

Cowtons News



The Magazine for The Parish of The Cowtons

July 2021 Issue 96

The Parish of The Cowtons

The Benefice of The Wiske

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WISKE BENEFICE WEBSITE :- <https://www.wiskebenefice.org>



Facebook page – Vicar of the Wiske

Useful Local Contacts

East Cowton Parish Council:

Chairman – Elaine Simpson;

Parish Clerk – Judith Kilsby 01325 378473

North Cowton Parish Council:

Chairman - Jeremy Marley;

Parish Clerk - Alison Hughes 01325 378326

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Cowtons & Countryside U3A

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1st Great Smeaton Cubs & Scouts:

Cliff Burgess 01325 320620

Cycling Group Contact:

John Yorke 07795 097985

East Cowton Cricket Club Contact:

Peter Clark 07730 656571

Cowtons Football Club Contact:

Paul Middleton 01325 378497

North Cowton Women's Institute Contact:

President; Diane Nixon 01325 378480

East Cowton CE (VC) Primary School:

Head teacher: Mrs Helen Dudman

Office: 01325 378347

North & South Cowton Community Primary

School: Head teacher: Richard Linsley.

Office 01325 378240

'Benefice of The Wiske' Mothers Union

Contact: Jackie Blackwood 01609 881660

STOP, LOOK AND WONDER

I'm taking great pleasure in looking across my front garden. A few weeks ago, we decided to leave it alone and to see what grows. From a plain green expanse, it is now full of flowers and grasses gently moving in the wind. Birds are playing, butterflies and dragonfly flitting around, and other helpful insects are appearing and all I had to do, was nothing!

Doing nothing is sometimes hard. We like to be in control, we like to manage and organise. I have to resist the temptation of fiddling, tidying and directing.

Part of its beauty is variety of flowers and grasses, insects, birds and animals in just a small area, which we would never have noticed. I wonder sometimes about church, is it like a neatly mown lawn, controlled, tidy, but lacking something of the variety and vitality that God intended, and perhaps vicars and church leaders like me, keep cutting the grass rather than letting the people of God flourish and flower as Father God intended.

I love the phrase in the Narnia Books, Aslan is not a "tame lion". But a wild lion is unpredictable and just slightly worrying. It is the same with my wild patch. I know it's good for the environment and its less work, but part of me worries about what is (and isn't) there and I worry about what others might think.

I remembered this morning, when Jesus invited the crowd to consider the flowers of the field. "Who neither toil nor labour" but look so wonderful He was talking about trusting God for the things which are God's responsibility, (and doing the things we should do)

Perhaps over the summer as part of our recreation we could take a little to time to stop, look and wonder.

Have a good summer
Blessings

David



From The Registers

funerals

Pam Richmond

3 June

Service at All Saints', Cremation at Darlington

A prayer for looking

Living God, open our eyes to the goodness of your creation.
Help us to care for it like a gardener
with times for planting, watering, harvesting and rest.
Help us to live in the rhythms of nature, treading lightly
and hearing your voice call softly in the evening
Amen.

Joint Churches Meeting

Due to Covid regulations the date for the Benefice meeting is 20th July at 7-9pm, at All Saints', East Cowton. It is hoped that all PCC members will be able to attend, but also anyone from the wider church and community.

The 2 questions to look at are: -

What might worship look like in the autumn and beyond, both Sundays and midweek?

What is the best way to organise ourselves to enable the local churches to flourish and the Benefice to grow?

Look out for a short survey for people to fill in to help us in our thinking
No decisions will be made at the meeting, but proposals might go to individual PCC's for decision making soon after.

David's Induction

Monday 27th September 7.00pm All Saints, East Cowton with Bishop Helen-Ann.

Condolences

Sadly we have had to say 'Goodbye' to another of our nonagenarians Conrad Robert Riddle who resided in North Cowton. Con moved into the village in 1957 aged 29 with his late wife Auriol and baby Stephen. He passed away aged 93 on June 4 and leaves behind many friends in the parish. Unlike the present day, no one wanted to live in the country when Con and Auriol decided, against family advice, to take on an old farmhouse in need of a lot of renovation but it led to a wonderful life for them all without a single moment of regret. Tribute by Con's daughter-in-law Janet (Mrs Stephen Riddle)



Food Bank

Many thanks again for your donations, which are much valued. I have been asked, however, that items donated are well within "best before/use by" dates, as out of date foods have to be destroyed. As our collections are only delivered to the Food Bank once a month, I suggest checking that there are at least 6 weeks before the expiry date on the item. Donation box can be found in East Cowton village Hall, on Fridays, between 1pm and 4 pm Thank you. *Christine Johnson*

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Memorial Service

A memorial service in memory of the last Mike Smith, who was a previous church warden for Danby Wiske Church for many years is being held along with the interment of his ashes on Saturday 21st August at 2.30. Please take this notice as an invitation by Ann and the family to join them in remembering Mike.



Sea Sunday

Sea Sunday is celebrated in our churches in July when we give thanks for the seafarers who bring goods to our shores and carry our exports around the world.

Many of them receive very low wages and

are relied upon by their families to send home what they earn. They are often ill equipped for colder climates and have few creature comforts.

This year, as in previous years we will be donating men's toiletries, toothpaste and brushes, shower gel, deodorant, face cloths and the like. Sea Sunday 2021 is on July 11th. Please help us to make a good collection this year and put items in the marked boxes, either in East Cowton Village Hall (open Fridays 1-4pm) or in the church porch. They will be there from July 1st until shortly after 11th, when a volunteer will take them to a Seamen's Mission on Teesside for distribution.

~~~~~

## The marriage of Great Aunt Lillian & Great Uncle Sydney

Aunt Lilly was a Methodist  
And to Chapel went to pray  
But Sydney was a Catholic  
And therein the problem lay.

The marriage went off quietly  
Or so the old folk said  
And their troubles only started  
When they went upstairs to bed.

They got undressed, quite coyly.  
As was natural in those days.  
And Sydney went all masterful  
And to Aunt Lilly says –

"If from our love there's issue  
I want you to agree,  
They'll be brought up proper Catholic  
That's the way it's going to be"

Aunt Lillian was quite incensed  
And back to the wardrobe goes.  
And with little more ado  
She puts back on her clothes.

She hurtled down the stairs  
And shouted in a rage,  
"Then there'll be no hanky-panky  
Till I'm past child bearing age."

So there were no little Catholics  
Nor little Methodists.  
It all seems sad to folk like me  
Just think what they have missed.

So Lilly lived a barren life  
With Syd unsatiated  
All because religious strife  
Still goes on unabated.

For thirty years they never loved  
Or even spoke a word.  
Yet, she cooked his meals and washed  
his clothes.  
How utterly absurd!

Hugh Robinson

\*Thank you to Mr Hugh Robinson from North Cowton, for giving me access to some of his wonderful poems. Look out for another in the months ahead.

**Mouse Makes**

**The Parable of the Good Samaritan**  
 A man asked Jesus "Who is my neighbour?"  
 and Jesus replied with this parable:

A man was attacked by robbers, they tore his clothes, beat him and left him almost dead.  
 A priest saw him but walked by on the other side.  
 A Levite saw him but walked by on the other side.  
 A Samaritan saw him and took pity on him, he poured oil and wine on his wounds and then bandaged them. He lifted the man onto his donkey, took him to an inn and cared for him.  
 The next day he gave the innkeeper two denarii to look after the man until he returned.

Which of the three travellers do you think was the neighbour to the man who was attacked?

Read the full story in  
 Luke 10:25-37

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 B R A R U T E C  
 O I S A N E R A  
 U C S B D E U R  
 D P L B R H I L S B S E  
 W A S L O I L D S A M A R I T A N O O E E O A P  
 P R I E S T A O A M A G O O D C N I N N T U L A  
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## Tea Party.

We were disappointed that changes in COVID regulations meant we had to cancel the tea party planned for the end of June. We were looking forward to an enjoyable afternoon meeting again with old friends and new. Sadly we will not be able to run the event later once restrictions are lifted. Should you still wish to support our church, however, you can make a donation to All Saints Church and send it to our treasurer at 17 Boynton Road, East Cowton. Such support helps with the upkeep of our building and ensures we can continue to offer a centre for worship, weddings, baptisms and funerals to the people of the Cowtons.

## Doubting Thomas

If you have ever doubted aspects of your Christian faith, St Thomas is the saint for you. His feast day is on 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

Thomas, one of Jesus' 12 disciples, was deeply devoted, but also very honest whenever he got confused. When Jesus spoke of going to his Father (John 14), Thomas was not afraid to ask Him where His Father was. As for the Resurrection, that really baffled Thomas. He demanded to see the risen Jesus for himself - and touch the wounds in His hands and feet. When Jesus appeared, Thomas' immediate response was one of worship: "My Lord and my God" (John 20).

Thus, Doubting Thomas' honest doubts, turned to honest faith, have become a reassurance for thousands of us down the centuries who also sometimes doubt Jesus. In Doubting Thomas' complete affirmation of faith, after meeting the risen, crucified Christ, we can find support for our own faith in Him.

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D E R H O N E S T D E H  
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Afraid  
Baffled  
Confused  
Demanded

Doubt  
Faith  
Father  
Feast

Feet  
God  
Hands  
Honest

Lord  
My  
Resurrection  
Response

Risen  
Saint  
See  
Support

Thomas  
Touch  
Where  
Wounds  
Worship

## North Cowton Parish Council

The Parish Council would like to remind people to please be responsible and clean up after their dogs. There is a lot of excrement on the pavements and grassed areas, in particular on the playing field and around the junior school building. In addition to the health implications of dog fouling, it is also an offence to allow a dog to foul in a public area and not clean it up. Those seen doing so can be reported and fined.

Similarly, there have been reports of children trespassing in fields in the village. Please remember that all fields belong to somebody and unless you have permission from the owners or there is a public footpath or bridleway running through, you should not be in there. There are animals in many of the fields and at this time of year they are very protective of their young. Trespassers can be prosecuted.

## North & South Cowton Village Hall News

**Yoga:** Classes will have a break in August and then resume in September.

**Choir:** Simply singers have unfortunately not been able to use the village hall due to COVID restrictions.

However, singing has continued in the gardens of choir members.

**Sports day:** This had to be cancelled because of the latest COVID extensions and the difficulty with compliance. Hopefully this can be rescheduled later in the year.



Books and magazines are still available in the Village Hall porch.  
Many thanks to all who have donated books and for those who have made a contribution to village hall funds.

## East Cowton Parish Council

The Parish Council is pleased to advise villagers that it has resumed its Tuesday morning volunteer sessions when residents assist in tidying the planters, oiling benches, cleaning signs (to mention but a few of the many tasks on offer).

A special thanks goes out to all those who have joined in so far. If you haven't yet, but fancy participating in some socially distanced community activity, then please come along on a Tuesday morning when we meet outside the village hall at 10.00 a.m.

The Parish Council is also exploring the potential for reviving a Neighbourhood Watch scheme within the village. Expressions of interest or support should be directed to the Parish Clerk by email at [judithkilsby@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:judithkilsby@yahoo.co.uk)

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100 years ago, on 10<sup>th</sup> July 1921 that Belfast's Bloody Sunday took place. Protestant loyalists attacked Catholic enclaves and set fire to homes and businesses, sparking rioting and gun battles. At least 17 people were killed and more than 70 injured. 2,000 people were left homeless.

Also 100 years ago, on 30<sup>th</sup> July 1921 that the hormone insulin was discovered by Frederick Banting and Charles Best at the University of Toronto.

80 years ago, on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1941 that British Prime Minister Winston Churchill launched his 'V for Victory' campaign.

75 years ago, on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 1946 that the King David Hotel bombing took place in Jerusalem. The Irgun (a militant right-wing Zionist group) bombed the hotel which housed the British administrative headquarters for Palestine. 91 people were killed.

60 years ago, on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1961 that Diana, Princess of Wales, was born. (Killed in a car crash in 1997)

Also 60 years ago, on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1961, that Ernest Hemingway, American novelist and

short story writer, died. Winner of the 1954 Nobel Prize in Literature. Best known for For Whom the Bell Tolls, A Farewell to Arms, and The Old Man and the Sea. (Suicide)

40 years ago, on 17<sup>th</sup> July 1981 that the Humber Bridge, linking Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, was officially opened. It was the world's longest single-span suspension bridge at that time.

Also 40 years ago, on 29<sup>th</sup> July 1981 that the marriage of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer took place at St Paul's Cathedral in London.

25 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> July 1996 that the first cloned mammal was born. Dolly the sheep was born at the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh. (Died 2003)

15 years ago, on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2006 that Twitter, the micro-blogging social network, was launched.

10 years ago, on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2011 that Amy Winehouse, British soul/R&B/jazz singer and songwriter died. (Alcohol poisoning, aged 27)

## EAST COWTON VILLAGE HALL

**Restrictions eased?** At moment of writing this article it seems that the hoped-for lifting of restrictions has been delayed.

Back in Action ? yes, the 'Regulars': Pilates; the small social bubble Badminton. See noticeboard for updates re attendances allowed. Other regulars from U3A: Tai Chi, Bowls, Mah Jong - were close to returning when this was written.

**The Parish Council** had planned a first return to 'live' in the hall meetings for Monday June 28th - of course we will now know if it actually went ahead as hoped - and await news of what's ahead.

**'Occasionals'** : Darlington Cycling Club has an afternoon meeting scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, 31st July. Probably restricted conditions as per last meeting on 26th June (subject to what the level of restrictions will be by later July.)

100 Club very shortly the Draws will be right up to date.

**ECNVHA Committee** The Village Hall committee had arranged to meet on 24th June - but this had to be put back due to unavoidable interrupting circumstances. It will take place in July and then, after the holiday period passes, our much-delayed AGM will take place in September and at the same time, or very close, hopefully the ratification of the new more business-like Constitution.

\*\*\*We will have a big shortfall in members unless 4 more volunteers arrive to boost the committee (on top of the 2 we already know about) . Most recent news informs that a committee member will shortly be leaving East Cowton. So, committee numbers will be depleted further A renewed drive into the future urgently required! \*\*\*

**PAM RICHMOND** Of course our news has recently been dominated by what was the sad (and unexpected) news of committee member and friend, Pam's death.

Pam was a member harking back to the early days of the committee -1999.

She was a calm and reliable member of the committee with very useful local knowledge



Sharing the Notices while keeping a social distance was proving tricky.



and connections. Pam contributed well to fund raising events where catering was required - and there have been many of those since the committee was formed. She was also very apt at 'rounding-up' support for fund raising events when attendances looked as though they might be a bit 'iffy'.

**You will be much missed Pam.**

Committee members:

Stuart Barker, Chair, 07855 250107 / 01325

378335, mail:

stuartbarker44@btinternet.com (also acting Secretary at moment)

\* John Tucker, Treasurer 01325 378581

\* Jim Crabbe, Hall Booking 07710 457741

\* Lynn Fyffe 100 Club: 07746 298443

\* Pauline Ayre \*Barbara Hibbert

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### Open Gardens in Great Smeaton

Saturday 17th & Sunday  
18th July  
12noon to 5pm  
\* start at the Village Hall

We hope to serve refreshments  
within Covid rules.

Proceeds in aid of  
Great Smeaton church funds



*...just humour him - he's hoping it'll  
help him reach the young people in his diocese...*

### How climate change could affect your cup of tea

Now here's something that will send you straight to your kitchen to put the kettle on: the Great British cup of tea may not taste quite so good in the future.

It seems that extreme weather and rising temperatures could lead to inferior leaves in the future, according to Christian Aid.

Kenya, the world's foremost exporter of black tea, is now affected by erratic rainfall, floods, droughts, and rising temperatures. India, Sri Lanka and China, also major tea producers, face climate change problems as well.

Climate change has been predicted by some as likely to cut production in Kenya's best tea-making areas by as much as a quarter by 2050. Even areas of only average growing conditions could see production fall by 39 per cent.

As one tea farmer in Kenya's Western Highlands, explained: "We cannot predict seasons anymore. Temperatures are rising, rainfall is erratic, often accompanied by unusual hailstones and longer droughts. If this continues, it will make growing tea much harder."

### Village Tuck Shop Sweet Success

A new tuck shop in Danby Wiske is proving to be a big hit with both residents and coast to coast walkers. "Isabel's Tuck Shop" was set up by the Cotter family who only moved to the village last October. Homemade cakes and traybakes, sandwiches, ice creams and ice lollies, sweets, chocolate bars, cold drinks and crisps are all on offer in the small barn at Church Holme, which sits at the end of Danby Wiske's church drive. It was set up by the family to help teach daughter Isabel life skills. It's already being reviewed well by the many walkers on the coast to coast who have found it and its location next to the village playground means the local children are reaping the benefits too!





## More tools for Africa

I have had some tools in my garage since before the first Lockdown donated by a resident for the Tools for life (workaid.org) charity which recycles implements and send them to people in developing countries. I have kindly been offered more unwanted tools and before I take all these to Ilkley where the collection point is, I thought it would be a good idea to ask once again if anyone else had any unwanted tools that they would like to donate. Please contact me on 07795 097985 (a text is preferred) so we can arrange collection. I am hoping to deliver the tools around two weeks after this magazine is published.

*John Yorke*

See link below for details of what is – and what is not – required.

<https://workaid.org/how-to-help/donate-tools/>

## The value of making our church ‘common ground’

As we seek to reconnect with our community this summer, how many local people would find it easy to even venture into our church?

Dr Anne Richards, National Adviser, Mission and Publish Affairs, Church of England, recently had this to say:

“I think that churches, especially rural churches, can be sites of common ground for their communities, both physically and spiritually. A lot of people who contact me think that churches are private spaces and that they might not really be ‘allowed’ to walk in the churchyard or to visit the church on a casual basis. They are often surprised by the openness and welcome of churches.... Mission flourishes where our ‘commons’ are developed and offered. Have we developed holy habits of neighbourliness and care?

## Opening and closing churches in the UK

There were an estimated 45,500 congregations or churches in the UK in 2020: 79%, in England, 8% (3,700 churches) in Wales, 8% (3,500 churches) in Scotland and 5% (2,100 churches) in Northern Ireland.

New congregations are being started or having to close all the time, and in the fifteen years since 2005 it is estimated that collectively some 3,100 new congregations have started while some 5,800 have closed, a net drop of 2,700 across the UK.

Most of the new congregations are in the Church of England, many of which are planted by the larger churches. A third of all the churches which have closed in the last 15 years have been Methodist, followed by the Anglicans and Roman Catholics (both 15%) and the Presbyterians (9%). The Baptists (7% of all closures) have also seen over 400 churches close in the last 15 years, which is one in eight of their congregations.

*From UK Church Statistics Nos 1-4.*

## Church Services in the Benefice

All our services are available to join via Zoom or later on Facebook and YouTube.

For details and links, join our Facebook page or on the website.

### Sunday Worship from September

It is hoped to be able to have more services in each church from September – The factors which will inform our decision will be around Covid Guidelines at the time, what do we want from our Sunday gathering and the resources available to sustain the pattern which is introduced. The July meeting (see page 4) will have a big influence on the choices made.

### My Contact Details

Rev David Bartlett - Benefice of the Wiske. 01609 765323 (07780512398)

<https://www.facebook.com/Vicar-of-the-Wiske-106020598239091>

<https://www.wiskebenefice.org>

[David.bartlett@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:David.bartlett@leeds.anglican.org)

| WISKE BENEFICE - JULY                                   |                                                 |                                                      |                                                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 4th July<br>Trinity 5                                   | 11th July<br>Trinity 6                          | 18th July<br>Trinity 7                               | 25th July<br>Trinity 8                                  |
| 11.00am<br>Holy Communion (BCP)<br><b>GREAT SMEATON</b> | 11.00am<br>Holy Communion (CW)<br><b>BIRKBY</b> | 11.00am<br>Holy Communion (CW)<br><b>DANBY WISKE</b> | 11.00am<br>Holy Communion (CW)<br><b>APPLETON WISKE</b> |
| 2 Corinthians 12 v 2-10<br>Mark 6 v 1-13                | Ephesians 1 v 3-14<br>Mark 6 14-29              | Ephesians 2 v 11-end<br>Mark 6 v 30-34, 53-end       | Acts 11 v 27, - 12 v 2<br>Matthew 20 v 20-28            |

| WISKE BENEFICE - AUGUST                               |                                                        |                                                 |                                                                |                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st August<br>Trinity 9                               | 8th August<br>Trinity 10                               | 15th August<br>Trinity 11                       | 22nd August<br>Trinity 12                                      | 29th August<br>Trinity 13                               |
| 11.00am<br>Holy Communion (BCP)<br><b>EAST COWTON</b> | 11.00am<br>Holy Communion (CW)<br><b>GREAT SMEATON</b> | 11.00am<br>Holy Communion (CW)<br><b>BIRKBY</b> | 11.00am<br>Open Air<br>Pentecost Service<br><b>DANBY WISKE</b> | 11.00am<br>Holy Communion (CW)<br><b>APPLETON WISKE</b> |
| Ephesians 4 v 1-16<br>John 6 v 24-35                  | Ephesians 4 v 25-5 v 2<br>John 6 v 35, 41-51           | Galatians 4 v 4-7<br>Luke 1 v 46- 55            | Ephesians 6 v 10-20<br>John 6 v 56-69                          | James 1 v 17-end<br>Mark 7 v 1-8, 14,15,21-23           |

## Queen's Platinum Jubilee – a celebration of faith & service – save the date!

A four-day Bank Holiday from 2-5 June 2022 will mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next year. This is an amazing opportunity to bring our communities together for the celebrations, which end on Pentecost Sunday.

HOPE Together, the Church of England, the Methodist Church, Biblica and other key partners are currently planning for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, with a specially commissioned souvenir book for us to give away; a new anthem for communities and churches to sing; a '70 Acts of Service' community challenge for us to adapt to use together with churches and other organisations in our area, and lots of resources for children and schools.

Rachel Jordan-Wolf, HOPE's executive director said, "Churches are in an ideal place to bring communities together for national celebrations. We have the tables, chairs, crockery and PA systems – and we love making cakes!

"It is so appropriate that the nation and Commonwealth should be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee on the same weekend as Pentecost, the day when the church celebrates the gift of God's Holy Spirit."

The anointing of God's Holy Spirit was central to the Coronation and, in preparation for the day, The Queen prayed: 'Come, Holy Spirit, and daily increase in all of us, and in me, thy humble servant, thy manifold gifts of grace; the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and strength; the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and fill us, O Lord, with the Spirit of thy holy fear, now and forever. Amen.'

The beautifully illustrated souvenir book to be published for the celebrations uses rarely seen prayers, which the Queen prayed in preparation for the Coronation, and highlights how God has answered those prayers over the past seven decades.

The 'Platinum Jubilee Celebration of Faith & Service' will build on the successful partnership facilitated by HOPE Together, which enabled local churches to bring their communities together for the Diamond Jubilee and the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations.

Over the next year HOPE will provide churches across the country with all the resources and ideas they need to run a great all-age community event that will celebrate the Queen's 70 years of faith and service.

We can plan to get our church involved, invite our community to the party, and round off the weekend with a special guest celebration service for Pentecost.

Find out more at [hopetogether.org.uk/jubilee](http://hopetogether.org.uk/jubilee)



**The Deadline for the September Magazine is  
15 August**