



this
month
includes...

September
2025

Rector's Journal

Hymn writers
by Robin

Local Heritage
Day

plus

A Chinese Fable

Rob's Run

Fair Trade Focus

Waiting, for you...

Wednesday: I am sitting in a pub in Ilkley catching up with a clergy colleague. We have removed our collars, and have settled down to "discuss" our other colleagues, and assorted parishioners we have known.

His first comment, however, is, "You're walking funny". And he was right, there is something going on leg-wise which may mean I may not ever open the bowling for Yorkshire. From that innocent beginning, we diverted into other aches and pains (up to, but not including Archdeacons etc), and, more fascinatingly, how many pills we now took, and what Google said.



Friday: off for a walk on Ilkley Moor – my first visit since 1974. Still with a wobbly right leg, and

again, more discussion with a friend about which bits of us were currently not working.



If this is life at 64, I thought, what about 80?! (assuming one is lucky enough to get there, and what about people who are properly ill, not just us moaning?)

Slowly, **human frailty** is forced upon us. You and I are not in charge of our lives, and we learn that we become weaker and frail. Is this why churches attract an older demographic? We know that we are on a downward slope, but a 25 year old has all she needs, and a life stretching ahead. Why should she find space, in her strength, for God? Well, there are other...

see overleaf



...cont. from p.1

...frailties and weaknesses affecting every age, and **Jesus speaks to one and all**. You might push Him to one side for a time, but **He will wait**, patiently, for us to get back to Him.


Mark

MACMILLAN **BOOK THE DATE!** CANCER SUPPORT Sunday 7th October, 2pm-5pm

Do come (and bring your friends!) to the **MACMILLAN TEA** at St. Peter's to support this great cause - join us for delicious **homemade cakes** at this last **FOSPA** tea of 2025, all proceeds from the day are for **Macmillan**.

A Chinese Fable told recently by Archdeacon Andy Jolley

There was a woman who owned two large clay pots. She would hang each pot on the ends of a pole which she carried across her neck. Each day she would walk from her house to the nearby stream to fetch water. She would fill up both pots, pick up the pole and walk back to her house.



One of the pots had a crack in it while the other pot was perfect and always delivered a full pot of water. At the end of the long walk back to her house, the cracked pot always arrived only half full. Because of the crack, half the water had leaked out during the trek.



For two years, this happened daily. The woman arrived home with only one & a half pots of water. Of course, the perfect pot was proud that it had never lost a drop of precious water. But the poor cracked pot was ashamed of its imperfection, & was miserable. It thought of itself as a complete failure. One day, the cracked pot was so tired of failing that it spoke to the woman. The cracked pot said, "I am ashamed of myself because this crack in my side causes water to leak out all the way back to your house. I have failed you, and I'm sorry. Maybe you should replace me with another pot that isn't cracked." The old woman smiled and said gently, "Did you notice that there are flowers on your side of the path, but not on the other pot's side? I have always known about your flaw, so I planted flower seeds on your side. And every day as I've walked back you've been watering those seeds. For the past two years I've been able to pick the flowers to decorate my table. Without you being just the way you are, there would be no beautiful flowers to grace my home."

Carl Gustaf Boburg (1850-1940) & Stuart Hine (1899-1989)

One afternoon in early summer, as he was crossing meadows in southern Sweden after taking a service, as a local lay preacher, in a neighbouring village, **Carl Boburg** was aware of a **thunderstorm** approaching. It passed over them then the sky cleared with a rainbow and he could hear **birds singing**. Back home Karl was inspired to write his **poem** 'O Great God' (1886); he was well recognised as a **poet and hymn-writer** throughout his life. He also went on to have a notable career in Swedish politics, such that a regional diesel train was named after him.

Some years later **Stuart Hine** came across this poem in Russian while undertaking missionary work in Ukraine. Brought up as a Salvationist, he was a prolific **writer of hymns** for his evangelising work. Once, while approaching a house where local people had gathered, Hine heard their customary loud cries to repent of their sins before being baptised, and waited outside; the experience became the **third verse** of the **hymn** he was creating from Boburg's poem, '**How Great Thou Art**'. Post-war he met a man, newly converted to Christianity, who had become separated from his Christian wife; "we will meet up again in heaven", he declared. Hine took this as the inspiration for his **fourth verse**. Having written the music, the hymn was published in 1949; heavily used in the **Billy Graham evangelical crusades**, it has become one of the **most loved hymns** in the English-speaking world.

You can read for yourself the references to the thunder, birdsong, salvation and the hope of heaven in the words of How Great Thou Art, number 563 in our hymnbook, or sing along with all four verses at this link www.youtube.com/watch?v=4V7jLg-t9Es



Heritage Open Day, Saturday 13th September

For an interesting (free!) local day out, visit the 11th Century Grade 1 listed building of **All Saints' Church, Weston** (near Otley), complete with three decker pulpit and the "Squire's Parlour" of the Dawson family, who are

descendants of the **Vavasours** (*that's a familiar name for us at St. Peter's!*). The church is open from **11 til 5**, with teas at the adjacent Tythe Barn of Weston Hall from 2. (And, **St. Helens Church, Denton** will be open too!)



To celebrate *Fairtrade Fortnight 2025*, watch out for St. Peter's **Fair Trade Focus** after church on Sunday morning 21st Sept – find out what a cup of tea can do!!



Wulfherans

Thanks to members of the committee for our recent *Summer Buffet* which was, as usual, a tasty occasion, much enjoyed by all. (Please note, there is no Wulfherans meeting in September.)

Join us for our
next meeting
Tues 7th October
7.30pm



"I" is the centre of S-I-N

Dwight L. Moody

DATE CHANGE:

the workshop about the future direction of work with children and families at St. Peter's will now be on **Monday 8th September at 7pm** YOU are invited! This topic is central to the life and mission of the church, please do come and share your thoughts.



Please remember to keep the people in our war-torn link diocese of Sudan in your prayers

Peace point

Establishing a culture of peace involves promoting peaceable diversity. Such a culture includes lifeways, patterns of belief, values, behaviour and accompanying institutional arrangements that promote mutual caring as well as equitable sharing of global resources.

Elise Boulding



Good Luck, Rob! Rob Smith is running in the Great North Run to raise funds for the charity **Self Help Africa**. The run is on Sunday 7th September, in Newcastle. The charity supports sustainable livelihoods and healthy lives in countries across Africa; you can find out more about its work at selfhelpafrica.org/uk/ To **sponsor** Rob's run, speak to him or Christine, or donate using this QR code, or at



ajbellgreatnorthrun2025.enthuse.com/pf/robert-smith?utm_source=enthuse&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=f-growth&utm_content=page&utm_campaign=website&utm_medium=email&utm_source=enthuse

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Find out more

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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

Wedding

30th August William Holloway and Tessa Knowles

Messy Church is back!

Dates for 2025 are Sundays, 4pm

14 Sep, 12 Oct, 16 Nov, 14 Dec

Messy Church is for children, for families, for everyone, with food and friendship – come and join in!