

FOSDYKE MAGAZINE



The Fosdyke Magazine team



(everyone involved in putting it together and posting it through your door)

Wish all our readers



a



Very Merry



Christmas



and a



Happy New Year



for



2018



THE BERIDGE EDUCATIONAL TRUST

The Beridge Educational Trust was set up by The Reverend B Beridge in 1907 to promote education (including religious education in the doctrines of the Church of England) of persons under the age of 25 in the area comprising the parishes of Fosdyke and Algarkirk.

This trust now has three new Trustees and invites applications for small educational related grants from residents within the two parishes stated above.

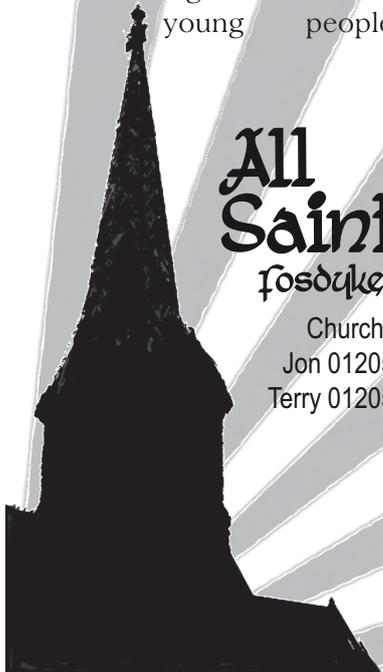
Application forms are available from the Diocesan Trustee. The Vicar of Kirton, Algarkirk and Fosdyke, the Reverend Paul F Blanch at Kirton Vicarage, Penny Gardens, Kirton, PE20 1HN. Tel 01205 624128.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Thanks to one and all for your support. The Christmas fayre raised around £1,000 to enable us to keep our work going for the benefit of one and all – Thank you.

MESSY CHURCH

It sounds disgusting, but it is growing at our sister church in Algarkirk. It's a way for young people to



All Saints Fosdyke

Churchwardens:
Jon 01205 260672
Terry 01205 260408

experience church, and locally. If you would like more information, please ask Fr Paul or one of our churchwardens.

POP-IN LUNCHES

Resume in January 2018. Provisional date booked is Tuesday, 9 January.. Margaret and the Pop-In team would like to thank everyone who has helped by attending the lunches or working with the team to produce them. A great big thank you is due. We run these lunches to promote a sense of community spirit in the local villages and to provide much needed funds to keep our church going for the benefit of the community we serve.

GARDEN OF REST

At this time of year, it is natural to think of our departed loved ones, and to leave tributes at gravesides. Please consider the volunteers who look after the Garden of Rest for us all in their

free time, and dispose of unwanted materials in the bins provided. THANK YOU.

CHURCH CLEANING

We like to keep our church clean, neat and tidy - a fit and proper place for worship. This is no easy task, and we like to thank all those who have cleaned the brasses, maintained our linens etc., and of course the wonderful Belinda who has made such a great job of cleaning this lovely building on the very small pittance that we can afford to pay. Thank you Belinda, on behalf of us all.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

On behalf of Fr. Paul, Terry, Jon and the Church Council of All Saints Church we would like to thank our very many supporters in the parish and to wish one and all a peaceful, prosperous and fulfilling New Year 2018.

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MINCE PIES AND MUSIC

Lots of mince pies and lots of music! A busy night at the social club's Open Mic night on Thursday, 14 December.

Hosts *Phatt Knappii* opened the evening with a few covers and then their own Christmas song. *Paragon 5* from Helpringham made their second appearance and look set to become regulars, though their drummer on this occasion was Sean Searl from *Stuck With Nothing*, whose lead guitarist Tony Nuccoll did a solo set before a mass jam at the end of the evening that also featured Brian McDonald from *Open Road*, Karen Clare, Kiya Brown and *Phatt Knappii* lead singer and keytarist Martyn Hayes.

New to Fosdyke's Open Mic nights was Spalding based *OldBoy (Of the Fens)* whose self-penned songs have been labelled gothic country. The last song in their set had the whole place singing along.



WHERE TO GO ON NEW YEAR'S EVE IN FOSDYKE

If you want to go out on New Year's Eve and don't want to book a cab you have two options.

The social club will be open though we're unaware of any special celebrations planned. They've been known to have party games, but it's pretty much whatever you fancy.

The Ship will be having their usual New Year's Eve Quiz followed by Karaoke.

Maybe you'll just prefer to curl up on the sofa with a box set!



Inspired Equine Assisted Learning (IdeAL) was selected as one of the good causes for Boston Asda's 'Green Token Giving' scheme in the July-September period. Details of what Sunset Farm offered appeared on the Asda community board alongside two other local good causes. Customers and colleagues then vote for the charity they would like to receive a donation from the Asda Foundation, with the winner receiving £500 and the two runners up each receiving £200.

IdeAL didn't manage to beat the RSPB Boston Wildlife Explorers; however last month they were presented with the runner up cheque in the Boston Store (Claire and Mike Burrows pictured left and right)

To make the best use of these funds and to help promote EAL, IdeAL are planning to offer 2 free EAL sessions to local individuals or families who would like to explore IdeAL's unique learning experience

that uses horses as active participants. The sessions can be tailored to focus on personal development, confidence building or increased self-awareness. If you would like to be considered for a free session or to nominate somebody who you think would benefit, please email info@inspired-eal.co.uk and give Claire and Mike as many details as possible before the end of January 2018.



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Wednesday 7.30 pm - 9.15 pm



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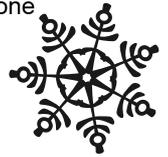
MUSICAL TWISTS AND PRESENT LISTS, PERHAPS

Across

1. See 8 Down (4)
3. A lightning fast German reindeer from Santa's team. (7)
6. Posthumous Xmas hit for John Lennon (7)
10. See 8 Down
14. See 24 Across (2)
15. See 21 Across (2)
16. See 7 Down (4)
19. See 24 Across (2)
20. Santa's love-struck reindeer. (5)
21. A Band Aid Christmas hit twice. (2) 15 Across (4) 1 Down (4) 28 Down (3) 29 Across (9)
24. 1978 Christmas hit for Boney M (double-song title) (5) 17 Down (3) 2 Down (5) / 14 Across (2) 19 Across (2) 13 Down (4)
25. Possibly a kebab but also one of Santa's reindeer. (6)
26. See 7 Down (4)
27. Not a fox but one of Santa's reindeer. (5)
29. See 21 Across (9)
30. Santa's reindeer looking good on the disco floor. (6)

Down

1. See 21 Across (4)
2. See 24 Across (5)
4. Three consecutive Christmas number ones for this band in 1963, 1964 and 1965. (3) and the next clue (7)
5. See 4 Down (7)
7. Number one hit for Slade in December 1973. (4) 26 Across (4) 16 Across (9)
8. Song about Bohemian royalty giving out alms to peasants in a harsh winter (4) 1 Across (4) 10 Across (9)
9. Jesus spent his early life in this Scottish rock band. (8)
11. Past tense of what Santa did when delivering presents. Also a homophone of a number one Christmas band. (8)
12. He was born here. (9)
13. See 24 Across (4)
17. See 24 Across (3)
18. Jesus is mentioned twenty-five times in this Holy book. (5)
21. Santa's quick, handsome reindeer. (6)
22. Santa's high-stepping reindeer (7)
23. Santa's reindeer from the solar system (or not, recently). (5)
28. See 21 Across (3)



We've had a complaint that our sudoku puzzles can only be solved by looking at the solution. Hopefully this one is easier!

SUDOKU

	5	2	7			8		
6			8	5				1
	8							
				9	8			2
4								9
7			6	1				
							9	
2				3	4			8
		6			9	1	5	



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Chris Andrews'

WILD TIMES

Making It Count



January means one thing for me. It is time again for the Big Garden Birdwatch. Have you heard of it? It is the RSPB's annual call to arms to discover what birds use our back gardens..

The idea started off in the 1970's, when we got together with children's TV programme Blue Peter. The aim was to get a snapshot of British garden birds, right across the country. So children were encouraged to spend a little bit of time one weekend in January, spotting their feathered friends. Either in their own gardens, or in parks and other public places.

Well, it proved extremely popular, and requests came in to repeat it. Pretty soon it was an annual event, which later was opened out to adults as well as children. These days over half a million people settle down for a spot of garden birdwatching on the last weekend of January. Including over 11,000 in Lincolnshire, which is fantastic.

So what does it involve?

Camping out in a little tent, huddled up in warm clothing, staring through binoculars all day long? Well, no. For starters, you wouldn't have much fun doing it, and we'd like people to enjoy the experience. No, all you have to do is sit in a nice comfy chair for an hour. Maybe with a nice cuppa and a slice of cake or some biscuits. During this time you watch and see



Family doing Birdwatch, rspb-images.com



Blue Tit, rspb-images.com



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what birds arrive in your garden. You note down how many of each type of bird you see at any one time. Then fill in either an online form on the RSPB website, or a paper version available from our Frampton Marsh reserve. It is key though that you only count the maximum number of each type of bird you see at any one time, to avoid counting the same bird twice. So if you see three blue tits, then a bit later you see two, you only

count that as three, rather than five. So what are the top Lincolnshire birds? Well, as with the national results the house sparrow is still top of the spots. Behind them come starlings, blackbirds, wood pigeons and blue tits. Possibly given how much countryside we have in the county, pheasant is relatively high placed, compared to the rest of the UK. But each year is different, as is each garden. You should have a go and see what you can see.

What if you are too busy to spare an hour? Well, you can always break it up into smaller segments. What if you are away or busy on the designated day? You can do it on a more suitable day for up to a week after. What if you don't have a garden? You can do it in the park, or pop round to a friend's. Not sure what you are looking at? The forms have pictures to help you. Not seeing many birds? Don't fret, low numbers are just as important as high ones. After all, if no-one reported the low numbers, we wouldn't see when commoner birds were declining.

And that really is the point. With so many people taking part, and with data going back so many years, it allows us a glimpse into the fortunes of our garden birds. Which ones are doing well (collared doves and goldfinches for example) and which ones aren't. Numbered amongst these are two of our commonest birds, house sparrows and starlings. There are still lots around, but since the events started, we've seen a massive decline in their numbers. A drop of nearly two thirds in the last 30 years. Obviously something for us to be worried about and that the RSPB is doing a lot of scientific investigation into. But without the results of things like the Big Garden Birdwatch we may not have noticed as early that something was amiss. This is 'citizen science' at its best. So do please lend a hand. Visit www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch to register or for more information. And make your count, count.



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Just £12 a year will get you an advert in the Fosdyrectory. Ring Terry on 01205 260275 for more details.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

We'd like to thank Fosdyke Parish Council, with the invaluable help of John and Pete Ulyatt, for lighting up the tree outside the village hall.

It's something the parish council do every year. We're a small village, but even so it's a cheering gesture that shows a little community spirit. Let that continue into the new year and beyond.

And, for those interested in parish council matters the October minutes, presumably approved at the November meeting are now available at the council website accessible through the fosdyke.org.uk site.

PHANTOM SIGN CLEANER

We offer another thank you to the person, or persons who have taken it upon themselves to clean the village sign outside the village hall.

It had become rather grubby and green. We know at least one other person who had it on their list of jobs to do around the village, so a big slap on the back to whoever beat them to it.

It's that kind of action that creates positive vibes in the village.

CALENDAR SOLD OUT

Liz Martin, who produced the Fosdyke calendar, would like to thank everyone who bought one and is pleased to have raised £150 for All Saints Church.

If you would like Liz to produce another calendar next year please let her know. Liz@fosdyke.org.uk

ANOTHER LOSS TO THE VILLAGE

While it was a shock to hear of Gary Johnson's tragic motorcycle accident it was equally sad to hear that Charlie Barton had also passed away.

Our thoughts are with both families. Gary's funeral took place on Monday, 11 December, with the wake at Fosdyke Social Club.



Terry Martin has been taking part in the filming of the fourth series of the popular CBBC show *Art Ninja* starring his son Ricky (pictured right) and friends Gavin and Sarah (left).

The series usually starts in February.

FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Saturday, 18 November

Colsterworth Sports & Social Club

4 - 5 Fosdyke

Fosdyke Reserves 1 - 2 Woodhall

Spa United Reserves

Sunday, 19 November

Mulberry 5 - 2 Fosdyke Sunday

Saturday, 25 November

J.F.C. Boston Seniors 6 - 1

Fosdyke

Fosdyke Reserves 1 - 5 Boston

College Reserves

Saturday, 2 December

Wyberton "A" A - W Fosdyke

Fosdyke Reserves 3 - 0 Spalding

Harriers

Sunday, 3 December

Fosdyke Sunday FC 3 - 3

Mulberry FC

Saturday, 9 December

Fosdyke Reserves 6 - 0 Mareham

United

Mistletoe and how to grow

Kissing under sprigs of mistletoe is a well-known Christmas tradition, but this little plant's history as a symbolic herb dates back thousands of years.

As the story goes, when the god Odin's son Baldur was prophesied to die, his mother Frigg, the goddess of love, went to all the animals and plants of the natural world to secure an oath that they would not harm him. But Frigg neglected to consult with the unassuming mistletoe, so the scheming god Loki made an arrow from the plant and saw that it was used to kill the otherwise invincible Baldur. According to one sunnier version of the myth, the gods were

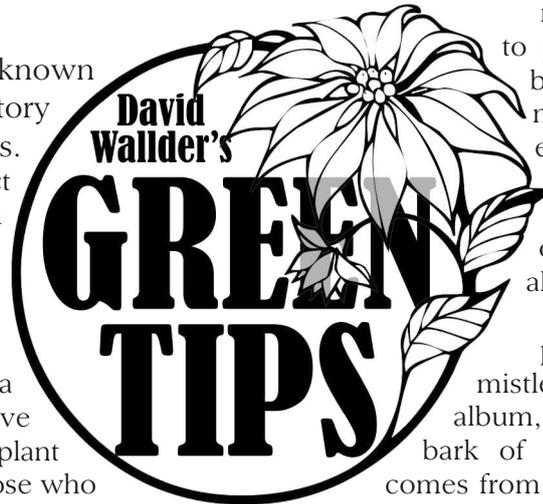
able to resurrect Baldur from the dead. Delighted, Frigg then declared mistletoe a symbol of love and vowed to plant a kiss on all those who passed beneath it.

Mistletoe's associations with fertility and vitality continued through the Middle Ages, and by

the 18th century it had become widely incorporated into Christmas celebrations. Just how it made the jump from sacred herb to Christmas decoration remains up for debate. As part of the early custom, men were allowed to steal a kiss from any woman caught standing under the mistletoe, and refusing was viewed as bad luck. Yet another tradition instructed the

merrymakers to pluck a single berry from the mistletoe with each kiss, and to stop smooching once they were all gone.

A partially parasitic plant, mistletoe, *Viscum album*, grows on the bark of trees. *Viscum* comes from the same root as viscous, meaning sticky, while *album*, of course, means white - which describes the ripe berries very well.



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The common name is also illuminating: the mistletoe is derived from the Anglo-Saxon mistel, meaning dung, and tan, meaning twig. So, literally, it's the dung-on-a-twig plant. Which pretty much describes what happens a little while after a bird eats the berries.

Mistletoe is a partial parasite, which means that although its small green leaves provide the host plant with energy through photosynthesis, it also sends a root under the bark into its host and gathers nutrients there. And this is where those sticky berries come in. It doesn't harm the host tree, and instead grows in a big evergreen ball high up in the canopy. I think it looks fantastic against the bare bark and branches of its host in winter.

After the bird, usually a mistle thrush, eats the berries, they're excreted with much of their sticky coating still attached. So as soon as they land on a branch they stick, through all weathers, and are ready to germinate in February and March in exactly the right place.



First, they attach themselves and develop their connection with the host plant, then the following year they produce leaves and start to grow into a recognisable young plant. Each year, individual shoots produce just two new branches with one pair of leaves at the tip of each; so progress is slow.

The main host plants are apple, hawthorn, lime and poplar trees, although mistletoe is occasionally seen on maple, sycamore, willow, crab apples, false acacia, ash, oak, plum, rowan and even cotoneaster. Mistletoe is much more common in gardens, orchards and parks than in wild areas, which is encouraging to those wanting to grow their own.

So choose your tree but keep in mind that a few clumps of mistletoe can severely debilitate a thriving apple tree. There are so many clumps of mistletoe in the apple tree in one of my gardens that the tree seems green in mid-winter - but it produces few apples.

How to grow

Avoid berries that have done their seasonal duty hanging under a light in the living room for two weeks. They will probably have dried out. They can be revived by soaking overnight in water, but picking fresh berries - pure white, not unripe green or yellow - in late winter is more likely to lead to success.

Alternatively, keep some sprigs from the holiday season in a jar of water in the window of a cold but frost-free room until February.

Branches about 20cm (8in) in diameter make ideal hosts as the bark is thin enough for the germinating seeds to penetrate, but substantial enough to support the new plant, in terms of both nutrients and weight. Using the berries' own "glue", attach them to the side or underside of the branch, then tie a piece of wool or twine around the branch to mark the site.

As some berries may fall off or be eaten, apply a couple of dozen at a time. Not much will seem to happen until the following spring when the first leaves should appear.

It is sometimes recommended that a cut be made in the branch, or that the bark be lifted to accommodate the berries. While this brings the seed into more immediate contact with the tree, the wound may provide a starting place for disease to become established. So, it is better to leave the plants to get started naturally.

Then, you wait. It usually takes four years from sowing until berries are produced and, as male and female flowers are formed on different plants, you will need one to carry the berries and another to provide the pollen if you want to develop a colony.

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Liz Wallder's
Book Review

Beyond Lies The Hub
by
Philip K Dick

This is volume one of a five-book set of science fiction short stories by Philip K Dick with all of the stories being written between 1951 and 52 when Dick was in his early twenties and just starting out as a writer. None of the stories were those featured in the recent channel 4 series though.

As is often the way with short story books they can differ in style and quality but overall, I absolutely loved the book.

Some stories were slightly disappointing such as "Roog" where a dog barks most of the way through at the binmen, who may be some kind of alien, and not much else happened.

Other stories had a surprise ending, such as "Colony" where humans are trying to colonise a new planet where there seems to be no kind of harmful life at all- no disease, no germs, no lice, no flies, no anything, except beautiful trees

and plants and greenery and seems to be a kind of Eden, but you're only a page in until it all goes wrong.

Some stories made me laugh out loud; in "The Short Happy Life of the Brown Oxford" there's a machine that brings inanimate objects to life and it finishes with a man's shoe and a lady's high heel frolicking in the shrubbery.

The wub of the title is a strange beast, like a very talkative cow, who gets quite upset when everyone talks about eating him.

I absolutely loved the majority of the stories and the few tales that went nowhere were only a few pages long and were soon passed by and forgotten.

The stories bound along with some only being two or three pages long. It shows how talented Dick is as a story teller to make these strange worlds full of bizarre creatures come alive in so few words. The good guys are not always picked out until the story ends and some stories twist and turn so much I had to reread them.

A lot of the tales were about the futility of war with some stories being set in post-apocalyptic worlds. The book is full of robots and war machines and star ships and man-eating butterflies and if, like me, you enjoy that sort of thing then I'd recommend this book.

GRADUATED

After 14 days of intensive training in Manchester, Claire and Mike Burrows graduated as NLP Master Coach Practitioners! They are now both certified Master Practitioners of NLP, Coaching, Hypnosis and Time Line Therapy ®.

They are currently in the process of launching a coaching and well-being centre at Sunset Farm, which will run alongside Inspired Equine Assisted Learning CIC and offer Positive Mindset Coaching, Career Coaching and Goal Setting Coaching.

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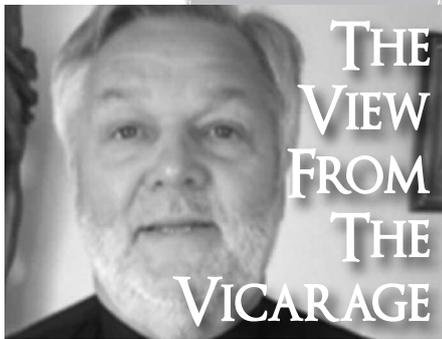
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Merry Christmas
and a



Happy New Year

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Having been in post for some four months now, and having had some time to hear the concerns and joys of many people who are involved in our three Churches, I am becoming acutely aware that some change of focus is required on how we act on our various Christian responsibilities.

The last few months in Kirton, Fosdyke and Algarkirk have allowed me some time to reflect, talk with, and hear some of the comments from individuals and groups within all three communities. The true story behind the ministry within all three Churches is that we often get too focused on the unimportant things. Which is why at a recent joint PCC meeting I introduced all the parish lay leaders to the Seven Marks of a Healthy Church.

1. Energized by faith
2. Outward-looking focus
3. Seeks to find out what God wants
4. Faces the cost of change and growth rather than resisting change and avoiding failure.
5. Operates as a community rather than functioning as a club or religious organisation
6. Makes room for all, being inclusive rather than exclusive.
7. Does a few things and do them well, focused rather than frenetic.

My hope is that we can begin very soon as congregations to put in place a process of

Sunday, 24 December
Candlelit
Service of the
Nativity

9pm
 (aka midnight mass for early sleepers and partygoers)

Thursday, 28 December
Noontide Prayers

12 noon

Sunday, 31 December
Group
Communion
Service

at Kirton
 10.30pm

Thursday, 4 January
Noontide Prayers

12 noon

Tuesday, 9 January
Pop-In Lunch
 at the village hall

12.30pm

Thursday, 11 January
Noontide Prayers

12 noon

Sunday, 14 January
Holy
Communion

9.30am

Thursday, 18 January
Noontide Prayers

12 noon

Thursday, 25 January
Noontide Prayers

12 noon

Sunday, 28 January
Holy
Communion

8.30am

evaluating all our present ministries in the light of the Five Marks of Mission.

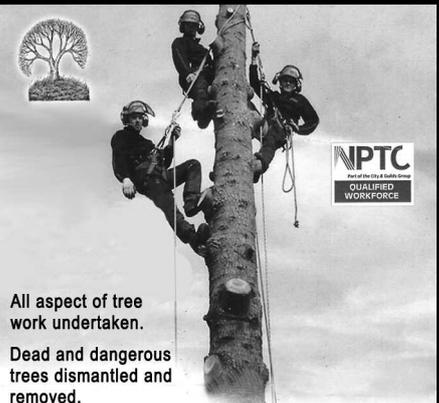
The Mission of the Church Is the Mission of Christ.

- To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
- To respond to human need by loving service
- To seek to transform unjust structures of society
- To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth

We recognize with gratitude that the Five Marks ("Five Marks of Mission" as developed by the Anglican Consultative Council between 1984 and 1990) have won wide acceptance among Anglicans across the world, and have given parishes and dioceses around the world a practical and memorable "checklist" for mission activities.

In the months and years that lie ahead I hope that we can work together in our parishes to assess, evaluate and re-vision the way

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forward that God has in mind for All Saints' in Fosdyke to grow, consolidate and reflect the Kingdom and its values without some dear folk being worn to a frazzle, others feeling left out, and still others feeling how can they continue to serve in a useful capacity.

Recently a good priest friend I know put it like this to me.... "When trains leave stations and planes depart runways, they do so on the basis of clear signals. Our signals must also contain some clarity when we contemplate leaving behind a particular ministry of the church. I have found three questions that help sort through confusing and mixed signals during these pivotal decisions. They are: How is my relationship with God? How well am I personally, and my church watching for the signals from God? How well am I answering the really tough questions about Christian life and ministry that is vital?

Our ministry train does not need to derail as we let go of worn out ways that no longer serve the mission of the Church, ministries that have done the job well in the past, but now need renewing. We enter the depot of a new area of service. Knowing when to leave the old and how to enter the new will result in pleasant memories from the past but realistic anticipation for the future. These are two ministerial train rides we can take with forward expectations.

Watch this space!

Yours,
Fr Paul

HART MARLER SUNDAY POOL LEAGUE

standings as of 5 December

Fosdyke	12	61	20
RMC A	11	58	17
Draymans A	11	54	16
Holbeach USC	11	50	14
Draymans B	12	46	11
Fishermans	11	34	7
RMC B	10	37	6
Black Swan	12	31	4
Horse & Groom	10	22	3

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you a seat!**

WHIST WINNERS

December's Whist Drive winners at the social club where Barbara and Michael Spinks with 114 points, closely followed by Dave Bristow and Norman Rayner with 111.

Fosdyke Social Club

Sunday, 31 December

NEW YEAR'S

EVE

8 pm

Saturday, 6 January

WHIST DRIVE

8 pm

Thursday, 11 January

OPEN MIC

Opens 8pm - music 8.30-11pm

Saturday, 27 January

QUIZ

8 pm

Chicken/fish/scampi and
chips supper.

Members £5.50, guests £6

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**EMERGENCY CALL
OUT**

REFLECTIONS

As we approach Christmas at break neck speed it is time to reflect on 2017. For me it has been a challenging year with being in a new job since February. I have had to learn and take in a lot of information quickly, but I now feel settled and confident it was the right move for both me and my family. It is now a quieter period for me at work, so we are spending the time getting things in place for next year.

We do have a couple of crops in the glasshouses which will over winter along with a seed crop of red vein sorrel outdoors, but these are just lying dormant with little in terms of husbandry required. Glasshouses are being washed, disinfected, repaired and sterilised. The machinery is being maintained and serviced and I am spending more time in the office where it is warm. It has also been a good opportunity to take some well-deserved holiday recently and I am also looking forward to my time off over Christmas with the family. Although I enjoy these relaxed times I do find it difficult to switch from hectic mode to chill out mode.

We are however busy on the wood chip side of the business as we now have four boilers to keep running for our own use along with starting to sell more wood chip to other businesses. This keeps the guys on the farm occupied for the winter period having one person full time on boiler maintenance and two people grading and chipping wood. We have three different types of boiler on site which all require different specifications for

wood chip/fuel. Our standard Biomass boiler has been recently converted from wood pellets as fuel which we needed to buy in, to wood chip. This boiler produces 199kw of thermal energy per hour and is used to heat the propagation room, one of the glasshouses and the offices and packing rooms. We then have two CHP (combined heat and power) units that need high quality wood chip graded to reduce the number of fines and oversize and needs a moisture content below 10%. These provide 49kw of energy per hour, however these also provide 109kWh of thermal



energy which can be re-used to heat glasshouses, run the humidity controlled warehouse and to dry seed. And finally, we have the mega boiler which can produce 999kw of thermal energy per hour. The benefit of this boiler is it will run on relatively poor quality fuel so we can use the fines graded out of the other fuels and also use arboriculture waste which is very low cost compared to wood. The other benefit for having these boilers on site is of course the RHI

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Friday and Saturday

11.30 am - 11 pm

Monday to Saturday

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Bar Snacks 12 noon until 5.30pm

Evening Menu 5.30pm until 9pm

Friday Evening Special

Fish and Chips £10

Sunday

Lunch Carvery (12 noon until 2pm) £8.50
 (two courses £12)

Sittings 12 noon and 1.30pm

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Main Menu available from 4pm

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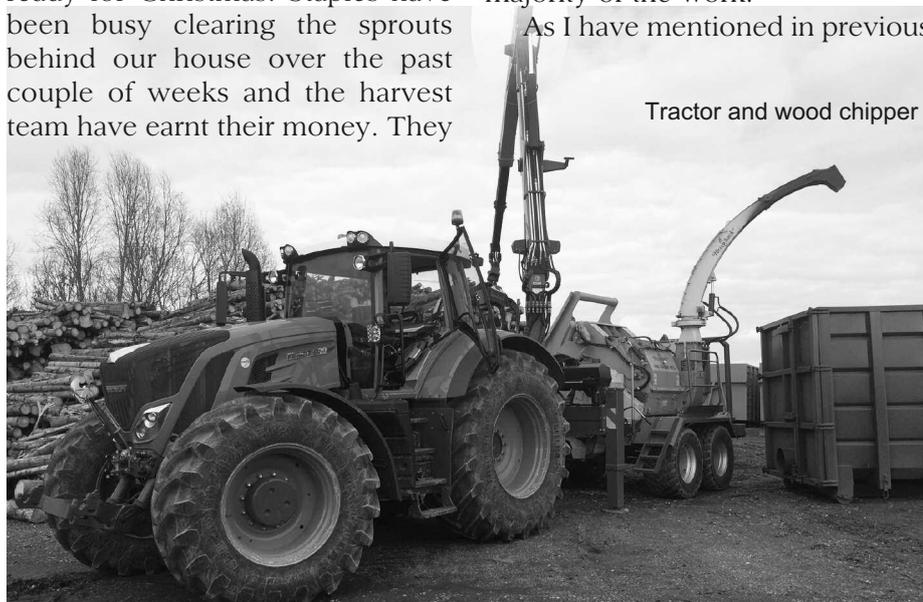
payments and tariffs for the electricity produced.

As I enjoy my quieter time veg farmers in the area are all guns blazing harvesting all the winter veg ready for Christmas. Staples have been busy clearing the sprouts behind our house over the past couple of weeks and the harvest team have earned their money. They

get closer to Christmas. And its not just the traditional sprouts being harvested, kale, cabbages, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower and parsnips are all being harvested for the Christmas dinners plate.

The sugar beet harvest is still in full swing with small stock piles popping up everywhere waiting for the beet cleaner to load them into trailers and taken direct to the factory. As the fields are cleared the majority are ploughed to bury all the trash from the veg crops and left over the winter. This will be left to the elements which will slowly break the soil down as it freezes and thaws out and as it gets wet and dries out. This will make working the soil much easier in the spring as the weather has done the majority of the work.

As I have mentioned in previous



Tractor and wood chipper

are already in the field harvesting when I wake up in the mornings and have been still on the move when I have been getting ready for bed and this will soon turn to a twenty-four-hour operation as we

articles about the potential loss of glyphosate I am pleased that the EU has seen sense and re-licensed the product for a five year period. It was good news for farmers and gardeners although it was disappointing that it didn't get the full fifteen-year approval.

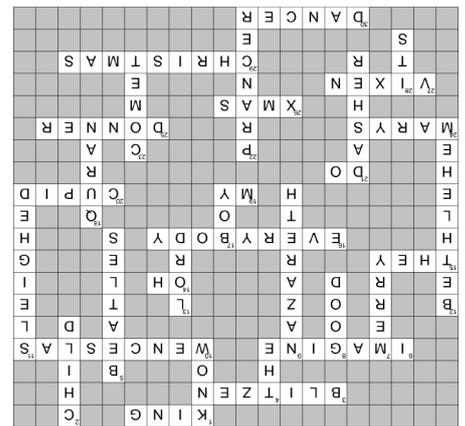
The next fight will be for the ban on neonicotinoid pesticides. These have been shown to have potential affects on bees. Neonicotinoids are used to control aphids in a majority of crops and are vital to growers as no aphid resistance has been seen in neonicotinoids to date and they control the aphids which harm the crops by direct feeding causing yield and quality losses but most importantly stop many diseases which the aphids carry. They are

currently banned on all flowering crops such as oilseed rape and sunflowers which makes sense.

However the EU plans to ban them on all crops including seed treatments which would have a major impact on farmers and growers. For instance sugar beet yields could be reduced by up to 40% as neonicotinoids are used to control the aphids that spread beet virus yellows disease which has a massive effect on yield. This would make it unviable to grow sugar beet in the UK as no other products are available in controlling the aphids.

I can fully understand banning products that are unsafe to human health or cause damage to the environment but banning products that are safe if used in the correct way is just frustrating and wrong. It is a continuing battle to keep the products we use to enable us to grow the food we eat. As farmers we generally don't like using pesticides as they are costly and cause us a lot of work but we need them and without them we wouldn't be able to produce many of the crops we are so used to having on the supermarket shelves.

PUZZLE SOLUTIONS



4	5	1	9	8	2	6	7	3
8	6	7	4	3	5	1	9	2
3	9	2	7	6	4	5	1	8
5	8	4	1	2	6	9	3	7
9	1	6	5	7	3	8	2	4
2	7	3	8	9	4	1	6	5
7	4	5	6	1	2	4	8	5
1	8	3	9	2	6	5	4	7
6	4	7	8	5	3	9	2	1
9	5	2	7	4	1	8	3	6

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Editor's Comment

Reading *The View From The Vicarage* (Page 14) I note that Fr Paul believes in being inclusive. If the local parochial church council held the same view then they may have found a new vicar earlier.

I suppose the patriarchal roots of modern Christianity still linger in a society that has seen the struggle for women's equality hampered by bigoted men, and sometimes by misinformed women.

There has been a lot of controversy in the Church over female vicars and, while I'm more humanist than Christian, I believe women have as much right to be vicars as men. Scriptures (written by men, after all) are there to guide not to be followed without question. Maybe Fr Paul's apparent liberal attitude will brush off on the PCC. Time will tell.

FOSDYKE PARISH COUNCIL

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Copy Deadline

If something has happened to you or a friend, or is going to happen, we want to hear about it. So, contact Terry - preferably via email: terry@fosdyke.org.uk or phone: 01205 260275 or knock on the door or post your info through the letter box
6 Whitecross Gate

no later than 14 January

Fosdyke Village Hall Lottery 250 Draw - Latest Winners

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74	Mr G Wright	Heckington	£10
159	Mrs M Atkinson	Great Hale	£10
198	Mr M Peak	Kirton	£10
12	Mrs Y Crawford	Sutterton	£15
157	Mrs J Hardy	Boston	£25
50	Mrs J Hill	Kirton	£50

Next draw: Monday 8 January at the Village Hall Bingo Night