

Storyteller Chronicles

Advent Edition

The Magazine of Haxby and
Wigginton
Methodist Church



what's
your
story?



Out
of the
Ordinary

Puzzles

Jokes

Aroma

Stories

New Adventures

Take Time Together

Suggested donation £1.50



HAXBY &
WIGGINTON
METHODIST CHURCH

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Editors Note

The Importance of Stories

Welcome to the first edition of our quarterly magazine, the Storyteller Chronicles. Everyone loves a good story. Scans show that every part of our brain lights up like a Christmas tree when we are being told a story. It provokes an emotional response. Stories inspire us and shape us; they help us think about where we have come from, who we are and who we want to be. Stories are woven into our lives and into the very fabric of our being. Everyone has a story; everyone needs to have their story heard by someone who really listens.

In our Church we have long since recognised the value of stories, having the example of Jesus the master storyteller. We work hard to ensure that it feels like a safe space to share our stories; where we can be our authentic selves and no-one will judge us. These pages are another way to share our stories and those of our community. Our Young Church has put together these pages for you and we hope you enjoy them. Even better, we hope you will share your own story with us.

Lorraine Jones

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“Story, as it turns out, was crucial to our evolution—more so than opposable thumbs. Opposable thumbs let us hang on; story told us what to hang on to.”

Lisa Cron, Wired for Story

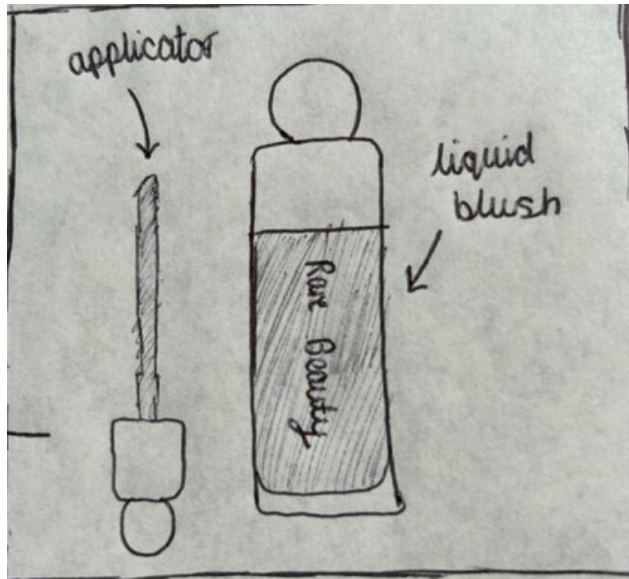
Puzzle time:

How many words can you make from this word?

Rollercoaster

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Sophie's Beauty Tip



Apply dots of the liquid blush on the cheeks and blend to create a flawless look. Be careful not to use too much because it is very pigmented. Rare Beauty, is a make-up brand owned by celebrity Selena Gomez.

Sophie (aged 13)



Told to me by a young man at
Headlands school before
the Open the Book
Assembly started
—Editor



Knock knock

Who's there?

Cows go

Cows go who?

No they don't they go moo!

Knock knock

Who's there?

I dunnap

I dunnap who?

Eurgh yuck, go to the loo!

Dianne Boston's Story...

Dianne, a member of our Church, has lived in lots of places in the UK and is glad to have moved back to Yorkshire, to Haxby. She is currently in the process of moving to Durham to be with her family.

Esther Horne, 12, asks her to share her story with some excellent questions.

What is your favourite childhood memory?

I was about eight years old and we had a Bible reciting competition at Sunday School. I had had a cold and was slightly deaf. I couldn't hear my own voice but I just belted out the verses. To my surprise I won. Apparently I had the loudest and clearest voice so everyone heard me and voted for me. My prize - a box of jelly babies and a book. (Sweets were a luxury in war time)

Where have you lived?

I have lived in Northampton, Harrogate, Aberystwyth, Cardiff - in Wales, then thankfully home to Yorkshire to live in Haxby. Most of our moves have been unexpected but we (my husband and I) had prayed that God would show us where He wanted us to go. It certainly broadened our knowledge of people in different churches. At the moment I am in the middle of selling my bungalow in Haxby and joining my son and family in Durham.

What are you most proud of?

My loud clear voice, especially as a teacher and then getting older and still having the ability to speak to senior citizens groups about Jesus - when even those on the back row of a meeting couldn't nod off because they could hear my voice!!!

However I think my proudest moment has been when I had sent somebody a postcard of "Jesus the height of the world" - depicting Jesus standing outside our lives waiting to be asked in. The person wrote me a letter to say that as a result of seeing it she had asked Jesus into her life.

Like everybody else I have made mistakes in my life and had difficulties, but if I have helped one person to find Jesus, my life has been worthwhile.

What is your favourite flavour of ice cream?

Orange and passion fruit, sold only in Italy particularly in Venice.

It is evident that Jesus is very prominent in her life and that it is very important to Dianne to try to share His glory with others.

Charlotte Jones, 13, also had some questions for Dianne...

What was your first experience of faith?

Diane has been a religious churchgoer since she was a very young age, as encouraged by her mum. However, her first experience with faith was at the age of 4. Her father was killed during the war as an RAF pilot. A couple of years later (age 4), Diane attended a meeting for widows and children. At the end of the session, the leader of the session taught her and the other children an inspiring lesson: "You may not have a daddy but you have a heavenly father who loves you very much." This taught her that she is a special child of God, that God is a friend and that she doesn't have to resent not having a dad. (Continued on next page...)

What is your experience working in the church?

As she grew in her faith, Dianne found a passion for working in churches. Before coming to her current church, Dianne and her husband were Sunday school superintendents for the East Harley Methodist. She also led Bible classes at Queens Road Methodist. After working hard in training, Mr and Mrs Boston became marriage and relationship counsellors and held classes to any denominations interested. In those classes, which were predominantly Bible based, she talked to many women in the Cardiff area with various denominations in order to emphasise a personal relationship with Jesus.

How do you hear from God?

Throughout her life, specifically during her teaching career and marriage, Diane has often found that she receives signs from God through the answering her prayers when deciding what school to teach at, moving house, etc.

What is your most inspiring Bible Story?

Dianne admires Jesus's voluntary sacrifice during the crucifixion in order to forgive us of our sins.

Now for the important questions...

1. Dianne says that she prefers pancakes over waffles especially with lemon juice and golden syrup.
2. Dianne also believes that the best takeaway is Chinese (battered chicken, prawn crackers and noodles)
3. Finally, she believes that pineapple does belong on pizza but is preferred with a slice of Yorkshire ham.

We wish Dianne well with her house move and send her off to Durham with the love and best wishes of the Church.—
Editor



Billy and the Dog

A Story by Eleanor Bowling aged 6

Billy and Fat cat were cycling through the park. They saw a hard, rotten see-saw, they also saw some animals. They saw a wiggly, squiggly worm, a fast, cute rabbit, a hairy, cunning fox and a furry, small squirrel. Suddenly there was a terrible rumble but it was Fat cat's tummy. So Billy rummaged around in her hair, Billy kept all sorts in her hair especially sugary, sprinkly doughnuts. So they went home. They said goodbye to the wor..... Hang on, they are not there. Suddenly everything went DARK! "Who's there?" Billy squealed. Stood in front was a weak, stripy dog. The weak dog had a black, dark tail; a stripy, light fur; pink sturdy legs and pointy, long tall ears. They shook! The weak dog was making a terrible soup. On his recipe he had a worm, a fox and a rabbit. He tried to eat the fox, but Billy stopped the dog and did it again, and again. Then the dog jumped into his soup and rolled down the hill and was never seen again.

The end

What is Eco Church?

Eco Church is an award scheme for Churches who want to demonstrate that they take their role as stewards of God's creation seriously. There are 3 levels of award—Bronze, Silver and Gold. Haxby and Wigginton has gained its Bronze award and the team are currently working toward the silver. There are 5 different areas (shown right) and you must obtain the level in all areas to gain the award.

This is more than a tick-box exercise for the team, it is about promoting a way of life that ensures people and the planet thrive, not just today, but always. We recognise that the problems we face today can seem overwhelming. It can seem like 'another thing on our to do list' to be thinking about the planet too. The team wants to make it easier by sharing tips and ideas, recognising that we can only do what we can. We subscribe to the mantra 'progress not perfection!' We can't do everything, all at once, but if we all make small changes, one at a time, it adds up to a lot. There are around 1500 Eco Churches; as a movement, we can have an impact! In the York area we have talks, share ideas, run climate services and other events. If you want to be involved in this exciting movement, contact Lorraine Jones 07850 631168 or email localpastor@hwmc.org.uk.



Land
Buildings
Lifestyle
Worship & Teaching
Community & Global
Engagement

Libby's Top Tips

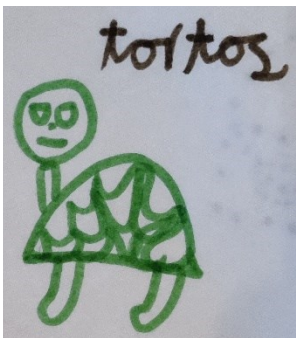
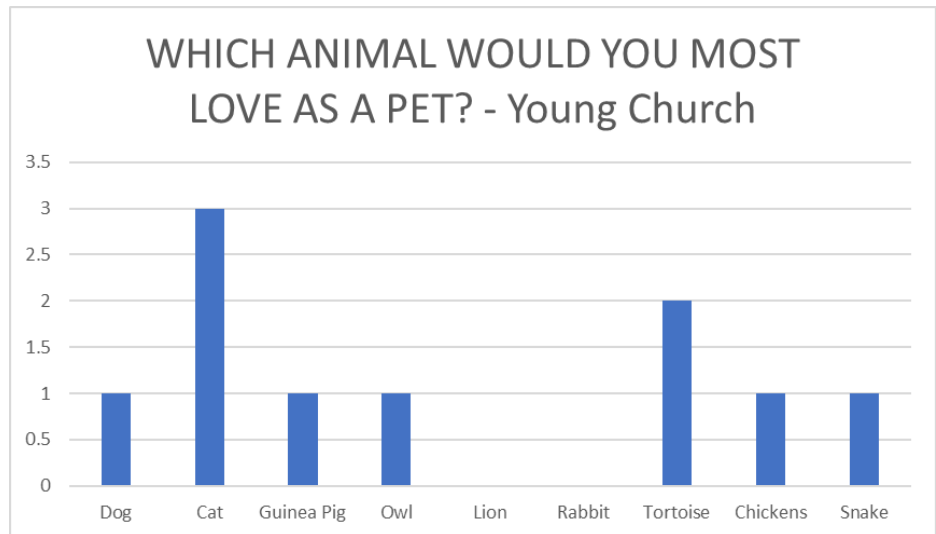
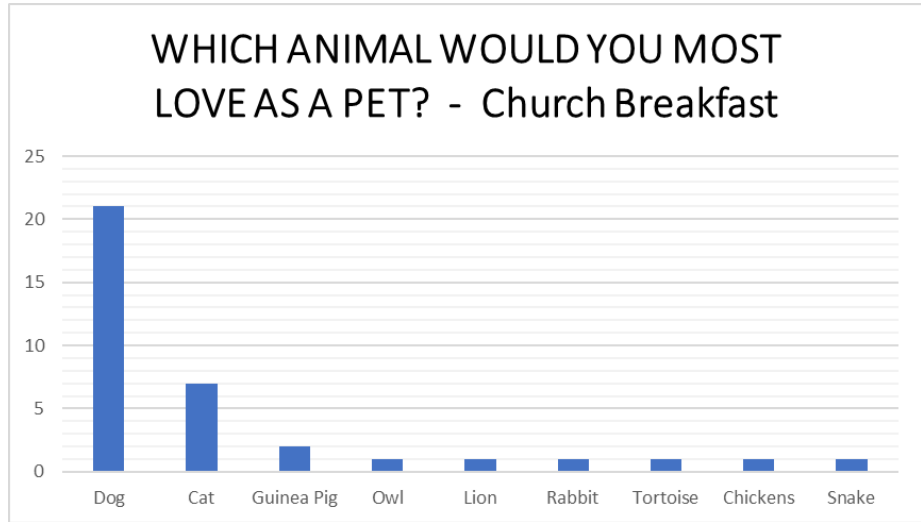
1. Switch to LED light bulbs and if you need an outside light, think about solar.
2. Eat less meat. Just one or two vegetarian days a week can make a real difference.
3. Share equipment that you don't use all the time between family, friends and neighbours.
4. Donate unwanted items to charity shops or use on-line sites such as freecycle or freegle.
5. When shopping, think pre-used. Charity shops are good sources of clothes, books, toys and household goods.
6. Buy locally produced food that is in season, as much as possible.
7. Avoid food waste by planning ahead and use up or freeze leftovers. (editor—I do wish I was better at this!).
8. Buy presents with purpose: social enterprise do a gift guide for more meaningful gifts:

www.socialenterprise.org.uk/gift-guide-2023

PETS

Young Church decided to have a bit of fun and surveyed the people at Church Breakfast and Young Church to see which animal people would love most.

See below for our results:



Names of animals that were suggested:

- Tessa – Dog
- Ginger – Guinea Pig
- Olivia – Rabbit
- Angus – Cat

take
time
together

Advent Meditation

A guided meditation followed by hot drinks and mince pies. In the hustle and bustle of the festive season, come and find a small oasis of rest and peace.

Wednesday 20th December 2023, 2pm-3.30pm
Haxby and Wigginton Methodist Church in the Sky Room

Please contact Lorraine Jones to find out more or book a place:
localpastor@hwmc.org.uk or call 07850 631168

Taketime Together Meditations are an opportunity to pause in the presence of God's gracious and caring love – and find rest. Our guided meditations follow the Ignatian practice in which we imagine that we are in a story from the Bible. For a short while, we can stay with Jesus and simply rest, or ask of Jesus whatever we like, or simply tell him how we feel. We may find that Jesus answers us, telling us what we need to hear and helping us feel the presence of God's love.



Tales from Aroma

I was at the sink washing up as one of the volunteers, so I'm not sure how I first became aware of it, possibly one of the staff spotted what was happening. A young mum came in with a tiny baby, only days old, fast asleep in his buggy. She looked tired, up feeding in the night perhaps, but she wanted to grab a few minutes to herself over lunchtime with some soup and a sandwich. If only the child would stay asleep.

An elderly couple she didn't know followed her in, just for a coffee, and as there was no other space, they asked if they could join her at the low table by the window. They all ordered and were served, and as soon as the mum started to eat, the baby woke up and began to cry. The mum was flustered; the shop was full, the baby was noisy, the soup was going cold. At which point the elderly woman said 'would you like me to take him love while you eat your lunch?' Conversation began between them, the baby went quiet, the lady was thrilled to be able to comfort the child, and the tomato and basil soup was wonderful. A friendship formed, a memory made.

A word from Dorothy Beckett

I would like to send my best wishes to Lorraine and all of the young people involved in the revival of the Church Magazine. A new venture can be quite daunting but also very rewarding, I hope you enjoy it as much as Stephen and I did when we were privileged to be the editors. I look forward to reading your first edition.

(Thank you so much for your encouragement Dorothy - Editor)



That kind of thing happens in Aroma, and is very much part of the vision of Cameron Stirk, our then minister, 15 years ago when the shop opened. He wanted Aroma to be a place of welcome in this community, open to everyone, which demonstrated God's love through service, and which provided an opportunity to learn more about the church and the Christian faith for those who seek it.

Do you want to know more, or maybe join the volunteers? Mel, the manager would be happy to talk to you.

Martyn Holman



My adventure to Norway

My name is Sarah-Jane Uttley, and I have recently received a place on a trip to Roverway, a journey to Norway in summer 2024 with Girlguiding. It was after a long selection process where I was chosen for the trip after a ballot draw and a camp where we completed different activities to see who would be the best fit for each international trip.

Roverway is where Guides and Scouts aged between 16 and 22 years old have the opportunity to come together for a European jamboree. The jamboree is divided into two parts, during the first days, we will gather in smaller groups with other people from several different countries and get the opportunity to explore a self-chosen path. The paths will run throughout Southern Norway and end at the main joint jamboree. The paths will have different themes, and all will get the chance to explore Norway.

Roverway is one of the most popular Guide and Scout events in Europe, with approximately 5000 people taking part. To go on this trip, I need to fundraise to cover the cost of the trip, which is £1995 in total. I am a Young Leader at 1st Rawcliffe Brownies in York and have been a Ranger in Heworth for the past two years. I have been a member of Girlguiding since 2012, at the age of 5 but this is the first time I have been able to go on an international trip with them so it is a very exciting opportunity.



Sunday at 2

Sunday at 2 is the renamed Forty Plus group which meets in the hall monthly for fellowship, speakers, meals and fun. It is a friendly group mostly of older folk but welcoming all. This session's programme includes the agm with Rory, Rev. Andrew Foster, our own Sarah-Jane talking about her Girlguiding trip to Norway, a Christmas Party and Philippa from the Wilberforce Trust. Look out for us in the notices. Do come. We would love to see you—Hazel Hanson.

Communion at Ivy Lodge

Care Home

Every month, in the name of our Church we hold an informal Service of Holy Communion at Ivy Lodge Care Home at their Thursday Fellowship led every fortnight by Jean Crampton. We are warmly welcomed and members are responsive and appreciative. We love to share with them and feel it is a really time of worship. We would appreciate your prayers. Hazel and Olwyn



Stories at Breakfast Church

Chatting around tables, coffee and a croissant at the ready, Breakfast Church has become another warm and friendly space to share our stories of life and faith together. We ask ourselves and each other some good questions and get to know each other better. Our recent Remembrance Sunday was a lovely example. We remembered the countless thousands who lives have been lost in wars, but hearing personal stories made it more real. The impact, at the time of war itself, and felt through generations was felt at a deeper level. We also shared our hopes for peace in the world now.

A chance for the whole church family to get together. There is drawing and lego available for fidgeters (of all ages!) to enjoy. Come and talk about 'life stuff', faith, or where the raspberry jam went..?

Do you have a story you want to share in these pages? It can be about life, faith, an adventure, an everyday thing, something you are involved in...? Let Lorraine Jones know: families@hwmc.org.uk



STORIES

BREAKFAST

LEGO

CHURCH

FRIENDS

SONGS

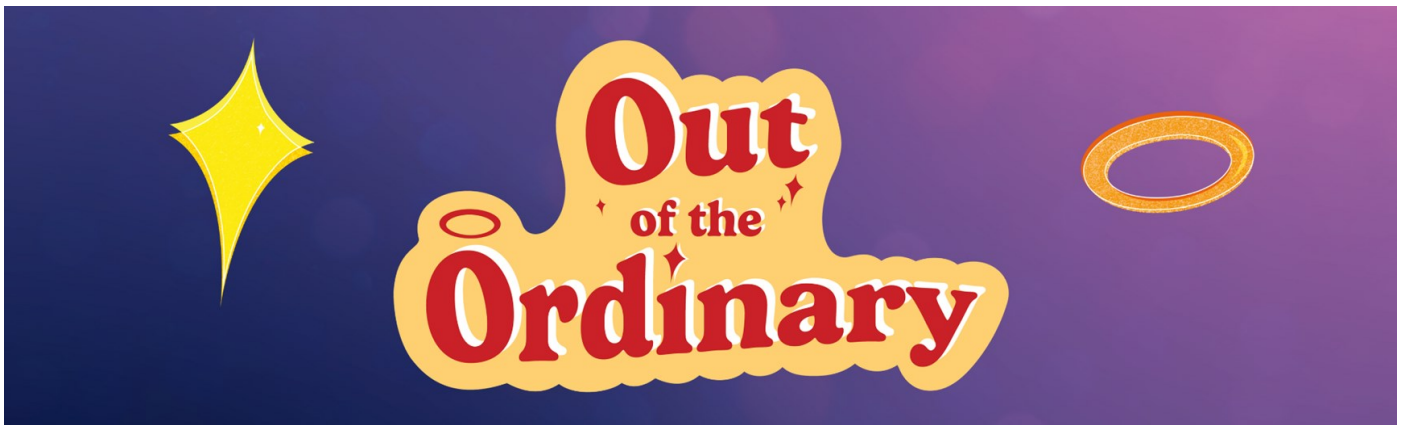
2ND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

10AM

FAITH

CHAT





Dear friends

Our theme for this year in the whole of the Methodist Church is 'Out of the Ordinary'. Through Advent we will discover together that out of very ordinary day-to-day events and actions, can come the most extraordinary, transforming, life giving moments. A young woman, living in an ordinary place, engaged to a man doing an ordinary job, together commit themselves to bringing up an extraordinary child, starting in that ordinary place in Bethlehem, where they keep animals.

Jesus, in his life and ministry, goes on to show us how the very ordinary can have extraordinary impact; a simple chat, going for dinner, a ride in a fishing boat, a ride on a donkey. How can we do ordinary acts of kindness, with love and compassion, that show the extraordinary love of Christ? A simple chat, making a cup of tea, a smile, showing welcome to someone new. In a world which seems so full of hate at the moment, love is an extraordinary powerful force which stands defiantly, but gently, in contrast.

My prayer for you this Advent, is for you to find an ordinary way in which you can bless someone and may you receive that blessing in return. And through it, may you see the beautiful, extraordinary, love of God.

Lorraine Jones, Local Pastor, Haxby and Wigginton Methodist Church.

*The light shines in the
darkness, and the
darkness has not
overcome it*

John ch1 v5

