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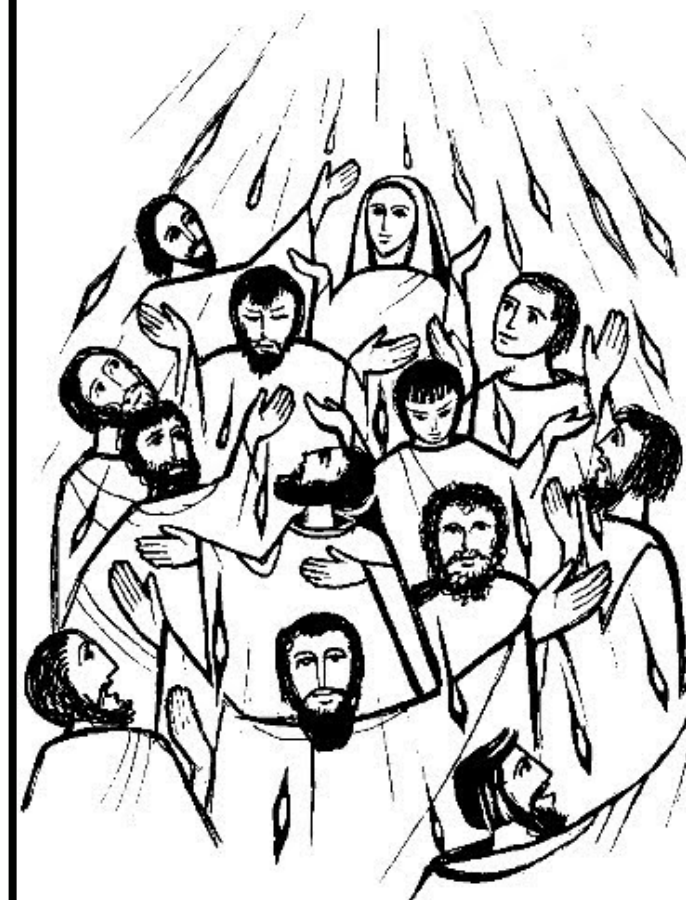
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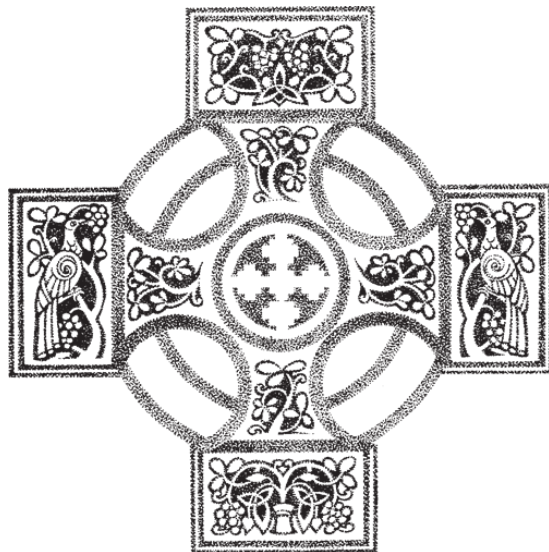
st John's and st Luke's Together

St John's Church



**June
2019
50 pence**

St Luke's Church



Contents

Clergy Letter	3
Thy Kingdom Come	5
Bilton Guiding	6
May Coffee Morning	6
Question Corner	7
Compassion	7
Ecotips	8
Traidcraft	8
Coffee Morning—Wellspring	9
Summer Fair	10
Celebrating Volunteering	11
Elizabeth Lawrence	12
St Luke's Bring and Share Feast	13
People	15
June's Calendar	16
Looking Ahead	18
St John's Churchyard	18
Who's Who	19

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

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Thursday 27 th continued	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes Parents & Toddlers (SL)
	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery (SJ Church Office)
Friday 28 th	6.30-7.45pm	Choir Practice (SJ)
Sunday 30th	8.00am	Holy Communion in East End (SJ)
	10.00am	Morning Worship (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Communion (SL)



LOOKING AHEAD

Some significant dates for your diary

Saturday 6 th July	11am-3pm	Church Summer Fair (SJ)
Sunday 7 th July	6pm	Harrogate Churches Memorial Service - Elizabeth Lawrence (SJ)
Saturday 13 th July	10am-12noon	Community Day (BWCL Library)
Saturday 20 th July	2pm	Jumble Sale (SJ Hall)
Saturday 27 th July	3-5.00pm	Songs of Praise (SJ Hall)
Saturday 10 th August	10-12noon	Coffee Morning supporting education of Sri Lanka tea workers' families
4 th – 6 th October		Parish Weekend at Scargill



ST JOHN'S CHURCHYARD

A big THANK YOU to all those who responded to our plea for litter-pickers. Your efforts are making a big difference.

Clearing the litter is, unfortunately, an ongoing task. All offers of help will be gratefully accepted. We can supply helping hand litter pickers, gloves and plastic bags—just ask Gill in the office.

And our wonderful gardening team would be delighted to welcome new members to mow the grass/clip the hedge/clear weeds/put in new plants!



Clergy Letter

What's behind THY KINGDOM COME? How two out of five is a boost for prayer....

How do knots, a leather band, Pentecost, archbishops, and this famous phrase from the Lord's Prayer fit together?

Do you remember how the disciples were feeling after Jesus' Ascension? He had gone! For 10 days they were waiting and praying. But not just praying - *longing*, dreaming, and hoping for the coming of God's kingdom. They also had this sense that Jesus had promised that they should wait for the Holy Spirit.

Ordinary men and women, like you and me: scared, hopeful, uncertain. Wondering how they could continue to follow Jesus without His presence...

And then....eventually...the day of Pentecost arrives! The Spirit comes like a rushing wind, transforming the lives of the waiting disciples with power to follow Jesus. They were now a new community of believers: the very first "Church".

The "waiting time" recorded in Acts, between Ascension and Pentecost, is the inspiration behind the *Thy Kingdom Come* movement begun in 2016 by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York.

In just 3 years, it has become a global movement of prayer, with churches all over the world taking up the challenge to pray, in community and as individuals, that more people would find a living faith in Jesus; that the Church might grow.

As the Spirit's work at the first Pentecost birthed a new community, so we long that the Spirit might create new community in our midst - person by beloved person - in the places we know and love.

But how?

In order that this longing might become reality, the challenge of *Thy Kingdom Come* is, simply, that each of us prays for 5 specific people.

One of the tools suggested is a leather band - the idea is that you tie a

knot for each of the five people you are praying for - then tie the band onto your wrist - and for 10 days, pray, pray, and then pray some more, for the five.



Last year, I tied 5 knots in my band, and over the ten days, the band reminded me to pray for the 5 people on my heart.

As I was collecting my band this morning, I suddenly realised that 2 of the 5 people I prayed for last year have come to faith during the year!

This was a real revelation to me - I'm not sure why it should surprise me - but somehow I just hadn't made the connection between the prayers inspired by the leather band and the new Christians...

Now, I'm not superstitiously claiming that this band is "the answer"- that everyone we tie a knot for will become a Christian. However, I do sincerely believe that our prayers for other people *do* make a difference - that somehow God uses and perhaps even needs our prayers - and that *Thy Kingdom Come* is a wonderful opportunity to join in with the worldwide Church in praying for change and transformation in the lives of people we know.

My first 3 knots this year will be for the three leftover from last year, who are still on a journey towards God (they just don't know it yet!). There will be 2 new people represented by 2 new knots. Jesus has been wonderfully good news in my life, and I long to share this good news with the people I love.

What about you? Will you join me in knotting and praying?

Amen. **Thy Kingdom Come.**

Ruth

Thursday 13th continued	9.30-11.30	Little Fishes Parents & Toddlers (SL)
	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery (SJ Church Office)
Friday 14 th	6.30-7.45pm	Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 15 th	10.30am-12.30pm	Training for Readers (SJ)
	1.30-3.30pm	Training for Intercessors (SJ)
	2.00pm	Jumble Sale in Church Hall (SJ)
Sunday 16th	8.00am	Holy Communion in East End (SJ)
	10.00am	Morning Worship (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Communion (SL)
	4.00pm	Café Church (SL)
	6.00pm	Junior Ignite (Youth Group) (SL)
	7.00pm	Ignite (Youth Group) (SL)
Monday 17 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 18 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10-11.30am	JAM in Church followed by coffee in East End (SJ)
Wednesday 19 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	12.00pm	Thirst Table at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 20 th	7.30pm	Youth Worker Prayer (SJ)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9.30-11.30am	Little Fishes Parents & Toddlers (SL)
	1-3.00pm	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery (SJ Church Office)
Friday 21 st	6.30-7.45pm	Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 22 nd	3-5.00pm	Family Summer Social (SJ)
Sunday 23rd	8.00am	Holy Communion in East End (SJ)
	10.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Morning Worship (SL)
	6.00pm	Football at Rossett Sports Centre
Monday 24 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	2.30pm	Healing Prayer Group at 54 Byland Road
Tuesday 25 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	7.30pm	Still Waters (SL)
Wednesday 26 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	7.30pm	Standing Committee meeting (SJ)
Thursday 27 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)

JUNE'S CALENDAR

Sunday 2 nd	8.00am	Holy Communion in East End (SJ)
	9.30am	All Age Service (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Communion (SL)
	11.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	3.30pm	Thy Kingdom Come event at Ripon Cathedral
Monday 3 rd Tuesday 4 th	6.00pm	Junior Ignite (Youth Group) (SL)
	7.00pm	Ignite (Youth Group) (SL)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10-11.30am	JAM in Church followed by Coffee In East End (SJ)
Wednesday 5 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	7.00pm	Finance and Buildings Committee meeting (SL)
		Morning Prayer (SJ)
Thursday 6 th	9-9.30am	Little Fishes Parents & Toddlers (SL)
	9.30-11.30am	Wellbeing Café (SL)
	1-3.00pm	Evening Surgery (SJ Church Office)
	6.30-7.15pm	Choir Practice (SJ)
	6.30-7.45pm	Coffee Morning in Church Hall (SJ)
Friday 7 th Saturday 8 th Sunday 9 th	10am-12noon	Holy Communion in East End (SJ)
	8.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.00am	Parade Service (SL)
	10.30am	Baptisms (SJ)
	12.15pm	Joint Thy Kingdom Come at St Aidan's, Constance Green Hall
Monday 10 th	6-8.00pm	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	9-9.30am	Healing Prayer Group at 224 Woodfield Road
	2.30pm	Morning Prayer (SJ)
		Still Waters (SL)
		Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 11 th	9-9.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	7.30pm	Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	9-9.30am	Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
	10.30am	Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
	10.30am	Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
Wednesday 12 th	12.15pm	Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
		Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
		Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
		Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
		Community Lunch at Bilton Community Centre
Thursday 13 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
		Morning Prayer (SJ)
		Morning Prayer (SJ)
		Morning Prayer (SJ)
		Morning Prayer (SJ)



30th May to 9th June 2019

www.thykingdomcome.global/

At the end of this month and into June we are participating in the Archbishops' global prayer event, '**Thy Kingdom Come**'. The idea is in the 10 day period between Ascension (Thursday 30th May) and Pentecost (Sunday 9th June) that Christians around the world **pray for the coming of God's Kingdom in people's lives.**

How are we joining in?

Most importantly we are asking people to prayerfully **identify 5 people who we would like to become Christians** over these 10 days, that they come to faith. As a reminder to pray, leather wrist bands are available (at a bargain price of 50p!!) in which we can tie knots to represent the people we are praying for.

On **Ascension Day**, Thursday 30th May, there will be special gatherings for **Morning and Evening prayer** at 9am at St John's and 6pm at St Luke's. Both will last for around half an hour and will focus on praying for the mission of the church.

On **Sunday 2nd June** we will be focusing on the Lord's Prayer at the 9.30 service at St John's and **at 3.30pm** there is a **diocesan Thy Kingdom Come event at Ripon Cathedral**. There will be a short act of worship led by Bishop Nick, followed by an opportunity to explore pilgrimages and prayer stations inside and outside the cathedral. Following a short closing act of worship, afternoon tea will be served. Numbers are needed if people want to come to the tea – **please sign up or let Gill know as soon as possible if you want to attend.**

On **Sunday 9th June between 6pm and 8pm** we will be taking part in a **joint prayer service at St Aidan's school** with St Mark's, Kairos, and Vineyard churches – this will be in place of our usual Kingdom Come service.

We will be setting up '**Prayer Spaces**' in a couple of local schools where children will be invited to engage creatively with the Lord's Prayer.

Bilton Guiding is 90 years old this year and there is a celebration event happening in the grounds of St John's on Friday 12th July from 6 to 8pm.

We would like as many members past and present to come and celebrate with us. If you do know anyone who is wanting to come, please email church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk with their name and contact details by 7th June so that we can send an official invite and also track numbers for catering etc.



Many thanks

Gill

1st Bilton (St Johns) Guides



MAY COFFEE MORNING



The coffee morning held on Saturday 11th May was in aid of Starbeck-based charity Time Together. Time Together is a small care provider that supports individuals with autism and additional needs to 'Live Life well.' It provides 1:1 support to help individuals with their independence skills and also has a community focus, facilitating various social, activity and support groups. The coffee morning was very well attended, and stalls included homemade produce, cakes, homemade cards and books. The book stall was particularly praised for the quantity and quality of the books for sale. There was also a tombola and raffle. Samantha Westwood, Service Manager attended on behalf of Time Together and thanked all those who had volunteered their time to help with the coffee morning particularly those in the kitchen making the drinks and teacakes! The coffee morning raised £473.40 which will be vital to helping Time Together continue their work.

Do join us on 8th June when we will be raising money for Wellspring Christian Counselling Charity. All the usual stalls, refreshments and a warm welcome.

PEOPLE

BAPTISMS / BLESSINGS & THANKSGIVINGS

Neave Christina Gilligan

Annabella Cook



FUNERALS/ MEMORIALS

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

June Calvert

Elizabeth Lawrence

Alan Brunt

Lena Sturdy

CONFIRMATION

We welcome the following into full membership of the church:

Tracy Iles

Lizzie Turner

Margaret Harding

Mel Luxford

Caroline Morgan

Penny Tiffney



Sunday 16th June

is Copy Date for the
JULY 2019

edition of Focus.

Items for inclusion to:
SJSLfocus@gmail.com
or leave in drawer at
back of St John's
Church

St John's & St Luke's CHURCH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

MONDAY to WEDNESDAY 9.30am
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Question Corner.



Q. Why do some churches have an empty cross and some have one with a figure on it? Are they both crucifixes?



A. No they're not both crucifixes. A crucifix is a cross with a figure on it. In the Christian church that figure is Jesus Christ himself, who was nailed to a cross and died for us. So an empty cross is not a crucifix. Crucifixes are seen mostly in Roman Catholic Churches and in some Anglo-Catholic ("high") churches in the Church of England. But in most Church of England churches, and in

other churches, we see the empty cross. It's not entirely clear why there should be this distinction, because both are important symbols proclaiming a truth at the heart of the Christian faith. But the focus is different. The crucifix says that Jesus died as our Saviour, to forgive us. The empty cross says that too, but also that Jesus has conquered death and risen again – offering us new life with him. Both are important, but personally I prefer to focus mostly on the empty cross. In case I've given the wrong impression, I should point out that churches which have the crucifix also believe in the joy of Resurrection! We are all "Resurrection people".

David



In May, Clare from Compassion came to St John's to talk about the great work they do releasing children from poverty around the world. Thank you to those who have already

sponsored a child following Clare's visit. There are still many other children in need of sponsorship, £25 per month will allow you to support that child through a one-to-one relationship which is tailored to their individual needs. If you are interested in finding out more, there are leaflets at both churches, or look online at <https://www.compassionuk.org/sponsorship/?campaign>

ECOTIPS

Transport and Travel



Walk yourself to an old age – Every mile you walk is estimated to add 20 minutes to your life. Walking is also the greenest transport, as every single journey in your car, taxi, bus or train contributes to pollution.



Get on the bus – one busload of people is worth 40 cars, so every time you step onto a full bus that's 40 car journeys and a staggering 9 tons of air pollution saved every year. AND the Bilton buses are entirely electric not diesel! A Go Harrogate



day ticket for any number of journeys is £4.60, Go Harrogate Week £14 and Go Harrogate Month £50. Alternatively a 12 ticket carnet is £25 meaning each journey is only £2. Go to the Transdev Go App or ask the driver! Use it or Lose it! 2A and 2B are currently FREE on Sundays.

Idling Away – Turn off the engine or engage your car's stop/start function when you stop in traffic – at slow traffic lights or roadworks and especially railway crossings! Leaving the engine to idle wastes petrol and contributes to air pollution.



Get a great service – Service your car regularly to make sure your engine is running at its optimal level. This ensures the fuel you buy is being used as efficiently as possible, minimizing environmental effects.



We are looking for someone to help with the running of our monthly Traidcraft stall at St John's. We now have someone willing to take over the ordering so it would just involve setting up and manning the stall and bringing monies paid to the office, full training will be given. We would also like to keep the stall running at St Luke's each month if we have enough volunteers. If you think this could be you, please contact the office.



missed any of her choir practices. She would serve strange exotic food and dole out highly inappropriate liqueurs to unsuspecting choristers, but above all she was inspirational and hugely dedicated, and as she became physically less flexible, she would spend hours re-orchestrating pieces so she could play them to the best of her ability.

Musically Liz was always up for a challenge, and made sure the choir was too, hence the number of choristers who got their bishop's and dean's awards, and it is a fitting tribute to her that the choir continues to have a wide and extensive repertoire, and also that so many people from different church choirs came to her funeral. She commanded affection and respect in equal measure and her passion for music especially choral and organ music was infectious. She did set high standards, but she inspired the choristers to be like her - a truly great musician putting her faith into practice week by week. One person put it like this – her organ playing was, for her, her praying – and if this was indeed the case, she spent a great deal of time praying – which is, I think, a fitting note to end this tribute to the unique and special person that Liz was - she will be hugely missed by many people.



St Luke's Bring and Share Feast - 18th May



From the youngest (7 weeks) to the oldest (95 years) we all thoroughly enjoyed the Feast - a mouth-watering spread of savouries and sweets, enough and to spare. It was good to be able to sit and chat to friends old and new in a relaxed atmosphere, for the different sections of St Luke's family to meet. After the feasting the children took turns to attack the piñata with a 'golden' stick until it released a cascade of sweets, which they shared.

(More about St Luke's Celebration Weekend in the next issue)

ELIZABETH LAWRENCE 1933-2019

Elizabeth Lawrence, Liz, or Mrs Lawrence as she was known to many generations of choristers here at St John's, was most certainly a one-off.

Born in Harrogate and educated at Queen Ethelburga's, Liz excelled in music, and while studying at the Royal College in London as an organ scholar was invited to attend our Queen's coronation and sat above the organ in the abbey. She continued her music studies at the Sorbonne in Paris

Once her studies were finished, Liz began her lifelong love of travelling and met John in the South of France. They married in 1969, bought a boat and made the Mediterranean their home. Her brother and sister-in-law remember Liz playing Easter hymns on her organ with the music floating across the whole marina. These were very happy days, interspersed with life in the South of France where she regularly played the organ in Beaulieu Sur Mer and in the local English speaking church in Northern Italy.



However Liz's favourite place was probably the Greek island of Kalymnos where she and John started building a house together. John died on the way back from there suddenly after 24 years of marriage. Liz was devastated but made sure that the house was completed and she returned there many times, most recently in the autumn of last year when, without the knowledge, let alone the permission, of the staff at Belmont House, she took herself off for one final visit. The first they knew was when she was waiting for the taxi with her bag packed – and I suppose this incident sums Liz up, showing as it did her independent, resourceful, adventurous spirit.

Mention of the house of Kalymnos also shows how determined she was, because, just as she had done in their flat in Italy and their home in Harrogate, Liz made sure that she had an organ installed. This one was shipped from Italy and given there was no road to the house, took some transporting!

As well as the lifestyle, Liz loved Mediterranean food and was adventurous with food more generally. She was herself an excellent cook and her Moules were a particular highlight for guests.

Liz loved the hairdresser and her beehive will certainly be remembered. Even in later years making sure her hair was put up was a vital part of Liz's life. She loved painting her nails and always had a multitude of pots on the go at any one time. These much loved nails were usually an accompaniment to her jewellery. All will remember Liz's love of large sparkly jewellery, long before Bling became a fashionable word! Even in hospital in the summer of 2017, she managed to have her hair done, nails painted and stylish dressing gown on, inadvertently but nevertheless clearly the centre of attention.

Liz and John had returned to Harrogate in order to look after her parents and in 1983 she took up a post as organist and director of music at St John's Church, a post she held for an amazing 34 years. In those early years here, she would jet off to sunny places or hit the Harrod's sale for cashmere sweaters but would not be happy if you

COFFEE MORNING

St John's Church Hall

Saturday 8th June

10 till 12 noon

£1 inc drink & biscuit

Supporting



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ST JOHN'S AND ST LUKE'S BILTON SUMMER FAIR

Saturday 6th July 2019, 11am to 3pm

In the grounds of St John's Church, Bilton Lane

At the time of writing, the weather doesn't seem to have realised it is supposed to be springtime, but the calendar says it is actually June and therefore time for us to move up a gear with preparations for our big annual community social event, the **St John's and St Luke's Summer Fair**.



We will once again be offering plenty of live entertainment at the event in addition to a wide variety of produce and other stalls, traditional fairground games and delicious refreshments (BBQ, light lunches and afternoon teas). Children's amusements will figure prominently, including a bouncy castle for little ones, working tractors, crafts and games, while for adults we are welcoming the return of last year's highly successful 'Pimm's Stall'!

So consider yourselves duly invited to this event and please bring your family and friends to what promises to be a great day of fun and entertainment.

Entrance is free and we look forward to seeing you there!

If you would like any further information about the event or would like to get involved then please contact the church office on 565129 or email

church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk



We need you!

We are currently busy with our preparations and are looking for willing adults to help man two of our stalls on the day.

Firstly, we are looking for a team of face painters. The more the merrier so that the stall can be shared out to cover different times of the day. You do not need any previous experience but simply a love of decorating excited faces. Paints and sponges will be provided.

Secondly, we are looking for a team of volunteers to man the bouncy castle. No training necessary and this this year we have opted for a smaller bouncy castle to cater for our younger children.

We would welcome any help and even if you can only offer half an hour on the day we would love your assistance. Please contact the church office with your details and how you can help. We look forward to hearing from you!

CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS



Worship leaders, readers, intercessors, choristers, sidespeople, healing prayer team, refreshments team, flower arrangers, children's group leaders, youth group leaders, cleaners, gardeners, menders and fixers, PCC members, finance and buildings team, social team, pastoral team, bereavement support team ... Thanks to the many church members who volunteer in these roles.

Thanks too to those who take on less noticeable, but still important, jobs such as washing the altar cloths, folding the service sheets, sorting and putting out the recycling, preparing the overheads for each church service, collating and delivering the magazine, cleaning the brasses, maintaining and checking the smoke alarms, litter-picking this is not a comprehensive list! Please let us know what we have left out.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU

Let us also celebrate our volunteering in the community. Here are some of the places helped by members of St John's and St Luke's:

St Michael's Hospice shop * St Michael's Hospice * Woodfield Millennium Green * Bilton Community Centre * Bachelors Field * Harrogate Hospital Chaplaincy * Harrogate Hospital – Royal Voluntary Service in the café and around the wards * Home Library Service * Bilton and Woodfield Community Library * Red Cross * The Hub * school governing bodies * in schools hearing readers, helping with crafts, cooking etc, accompanying school outings * Harrogate Homeless Project * Richard Taylor Educational Foundation * Rotary * Harrogate Lions * as officers in social and sports clubs * Guiding and Scouting * coaching youngsters in sports clubs * helping neighbours * and there are sure to be others. Have we included what you do?

