

# PARISH NEWS

December - January 2021

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**WELCOME** to the December 2020 / January 2021 edition of the Parish News. We hope all our readers remain well, despite the pandemic continuing to affect all our lives.



All best wishes from the Editorial Team for the festive season, and special wishes that 2021 sees the pandemic coming to an end.

### **THE PARISH NEWS EDITORIAL TEAM**

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We welcome all articles but reserve the right to shorten or amend them. Whilst we are happy to publish unedited articles, in the spirit of freedom of speech, any views expressed are not necessarily those of the Parish News Editorial Team.

## **AUTUMN REFLECTIONS FROM BARMBY MOOR**

In my spring notes I reported good numbers of some butterflies, but unfortunately with the weather across late spring, summer and early autumn, I think it's fair to say, overall it was a poor year for butterflies.

But not everything suffered, as my grass (that has never been brilliant!) has looked the best in the 20 or so years I have lived here.

The field of barley behind our house was harvested in spectacular fashion, the farmer arriving in the combine around 8.30pm as the light faded, then it was cut, baled and the field cleared by 11pm. The field is still stubble so I wonder what will happen next. Will it be 'scuffled over' and seed planted all in one operation or will it first be ploughed?

As noted in spring, red kite monitoring took a hit due to the pandemic, but nests that I did monitor were successful and we can account for 11 fledged juveniles. Interestingly the trend across Yorkshire was for more single youngsters rather than the usual 2 or 3.

With garden birds, the visitors to my seed feeders have predominately been goldfinch and recently, my crab apples must be ripe as blackbirds have been pecking at them to knock them to the



ground where they seem to provide a valuable source of food.



With the wet conditions Autumn has produced a lot of fungi, a large group by the stream near the Becksid bridge.

Having thumbed through my books, I cannot decide on a name for it so maybe readers can help?



Sunday saw us walking in Welton Dale, described in one of my books as 'the finest walk in the county' passing the old Mill Pond then seeing some beautiful Autumn colours in the woods.



Nigel Puckrin

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## **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

As I write this, we are still under the shadow of Covid-19 and the number of deaths so far exceeds 45,500, leaving millions of people in mourning and distress right across the world. Yet there are still criminals who are trying to attack vulnerable folk for their own greedy ends.

We start with motorcycles: Humberside Police regard these as a growing nuisance as many are part of criminal networks. The Police need to know details of the bikes, what properties the riders go to, how they are dressed and any names. With this information the law enforcers can issue warnings and seize and destroy vehicles.



Humberside Police have been active in Operation Galaxy recently. In less than 4 weeks 489 people have been detained and police have seized drugs, cash and weapons, all of these actions are removing dangerous people from our streets. This is ongoing work needed to prevent criminals from taking advantage of the public, while we are involved in trying to cope with life during the pandemic.

This now brings us to the wide variety of scams which, sadly, are aimed at ensnaring the innocent and vulnerable in our area. Action Fraud have received reports from nearly 2,400 people of Coronavirus-related scams by mid-June, with total losses of over £7million - and these are the ones that are reported.

Experts warn that email, text and online scams are the most successful ways criminals obtain personal information, particularly using text-based scams. Also, criminals are becoming increasingly clever in using technology. Ways to avoid being scammed are: not clicking on links sent by text; not following instructions by text, e.g. being told to follow instructions from a bank by text - something no financial institution would do; if you don't recognise the sender of a text, email or online or receive a message about a purchase supposedly from a company you haven't been doing business with. I have to say that my policy if something does not fit

is at once to switch off however rude I may seem. If the contact is genuine, he/she will try to reach you later.

And by the way, TSB conducted an experiment with their researchers showing 2,000 adults 20 emails and texts from third parties such as banks and mobile phone providers. Ten were genuine and ten imitating companies. Just 18% of those taking part could correctly identify the bogus messages. Furthermore, adults aged 18 to 24 are more at risk of falling for a scam. NEVER give your personal details to anyone unless you are certain of the 'person' at the other end.

Finally – we still need to pay heed to security in your home, garden, and outbuildings. Do not leave doors open unless you can keep an eye on anyone trying to sneak in. Put valuable equipment safely away, out of sight preferably. And, of course, do not let casual callers beguile you into doing jobs or purchasing anything on the doorstep. Deal with local people and businesses you know.

Keep safe and well.

Gail Turner



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## **FARMING NEWS**

The grain harvest here finished on September 17<sup>th</sup> in the autumn heat, a little later than expected, as we were waiting for some late spring barley on the higher ground to the north of Pocklington to mature. Last year's challenging autumn / winter sowing conditions followed by a May drought contrived to bring lower yields and poorer quality all round.

This year frequent rain throughout October, albeit not in the quantity of last October, has caused a lot of interruptions and delays to the sowing operations. The option of using different ploughing, cultivation and sowing methods is there for all, but in many cases the land has just been too wet, and the wheat seed has had to be "puddled" in. The earlier sown oilseed rape, which has avoided the less prevalent cabbage stem flea beetle damage, has grown exceptionally well and should be tall enough to avoid the attentions of too many pigeons this winter. The bare fields not yet sown with anything still have a reasonable chance of an average yield, if sown before the end of January given good soil conditions.

We celebrated our Harvest Festival in October under mask wearing and distancing conditions. It was poorly attended with no singing or comradeship despite our organist doing his best to stimulate the spirit of the event. The church was beautifully decorated with a lot of effort and time from a small band of helpers with so few there to enjoy the scene.

A survey has been carried out by The University of Exeter and backed by NFU Mutual (a leading UK rural insurer) regarding farmers' retiring intentions. Almost 700 farmers across the country were canvassed (not me) and surprise, surprise four out of five farmers aim to keep farming until the day they die. Most of the other fifth however said they would still keep a connection. A quarter of those surveyed said they had not discussed succession plans with anyone. Of those with children only half had identified a potential successor. One option favoured by a lot of farming families is to set up a partnership which can give the younger generation a stake in the business.

The BBC has upheld a complaint from the National Farmers Union about the impartiality of its documentary "Meat, a threat to our planet" and

removed the programme, which was first broadcast in November last year, from iPlayer. It found that the broadcast had been unfairly biased as it failed to make a clear distinction between grass-fed regenerative beef farming in the UK and cattle ranching in US and South America.

A multi-million pound capital grant scheme for buying new equipment has not been taken up by many farmers. They blame the high level of bureaucracy that has crept into the application process. The money was available in some areas of the UK and designed to subsidise equipment purchases that support sustainable farming or protect the environment. Most potential clients found the level of paperwork too onerous with a requirement for carbon audit, detailed nutrient and veterinary plans, amongst other farming procedures.

Whenever badgers are monitored to attempt to control Tuberculosis (TB) in animals the word culling comes up. Ask any member of the public – Would you agree with eradicating TB in animals and the answer would be yes. Ask them again - Do you want to cull badgers and it would be no. More or less the same question to my mind. The word cull or culling is far too emotive.

G O Farmer

### **Fireworks**

This year due to coronavirus restrictions and organised events being cancelled, a recent poll confirmed 18% more people in England and Wales were predicted to have private displays in their back gardens.

Remember fireworks are damaging to farm animals and wildlife. Farm animals are easily frightened by loud noises and sudden flashes of bright light, which can startle and cause them alarm or to panic. If you are planning a display over New Year, please be considerate.

It is against the law (Animal Welfare Act 2006) to cause any unnecessary suffering to any captive or domestic animal. Fireworks must not be set off near livestock or horses in fields or close to buildings housing livestock. Anyone planning a firework display in a rural area should warn neighbouring farmers in advance.

## **POSITIVE IMPACT OF PETS AND WILDLIFE**

What a year we have had, and while we hope never to see anything like this in our lifetime, there have been some uplifting stories regarding animals and wildlife. With Laura and I both being vets, our obsession with animals is pretty relentless, and our children having little option but to be the same. We are lucky enough to have a varied collection of pets including a dog, a few sheep, horses, and chickens.

Animals make a huge positive impact on people's lives and we see this at our veterinary practice on a daily basis, and through charities such as hearing dogs for the deaf and canine partners. Dogs can give people a sense of purpose and confidence too. Too often tv and computer screens now take over and children forget to explore their environment or help care for a pet.

During lockdown there has been a huge surge in people getting puppies, to the extent some of the veterinary press have called them 'pandemic puppies'. The concern is that once people's lives go back to normal the newly acquired pets will not get the attention they did when the family were locked down at home. This is a concern but hopefully the new arrivals will change lifestyles for the better going forward, ensuring families take time to entertain and exercise their new pets long beyond coronavirus.

Coronavirus and the lockdown have made people a lot more aware of their environment and the animals that they normally miss in their busy lives. There were reports of increased wildlife in gardens, these sightings are not a result of wildlife becoming more numerous in response to the restrictions we are under, but simply more people being at home and paying more attention to what is around them.

An example of this further afield was seen in reports of fish and other wildlife returning to Venice canals. The fish are there all the time, but simply could not be seen due to the intense boat traffic meaning the water was always so cloudy and disturbed. There may be an increase in birds such as cormorants fishing now as they can actually see the fish! There were even signs going up warning people to be careful not to tread on

duck eggs as ducks were increasingly keen to nest with less footfall on the streets.

I have also read about people showing increased attention, which is heartening, to their gardens and planting more during the pandemic which is great for birds and insects. Planting more flowers and other plants will attract pollinators such as bees and help their survival.

We hope for a great Christmas and to seeing the back of Covid-19. Hopefully, a vaccine and new treatments are on the horizon, meaning life can return closer to normal. I would hope that some of the positive things we have gained do not get forgotten and indeed continue long beyond Covid-19. Walk and play with your dogs and other pets, pay attention, and support the wildlife in your gardens and the countryside, that we are lucky to have around us.

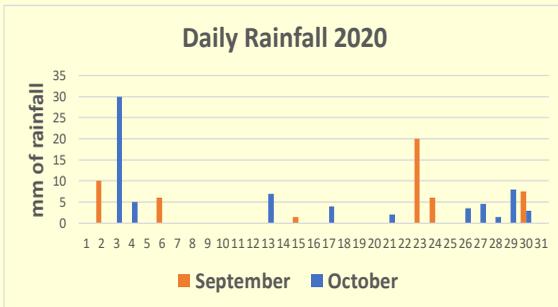
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**Total September = 51 mm or 2.01 inches**

**Total October = 68.5 mm or 2.70 inches**

**Total Year 2020 = 574.5 mm or 22.62 inches**

*September was fairly dry, but followed by a very wet start to October*

*Recorded in Allerthorpe*

## **CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS IN NORTHERN EUROPE**

What is the difference between the way we celebrate Christmas every year in this country to other European countries? Well for one thing it's a lot more low key and less commercial in Europe. The lights go on in most of their northern cities at the end of November. This is also because the nights are so very dark then. Germany is credited with starting the Christmas tree tradition as we now know it in the 16th century. Devout Christians would bring decorated trees into their homes. A widely held belief is that Martin Luther, the 16th century Protestant reformer, was first to add lighted candles to a tree.



Scandinavians are a lot more relaxed about Christmas, although they do have some very different traditions. Christmas Eve is often the most important day in the European Advent calendar. Having both Norwegian and Dutch sons-in-law, I soon became aware that we would need to familiarise ourselves with all their traditions.



Several special days are celebrated in the days before Christmas. Norway and Sweden particularly celebrate St Lucy's feast day on December 13<sup>th</sup>. A young girl wearing a crown of candles, dressed in white and carrying a lighted candle, leads a procession of girls who distribute saffron buns and gingerbread cookies. St Lucy

will visit churches, schools, nursing homes and hospitals. She symbolises hope and light during winter's darkest days.



Little Christmas is celebrated on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, the whole family come together to clean and decorate the house and tree for the coming celebration. The tree will be cut down from a forest and decorated with gingerbread hearts, stars, angels and possibly tiny Norwegian flags.



Norwegians seem to prefer white lights, thinking coloured lights too garish. Pepperkakehus which are gingerbread houses and gingerbread biscuits are made, and extra special rice pudding with cream and a hidden almond! Whoever finds it will get a sugar pig as a reward.

Next comes Christmas Eve, last minute wrapping of presents, cooking 7 different types of cake, feeding the birds around noon with a sheaf of oats and at 5pm the church bells ring out across the country for Christmas. Before the family sit down to dinner, they put a bowl of porridge outside for the nisse (the elf) that protects the home. This ensures he will stay on for another year. Then



everyone sits down to dine on ribbe (pork ribs) potatoes, carrots, turnips and parsnips followed by dessert of cloudberry cream. After that comes present giving, however more traditional and religious families will read the gospel of St Luke narrating the nativity before gifts are exchanged. Then the family and friends link hands walking in a circle around the Christmas tree usually singing a carol. Christmas is toasted in Glogg (warm spiced wine), beer and all the usual spirits.

Christmas day itself is a quiet and private day for the family. After this "Romjul", the time between Christmas and New Year is given over to visiting and socialising.

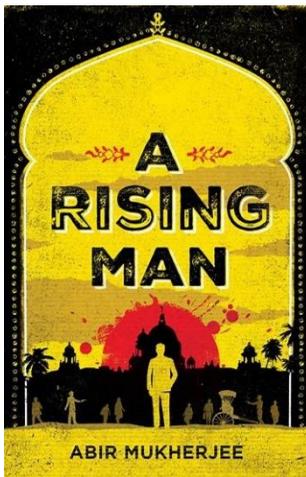
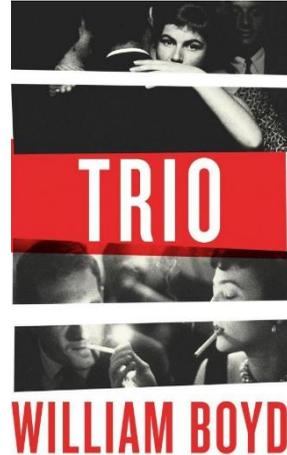
Margaret Murray

## **BOOK REVIEWS BY FELICITY BEAUMONT**

If you'd like to forget 2020 for a while, here are three suggestions not set in the present day!

### **Trio by William Boyd**

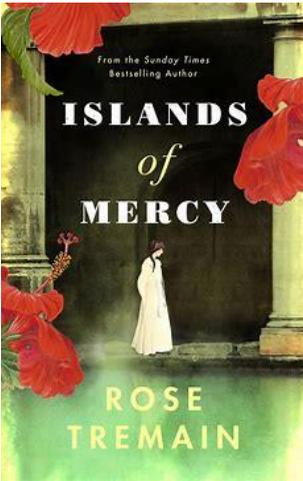
1968, the year of the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy, riots in Paris, and the Vietnam war is out of control. The three main characters in the book are involved in making a Swingin' Sixties movie in sunny Brighton. All are leading secret lives; Elfrida is drowning her writer's block in vodka; Talbot, coping with the daily dysfunction of making a film, is hiding something in a secret apartment and the glamorous Anny is wondering why the CIA is suddenly so interested in her. But the show must go on.... and as it does the trio's private worlds begin to take over their public ones.



### **A rising man by Abir Mukherjee**

India 1919. Desperate for a fresh start, Captain Sam Wyndham arrives to take up an important post in Calcutta's police force. He is soon called to the scene of a murder: the victim was a senior official and a note left in his mouth warns the British to leave India – or else. Although a murder mystery, the book is also about the different cultures in India and the impact of colonialism on both the rulers and the ruled. It's the first of a series featuring Sam Wyndham.

The author was born and raised in the west of Scotland; his parents were both from Calcutta.



## Islands of Mercy, by Rose Tremain

Readers often note the creative variety of Tremain's fiction, which ranges from the 17th century Danish court to 21st-century immigration in Britain.

This, the latest novel, bounces between the cobbled streets of Bath and the jungle of Borneo in 1865, exploring the human need to find refuge in a hostile world. Like her other novels, it conjures people and places in vivid, enchanting detail. Edmund Ross, a young man who roams the Malay Archipelago in search of butterflies and other creatures to send back to England, is partly based on the letters of the

explorer and naturalist Alfred Russell Wallace, published from his time in Borneo. After falling ill during his fieldwork, Ross is found and taken in by the eccentric Sir Ralph Savage, a self-styled "rajah", whose local lover views the new arrival as a threat.

Ross's older brother Valentine is a doctor working at a practice in Bath, a city in great contrast to Borneo.

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## **SCHOOL NEWS – ST MARTIN’S FANGFOSS**

The last few months have seen us learning how to adapt what we do at school so that we can protect ourselves and others from the coronavirus. However, we have managed to stay a loving, hopeful, and caring school community, even though some things are a little different.

We had a period in spring and early summer when we provided remote learning to the vast majority of pupils and on-site learning to a few eligible pupils. In June and July, we were able to gradually welcome some more children back to school. This meant that we were able to give all of our Year 6 pupils a proper send off and present them with the traditional St Martin’s gifts, including a memories DVD, a year book, a personalised hoodie and a bible to take with them on their journey to the next stage in their education. We were so thankful that we could all gather outside, in our bubbles, on a beautiful summer’s day to say a proper goodbye and wish them well.

In September, we were delighted to be able to welcome all of our children back to school and reopen fully. It was wonderful to be reunited, even if we had to stay with our class bubbles and only see each other in line with all of the precautions. We soon adjusted to the staggered starts, finishes, playtimes and lunches and the never-ending hand washing and sanitising! We also held our Harvest Festival and were able to deliver the generous donations from our families to The People’s Pantry in Pocklington.



Worship still took place every day and we were able to use some fantastic resources from the Diocese of York to help us as we ‘journey through the bible’ and celebrate the year of the Diocese. We chose our value for the half term and this underpinned what we explored in our worship. In September and October, we chose the value of Community. The success of

the first half term back was down to everyone working together and helping each other and we were especially grateful to all our parents and carers for being so positive and supportive throughout.

As we now embark on our journey towards and through advent, it feels right to have chosen our value to be Joy. Every day, we are so thankful to have our classrooms full of eager, industrious children and to hear their voices and laughter once again. In our school we know that the joy we feel is infectious and it is multiplied when we share it. We are really looking forward to the time when we can be together with our friends from our local churches again at services and special events. We hope it will not be too long!



Juliet Robinson



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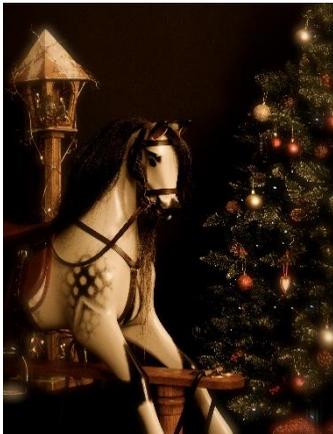


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## **CHRISTMAS AT THE ROCKING HORSE SHOP**

Christmas, for toyshops and toymakers around the world, is the big deadline. Santa Claus is coming, and he simply must not be late. Although 2020 has been an extremely challenging year (when we took over in February, we certainly were not prepared for what was about to happen!), here at The Rocking Horse Shop we are as busy as ever. Now, with the big day only a few short weeks away, there is an accelerated sense of urgency. The countdown to Christmas is upon us and the pressure's on to get all our orders done and delivered.

The Rocking Horse Shop is unusual in that as well as selling our marvellous rocking-horses - from simple little rockers for toddlers to magnificent fully carved rocking racers with real leather saddlery, flowing manes and tails and flashing glass eyes - we craft them by hand entirely in our own workshops here in Fangfoss. We make almost all the saddlery and metalwork too, so it's all systems go for the elves in our wood, metal, paint, leather and finishing workshops.



As well as making ready-to-ride rocking horses, at The Rocking Horse Shop we publish how-to-do-it plans and instructions, along with timber packs and a huge array of fittings and accessories. These are for home woodworkers to make their own splendid rocking-horse, and for them too Christmas is the big deadline, so we're busy sending out parcels containing everything they need, to finish their rocking-horse to perfection.

Our gift vouchers make ideal presents for hard-to-buy-for relatives. These can be used

towards the cost of plans and accessories, one of our regular hands-on carving courses, or a finished rocking-horse. Yes, it's busy times! Our showroom is filling up but by Christmas Eve it will be empty and, God willing, we will all be able to relax, enjoy the festivities and look forward to a successful and, we hope, less fraught 2021.

Happy Christmas everyone! From all at the Rocking Horse Shop



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## **RECIPE - GIRDLE SCONES**

I wish I had remembered this recipe earlier in lockdown.

### Ingredients

- 8 oz (1¾ to 2 cups) sifted, self-raising flour (or all-purpose flour with 2 tsp baking powder)
- 1 oz (1/8 cup) sugar
- 1 oz (¼ stick) butter
- 4 oz (½ cup) milk or buttermilk
- 1 egg
- pinch of salt
- 2 oz (¼ cup) raisins, or currants-optional

### Instructions

1. In a large bowl, cream the butter and sugar, then add the egg.
2. Add the milk, then the flour and salt, and mix until it comes together into a dough. (If adding raisins or currants, do so at this time.)
3. Turn out onto floured surface and knead it until smooth and divide in two. Roll out each half to ¼ - ½ inch thick circles and cut into 4 quarters.
4. Place on preheated griddle or a heavy-duty frying pan set at medium heat to test, (if some flour turns light brown in a few seconds, it is ready). Turn the scones when they have risen, and the bottoms are dark coloured.
5. Continue to cook until the other side is also well-coloured, and scone is cooked through.
6. Remove from heat and cool in a kitchen towel for a few minutes before serving.
7. Serve while warm with butter, jam and/or cream.



Elaine Stubbings

## **SHALL WE RESCHEDULE CHRISTMAS?**

There are so many uncertainties which seem to surround Christmas this year, that the question of whether it should be rescheduled or not is one that has been floated.

As I write this during Lockdown there are so many practical questions which seem unanswered. 2020 has been a year of uncertainty for all of us and something we could have never in our wildest thoughts ever imagined happening. Many people have felt on the edge of what they can cope with, especially those living alone and for those living in households where relationships are difficult.

It is my hope this year that we can focus on the central message of Christmas, the birth of the Saviour of the World. Christmas may be different, but by focusing on that message, the hope of a new way of living and being, and ways to bring peace and reconciliation. All these features can make our lives different and more fulfilled. As we face a new year, we can move forward into 2021 with hope and the promise of a brighter future.

We will be celebrating Christmas this year very differently in our parish churches. All our services currently operate under the pandemic restrictions. You are most welcome to join us, however you need to book in, as all our churches are restricted to a maximum of 30 and some of our smaller churches to less than this. It will be quite different not being able to sing carols and do so many of the things we would normally do.

However, we will hold, hopefully (with restrictions being lifted), Carol services, and services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The most up to date information will be found on our website [www.barmbymoorgroup.co.uk](http://www.barmbymoorgroup.co.uk) or by contacting me by email or telephone.

May I take this opportunity to wish you a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Revd Jan Hardy

## **DECEMBER CHURCH SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE**

*Services are subject to change depending on Covid-19 restrictions*

Date	Parish	Time	Service or Event
6 <sup>th</sup> December Second Sunday of Advent	Yapham Thornton	9.15am 10.45am	Morning Prayer Morning Prayer with Holy Communion Evensong
	Allerthorpe	5.00pm	
13 <sup>th</sup> December Third Sunday of Advent	Barmby Moor	10.45am	Morning Prayer with Holy Communion Carol Service Carol Service
	Yapham Fangfoss	4.00pm 6.30pm	
20 <sup>th</sup> December Fourth Sunday of Advent	Allerthorpe	9.15am	Morning Prayer with Holy Communion Carol Service Carol Service
	Thornton Barmby Moor	10.45am 4.00pm	
22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Allerthorpe	6.30pm	Carol Service
24 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Eve	Thornton	3.00pm	Crib Service Crib Service Midnight Communion
	Fangfoss	4.15pm	
	Barmby Moor	11.30pm	
25 <sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day	Allerthorpe Yapham	9.15am 10.30am	Holy Communion Morning Prayer
	Barmby Moor	10.00am	
27 <sup>th</sup> December The First Sunday of Christmas	Barmby Moor	10.00am	Benefice Holy Communion

## **JANUARY SERVICES IN THE BENEFICE**

*Services are subject to change depending on Covid-19 restrictions*

Date	Parish	Time	Service or Event
3 <sup>rd</sup> January The Second Sunday of Christmas	Yapham	9.15am	Morning Prayer
	Thornton	10.45am	Holy Communion
	Allerthorpe	5.00pm	Evensong
10 <sup>th</sup> January The Baptism of Christ	Barmby Moor	10.45am	Morning Prayer with Holy Communion
17 <sup>th</sup> January The Second Sunday of Epiphany	Allerthorpe	9.15am	Morning Prayer with Holy Communion
	Thornton	10.45am	Morning Prayer
24 <sup>th</sup> January The Third Sunday of Epiphany	Fangfoss	9.15am	Morning Prayer
	Barmby Moor	10.45am	Morning Prayer with Holy Communion

### **Wednesday Church**

Wednesday Church meets weekly at St. Catherine's Church Barmby Moor at 10am.

Please remember that if you would like to attend any of services it is necessary to ring Revd. Jan on 01759 307490 to book your place at a service.

## **PARISH REGISTERS**

There were no baptisms, marriages or funerals in October and November.

## **BARMBY MOOR – MEMORIES AND GOODBYE**

Barmby readers will have seen the Sold sign outside our house - Brooks Cottage. Dave and I are leaving Barmby after 46 years, moving up to Scotland to share a house with our older son Rob and his family, not without a fair helping of sadness mixed in with the excitement.

My first impression back in 1974 was that we had moved from the cold to the warm. We had been living in the Fens, a cold place physically, and not a naturally friendly place. Everybody in Barmby on the other hand seemed to want to talk to us, to offer advice and just to be nosey, in the nicest possible way.

Dave was to become Head of Music at Woldgate and I, a newly qualified and barely-trained teacher, therefore wrote to the Director of Education offering to teach anywhere near Barmby Moor. A week before the beginning of term I was invited to an interview at Barmby Moor School. I was the only candidate. I have sometimes wondered what would have happened if I had not turned up. There were three other teachers: Mr Rhodes was Headmaster, Betty Willgoss and Jan Gardham taught the infants in the new building. Mrs Todd and Mrs Gibbons were the Dinner Ladies and Ruth Rudd, cleaner and my chief encourager, completed the staff. So began a forty-six-year friendship with Jan and Den Gardham; now putting 258 miles between us is one of the biggest sadnesses of our move to Dunblane.

My first class, sixteen children aged from seven to nine years old, was in the middle room of the old school, where Ruth Rudd occasionally lit us a fire when the weather was very cold. Later I learned to be a more efficient and assertive teacher, but looking back I realise that I could not have had a nicer class to start with. They all seemed to be friends, and I quickly got to know their parents, grandparents, aunties and who to call if somebody fell ill.

My inexperience came to light on my first day. Mr Rhodes came into my classroom at break time. "Where are the children?" "I sent them over to the new building". "You can't just send them. There's a road!" To be fair

there were not many cars; nobody in our stretch of Beckside had one.

Before the National Curriculum, we did not have a "timetable", apart from booking the climbing equipment in the hall; so long as we covered the three Rs every day, we could explore projects for as long as seemed fit. Playtimes were longer in good weather and shorter when it rained. I remember hunting for mini beasts, walking up the lane to look for birds or jump in snowdrifts, a puppet show, and firing raku pottery in an oil drum filled with sawdust. We had never heard of Risk Assessments.

Later, when our own boys went to the school, the twice-daily walk was the centre of my social life, as it probably was for some of the other mothers I used to chat with while we waited for the children to come out of school. We had already formed a solid network through Playgroup, run by the mothers. There was a dozen or so children who started their social life together at Playgroup and were still together as they left Woldgate. Once they were old enough to cross the road, they played football up at the field and Blocky across the beck and, I have recently discovered, did various dangerous and forbidden things on the airfield.

That first September week in Barmby, as I walked into the school, a boy came up to me and said, "The Feast comes in July". I loved the Feast. I was as excited as the children by the way North's Fair moved into the Green on the Sunday night ready for the Thursday opening and I was impressed by the way they disappeared in the early hours of the next Sunday, leaving nothing but a few tyre marks.



Barmby has, of course, changed during the years we've lived here. Apart from dog walkers, there were fewer people walking or playing around the village, until lockdowns created a new need for local exercise. I hope that the feeling of community brought on by the Covid restrictions will continue when life returns to "normal". I am sure Barmby will always be a friendly place. I will miss it.

Jan Truswell

## **GROW YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS GREENERY**

What could be more lovely than stepping out on a cold and frosty morning to pick home-grown Christmas greenery, straight from the garden? Today an increasing range of attractive evergreen alternatives for decorative foliage is available to use in wreaths, in table decorations and in long-lasting seasonal arrangements. And the great thing about so many of these alternatives is that you can grow them yourself.



Each individual dark green leaf of *Euonymus fortunei* 'Wolong Ghost' AGM is shaped like a dagger and features a ghostly white band along the midrib with spidery white veins. Carried on extending shoots which make good ground cover, it will also climb, clinging by aerial roots. The long branches are ideal to weave into wreaths.



You might have pulled some wild ivy from a fence or a tree trunk to help fill out your Christmas greenery, and it works well. But, like wild holly, the leaves are very dark. Variegated kinds, such as *Hedera helix* 'Ceridwen' AGM with its bold, three pointed leaves with bright yellow margins are far more colourful. Sometimes even the whole leaf is bright yellow.

*Ruscus aculeatus*, butcher's broom, is probably the evergreen that lasts longest when cut and still looks good, even without water, weeks after cutting. The variety 'John Redmond' AGM has the bonus of producing bright red berries and, unlike most other forms, without the need of an additional male plant. It's also tough, resilient and will grow in dry shade.





Despite its name, Golden King or *Ilex x altaclarensis* 'Golden King' is an example of a female holly, as is the lovely *Ilex aquifolium* *Argentea Marginata*, an elegantly variegated, hardy shrub/small tree with spiky leaves edged with silver. Typically, it is the female holly plant that bears those wonderfully scarlet berries, but only – and this is important – with the help of a male pollinating partner such as *Ilex* Blue Prince.



*Malus x robusta* 'Red Sentinel' is one of the most ornamental crab apple varieties, bearing pink-white flowers in late spring, followed by masses of glossy, round, red fruit. The fruits remain on the branches throughout autumn and winter. Providing year-round interest, it's perfect for a small garden and the beautiful little red crab apples can be mixed in with sprigs or small

branches of evergreen foliage such as Norway Spruce, *Picea Abies*, at Christmas time.



So start looking now and gather your Christmas greenery, berries and of course pine cones. Fill your house with wonderful natural decorations and maybe add a few new plants to your garden for future Christmas times.

Penny Simmons

## **MANAGING CORONAVIRUS AT ST CATHERINE'S**

Since mid-March of this year we have had to adjust to a new way of living. Our everyday lives have been turned upside down as we have had to cope with the pandemic. The lockdown imposed on the nation impacted all businesses, shops and organisations, none more so than St. Catherine's Church. We received instructions from the Diocese to close our doors, terminate our programme of services, meetings and the organisations wishing to use church for concerts, and other events.

The lockdown came in March preventing the holding of Lent Lunches and their donations to a local charity. Also, the celebration of Easter, the Church's largest festival, was unable to take place. Undaunted by this and restricted by self-isolation Revd Jan Hardy embarked on a communications outreach. Using emails, telephone calls and Skype Revd Jan was able to contact many parishioners across the Benefice on a weekly basis.

The end of lockdown in early July gave us all new hope, churches could open but under strict criteria to minimise the risk of infection. The Diocese offered us good advice to keep everyone safe. Notices were placed inside the Church foyer, requesting social distancing at all times, sanitizing of hands, and the wearing of face masks. These practical requirements seemed easy to put in place, not so the actual services. To reduce the risk of virus contamination, only the rear of the Church was initially opened. the nave remaining locked.

This arrangement allowed private prayer to take place on Wednesdays and Sundays only. As we are restricted to a maximum of 30 persons, Revd Jan contacted many people in the village to ask them if they would be returning to attend Church services. Revd Jan produced individual "Service packs" which included, a morning prayer sheet, hymn book and Eucharist. At our first morning prayer Sunday service members of the congregation were given these packs to keep, and to bring to future services. The restrictions do not allow the singing of hymns nor the offering of the "peace" to each other. Nevertheless, our organists Dave Truswell and Stephen Bosworth are able to play the appropriate hymn music, which to some has been inspirational.

Thus far the coronavirus has made it a difficult year for all churches including St Catherine's. Whilst to some it may seem very depressing, I have been uplifted by our can-do spirit. The camaraderie of our community is shining through. The virus will be overcome and to paraphrase Sir Tom Moore "tomorrow will be a better day".

Gordon Fallowfield, Church Warden

## **NEWS FROM ALLERTHORPE**

### **Allerthorpe Christmas Fair**

Saturday December 5th at Allerthorpe Village Hall 10am - 2pm.

Undeterred by Lockdown 2 this popular event is still taking place! Socially distanced of course!

Nordman Christmas trees 4-8 ft tall – pre-order or choose on the day £8 per foot. Lovely Christmas wreaths decorated with festive fruits, luxury ribbon and locally sourced greenery.

We might be in lockdown, but we can still have the most beautiful Christmas trees and wreaths to bring cheer into our homes! £14 for 14 inch,

£10 for 10 inch wreath. All proceeds to be shared between Kidney Research UK and Allerthorpe Village Hall Extension Fund.

\*Depending on lockdown measures we hope to serve tea/coffee/ mulled wine. Fingers crossed – let us hope for the best!



### **100 Club**

October Draw: £25 – Teagon Liddle (98), Wendy Seaborn (185), Shelagh Wiltshire (81), Sally Ann Kelly (36)

November Draw: £25 – Claire Metcalfe (257), David Williams (99), Richard Butler (174), Keith Smith (202)

Our intention is to continue with the 100 Club in 2021, however collecting subscriptions may take longer due to pandemic restrictions. If you require further information, please let Deborah know - [deborah@garthhouse.plus.com](mailto:deborah@garthhouse.plus.com)

### Takeaways from the Plough

Sadly, the pub has had to close again under the current regulations. However, they are still providing an extensive menu for a weekend takeaway service. So, on those nights when you need a treat or a break this is a great solution! Ring 01759 302349 to place your orders from 12 noon.

Friday and Saturday collection time 5-8pm

Sunday collection from 4-7pm. \*There will be

a choice of 2 roasts on Sundays as well as the usual takeaway menu.

Harriet and Dan are happy to deliver to houses in the village.



### Christmas Preserves

Solve your Christmas gift problems by shopping locally.

Angela Batty has a range of homemade jams, chutneys and marmalade which are perfect for Christmas. Order your favourites now!

Jam: Apricot, Strawberry, Plum, Damson,

Medley (mixed berries) Marmalade: Dark treacle, Ginger - (Seville is sold out, sorry!)

Chutney: Courgette and Tomato, Plum, Mango, Rhubarb and Ginger. Also limited stock of Apple Jelly with a variety of herbs – Sage, Rosemary and Mint.

\*All produce is priced at £2. Proceeds to St Botolph's Church Allerthorpe.

Contact Angela by phone 01759 303136 or [angela3batty@gmail.com](mailto:angela3batty@gmail.com)

Collection from the Old Vicarage, Allerthorpe



### Unwanted plant pots

If you are tidying out your shed or greenhouse and come across unwanted plant pots please think of the Allerthorpe plant growers. They are already growing plants for next May's plant sale and would welcome your pots, especially one and two litre sizes. Please contact Penny Simmons 01759 303832.



## **NEWS FROM BARMBY MOOR**

### **St Catherine's Church**

St Catherine's stands prominently in the middle of our lovely village and means something special to us all. For some, it is the focal point for worship and mission. For others, it holds direct links to the past, with memories of baptisms, weddings and funerals. For some, it is a wonderful historic building, beautiful to look at, set in an attractive green and wooded space. Since 1980, three major restorations have transformed the interior into an attractive, warm and welcoming environment for exhibitions, concerts and other public events.

At this time of year with Remembrance, our focus is towards the Commonwealth War Graves and the witness they bear to the sacrifice made by so many on our behalf.



This year has been challenging for all of us, and Barmby Moor Parochial Church Council, which is custodian of St Catherine's Church, has not been sheltered from the financial pressures resulting from Covid-19. Although St Catherine's Church is an asset and a benefit for

the whole community, the majority of the cost of maintaining and running the building and the churchyard falls upon the shoulders of a small, dedicated group of about 30 parishioners. Their response to this financial hardship this year has been truly wonderful, and St Catherine's Church should remain financially solvent this year. Without the very generous increase in the number and amount of standing order contributions this year, from regular worshippers and other supporters, the year-end situation would have been very difficult indeed. We are now much more confident that we will be able to keep St Catherine's Church maintained,

vibrant and well cared for, ready to offer a welcome to all in our Parish and from further afield.

Our plans to continually improve and maintain St Catherine's Church had included a project to refurbish the Cremated Remains Area in the churchyard, but this had to be put on hold due to financial constraints. This area is such an important part of St Catherine's Church for so many in the village that we are determined to try to finance the project in 2021. However, next year will undoubtedly also be very financially challenging. Perhaps you feel you could help?

If you would like to help those looking after the church and churchyard by making either a one-off or regular contribution, please contact me and I will give you details of how to do so, as well as profuse thanks!  
Stay safe.

Lewis Anderson, Barmby Moor PCC Treasurer  
Contact details: Tel: 01759 303253 Mob: 07968 231731 Email:  
wyncote2016@gmail.com

### **Mother's Union**

We may not be able to have our own local meetings in Barmby Moor at present, but nationally and internationally, Mothers' Union has been active throughout the pandemic, supporting members at a local level and acting to raise awareness of emerging issues. From coordinating budding poets in the Northwest of the UK to broadcasting supportive radio messages to remote communities in Argentina, our members are pillars of support in all their local communities. Our Food & Fellowship Cookbook has also gone to print and can be purchased online from [www.mueshop.org](http://www.mueshop.org) priced at £5. The cookbook features a variety of recipes from members and clergy around the world, special prayers and graces and a foreword from our Worldwide President Sheran Harper.

Also, on 5 December, Mothers' Union will have its first ever Global Day when we will say "No More 1 in 3", in response to the statistic that 1 in 3 women worldwide will experience domestic abuse in their lifetime. Check out [www.barmbymoorgroup.co.uk](http://www.barmbymoorgroup.co.uk) in December for more information and links.

That's what putting one's faith into action is all about; being there in a time of need, stepping up and taking action. Currently, we may not be able to meet in person as we once did but we can look forward to enjoying fellowship again once this difficult pandemic has eased. For now, we will meet virtually, and we will share our lives as best we can.

There is a saying that 'the person who has hope, has everything'. We know as we support each other and our communities during these dark days that there is still a brighter future for us all.

With love Fiona

### **Barmby Moor Play Group**

Sadly, the play group has had to close but it has been a pleasure to meet everyone attending over the past two years and we have all made some great friends. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at St Catherine's for letting us use the meeting area. It is a lovely place to get together, play and make great memories. I would also like to thank Kimberley Brown, Louise Nesbit and Osh Aspell who helped me set up the group and run it. Thank you to Jeff Whitelam for the help with the Christmas parties. Thank you too to the Playing Field Association for letting us use their facilities during the summer holidays and to Barmby Bouncers for providing a bouncy castle while we were there.

Moira Wilkinson

### **Barmby Moor Calley Trust**

The trustees would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and hope that we all have a more normal 2021.

Covid-19 meant that we were unable to have a summer outing this year and will also mean that the Christmas lunch cannot take place.

Nevertheless, the Calley Trust is still available to help anyone with particular financial needs; the first point of contact is our clerk:  
Barry Malin Phone: 01759 303189 Email: lodgebarmbymoor@gmail.com

### **Parish News Distribution**

Thank you to all those who have delivered the Parish News in Barmby Moor during 2020. It has been a testing time and I know that some have had to

relinquish this job to support family members who are shielding. However, we have been fortunate in others volunteering to help. Thank you to all without you this magazine.

The magazine is now available online via the [barmbymoorgroup.co.uk](http://barmbymoorgroup.co.uk) website, but we will still deliver to every household, unless you would prefer to access it on online in which case please contact me at [jan.gardham@hotmail.com](mailto:jan.gardham@hotmail.com).

### **Barmby Moor Playing Field 100 Club**

September Draw: £73.50 - Richard Tinson (92), £49.00 - Sheila Anderson (104), £24.50 - P and H Richardson (1).

October Draw: £73.50 - Richard Tinson (92), £49.00 - Jo Appleton (24), £24.50 - Bethany Shepherdson (35).

The draws were held at the Boot and Slipper on 30th September and 31st October, respectively.

## **NEWS FROM FANGFOSS, BOLTON AND SPITTAL**

### **Fangfoss Creatives**

Shop locally, shop safely in Fangfoss

Local artists living in Fangfoss are holding a "Festive Open Weekend" on the 5th and 6th December in Fangfoss Pottery from 10 to 4 each day. Pottery, paintings, prints, candles, cards and other gifts – all locally designed and made in the village, will be on sale.

It coincides with a national event called "Small business Saturday" set up to encourage shoppers to buy local and support small businesses.



The event will comply with all government regulations making it a safe place to do your Christmas shopping. Search Facebook events for "Fangfoss Festive Open Weekend".

THE

# CARPENTER S ARMS

FANGFOSS, YO41 5QG 01759 369745



Well Christmas may be on the way  
but it looks set to be far from the usual festivities.  
With much uncertainty as to what the next set of rules  
may be it's impossible for any of us to make plans.  
The only promise that we can make is that we will be  
**OPEN**  
throughout the holiday season, as restrictions allow.

With bigger parties being highly unlikely, we are aiming to  
have some Christmas Dishes on our menu during  
December so that you can, fingers crossed, still have  
a 'mini festive night out' with friends or family.  
With our thanks to Jane Allen, we will update you via  
Fangfosnett with details of how we can all have a  
(hopefully) Happy Christmas.

In the meantime can we say a HUGE THANK YOU  
to our LOCALS & REGULARS who have  
supported us throughout the whole of 2020  
and send Best Wishes to You All for a  
Safer, Happier & Healthier 2021

## **100 Club Winners**

October Draw £25 - Nicola Jones (73), John Jones (163)

November Draw £25 - Sian Jones (164), Mandy Simpson (151)

## **JUBILEE PARK**

### **Potato and Photography Competitions**

The potato competition results and the photography competition went ahead in October – albeit in a different format than usual. A marquee was erected in the Carpenter’s Arms garden and the potatoes, prizes and certificates were arranged on tables around it. In first place with a crop of 10.9kg was Paul Welham. In second place was Bill Burton with a crop weighing 8.5kg, closely followed by Nigel Rickatson in 3rd place with potatoes weighing 8kg.



At the same time the entries for the photography competition were displayed and the public encouraged to vote for their favourites over the weekend.

The winning photographs in the adult section were : Jane Shipley "A deer in the Park", Jane Cook "A double rainbow" and Mark Oliver "A still Vortex". The winner in the children’s competition was George Bowes with his study of toadstools. Runners up were Lily Gibbens "Sunset from Back Lane" and Josie Shepherdson "Fangfoss Church".



## **Jubilee Park Calendar**

Calendars, featuring the most popular photographs will be on sale from November onwards and are available from a committee member or from Fangfoss Pottery. Two sizes have been printed – a slimline, and A4. Both of these styles are priced at £6 each. Money raised will go towards the maintenance of the Park .

## **New equipment**

The new equipment called “The Rotaglide” has been installed and is now open for use. The committee hope everyone enjoys swinging around on it!



## **NEWS FROM THORNTON AND MELBOURNE**

### **Church Opening**

The Church continues to be opened every Sunday 10 - 3 for quiet prayer. Please observe the Covid-19 instructions on the table inside the Church.

### **Lockdown / Shielding**

If anyone needs any help, then please get in touch with Claire Triffitt (01759 318955) or for people in Melbourne please contact Ruth Steels.

It has been a difficult year for everyone. Who would have predicted what 2020 was going to be like at the beginning of the year? It has brought people and communities together and helped us to appreciate the simple things in life.

Let us hope that 2021 will be a better year for everyone, wishing you all a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

### **Highways**

The tanker outside the sewage pumping station has churned up the grass verge in front of the Church Gate. This has been reported to our local councillor, who has promised to follow this up and ensure that the verge is repaired by Yorkshire Water.

The Parish Council have had a meeting with the Highways Engineer from ERYC regarding the problem of the increased volume and speed of traffic by motorists using Thornton as a short cut. Temporary speeding boards are to be erected to try and educate motorists about their speed and get them to slow down. Hopefully, if and when Hagg Bridge is reopened, Thornton will return to being the peaceful village it once was.

### **Remembrance Sunday**

People in Thornton paid their respects on Remembrance Sunday, Martin Kettlewell played the trumpet and Chris Groves the trombone. 2 minutes silence was observed.



### **Vacancy for Treasurer**

Thornton PCC is still seeking a treasurer. If you can spare some time each month to help maintain our accounts and keep the maths correct, then you could be the person we are looking for. If you are interested or know someone who might be able to help then please contact Claire Triffitt, Church Warden 01759 318955.

### **Carol Service**

The Carol Service is arranged for Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 10.45am and Christingle is at 3pm on Christmas Eve. If you wish to attend these services or any other services, then please contact Rev Jan or Claire Triffitt (318955) or Dave Whitwell to reserve a seat as numbers are limited owing to the Covid-19 restrictions. We will do our best to accommodate everyone.

## **100 Club**

September Draw    £25 – David Whitwell (23), £10 – Julian White (86)  
October Draw        £25 – Sarah Burton (39), £10 – Janet Hayton (20)  
November Draw     £25 – Barry McInnes (71), £10 – Sophie Irving (82)

Thank you everyone (new and old members) for an excellent response in joining the 100 club to support St Michael's Church, Thornton. We will endeavour to hold the usual monthly draw – good luck everyone. Take care, keep safe. Peace and joy at Christmas – Janet Hayton

## **NEWS FROM YAPHAM-CUM-MELTONBY**

Despite the strange times in which we are living let us try to have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year remembering all our loved ones and keeping in contact even if we might not be able to see them except possibly on Zoom.

### **Annual PCC Meetings**

We hope to have these meetings via Zoom soon. If you wish to nominate anyone to be a member of the PCC or wish to stand yourself contact Elaine Stubbings (01759 304773). The best way to say how you feel about the running of the church is to be on the PCC. We desperately need someone to step forward to fill the treasurer's post and the vacant churchwarden's position.

### **Christmas Services**

Our Carol Service (without singing but with music) will be on 13th December at 4.00pm. Please contact Rev Jan On 01759 307490 if you would like to book a place. The number of places are limited because of spacing. There will be a service on Christmas Day at 10.30am but not quite what we are used to. However, the church continues to be open for personal prayer and the Advent wreath will be in its usual place. Notices will be placed on the railings outside the church advertising any future services.

### **Feoffee Trust**

As has been customary since the seventeenth century, the benefaction

then made by John Beal has enabled the charitable foundation he set up (now called the Feoffee Trust) to make grants throughout the year, but particularly at Christmas time. These are available to parishioners of Yapham cum Meltonby, specifically for those retired people on state pensions, and for children in full time education whose parents live in the parish. The Trustees welcome applications for grants for consideration and these should, in the first place, be emailed to [john@yorkshiremaps.co.uk](mailto:john@yorkshiremaps.co.uk) or posted to The Feoffee Trust Secretary, The Stables, Kilnwick Percy, Pocklington, YO42 1UF.

The Trustees wish everybody in the parish a Very Happy and Safe Christmas and New Year.

John Ackerley (Secretary)

### **100 Club**

This year it is going to be difficult for Lesley Barker to collect your subscription to the club because of lockdown. If you would like to continue your support for the Club this year please get in touch with her on 01759 304075 or better still arrange a direct payment into the 100 Club bank account and then let her know that you have done so.

The account is in the name of Yapham PCC 100 Club.  
The Sort Code is 40-37-01. The account number is 91455079

### **Latest Winners**

October Draw £20 - Stephanie Edwards (100), £10 - Ian Beattie (96)  
November Draw £20 - Deborah Raper (35), £10 - Jayne Mooney (58).

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Thank you to Emma Nelson for the front cover picture.

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