

For your Diary – June 2017

11 June	3.30pm	Golden Wedding Service, Ripon Cathedral.
16 June	7.30pm	Middleham Bells project – Travels in Mongolia. Middleham Key Centre.
18 June	3pm	Songs of Praise at St John's, East Witton
21 June	10.30am	Drop in for Coffee and Chat, East Witton Parish Room.
25 June		Middleham Open Gardens
26 June	2pm	St John's Cleaning Session
29 June	2pm	Bridge Collation, East Witton Parish Room
30 June	7pm	Richard III Concert, Middleham
30 June		Plant Fair at Coverham Abbey

Parish of Middleham with Coverdale, East Witton and Thornton Steward - Special dates and events

- 22 July. Wensleydale Chorus in St John's, East Witton. 7.30pm.
26 August. Deanery Presence at The Wensleydale Show
28 August. East Witton Bank Holiday Sale. 2pm.
17th September - National Gardens Scheme Open Day at Coverham Abbey
(Coverdale Churches to do refreshments, in aid of Church Funds).
23 September. Curry Lunch, East Witton Parish Room. 12.30pm.



Become a 'friend' of The Parish of Middleham with
Coverdale, East Witton, and Thornton Steward and visit
our Facebook page at
www.facebook.com/Jervaulx.Churches/



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From the Rectory

'How much money is enough?' This was the question a reporter put to American businessman, John D Rockefeller, a billionaire in the early 1900s. His answer, 'just a little bit more.' His answer reflects the sense that most people have that no matter how much we have we're never quite satisfied. I'm sure we have all thought, if I just had the next upgrade of whatever it might be, car, house, computer etc. then I'd be happy. You get it and then, of course, you want the next one up. Or we think if I can just reach a certain bank balance then I'll be alright but of course we don't stop acquiring even when we reach that level. We're never satisfied!

With that in mind it was interesting to hear at the Leyburn Ladies Choir performance at Middleham Chapel the poem, 'Keeping up with the Jones' read. Of course, this was a familiar expression to me but I hadn't realised that there was more to it than an expression and it conveys the sense there are more important things in life than material wealth. It speaks of the importance of thanking God for what we have. As the phrase has it 'contentment isn't having what you want it's wanting what you have.'

We can do the same in Church too. We can look at a Church with more resources than we have and feel envious or feel that we are lacking and think we can't have as good services or serve God as well as they can because we haven't got adequate resources.

In June Christians celebrate the Feast of Pentecost where we remember the Holy Spirit being poured out upon all believers, equipping us to serve God in the world. The Holy Spirit is the greatest resource that we can have. It might be nice to be able to have multi-media presentations, modern facilities, youth workers, children's workers but that doesn't mean we're not able to serve God when we don't have these things. The Holy Spirit is the most important resource that God gives to all his people enabling us to serve him. Let's pray and ask God to fill us afresh with his Spirit and for him to be in our conversations, our actions, our service. When we pray we might not feel any different and the fruit might not be obvious or immediate but when the Holy Spirit is at work there will be fruit.

Shortly after Pentecost is the general election. Let us pray for those who lead our nation in central government and locally. Let us thank God that they are willing to serve their local community and our nation – let's face it we would rather not tackle such complex issues. Also, those that put themselves forward often experience ridicule which it's easy to join in with but let's be thankful for them, let our contribution to the debate be around the discussion of issues rather than attacking personalities, let's engage in hustings and of course, vote.

Whatever colour may govern the country after the election our politicians are human beings able to receive and respond to the Spirit of God, let's pray that our elected representatives will seek God and be led by him.

Revd Jeff Payne.



**Are you thinking about having your baby baptized?
We would love to share your joy at the birth of your baby and to welcome him or her into the Christian community. If you would like to arrange a baptism in any of our churches please contact the Co-Rectors.**

...or if you would like to have a chat about getting married in church, please speak to the Co-Rectors



**St Gregory's Church, Bedale :
The Deep South Gospel Singalong@
SUNDAY 30TH JULY at 7:00pm.**

A gripping, exhilarating, evening devised and presented by Chris Walker & Colin Larn taking you back to the Spiritual Gospel roots of traditional jazz. A musical experience in which EVERYONE can take part. 'Sing the songs' 'Dance the Aisles' 'Clap your Hands' 'FEEL the MUSIC'.

Entrance by Programme @ £8:00

For more information Ian Robinson – 01677422889 revrobbo@bedale.church

EAST WITTON NEWS

The next date for the " **Drop in for Coffee**" is Wednesday June 21st at 10.30 in the Parish Room for an hour. Do call in for coffee and chat – we would love to see you.



The **Church Cleaning Session** is on Monday 26th. Please meet in the church at 2.00 pm. Please come along if you can spare an hour – you will be most welcome

AN INVITATION TO
A SONGS OF PRAISE

To celebrate the completion of the renovation works at
St. John the Evangelist, East Witton on

Sunday 18th June 2017
at 3.00 pm

Followed by tea and cake.

We would welcome nominations of favourite hymns to be included in the service. The most popular hymns nominated will be selected.

Please leave your name and nomination(s) with
Mary Fawbert or Karen Newsam.

MIDDLEHAM NEWS



MIDDLEHAM OPEN GARDENS SUNDAY 25TH JUNE 11am to 5pm

Garden trails available from Central Stores, The Church & 14 St Alkelda's Road.
£4 adults, accompanying children free.

Teas, coffees, sandwiches, cake etc available in church from 12 noon.
FREE PARKING



MIDDLEHAM BELLS
RESTORATION

**Patrons: Eileen Harrison-Topham, Richard Craven-Smith-Milnes
and Rodney Tennant**

**Dedicated to the Memory of John Sarginson, Thomas Sarginson
and Harold Collinson**, Middleham ringers devoted to their bells who gave
their lives in the Great War
middleham.bells@outlook.com

7.30 pm Friday 16th June

Middleham Key Centre

An enthralling evening with Mike Warden

Mongolian Horse Expeditions in The Siberian Mountains with the Nomadic Herders

Mike will give a slide show and talk about his horseback expeditions with nomadic herders in remotest Mongolia following the fall of the Soviet Union. There will be light refreshments.

Tickets £7.50 from Central Stores or Key Centre, or from James Lundie, Simon Burren or Jonathan Couchman (07770 302653).

Food Bank

We continue to support the Richmond Food Bank: If you would like to donate, please put any of the following items in the collection box at the back of church: Cereal/porridge, UHT milk, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, squash, packet noodles, tinned meals (chilli, stew), tins - vegetables, meat, fish, or fruit, pie in a tin, tinned pasta, packet pasta and sauce, tinned beans, packet noodles, jars of sandwich fillings, jars of jam, rice pudding Thank you.

MIDDLEHAM CELEBRATES RICHARD III

Friday 30th June 7pm St Mary St Alkelda's Church

TROUVERE – A concert of Medieval Music and Song followed by the Lighting of the Beacon at Middleham Castle. £15 per person.

Saturday 1st July, 7pm : Middleham Key Centre

AN EVENING OF TALKS - Bob Woosnam-Savage, Dominic Smee, Caroline Wilkinson £20 per person including refreshments

Sunday 2nd July 3pm : Middleham Key Centre

AN AFTERNOON OF TALKS Philippa Langley, John Ashdown-Hill, David Johnson £20* per person including refreshments

Purchase tickets for both talks for a discounted cost of £35

*Discounted to £17.50 for Senior Citizens for 1 event, £30 for both

Tickets and further information available from Middleham Key Centre 01969 624411.

Special events around the Castle. Demowbrays Retinue; Ajicorum Re Enactment; Trouvere; Medieval Minstrels; Christina & Dominic Smee; Market Stalls. Normal admission at the castle will apply.



From time to time we shall be including articles written many years ago for early issues of Bridge. The following is the first in this series:

The Landscape of our Parish

Our Parish is a microcosm of the geography and geology of the wider Yorkshire Dales and it is our good fortune to live in an area of such beauty and diversity, drained by the River Ure and its major tributary, the Cover.

The geological base of carboniferous limestone, sandstone and shale is evident on the sides of Coverdale and the terraces, formed of the harder limestone and sandstone, are particularly outstanding on the slopes below Flamstone Pin and on the north side of East Witton Fell. The remnants of the former covering of millstone grit occur on the summits of Penhill, Witton Fell and Little Whernside. This impervious rock supports the heather moorland and peat bogs above 1000 feet and innumerable springs occur at the junction of the impervious grit or shale and the pervious limestone.

The last Ice Age, which ended only about 10,000 years ago, had a major impact on our landscape. Coverdale was widened and deepened and the levels of the glacial lake can be traced by the 'strand lines' on the sides of the valley. The lakes overflowed to cut the gorges of Deep Gill and Cover Scar through the limestone and the 'overflow' channels across Penhill, below Flamstone Pin and in the Sowden Beck valley. Lateral moraines diverted the pre-glacial River Ure at Spennithorne and on Cover Banks east of Middleham. A stadial moraine at Brough Farm, east of Middleham, held back a shallow lake below Middleham and many drumlins (low rounded hills) occur between Jervaulx Park and Ellington.

In 'recent' years, the rivers have deposited much silt, especially on the broad flood plain between Middleham Bridge and Jervaulx. The Ure meanders across this area leaving 'ox-bow' lakes and former river cliffs near Ulshaw Bridge and west of Jervaulx. Flooding is frequent and the River Cover erodes very rapidly between Cover Bridge and its confluence with the Ure.

The contrasts between the Highland parts of the Parish at 1500 feet above sea level and the Lowlands at 300 feet are a result of the geological history over millions of years. They are a source of wonder to those who care to look and contemplate God's creation.

Ken Stott