

Christ Church High Harrogate



GRAPEVINE £1.00
September 2026



Living Water
Season of Creation 2026

Immersion in Living Water
EZEKIEL 47:9, 12

The theme for the **Season of Creation 2026** is Living Water, based on
Ezekiel 47:1-12

God's life-giving water flows from the temple of God, growing deeper, restoring barren land, reviving waters, and sustaining flourishing ecosystems.

The vision invites human responsibility: recognising ecological damage, embracing interconnectedness, we are called to immerse ourselves in the water, and actively safeguarding and working for the renewal of creation so that environmental healing and human well-being may flourish together.

For more information go to <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/season-creation>

Found in Translation

Literary translation is tricky, sometimes leaving readers feeling that something is 'lost in translation'. But consider the words of Polish Nobel Prize winner Olga Tokarczuk: 'How wonderful – to translate from one language to another, and by so doing to bring people closer to one another – what a beautiful idea.' This course explores the theme of the *outsider* in three remarkable books translated into English from French, Polish and German. Please do join us.

Lively and rewarding discussion –
not to mention tasty biscuits and coffee - await!

AGENDA

Meeting time: Tuesdays 10am-noon

Duration: 10 weeks, starting September 15, 2026
(with an October break for halfterm)

Fee: £105

Location: Christ Church, High Harrogate

course readings

- Albert Camus, *The Outsider* (1942) – any translator
- Olga Tokarczuk, *Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead* (2009), tr. Antonia Lloyd-Jones (2018)
- WG Sebald, *The Emigrants* (1992), tr. Micheal Hulse (1996)

Dr Robert Hemmings has been teaching literature and culture for more than 30 years.

For more info, please contact **Robert** at
rhhemmings@gmail.com

GRAPEVINE SEPTEMBER 2026

Welcome to this month's Grapevine magazine.
We hope you enjoy reading it.

Don't forget if you would like to submit an article you think the readers would enjoy, please contact Jill Walters in the Parish Office.

Articles need to be submitted as Microsoft Word or pdf documents and should be emailed to info@christchurchharrogate.org.uk

We try to ensure that Grapevine reflects the Christian aspirations of our community. All contributions are welcome but may be edited. If you feel we have made a mistake, please do let us know via the Parish Office.



Deadline for the October 2026 edition is 21st September

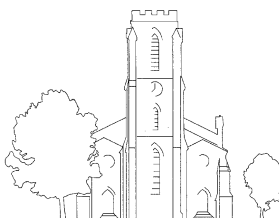


WEDDINGS & BAPTISMS

For enquiries regarding Weddings and Baptisms at Christ Church please contact the Parish Office.

Parish Office

Christ Church,
Church Square,
Harrogate HG1 4SW
Tel: 01423 530750



E: info@christchurchharrogate.org.uk
What3Words: talked.bowls.doors

Normal Opening Hours:

Monday to Friday 9.00am – 1.00pm
(other hours are available by arrangement)



<http://twitter.com/ChristChurchHG1>



www.facebook.com/ChristChurchHighHarrogate



www.christchurchharrogate.org.uk

Church Donations can be made by cheque, cash, online banking or via the QR Code. If you would like to make a donation and you are a tax-payer please consider adding GIFT AID. This reclaims tax, at no extra cost to you.

Thank you



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(formerly part of freepik)

WHO'S WHO at Christ Church, High Harrogate



Vicar: The Revd Matthew Evans

Tel: 01423 883390

Email: msevens126@gmail.com

Assistant Curate (SSM):

Revd Caroline Taylor

Email: caroline.taylor@leeds.anglican.org

The Parish Office

Tel: 01423 530750

Email: info@christchurchharrogate.org.uk

Honorary Assistant Priests:

The Revd Dr Geoff Turner (retired)

The Revd Arnold Clay (Methodist Minister – retired)

The Revd Linda Potter (retired)

The Revd Christopher Parkin (retired)

The Revd Ian Shelton (retired)

The Revd Michael Price (retired)



Churchwardens: Shirley Morris, Norman Potter & Anna Harrison

Treasurers: Shirley Morris, Rachel Rollinson (contact via the Parish Office)

Parish Clerk: Jill Walters info@christchurchharrogate.org.uk

Director of Music: David Darling david.darling@live.co.uk

Junior Church & Crèche: christchurchjc@gmail.com

PCC Secretary: Paul Mottershead PCCSecretary@christchurchharrogate.org.uk

Sacristan Team: Paul Mottershead & David Convery

Head Server: Paul Mottershead

Pastoral Care: Revd Linda Potter

Carla Baranovsky (Safeguarding Officer) Safeguarding@christchurchharrogate.org.uk

Liz Leatherbarrow (Bereavement Support Team) (contact via the Parish Office)

Electoral Roll: Denise Lynn (contact via the Parish Office)

Sidesmen & Sideswomen: John Woolliscroft (contact via the Parish Office)

PASTORAL CARE at Christ Church, High Harrogate

The Pastoral Care Team at Christ Church is there to offer a listening ear, offer support and make sure that we do genuinely “bear one another’s burdens”. Please contact the Vicar or any of the Churchwardens here at Christ Church via the Parish Office if you want to find out more.

Christ Church Services and Prayers

Daily Prayer :

Please see the church website or Weekly Bulletins for weekly variations to these services.

Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel at 8.30 am Tuesday to Friday.

Evening Prayer in the South Transept at 5.30 pm on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

You are also very welcome to join us at Evening Prayer via ZOOM - an opportunity often taken-up by people in the parish and beyond.

Please contact the Vicar for Zoom access details. Email: msevans126@gmail.com

EVENING PRAYER Zoom Meeting Time: This is a recurring meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86509171527?pwd=b1RhenRBYWxOSnhRaTVHdGV4QlI4Zz09>

Meeting ID: 865 0917 1527 **Password:** 905250

Sunday Services

Our Sunday 8.00am and 10.00am services both take place in the church with refreshments being served after the 10.00am service. The 10.00am Service can be joined by Zoom. If you wish to access this facility please

email : msevans126@gmail.com each week for the Zoom access details.

Intercessory Prayers on Wednesday Mornings 9.30am:

This is a short, quiet service of prayer in the church, where each week a small group gathers naming individuals, places and situations in prayer.

Please simply email us on **info@christchurchharrogate.org.uk** or telephone 01423 530750 to add any request of an individual or situation into these prayers.

Wednesday Midweek HOLY COMMUNION

A simple, said, midweek Holy Communion service with a short address.

Meeting in the main hall of the Parish Centre at 10.00am the service lasts approximately 45 minutes.

Teas and coffees are served after the service. You are very welcome to join us.

Open Church

The church building is usually open and available to visitors as follows:

Sundays 11.15am – 5.30pm

Mondays and Tuesdays 9.00am – 3.00pm

Wednesdays 10.00am – 1.00pm (afternoon hours may vary)

Thursdays and Fridays 9.00 – 1.00pm (afternoon hours may vary)

Saturdays 9.30am – 5.30pm

Please always feel welcome to come in, light a candle, write a prayer, or simply sit in the silence of the church. If you are making a special visit, please do let us know so that we can be **absolutely sure** that the church will be open for you.

WELCOME

... But this month, something from the **Revd Douglas Bendall**, a LETTER, and then an INVITATION

THEOLOGY & BEAUTY ~ 'CREATION CARE' *from the :*
CHRIST CHURCH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

by the Revd Douglas Bendall Ph.D

When I was young, I thought air, water, trees, fields and rivers were inexhaustible. I was wrong. The growth of consumption of natural resources over time by way of population increase and a general lack of appreciation that natural resources are finite have led much of the Modern World to disregard the fact that the pillars of our lives depend upon the existence of natural elements such as clean water, clean air, trees, fields, rivers and many other materials we take for granted.

We are also blindsighted by a philosophical mistake that the English mathematician and philosopher Alfred North Whitehead called the Bifurcation of Nature. What Whitehead observed is the separation of facts and values. This is an ancient mistake that is identified in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Jesus says, *"No one can serve two masters : for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. YOU CANNOT SERVE GOD AND MAMMON."* (Matthew 7:24). By 'Mammon' Jesus meant money or riches.

[NOTE : Jesus was unequivocally rejecting the worship of money rather than God. But in the Gospel of Luke, we observe money functions as a useful tool. Jesus commends those who use money in the service of God.]

The Biblical understanding of the relationship between facts and values expresses an entirely different understanding of Reality. The Word of God rejects the Worldview that *"Money makes the World go around."* We do well when we reject this view of the powers that rule the World.

The Word of Truth declares : *'The Earth is the LORD's and the fulness therein ; for he has founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the rivers.'* (Psalm 24:1). We do well when we replace false claims about the rule of money with the Worldview of Scripture. Money is a tool ; it lacks inherent power.

Let us begin again :

- *Please read* Chapter 1 of The First Book of Moses, commonly called Genesis, up to Genesis, Chapter 2 verse 4. I believe most readers understand the text says **(1) God is the Creator of everything that exists, (2) we are God's creation, and (3) God made all things well. Everything is beautiful in its own way. God also gave human beings a specific purpose ; namely, "to till" and "to keep" the garden in which they were put. (Gen. 2:15).**

And an INVITATION :

The members of the ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE of CHRIST CHURCH **invite you** to submit a **PHOTO**, taken within SEPTEMBER this year, that *'suggests or intimates the beauty and wonder of creation, and of how we are all a part of it, and of it as a gift from God.'* - If you wish to print it please make it approx 6"x4", or, email it to Matthew for printing. (msevans126@gmail.com). - We shall make a DISPLAY of all the images sent - and THANK YOU.

New Bishop of Leeds announced

<https://www.leeds.anglican.org/who-we-are/news/new-bishop-of-leeds-announced.php>



The new Bishop of Leeds will be the Rt Revd Dr Toby Howarth, it was announced on 31st July 2026 by the Prime Minister's office, after the King approved his nomination for election.

Bishop Toby will be the second Bishop of Leeds, following the retirement of the Rt Revd Nick Baines in November 2025. He has served as Area Bishop of Bradford in the Diocese since 2014 and has been Acting Bishop of Leeds since Bishop Nick's retirement.

Bishop Toby said: "I have a deep sense of joy and longing. Joy to have been called to serve as Bishop of Leeds in this glorious Diocese that I've grown to love over the last twelve years. Joy to be working with such a rich diversity of churches and cathedrals, schools and chaplaincies, faith and community partners, businesses, institutions and statutory services filled with faithful and creative people working in often challenging contexts. Joy to be part of such a committed and talented diocesan staff team.

"But also longing. Longing for us all to experience more and more of God's abundant love in Jesus transforming our lives, our homes and our communities."

Commenting on the appointment, the Most Revd Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York, said: "Leeds is a remarkable Diocese, shaped by a rich history, extraordinary diversity and a deep commitment to

sharing the hope of Jesus Christ in every community. Bishop Toby knows and loves this Diocese so well. I am delighted that he will lead the next chapter of the life and witness of the church in this place.

"Bishop Toby's passion for sharing the good news of the Gospel alongside his profound commitment to interfaith dialogue equip him to serve all those who call these communities home."

Bishop Toby will lead on the next stage of the Diocese of Leeds vision of becoming confident Christians, growing churches and transforming communities.

"I am looking forward to working across the Diocese as we take forward that vision together," he said. "Over the next weeks and months, I will be listening to partners and communities both inside and outside the Church to hear how we can best support churches and leaders to be confident in our mission and purpose, to ensure we are efficient, effective and sustainable as a diocese and to be relevantly living and telling the good news of Jesus in our rapidly changing world."

During the autumn, Bishop Toby will be elected to the role of Diocesan Bishop of Leeds following a joint meeting of the Cathedral Colleges of Canons in Ripon and his election will be confirmed by the Archbishop of York at York Minster. Three services of welcome and installation will follow at Bradford Cathedral, Ripon Cathedral and Wakefield Cathedral. From September onwards, Bishop Toby will be undertaking a programme of visits to meet and listen to people from churches, organisations and communities around the Diocese.

To mark the announcement of his appointment, Bishop Toby climbed Great Whernside, one of the highest points in the diocese, from where there is a view right across this vast, varied and wonderful region.

About Bishop Toby

Toby Howarth was born in Kenya and went to school at Haverstock Comprehensive in North London. He received scholarships to study at high school and Yale University in the United States, including a summer working with Afghan refugees in northern Pakistan. On

coming back to Britain, he was a research assistant for the Revd Dr John Stott for two years before becoming a postman in the East End of London.

After training in Oxford, Birmingham and Uganda, combining Christian theology with an MA in Islamic Studies at the University of Birmingham, Toby was ordained and served in an inner-city parish in Derby. He then moved to India with his family for five years, during which he did research in Islamic preaching for a PhD from the Free University of Amsterdam.

Returning to Europe, Toby served with a Dutch church in Rotterdam before moving back to Birmingham where he taught Islamic studies and worked as Tutor and then Vice Principal at Crowther Hall in Selly Oak.

In 2004 he took up parish work again as Vicar of St Christopher's, Springfield, a church in a majority Muslim area of Birmingham. In addition to the parish role, Toby was the Bishop of Birmingham's Adviser on Inter Faith Relations until April 2011 when he became Interreligious Affairs Secretary for the Archbishop of Canterbury.

In 2014 he became Area Bishop of Bradford, the first person to hold the role in the new Diocese of Leeds. Bishop Toby is married to Henriette, who is also ordained, and they have three adult children.

About the Anglican Diocese of Leeds

The Anglican Diocese of Leeds is one of the largest dioceses in England, covering 2,425 square miles and a population of 2.6 million people. It was created in 2014 by bringing together the previous historic dioceses of Ripon and Leeds, Bradford and Wakefield. It represents the breadth and variety of the Church of England, comprising major cities, large industrial and post-industrial towns, market towns and deeply rural areas.

The Diocese is divided into five Episcopal Areas - Bradford, Huddersfield, Leeds, Ripon and Wakefield - each led by an Area Bishop. The Diocese includes three cathedrals, three minsters, over 440 parishes and 236 church schools.



New Way of Sharing News!!

Do you want to get the news about what's happening at Christ Church 'as it happens'?

Do you want reminders about services and events?

Do you want to know as soon as we have the heating back on in church?

Then sign up NOW for our new 'free' email subscription service to get news straight to your inbox.

To sign up, go to the church website **christchurchharrogate.org.uk**, select **Communication** from the top line and then click **email sign-up**. Simply enter your email address and name and that's it !

You can also use the QR code (see below) to register with our email service and get all the latest Christ Church news straight to your inbox

- be the first to know!!



Please Note: We are using an email service called MailChimp to provide this service and their logo should be included in the messages from us. Mailchimp are compliant with UK data protection laws. Once you have signed up, our initial message may drop into your Junk Folder so if you haven't heard from us, please check there!

For more information see Paul Mottershead or Tina Hutchinson.

Note: we will only send you information about Christ Church, we will not share your details with anyone else. Please see the Privacy Notice when you subscribe for more details.

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK!

It is with great sadness that we bid a fond farewell to Kath and Andy Barff as they start their house move. Having lived on Church Square for many years they are moving to pastures new but we could not let them go without saying a huge **thank you** for all that they have contributed to the life and times of Christ Church. In her time with us, Kath amongst other numerous roles, was a Churchwarden, PCC member, a member of the Link Lunch Team, Wedding Team, Pastoral Care Team, Flower Team and she played a big part in food provision at so many of the large church social gatherings.



She was also our coordinator/representative for the Harrogate Foodbank and regularly filled her little red car 'Vera' with donations to take to the Harrogate Foodbank.

Andy has also been a great support to Christ Church taking up various roles such as PCC Secretary, Buildings Maintenance Coordinator, Project Manager (including the refurbishment of the church tower clock and the repair of the East Wall), Garden Team member and large project Grant Seeker!

We wish them both good luck and every happiness in their new home together and hope that they will pop in every now and then to see us !

When is a curate Not a curate ?

When she has completed her curacy !!

As announced and celebrated in prayer and blessing in church on Sunday 2nd August, we are delighted that Caroline has completed her Curacy training as agreed by Bishop Anna. However, Caroline is remaining with us on an Extended Licence (possibly through to January 2028), with ministry in Christ Church and the Deanery - so we do not yet need to say a 'goodbye'.

Thank you for all your prayers and support to Caroline across her first 4yrs, and in all that we continue to share.



New stole purchased by Caroline with the collection donations following her priesting. She passes on her thanks to us all for this wonderful gift.

Junior Church & Creche

The Junior Church & Creche at Christ Church offers **children of all ages** a positive, exciting and supportive introduction to Christian faith, life and worship as a foundation for life.

Older children are given encouragement and support in preparation for **Confirmation** as part of their own journey into Christian commitment.

On **Sunday mornings** during term-time, children gather for Junior Church & Creche in the Parish Centre. Children are asked to arrive by 9:50am in readiness for the start of the service. They join the congregation in the front pews of the church at the start and end of the 10.00am service. For the remaining time, they work across four age groups in the Parish Centre:

- Creche and Reception children;
- Year 1 and 2;
- Years 3, 4, and 5; and
- An older group consisting of years 6-9.

These groups follow a syllabus called 'ROOTS'. By following this syllabus, the children gain a good grasp of the key events and teachings of the Bible and develop a personal relationship with Christ.

Junior Church members are asked to bring a weekly donation to the collection plate which goes to the Church funds in order to support the youth work of Christ Church. In addition, Junior Church also aims to support three charities each year – one local, one national and one international. We manage this through various events such as cake stalls and tombolas.

Other activities involving Junior Church throughout the year are outlined in newsletters to parents.

If you have not previously registered with Junior Church & Creche or if your details have changed, please email us at christchurchjc@gmail.com

If you are interested in being a Leader or Helper with Junior Church & Creche, please email us at christchurchjc@gmail.com

*Here are the lunchtime recitals for the 2026 season.
Thank you to our Director of Music, David Darling, for organising
this wonderful variety of musicians and singers.*

Christ Church Lunchtime Recitals Series 2026

Wednesday 4th February

Ed Deakins (Cello)

Wednesday 4th March

A-level Musicians from
St Aidan's and St. John Fisher Associated 6th Form

Wednesday 1st April

Alannah Saphir (Flute)

Wednesday 6th May

Nick Fletcher (Classical Guitar)

Wednesday 3rd June

Voces Seraphorum (Vocal Ensemble)

Wednesday 1st July

~~Lily Ziff (Soprano)~~ to be rescheduled

NO August Recital as we take a break!

Wednesday 2nd September

Christ Church Musicians

Wednesday 7th October

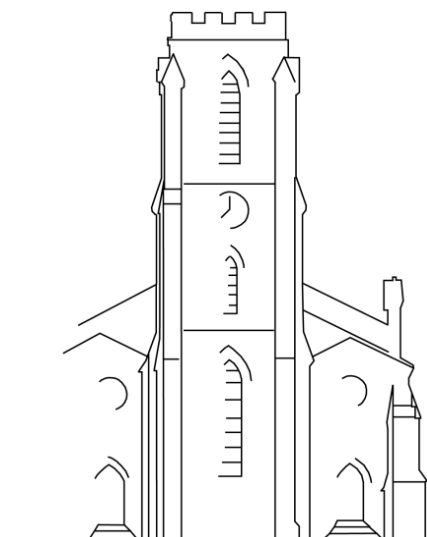
Matthew Lazenby (Organ)

Wednesday 4th November

Persia Shafi - Cliffe (Soprano)

All recitals begin at 12.15pm and are followed by a light lunch

*Admission to the recitals is free, but a donation towards Christ Church Music Fund
is most welcome. A small charge is made for lunch*



Do you enjoy singing?

Are you aged 7 or over?

The Choir of Christ Church would love to hear from you!

Becoming a Chorister can give you these benefits...

- A free musical education, which will stay with you for life
- Equal opportunities for boys and girls aged 7+
- Progress through the Royal School of Church Music Singing awards
- Learn new musical skills by being part of a centuries-old English choral music tradition
- Develop confidence through teamwork and also from opportunities to sing solos
- Get paid...yes, really!...for doing something you enjoy doing.
(Money earned will depend on experience and attendance among other things)
- Choir outings and social activities
- Perform solos and as part of an ensemble at the Harrogate Competitive Festival
- Join with other choirs to sing larger-scale works
- Personal development as a member of a church choir can lead to university choral scholarships



Our choir is a friendly closely-knit group of singers aged 7+ to 80+. All members support each other and rejoice in the success of fellow choristers. Choir practices take place on Thursday evenings from 6.30-7.45p.m. and on Sunday mornings at 9.30a.m. before the morning service. Our Junior Choristers also meet after the service to prepare the music they will be singing on their own at the All-Age service and to work towards their RSCM awards.

For more information, speak to any member of the choir or contact our Director of Music, David Darling. Email: david.darling@live.co.uk, telephone 07975 791028, or have a word after any service.

Lady Chapel, South Transept and Chancel – Exploratory Dig

After a great deal of background work to find suitable trades and skills, gain permissions and manage diaries – not least for times of worship and current weddings – we began the exploratory works in the Lady Chapel, South Transept and Chancel to see what is causing the floors to sink/move.

Week commencing 3rd August saw Mark Wood and his small team (from Peter Wood and Son Organ Builders Ltd) arrive to wrap the organ pipes and console in heavy duty plastic sheeting to protect the organ from excavation and building work dust. This was a two-day job working at great heights necessitating a very ingenious rope and pulley solution!!



Then on Thursday 6th August Matthew, Alexandra, Patrick, David, Paul and Elizabeth cleared the furniture from the Chancel and brought the High Altar table into the Nave – again to distance them from the excavation works.





The excavation dig to create inspection pits in the Lady Chapel and Chancel floors took place on 17th August with remarkably little dust!! It was a manual dig on the whole which made the works much less dirty. Sadly the results of the excavations were inconclusive and so we are awaiting the report from the Structural Engineer to see where we go from here! Watch the Weekly Bulletins and Grapevine Magazines for future updates.



'AI can act for the common good but only if Governments remain sovereign'

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media/news-and-press-releases/ai-can-act-common-good-only-if-governments-remain-sovereign> 24/07/2026

The Bishop of Oxford has backed calls for the right of Governments to set policy and regulate big tech as he warned of the risks posed by rapid technological change. Making his valedictory speech in the House of Lords, Bishop Steven Croft said there were 'many gains' from new technology but there were also risks to society in areas such as mental health, social cohesion, truth, and patterns of work and distribution of power.



Speaking of advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI), he said the risks posed were partly a product of its accelerating speed of development.

"The speed of change, and the significant power unleashed, make this revolution distinct from other technical developments in the past, because there is a risk that the speed of change will itself undermine the very benefits that change brings," he said.

"There is simply no time for public trust and confidence to grow, and you have heard of the growing public awareness of risk and the desire that something be done."

Bishop Steven said there was an urgent need for a 'clear standard and statement of intent' from the Government, asserting sovereignty for Governments over the implementation of new technologies, that was "ethically shaped and in the interests of our whole society".

He added that there also needed to be moves towards drawing together the "combined and collective power of nation states" to act on this issue for the good of all.

"The most important part of a building is its foundation, the most vital part of a boat in a storm is the keel giving stability in the water," he said.

“As the world navigates the transition to the age of AI, we will need more than ever before the values and ethics of our common tradition, rooted in centuries of Christian faith and practice. AI can be a tool for the common good, a source of great benefit, but only if Governments remain sovereign.”

Bishop Steven was speaking in a debate brought by Baroness Kidron on national sovereignty and digital and technology policy, making his final speech after nearly 13 years in the House of Lords.

He told peers he was ‘immensely grateful’ for having had the chance to serve in the House of Lords and on the Select Committees on Artificial Intelligence and Climate Change.

Speaking at the start of the debate Baroness Kidron paid tribute to Bishop Steven’s leadership in campaigning for digital systems to reflect ethics and values.

Responding on behalf of the House of Lords, Lord Clement Jones, the Liberal Democrat peer, paid tribute to Bishop Steven's record describing him as an 'influential and instrumental voice' in the Lords on AI.

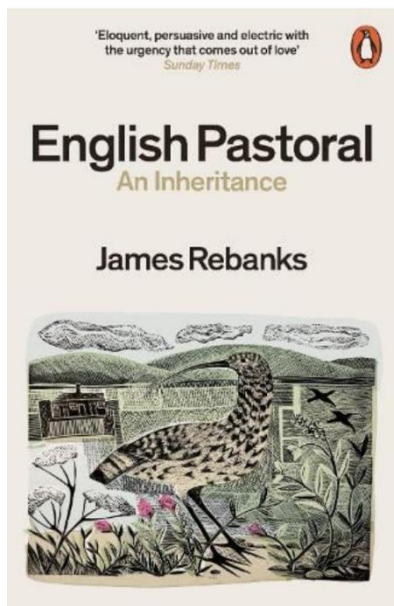
"It is very fitting that his last contribution to this House should be in a debate on digital sovereignty," he said.

"With his insights, collaborative spirit, friendship, and enduring dedication to ethical innovation and policy making, he will be greatly missed."

Lost Property - We have a number of items of lost property on display in the Parish Centre. Please have a look through them and see if any belong to you! Any unclaimed items will be donated to charity after Sunday September 13th.

English Pastoral is the title of a book I had just finished reading when the July/August Christ Church magazine was published and I read the editorial by Revd Michael Price who reminded us that creation is a gift to treasure: we didn't make it and we should both respect it and co-operate with nature. He writes...

“The bible teaches us to steward the earth wisely, and as we go on pushing back the boundaries of human capabilities we need to remember to steward this glorious gift with gratitude, respect and wisdom.”



English Pastoral is written by James Rebanks and is the story of an inheritance that affects all of us. It's the story of how rural landscapes around the world were brought close to collapse and how the age-old rhythms of work, weather, community and wild things were lost. It's the story of an elegy for the northern fells of England, but it is also a story of hope. Guided by the past this is the story of how one farmer began to salvage a tiny corner of England which came into his possession, and the story of how he was doing his best to restore the life that had vanished and to leave a legacy for the future.

It's the story about what it means to have love and pride in a place and how against the odds, how it may still be possible to build a new pastoral: not a utopia, but somewhere decent for us all.

It gives a guide to what is possible when (as Micheal said) when we work with the powerful, generous beauty of creation – not against it. It's a very readable story but it is also a challenging story as we recognise that we have damaged the gift of which we are stewards, that simply going back into history isn't enough – we have to engage with the present and find a way forward for the future. Essentially it is a message of hope and worth reading.

English Pastoral: An Inheritance: published by Allen Lane is available to buy from Waterstones – other stockists are available

Revd Linda Potter

SAVE THE DATE



Christ Church Parish Centre presents

Christmas
FAIR

Saturday 28th November
1.00pm – 3.00pm

GIFTS | RAFFLE | COFFEE | CAKE | MUSIC
SANTA'S GROTTO | GAMES | PRE-LOVED TOYS

CHRIST CHURCH, HARROGATE HG1 4SW

If you or anyone you know would like to
reserve a table at this year's Christmas Fair
please contact the Parish Office for further details.

Email: info@christchurchharrogate.org.uk

or Tel: 01423 530750

Tables will be £20.00 each
(table measures 6' x 2'6")



Season of Creation 1 September / 4 October

Hope for All Creation is a new lively publication which presents a vision by which members of the Church of England might think, reflect and act in response to the current environmental crises, in partnership with other denominations and all people of good will. Drawing on a rich history of Anglican theological reflection on the environment, it takes forward this tradition to inform the Church of England's care for creation.



We are invited to join with 3 webinars exploring themes in the document ***Hope For All Creation***:

Tuesday 8 September 5:30pm to 6:30pm:

To Tend and To Till, which explores the interconnectedness of God's creation and the distinctive role of humanity within it.

Tuesday 15 September 5:30pm to 6:30pm:

The Five Marks of Mission, which explores where environmental action fits in the mission of the local church and how the fifth mark of mission works together with all the marks of mission.

Tuesday 22 September 5:30pm to 6:30pm:

A New Heaven and a New Earth, which explores where our environmental action fits in the coming of God's Kingdom.

These are available online via the Church of England website where you can find out more about the content of the Hope for All Creation webinars and register at <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/environment-and-climate-change/environment-and-climate-change>.

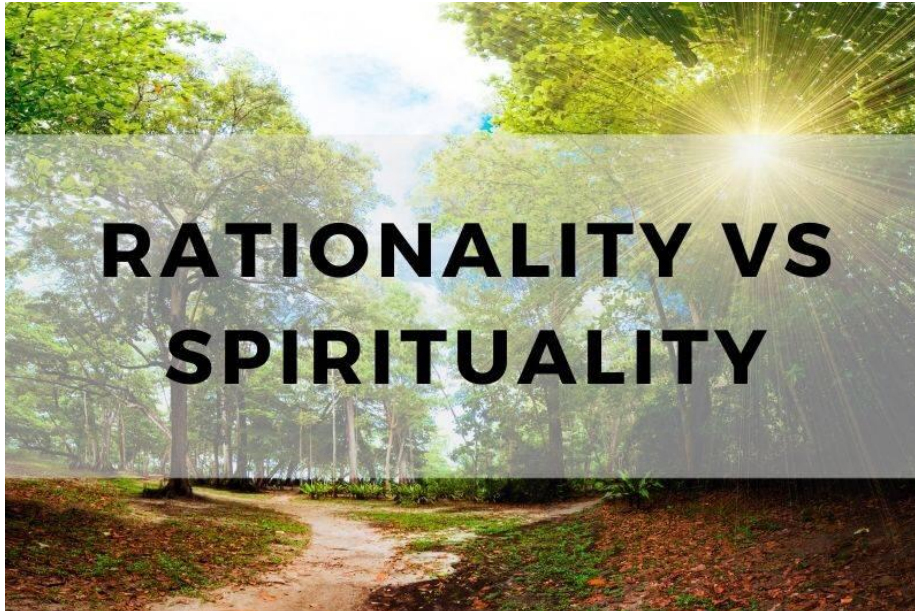
It will also be possible to join with a group at Christ Church and view these together. The hour-long sessions include the speaker's presentation plus plenty of time for Q and A. This is a marvellous opportunity to share and update ourselves in our Christian response to the environmental crises.

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Parish Centre for those wishing to participate as part of a group meeting together at Christ Church. (12 participants will make this a viable option).

Christine Jack (Creation Care)

Where is the world heading?

I recently came across a publication called 'Beyond Science' which I thought would be of interest for people to read. Here is a summary of the article.



Many people are now asking, 'Where is the world heading?' With increasing cases of wars, of terrorism, of drugs, of trafficking of people, of climate change, the Epstein saga, social media, the lack of respect for one another, etc, the list goes on and on. The Epstein files seem to involve so many world leaders – leaders who were highly respected. It seems things are getting out of control. Furthermore, with recent happenings in Palestine, Lebanon, Iran, Ukraine, it now seems that **MIGHT IS RIGHT** when it comes to international relations. How did we get here? Where did the good old honesty go? Where did telling the truth go? **We have cut God out of the picture.**

Materialism has taken over. We are left in a spiritual vacuum. Relationships are reduced to transactions. For money. Life is judged only by utility, efficiency, and measurable outcomes. The inner questions that once mattered - what is a good life? What is the purpose of our life? What does it mean to belong? How do we face suffering? - all these questions are glossed over.

Rationality has become our God. We think it solves everything. But science only explains how systems work; it does not provide moral orientation, purpose, or a sense of the sacred. There is more to the world than science and rational thinking.

The present world and where it is heading are providing proof that something is terribly wrong. We need to reclaim the traditions that once offered people frameworks for humility, respect, reverence, and responsibility. In losing them, what fills the void is often hollow-consumerism, materialism, self-enrichment, entitlement, or the corrosive spectacle of anger, outrage and cynicism. The result is social fragmentation. With the development of social media and the advances of AI the situation becomes scarier.

Spirituality is part of the remedy. Meditation, contemplative prayer, disciplined reflection, communal rituals - all these reintroduce ways of caring that are not reducible to cost benefit calculations.

Such a spirituality recognises that human flourishing is multidimensional: physical health, social bonds, moral integrity, a sense of the sacred and inner peace all matter.

Love, peace and Joy to all.

Brian Hamilton

Reference: Beyond Science – an overdose of Rationality by John Ryan. Missionary Magazine 'Africa' by the St Patrick Missionary Society (Kitegan Fathers - Ireland).

**In THANKSGIVING,
CELEBRATION and GIFT :**
Would YOU like to NOMINATE
an *INTERNATIONAL* and/or *NATIONAL* and/
or *LOCAL* charity to be supported through our
Advent & Christmas special services ? Please
send a brief paragraph of details to Matthew via
the Office or email **before Monday 7th**
September ; after which ALL nominated
charities shall be put to the PCC for ONE to
be chosen by vote for EACH category (*Local,*
National, International). Thank you.

For many the world feels more unsafe and uncaring: Bishop Rosemarie reflects on Jason Arday's death

Church of England website 19.08.26

<https://www.churchofengland.org/media/news-and-press-releases/many-world-feels-more-unsafe-and-uncaring-bishop-rosemarie-reflects-jason-ardays-death>

'I fear for a culture and a Britain that is lowering its standards - not of academic rigour but of basic human decency' says the Bishop of Croydon, Rosemarie Mallett.

The Prime Minister has called for a period of reflection in the wake of the tragic and avoidable death of Jason Arday. These past days have been filled with reflection – on the culture of British academia, on culture and standards in our media, on race and truthfulness... Some of this 'reflection' has been helpful, some opportunistic and shallow – some blatantly harmful.

As a Christian leader and a person of colour, I feel compelled to respond. Still, I find myself asking what may be said most faithfully, compassionately, and helpfully at this time.

For me – and for many – the circumstances of Jason's final weeks and his death have understandably prompted despair, sadness, shock and fear. I fear for all those for whom the world feels a little more unsafe and uncaring, for those struggling with oppression, with prejudice or mental health. I fear for young people who have witnessed the cruelty to which Jason was subjected – and who may now no longer dare to hope or dream of what they may be able to achieve. I fear for a culture and a Britain that is lowering its standards - not of academic rigour but of basic human decency.

It is important to recognise and name our fears. But we cannot – we must not – allow fear to rule us.

'I fear for all those for whom the world feels a little more unsafe and uncaring,' Bishop Rosemarie Mallett

As Christians, when we feel lost and bewildered, the only thing to do is to look again to Christ, to seek his peace and his guidance. As St John reminds us, perfect love casts out fear – and we find perfect love in the person of Christ our saviour.

When we turn to Christ, we inevitably notice how he treats people and who it is that he prioritises – those who are maligned, those who

are overlooked, those who have failed, those who are treated as 'nothing' by the rest of the world. The God we follow is the God who sees us for all that we are – and who loves us powerfully and wholeheartedly in the face of those truths. When we turn to Christ we receive our calling afresh, as compassion, care and mercy come into focus.

And in that turning, may we also find hope: not a shallow optimism that ignores pain, but the deep Christian hope that insists death, fear, cruelty and injustice do not have the final word. Hope is what enables us to keep loving when love is costly, to keep speaking truth when truth is contested, to rise when others would have us brought low, and to keep building communities where every person is seen, honoured and cherished as made in the image of God.

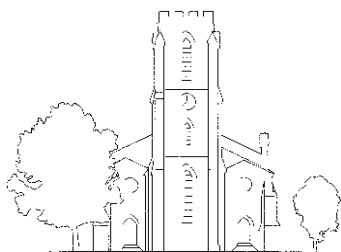
So may we continue to reflect – to name our fears but not allow them to rule us or determine our futures.

May we give thanks for Jason and for all that was good in his work and his legacy. May we continue to pray for his family and friends, for those he mentored and inspired.

May we turn again and again to Christ when we feel lost – and doggedly pursue our calling to seek and to show Christ's compassion for ourselves and for one another.

THANK YOU – CAN YOU HELP?

Christ Church



High Harrogate

We mean each deliberately.

'Christ Church' currently has a running deficit of £50,000 to cover all bills and expenses, including full support to the wider Church. We are also possibly facing additional costs in the Lady Chapel and Sanctuary soon.

IF you are able to help, we will be extremely grateful – as we already are for ALL your support. Please contact the Parish Office for details.

Grief is hard.
Death can impact
all of life.

KNARESBOROUGH
ANGLICAN
TEAM
MINISTRY

The Bereavement
Journey
a place to talk

7 Sessions of films
and discussion
for *anyone* bereaved *anytime*

Topics include:

- Attachment, separation and loss
- The pain and responses of grief
- Anger and guilt
- Coping with others' reactions
- Delayed and suppressed grief
- Adjusting to change
- Moving forward healthily
- Faith questions – a Christian perspective (optional)

To find out more visit:
thebereavementjourney.org

Running soon:

Tuesday afternoons
beginning
13th October until
Tuesday 24th November

1.45 until 4pm
In The HUB@St John's

For more information contact:
knaresboroughparishoffice@gmail.com

01423 869209

We're a
**Bereavement
Friendly Church**
FULLON www.lossandhope.org

HOW DO I MAKE MY FAITH COUNT?

Come along and find out...

Events 2026

23 September, 7pm-9pm @St Peter's Huddersfield

Discussion Evening - Hear about real experiences of starting a new ministry for lay and ordained

18 November, 7pm-9pm @Church House Leeds

Discussion Evening - Hear perspectives on ordained ministry from the new and the retiring

For more details email vocations@leeds.anglican.org

Registration via Eventbrite

Contacts

Exploring Vocation Together



Jenice Guild
Administrator
jenice.guild@leeds.anglican.org

Revd Canon Sean Robertshaw
Diocesan Director of Vocations
sean.robertshaw@leeds.anglican.org

CAN YOU HELP?

We are looking for additional drivers for Sunday morning 10am Services (on a rota basis). If you would like to join the 'Little Red Bus' Team or would like to find out more, please contact Team Leader Rowena Wright via the Parish Office.

Thank you.





**Baby
basics**

Thank you so much for all of the blankets and baby hats you have been knitting over the past few months. **If you would also like to make some small booties or cardigans** they would be extremely well received too. Please do keep them all coming!



**Baby
basics
Leeds**

Thank you!

If you would like to donate, we are in need of the following-

If you have any good quality clean preloved items of the below:

- * Moses basket (preferably with liner)
- * Moses basket sheets
- * Baby towels
- * Baby baths
- * Muslin squares
- * Blankets and sleeping bags
- * Toys and books (suitable for newborns and under 12 months)
- * Newborn clothes (size 0- 3 months) inc. hats, scratch mitts, bibs, socks
- * Maternity nighties
- * Maternity nursing bras
- * Flannel for mum
- * Flip flops/sliders for mum
- * Small bag suitable for as a hospital/ nappy bag

Or if you could add some items to your weekly shop (these must be unopened):

- * Nappy cream
- * Cotton wool
- * Baby wipes
- * Baby 'top to toe' wash
- * Baby shampoo
- * Nappies (size 1 preferably but also size 0, 2 and 3)
- * Toothbrush and toothpaste suitable for under 12 months
- * Maternity pads
- * Shampoo/conditioner/shower gel for mum (also including afro suitable products)
- * Deodorant
- * Breast pads
- * Toothbrush and toothpaste for mum
- * Disposable maternity knickers
- * Lip balm for mum
- * Small item as a gift for mum eg. special toiletries/ hand cream/ hairband/ bobbles etc

Email: babybasicsleeds@gmail.com

- **Website: <https://baby-basics.org.uk/centre/leeds>**
- **Registered Charity Number 1168099**

Thank you so much to our dedicated band of knitters. Your beautiful hats and blankets are added to the moses baskets for the new mums.

If you can knit, please consider knitting hats, mittens, jumpers/cardis and blankets suitable for under 12 months old. They can be any colour but please do ensure that they are tight-knit with no big gaps for little fingers to go through!



Items for a hospital bag for expectant mums



‘MEET AND EAT’

AT

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH CENTRE

COME AND JOIN US FOR A CHAT

AND A BITE TO EAT

THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

FROM 11.30AM TO 1.00PM

(with food served from 12.00 noon)



Everyone welcome

2026

18th February

18th March

15th April

20th May

17th June

15th 22nd July (new date)

No August Meal

16th September

21st October

18th November

2nd December

**If you require transport, please contact
the Parish Office for details 01423 530750**

Harrogate and District Foodbank



Harrogate Foodbank has almost made it through the very long summer holidays. With unprecedented demand the Foodbank Team has been working extra hard for the past 7 weeks.

This month we had a big drive to collect strong bags for the food donations to be distributed in.

Huge thanks to you all for supporting this appeal. In particular I would like to thank John and Denise for seizing the opportunity to gather 200 strong paper bags from Marks and Spencer on Leeds Road when they spotted the England World Cup bags about to be sent out for recycling!! I'd also like to thank Geoff Turner who had the presence of mind to ask the Yorkshire Cancer Research shop/café on Hornbeam Park if they had any strong bags they could release for the Foodbank! They were more than happy to send him away with a large supply of long life and hessian shopping bags which were very gratefully received by the Foodbank Team!



Don't forget to support our Harvest Festival on Sunday 27th September !! Bring in your dried and tinned goods which will be split between the Harrogate Foodbank and the Harrogate Homeless Project.

The latest shortages are: Strong Carrier Bags, UHT milk, coffee, washing up liquid, tinned custard and rice pudding, jam, male and female deodorants. **Please do NOT supply out of date food, baby food, any items containing alcohol or any fresh or homemade goods.**

If you would like to make a cash donation in lieu of food donations to the Harrogate Foodbank please see Sue Craven, Shirley Morris or Jill Walters. For more information and food updates please visit <https://harrogatedistrict.foodbank.org.uk/> or look for Harrogate Foodbank on Facebook. 

If you would like to help the foodbank directly, the ways in which you can donate financially are listed on their website: <https://harrogatedistrict.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-money>.



Christ Church Brownies **Would you like to join us?**



Christ Church Brownies meet weekly in the Parish Centre on Tuesday evenings (term-time) between 5.30pm and 7.00pm.

Catering for children aged between 7 – 10 years of age, we offer a varied programme of events with meetings involving work towards badges in addition to which we do craft and cooking sessions, games, fencing and archery, treasure hunts and have annual trips to both the Great Yorkshire Show and the Harrogate Theatre Christmas Pantomime.

The brownies are given a badge book when they join containing all the information they need to work towards badges. Girl Guiding have also added 18 new interest badges including Games Master, Animal Helper, Kindness and Safety.

Brownies move up to Guides the term after their 10th Birthday which is also on a Tuesday evening in the Parish Centre at Christ Church. The Guides meet at 7.00pm and finish around 8.45pm.

Brownies gives the girls the opportunity to meet new friends, to try different things and hopefully to learn a little whilst also having fun.

We currently have spaces available if you would like to join us.

If your children would like to join us or, to find out more information about volunteering with the Brownie Leaders, please email christchurchbrownies@yahoo.com





Who we are: PhysioNet is a UK-based charity dedicated to providing surplus physiotherapy and mobility equipment to children and adults with disabilities in low- and middle-income countries. We work throughout the UK operating solely with a network of enthusiastic volunteers.

Our story: PhysioNet was Founded in 2008 by Peter Thompson, who was inspired by his extensive experience in developing countries. In 2004, while assisting an orphanage in Bosnia, Peter recognised the ease of acquiring paediatric therapy equipment in the UK and the pressing need for such resources abroad. After two years of seeking existing charities to bridge this gap, he established PhysioNet in 2008. The charity's inaugural large shipments were dispatched to South Africa and Fiji in 2009. Since then PhysioNet has significantly impacted the lives of individuals with disabilities worldwide.

How to donate equipment: If you would like to donate some equipment please contact PhysioNet via their website <https://physionet.org.uk/get-involved/help/> or

Email: info@physionet.org.uk

Tel: 07369 266732

When donating equipment and to help our volunteers please:

- Check tyres and pre-charge powered chairs. Batteries must hold enough charge to drive the equipment up the ramp into our collection vehicle.
- For any electrical items, please include the charger and battery and ensure the item is fully charged before collection. This helps account for transit time and enables our volunteers to begin work quickly.
- Secure any loose or small parts—including user manuals—by attaching them to the item (e.g., placed in a carrier bag and tied on).
- Include all cushions and harnesses. We clean these before shipping and rely on them; sourcing replacements is often prohibitively expensive, especially for children's equipment.

PhysioNet welcomes equipment donations from across mainland UK. We generally require around 20 items per collection (although high-value collections may still be possible depending on location and equipment type).

The 100 Club Draw

Ongoing

Each number will cost £5 per month. People may pay for as many months in advance as they wish. The number(s) can be paid for in cash, by bank transfer or by standing order. Contact Norman for details.

The next draw will take place on Sunday 6th September
(October's draw will be on Sunday 4th October)

July's Winning Numbers are:

**AND THE
WINNERS ARE ...**



1st Prize £80.00 number 92
2nd Prize £50.00 number 80
3rd Prize £30.00 number 23
Bonus Prize £30.00 number 36

August's Winning Numbers are:

**AND THE
WINNERS ARE ...**



1st Prize £80.00 number 62
2nd Prize £50.00 number 99
3rd Prize £30.00 number 86
Bonus Prize £30.00 number 39

Since June 2019, £13485 has been paid out in prizes;
£14200 has been transferred into church funds.

There are still plenty of numbers left should anyone else like one, (or more!!) Please contact Norman for more information or to register.

The more numbers, the higher the prizes.

email - normanlpotter@btinternet.com
'phone 01423 819374 or 0783 3364 336

**REMEMBER... YOU'VE GOT TO
BE IN IT TO WIN IT!**



Wednesday

**Do you want to get out and about for a change
of scenery and to meet friends
and new people?**

Then why not come and join us for an hour or so?
We offer a warm space, good company with a hot drink,
homemade cake and biscuits.

We have interesting conversations, play the occasional
game and offer many books from our library for you to
peruse and borrow.

Open to **everyone** and with

no need to book

we will be open on the

2nd Wednesday of each month

1.30pm – 3.00pm

in Christ Church Parish Centre (HG1 4SW)

Next Meeting: 9th September

Please contact the Parish Office for more information

Tel: 01423 530750 or

Email: info@christchurchharrogate.org.uk



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY AT CHRIST CHURCH

Sunday Morning Refreshments

Help is required for the 10.00am Sunday Services on the 2nd, 3rd or 5th Sundays of each month. Please contact Christine Lofthouse or the Parish Office for details.

**sara
curston**

MOBILE HAIRSTYLIST

Specialising in colouring and cutting

Call: 07813 998415

Email: saracurston@hotmail.co.uk

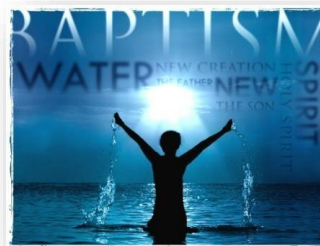
Fully qualified since 1990

From the JULY/AUGUST Registers

Holy Baptisms :

There were no Baptisms in July/August

.....



Weddings in church :

Saturday 4th July:

Jemima Sophie ELGOOD &

Thomas James PEARSON

Saturday 1st August:

Annabel Jane HARRISON &

Alexander Henry Jocelyn THOMAS

.....



Funeral Services at Stonefall Crematorium :

Friday 21st August - Geoffrey PARKER

.....

Funeral Services in church :

Thursday 2nd July – Margaret Latimer PICKARD

Monday 27th July – Peter Robert DOBSON

.....

Thanksgiving Service in church :

Friday 10th July – Winifred Martha SQUIRES

.....



Burials of Ashes (Christ Church):

Friday 10th July – Winifred Martha SQUIRES

Tuesday 21st July – Margaret Latimer PICKARD

.....

Burials of Ashes (Stonefall):

Wednesday 15th July – Sybil Marie MOVLEY



CHRIST CHURCH PARISH CENTRE

Christ Church, Church Square, Harrogate, HG1 4SW



What3Words: talked.bowls.doors

An ideal venue for:

- family gatherings
- children's parties
- exercise classes
- group meetings
- rehearsal/practice space

Various spaces available along with a fully equipped kitchen and full disabled access.

Please call the Parish Office on 01423 530750 for details

Email: info@christchurchharrogate.org.uk

Website: christchurchharrogate.org.uk

What's on in the Parish Centre?

If you would like to know more about hiring one of the Parish Centre Rooms or joining any of the groups shown below, please call into the Parish Office, ring 01423 530750 or send a message to info@christchurchharrogate.org.uk

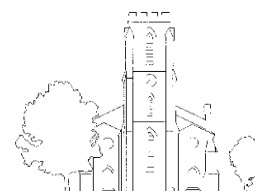
Mondays:

- 10.00 – 12.00 'Joined by a Thread' Creative Sewing Group (once or twice a month)
- 13.15 – 14.45 Singing for the Brain (Alzheimer's Society) (weekly)
- 18.15 – 21.15 NADFAS (3rd Monday of each month except August and December)
- 19.00 – 21.00 Art with Jonothan Potter
- 19.00 – 22.00 RSPB (Harrogate) (2nd Monday of each month September – April)

Tuesdays:

- 09.30 – 10.45 Keep Fit (weekly)
- 10.00 – 12.00 Literature Classes with Robert Hemmings (10 wk courses)
- 13.00 – 15.00 Dementia Forward Wellbeing Café (weekly)
- 13.00 – 15.00 Dementia Forward Carers Support (monthly)
- 13.00 – 15.00 Dementia Forward Voices (quarterly)
- 17.30 – 21.00 Brownies/Guides (weekly term-time)

Christ Church



Wednesdays:

- 09.30 – 09.50 Intercessory Prayer
- 10.00 – 10.45 Holy Communion Service in the main hall
- 12.15 – 14.00 Lunchtime Recital with light lunch (1st Wednesday of the month)
- 11.30 – 14.00 Meet & Eat Social Gathering (3rd Wednesday of the month)
- 13.30 – 15.00 Connect Wednesday (2nd Wednesday of the month)
- 19.00 – 22.00 Harrogate Choral Society (weekly)

Thursdays:

- 09.15 – 10.15 Mojo Fitness (Pilates) with Marion Oakley
- 11.00 – 12.30 Dementia Forward Singing for Fun Group (weekly)
- 13.00 – 15.00 Art Class with Jonothan Potter
- 14.00 – 16.00 Harrogate Parkinson's Society (3rd Thursday)

Fridays:

- 09.30 – 10.00 Songbirds Singing Classes for pre-school children (weekly term-time)
- 09.30 – 10.45 Keep Fit (weekly)

Saturdays: