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The Minister writes:

How will you remember March 2019? For some people it will be a birth, a marriage or a death. For others it will be redundancy or a new job, an illness or a recovery, a falling out or a reconciliation. Or even the holiday of a lifetime.

The question of Brexit will be foremost in the minds of many people. Will we or won't we leave; will there be another referendum or not; will we leave with a deal or just walk away; what changes will there be or will there be any at all. It is all very uncertain, and as I write in mid-February, nothing is very clear.

Uncertainty is part of life. One of the most difficult things in life is not to know what is coming; what is going to happen. Unpredictability can sometimes be enjoyable but usually it leads to stress. A study reported in 2016 found that most people would rather know for certain that they were going to get an electric shock than not be able to predict it. A team from University College London, invited people into a laboratory to play a computer game. Snakes were hiding under rocks and when someone found a snake they got a painful shock in their hand. A computer model estimated each person's level of uncertainty for each choice made, as over time, they could predict which rocks were likely to hide a snake. Their stress level was also measured by looking at pupil response and also the amount of perspiration produced.

The study found that participants were most stressed when they were more uncertain about the situation than when they were certain about either thing happening. The conclusion was that people feel better about knowing what is coming, even if it is painful, rather than not knowing.



March marks the beginning of Lent, the forty days before Easter in the Christian calendar. It is a season of reflection and preparation before Easter, but it is also a season of CERTAINTY that Jesus died, rose and lives again to give us peace, joy and hope.

By Vicky Wilson, Reader, St Peter's church

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St Peter's Church Services

All services are held at St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road, Stanley, WF3 4HW

Family Communion with

Sunday 10am Sunday Gang for children and regular parade services.

Children's Ark with songs,

Thursday 9:15 am stories, crafts, playtime and

refreshments.

We do not currently have a <u>mid-week communion</u> <u>service</u>. Please contact the church office on 835746 if you would like to request a communion visit at home.

Other Christian Worship

METHODIST CHURCH: Lee Mount Chapel

Sunday: 10:30am service

Minister: Revd Barry Owen

email: barry.owen@methodist.org.uk, tel: 07753 127681

ZION CHRISTIAN CENTRE

466a Aberford Road, Stanley,

www.zionchurch.co.uk, telephone: 01924 872262

Sunday: 10:30am Service

11:00am Sunday School & crèche

Tuesdays: 7:30pm Prayer meeting

Wednesdays: 7:30pm Bible Study, discussions

Minister: David Dixon, telephone: 01924 872262



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DATES FOR MARCH

Tues 5th March Senior Citizens' Lunch club with activities and 10am—2pm a hot meal every Tuesday. See p12 for details. Weds 6th March Coffee Afternoon at Mount Road Chapel; see page 10 for more information 2pm-4pm Weds 6th March Ash Wednesday service at St Peter's to celebrate the beginning of Lent, see page 15. 7.30pm Fri 8th March Film Club—'Johnny English Strikes Again': with Rowan Atkinson. See p14 for a review. 7.30pm Sat 9th March Coffee morning at St Peter's church with lots 10.30am-12.30 of great stalls and refreshments. See page 10. Mon 11th March Lent Group meeting: the first of the weekly 6.30pm Lent meetings, see page 15 for details. Mon 11th March West Riding Watercolour society and art group 7.30pm-9.30pm See page 14 for more information. Moorhouse community action group meeting: **Thurs 14th** March, 6pm see page 10. Wed 20th March PCC Meeting at St Peter's church. 7.30pm Fri 22nd March Wine tasting evening: A great social night! 7pm See page 12 for more information. Sat 23rd March Mount Road chapel Spring Fayre with various 11am-2pm stalls and refreshments. See page 10. Sat 30th March Spring Fair at the church with various stalls 10am—12.30pm and refreshments. Full details on page 9. Sun 31st March Mothering Sunday family and parade service: all welcome, see page 13. 10am Sun 7th April St Peter's Church APCM: find out about the life of the church. See page 17. 12pm

STANLEY LIBRARY

Stanley Library offers a wide selection of books, talking books, selected language tapes, newspapers (including the weekly Wakefield Express), selected magazines (including the monthly Which magazine), and an A4 colour photocopier; please enquire for the cost of using the machine. There are also public access computers, offering free internet access, and basic computer programmes (i.e. word processing). The computers are free to use; users just need to have a current library card.

OPENING HOURS

| Monday | 9.30am—5pm |
|-----------|----------------|
| Tuesday | 9.30am—5pm |
| Wednesday | Closed all day |
| Thursday | 9.30am—7pm |
| Friday | 9.30am—5pm |
| Saturday | 10am—1pm |

Activities for Children: There is a Tiny Tots Storytime for under 5's from 11.30am every Monday throughout the year. Other activities for children are organised in most school holidays—please ask for details.

Crafts and Chat morning: Every Tuesday from 10am-11.30am: bring your knitting, drawing, crochetting or any other activity and enjoy chat and refreshments.

Coffee Morning: There is a coffee morning every Thursday morning, 10am-12 noon. Come and relax with friends over a cuppa.

Code Club: Learn how to make your own computer games and animations at Code Club, every Thursday from 3.30pm—6pm.

Family History: Would you like help researching your family history? An advisor is available in the library every Saturday from 10.30am who can help navigate Ancestry and other useful sites.

Reading Groups: Check with the library for the meeting times and book details of the current reading groups.

Community Centre rooms: The community centre rooms are available to hire from Stanley Nursery.

Stanley Library contact details: Lake Lock Road, Stanley, Wakefield, WF3 4HU, Telephone number: 01924 303130.



Saturday 30th March, St Peter's church, Stanley 10am-12:30pm

Tombola Easter eggs

Toy stall & soft toys **Books**

Greetings cards Cake Stall

Bric-a-brac Bottle tombola

Craft stall Plant stall

Raffle Children's Tombola

....and much, much more!!

Refreshments: Hot Cross Buns, biscuits,

Tea & Coffee

Everybody is welcome!

Remember to change your clocks on Sunday 31st March

Another winter is nearly at an end, and we can soon look forward to lighter evenings! British Summer Time starts at 1am on Sunday 31st March—which happens to be Mothering Sunday this year—so remember to move your clocks forward by one hour.



Mount Road Methodist Chapel news

• The next <u>Coffee Afternoon</u> will be on Wednesday 6th March from 2pm—4pm with cakes, refreshments and other stalls. Everyone welcome.



- The <u>Spring Fayre</u> at the chapel will be held on Saturday 23rd March from 11am—2pm with various stalls, tombola and refreshments.
- Everyone is welcome to the <u>10.30am Family Services every Sunday</u> at Mount Road Methodist chapel.

Knit and Natter, Sew and Chatter!

At St Peter's Church Centre, every Thursday, 2pm-4pm Enjoy a cuppa, company and a 'crafty' afternoon!

Please come and join this established group of ladies as they knit, sew, compare ideas and patterns, learn new crafty skills, and share conversation, refreshments and friendship.

Just turn up: you will be very warmly welcomed

Church coffee morning—a thank you

Thank you to everyone who supported last month's coffee morning at St Peter's church; it was a lovely morning and raised a fantastic £165.20. The next coffee morning will be on Saturday 9th March from 10.30am-12.30pm with all the usual great stalls including refreshments, bacon butties, cakes, raffle, jigsaws and more. Come along for a warm welcome and a very pleasant morning.

Moorhouse Community Action Group

The Moorhouse Community Action Group meets every two months. The next meeting will be on <u>Thursday 14th March</u> at 6pm at St Peter's Church. Come along and share any issues specific to Moorhouse with local councillors and WDH representatives.

The Stanley Community Singers meet every Monday (term-time only) at St Peter's Church, 1pm—2pm, with time afterwards for refreshments and chat. Cost per session = £2.50

Come and join our friendly group of singers!

No previous experience required, just a love of singing!
We sing a variety of different music including pop, musicals, spirituals and modern classics.

Come and make some new friends and enjoy a good sing!

Women's World Day of Prayer

This year, the Women's World Day of Prayer service has been prepared by the women of Slovenia and is entitled 'Come—Everything is Ready!' World Day of Prayer is an annual event which enables us to hear the voices of women from all parts of the world. It is celebrated in over 170 countries from Pacific islands, across Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas.

Slovenia is one of the smallest countries in Europe—roughly the size of Wales—and with a population just under 2 million. After World War 2, Slovenia became part of Yugoslavia, but secured independence in 1991. 82% of the population are Slovene, but it is also home to a large number of Croats, Serbs, Bosnians and also Roma.

There are equal opportunities for women in education and work, with 65% of women in employment—the majority in full time work. As in many other countries, the work/life balance is an issue with many working women also responsible for domestic and childcare duties.

Around 60% of the population identify as Roman Catholic. This year's service reflects the challenges that one of Europe's smallest and youngest countries has faced since achieving independence, and their hopes for the future.

The Wakefield WWDP service will be at 11am on Friday 1st March at Trinity Methodist Church, Norton Road, WF1 4LH.



Wine tasting evening

Friday 22nd March, 7pm 'til late

The popular annual event returns with a 'Guess the Wine' competition, nibbles, and a raffle.

Tickets include a sample of 6 different wines: 3 white and 3 red. Soft drink tasting menu also available.

Tickets from the church office, 835746 or email churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk.

Formal dress optional



St Peter's Senior Citizens'



At St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road Every Tuesday, 10.30am—1.30pm

Arrive around 10.30am and enjoy tea or coffee and a chat, followed by the activity of the day such as games, crafts, films, talks, cookery, reminiscing and quizzes.
 Lunch served from about 12:15pm: a freshly cooked hot meal followed by dessert, for just £5 per person.
 Ideal for anyone wanting a bit of companionship and something to do! It is a very friendly group of around 16 people and new members are always welcome.
 On Tuesday 19th March we will be welcoming local poet and writer Conrad Burdekin to talk to the group and on Tuesday 23rd April there will be a workshop titled 'Feeling Positive; Busting Stress' delivered by the health and wellbeing team from Live Well Wakefield.

Easter Services next month at St Peter's church

Palm Sunday, 14th April, 10.30am

Our Palm Sunday service will be a joint service with Mount Road Methodist chapel. The service will start at 10.30am (note this is later than the usual St Peter's start time) at Mount Road chapel. During the service the congregation will process down the road to St Peter's church for the remain-



der of the service. This is always a lovely family service when we remember Jesus' triumphant arrival into Jerusalem. Please join us!

Maundy Thursday Communion service, 18th April, 7.30pm

Maundy Thursday celebrates the Last Supper that Jesus shared with his apostles. There will be a communion service at St Peter's at 7.30pm on Maundy Thursday.



Good Friday Hour at the Cross service, 19th April, 2pm

On Good Friday there will be an Hour at the Cross service of contemplation and prayer finishing at 3pm, the time at which Jesus died on the cross.

Easter Sunday, 21st April, 10am

Easter is the most joyful day of the year for Christians. Christ has died for our sins. We are forgiven. Christ has risen! We are redeemed! We can look forward to an eternity in his joy! Hallelujah! Celebrate the joy with us on Easter Sunday morning at 10am.



Mothering Sunday—31st March



There is an old Jewish saying: "God could not be everywhere and therefore He made mothers." Mother Church, Mother Earth, and our own mothers have all been celebrated as part of 'Mothering Sunday' in the

UK since at least the 1600's.

In most countries, Mother's Day is a secular festival celebrated on the 2nd Sunday in May. In the UK it is celebrated on the 4th Sunday of Lent, on the Christian day of Mothering Sunday. Join us at St Peter's on 31st March at 10am for our popular Mothering Sunday family parade service. This will be a family friendly non-communion service. Remember to put your clocks forward the night before!!



St Peter's Church

Film Club



Friday evening, 8th March 7:30pm

'Johnny English Strikes Again' (2019)

This is the third instalment of the Johnny English comedy series, with Rowan Atkinson returning as the much loved accidental secret agent. The new adventure begins when a cyber-attack reveals the identity of all active undercover agents in Britain, leaving Johnny English as the secret service's last hope. Called out of retirement, English dives head first into action with the mission to find the mastermind hacker. As a man with few skills and analogue methods, Johnny English must overcome the challenges of modern technology to make this mission a success. The film also stars Emma Thompson as the British Prime Minister and Ben Miller as English's hapless sidekick.

Doors open 7pm, film start 7.30pm

Free admission, tea & coffee; bring your own popcorn!

West Riding Watercolour Society & Art Group

The group meets every month at St Peter's Church for demonstrations by artists, informal painting evenings and to share techniques and knowledge.



Open to everyone; the cost is £3.50 per session including refreshments

Next meeting: Monday 11th March 7.30pm-9.30pm
.....with a painting demonstration
by artist Anita Daniels

For more information telephone 01924 828729

Discover the mystery of God this Lent



The last day before the start of Lent is Shrove Tuesday, or Pancake Day, which falls this year on <u>Tuesday 5th March</u>. It was traditionally a time to use up foods such as eggs, milk and butter before the start of the Lenten fast.

The first day of Lent is Ash Wednesday, and there will be a service at St Peter's on <u>Wednesday 6th March at 7.30pm</u>. As Lent is a season for self-reflection, this service is an opportunity for us ready ourselves to receive afresh the forgiveness and healing that God offers.

During Lent, we will be holding a small group at 6.30pm on Mondays at St Peter's church, to follow a course titled 'The Mystery of God'. The small group will be led by Rev David Teece and will begin on Monday 11th March at 6.30pm and will run for 5 weeks during Lent.



The World Wide Web – 30 years on

The World Wide Web was invented 30 years ago this month, on 12th March 1989, by Tim Berners-Lee while he was working at CERN, the European particle physics laboratory.

His innovation – a global hypertext document system originally described by his superior as "vague but exciting" – was intended to help scientists share data across a then obscure platform called the Internet, but his decision to make the source code freely available meant it took on a life of its own and is now used by almost everyone with a computer. He has never profited directly from his invention, but now spends much of his time trying to protect it from malign influences and is working on Solid, a project designed to provide "true data ownership as well as improved privacy".

As a result of his original invention, Berners-Lee was named one of the 20th century's most important figures by Time magazine, received the prestigious Turing Award for achievements in the computer sciences, and was honoured at the Olympics. He was also knighted by the Queen. Raised as an Anglican, he turned away from religion but then became an active member of the Unitarian Universalist Church, which he describes as tolerant and liberal.

How many friends have you got?

Have you ever stepped back and reviewed the friendships in your life? According to the anthropologist Dr Robin Dunbar of University College London, the maximum number of relationships we can have peaks at about 150, known as Dunbar's Number. He then divides this into: five close friends, 15 good friends, 50 general acquaintances, and the remaining 80 as people we relate to in a friendly fashion.

Our five close friends are the ones to whom we can say anything, who have seen us at our worst, and on whom we can call on anytime, night or day, in a crisis. If you know five such people, you are blessed indeed! Our 15 good friends are the ones we may not see for months, but we can pick up the friendship again at any time, without any effort. Our 50 general acquaintances are the people whose company we also enjoy. We may not make any specific regular efforts to see them, but when we do see them, we are glad.

How does a friendship start? There is a standard formula needed for all of them: some initial 'spark' of empathy, plus proximity to the person, plus time to spend with that person.

How much time does it take to turn an acquaintance into a friend? According to Jeffrey Hall, associate professor of communication studies at the University of Kansas, it takes 50 hours to turn an acquaintance into a casual friend. If that goes well, then at 90 hours you begin to carve out time to see each other on purpose. By 200 hours, you are close friends, see each other often, and support each other emotionally.



Barbie turns 60: This month Barbie celebrates her diamond anniversary. And the fact that she needs no introduction is proof that this plastic doll became an international celebrity many decades ago. Barbie was launched at the International Toy Fair in New York City on 9th March 1959. She was created by Ruth Handler, an American businesswoman,

and manufactured by toy company Mattel Inc. So far, Mattel have sold over a billion Barbies. Barbie did wonders for the toy business, because once you bought a Barbie, you could also buy her all sorts of clothes, and even a boyfriend. Little girls loved her idealised upscale life-style, and Barbie doll collections grew and grew. These days Barbie is a collectable, and the original 1960's dolls are worth hundreds, if not thousands.

What's happening with the vicarage and our new vicar?

You may have noticed that the vicarage has now been sold. The process to appoint a new vicar is still on-going and we have been assured by the diocese that a new house will be purchased in Stanley to house the new vicar once they are appointed. In the meantime, all services and activities at St Peter's are continuing unchanged, led by Rev David Teece and our readers Vicky Wilson, David Greenwood-Haigh, and our fantastic team of PCC members, office staff and volunteers. Please continue to pray for the appointment soon of a vicar to serve our church and community in Stanley.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

More commonly known as an Annual General Meeting (AGM), St Peter's church will hold its APCM on <u>Sunday 7th April at 12pm</u> after the morning service. This meeting will review what has happened over the past year, as well as setting out the church's plans for the year ahead. Members will be elected to the Parochial church council (PCC) and officers elected. If you want to learn more about the church's ministry, where the money comes from and how it's spent, and what the various church officers do, then come along and find out!

Preparing a new electoral roll

Every six years, every church in the Church of England must prepare a brand new electoral roll. This was last done in 2013, and the time has now come around again.

The electoral roll is the official list of the church family, and anyone on the list can vote in the PCC elections. Anyone living in the parish can go on the roll whether or not they go to church; anyone living outside the parish can go on the roll as long as they are regular church-goers. When the new roll is prepared, everyone on the roll must be asked whether they want to remain on the roll and complete a new form.

The new roll must be completed before the church AGM. If you are currently on the roll, you will soon receive a letter asking you to fill out a new form. If you aren't on the roll, but would like to be, please contact the church office on 835746 and ask for a form.

Help a toad to cross the road: This month common toads all over the UK will be on the move, heading back to their breeding ponds. Sadly, many will never make it, and will perish on busy roads. If you like toads, you can join the 'Toads on Roads' project. It keeps a sharp eye out for 'migratory crossings' on certain roads and helps the toads cross safely by coordinating local Toad Patrols to actively help the toads cross the road, and also putting up road warning signs for motorists. Toads on Roads has been running for more than 20 years, and saved thousands of

Give your garden birds a feast!

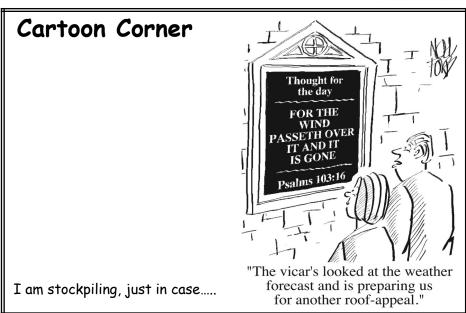
March is a hungry time for birds; here are some things you can put out:

- Seed and grains like nyger, millet, oats, and sunflower seeds
- Unsalted peanuts (cut them up, or the chicks could choke)
- Cooked pasta, rice and boiled potatoes
- Grated cheese, unsalted uncooked bacon rind

toads. To find out more, visit www.froglife.org.

- Raisins and sultanas (be careful! These are poisonous for dogs)
- Suet and fat balls
- Mealworms and waxworms
- Apples, pears and soft fruits, cut into small pieces





Prayers for March

Stone-throwing (John 8:1-11)

A familiar scene ... Crowds of people with strong views, clamouring demanding their way

clamouring, demanding their way, intolerant of others

who made different mistakes, different choices.

A raucous, intimidating, egocentric baying for action.

A familiar scene...

Where is the love?

Where is the compassion?

Where is the concern for the common good? How long Lord, will your teaching be ignored?

How long till the stone-throwing stops? By Daphne Kitching

What a world, what a world

What a world, what a world, whirling and twirling Twisting and turning spinning in space, God with His finger brings order from chaos Mountains and seas all put in place.

Man the peak of all His creation Awakes to a world full of beauty and grace, Walks in the garden with God his creator Fellowship sweet as they meet face to face.

What a world, what a world, whirling and twirling Twisting and turning peace now has gone Ignoring his Lord bringing chaos from order Fellowship broken, man now all alone.

It's His world, not our world
He has come to reclaim it,
Restoring communion foolishly lost,
Our Saviour, Redeemer with undeserved grace
Brings us back to the fold through the work of His cross.
By Megan Carter

Daily Strength

I lift my eyes To the hills. Where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. The Lord will keep you from all harm. He will watch over your life; the Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and for evermore. Psalm 121



Please contact the editor, Eleanor Plant, with items for the next magazine on 01924 835746, or by email: churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk

We were bragging long before Facebook

If you think that showing off our holiday snaps and flaunting other details of our lives is the stuff of Facebook and Instagram, you would be wrong. The craze predates the internet by at least 400 years.

Now the British Library has opened its collection of alba amicorum, or 'friendship books' – in which wealthy people documented their social circle and activities. The pictures may have been pasted in, rather than posted up, but their content is surprisingly the same: details of their parties, their feasts, their social networks, and their foreign travel are all mentioned.

Friendship books became popular in Europe from the mid-16th century onwards. Men and women carried the books around as they went, inviting friends to write messages in them.

Friendship Before Facebook: Social Networks in a Pre-Digital Age. Free display, British Library, until 12th May.

Stanley Rodillians RUFC—new members needed!

Stanley Rodillians RUFC is looking for girls and boys of all ages between 4 and 11 to join the mini/junior section.



It's a great way to keep fit while having fun and making friends at the same time.

For more information please contact Jordan Platt on 07804 470382 or email jordan.platt@yahoo.co.uk.

Or just come along to training every Tuesday at 6.30pm at the club off Lee Moor Road and see what it's all about.

www.stanleyrodilliansrufc.rfu.club

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ADVICE SURGERIES

No appointment necessary — Home visits can be arranged

Stanley Library & Community Centre, Lake Lock Road, Stanley, 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month 6.00 - 7.00pm

Excluding bank holidays

St Peter's Church Centre, Stanley

2nd Saturday of each month 10am - 11am

Bevin Close Community Centre, Outwood

2nd Saturday each month 11.15am - 12.00noon



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- For beginners and improvers

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at Stanley Methodist Church, Mount Road, Stanley

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Vicky Wilson

Margaret Woffendin Lay Pastoral Minister

Church Wardens Jason Plant

David Sunderland

Church Office Eleanor Plant -835746

Church Administrator

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PCC Secretary Val McCarthy Treasurer Chris Partridge

Musical Director Julie West 829098 Electoral Roll **Eleanor Plant** 835746 Prayer Chain Glenda Oakes 820222 Magazine Editor Eleanor Plant 835746

Safeguarding Co-ordinator Katie Teal-West

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Cubs/Scouts (boys & girls) Mark Pringle 07450 953744

firstyorkshire@gmail.com

Rainbows & Brownies Visit www.girlguiding.org.uk

Weddings and Baptisms

For information about weddings and baptisms please contact the Assistant Minister after any church service or by telephone on 01977 730375.

Contact us:

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