

Dear Friends

Half-term in the Brecon Beacons and an opportunity to read a whole novel in a few days. Richard Beard's Acts of the Assassins – a detective story. The plot is complex because the action conflates now with a world 2000 years old. The investigation is what happened to the body of Jesus?

Beard doesn't come over as a Christian and yet in his account the investigation is never resolved. Did the disciples steal the body? Did Jesus survive the crucifixion? Did the disciples manage to switch Jesus for a lesser disciple on the way to Calvary? The investigators have to change hypotheses as evidence fails to materialise. What is unchanging though is the disciples' faith that Jesus is risen and will return, and their unflinching zeal in the face of persecution.

At the end of the novel, the lead sleuth retires in the company of John the Apostle to Patmos still puzzled but not believing. 'It is true that occasionally Cassius Gallio is comforted by what John is able to believe, a vision of eternity where everything is now, and now is everything. At the same time he's proud never to have called on Jesus for help.' The novel leaves everything in the air. And yet I was left with the voice of Sherlock Holmes ringing in my ear. When every other explanation has been discounted, the explanation that is left, no matter how unbelievable, is what happened. No theft of a body; no last minute switch; no survival of a brutal execution. Just resurrection.

At the end of this month Christians everywhere will be celebrating the most challenging event of human history: how a human being came through death to new life. As St Paul said, The message is offensive to some, and nonsense to others, but to those whom God has called, it is wisdom and power.

Happy Easter!

God bless you.

John

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Mr Gerard Copeman and family wish to convey thanks to all neighbours and friends for their expressions of sympathy cards and condolences on the untimely passing of his wife Margaret.

Please have your articles for the April issue by Friday March 24.

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ST. MARY'S

NEWCHURCH-IN-PENDLE BB12 9JR

Your Parish Church exists to be the people of God
through faith in Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit,
worshipping Him, making disciples and serving others.



WORSHIP IS HELD EVERY SUNDAY AT 9.30AM

1st & 3rd Sunday: Holy Communion from the 1662 Prayer Book, with hymns and sermon.

2nd Sunday: All Age Worship

– a service with more modern hymns and sermon for young and not so young.

4th Sunday: Holy Communion from contemporary service book, with hymns and sermon.

5th Sunday (when applicable): Prayer Book Mattins

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Sunday 6th March 9.30am **Mothering Sunday** with Messy Church

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Sunday 20th March 9.30am **Palm Sunday Service**

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Thursday 24th March 7pm Seder Meal at St. Thomas's Barrowford

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Good Friday 25th 11am **Passion Play** in Newchurch Village. Meet in Church

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Sunday 27th 9.30am **Easter Service**, followed by an Egg Hunt for the children.

Church Events

Saturday 12th March 10am
Coffee Morning and Quiz Results at
5 Osborne Terrace Spenbrook

MESSY CHURCH

Tuesday 15th March 3.30pm
in Barley Village Hall

Friday 4th March 2pm
Women's World Day of Prayer

LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

www.pendleforesthistrorygroup.co.uk

Presentation by Anthony Pilling
Mills and Engines in East Lancashire
16th March 7.30pm Barley Village Hall

Womens Institute ~ WI

Barley Village Hall. 7.30pm.
Wednesday 2nd March: Defibrillator and
CPR Training with Mountain Rescue
Wednesday 6th April
Understanding the EU with Michael Hindley

MARCH 2016

This, and past issues of 'News' can be found on

WWW.STMARYSNEWCHURCHINPENDLE.ORG.UK

BARLEY VILLAGE HALL

BADMINTON & KEEP FIT: John ☎611517

CRAFT GROUP: Valerie ☎691850

PENDLE PATCHERS: Audrey ☎613280

COFFEE & CHAT

Second Wednesdays 10am to 12 noon.

PILATES: Tracy ☎0777 378 5904

YOUNG FARMERS: ☎ 0789 659 8811

BEGINNERS GUIDE TO WILLOW WORK

Saturday 12th March 1 - 4pm.

Learn how to make a beautiful spring wreath.

£25 includes materials and refreshments.

EASTER BUNNY CRAFTERNOON TEA

17th March at 1.30pm.

£6 includes materials and refreshments.

Booking essential as places limited.

Sally-Anne ☎0759 549 3289

MODEL EXHIBITION

Saturday 30th April Noon to 5pm, Sunday 1st May 10am to 5pm & Monday 2nd May 10am to 4pm. New Exhibitors welcome.

St. George's Dinner Saturday 23rd April 7pm for 7.30pm 3 course meal Roast Beef of Old England Tickets £17.50 ☎ Chris 691850

BRING YOUR OLD CLOTHES & RAGS TO BARLEY VILLAGE HALL AND PUT THEM IN THE CONTAINER. ALL MONIES TO THE VILLAGE HALL

Barley Parish Council

I'm sure by now that we are all completely weary of the constant rain and horrendous weather that this winter has thrown at us. The footings of the footbridge on Barley Green were completely washed away and the bridge has had to be removed whilst repairs are carried out. The water in the river was dangerously high and the Village Green turned into a new reservoir (as if we didn't have enough round here). Anyway maybe it's an opportunity for spotting new species of aquatic birds. Hopefully the worst is behind us and the recent cold crisp frosty days have been most welcome and brought a new influx of visitors into the area.

The Parish Council had been hoping to receive a grant to undertake paving on the car park to improve both the look and quality for visitors. However after long months of work on the application David Goodger has now been informed that unfortunately we don't qualify

after all. The Council will discuss how to improve the car park at the next meeting in March

The new residences in the 'Old Water Treatment Works' are now on the market and I'm sure a few of you have already had a look round on the open day. They have been very tastefully finished and we understand at least two of them have already been sold. They've been a long time in the making but hopefully we will soon have some new families in there and the 'Compound fence' will come down. Caroline Heap

GOLDSHAW BOOTH PC

At our last meeting P.C. Dibb called in to inform us that any parking issues should be addressed to LCC Parking Services. At public question time, a resident asked when would the parish be receiving high speed broad band? We are aware that a company called Boundless Communications offers decent broadband speeds, but is unsure if every one could access it. We have no more information at present.

Thoughts now are turning to Best Kept village competition, suggestions have been made and will be put into action in due course.

Rural Bus Service. A reply was received from the Leader of LCC to say that the County Council continue to face an unprecedented financial challenge as a result of continued cuts in funding by the Government, rising costs and demand for key services. We are still not aware what is to happen to our local services. Council has made enquiries to a Community Scheme to ask if they could help in the preparation of the railings on Nanny Maude for re-painting. They have inspected the site and informed us they cannot help because of road safety issues. Reports of dog fouling are still ongoing. Pet owners *please* conform - you know the rules. Kathleen Wilkinson

Pendle Halloween Festival

A group is getting together to start a Halloween Festival, expanding on the success of last years Scarecrow, Witch and activities in Newchurch. We are looking to introduce the same in Newchurch and Roughlee. Planning is starting very early as we are trying to get everyone involved, we are meeting every two weeks and all are welcome to add your two penneth worth. The next meeting is at the Bay Horse on Tuesday March 11 at 7.30pm. stuart@blackfoot.farm

There will be competitions for the best individual

display for Newchurch and Roughlee, then one for the scariest Pendle Halloween village! What can you do? You can build a witch, big or small. You do not know how to build a witch? Don't worry a workshop will be held 2 months before to show you how to build a scary Halloween horror (no mothers/inlaws/wives allowed.)

On the day there will be other events happening

ROUGHLEE

Planning matters have once again dominated recently with the developments at Dam Head and Happy Valley. The former was granted subject to some concessions being made. The proposed new building at Yate House at Happy Valley is on our next meeting's agenda, so as I have previously written, any comments are welcome. The lady who has been looking after the flower beds near to the school has decided after several years of service (thank you) to stand down and relinquish this task, so if any of you out there would like to assist us with this area of the village please let me know. With this in mind we did decide at our last meeting to once again enter the Best Kept Village Competition to see if we can improve on last year's position. We have also had an offer from one of our residents to explore the possibility of opening up the area near from the Coronation Bench (across the river from the information lectern) towards the bridge so that there is more of a visitors' area for picnickers. Our next meeting will be the last official meeting with Carol Donohoe as Parish Clerk; Carol is being replaced by Mary Reed, another local resident. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Carol for her service over the last 7(+) years and welcome Mary into this role. Martin Schofield

Roughlee School

Wow, what a very busy half-term here at Roughlee C of E Primary School! We have had the privilege of welcoming new members of staff to our very happy school family. Miss Forkin has joined our junior class. Mr Galea has joined our staff and is teaching music throughout the school. He is also teaching our junior children to play the ukulele. Both the children and the school are looking forward to performing at the Pendle School's festival. Miss Veevers, from the Burnley Youth Theatre, has also joined us this term delivering various aspects of our creative curriculum through drama. She is also

developing the children's social and emotional skills and runs a very popular drama club after school. Some of our very talented Year 3 and 4 children took part in an inter-school's athletic competition, coming 2nd and 3rd overall. Subsequently, four of these children are now attending an Able Creative Learning Sports Academy every Wednesday morning at Nelson and Colne College. During the 2nd half of the Spring Term two of our Year 6 children will be undertaking horse riding lessons, focused on developing their self-confidence and resilience. We are able to offer all of our children the exciting opportunity of gymnastics at the Best Centre as part of our P.E. curriculum. Recently, we invited parents to join their children to witness the culmination of the skills taught by Zolly, the professional gymnast coach, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The whole school enjoyed a trip to the theatre to watch Cinderella. This magical experience was organised by our FoRS and provided the children with stimulus for their creative writing sessions back in class. The staff and I were incredibly proud of all our children who led a joint Education Sunday Service, at St Mary's Church, with the children and staff of St Mary's C of E Primary School, Newchurch. I'm certain everyone who attended this service will agree all the children were magnificent and this was a lovely service. The two schools are looking forward to future collaborations. Finally the new glazed school entrance door has been ordered and should be installed during the Easter break. Mark Elliott

SAFE LANES IN PENDLESIDE

SLIP will be holding four meetings this year, on the last Tuesday of the following months – March 29, May, July and September all at Roughlee Village Centre starting at 7pm. We would love to see you at our meetings, but, if this is not for you and you walk, ride a bicycle or a horse, or drive on our country lanes, there is a way you can help. When you are out and about, if you think there is somewhere where our mobile road signs might be useful, just contact myself or Janet – contact details below – and we will do our best to get the signs erected. Similarly, if you know of an outlet which would be willing to display some of our leaflets, do let us know. All welcome.

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