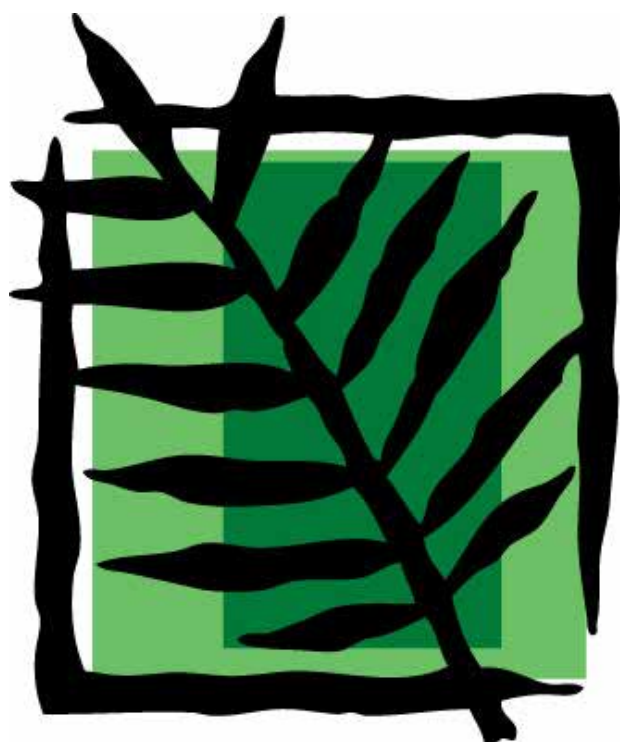


# BEVERLEY MINSTER MAGAZINE

APRIL 2017 | £1.00

The Parish Magazine of Beverley Minster, All Saints' Routh, St Paul's Tickton, St Leonard's Molescroft and St Peter's Woodmansey



# EDITORIAL

Welcome to the APRIL edition of the Minster Magazine.

As you will have read on the notice sheet, the Magazine team is taking a break until the future direction is discussed with the new incumbent. If you pay in advance, please contact the Parish Centre for a refund.

Contributors this month are:

Len Markham, Sally George, Terry Munro, Meg Choules, Gail Cahill, Barbara Gilman, Ben Merrell, Mike Robson, Yvonne Batten, David Brunt, Dawn Pollard, Mervyn King and Steve Rial.

# THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

## Too Busy Not To Pray

In his introduction to the twentieth anniversary edition to his book *Too Busy Not to Pray*, Bill Hybels wonders 'what would transpire if every Christ-follower got serious about installing solid prayer practices into their lives'. The book reminds us that God is willing and able and then shows how we can establish prayer habits. Two things in particular have helped me; firstly to look at God's adequacy, not my own inadequacy; and secondly a practical suggestion to write out prayers has enabled me to focus better, as well as giving a reminder of God's faithfulness to look back on.

*'Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.'*

Matthew 7:7

Meg Choules

## FLOODLIGHTING THE MINSTER SPONSORS IN APRIL

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10th	Mrs V Warner
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15th	Dr Clive P Waddington
16th	FREE NIGHT
17th	H & N Uebel
18th	J & M Ashurst
19th	Yorkshire Country Womens' Association
20th	J & M Westoby
21st	Yorkshire Electricity
22nd	Yorkshire Electricity
23rd	Yorkshire Electricity
24th	Yorkshire Electricity
25th	Yorkshire Electricity
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## NEW SCULPTURE COMMISSION

We have a new sculpture in the Minster. If you turn left on entering the Minster through the Highgate entrance and keep walking as far as you can to the east end, you will find the sculpture in the Percy Chapel in what, for many centuries, has been an empty niche.

*(Photo by Jeremy Fletcher)*

**The sculpture was commissioned by the Spedding family in memory of Alan, who was the Minster Organist and Director of Music from 1967 - 2009.**

They chose to commission **Peter Eugene Ball**, a sculptor with a strong reputation for creating pieces for ecclesiastical spaces, to depict St John of Beverley.

He is pictured below with Steve Rial who positioned the statue in its niche on Thursday 2 March when Peter delivered it to the Minster. *(Photo by Paul Hawkins)*

You can see other examples of his work in Southwell Minster, Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, Ely Cathedral, Salisbury Cathedral, Winchester Cathedral, Chelmsford Cathedral and Derby Cathedral.

*(Information from his website: [www.petereball.com](http://www.petereball.com))*

Peter told me that the materials he used were hardwood, bronze, steel, enamels and gold leaf.

His first religious piece, a simple crucifix, was bought in 1974 by a priest at Westminster Cathedral and four years later he obtained his very first church commission: a memorial crucifix at Preston-on-Stour in Warwickshire.

However, it wasn't until 1986, when Birmingham Cathedral commissioned a crucifix and altar pieces, that regular church work became an integral part of his life and over the next few years he began to place major pieces in some of the country's great cathedrals as well as smaller figures in various parish churches.

His career now spans more than 50 years and Peter currently has over 70 major works in churches and cathedrals throughout the UK – almost certainly more than any other living artist. He lives in Newark in Nottinghamshire with his wife, Jane, where he works from his garden studio and continues to undertake regular commissions, both religious and secular.

*Mervyn King*



# ST JOHN'S WAY >



This month we present part 3 of a 3 part series by **Len Markham** who has devised a walk from Harpham to the Minster - **St John's Way** - and written a fascinating commentary. The series is an extract from a longer publication **now available from the Minster shop** for just **£2.75**.

Known affectionately on the hills as 'that well-known pedestrian', this prolific Yorkshire journalist, author,

historian, poet and scriptwriter has over forty books to his credit including over a dozen walking guides, his works including *Clarty Strands – A Walking Tour of the Yorkshire Coast*, *The Yorkshire Weather Book*, *Home Front Yorkshire 1939-1945*, *York – A City Revealed*, *Discovering Yorkshire's History*, *Great Hull Stories*, *The Complete Angler and Yorkshire Strads – The Life & Legacy of George Haddock of Leeds & Bradford*. His *Markham's Milestones* pages have been a popular feature in the *Down Your Way* magazine for the last fifteen years.

## BEN'S SIX MONTHLY REVIEW

## MYAC

While I was sitting in Caffe Nero writing this – the official office space of youth ministers up and down the land – I realised how hard it is to write an article when there's nothing but a blank page staring back at you! As my mind wandered, I realised by the time this edition of the magazine is published, I will have been the youth and children's minister for six months. It's good to take stock of where you've come from, how much has been achieved, how good God has been to us. I should do it more often: I try to keep a journal and give myself the opportunity to build up the victories, as well as be honest and appropriately self critical about my shortcomings, but I have never been able to make the habit stick. If you'll indulge me, here I will try to give myself my six monthly review!

Back in September I was busy planning my first attempt at a Family Day. These are a legacy of Emily's three years here at the Minster, and have been a great stepping off point for new families wanting to get to know the Minster. I have continued the pattern of having four or five events a year, and have been able to put my own spin on them. That has meant gazebos as caves, interactive prayer stations, food crafts, and prayer labyrinths in the centre of the Minster!

There have been some families who, since being introduced to the welcoming community that the Minster family is, have wanted to know more. So that has meant *Time Out*, *Messy Church*, and *All Age Worship*. It is so heartening when a new family comes to one of these groups that I half recognise from a Family Day.

Our regular ministry with families continues to include *Time Out*, *Me & My Dad* and since the autumn, *Pebbles* at St Leonard's. These groups both provide a space for carers to bring their pre-school aged children for community and support as well as toys and crafts. Numbers vary between the groups: 50+ is busy enough at *Time Out* whereas at *Pebbles* there are 3 regular families, who don't always come at the same week. Advertising and publicity is something I need to get better at.

*Messy Church* has benefited from introducing a meal at the end of every session. Families find this really useful, and it's a good way of building on the sense of community we all have.

Work with the young people is something that I really enjoy: the challenges as well as the joys of supporting teenagers. We have frequently had 30 people at *Emmaus* on a Wednesday, which gives the wonderful volunteers and me lots of opportunity to build relationships and support the young people. There have been a couple of events that we have stopped in the past six months: *Damascus*, which was the Bible study group, stopped as it wasn't fulfilling the role it needed to with our current group of young people. There are plans for something to be started in the summer though, to complement the other ways in which we minister to this group.

As I'm sure you'll notice each week, Robert does an incredible job with our choristers! I was lucky enough to go to Germany with the choir in October as pastoral support and general entertainment... My singing might not be as good as the choir's, but I reckon my karaoke on the coach was best; the people sitting around me might disagree! This intense five days away meant I could connect even more with these extremely talented young people, and hope to continue to over the coming months, especially through the confirmation classes I will be running after Easter.

One of the things I am especially pleased with from the last few months is the way in which suddenly we have a group of young people who are willing and able to throw themselves into helping with events and services. We are blessed that the willingness to serve seems so automatic to them. I must be mindful over the coming months to ensure that I support and enable them to express themselves and build on their skills of leadership, presentation, music, prayer, creativity, and everything else this talented and enthusiastic group have.

No review would be complete without looking forward to the coming months:

- The foundations are built to start a group for discipleship with our young people: I hope this will follow on nicely from our confirmation classes.
- This Lent we are running a house group for families and some younger adults who might otherwise be on the fringe of our church community. I hope that this is something that will continue after Lent in some form. There is a desire for this from some families from our regular groups.
- Bravely, I seem to have been handed the reins for All Age services at the Minster and St Peter's. As well as being **so much fun**, I hope that this is somewhere I can encourage our young people to share their talents with the rest of the church. Keep checking in on the first Sunday to see how this works!

So, how do I feel after six months "in charge"? I have learnt so much, pushed myself to do things that I didn't think I'd have been able to a year or so ago. My calling to be here feels so strong at the moment, I feel very humbled to be part of God's plan for this amazing Minster and community. I am so grateful for the support of everyone here, and that God has continued to provide me with the skills to do the job. As ever, if anyone has any comments or wants to know more, please get in touch: I'm always up for a coffee and a chat!

Thank you for letting me indulge in this - same thing in six months then is it?!

Ben Merrell

I left readers facing a thicket of nettles at Wilfholme Landing ⑦. Ordinarily, such repelling weeds pose only a threat to walkers in shorts. However, these specimens of *urtica dioica* would have thwarted a Market Weighton Giant in waders, just one glancing brush on my cheek causing me to look for a dock leaf and find an alternative route.

So, I headed west on a not-unpleasant detour, following the quiet lane towards the tiny hamlet of Wilfholme. And I turned left towards Barff Hill Farm and the sleepy village of Aike ⑧, my creased, crumpled and muddled OS map of a 1986 vintage showing me a now redundant feature unrecognised by the youngsters of this mobile phone and satellite navigation age. At all of 10 feet above sea level, the triangulation pillar sits forlornly lauding it over a pancake-flat wilderness of drains and carrs. Onward to Aike.

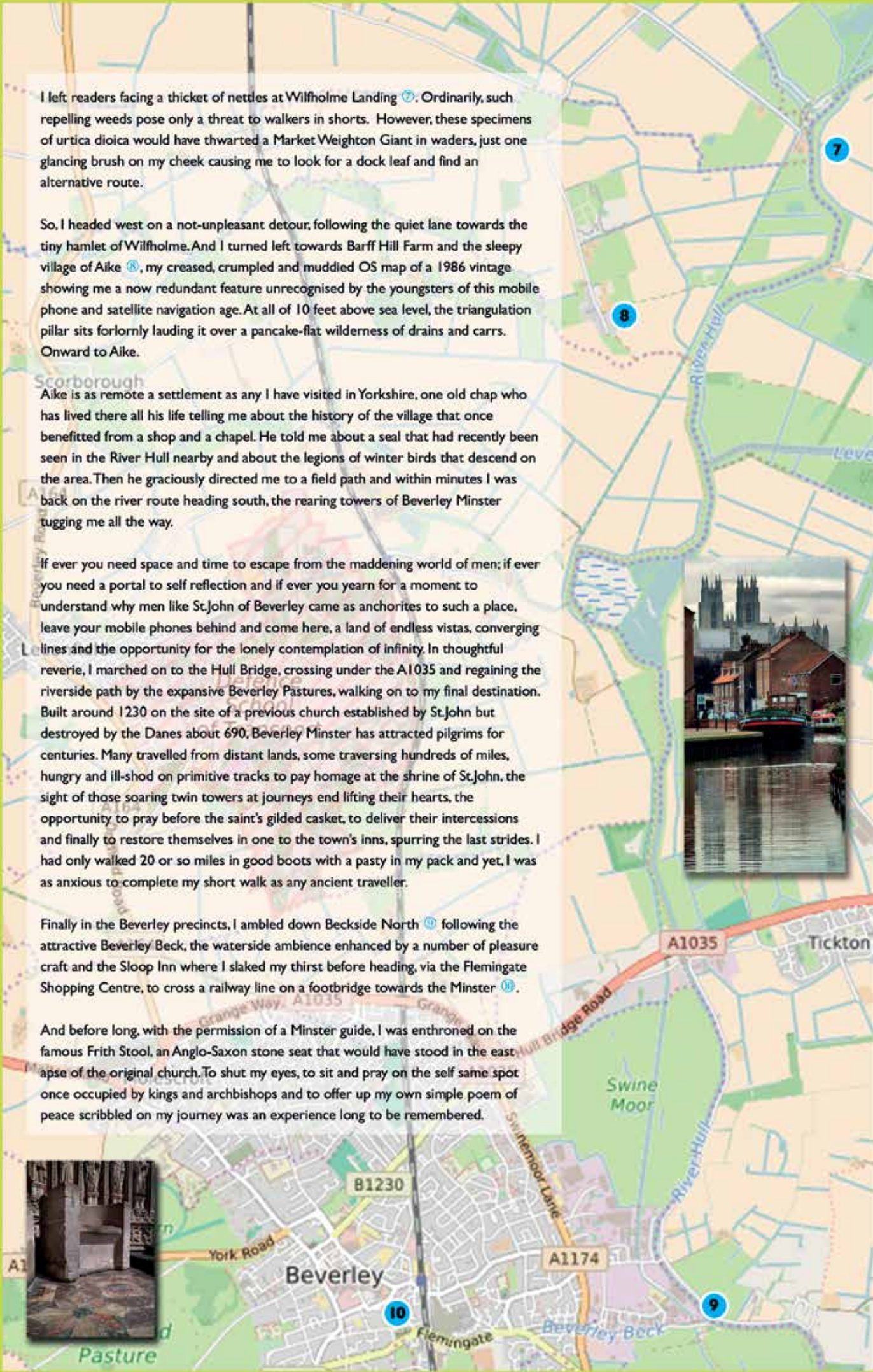
Scarborough

Aike is as remote a settlement as any I have visited in Yorkshire, one old chap who has lived there all his life telling me about the history of the village that once benefitted from a shop and a chapel. He told me about a seal that had recently been seen in the River Hull nearby and about the legions of winter birds that descend on the area. Then he graciously directed me to a field path and within minutes I was back on the river route heading south, the rearing towers of Beverley Minster tugging me all the way.

If ever you need space and time to escape from the maddening world of men; if ever you need a portal to self reflection and if ever you yearn for a moment to understand why men like St. John of Beverley came as anchorites to such a place, leave your mobile phones behind and come here, a land of endless vistas, converging lines and the opportunity for the lonely contemplation of infinity. In thoughtful reverie, I marched on to the Hull Bridge, crossing under the A1035 and regaining the riverside path by the expansive Beverley Pastures, walking on to my final destination. Built around 1230 on the site of a previous church established by St. John but destroyed by the Danes about 690, Beverley Minster has attracted pilgrims for centuries. Many travelled from distant lands, some traversing hundreds of miles, hungry and ill-shod on primitive tracks to pay homage at the shrine of St. John, the sight of those soaring twin towers at journeys end lifting their hearts, the opportunity to pray before the saint's gilded casket, to deliver their intercessions and finally to restore themselves in one to the town's inns, spurring the last strides. I had only walked 20 or so miles in good boots with a pasty in my pack and yet, I was as anxious to complete my short walk as any ancient traveller.

Finally in the Beverley precincts, I ambled down Becksid North ⑩ following the attractive Beverley Beck, the waterside ambience enhanced by a number of pleasure craft and the Sloop Inn where I slaked my thirst before heading, via the Flemingate Shopping Centre, to cross a railway line on a footbridge towards the Minster ⑨.

And before long, with the permission of a Minster guide, I was enthroned on the famous Frith Stool, an Anglo-Saxon stone seat that would have stood in the east-apse of the original church. To shut my eyes, to sit and pray on the self same spot once occupied by kings and archbishops and to offer up my own simple poem of peace scribbled on my journey was an experience long to be remembered.



# BEVERLEY, TWO CHURCHES: ONE TOWN PROJECT



**by Gail Cahill,**

*Project Development Manager*

Beverley is indeed a wonderful place to live and visit and uniquely has not one but two beautiful major parish churches that bookend the town centre. The Minster and St. Mary's are very special places and I would encourage everyone to go and spend some time just looking around these amazing buildings.

The two churches have joined forces along with the Town Council to work together on developing a heritage project that will attract major funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund. I have been commissioned to help the joint board on this huge exciting challenge.

The project is likely to cost around £15m and will not just focus on the major restoration work which is required to secure these great buildings for the future, but it is also to be something inspirational for the whole community.

The project vision is grandly expressed as -

***“Cultivating the transformation of people through their learning and experience of the remarkable artistry and heritage of Beverley and its major churches”.***

That sounds like quite a lot to live up to, which is why the development will take a lot of planning and involve a lot of people.

As well as the essential repair work needed for the Minster roof and St Mary's stonework, there are some ambitious ideas starting to develop. These include creating a heritage learning centre in St Mary's and enhancing the visitor facilities at the Minster. Important to the project is that the people within the town and those visiting Beverley will be asked about what they would like to see and be part of. The churches share a rich fascinating history

with the town spanning over centuries. The town's existence is due to the churches and the churches still stand due to the town's community. It is hoped that this long lived connection will be expressed through this project for all to see.

The project will definitely involve community events and music. Maybe, we will be able to see and touch St Mary's stone gargoyles as they are carted slowly through the centre of Beverley on carts aligned with minstrels on their way to the stonemason at the Minster!

I hope you find the time to pop into both the Minster and St. Mary's, you will be made very welcome and don't need to have any reason to go inside other than wanting to see for yourself what medieval delights are hidden inside these wonderful giants.

# JUSTICE FOR JUDAS?

I was idly flicking through a friend's mail order catalogue when in the Easter section my attention was arrested by an exotic-looking food item billed as an Apostle Cake. This was a new one on me. An Apostle Cake, the blurb informed me, was traditionally decorated with eleven marzipan orbs – "or occasionally twelve" – it added enigmatically, although no explanation of the discrepancy was given. I assumed that the cake-bakers who used twelve marzipan orbs knew that Christ had twelve Apostles but were a bit hazy about the rest of the story. I counted the orbs on the cake in the photograph. Eleven. These cake-bakers obviously knew about Judas. But does Judas really deserve his terrible reputation? Was it, I wondered, really fair to deprive him of a marzipan orb?

Of course this debate is not new. Google Judas Iscariot and you will find any number of articles suggesting that he has been misinterpreted, misunderstood and unjustly demonised. Some of these articles are written by Anglican clergy. One of them points out that while none of the Twelve were flawless – far from it – Judas is the only one to be "defined by the worst thing he did". This is perhaps inevitable, since Judas is not recorded in Scripture as having done anything else. Apart from the betrayal, we know nothing about Judas' activities as a disciple. (John – and only John – suggests that he sometimes dipped into the petty cash. Even if he did, it can hardly have been anything serious or he would have been relieved of his job as group treasurer. The other eleven would have seen to that.)

Probably the most familiar argument of the Rehabilitate Judas campaign is that Judas only acted in order to force Jesus' hand. He was not alone amongst the Twelve in expecting that Jesus would use his miraculous powers to establish an earthly reign and kick the Romans out. When Jesus told his disciples just before his ascension that they would shortly receive the power of the Holy Spirit, they asked him point blank if that was to be the moment when the Jews would regain their independence. It must surely be then or never? The only difference between Judas and the other eleven was that Judas had already got fed up with waiting. He'd decided to try and move things along a bit. But Jesus did not react in the way Judas had anticipated. Contrary to all his expectations, Jesus allowed himself to be arrested and condemned to death.

Apart from a slightly garbled and rather ghoulish account by Peter in the first chapter of

Acts, only Matthew tells us what happened to Judas after the arrest and conviction of Jesus. Judas, realising that his strategy has not worked, is appalled at the outcome. He confesses openly that he has sinned. More significantly, **he returns the money to the Temple authorities.** If Judas had betrayed Jesus purely for personal gain and now risked reprisal at the hands of his followers, why did he not just grab the silver and disappear? That is surely what any real, cold-blooded, self-serving traitor would have done. There is every indication from Matthew's account that the repentance of Judas was completely genuine. However, any question of true repentance clashes with the traditional view of Judas as the "son of perdition". In times past some have pointed to his suicide as proof of his inherent wickedness and also – in a curious leap of logic – as evidence of his insincerity. Christian attitudes to suicide have changed radically in recent times; but it is not so very long ago that taking your own life was considered by the church to be a heinous sin, and those who did so were denied a Christian burial. Suicide equalled damnation. So the issue of repentance could be conveniently brushed aside – Judas' suicide had sealed his fate anyway.

In our more enlightened age the question of Judas' repentance recrudesces. Can Judas be forgiven? If he was sincerely repentant, the answer is obviously yes. According to Jesus there is only one unforgivable sin. While many Christians (including the present writer) would admit to being unsure as to exactly what it is, nobody has suggested that it includes attempting to force your group leader to act in overthrowing an occupying power – however misguided your judgment, or however drastic the consequences.

Some of Judas' rehabilitators have claimed that because Satan had been allowed to "take him over", Judas was no longer responsible for his actions. The traditionalists do not deny that Satan was controlling Judas when he took the decision to betray Jesus. Ask a traditionalist whether Judas could have resisted Satan at that point, and they may well tell you that he could have but chose not to, because that was his destiny. Without Judas' betrayal, it has been argued, there would have been no cross and no redemption. Jesus understood this and did not hold his betrayer's action against him; he continued to call Judas "friend". I struggle to follow the logic of this argument. The authorities did not need a betrayal in order to arrest Jesus and have him executed. As Jesus himself pointed out, they could have arrested

him at any time. If they wanted to do it quietly, away from the public eye, and needed to know where Jesus went at night, they could easily have found out. The Temple had its own intelligence service. As far as the course of redemptive history is concerned, Judas' betrayal was completely unnecessary.

*"The wounds of Jesus, for my sin  
Before the world's foundation slain;"*

These lines from Johann Rothe's hymn (translated by John Wesley) carry an idea deeply embedded in the psyche of many Christians: that God planned the whole course of human history before time began and that those plans are immutable. If Judas' betrayal was – for some unfathomable reason – in the master plan, then without it God's redemptive purpose would have ground to a halt. In this the Judas-defenders would appear to be at one with the traditionalists: Judas was **destined** to betray Jesus. But whereas the Rehabilitate Judas faction sees him as a victim, to the traditionalists he is something little better than Screwtape. No wonder Jesus says that it would have been better for Judas if he had never been born. The irony is that he never needed to be.

Why are some Christians hesitant to admit the possibility that Judas sincerely repented of what he had done, and has been forgiven?

*"The vilest offender who truly believes  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives."*

What exactly **did** Judas believe? He obviously believed that Jesus had the power to orchestrate a rebellion against Roman rule, or he would not have acted as he did. Beyond that, he probably understood no more or less than any of the other disciples did at that stage. By the time the Easter story and the drama of Pentecost had played out, Judas was dead. "Repents" might have been a more appropriate word for Fanny J. Crosby to choose; few Christians today would claim that in the eternal scheme of things only believers can be forgiven. But then Fanny J. Crosby lived in an era very different to our own.

Even so, we sing the above lines frequently. But what do we make of them? Does a pardon from Jesus necessarily mean a pardon from us? I guess it has to. After all it is we, not God, who will decide whether to restore the twelfth marzipan orb to the Apostle Cake.

Barbara Gilman

# HOW DID WE GET THE NEW TESTAMENT?

## LOOKING FORWARD TO FURTHER STUDIES

The temporary suspension of the magazine sadly interrupts my series of studies on 'How we got the New Testament'. The first article, setting the scene for the emergence of the various books produced by the first Christians, appeared last month and is intended to be followed by seven more. Rather than present one of these this month, I thought I would simply give an overview of them, and hope that you will be able to read them later in the year.

No. 2 will be about the first New Testament books – St. Paul's Epistles, why he wrote them and some idea of how they were collected together.

No. 3 will cover the rest of the epistles, those bearing Paul's name, but probably composed at least in part, by a later writer or writers, and those attributed to other Apostles.

No. 4 will be about the first three Gospels, their origins, and how they are related to one another.

No. 5 will consider the Fourth Gospel. We will think about its differences from the first three, and how it broadens our picture of Jesus.

No. 6 will look at the two books in different categories, Acts and Revelation, thinking particularly of how they found their place in the New Testament collection.

No. 7 will cover the complicated process by which the books chosen to be included in the NT, were selected over a period of about 200 years. It will look at the story of various early Christian scholars' approach to the creation of what is termed the 'New Testament Canon of Scripture'.

No. 8, the last study, whilst still serious, will have a lighter side as we look at some of the earliest Christian writings that didn't make it into the final collection. For example, there are several 'gospels' about Jesus' early life, including one in which he seems to appear as a delinquent child, even dealing death to fellow children who upset Him!

Hopefully all these will appear in the autumn, or a bit later.

Goodbye for now.

*Terry Munro*

## CHRIST FOR ALL IN ANDHRA PRADESH (CFA)

Throughout 2016 work has been ongoing at the main activities supported by CFA – Shanti School, new bore wells, help for the disabled, sewing workshops, Pastor's support, Bible school and Faith home for the elderly.

Two key active initiatives supported by CFA are the "Health Aid Course" at St Mary's hospital and Gollapudi hostels for children. On the Health Aid course the trainee nurses have both theory and practical classes. A typical day starts with prayer at the chapel, followed by theory classes and then practical work in the hospital. They also have the opportunity to participate in the polio program, the Rural Health Clinics, Hospital out-reach camps and AIDS day rallies.

The children at Gollapudi hostel are still overawed by the recent gift of bunk beds to replace their straw mats on the floor. At the hostel the children are provided with an education, school uniforms, clean water, health support and three nutritious meals a day of rice, dahl and vegetables. They are also taught the Gospels, the good news of Jesus Christ and how he came into the world as a gift to us all. At Christmas they practised carols on Telegu and some heard for the first time the story of the first Christmas.

Please continue to support in prayer the work carried out by the CFA team.

*Dawn Pollard*





# SEA OF HULL



Early last year I had an email inviting me to take part in *Sea of Hull*, the nude photo shoot by Spencer Tunick. Together with my 2 friends, I duly sent off my acceptance in a moment of madness! We had been warned that the event would take part early one July morning, but we hadn't bargained for 2 am. However on arriving at Queen's Gardens, together with approximately 3000 others, we were given our tubs of body paint and told to await instructions. When the announcement came, we had to remove our clothes and apply the body paint all over - every crevice, wrinkle and hair had to be covered. Our clothes and belongings were left in a heap and strangely, because we were all so busy applying our colours, there was no time to feel embarrassed or even be aware of others, except for those needing help to reach difficult spots. Long awaited instructions over a loudspeaker commanded us to walk in our colour columns (four shades of blue and green numbered B1-B4) towards the 'Rose Bowl' - the Queen's Garden fountain. As we processed in our naked columns I did experience some considerable emotion, as the thought of concentration camp holocaust victims walking in similar naked columns to their fate crossed my mind. The first photo shoot over, we then had to proceed to the old town streets where we would be lying down.

I wanted to be one of the bodies in Parliament Street (an ex-boyfriend once lived there and I thought it would be fun to lie on his doorstep.) Unfortunately I was the wrong shade of green. Who would believe that I could experience discrimination due to my skin colour - quite a poignant moment. We were sent to Alfred Gelder Street where we had to lie in the road for a very long time. The photo of us all here has had much worldwide publicity and gives the impression that we were very tightly packed bodies, when in fact we all had considerable space. There was one more photo shoot outside the Guildhall, but by this time we were very cold and declined to join the few hundred bodies for the photos on the river bridge.

It was an amazing, once-in-a-lifetime experience. We felt a real sense of comradeship and equality: no one being judged by outer garments, hairstyles or possessions, and united by our various shades of blue and green. It took a whole week to wash off our body and hair colour, but despite that, it was a privilege to take part in such a memorable occasion.

*Yvonne Batten*

When I was asked to write a piece about *Sea of Hull* my first thought was trying to decide what the religious significance of this art event might be. I concluded that Adam and Eve must be involved and many artists have represented them in paintings, particularly in the Garden of Eden, which in *Sea of Hull's* case was represented by Queen's Gardens. I arrived there at 3 a.m. on 9 July and was given a plastic pot of paint labelled B1 - a tasteful pale blue. We all chatted for some time before being asked to strip off and paint ourselves. First we were photographed around the fountain - all 3200 of us - and then told we were "taking to the streets". At various points we had to lie down or face a particular way, not to smile, to stay in colour groups or mix up while pictures were taken, sometimes from towers and sometimes by drones. The atmosphere was brilliant even though we were cold. After a couple of hours most participants got dressed again, while about 800 of us walked to Scale Lane bridge. Here it was a little chilly when the bridge swung out over the river. The last photographs were taken from the top of the hotel opposite. My main memory is of the wonderful camaraderie shared by people of all shapes and sizes and ages from eighteen upwards. A phrase from the Book of Common Prayer came to mind: "all sorts and conditions of men." We were there together and that gave some religious significance to the experience!

*David Brunt*

The exhibition of photographs *Sea of Hull* by Spencer Tunick opens at the Ferens Art Gallery on April 22 together with works by Ron Mueck and Lucian Freud. Admittance is free.

# FROM THE ARCHIVES

## The New Look Parish Magazine January 1960

I was with church friends recently at a house in North Frodingham and I was reminded of Reverend Basil Earle Shaw who was the vicar at the village church after his curacy at Beverley Minster during the interregnum in 1958. After the then vicar Rev. Collwyn Hargreaves left Beverley Minster, the Rev. Ernest B. Bull arrived 7 months later during which time Rev. Shaw had kept things going and stayed on as curate until 1960, when he left to take charge of the parish of North Frodingham.

It was in January 1960 that the Magazine changed format to approximately A5 size and contained advertisements. This is what Rev. Bull had to say:-

*THE NEW LOOK. I trust that everyone will appreciate the new form in which the Magazine appears this month. The Gospel is Good News. We must therefore proclaim it as attractively as possible. Propaganda and publicity are methods which Jesus Himself used: He tells those who would follow Him to "preach the Gospel to every creature" and such preaching is the best propaganda, and His was a public ministry. A Parish Magazine exists to supply what the daily and weekly Press so sadly lacks - informed articles on religious topics and Church affairs generally. It is right that we should use modern methods of presenting our news; and in God's service our standard should be immeasurably higher than that of the world. A business which is not progressive is losing ground. And this is true also of the Church. We express our gratitude to all our readers; we greet many new ones; we thank especially the distributors, and, not least, our friends who have taken space for advertising their business, and the printer. Your sincere friend and Vicar, E.B. Bull.*

Rev. E.B. Bull was to stay as vicar of Beverley Minster until 1967. In 1963 Routh was without a Rector for the first time in 650

years and he offered to become Curate in Charge of Routh and this has been the case to this day with each succeeding incumbent of the Minster.

As for Rev. Hargreaves who departed from Beverley, we do have a description of his new rectory from his letter to the magazine, written on 12th April, 1958 from The Rectory, Moreton-in-

Marsh, Glos. He wrote a letter of thanks for the 'Parting Gift of £83 which would take some of the sting out of the removal expenses'. He goes on to say:-

*Before I left the Parish Room last Friday night, I saw a little group standing round a table on which were displayed notices and posters for the Beverley Minster Festival of Music and it seemed so strange to know that it was all no longer my concern. I hope all goes well and that as the years go by the Festival will become more and more widely known. I am very sorry I shall not be at the Festival Service. The Dean of York was my Dean at King's College, Cambridge, and I was looking forward rather proudly to his visit.*

*Our house here is a very pleasant one.*

*It will take us some time to get settled in. It is rather amusing to watch our two Siamese cats prowling round the garden and stopping every now and then to bask in the sunshine. They think this is a holiday and that Beverley is still their home. In fact, we all feel rather like that. Beverley is indeed a place that is home, and though we have left it we shall always love it and the many kind friends and people who live there.*

There was no social media in those days, but now we are able to see photos instantly on Facebook of Jeremy and Julia's new home, as they unpack, at the vicarage in Hampstead.

*Sally George*



# 40 YEARS AS TOWER CAPTAIN & STEEPLE KEEPER



Breaking it down into simple numbers it works out that I have rung for over 4,800 Sunday services, over 1,000 weddings both at the Minster and other churches and taught well over 100 people to ring, I have also got through 4 vicars.

Some of the special events we have rung for are, 2 visits to the Minster by Her Majesty the Queen, plus other Royal visitors to the town, flower festivals, the Olympics, and the Tour de Yorkshire cycle race, and many more. One of the highlights of the last 40 years was to lift Great John our 7 ton bell and fit new bearings and re bush the clapper to take it back to its original 1901 condition whereby it can be rung by just one person. We have rung it on several occasions since and it is a pleasure to ring, the tone being better than when it strikes on the hour.

In 1970 when I first came along to the Minster to learn to ring bells, little did I know that just 7 years later I would be appointed Tower Captain and Steeple Keeper. Charles Barker who had been Tower Captain for the previous 11 years had a heart attack in February 1977 and could no longer ring, so the band put me forward as the person to take over.

In those 7 years Charles had taught me how to maintain tower bells, handbells, splice ropes, teach and conduct methods, and most importantly of all, how to teach other people to ring bells. Without someone to do these things towers can fall silent, sometimes for many years.

Now having completed 40 years in the post it makes you wonder where the time has gone.

Last year for the first time ever, I was asked to give a talk on the Minster bells and their history. The talk included all the Minsters bells from 1050 to the present day, followed by a ringing demonstration and a visit to see Great John and the prayer bell. This bell was one of 5 bells cast in 1366 in a pit near to where the font now stands and was hung in the previous church on this site.

In the next few years I am looking to work on our peal of 10 bells and to restore and replace some of the parts that are now 116 years old and are starting to wear out. This work should ensure that the bells are in good condition hopefully for the next 100 years.

Many things have changed in the Minster and how it is run, but the bells still ring out over Beverley after 967 years.

*Mike Robson*

# THE REGISTERS OF BEVERLEY MINSTER

Published APRIL 2017

## Baptisms

### At Beverley Minster

19 February 2017

Sierra Marie Field

## Funerals

01 March 2017

Mary Hodgson (91)

09 March 2017

Alec James (79)

There is an archive of the Registers on the Minster website. Select the Resources menu for the following:

SERVICE LISTS, MAGAZINES,  
SERMONS, NOTICE SHEETS,  
SERVICE SHEETS, REGISTERS,  
PUBLICATIONS, VACANCIES



# MAINTENANCE REPORT

## Window S26

Work has now resumed on window S26 adjacent to the Font.



Rebuilt leaded lights refixed.



Leaded light at early stage of rebuild



Leaded light before strip down

**Beverley  
Minster**  
MAGAZINE



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*Beverley Minster Parish Magazine is published by Beverley Minster Parochial Church Council. Views expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial team or the publishers.*

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