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month
includes...

August
2025

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future
plus
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Water Wisdom

Archdeacon Andy writes ...

John the Baptist, the one who came and was the forerunner to Jesus, is something of a model for me as an Archdeacon, as I try to clear the way to enable people in our churches to do what they think God is calling them to do. But it seems that John, especially after his arrest by King Herod, became **disappointed, confused** and **doubtful**. You can read about it in Matthew 11:2-6. He had believed that the Messiah would come, fulfilling Old Testament prophecies like release for captives (Isaiah 61). Yet he was in prison, a captive who had *not* been released. So, John wondered if had been mistaken, if his life had been a waste of time. **Seeking hope**, he sent messengers to Jesus (a great idea if we are discouraged, confused or doubtful: **turn to prayer** and ask Jesus!). The answer that came back was to look at what was happening, not what wasn't. What was Jesus doing? Giving the blind their sight, making lame people walk, cleansing lepers, raising the dead and



bringing good news to the poor. Hence the response to John was, "Tell John what you see and hear".

I try also to look at **what God is doing today**, and I am encouraged. G.K. Chesterton once said, "*On five occasions in history the Church has gone to the dogs, but on each occasion, it was the dogs that died.*" The media continues to talk about church attendance declining. However, it's not true. The statistics show that the Church of England is **growing** – for the 4th year running! And then there's the so-called **Quiet Revival**. Have you heard of it – or is it too quiet? (See "*The Quiet Revival : Gen Z leads rise in church attendance*".*) This is research by YouGov, commissioned by the Bible Society. It shows that ...

see overleaf



...cont. from p.1 ...attendance across all churches in England and Wales is **up 50%** over the past 6 years, with this being driven most by 18-24 year olds (up from 4% to 16%), and especially young men (4%-21%). As I travel round different churches, I am also seeing something of this.



Why might this be? I suspect many young adults are finding that they **don't want** the negatives of what they have seen in their parents' generation. Many will have witnessed relational breakdown in families, the effects of alcohol addiction, and don't want a life that **doesn't satisfy**. Hence perhaps the massive growth in zero-alcohol beer and other drinks. I suspect some are sick of a culture which is also sick in many ways. So, young adults are **looking for answers** from more ancient **wisdom** about **living well**. What might Jesus say?

Andy Jolley

Archdeacon of Bradford

* www.biblesociety.org.uk/research/quiet-revival

NEW
MEMORY
COFFEE
MORNING

Are you or someone you love affected by dementia, and live in Addingham? Ilkley and District Good Neighbours warmly invite those living with dementia and their carers to a **coffee morning**, held on the **2nd and 4th Thursday of each month**, from **11am to 12.30pm** at **Addingham Cricket Club**.

Please phone Lucy Steer on 07309 730241 to confirm your place.

(suggested donation £3 per couple)



HOW CAN
YOU
BREW IT FAIR?



Add your voice to
the petition

BREW IT FAIR
AND STAND
WITH TEA
FARMERS



In the UK, we enjoy more than **100 million cups of tea every day!** St. Peter's is a **Fairtrade** church and all the tea served here is fairly traded.

But the Fairtrade movement has written to ask us to help also the tea pickers who are not

protected by Fairtrade, who face **poverty** and **unsafe** working conditions, and to remind us that all tea growers face the increasing threats of **climate change**.

They ask us to sign an online **petition** urging our government to support the tea-growing communities (over 13 million people worldwide) who pick the leaves for the drink we so much enjoy, by introducing a new law on *human rights* and by honouring *climate finance commitments*.

Find out more, and sign the petition, at
www.fairtrade.org.uk/do-it-fair/

MEN'S SOCIAL

A message from Keith:

A few of us male parishioners meet up regularly for a social drink. If you'd like to share a chat, socialising and a drink (*soft or otherwise - buy your own*), then do come and join us next time in the left hand bar at The Fleece – you'll be very welcome!

Watch out for the date of our next meet up, or get in touch 830306

Living traditions

thoughts from Tom Simkiss

Last month, Addingham held its annual gala, as it has done for at least the last 65 years. It's just one of the many treasured traditions that make living in a village like Addingham so rewarding and meaningful. The gala is most definitely a 'living' tradition. But not all traditions are created equal, and sometimes they can feel 'dead' and empty of meaning.

I recently came across a wonderful quote, attributed variously to Thomas More and Gustav Mahler: '**Tradition is not the worship of ashes, but the preservation of fire.**' That sums it up perfectly. The point of having traditions is not to preserve the past in aspic, but to **bring the past into the present**, and to ensure that the present can in turn be taken **forward into the future**. It's about keeping something **alive**. And, counter-intuitively, that means traditions are as much about change as they are about continuity. In order **to keep a tradition alive**, each generation must nurture it by **adding something of themselves** to it, in a way that is respectful and affectionate to what has come before.

Here at St Peter's, we have been discussing our treasured traditions and the ways in which we can ensure that they remain **'living' for generations to come**. Christians have a message of hope that has been **transforming** lives and communities for 2000 years. St Peter's itself has been a continuous site of Christian worship since 867 AD. Although the building, liturgies and music have **changed many times** over the years, our **core 'living tradition'** of the **gospel** of Jesus Christ, and the open offer to all of an **encounter with God**, remains as alive and well as ever.

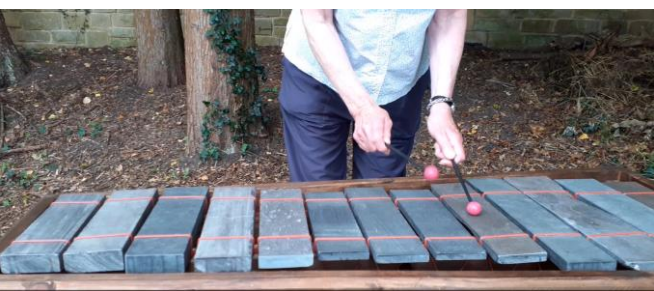


Photo by Tobias Rademacher on Unsplash



Date for your diary! **Saturday 13th September 9.30am**

We are meeting that day to put on our thinking caps and our praying hearts to consider all aspects of **Children and Young People's work at St. Peter's** – what we want to achieve and **how best to achieve it**. Mandy from the Otley Christian Resources Hub will be with us to help us with ideas and suggestions. Please come and **join in this event** – every one of us interacts with the children at some point, they are the future of the church, so **your ideas and inspiration and prayers** are a vital part of how we go forward in this area.



Have you heard the **Lithophone** in the Church Orchard? Find out more at stpetersaddingham.org.uk/life-at-st-peters/st-peters-grounds/church-orchard/orchard-music/

For August, instead of our usual Healing Service we're meeting to share simple **healing prayers** instead – **7pm, Thursday 7th August**, in church – do join us.



image jcomp on Freepik

FOSPA teas : please check the lists in the hall to see when help is still needed, and sign up – be part of the team supporting this important way of introducing people to the family of St. Peter's.

Wulfherans

Our July meeting was our annual afternoon tea - lovely sandwiches and homemade cakes, all washed down by elderberry wine, tea and coffee. Judith Idle and Margaret Widdowson as usual played some beautiful music which was much appreciated by all present.

Our next meeting is on
Tuesday 5th August
Summer Buffet

Please book on list
in the hall



Peace point

Peace cannot be kept by force, it can only be kept by understanding.

Albert Einstein

WATER WISDOM

In time of drought, we can all do our bit to help.
Have you received your **water-saving advice leaflet** through the door from Yorkshire Water and Climate Action Addingham? If not, there's a copy in the hall window,



and you can use this QR code to get **10 top tips** from WWF on **ways to save tap water.**



Contacts

Rector: Revd Mark Cannon 07866 298 892


Parish Office: 01943 830 306


contact@stpetersaddingham.org.uk

Find out more

www.stpetersaddingham.org.uk

 St Peters Church Addingham

For up-to-date details of all services and activities, please look at our website, follow us on  Facebook or pick up a "What's On" leaflet.

Everyone is welcome and you can also join with St. Peter's online; we livestream many of our services to our  Facebook page, so take a look.

You can also follow  **C.a.f.e** – **children and family events** at St. Peter's Addingham

Watch all **St. Peter's monthly Podcasts** via the church website – click **Online**, scroll down to **Podcasts**, then click **Watch on Vimeo**

From the Registers

Funerals at St. Peter's

10th July Bryan Robinson

21st July George Whitham



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

is on holiday in

August

– back again on

SUNDAY 7th SEPTEMBER

I've had a lot of worries in my life, most of which never happened.

Mark Twain

Women's Yorkshire Roses Retreat

(hosted by local Methodist circuit) **5-7th September** at **Ampleforth Abbey** near Helmsley. A weekend of varied spiritual formation activities led by Lisa Frost, a Methodist Spiritual Director. Places limited, book early.

See poster in porch or find out more from Jill Varley 01943 830 891 or email Anne Pitts swpitts@hotmail.com

Make your holidays holy days – start each morning with a prayer.