



MESSENGER



**For the Benefice of
Lockington, Lund and Scorbrough with Leconfield**

*Wishing everyone a
Healthy and Peaceful 2026
from the Benefice Team*



A letter from Revd Tim Kelly (Area Dean)

For many of us, Christmas may feel firmly behind us. The decorations are down, routines begin to be re-established, and January has arrived with its familiar mix of cold mornings, dark evenings, and the sense that winter still has a long way to run.

And yet, in the church calendar, January carries its own quiet moment of meaning. It is the season when the arrival of the Magi, the so-called Wise Men, is remembered. In many nativity scenes they appear at Christmas, but traditionally celebrating their journey, their arrival, and their gifts belongs to January. They come late, travel far, and bring what they have.

Those gifts are often described simply as gold, frankincense, and myrrh. But they are more than exotic objects. Traditionally, the Magi's gifts carried layered meaning: gold for kingship, frankincense for worship, and myrrh, used in burial, as a quiet reminder that this child's story would not be an easy one. They are offered not to impress, but to honour.

January is a good time of year to take stock of our gifts. Not listing the collection of items we may have received at Christmas, but instead taking time to notice the gifts we already carry with us. Each of us has a collection of gifts that do not come wrapped in paper: qualities of character, practical skills, hard-earned experience, patience, creativity, kindness, reliability, humour, wisdom. Some of these gifts are obvious; others are so familiar that we forget they matter. Often, other people see our gifts more clearly than we do ourselves.

What am I good at? What do people often thank me for? What do I bring into a room, a conversation, a group? And just as importantly, what gifts do I recognise in others ... in my family, my friends and neighbours, people in the village who quietly keep things going?

The Magi did not give what they did not have. They gave what was theirs to offer. And gift-giving did not end at the crib. In much the same way, sharing our gifts is not a one-off act. It is something that can happen throughout the year, in small, ordinary ways: time given, encouragement offered, skills shared, burdens lightened, people noticed.

January can sometimes feel bleak. Christina Rossetti captured that honesty in her carol *In the Bleak Midwinter*. Yet she ends with a question that still resonates:

"What can I give Him, poor as I am?"

Her answer is not about wealth or status, but about offering what is real and personal. Gifts do not need to be expensive to be meaningful. We all have something to give. As this year unfolds, perhaps the invitation is a simple one: to recognise the gifts we carry, to value the gifts we see in others and to ask, quietly but intentionally, how we might share them for the good of those around us in 2026.

Revd Tim Kelly rev@thefourtowers.co.uk / 07539 429945

St Mary's Church, Lockington

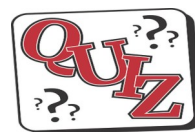
Tired of eating party food? Come to New Years Day Bacon Butties!

**Held in Lockington Village Hall Thursday 1st January
10-00 until 11-30am**



Children eat free

Family New Year Quiz



Thank you from St Mary's Church, Lockington

Thank you to all those who have helped make the Christmas season a wonderful time in our church - from those who have contributed to the services in any way, all the musicians, the flower arrangers, the carol singers around the village, the cleaners and all those who attended the many services. Your help and support are very much appreciated. Congratulations to Lockington CE Primary School on their wonderful Christmas performances and Christingle service held at St Mary's. They also gave a gloriously happy performance of carols and excerpts from their Christmas production for the Church Coffee Morning attendees in the Village Hall at the end of term. This was a real traditional Christmas highlight and much appreciated by everyone!

Interfaith Group Meeting 1.12.25

Nine of us met this time. We were pleased to welcome Martin Pleiner, Secretary of Hull and East Yorkshire Interfaith (HERI) to our meeting.

Martin shared something of his own spiritual journey and spoke movingly about his commitment to interfaith dialogue. He explained that a central, defining characteristic of interfaith work is the need to build social and community cohesion. It is known that there are proven, life-enhancing benefits for people making a faith commitment. These benefits may be enhanced by dialogue - sharing openly with others across the (possibly narrow) confines of the multiple strands of individual faiths. He regarded such dialogue as essential for peaceful co-existence in the world. He felt that the world badly needed the leadership of 'good' faith leaders, committed to asserting the common humanity of all people beyond the confines of individual faiths. Whilst recognising that some of this essential, deep listening work may be sometimes be difficult, keeping dialogue open, respectful and sincere was key.



Coming from a Jewish faith background, but now seeing himself as atheist, he is nonetheless fascinated by stories of the faith journeys of others, across the divides of race and ethnicity. He sees his work with the HERI Council in the development and organising of HERI's programme of regular, quarterly interfaith Forums with the informal contacts and friendships which ensue, as a fitting focus of his life.

We were very grateful to Martin for his open-hearted yet deep reflections. It gave us much food for thought and helped us to recognise that our meeting together was clearly linked to this wider mission.

Our guest for our next meeting will be a **Buddhist**, Paul Fisher. The meeting will be held at the same venue - the home of Brian Fellowes, Maple Cottage, Arram Road Leconfield HU17 7NP (01964 550410) on **Monday 12th January** at 7.00pm

Bacon Butties

at All Saints, Lund



Please join us on
Saturday 17th January
from 9-30 until 11-30am
for bacon butties!

Coffee Mornings

10.30-11.30am

Wednesdays
at St. Catherine's Church,
Leconfield

Thursdays
at Lockington Village Hall

All are welcome



COPY DATE for articles and events - Friday 16th January



January 2026 Services

**Please note that during the Interregnum
all Services are subject to change**

| | St. Mary's Lockington | All Saints Lund | St. Leonard's Scorbrough | St. Catherine's Leconfield |
|---|--|------------------------------|--|--|
| Sunday 4th January Christmas 2 EPIPHANY | 11.00a.m. Morning Worship | | | 9.30a.m. Holy Communion 1.00p.m. Baptism |
| Midweek Services | Wed. 7th Jan. 9.30a.m. Midweek Service with healing prayers | | | |
| Sunday 11th January Baptism of Christ Epiphany 1 | | 11.00a.m. Morning Worship | 9.30a.m. Holy Communion <i>NOTE CHANGE OF DATE</i> | |
| Midweek Services | | | | |
| Sunday 18th January Epiphany 2 | 9.30a.m. Holy Communion | | | |
| Midweek Services | | | | Wed. 21st Jan. 9.30a.m. Midweek healing prayers Thur. 22nd Jan. 7.00p.m. Celtic Evening Prayers |
| Sunday 25th January Epiphany 3 | 11.00a.m. Contemporary Worship | 9.30a.m. Holy Communion | | |

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

Holy Communion Services on the 1st and 2nd Sunday in January are
St. Catherine's, Leconfield - 4 January 9.30am
St. Leonard's, Scorbrough - 11th January 9.30am

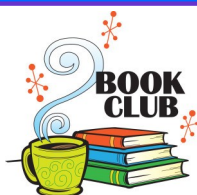
*All other Services
as normal*

Celtic Book Club

with Bible Application
at
St Catherine's Church
Leconfield



Next meeting
Wednesday January 14th
2.45pm for 3pm start.



The Friends of St. Catherine's, Leconfield

Scottish Evening

Stories about The Great Highland Bagpipes
including Scottish food & drink tasting



Friday 30th January
7.00—8.00p.m.



For Tickets etc contact Anna 07510 671573

Who's Who & Contact Details

Rector: Vacancy

*During the Interregnum please contact the churchwardens or the **NEW** Area Dean, Revd Dr. Tim Kelly 07539 429945 email: rev@thefourtowers.co.uk*

Authorised Lay Minister (Worship) :

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Mrs Andrea Parr

Authorised Lay Minister (Pastoral) :

Mrs Sarah Gaydon

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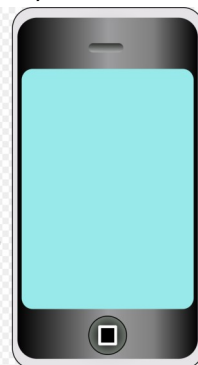
Andrea Parr 01430 810547
andrea.l.parr@hotmail.com

Foundation Governor for Lockington School: Dr Graham Parr

Other Useful Websites:

www.achurchnearyou.com
www.churchofengland.org

www.dioceseofyork.org.uk



| | Lockington | Lund | Scorborough | Leconfield |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Church Wardens | Sam Walton 01430 810597 Andrea Parr 01430 810547 | Simon Maddocks 01377 217297 | Sally Thorley 07864 911566 | VACANCY |
| PCC Secretary | Graham Parr 01430 810547 | VACANCY | Sally Thorley | Paul Thompson 07766 601304 |
| PCC Treasurer | Graham Parr | Barry Ewbank | Margaret Bloom | Roy Holt |

Are you taking a mid-winter break?

If you are preparing to take off for foreign climes, do keep an eye out for signs that have English words... but perhaps not an English meaning! In hotels and train stations and airports all over the world there are polite little signs that will bring a smile to the lips of even an exhausted traveller. For instance, how about these:

Switzerland: We have nice bath and are very good in bed.

Romania: The lift is being fixed for the next day. During that time we regret you will be unbearable.

Russia: If this is your first visit to the USSR, you are welcome to it.

Spain: Our wine list leaves you with nothing to hope for.

Denmark: In the event of fire, open a window and announce your presence in a seemly manner.

Canary Islands: If you telephone for room service you will get the answer you deserve.