

F

O

C

U

S

St John's and St Luke's Together

St John's Church



August

2022

50 pence

St Luke's Church



Contents

Letter from Emma	3	
Summer Coffee Morning	5	
Oral Bible Translation Begins	6	
Woodfield Millennium Green	7	
Junior Warrior Event	8	
Question Corner	9	
Coffee Morning for our Library	10	
Bilton & Woodfield Community Day	11	
Safe House in Tanzania	11	
Eco Church	12	
In these Straited Times	12	
Choir Notes	13	
Our Magazine, <i>Your Magazine</i>	13	
People	14	
August's Calendar	16	
Looking Ahead	17	
Our Various Cafés	18	
Joint Services	New Office Hours	18
Who's Who	19	

The Editors of Focus magazine take every reasonable care to avoid errors in the advertisements and articles contained in this magazine. However, the inclusion of an article or advertisement in Focus does not imply either endorsement of or liability for the opinions expressed or of goods or services advertised, whether by the Editor, St John's and St Luke's PCC or St John's and St Luke's churches. The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the editor or the Clergy and whilst every care is taken not to change the original meaning, the editor and Clergy reserve the right to cut or alter articles submitted, as they deem necessary.

LETTER FROM EMMA

Why do you like working with young people?

This is a question I hear a lot in my role as the young people's worker at St John's and St Luke's. And we've all heard the quote, 'Never work with children or animals' that was coined by the American actor and comedian W C Fields. So when I was asked to write something for the magazine this month, I thought I would share with you all the reasons that I LOVE working with teenagers!



I am aware that teenagers have the potential to make adults anxious.

They just do! Spot a group of teenagers on the street and most adults get suspicious; seeing one skateboarding with a large number of piercings and blue hair, people can even become fearful. Adult anxiety of young people is ancient, even biblical. As Mark Yaconelli points out in his book, *Contemplative Youth Ministry*, the only scene we're given from Jesus' adolescence is when the young Messiah sneaks away from his family and hides out in Jerusalem! When his mother finds him in the temple she asks Jesus why he has treated them like this and tells him they have been searching for him with 'great anxiety'. So it turns out that even the teenage Prince of Peace can make adults worry!



There are many reasons why adults get anxious around teens. Young people fiddle with things and won't sit still; they laugh at things we don't find remotely funny; they dare to ask questions that we've never thought of like "*Why do we have to go to church when Jesus never did?*" They are unpredictable, conforming one day, and then swimming against the tide another; They can disarm you with a throw away comment: '*D'you know that colour doesn't suit you*'; they are full of energy and can make us feel tired; they are fiercely independent one minute and yet show a child-like dependency the next; we've never heard of the bands they talk about and even their language is sometimes different to ours. Who knew the words, '*Emma, you're the goat!*' were a compliment?!

And no, just because I'm a youth worker doesn't mean all these thoughts go away! I think youth make most youth leaders worry too!



But, being with young people also makes your heart sing in a way that being with adults doesn't: they have an honesty and authenticity that is often hard to find in adults; they are playful and being around them makes you feel like a child again; they can burn with passion for something that they are interested in and will remain committed to it despite every setback possible; they will ask the questions that

nobody else would dare to ask and that help you to see possibilities and directions that you never thought of before; they can be open to sharing their lives with you because they haven't yet learnt to hide things, and their conversations can energise you just by listening to them.

So yes, teenagers can be difficult, unpredictable and messy! But I firmly believe that we can learn from them in all sorts of contexts, just as we expect them to learn from us. The recent 'Youth Takeover Service' at St John's proved that. There are also instances in the bible when God used teenagers. Paul chose Timothy, in all likelihood a teenager, to be his apprentice; to be the one who would convey the gospel to others. What was it about Timothy I wonder? We're told he came from a good family but I wonder what else Paul saw in him? Was it some of that passion, that commitment, even that curious mix of independence and dependency that made him someone God could use in a big way?

And let's also not forget that God chose a teenager to be the mother of Jesus! God asked a teenager to bring salvation into the world; the whole future of creation hung on the answer of a teenage girl!

And yet, who else but a teenager would agree to such a plan?

Emma



SUMMER COFFEE MORNING



A beautiful happy day enjoyed by regulars and visitors inside the hall and out in the sunshine.



and we raised a fabulous £800 for the church's work and outreach!

ORAL BIBLE TRANSLATION BEGINS

Our Mission Partner Vikki Wright writes from Arua

History was made on the 4th May 2022 for the Lokoya tribe of South Sudan. None of them know it, yet, except for one young man. Quiet and smart, Ambrose has been serving in Youth With A Mission (YWAM) for six years. The last two weeks of April, Ambrose and his colleague Lokuta Eluzai, worked with Youngshin Kim from South Korea who leads the Oral



Bible Translation (OBT) movement in YWAM. For the first time ever, the team recorded a passage of Scripture in Lokoya language, Ambrose's mother tongue.

Ambrose told the story from Mark 1:29-34 in which Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law, and then heals many others from the village and casts out demons. It took three days to get the wording of those 5 verses internalized to the point where Ambrose could tell the story naturally and accurately. Finally, surrounded by couch cushions to block the noise, they successfully recorded the story.

A few days later, Ambrose and Lokuta traveled to where the Lokoya people live in Magwi county where they will serve as missionaries for the next two years, planting churches, discipling believers, and recording more of God's word into the mother tongue. They will play the recordings for the community check and verification process, and work with international language consultants each step of the way.

I (Vikki) was there in Juba for the beginning of this history-making process, walking through the repetition of those 5 verses with the rest of the group who had gathered to learn about Oral Bible Translation. I gained a much deeper respect for the patience and perseverance of these translators who handle the Word of God with such care and honor. Oral Bible Translation is not a fast and sloppy process, rather a meticulous journey through the culture and background of the Biblical context, and how it can be best articulated in the words of the local language.

One of the things I appreciate the most about this process is the dignity it affords the mother tongue speakers. In Oral Bible Translation, the mother

tongue speakers are the translators; they are the experts with the intuitive knowledge of how the language is supposed to sound. It was touching to see Ambrose stand a little straighter, in the confidence that he has something to offer his people.

It was such an honour to be a part of this moment. It's difficult to explain the awe and gratefulness filling my heart.

As YWAM Arua, our OBT journey is just getting started, but already we're beginning language surveys in the Logani language in the Nuba Mountains of Sudan, in the Ofirika language of South Sudan, and in a "cluster" group of unreached languages in eastern DR Congo. David Afayo, one of our young YWAM leaders, is at the forefront of the OBT movement in our base, is spearheading Bible translation into Uganda Sign Language.

Suddenly it's a whirlwind of Bible translation projects in our YWAM base, and my joy is overflowing.

WOODFIELD MILLENNIUM GREEN



An oasis of peace amidst housing on the corner of Albany Avenue and Cecil Street, to be enjoyed by all. The Green is maintained by volunteers doing various tasks eg grass cutting, weeding the flower and vegetable beds and cutting the hedges. There is an espalier of apple trees, a greengage, plum and cooking apple trees the fruit of which may be picked by anyone walking through The Green as are the vegetables (when they are ready). There

is also a gooseberry bush and redcurrant bushes. This is an area for the people maintained by the people.

There are three Trustees who are actively involved in the maintenance and the volunteers meet on a Sunday afternoon from 1pm to 3pm, but any amount of time that you feel you can give to help will be very much appreciated, such as (if you are not green-fingered) being the Secretary to the Trustees! We have most garden equipment needed, just come along or contact John Hart on 07903247246 or Maggie Atherton on 07443511253 for more information.



JUNIOR WARRIOR EVENT



On a warm Thursday evening in June, 950 young members of Guiding and Scouting from across Yorkshire were invited to attend a special Junior Warrior event at Bramham Park. Bilton was represented by 3rd Harrogate Scouts, 1st Bilton (St John's) Guides, 1st Harrogate North Rangers and 4th Bilton Brownies.

The event was extremely well managed, with the very-enthusiastic starter getting all participants ready for the challenge ahead. They all ran a 3km course and were faced with 12 obstacles along the way. They all went into the woods clean.... and came out head-to-toe in mud then slightly cleaned off by the giant waterslide towards the end. The teamwork shown by them all, making sure that everyone made it over, under and through was an

absolute credit to them all.

Every single one of them finished with the biggest smile on their face and already asking to do it again next year, and I think the photos show just how much fun they had. Even the leaders that ran as support (and maybe losing a shoe or two along the way) have already got the date in their diaries for next year. An amazing experience for all to be able to share in.

QUESTION CORNER

Q. Holy Communion is a service to remember the death of Christ. Don't you think it should always be a quiet and solemn time?

A. No, as it is also a reminder of Jesus's resurrection. So we remember that Jesus died for us, but also that he rose again to give us eternal life with him. That's something to sing about! Of course there are times when

we focus on Jesus dying, so we should be quiet and reflective, perhaps more than we are sometimes. But then we also think of Jesus defeating death for us, so we celebrate and rejoice in that new life, (and personally, I think children add a sparkle as well).

You could try this: When you come forward to receive communion think about Jesus dying for you – that's a time for quiet and prayerful reflection. Then, when you have received communion, think about

Jesus's resurrection and the new life we share (and 'communion' means sharing). You may, or may not, find this helpful.

But there may be times when, for various reasons, people need a quiet service. If so, the 9am service at St John's might suit you better, or the 10.30am on a Wednesday. However, 'quiet' should not mean 'solemn'. Too many people think that Christians should be miserable, *but we have a gospel (good news) to proclaim!*



David

St JOHN'S BILTON COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 13th AUGUST

Entrance £1

10 – 12 noon



- Home-made cakes
- Home preserves
- Hand-made cards
- Plants



- Refreshments included in entry fee – drinks and biscuits
- Large choice of books



- Raffle
- Tombola
- A warm welcome



SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

COMMUNITY DAY AT OUR LIBRARY

Many groups had stands at this event on Saturday 16th August, reflecting the many activities available for us to join in the Bilton area: They included Bilton Conservation Group, who have been repairing paths in the green areas around Tennyson Avenue; Bilton Historical Society who are cataloguing diverse papers, newspaper cuttings, photos etc relating to Bilton; a team from Pine Street allotments, selling some of their produce; representatives from Harrogate Borough Council; HELP (Harrogate Easier Living Project) whose many volunteers tidy gardens, redecorate rooms, provide transport to appointments and much more; Millie Green volunteers (see page 7); Walking Cricket; even Andrew Jones, our MP! And our church Green Team had a stall too, offering leaflets about conservation and recycling, and selling beeswax wraps and other eco-friendly items.



The Dancing for Well-Being group were disappointed (and so were we) that the weather was too hot for them to be able to have their usual very entertaining session.

The day also saw the launch of the Summer Reading Challenge; 26 primary school children joined, and followed the trails enthusiastically as well as enjoying the refreshments.

Our Church Coffee Morning this month will be supporting the library, which has to raise about £9000 a year for running expenses. Do come and give your support, or donate raffle or tombola prizes or cakes. (See facing page)

A SAFE HOUSE IN TANZANIA



Our September Coffee Morning will be raising money for Mugumu Safe House, which provides refuge for young girls seeking escape from violence and mutilation. Look out for more information in Jane's article next month.



St John's Churchyard is looking very attractive, with the 'no-mow' areas full of grasses and colourful wild flowers, and the newly-planted beds also very colourful. The fruit trees are settling-in well too. Congratulations and thanks to the Churchyard Team for their mowing, planting, weeding etc, and to the Green Team as they support and suggest.

Meanwhile the Green Team are planning ways of encouraging us to recycle more - watch for some of their ideas next month.

IN THESE STRAITENED TIMES



Our tradition of supporting Harrogate Homeless Hostel and Resurrected Bites by collecting dry goods at both churches has lapsed

a little since Covid. But their needs are still as great.

There are boxes at both churches for contributions of tins and packets, which will be shared with the two charities. Out-of-date goods will also be accepted by Resurrected Bites.

Please help if you can.



CHOIR NOTES



As I look back over a busy 'choir' year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of St John's choir for their enthusiasm, commitment and willingness to serve our church. During COVID, new adults were recruited and have brought a freshness and exuberance to our rehearsals and services. We welcomed new young choristers this year who

have enjoyed singing at the carol services, and participating in our joint Evensong at Christ Church.

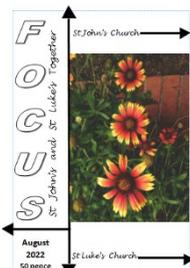
It was encouraging to be joined by five extra singers at our open choir practice on 15th July, some of whom are definitely considering joining us, so we may have even more members in September....

Happy holidays!



Ruth

OUR MAGAZINE, YOUR MAGAZINE



Your editors would be delighted to hear from you with responses, comments, suggestions, articles, pictures. You can use email, phone, text, or even face-to-face chat. (See page 19 for contact details)

Please let us know what we are doing right - or wrong!

PEOPLE



FUNERALS/ MEMORIALS

We extend our sympathy to the families of those who have recently died:

Michael Wilkinson

TEAM VICAR AND MISSION ENABLER

Sadly the interviews for this post did not result in an appointment.

Please continue to pray that we may discern God's will and that the right person will be moved to apply.

HOLIDAYS

The Church Office will be closed
Monday 22nd August - Tuesday 6th September
Phone and email will be checked irregularly
For urgent matters phone one of the clergy - see page 19

SUNDAY 14th August
is Copy Date for
September 2022 Focus

Items for inclusion to:

SJSLFocus@gmail.com

or Editor, 6 Old Trough Way,

HG1 3DE

or leave them in the drawer at the
back of St John's Church

St John's & St Luke's
CHURCH OFFICE OPENING
HOURS

MONDAY to THURSDAY

9.30am to 1.00pm

FRIDAY CLOSED

TELEPHONE 565129 (+ Answerphone)

email -

church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk



Radfield Home Care

Exceptional Care by Exceptional People

Harrogate, Wetherby & North Yorkshire



We are very happy to come out to meet you and your relatives to discuss our services. Please call us at any time for more information about how we can help you.

01423 608 760

www.radfieldhomecare.co.uk

harrogate@radfieldhomecare.co.uk

- Outings & activities
- Household tasks
- Medication support
- Wellbeing
- Dementia care
- Personal care

We are extremely proud to support older people in our community to live independently in their own homes.

Our team is passionate about delivering the highest standard of care and will always go above and beyond to help our clients.



AUGUST'S CALENDAR

Monday 1 st	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Wednesday 3 rd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Saturday 6 th	10.00am-12noon	Satellites Kit Drop Off (Mowbray Community Church)
Sunday 7th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	JOINT All Age Morning Worship (SJ)
Tuesday 9 th	9.00am	Satellites Trip (SJ)
	2-3.30pm	Comfort Café (SJ)
Wednesday 10 th	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
	12.00pm	Thirst Table at Dene Park Community Centre
Saturday 13 th	10am-12noon	Coffee Morning (SJ Hall)
Sunday 14th	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Morning Worship (SL)
	12.30pm	Baptisms (SJ)
Tuesday 15 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Wednesday 13 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 18 th	5.30pm	Wedding Rehearsal (SJ)
	6.30-7.15pm	Evening Surgery in Church (SJ)
Saturday 20 th	1.00pm	Wedding (SJ)
Sunday 21st	9.00am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Morning Worship (SJ)
	10.30am	All Age Morning Worship (SL)
Monday 22 nd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 23 rd	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Wednesday 24 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
	10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ)
	10.30am	Thirst - Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 25 th	4.00pm	Wedding Rehearsal (SJ)
Saturday 27 th	2.00pm	Wedding (SJ)
Sunday 28th	10.30am	JOINT All Age Holy Communion (SJ)
Tuesday 30 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)

Wednesday 31 st	9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
<u>SEPTEMBER</u>		
Thursday 1 st	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Sunday 4th	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am	Holy Communion (SJ) All Age Service (SJ) Holy Communion (SL)
Monday 5 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Tuesday 6 th	9-9.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ)
Wednesday 7 th	9-9.30am 10.30am 10.30am	Morning Prayer (SJ) Holy Communion (SJ) Thirst – Coffee at Dene Park Community Centre
Thursday 8 th	9-9.30am 9.30-11.30am 1-3.00pm 6.30-7.15pm	Morning Prayer (SJ) Little Fishes (Parent/Toddler Group) (SL) Wellbeing Café (SL) Evening Surgery in Church (SJ)
Friday 9 th	6.30-7.15pm 7-7.45pm	Junior Choir Practice (SJ) Adult Choir Practice (SJ)
Saturday 10 th	10am-12noon 2.00pm	Coffee Morning (SJ Hall) Baptism (SJ)

LOOKING AHEAD...

Coffee Morning for Tanzania	10am-12noon	Saturday 10 th September
Welcome Event	4.00pm	Sunday 18 th September (SJ)
Harvest Festival		Sunday 25 th September
Parish Weekend		Friday 30 th Sept-Sunday 2 nd Oct Scargill House)
Coffee Morning for Vision Support	10am-12noon	Saturday 8 th October (SJ Hall)
Confirmation	6.30pm	Sunday 20 th November (SJ)
Safeguarding Sunday		Sunday 20 th November



OUR VARIOUS CAFÉS

WELL-BEING CAFÉ volunteers will be taking a well-earned rest over the summer, and starting again at the beginning of September. Thanks to all of them for the welcome and support, as well as delicious food, that they provide, both at the café and during the week.



COMMUNITY LUNCH (at Bilton Community Centre) is also on holiday this month, allowing the volunteers a well-earned rest. They'll be back on 14th September, offering a delicious three-course meal and good company.

THIRST meets every Wednesday, 10.30am-12noon, at Dene Park Community Centre, and continues right through the summer. It's open to anyone looking for tea or coffee, cake or biscuits, and someone to chat with.



COMFORT CAFÉ will meet as normal on Tuesday 9th August, 2-3.30pm, in St John's Church for anyone who has been bereaved recently - or longer ago. Everyone is welcome! Come and enjoy cakes, scones, tea and the chance to chat with each other and with the Bereavement Support Team.



Thank you to the many volunteers who keep these meeting-and-eating places open for us.

PARISH GIVING SCHEME

GENEROSITY WEEK

**GIVE ONLINE,
BY PHONE OR BY POST**

Every gift made through PGS makes a difference to your parish and local community.

JOINT ALL-AGE SERVICES

10.30am Sunday 7th and 28th August

AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH

No service at St Luke's

NEW OFFICE HOURS

From 1st August the church office will be open Monday-Thursday 9.30am-1pm

Closed on Fridays

ST JOHN'S AND ST LUKE'S TOGETHER WHO'S WHO

Parish Office Phone No: 01423 565129

Parish Office email: church@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

For parish information including services and events
visit Parish Websites: www.stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

www.stlukesharrogate.org.uk

www.facebook.com/groups/stjohnsandstlukes.harrogate

www.facebook.com/stlukesharrogate

www.facebook.com/stjohnsandstlukes - for livestreaming

The Ministry Team

Simon Dowson—Team Rector

Tel 01423 561030

simon.dowson@leeds.anglican.org

Team Vicar

Vacant

Laura Martin—Curate

Tel 07497 865507

laura.martin@leeds.anglican.org

**Emma James—Young People's
Worker**

Tel 07803 586566

YouthWork@stjohnsandstlukes.org.uk

Churchwardens

St John's

Mr Nigel Thompson

janeandnige1962@hotmail.co.uk

Mrs Jane Reichert

janereichert@hotmail.com

St Luke's

Mrs Alethea Fry

Alethea.fry@gmail.com

Editorial Team

Treasurer: *Could you do this job?*

Collation: Katie Burke 569563 and team

Editors: Jean Burton 569907 Liz Hickling

Magazine email: SJSIfocus@gmail.com

**Harrogate Strathspey and Reel Club
Scottish Country Dancing**

Every Monday Night 19.30 - 21.30

The season runs from September to June
Dance Jigs, Reels and Strathspeys with a fun and
friendly group!



Come and join us, no experience needed
It costs £3.50 per session, £39 per half year
or £62 for the full year.

Sandie Fagan 07824 458725 for more information



Bilton & Woodfield
Community Library



YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

You can use computers or find out about local events
and information. We run storytimes for pre-school
children and reading groups for all.

**YOU could become a member of our team of
volunteers**

We are open five days a week:

Monday	1.00pm - 5.00pm
Tuesday	9.30am - 5.00pm
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	9.30am - 5.00pm
Friday	9.30am - 1.00pm
Saturday	9.30am - 1.00pm
Sunday	CLOSED

In the grounds of Woodfield School, Woodfield Road
Telephone: 01423 564630

Email: info@biltonandwoodfield.org.uk
www.biltonandwoodfield.org.uk

**Hubert Swainson
Funeral Services Ltd
Private Chapels**

Distinctive personal arrangements by:
Geoffrey Brewster Dip FD
Tim Canavar

Tel 01425 504571

39 Franklin Road
Harrogate

David Bentley

07917815981

www.dbautorepairs.com

Onsite vehicle servicing and repairs
MOT by arrangement
Diagnostics



St John's Church Hall and St Luke's Church
can be hired for single occasions
or for regular events.

Contact Church Office for more information.
See page 19 for contact details

EXPERIENCED PIANO TEACHER

Jean Clay GTCL LTCL CTABRSM

Welcomes

BEGINNERS TO ADVANCED

Children and Adults

01423 548899

ROOTS
your local
greengrocer
Fruits

30 King Edwards Drive, Harrogate, HG1 4HL.

Telephone: 01423 538445

Opening Times: 7.30am - 5.30pm Monday - Saturday

Supporting the local community