalia it was a popular custom for young men to draw the name of a young unmarried woman from a name-box. The two would then be partners or 'sweethearts' during the time of the celebrations. Even modern Valentine decorations bear an ancient symbol of love – Roman cupids with their bows and love-arrows.

There are no churches in England dedicated to Valentine, but since 1835 his relics have been claimed by the Carmelite church in Dublin.

14th February – The very first Valentine card, a legend

The Roman Emperor Claudius II needed soldiers. He suspected that marriage made men want to stay at home with their wives, instead of fighting wars, so he outlawed marriage.

A kind-hearted young priest named Valentine felt sorry for all the couples who wanted to marry, but who couldn't. So secretly he married as many couples as he could – until the Emperor found out and condemned him to death. While he was in prison awaiting execution, Valentine showed love and compassion to everyone around him, including his jailer. The jailer had a young daughter who was blind, but through Valentine's prayers, she was healed. Just before his death in Rome on 14th February, he wrote her a farewell message signed 'From your Valentine.'

So, the very first Valentine card was not between lovers, but between a priest about to die, and a little girl, healed through his prayers.



This is possibly the oldest printed Valentine's card in the world. It was published on 12th January 1797 by John Fairburn.



Mother's Union St Andrew's

We meet at 2pm on the third Thursday of the month. We welcome new members.



A Prayer for Our Community

Heavenly Father, We come before You with hearts full of gratitude for the gift of this Church community.

Thank You for bringing us together as one body, united in Christ, to worship, serve, and grow in faith.

Lord, we ask for Your blessing upon our leaders, that they may be guided by wisdom, compassion, and humility as they shepherd Your people. Strengthen each member of this community, inspiring us to use our unique gifts to glorify You and build one another up in love.

Fill our hearts with the spirit of unity, that we may walk together in harmony, bearing one another's burdens and rejoicing in each other's joys. Help us to be a light in our community, sharing Your love and truth with those around us. May our words and actions reflect Your grace and mercy, drawing others closer to You.

Lord, in times of challenge, give us courage and perseverance. In times of blessing, let us give thanks and praise. Bind us together with cords of kindness and peace that cannot be broken.

Teach us to always seek Your will and follow Your ways, that we may grow deeper in our faith and stronger in our fellowship.

We lift this prayer to You in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Beetle

The Beetle Drive is on the second Thursday of the month in Churchill Square Community Centre from

2-4pm for an afternoon of fun and games. New members are more than welcome to come along and join in.

Group Bible Reflection

2nd Tuesday of each month,
6.30pm—7.45pm
with Compline



Middle aged? Don't skip breakfast!

If you skip breakfast in your middle age, it can make you fatter and unhealthy. Instead, a recent study advises that having a well-balanced breakfast helps manage daily calorie intake and lower cholesterol, BMI and waist size. Breakfast “serves the critical role of breaking the extended fasting period from sleep.”

NHS guidelines recommend 2,000 calories a day for women and 2,500 for men. Breakfast should account for a quarter of this: 500 calories for women and 625 calories for men.

The study was carried out at the Hospital del Mar Research Institute in Barcelona. It disregarded the ‘full English’ breakfast as being too full of saturated fat levels. Instead, it recommends cereals, protein, a healthy fat source, fruits and vegetables.



NO, SERIOUSLY.
EAT BREAKFAST.

Local History

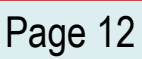
Thank you to Rodger Wilkinson for this amazing article. Rodger's wife, Jill, is the editor of the Lumley magazine.

St Andrew's Church and the vicarage (1) are shown. The Free Gardeners public house (2) is also shown, which is still with us today. In the bottom left hand corner of the map is a group of buildings shown as Chilton Moor Shops (3). These were not shops where you could buy things, but workshops connected with the local collieries. They were opened by 1827. The site of the Shops is now occupied by a new housing estate. There is also a coal depot shown.(4) There was once a railway (5) which linked Chilton Moor Shops with staiths on the River Wear and which was used to ship coal from collieries in the Rainton area. The railway in this vicinity was operated by the Londonderry collieries, but was already closed by about 1840 by which time coal was instead shipped via Seaham. The railway also served Britannia Ironworks at one time.

There are few buildings next to Black Boy Road in comparison today. Chilton Moor House (6) still exists. The cricket ground abandoned relatively recently is also shown (7). There are also few buildings on the north side of the road leading to Houghton in comparison with today (8).

There are also a number of streets which no longer exist today. Long Row (9) and Short Row (10) appear to have been terraces of workers' houses. They were situated roughly where the Avon Crescent estate is now and had been demolished by the 1920s, to be replaced by better housing. Overman's Row (11) was presumably for the colliery overmen as the houses seem to be larger and there are fewer of them. There is also Corving Row (12) - corves were wicker baskets used to carry coal. These houses were demolished by the 1930s. The settlement has two methodist churches one Free United (13) and one Wesleyan (14). The building of the Wesleyan survives today.





Community Team Spirit

During 2024 The Community Group were privileged to be able to continue hosting coffee mornings, afternoon teas and trips out. As the year drew to a close 18 food parcels were given out into the community. Many thanks to all who help to make these occasions a success. We especially wish to thank Wayne and Lynn for helping to pack the food parcels on deliver them. We would also like to thank Graeme for the great job he has done designing the Coffee Morning posters adding a distinctive flair. It is with great sadness that we have to inform you that during the Christmas break, Amelia's husband, Bill died after a long illness bravely borne. Bill will be remembered for his highly individual bingo calling and will be sadly missed in the Community. Our condolences to Amelia and her family.



Community Team Spirit, Jean Campbell.

Craft Class

The craft class is flourishing welcoming new members, bringing their skills to an already gifted group of ladies. The atmosphere in class is lovely making it a privilege to attend each week. As a project the class made two very large Christmas stockings filled with lovely goodies, also two small children's stockings were filled with sweets and toys. The response by the ladies of the class what's so great. A basket of food was also made up to add to the raffle prizes. £120 was raised and given to Mr Uhuru and family in Kenya to buy school wear etc. The remainder was spent on food for the family.



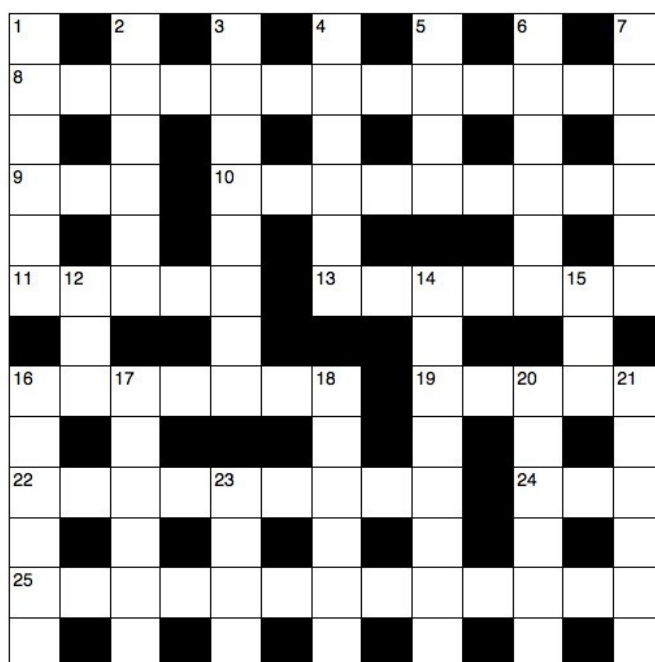
February Crossword

Across

- 8 Interrogated (Acts 12:19) (5-8)
 9 'Burn it in a wood fire on the — heap' (Leviticus 4:12) (3)
 10 Tobit, Judith, Baruch and the books of Esdras and the Maccabees are part of it (9)
 11 Science fiction (abbrev.) (3-2)
 13 Clay pit (anag.) (7)
 16 Went to (John 4:46) (7)
 19 'Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to — your bodies as living sacrifices' (Romans 12:1) (5)
 22 David's plea to God concerning those referred to in 14 Down: 'On — — let them escape' (Psalm 56:7) (2,7)
 24 Royal Automobile Club (1,1,1) 25 How the book of Ezekiel refers to God more than 200 times (Ezekiel 2:4) (9,4)

Down

- 1 Seas (Proverbs 8:24) (6)
 2 One of the sons of Eli the priest, killed in battle by the Philistines (1 Samuel 4:11) (6)
 3 Specialist in the study of the Muslim religion (8)
 4 'Do not rebuke an older man harshly, but — him as if he were your father' (1 Timothy 5:1) (6)
 5 One of Esau's grandsons (Genesis 36:11) (4)
 6 Taking a chance (colloq.) (2,4)
 7 God's instructions to the Israelites concerning grain offerings: ' — salt to — your offerings' (Leviticus 2:13) (3,3)



- 12 Confederation of British Industry (1,1,1)
 14 'All day long they twist my words; they are always — to harm me' (Psalm 56:5) (8)
 15 The crowd's reaction to Jesus bringing back to life a widow's son in Nain (Luke 7:16) (3)
 16 Disappear (Psalm 104:35) (6)
 17 How Jeremiah was likely to die if he wasn't rescued from the cistern where he was imprisoned (Jeremiah 38:9) (6)
 18 What the prophets do to a wall, with whitewash (Ezekiel 13:10, RSV) (4,2)
 20 Made by a plough (Job 39:10) (6)

Answers on the back cover

Dear Lord,

February can be a trying month, but there are special associations too and we thank you for the hope they bring.

In February we remember how Jesus was taken, as a baby, to the Temple. Simeon took Him in his arms and by the power of the Holy Spirit, recognised Him as the Saviour you had sent as a light, to bring revelation to the whole world. And how this world needs your light and revelation in this new year, 2025.

Lord – as we notice more light in the lengthening days of this month, as we see the promise of the Spring in the bobbing heads of the beautiful snowdrops – help us most of all to recognise Jesus as our Light and to trust in Him as our Lord and Saviour.

Thank you, Lord, for the gift of each new day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

By Daphne Kitching



Church Finances

I set out below the income and expenditure of the church during November and December 2024.

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2024			
(to the nearest £)			
INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Regular giving	£1,232	Parish share	£2,000
Donations to church funds	£566	Cleaner	£297
Collections	£587	Gas/Electricity bills	£332
Hire of hall	£560	Service sheets/wafers/wine etc	£51
PCC fees for occasional services	£308	Magazine printing etc	£104
Donations to charities	£95	Youth club expenses	£73
Other receipts	£135	Catering expenses	£147
		Other sundry items	£12
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER TOTAL			£3,016
	£3,483		

Michael Baxter, Treasurer

The Dunn Well, Pit, East Rainton

By John Harvey


This small colliery was first owned and leased from The Dean and Chapter of Durham who had the rights for all coal extraction for the whole area and it later became part of the Rainton Group under Lord Londonderry. Then was taken over by the North Hetton Group, and still later by the Lambton group.

The Dun Well situated about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from my granddads house in East Rainton village at the bottom of the green. We went past it often on our way to the nearby council rubbish tip. Looking for scrap or anything we could use as I remember it in the 1940,s.

The main building that I take, to be the Winding House, was largely intact but without a roof It had three windows on either side, with steel frames but no glass and was constructed of big stones, with red bricks around the windows. There was an entrance on one side that once had a door, and on the front gable a largish opening (for the cables from winder to the cage?). Inside was a large plinth made from brick and concrete with lots of big steel bolts sticking up from it, they were about 18" high on each corner these I presume were to hold down the machinery). Around this plinth was a sort of trench about 24" deep .set into the floor, for the steam pipes from the boiler to the winding machinery

Outside was what looked like a large swimming pool. This was made of bricks that had been rendered with cement. This I was told had once been the water reservoir for the steam engine. Directly in front of the building was the shaft a sort of small tower made of stone, with a wood and brick structure on top, that looked as though it had been put on top much later date, accessed by steps but locked. The lower section had larger doors with vents, and you could hear the upcast ventilation fan running, and the stale air from the workings, came out of the vents from the workings below making this an upcast air shaft for possibly Houghton Colliery, as men from Houghton pit went underground to this pit, or The Nicholson's, pit, or even the closed down Hazard,

I once read about a man, that when he was training in the 1950's in Houghton Pit, when they were below ground they had gone into the old Hazard workings and found old papers and tools and artefacts. Opened in the late 1700,s opened and closed several times, and finally closed in 1927, but the shaft was used until about 1980 for ventilation and inspection only.

So what do we know about the Dunn Well?. Not a lot, with no photos of the pit itself. The Dunn Well was situated about a $\frac{1}{4}$ to the east of East Rainton Village. The first shaft was possibly sunk in the 1700,ut was later improved in 1812 and became part 

of Lord Londonderry's group of Rainton mines with John Buddle as his mining engineer in overall charge, and John Robson his "Viewer". A sort of overall working manager on all Londonderry's pits directly under John Buddle. (The nearby Hazard pit had a different ownership, The North Hetton Group).

The mine shaft was originally operated a Whim Gin with a pair of swingle trees operated by four horses. (This was a large horizontal wheel pulley system). It lowered a basket on a chain to raise the coal, and the miners themselves had to hang onto the same chain with a type of hook to get both up and down. (Children only were allowed to ride both up and down in the coal basket. they were as young as 7 yrs).

There was only one working shaft, the downcast, and ventilation seems to have been done by way off a furnace in the working themselves at the base of a drift shaft. This drew fresh air down the main shaft, and back up the drift to where it met the main shaft, the main shaft probably had brattice (a wood partition.) between the downcast air, and the upcast fumes. In 1818 the pit was fitted with a steam powered winding engine and pump system, and using a more modern cage system for the pitmen and the coal. This did away with the horse power Whim Gin.

The mine suffered from "creep" (with the ceiling, creeping down towards the floor) this was due to owners greed, in reducing the size and amount of coal support columns in order to get more coal out. The mine was closed and re-opened several times in its working life, and was finally closed in 1927. It was then used as the upcast air shaft for The Nicholson's. Pit about 1 ½ to the North, it so changed ownership from Lord Londonderry, to The North Hetton Group, and Lambton group at sometime, so could have been used as an upcast ventilation shaft for the nearby Hazard pit (just to the South), which was then in the same ownership. Situated some 500 yards to the North of the hazard pit was the Dunwell pit. It appears that this pit may well have been in operation during the 1700,s and continued until possibly after many openings and closures. Into the 20th century under different owners.

It was a very small pit with most of its coal being sold by land sale via a coal depot half way up the Rainton Bank. It was part of the Londonderry group. By the late 1970s the last vestiges of the pit was a base for a stationary engine which had been used to haul empty wagons up a small waggonway from the coal depot situated on the old Durham to Sunderland road.)

The machinery was all removed in the 1920,s leaving the buildings intact, and the shaft in use for ventilation. All remains of the Dunwell pit were removed when the land was reclaimed in the 1980's,s along with that of the Hazard pit and the railway to Moorsley, The Nicholson's and Meadows, Pits.





Lamentations 3:20-23



Ephesians 3:18-19

1 John 4:16



Psalm 136:1



from 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

1 John 4:9

Romans 5:5

1 John 1:3

Matthew 22:37

Matthew 22:39



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

Some Prayers From Rev Christine

Almighty god, in Christ you make all things new; transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit; grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

We were delighted to receive and bless this wonderful knitted nativity made by Maureen (pictured here) and her friends



Judith and Ann. A gift to bring joy for many years to come.

Why not try something new for 2025?

On the 3rd Sunday of the month, at our Sister Church. St Cuthbert's, East Rainton, we will be holding the first of our monthly worship services at 4pm in the Church Hall. A simple worship service with contemporary music suitable for all ages. You will receive a warm welcome and be part of something special.





**CHRIST CHURCH
COFFEE MORNING**
 Saturday 8th February
 10.00am - 11.30am

Refreshments & Home Baked Cakes, Scones etc.
 Please come along and support your Parish Church
 We look forward to seeing you





Christ Church
Knit & Natter Craft Group
 Come and join
 our Knit & Natter Craft Group

Bring your knitting, crochet or sewing, or come and learn
 to knit or how to do English Paper Piece Quilting.
 We meet fortnightly from
 1.30pm to 3.30pm at Christ Church
 The dates for February are the 5th & 19th
Everyone is welcome






Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Our A.P.C.M. will be held in church on Sunday 27th April at 10.45 after the morning service. Please put a note in your diary and do come along and support our Parochial Church Council in the work it does throughout the year on everyone's behalf.

Renewal of the Church Electoral Roll

The Church Electoral Roll is a record of the names of every person who is entitled to attend and vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. Every six years a completely new roll is prepared in the two months leading up to the A.P.C.M. This year 2025, is such a year. This means that all of us who are on the present roll and wish to have our names entered on the new roll, must reapply by the Sunday 6th April. Application forms are available in church. If anyone has any questions please contact our Electoral Roll Officer Mrs. Beryl Martin on 0191 3889924.



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Vicar Reverend Christine Britcliffe
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E: revchristine@standrews-chiltonmoor.church

Warden Stephen Forster
M: 07831156120
E: wardenstephen@standrews-chiltonmoor.church

Secretary Barbara Hall
secretary@standrews-chiltonmoor.church

Treasurer Michael Baxter
treasurer@standrews-chiltonmoor.church

Group Bible 2nd Tuesday of each month, 6.30pm—7.45pm
with Compile

For information concerning Weddings, Funerals and Baptisms,
please contact Reverend John

Web www.standrews-chiltonmoor.church
Facebook @StAndrewsChiltonMoor



St Andrew Parish Magazine
Items for submission can be left at St Andrew or
E: info@standrews-chiltonmoor.church



www



Please visit our website

www.standrews-chiltonmoor.church

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S	O	V	E	R	E	I
H	E	E	T	G	W	E

We hope that this system will help to meet our visit requests and visiting in general. If you would like a visit or know anyone who would like one, please fill in the slip opposite.

Cut out the slip and hand it into Church or, if you are unable to get to Church give it to someone to bring for you.

Visit Request

Name of person requesting a visit

.....

Address

.....

.....

Telephone number

Request made by