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St John's Church, Ranmoor

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Tel: 0114 230 1199

Website: www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

St John's Church is a community whose vocation is to extend to all people the same welcome that we ourselves have received from God in Christ. Our worship, enriched by our strong musical and choral traditions, is at the heart of our community's shared life. The gospel calls us to lives of discipleship, informed by reflection and marked by care for one another, by a passion for justice, and by a commitment to the service of our local and wider community.

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Cover photo by Philip Walshaw

Large print versions of Inspire are available

Foreword



This month we continue to journey with Jesus in the wilderness before following him through his Passion to the cross and Easter. Movement is a fundamental part of our identity as Christians. We are people of the Way and we only really reach our destination in the next life.

Journeys have been very much on my mind recently. As you may know, I am hoping to lead a week-long pilgrimage to Turkey in September 2027, visiting the seven churches of Revelation and walking in the footsteps of St Paul. It is not too late to join this group so please get in touch if you are interested.

Before that, I am undertaking a walk from coast to coast after Easter in the hope of raising £5,000 towards Save Our Spire. The route from St Bees in Cumbria to Robin Hood's Bay in North Yorkshire is 192 miles long. Our spire is roughly 192 feet tall so this seemed an appropriate challenge. I am enormously grateful to the many people who have already contributed to our SOS appeal but it would be wonderful if you, or anyone else you know, would like to sponsor me. Alternatively, you might like to raise money yourself, perhaps by doing a walk or other event in parallel.

All of us are on a journey of one sort or another and an important milestone for many Christians is Confirmation. Though it has often been associated with receiving bread and wine at Holy Communion, Confirmation is when we confirm for ourselves the promises that were made at our baptisms. This was usually done by our parents and godparents.

This year, we are delighted to welcome the Bishop of Doncaster, Bishop Leah Vasey-Saunders, who is coming to confirm candidates at St John's at our 10.30 service on Sunday 12th July. If Confirmation is something that you would like to explore, please get in touch. Confirmation preparation will take place after Easter and is a great opportunity to go over some of the Christian basics and ask questions. Anyone is welcome to take part in this without having to commit to being confirmed in July.

One of the great blessings of church is that we do not journey alone. I hope that we can always encourage one another as followers of Jesus. As the Letter to the Hebrews puts it: *'Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.'* (12.1-2).

Matthew

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Sometime.....

You will probably have the responsibility of making funeral arrangements. No one looks forward to this responsibility, but the death of a family member or a friend brings with it an obligation that must be met. These are people who can help you meet this responsibility. We have been helping people combine the different aspects of a funeral service for over one hundred and thirty five years.

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From the Editor's Chair



Susan and I don't go to the cinema often. We don't subscribe to Netflix or binge watch serialised dramas on BBC iPlayer either. Our children think we are strange; you may agree! I have no issue with anyone who wants to cosy up at home on a cold wintry evening and watch a film. We just don't do it; neither do we monitor what's on at the cinema in the coming week. We only go to watch a film if we have either seen a trailer for it on our previous visit or read about it. When we do watch a film, we are usually the last ones to leave because I always like to read all the credits (see earlier!).

Anyway, I'll get to the point. We recently went to see the film "*H is for Hawk*". Based on the book by Helen Macdonald, it is a poignant memoir and nature study documenting her intense, year-long struggle with crippling grief following her father's sudden death. Seeking solitude, she purchases and trains a notoriously difficult goshawk named Mabel.

The film seemed to end fairly abruptly, leaving us to muse about the years that followed since the book was written in 2014. However, we were given a clue when, before the credits rolled, the positive words spoken by Julian of Norwich in the 14th century were shown on the screen: "*All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well.*" These words have echoed across centuries and live on in poetry and song, in sermons and prayers, and in the quiet resolve of people facing uncertainty. It is a well-known message of hope and divine comfort which promises that despite hardship, sin, or devastation, God will make all things right. To me, it remains one of the most enduring and reassuring expressions of Christian optimism ever written.

Philip Walshaw

Easter Lilies



If you would like to make a donation towards the purchase of a lily in memory of someone who has died, this will be incorporated in one of the flower arrangements in church on Easter Sunday. We will also be placing a list of the people to be remembered at the back of church. A suggested donation is £2.50. (It would be helpful if you could put the money for lilies in an envelope with your name and

the names of those you wish to be remembered on the front.) Please contact me either by phone (0114 2309180) or email: sandra.green70@gmail.com Thank you. **Sandra Green**

Floral decorations in Church for Easter



We will be decorating the church for Easter on **Saturday 4th April at 9.45am** and would be grateful if anyone is able to help us. We intend to use baskets of spring flowers of your choice on the windowsills. You could either prepare this at home and bring it to church or arrange it in church

on the Saturday morning. Please note we use eco-friendly materials (jam jars, pin holders and chicken wire) to comply with our Silver Eco-Church status.

We would welcome members of the congregation who have not previously been involved in arranging flowers in church to join us. No previous experience is necessary as we are happy to provide help and advice. If you would like to help or find out more, please get in touch with me, either by phone (0114 2309180) or email: sandra.green70@gmail.com I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you. **Sandra Green**

Sustainable Church Flowers

Last month General Synod supported a motion on sustainable flowers from a rural parish church in Worcester Diocese. The Sustainable Church Flowers movement began as a grassroots initiative in the small rural parish of Harpley, Worcestershire, as volunteers explored how traditional flower-arranging methods could reflect the Church's commitment to caring for creation. It is now a national and ecumenical network offering practical support to parishes, arrangers and clergy. The motion did not introduce any rules or bans, but encourages churches, wherever possible, to consider using seasonal, locally sourced flowers and foliage, and to phase out single-use floral foam. Some members were sceptics before Synod but as speech after speech hailed the amazing committed volunteers who decorate our churches so beautifully, something unusual happened as people changed their minds! As a Silver Eco Church, we have been early adopters of this and have been using eco-friendly materials, etc. for the last two years.



A Rocha UK monthly Eco Tips: March

Why not part in a local litter pick or beach clean during The Great British Spring Clean (Friday 13th to Sunday 29th March), the nation's biggest mass-action environmental campaign? Litter picking benefits the environment by removing rubbish that can be hazardous for wildlife and helps bring people together.

There's a regular litter pick attended by Matthew and other members of the congregation, which happens on the first Saturday of each month 10.30 – 12.30 from the corner of Fulwood Road and Tom Lane at the bench outside Lavang. Bags and litter pickers are provided. Pray for your local area as you do the litter pick and ask God for opportunities to share why you are doing it.

Please talk to Matthew if you need more information.

Scissors Paper Stone

Blog 30:

Henry Wilkinson (1798-1873)

You might be surprised that I am writing about Henry Wilkinson: after all, he was not a pew renter or even Anglican. He was described in the press as an 'uncompromising' Liberal Unitarian. He worshipped at Upper Chapel and was buried in the General Cemetery. His link with St John's is through his niece by marriage, Miss Mary Keddie (Pew 59). He adopted Mary and she was his sole heir when he died in 1873. I was drawn to write about Wilkinson for his evident compassion and empathy for his workers and domestic servants.



Trade Mark from Eileen Woodhead – Trademarks on Base-Metal tableware.

Henry Wilkinson died before the first church was even built and was himself a Unitarian but his story is a model of philanthropy which illustrates the power industrialists had to improve the lives of their employees

and family members. He enabled his adopted daughter, a key member of St John's first congregation, to take an active role in improving the lives of some of the most vulnerable

He was born 1798 at Norton Hammer, where his father was a file manufacturer; apprenticed as a scissor smith, he later joined John & Thomas Settle in the silver-plate trade He went on to take over the firm which had its works in Norfolk St, eventually employing 125-140 men women and boys.

He played an active role in Sheffield's civic life: in 1844 he became the councillor for Ecclesall Ward and Mayor in 1846. He was an alderman and a J.P. He had a reputation as a kind and impartial magistrate and he was active on the Bench until a few days before his death. A member of the



391 Fulwood Road.

Board of Guardians for Nether Hallam in 1844, he became a Town Trustee and was a Collector for it at the time of his death. In later years he purchased the original Endcliffe Hall but sold it to John Brown and moved to Endcliffe Edge, 391 Fulwood Rd which is where he died of a stroke in 1873.

He was clearly well thought of by those who worked for him. At a party at Endcliffe Hall, on a Saturday in August 1854, to celebrate thirty years of the company, he was presented with a chest of silver items of their own manufacture, to the value of 200 guineas with a splendid salver with the inscription:



A similar set.

Presented Together with a tea & coffee Service to Henry Wilkinson Esquire of Endcliffe Hall, by his workpeople as a testimony of the high sense they entertain of his character as a gentleman & a magistrate. And a token of their gratitude & for his liberality as an employer of labour. And for many acts of kindness to them & their families.

These items had been made by the workers, the money for the purchase being raised in a single day from an enthusiastic workforce. He was clearly touched by the gift and the accompanying speech. He wasn't interested in seeing the subscription list: every contribution, however small, was equally important to him. His response to the speech sums up the man and almost brings tears to the eye:

"I can buy silver with money. I do buy quantities every week . . . but there are things that money, almost all-powerful that it is, cannot buy. The good feeling and good will that have prompted this gift cannot be bought with money, they are beyond all price and, as such, I esteem them."

After the presentation, there was football, cricket, dancing and tutball (rounders) in the park until three when there was a substantial dinner, after which there was dancing and other amusements, followed by supper, the party breaking up at 11.00 pm. The workers clearly had such a good time that about 60 of them returned the following Monday afternoon. Mr Wilkinson was absent but, although they were unexpected, his wife provided tea for the women and sandwiches and ale for the men. Again, there were various games, singing and dancing until nightfall.

His generosity of spirit is also evident in his will: he endowed several charities including educational institutions, for example the Lancasterian Boys and Girls Schools, and the Boys and



Girls Charity Schools. He also left £500 for the establishment and support of a School for poor children of both sexes at or near Sheffield to be conducted upon non-sectarian principles.

According to the terms of his will, the trustees were instructed to:

“...give preference . . . to a School in which females shall be taught domestic economy and in which small prizes or marks of distinction shall be given to the best makers of bread and of soup of the best quality at the smallest cost and to the best makers of a shirt and to those who show themselves to possess the qualifications required in the management of the household of a working man of small income.”

Clearly a very practical man! He was also generous to his workers: both domestic servants and his employees:

“To Elizabeth Fletcher employed in my plating room and who all but lost her life in my service an Annuity of Two pounds and two shillings for her sole use and benefit”.

I was curious to know what had happened to Elizabeth. According to a report in the Sheffield Daily Telegraph - she was working as a gilder when there was an explosion, her face and body were badly scalded. The injuries were initially thought to be fatal. As soon as he heard of the accident, Wilkinson went to the West St Hospital to see everything was done to aid her.

I was also particularly struck by one legacy:

“I bequeath to Edward Parker of Sheffield aforesaid Warehouseman or Bookkeeper the sum of One hundred pounds in consideration of his loss by the North of England Insurance Company his confidence in that Company having been partly based on the fact of my being at the time he insured therein a Director of that Company.”

Obviously, Wilkinson felt guilty about the man losing money and blamed himself. At his funeral, about 50 of his employees joined the cortege to the General Cemetery, and his coffin was carried to his final resting place by some of his oldest workmen.

Sue Roe

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“Said the Actor to the Bishop”

by Philip Walshaw



Kenneth Williams, the beloved *Carry On* star, master of the double entendre and, for many years, fixture of BBC Radio 4's *Just a Minute*, would have been 100 years old on 22nd February. At the height of his fame in the 1970s, Kenneth Williams was asked to record excerpts from the Bible. Those recordings hadn't been broadcast until the BBC did so last year on Radio 4 and some were featured during a week of Radio 4

Extra's Morning Service last month. We've all heard the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son many, many times but his narration, full of compassion and bringing the characters vividly to life held my attention and are certainly worth listening to on BBC Sounds.

Williams was not a man readily associated with religion. With his flamboyant persona and razor-sharp wit, most would expect him to meet any mention of the Bible with a raised eyebrow and one of his famous quips. But new evidence reveals a deeply personal, previously concealed Christian faith - and with it, a series of forgotten Bible recordings. The programme *Archive on 4: Said the Actor to the Bishop*, was aired last year on Radio 4 and uncovers a remarkable chapter in Williams's life - audio cassettes of him reading Bible stories with emotional depth and vocal mastery, recorded nearly 50 years ago.

Long thought lost, the recordings have been revived thanks to the man who commissioned them: The Right Reverend James Jones, former Bishop of Liverpool. Back in the 1970s, Jones worked as a producer at the evangelical organisation Scripture Union, then producing a series of tapes featuring actors narrating Bible stories. He secured major names such as Derek Nimmo, Thora Hird, and Dora Bryan - and turned to Williams, whose storytelling brilliance had captivated a generation of

children on Jackanory.

The BBC bosses feared an adverse reaction to Williams' association with the *Carry On* films and their bawdy humour, but Jones felt that using a comic actor captured the humour and the humanity of the stories that Jesus told. Apparently, the sessions left a profound impression. Williams brought his full theatrical arsenal to the task - booming basses, shrill falsettos, reedy whines and booming proclamations - animating New Testament characters in a way that captured the moral force of the stories while preserving their humanity. Jones recalled his conversations with Williams over lunch at the time of the recordings, when the actor opened up about a personal faith that had remained hidden from the public eye. He explained that faith really mattered to him and that he would end every day praying and asking for forgiveness.

Williams's diaries, published posthumously in 1993, offer glimpses of that inner life. "I am full of the feeling of nearness to God," he wrote. "For me God means Truth and Goodness and Beauty ... one real act of love ... please let me be capable of it." Jones describes his spirituality as "almost mystical". Yet Williams remained ambivalent about religious institutions. He was very critical of the Church and bishops; didn't like the structure and didn't go to church. He felt his urge to entertain people would get in the way of being part of a church community. He had to get away to pray. Performance was a barrier to God.

Brought up in a Methodist family, Williams first discovered Bible stories at Sunday school. Though he later gained fame through stage, radio and screen, his faith quietly accompanied him throughout his life. His diaries show him wrestling with guilt, loneliness and longing, often turning to God in times of need. In 1964, while preparing for *Carry On Spying*, he noted that he was giving up "fags, then drink" for Lent "to start making some sort of gesture to God".

The rediscovered recordings had been feared lost when Scripture Union destroyed the master tapes. But Jones had kept personal copies and, mentioning them to a BBC producer, set in motion the creation of '*Said the Actor to the Bishop*'. Ooh, er, do give it a listen.



Christian Aid Week 10th – 16th May, 2026

The Christian Aid Changemakers Conference 2026 will be at St Gabriel's Church, Dobbin Hill, S11 7JB on Saturday 14th March and will run from 10.00am until 1pm. Refreshments and a light lunch will be served.

During the conference, we will be shining a spotlight on the incredible work of our trusted partner organisation – Beacon of Hope. Beacon of Hope is a faith-based NGO in Kenya, and we've partnered with them since 2021 on projects that create economic opportunities and strengthen the social wellbeing of communities living in Nairobi's informal settlements. Christian Aid Week will be focussing on this work as its theme for this year. You'll hear about their inspiring initiative, *Imarisha Kilimo* – which means “strengthen agriculture” in Swahili. This project is helping families in Dagoretti, Kenya, build sustainable livelihoods through improved farming practices.

We invite you to join us to hear the interesting, enlightening and powerful stories of change, explore creative fundraising ideas, and learn how, together, we can make a lasting impact. Everyone will be welcome.

Here at St John's, we are planning our own fund-raising activities for Christian Aid Week, which will begin with a specially themed service about the work of Christian Aid on Sunday 10th May and then other activities will follow throughout the week, including a Raffle, a concert on Friday 15th May, and the Big Breakfast on Saturday 16th May. Envelopes will be distributed throughout the parish, with information about these activities, the Christian Aid Appeal, and ways to contribute. We look forward to seeing you during the course of this very special week. Please contact us if you need further information.

Janet and Malcolm Anker

ST JOHN'S CHURCH, RANMOOR

MARCH CALENDAR

The Lent Group will meet at the vicarage at 7.30pm on the **Tuesdays** 3,10,17,24 March or **Wednesdays** 4, 11, 18, 25 March.

Sunday 1st March St Davids Day

10.30am All Age Service

6.30pm BCP Communion

Wednesday 4th March

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

12.30pm Lunch Club

5.30pm Choral Evensong – Choristers,

The Fitzwilliam Service Sarah Cattley

Responses Plainsong,

When I survey the wondrous cross Malcolm Archer

Psalm 51

Thursday 5th March

10am Toddler and Baby Group

8pm Organ Recital – Professor Julian Gunn

Saturday 7th March

4pm Scissors Paper Stone

Wives, Widows, Spinsters: Women in Victorian Ranmoor

Tickets £5 from [Ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or the office

www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-johns-church

Sunday 8th March 3rd Sunday of Lent

10.30am Parish Communion

12.30pm Baptism

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Wednesday 11th March

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

12.30pm Lunch Club

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 12th March

10am Toddler and Baby Group

Sunday 15th March
4th Sunday of Lent and Mothering Sunday

10.30am Parish Communion

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Monday 16th March

7.30pm PCC meets in the annexe

Wednesday 18th March

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

12.30pm Wednesday Lunch Club

5.30pm Choral Evensong - First Evensong of St Joseph

Adult Choir: Fauxbourdons Thomas Morley; Responses Plainsong;
Nolo mortem Peccatoris Thomas Morley; Psalm 91

Thursday 19th March

10am Toddler and Baby Group

Friday 20th March

Social Event – What is it like to be a TV Extra (SOS Fundraiser)

Tickets £10 from [Ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-johns-church) or the office

www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-johns-church

Sunday 22nd March 5th Sunday of Lent

10.30am Parish Communion

12.30pm Sunday Social

6.30pm Crucifixus Pro Nobis *Kenneth Leighton*

Stabat Mater *Giovanni Battista Pergolesi*

Sung by the Choristers and Adults, accompanied by West Riding
Ensemble, as an act of Passiontide devotion

Monday 23rd March

7.30pm Sanctuary in the side-chapel

Wednesday 25th March

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

12.30pm Wednesday Lunch Club

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 26th March

10am Toddler and Baby Group

Friday 27th March

Scissors Paper Stone

7.30pm The medical networks of St John's in the late 19th Century

Dr Jenny Stephenson, Ranmoor Parish Centre. Tickets £5 from [Ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-johns-church) or the office www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-johns-church



Sunday 29th March Palm Sunday

10.30am Holy Communion with reading of the Passion

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Tuesday 31st March

8pm Compline for Holy Week

Wednesday 1st April

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

12.30pm Wednesday Lunch Club

5.30pm Evening Prayer

Thursday 2nd April

7.30pm Maundy Thursday – Holy Communion with washing of feet

Friday 3rd April

12noon – Three Hour Liturgy (Choir sings from 1.30pm)

Saturday 4th April

8.30pm Easter Vigil

Sunday 5th April Easter Sunday

10.30am Holy Communion with Baptism

no evening service

SERVICES DURING THE WEEK:

Holy Communion: Every Wednesday at 11.30am in the Parish Centre

Choral Evensong: Evensong Wednesdays at 5.30 pm

(Choral Evensong every other week in term time)

Morning Prayer: Monday to Friday 9am in Church and on ZOOM **Footsteps:** A

Sunday school children's group that meets during the Sunday morning service.

Children are welcome at all of our services. **Lunch Club:** meets every Wednesday in the Parish Centre. All Welcome – please book with the Parish Office

Sunday Social: Meets straight after the morning service on the 4th Sunday. Please book with the Parish Office. **Toddler Group:** meets every Thursday in the Parish

Centre during term time. 10-11.30 am **Our Sunday Services** are always in Church and on YouTube www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk 0114 230 1199

administrator@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk

The Parish Office is open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 9.30am-2.30pm

Parish Registers

Please remember those who have died recently:

Christine Suzanne Franklin and Jean Alice Evans

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted”.

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the friends and families of those names listed.

Restaurant Review: The Bull’s Head, 396 Fulwood Road, Sheffield I0



The Bull’s Head!! Is it still going? You may well ask! Actually, you probably couldn’t give the proverbial whether it’s still going or not. Perhaps, if pushed, you may have possibly assumed it had become a bijou dwelling occupied by one of

the Sheffield I0 wealth set. However - read on - it might get interesting! Yes, this somewhat nostalgic relic of Sheffield’s bygone hostelry has performed a “Phoenix” act, and, despite multiple self-inflicted traumas is, to coin a somewhat antiquated cliché, Up and Running! Fairly clumsy paragraph (the one above that is) but I guess you now realise that the Bull’s Head in Ranmoor is indeed open for business.

An element of previous hostelry history may be apposite before (metaphorically) diving into the current phase of the Bull’s chequered life. Apparently during the early 19th century this modest area of Ranmoor started life as a row of three cottages, one of which offered services as an “ale house” in order to provide an element of alcoholic beverage for the discerning locals. Seemingly this entrepreneurial effort proved to be successful, as a couple of the cottages were soon converted into a “proper” public house imaginatively named “The

Highland Laddie". All this history stuff has become incredibly boring so I will condense the next phase of existence into: "Highland Laddie" becomes "Bull's Head"- Bull's Head struggles to exist during the next many decades finally arriving at the current situation where owner Adrian Arksey and partner Clair are currently trying to steer this well used hostelry into some element of social acceptance.

The Meal (part one)

Having started this review without actually visiting the place for some years, it seemed somewhat apposite to book a lunch visit (with G) and see how well the Bull's Head is managing in the traumatic world which currently seems to envelop all public houses. Just a mention in passing - back in the day (the 1980s actually!) - G and I occasionally visited the Bull for lunch - lured by the (then) trendy combination of a prawn cocktail starter followed by main course of steak and chips, which in turn was a brilliant precursor to the house speciality - a magnificent Black Forest Gateau pudding with cream!! A meal made in heaven! Memories, memories! So, filled with a sense of nostalgic hope, G and I decided to test the current lunch time offerings from the latest reincarnation of the "new" Bull's Head.

The Meal (part two)

Sorry about this. I know that I haven't actually entered the place yet, and have called this bit of the review (or so far "non review") "The Meal (part two)" but try and think of it as a bit of "poetic licence" which may at some stage produce comments about food, drink, ambiance etc. If, however, you have become totally fed up with all this waffle, stop reading and go try the Bull's Head by yourself. Let me know what you think about it if you do!

After having actually arrived and parked the car directly outside (lucky as a very wet day), we entered what appeared to be a remarkably unchanged Bull's Head interior. First impressions quite favourable. Other than seeming to be relatively unchanged - large L-shaped bar dominating the voluminous dining/drinking area, multiple tables and chairs, sofas, etc. - the one striking feature was a dominant presence of several large wall mounted TV screens - all of which were displaying a

game of cricket - and the fact that the place seemed clean! This last impression being rather different to the somewhat faded memory gained during my last visit.

Food menu is of the standard “Pub Grub” variety with a pleasing two meals for £17 lunch time offer. From this ubiquitous tempter, I decided to risk the House curry - which was of the chicken variety - quite tasty, and accompanied by a generous portion of plain boiled rice. G had gammon, pineapple, chips and peas, again quite tasty and fairly prolific in quantity. Decided not to have a sweet (all seemingly of the “bought in” variety - unfortunately no Black Forest gateaux!) but completed this modest repast with a mug of Latte coffee each (£2.30 per mug). Also decided to abstain from alcohol consumption, although a plethora of sundry beers etc. were available at standard pub prices.

Verdict

Very much a “Bog Standard” pub lunch set-up which provided a modest meal at a modest price. Sadly, the hedonistic lunches of the swinging 80s have long departed - although I did notice that Prawn Cocktail was available on the starters menu at a very reasonable £6.50! Perhaps I should have ordered that instead of the curry - then speedily departed the establishment enveloped in a haze of long-gone culinary memories.

Roy Stanley



Ranmoor Parish Centre Bridge Club

***We meet Wednesday evening at 6.45
pm in the Parish Centre and welcome
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Rambling on

with Philip Walshaw



If you enjoy walking through fields, climbing over stiles and admiring dry stone walling (and peeping into people's back gardens!), this 3 mile ramble is just for you. There are many big blousy edges in and around Sheffield, but Litton Edge is a modest little number that gives fine panoramic views from its modest elevation. I've driven and walked past the "Cathedral of the Peak" in Tideswell many times, but I had never had a bird's eye view of it until I went on this circular walk around the village of Litton.

Starting from the village square in Tideswell, walk up Church Street on the right-hand side of the cenotaph and you will soon see a public footpath sign on your right. Follow this up the steps which zig-zag around the back of some houses and then turn left at the top along a green drive, pausing to gaze across to the church to get the view pictured above. On reaching the road, turn right up and along this country lane until you reach some partly derelict farm buildings after which you take a left turn along Conjoint Road. Walk along this quiet country lane for

half a mile until you see a footpath sign on the right immediately before a house. Follow the path uphill and cross a few fields (and stiles!) heading for the trees at the top of Litton Edge, a small escarpment overlooking



the village of Litton. As you walk along this ridge, you can admire the views on the left over to Foolow and Abney to faraway Froggatt Edge. Distant Mam Tor and Lose Hill is behind you and the view to the right is over towards Miller's

Dale and Taddington. Follow the path and tractor track downhill and then through a gate which comes out opposite Beacon House.

Turn right and walk towards Litton village until you come to a bench on the right, where you may wish to sit and have a sandwich if you have brought one. Refreshments are available at the Red Lion public house further along into the village, but if you're not planning to imbibe there,

cross the road to Litton View Farm and you will see the public footpath sign (marked for Cressbrook Dale). Climb over the stile and at the end of the field turn right up the farm track which meets a road. Follow this for a short while until it bends to the left and follow the path through a gate that leads through



another field - and another gate! There are so many fields here that are enclosed with dry stone walling and this view encapsulates it all.

Continue left and cross another road and follow the footpath sign to the right diagonally down the field. Cross the main road that comes down from Litton and veer to the right, looking out for the footpath to the left after a beech hedge between two houses. Follow the path uphill between more dry stone walls until you reach the road that you walked down earlier. Turn left back towards Tideswell and walk down the road until you reach a right-hand corner. Follow the public footpath down into Tideswell, coming out through a small tunnel between houses and out onto the main road opposite the church.



Turn left and walk back towards the square, pausing to look at Markeygate House, said to be the oldest dwelling in Tideswell, built in 1432. The studded front door has survived from the 1500s. Major alterations in 1654 shaped how the house looks today. Once an ale house, it had a long history as a family butchers. It is now (to use Estate Agent terminology) an exceptional Grade II listed four bedroomed residence beautifully positioned in the heart of Tideswell, with two very successful holiday cottages, a separate hayloft with garage beneath and magnificent garden with views of the village.





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Thank you very much to everyone at St John's who has collected at home for the Children's Society. This year we have raised a marvellous £576.51 plus Gift Aid to help some of the most vulnerable children in our society. St John's have also sent £209.28 plus Gift Aid to The Children's Society from the donations given at the Christingle Service. If you would like to help boost this total even further next year, please do contact me for a collection box or a direct form to make monthly/annual donations. Thank you.

Jackie Lowe (0114 2303999) jackielowe22@btconnect.com

A black grand piano is positioned outdoors on a paved area, with a green field and hills in the background under a blue sky with clouds. The piano is the central focus, with its lid open. The text 'FARNSWORTH PIANO CARE' is overlaid in large, light blue, serif capital letters across the middle of the piano. Below this, in smaller white capital letters, is 'TUNING REPAIRS SERVICING'. At the bottom of the image, on a dark blue background, is the website 'www.farnsworthpianocare.co.uk' and the phone number 'Tel/WhatsApp: 07561 875810' in white text.

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Quiz: Scottish Cities and Towns

compiled by Philip Walshaw



The answers to the clues below are Scottish cities and towns. A bonus point will be awarded for identifying the featured town. Send your entry by email to jpwalshaw@gmail.com or by post to 19 Cairns Road, S10 5NA to reach me by Wednesday, 18th March, 2026.

1. Rocky Refuge (10)
2. Chilly water (10)
3. Snap return to Lancashire town (11)
4. She's healthy (10)
5. Dine around with grub Harry initially made (9)
6. Ay, others spell this town differently (8)
7. Found amidst mob and police (4)
8. Bird in front of house entrance (8)
9. One storm caused havoc here (8)
10. Battled with Roman Emperor, we hear (4, 8)
11. Nigel transformed this town (5)
12. Humourist seen around here (13)
13. Saint in charge (9)
14. Uncomfortable sleep with smaller bed (7)
15. Brenda gets new contract with EE (8)

Answers to last month's quiz: 1. Gervais 2. Wise 3. Whitehall 4. Saunders 5. Mayall 6. Barker 7. Pascoe 8. Calman 9. French 10. Merchant 11. McIntyre 12. Palin 13. Brand 14. Morecambe 15. Monkhouse

Entries were received from: Janet and Malcolm Anker, Helen Baxter, Pam and Ian Dall, Lynn and Steve Lawless, John and Brenda Staniforth, Barbara and Peter Wozencroft.

The winners were: John and Brenda Staniforth, who receive a box of chocolates



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Cubs (8 to 10.5 yrs) meet Wed night:

Nea Maycock nea@ranmoorscouts.com

Scouts (10.5 to 14 yrs) meet Tues night:

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District Explorers (14 to 18 yrs)

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Contributing to Inspire:

As always you should feel free to contribute to the magazine: articles, news, photographs, and anything else that you feel might be suitable. We cannot guarantee that everything we receive will be published.

The deadline for contributions to the April edition is Wednesday, 18th March, 2026.

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