

PARISH NEWSLETTER

September 2026

**for the villages of Aldwark, Alne, Flawith,
Tholthorpe, Tollerton and Youlton**

The Anglican minister for the villages in the Parish of Alne is Revd. Lucy Brencher. Revd. Lucy can be contacted by telephone on 07940 514492 or by e-mail at revlucybrencher@gmail.com.



Memories of my rural childhood church

I remember massive tubes of fruit jellies dished out to those of us in the choir at Christmas; I once sang a solo, with a nervous wobbly voice, and a lady thanking me because she said I had helped her feel closer to God. I still remember the lyrics: 'a new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another as I have loved you'.

I recall the fun we had at our midweek children's groups: Scramblers, Explorers and Pathfinders. We would learn wonderful truths about God who is Love and how we belonged to something bigger than ourselves. We used to play lots of fun games and always finished off with juice and a biscuit!

On Sundays I can think of watching our vicar playing the guitar and then up at the altar with bread and wine, his face creased with so much smiling and sometimes wearing a funny floaty white surplice. I remember a picture book explaining the communion part of the service and although I did not always fully understand, I knew that grace and God's kindness covered everything and that was enough to make it special.

I used to love our confirmation classes at the Rectory, when as older teenagers we would think deeply on things that really mattered – like our eternal value to God, why Jesus died on a cross and God's vision for justice in the world and our part in making that visible on earth as in heaven.

Christmas was of course a magical time going to church on dark winter nights, crunchy snow underfoot, carol singing and seeing the beautiful stained glass shining out colours.

This isn't about nostalgia or looking backwards because God is creative and interested in new life afresh for all generations

My dreams for our rural churches today

I long for the sound of children's laughter in our churches; for their wondering voices to be heard; for action songs and fun activities as part of our worship; for immersive stories from the Bible setting out a firm foundation on which to build our lives as we love God, our neighbours and ourselves. I'd love for families to build community together; new, fresh faces in our ancient and modern buildings. I long for the freedom to be childlike for children and adults alike, as we explore God's goodness towards us and grow in trusting Jesus.

So, how about you come and help us shape family church in our villages together. Check out Little Angels Toddler group, Youth Drop in Cafe, All Age worship and God zone children's group at St Michael's or our new Afternoon Family Service at St Mary's and new Bubble Church at Linton Village Hall.

Blessings,
Rev Lucy

Alne Singers

Free Open Evening



Thursday 10th September at 7.30 pm
Alne Village Hall

Join us for a FREE informal session as we begin our Autumn term rehearsals. No previous singing experience necessary and you don't need to be able to read music.

For more information contact Helen Dawson
838582/cellohelen@gmail.com

News from Alne Church

Church Services

We have an exciting addition to our routine Church Services in September: on **6th September** we have a family service planned for **3.00p.m.** lasting about 45 minutes and will include activities and songs for children, with refreshments afterwards. This service will take place on **the first Sunday of each month at St Mary's**. We look forward to welcoming you and your family along for a short service and a happy time.

In addition, we have our regular Communion service on the **second Sunday (13th September) at 10.30a.m.** and our restful, reflective "Celtic" service on **the fourth Sunday (27th September) at 3.00p.m.**

Church Yard

In recent times, two more headstones have been deemed to be in danger of toppling and have been laid flat.

Firstly, the headstone for John Arthur Holmes and his wife Mary; they were interred in 2002 and 2003. This headstone is just to the north of the Church Tower.

Secondly, the headstone for Thomas Pollard (died 1915) which is to the western edge of the churchyard.

If families are willing and able to have the headstones properly resecured, that will be the best outcome. Failing any contact from a family willing to take this action, we will respectfully move fallen headstones to the edge of the church yard and place them safely. This notice will also be placed on the church notice board.

Please continue to take care in and around headstones in the churchyard.

Afternoon Family Service, 3pm 6th September 2026 arrive from 2.50pm

Treasure Hunt - Bible Story - Cake -
Indoor and Outdoor Activities

Come and help us retell a story of a
young child who gave Jesus his
packed lunch

As we start a new term bring your
school bag / work bag for a blessing
prayer



Quiz Night

We are holding a quiz night on **Friday, 25th September!!** The whole parish event will be held in **Alne Village Hall** and is planned to start at **7.00p.m.**

The event is the first of a series of events that we wish to hold to raise funds for Restoration work in St Mary's Church. The latest example of the church upkeep for our beautiful 900 year old church is a stained glass window survey which took place at the end of August. The survey is expected to highlight some necessary restorative work. We shall work hard to access grants to cover as much of the cost as possible, but grants will never cover the whole cost.

We are looking to continue to get support from the whole community to support the upkeep of our amazing village centre piece.

SO PLEASE FORM A TEAM, if you can! We are hoping that we can engender some very friendly competition across the village(s!); that could be a team within an established village group, such as the WI, or maybe micro communities living in the different roads in Alne or the wider parish. We can also make teams on the night, so come along come what may! The more will be the merrier ... and details will follow via social media or another leaflet drop, but please join us if you can.

The bar will be open, (thanks to the Village Hall). Nibbles to keep the grey matter fed will be included in the £5 price of the ticket. We are looking forward to a fun evening ... please support and encourage others to join your team (initial maximum team size 4-5 people!). There will be a prize or two, too!

Also, donations for raffle prizes will be hugely appreciated (ainstmarys@gmail.com).

COMMUNITY QUIZ NIGHT

IN AID OF

ST MARY'S CHURCH
RESTORATION

— AT ALNE VILLAGE HALL —



FRIDAY

25 SEPTEMBER



7PM



BAR

WILL BE OPEN



'NIBBLES'

INCLUDED

£5

PER PERSON

TEAMS ENCOURAGED.



WE ARE AIMING AT TEAMS OF 4-5 PEOPLE ...

PLEASE COME ALONG ANYWAY,
WE CAN MAKE UP TEAMS ON THE NIGHT!



To book or for more information contact

ajnstmarys@gmail.com



07795174517

Ongoing Projects

Following Diocese approval to update the Church Porch to improve access, we continue to seek quotes to carry out this work with as much grant funding as we can achieve. We will share the plans more widely when we have more details.

We remain truly grateful to the many who contribute routinely to the upkeep and maintenance of St Mary's, thank you.

Donations can be made securely via Sum Up using the following QR code:



[Please consider selecting the 'monthly' contribution tab]

Alternatively, the church's bank details are below:

Alne Parochial Church Council

Sort code: 20-98-98

Account: 53543080

If you make a donation and are a taxpayer, please email our treasurer Ian, so that we are able to claim an extra 25% on your donation through gift aid:

ian.scott64@gmail.com

Alne Street Fayre 2026 - Best Day Ever!

Over 160 individuals helped out in some manner to make sure that our Annual Street Fayre was the most successful ever. To get that amount of community engagement is a massive achievement in itself and the Street Fayre Committee wants to record its thanks to each and every one of you who took part.



With the help of a beautiful sunny day, attendance was the highest for many years, the enjoyment of attendees was manifest, the scale and breadth of fun activities was the largest ever and the Entertainment Programme literally had people dancing in the aisles!

Whilst our communal efforts are aimed to deliver a great event, its ultimate purpose is to ensure that we raise enough money to support Recreational Activities within the Village as a whole.

This year we managed to secure a record-breaking sum in excess of £16,000. This was helped by the new Grand Raffle which raised nearly £3,000 - far exceeding expectations. Look forward to more great prizes next year!



Raising such a large amount gives our charity security for another year but also means that we can continue our improvement programme at the Recreation Ground. Regular maintenance costs continue to increase and of course equipment, particularly in the Children's Play Area needs to be replaced or repaired if safety concerns are to remain paramount. The cost of insurance alone is around £1,500.

The Alne Street Fayre aims to support the health and wellbeing of its residents and to make Alne a place that is a joy to live in. Diary **Sunday 13th June 2027** for another great day out!

Alne WI: July Report - The Stamford Bridge Tapestry



Our July WI meeting was another enjoyable, entertaining and informative event as we welcomed two speakers from the Stamford Bridge Tapestry Project to Alne Village Hall. They shared the



fascinating story behind the remarkable Stamford Bridge Tapestry, which commemorates the Battle of Stamford Bridge on 25 September 1066, when the Saxons decisively defeated the Vikings, bringing an end to the Viking Age in England.

2016 was the 950th anniversary of the battles of Fulford, Stamford Bridge and Hastings. Stitchers in Fulford have already created the Fulford Tapestry; the Stamford Bridge Tapestry completes the story of these three crucial battles of 1066.

Like the famous Bayeux Tapestry, it is actually an embroidery rather than a true tapestry, being stitched in wool onto linen. It was designed in the distinctive style of the Bayeux Tapestry by Chris Rock, co-founder of the Battle of Stamford Bridge Heritage Society.

The embroidery was created by a dedicated team of volunteers under the direction of Shirley Smith, a professional textile artist and former Minster Broderer. Their ambition was to create a national heirloom for Britain, comparable to the Bayeux Tapestry's significance for France. Work began in September 2015, and after nearly six years, the final stitches were completed on 21 June 2021.

It was a truly fascinating presentation, and the craftsmanship on display is simply outstanding. The completed tapestry can be viewed in its entirety at The Old Station, 24 Church Road, Stamford Bridge, York YO41 1DG.

If you would like to find out more, visit <https://stamfordbridgetapestry.org.uk/>. It is certainly well worth a visit.

Alne WI August 2026 Report

We enjoyed a fascinating talk at our August monthly WI get together about the history of the wedding dress, given to us by Kevin Thornhill. Kevin has amassed over 400 gowns over 4 decades and helped raise more than £700,000 for charity with exhibitions and fashion shows. He had a wealth of information to impart and brought with him some beautiful wedding dresses, some of which were replicas of Royal gowns, which he made himself. He was one of the people who actually worked on Princess Diana's gown and had some amusing anecdotes about that.



Due to Kevin's close relationship with Royal dress maker Sir Norman Hartnell, he even has the original toile of Princess Anne's wedding dress, which she tried on before the final dress. He has more stories to tell and we will be seeing him back at Alne WI in the future for the next instalment.

Our September WI meeting is on **9th September - Alne Village Hall** starting at

7.30p.m. and it sounds like it will be a food extravaganza, with the title of Food of the Century. Guests, as always are very welcome with guest entry £4. Come and join in the fun and meet and greet our members, many of whom you might already know and have a catch up.



ALNE LITTER PICKING GROUP – ALPG

ALPG have been awarded a
North Yorkshire Council Grant from the Inspire Fund
The Grant will enable local people to come together
to support NYC in keeping our area “Litter Free”

If you wish to find out more about becoming a
Registered Litter Picker

Please join us in Alne Village Hall on

Friday 11th Sept at 10.00am

First Litter Pick is Next Day Saturday 12th Sept 10.00am.

So if you can't make the 11th just come along on Saturday

Complimentary Refreshments

For more info contact Andy Kitchman
abkitchman@btinternet.com - M: 07971178 605

Or Alne Community Facebook Page



OLD RED EYES

SOLO TRIBUTE TO PAUL HEATON

**FEATURING THE
LEAD SINGER OF
THE SOUTH MARTINS
DELIVERING THE HITS
AND BITS OF
THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTH
& THE HOUSE MARTINS**

ALNE VILLAGE HALL

YO61 1RT

Saturday October 3rd

Doors open 7.30pm for 8.00pm

Tickets £10 & £1 booking fee, available at

<https://wegottickets.com/f/20513>

Tholthorpe Community Choir - Come and Sing with Us!

The brand-new **Tholthorpe Community Choir** is up and singing, The first meeting, which took place on 3rd August, was a joy to attend. Our leader, Carrie, split us into groups and had us singing rounds of some very well-known songs. We had a short break when homemade cakes, tea and coffee were served and every left with a smile on their face. The feeling of a community coming together was palpable.

The choir is not limited to residents of Tholthorpe! Everyone is warmly invited to our next session at **3.00pm on Sunday 4th October** at **Tholthorpe Chapel**. (Under 18? Please bring an adult along with you!)

One of the songs we sang was Harry Styles' "**Treat People with Kindness**" and it was suggested that we adopt this song as our signature song:

"Maybe, we can find a place to feel good
And we can treat people with kindness
Find a place to feel good.....
And if we're here long enough
They'll sing a song for us (Ah-ah-ah-ah)
And we'll belong..."

If you want to feel good and be treated with kindness please come and join us. You don't have to be able to sing, and you'll be made to feel very welcome and that **you** belong.

When: **Sunday 4th October at 3.00p.m.**
Where: **Tholthorpe Chapel**
Cost: **Free**

For more information, please e-mail sharon@yourofficeangels.co.uk.

EASINGWOLD DISTRICT COMMUNITY CARE ASSOCIATION

WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU TODAY?

FOODBANK & FOODSHARE

For those in need.
Available 24/7 call
message line
0772 44 44 750.

MINIBUS

There are regular trips to
various destinations.

CARERS SITTING SERVICE

A service for those caring for a
friend or relative.

BEFRIENDING SCHEME

For those who would like
someone to chat with.

COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME

For those who have
difficulty with public
transport.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Two course hot meal
delivered to your
door. Mon-Fri.

HUB CLUB

Tuesdays & Fridays,
for people living with
Dementia.

SHOPPING

You supply the list and we
do the rest.

CHARITY BOUTIQUE

71 Long Street
Open 4 ½ days a week.
Telephone
01347 820078.

MEN IN SHEDS

Social group for men.

COLLECTING PRESCRIPTIONS

We collect & deliver on
Tuesday & Thursdays.

MONTHLY CITIZENS ADVICE

Minibus in the Market Place and
Advisor at the office.
Call for details.

TEA & TARTS

Monthly get together with
cake!!

WEEKLY CROSSWORD CLUB

WHEELCHAIR HIRE

KNIT & NATTER CLUB

For more information on any of the above
services please contact us on **01347 822875**
email: info@edcca.org.uk or visit edcca.org.uk
Car Scheme & Mini Bus **01347 822598**

Office Open
Mon, Tue, Thur, Fri
9.30 - 12.30pm



We are proud to be in Social Partnership with the Easingwold Advertiser

Tollerton War Memorial Institute (Village Hall) Information

The Tollerton War Memorial Institute Village Hall Committee would like to thank all those who made a great effort and entered the “Build Your Favourite Book Character” & the Children’s “Write a Short Story” Competition on Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th August 2026.

All the entries were brilliant and very imaginative. Thanks to everyone who took the time to support the event, guessing the book titles and voting for their favourites. There were some great prizes donated by Toppers book store. Best Overall entry was “The Stick Man”, Best Child entry was “The Rainbow Fish” & Best Use of Recycled Materials was “The Stick Man”.

There was also a prize for the “Most Correctly Identified Characters”. The winner of the “Short Story Competition” was Belle Dowson. Well done Belle.

Thanks to all those who attended “Tea & Cakes” at the Hall, bought raffle tickets and books on the Sunday. It was a great event, enjoyed by everyone who participated.

We hope many more residents will enter next year. The Committee is very grateful for all the support received to help raise funds for the Hall.

Up and coming events

Friday 11th September 2026 – “The Battle of Myton”

A talk by Dr Rachael Whitbread **at 7.00p.m.** A walk on **Saturday 12th September**, at the Battle Site included. Tickets £10.

Saturday 26th September 2026 – “Cool Notes Big Band”

Live music event with a York Based Jazz Band. An evening of swinging classics and modern arrangements. Licenced Bar event. Tickets £10.

October 2026 Quiz & Supper with Licenced Bar

Date & cost to be confirmed.

Friday 23rd October 2026 – “Snake Davis & the Snake Davis Band”

Snake Davis & the Snake Davis Band return again by popular demand.
Licenced Bar event. Tickets: £24.

Tickets for the above events please contact:

tollertonvillagehall75@gmail.com

Tombola Prizes

We are looking for Tombola prizes for the Christmas Event on **Saturday 5th December 2026**. Please e-mail tollertonvillagehall75@gmail.com

Planning an Event?

The Village Hall is a great place to hold a party/event to celebrate important occasions. There is full use of kitchen facilities, hall equipment & an outdoor space at the rear of the Hall. We offer very competitive prices. Please e-mail tollertonvillagehall75@gmail.com, you will not regret it!

Tollerton Coffee Club

Tollerton Coffee Club meets weekly on **Wednesdays at 10.30a.m. to 12.00 noon** at St. Michael's Church Hall, Tollerton.

Join us for coffee/tea and biscuits.

All Welcome.

Rotary Invitation Evening in the Maypole Room Poppleton

You are warmly invited to a Rotary Invitation Evening in the Maypole Room at **Poppleton Community Centre** on **Wednesday, 7th October at 7.00p.m.**

This informal evening is for anyone interested in volunteering, supporting local community projects, building friendships, or finding out how Rotary connects local action with international service.

Rotary is a global network of “people of action” who use their time, skills and experience to make a practical difference in their communities and around the world.

Through the Rotary Club of York Ainsty, members support project-based work across the Ainsty area of York while also contributing to wider Rotary priorities such as promoting peace, fighting disease, supporting education, protecting the environment, providing clean water and helping communities thrive.

At the invitation evening, we will share what Rotary does, how York Ainsty Rotary contributes locally and internationally, and how you could get involved in a way that fits your interests and availability.

Whether you are curious about hands-on local projects, international service, fellowship, or simply meeting people who want to make a positive difference, we would be very pleased to welcome you.

Please come along on **Wednesday, 7th October at 7.00p.m.**, hear more about Rotary, and see whether it could be a good fit for you.

If the date is not convenient but you would still like to know more, please visit [Rotary York Ainsty](https://www.rotary.org.uk/club/york-ainsty) or e-mail us at rcyorkainsty@gmail.com.

We hope you will join us and look forward to meeting you.

David Robinson, President of the Rotary Club of York Ainsty
Maidens Folly, Youlton York YO61 1QL

07856 645399

ANGLICAN SERVICES

September 2026

Venue	6 th Sep	13 th Sep	20 th Sep	27 th Sep
Aldwark		At Alne		At Alne
Alne	3.00p.m. Family Service	10.30a.m. All Age Holy Communion		3.00p.m. Celtic Service
Tollerton	10.30a.m. Morning Worship	10.30a.m. All Age	10.30a.m. Holy Communion	10.30a.m. Morning Worship 6.00p.m. Sunday at 6

METHODIST SERVICES

Minister: Rev Alex Middleton-Laing

Telephone: 07414 945299 e-mail:

alex.laing@methodist.org.uk



You can often find Alex in the Curious Table, Market Place Easingwold, between 9.00 and 10.00a.m. on Thursday mornings.

Villages Together Methodist Services September 2026		
Date	Led by	Location
Sun 6th Sept	Local members	Huby Chapel
Sun 13th Sept	Rev Alex Middleton-Laing	Alne Hall
Sun 20th Sept	Rev Alex Middleton-Laing	Huby Chapel – Café Service
Sun 27th Sept	Rev John Hayward	Tholthorpe Chapel – Harvest Service

Contact Details:

The Anglican minister for the villages in the Parish of Aine is Revd. Lucy Brencher. Revd. Lucy can be contacted by telephone on 07940 514 492 or by e-mail at revlucybrencher@gmail.com

Church Wardens/ Co-ordinators

St Mary's Aine

Jan and Andrew Naismith e-mail ajnstmarys@gmail.com

St. Stephen's Aldwark

Vivienne Bird e-mail viviennebird@hotmail.co.uk

St. Michael's Tollerton

Richard Swan 07923 905186 e-mail richardwswan@btinternet.com

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e-mail: news@abchurches.org.uk