

THE PORCH

MAY 2026

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ST EDWARD'S CHURCH DRINGHOUSES, YORK

Image by Linda Sykes.
Hanging Stones Walk, Rosedale.

Who's Who in St. Edward's

Vicar: Reverend Canon Richard Carew
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Email: vicar@stedsdringhouses.org Tel: 07776683254



Assistant Curate: Reverend Debbie Long
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Parish Secretary: Wendy Hewitt
parishoffice@stedsdringhouses.org
Office Hours: Monday 1.00pm - 4.00pm. Tuesday - Friday
9.00am - 4.00pm
(closed for lunch 1.30-2.00pm) Tel: 01904 709111

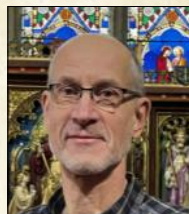


Parish Assistant: Louise Walton
parishoffice@stedsdringhouses.org
Office Hours: Monday 1.00pm - 4.00pm. Tuesday - Friday 9.00am -
4.00pm
(closed for lunch 1.30-2.00pm) Tel: 01904 709111



Children's Worker: Sally Gatus
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Caretaker: Mike Hewitt
Email: caretaker@stedsdringhouses.org



**Contact The Porch on porch@stedsdringhouses.org
for any submissions or questions.**

May...be

Growing up, if my parents answered a request with the word 'maybe' it basically meant 'no!' 'Can we get a video recorder?'- 'Maybe...' 'Can we get a cat?' - 'Maybe...' 'Can we get a swimming pool...?' 'No!'. Well, I guess that it wasn't always 'maybe'; sometimes it really was just a straight 'no'!

Even though it wasn't how it was often used in our house, the word 'maybe' is filled with possibilities. And the way that it is said might be pregnant with hope or shot through with scepticism.



In the last few weeks in Church, we have been reading stories of the first disciples as they heard rumours that Jesus was alive and then got to see Him for themselves. At first their reaction to the news that Jesus was alive was a straight 'no'! It just wasn't possible.

And then as more and more people claimed to have encountered Him for themselves, the reaction moved to become 'it couldn't possibly be true.... could it...?' 'No' turned to 'maybe, just maybe....'



May feels like a month of hope and possibilities. The trees are coming back into life, and all the hedgerows are turning green. It feels as though life is being restored.

And it is in May that the Church celebrates Pentecost. This celebrates the day, fifty days after the Resurrection, when God poured out the Holy Spirit on the disciples to enable them to experience the life of God living in them, and enabling them to live out that life in a

difficult and sometimes hostile world. We are told that on that first Pentecost, Peter preached a sermon that led to about 3000 people becoming followers of Jesus. The desolation and despair of Good Friday had been transformed and there was now a hope that offered possibilities for the world.

As we live through some really turbulent times in the world at the moment, I wonder how your faith feels at the moment? Maybe it feels like that first Good Friday, where everything you hoped and thought that you believed has somehow been torn away, and you are wondering what God is playing at. Maybe it feels like Holy Saturday, where the desolations of Good Friday have become silence and hopelessness, and God feels deaf to your prayers.

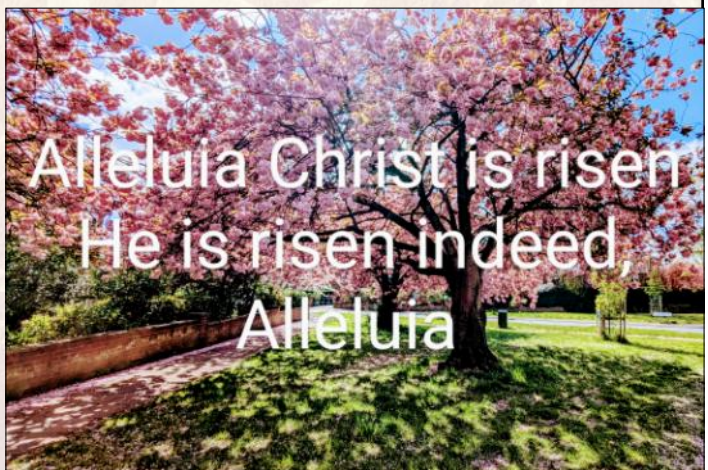
Or maybe it feels like that first Easter Day. There are rumours that God is alive and well, and you are in the process of working out what that means for you. The kernel of hope is beginning to grow and there is light in the darkness.

Or maybe it feels like Pentecost. The 'may be' has become the 'will be' and you are feeling renewed in your faith and ready to live out that life of God in a world that needs to know that there is hope.

However we might characterise our faith at the moment, the promise of Jesus is that He is in it with us. Silence is not absence, and Good Friday is not the end of the story. There is Pentecost yet to come.

In a world that seems so fragile and uncertain at the moment, I pray that we will each know that presence of God with us, breathing new life into us whatever we may be facing, and that we will experience that same life and renewal of that first Pentecost, and that the presence of God with us will enable us to believe that life really can be different. Maybe... just maybe.....

Richard



Parish Pilgrimage

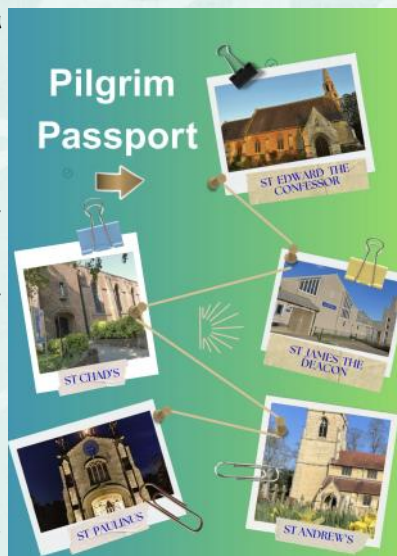
On Saturday 28th March, 65 plus people from four South York churches, joined together for a Pilgrimage Day. We started with a welcome from the Archbishop of York at Bishopthorpe Palace, where a brief service was shared. We then variously walked, cycled, or drove the five-mile route which took us to St Andrew's Bishopthorpe, St Chad's, James the Deacon and finally St Edward's where we closed with a Eucharist service. Below is an introduction to how the idea was born and some reflections from those who shared the day.

Introduction

The seeds of this Pilgrimage Day began in a Carmelite Monastery. Here, the PCC decided that prayer would be a focal point for our exploration into a closer relationship with God, as a parish in the coming year. Prayer then became linked to pilgrimage, following interest and experience of the Camino de Santiago. We met with Canon Maggie from the Minster, who had spent her sabbatical exploring Pilgrimage and walking part of the Camino. Her experience led to an interview with Claire Balding and a slot on Ramblings on Radio 4. For us, more prosaically, it took us to a closer relationship with

local Christians in South York and a day where we explored the heritage of our local saints and took space and time together as we entered Holy Week. Where will it take us next?

Helen Dawe



Reflections

Having had knee surgery a year ago, I was anxious about attempting to do the whole pilgrimage on foot and so decided to do it on my bicycle. That meant that I missed out on the companionship of walking together with those that I know and also the opportunity of getting to know new people on the way. But it did give me perhaps a little more time in each of the churches to spend time reflecting on the lives of the several saints to whom our churches are dedicated. The questions below each biography helped me to reflect on my own Christian journey, and to recall with gratitude those who have walked the path with me over the last 76 years.

Peter Collier

I did wonder if driving the pilgrimage with Lilian would give me a sense of purpose of communing with God in the same way as walking it, and I'm pleased to say it did. Starting at the Palace with the Archbishop blessing us on our way was wonderful. Although driving and missing out on walking with other pilgrims, we were able to be part of the pilgrimage in the churches we visited having quiet times in prayer and meditation. Ending at our own church with welcome earthly and spiritual food, the pilgrimage gave me peace.

Janet Owen

"This is not a race " I kept saying to myself as I plodded, ever more slowly round the course. However, going at your own pace meant that you had the pleasure of being overtaken, or sometimes briefly joined, by lots of different people, so it was a genuinely communal experience. And what bliss were those "spiritual pit-stops" in the different churches as well!



We of course are so fortunate in our location, but I would like to think that -suitably adapted - we might "export" this excellent "South York Church Trail " to other Christian groups as well. Capable of completion within half a day, it truly is a pilgrimage in miniature.

Philip Cousins



The Parish Pilgrimage provided a very appropriate close to my short placement at St Edward's. As an experienced "church-crawler", the initial temptation was to be taken up with observing any points of interest in the various churches, and, of

course, taking plenty of photographs to put on social media later. However, what I will remember from the day are the conversations I had with various pilgrims whilst walking between the churches. In particular, for various reasons, the account of the Binding of Isaac from Genesis 22 was in my mind at that time - and then, as I was talking to a fellow pilgrim, it turned out that he had recently written an assignment on the very same passage! It is very easy to see God at work in such moments. As one hymn puts it:

"From strength unto strength we go forward on Sion's highway
To appear before God in the city of infinite day."

David Norman

Stepping onto the parish pilgrimage trail moved a simple walk into a time of prayer. As we were walking the noise of day-to-day life faded, and was replaced by private prayer. It was a journey of intentional slowing. Moving at a slow pace allowed a time of focus. Each church we visited served as a milestone reflecting on the Saints that marked them.

From my point of view, it was a stretch of my walking ability but a place of togetherness as we walked with other members of our church and those from other churches. Whether walking in community or solitude, the pilgrimage reminded us that faith is not a destination, but a persistent, soul-stretching path.



Berni & Ian Addyman

A pilgrim's short reflection:

Journey's beginning

Warm welcome

Palace chapel, years of praise

Sun shining, birds singing

Fellow travellers on their way

Questions asked

Thought provoking

Quiet contemplation

Prayerful response

Walking onwards

Some a chatter

Peace in nature

Preferential

Holy Week

Much to think of

Life and death

And life again

Love always

Never ending

Not my will

But yours be done

Community together

Fed and watered

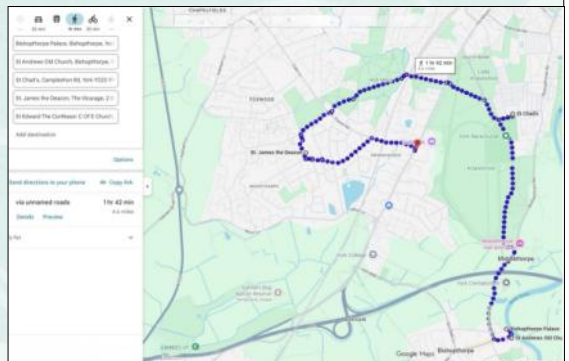
Fed again by Christ the Son

Send me out

In faith grown stronger

Trusting you to hold my hand

Paul & Julie Shepard



Editor's Note:

The churches visited on this Pilgrimage, with the exception of Bishopthorpe Palace, are all open Monday to Friday, so the trail can be followed anytime at your leisure. A hard copy of the booklet is available from the Parish Office at St Edward's (Tel: 01904 70911) or alternatively can be accessed online at the following link.

<https://www.stedsdringhouses.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Pilgrim-Passport-Final.pdf>

This summer, the Church of England is offering reflections around pilgrimage entitled "Pilgrim Places, Holy Lives: A Gospel Journey with the Early English Saints", and more information can be found on this link. https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-life/pilgrim-places-holy-lives-gospel-journey-early-english-saints?utm_source=The+Journal&utm_campaign=48393048b9-The+Journal+9+April+2026&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_fdcffebaea-48393048b9-354235835#na

Why not write for The Porch?

June: Game On!

July/August: Summer Days

September: A Fresh Start

October: Creation

November: Memories

December: Christmas Present

Contact: porch@stedsdringhouses.org



Promise

Turning safeguarding into a positive force

Do you remember those days (I sound old), but from a very young age I would be sent out, mainly Saturdays and the school holidays with my black and yellow chopper bike with no food, no water, no map and told to be back before the sun sets or it gets dark. So how did I get to my destination of play? I asked strangers for directions, I knew where all the drinking water fountains were and if I got hungry, I would eat blackberries or orchard apples. Many times I would get into conversations with someone at their garden gate which resulted in tours of their front sitting room to look at collections of old telephones, medals, mechanical engines or to meet a clowder of Siamese cats. No safety required. No mobile phone to contact home. Just me, independent and free, to explore the city and meet strangers to talk with. How things have changed or have they? Danger did lurk in unexpected corners, places where one should feel safe, secure and protected only to be proved wrong. We all share a responsibility to care and look after those who are vulnerable amongst us, whatever the age.

Fast forward to my role here at St Edward's as the Children and Youth Worker; we have a wonderful team of volunteers, senior leaders and our safeguarding officer (Pat Wilson). We don't just sit on our laurels; we actively look at our policy and procedures constantly to update and check they work. The most common risks are low self-esteem, withdrawal, anxiety and bullying. Many of our young people go to several groups across our Church and recently they created a mind-map of collective thoughts and ideas on safeguarding. This sat alongside a discussion, and the key takeaways that they asked to be recognised were for all people in the church to be treated fairly, be vigilant, be kind, never bully and value each other as individuals.

The consensus was they felt empowered to speak out and be understood, believed and safe. They also felt confident in being themselves, in their faith but recognised that they are each an individual with a voice and have different perspectives on their beliefs. Through talking, games, stories and sharing experiences we have good foundations for our young people to grow and be happy in themselves and with those around them.

Sally Gatus

C&Y Worker

Prayer

Lord

We trust you with the children in our care. Guide us to create a culture of love, respect and safety. May your presence be with them always and may they feel secure in your love.

Amen

One Bible passage relating to safeguarding is Matthew 18:6. This passage highlights Jesus' emphasis on protecting and caring for vulnerable children and young people. It warns against causing harm or leading others astray, emphasising the importance of safeguarding.

Friends of the Holy Land

During our recent Retreat in Daily Life, we were reminded that we are 'the light of the world'. In my group we shared stories of how even small acts of kindness - when we live as light and salt-



can bring hope and new life to even the darkest and most hopeless places. News on the TV and radio about life in Gaza and the West Bank is almost unbearable to listen to, and it's hard to imagine how we as Christians, several thousand miles away in Dringhouses, can make any difference to the lives of those affected by violence and war.

But we can! We support a small charity, Friends of the Holy Land, that supports Christians of all denominations in the land where our faith began. As a result of the on-going violence and blockades in Gaza, the increasingly violent attacks by settlers in the West Bank, and because of the Israeli and American war, Palestinians are experiencing especially challenging times. Not only has the tourist trade dried up, but many Christians who worked in Israel, have had their visas and work permits cancelled by the Israeli authorities and the border crossings are closed. Nothing like our benefits system exists in the area and as a result many are suffering extreme poverty, and children and young people are unable to attend school or college.

We may feel helpless, but with our financial and prayer support, we can make a difference. FHL works with partners in the Holy Land to identify and support individuals and families, providing bursaries for children to attend school, grants for young people to receive vocational training and grants for students to receive further and higher education.



11 They may be modest, in the overall scheme of things, but they make a huge difference to those who receive them.

For example:

FHL is funding scholarships for 6 students to take part in Bethlehem University's 4-year nursing programme. FHL intend to support the students with a 50% scholarship of the £1500 per year course fee, for the full 4 years of their course. Students are expected to remain in the Holy Land post-graduation and use their nursing degree in their local community.

Unemployment in the West Bank and Gaza is very high at over 31%. With no benefits system, this puts incredible pressure on families.

After being accepted on a FHL scheme to find positions for young unemployed people Raif said:

"Being accepted in the FHL Job creation program was the moment everything began to change. To me, it felt like a drowning man being thrown a rope to cling to. It wasn't just about the money, it was about having a purpose again and being able to fulfil my responsibilities."

St Edward's has committed to supporting FHL. And each of us can make a real difference to the lives of our sisters and brothers in the Holy land.

How?

Firstly we can pray:

Radio and TV news bulletins provide lots of information about the challenges facing people every day in the Holy Land. We can use the news to shape our prayers.

You can find up to date information on the Friends of the Holy Land website:
<https://www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk/>

You can send donations to Friends of the Holy Land. Or; how about organising a Fundraiser? Last year a simple BBQ in the Burrs' back garden raised £500 - enough to pay for half the fees for a trainee plumber or electrician for a year! Amazing! And we had lots of fun...!

Anna Burr

WAYNE LIDDLE

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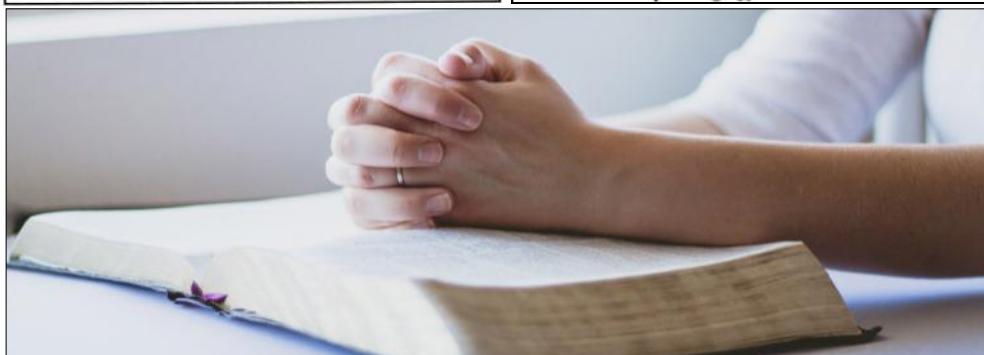
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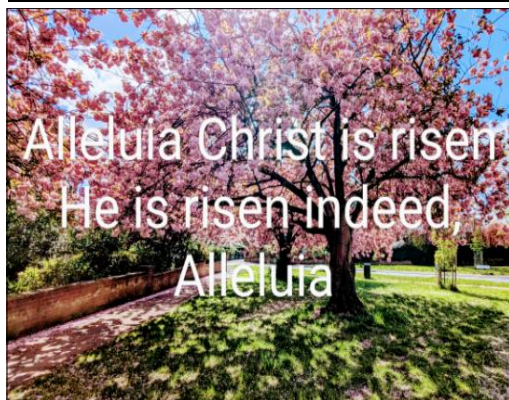
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MAY 2026 SERVICES & EVENTS

Monday & Thursday	Church open during daytime 12.30-3.00pm
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday	Church open 9.30am—3.00pm
Monday—Thursday	Café open 9.30-12.00: 1.30-4.00pm
Friday	Café open 9.30am-12.00
Mondays	Little Ted's 10.30-12.00 noon
	Garden Gang (during the season) 2.00pm-4.00pm
Wednesdays	Youth Group 7.00pm-8.30pm
Fridays (see below for practice dates)	6.30-7.30pm Choir practice in Church
Any enquiries about Baptisms, Weddings etc to 01904 709111 or parishoffice@stedsdrawinghouses.org	
Timings are correct at time of going to press.	

Monday	10.00-12.00	Needlecraft Group
	6.00-8.00pm	Dringhouses Rainbows & Brownies
	7.00—8.00pm	My Yoga Journey
Tuesday	10.00-11.00am	Exercise for Fitness & Health
	10.30-11.30am	'Happy Hour' in the Café
	11.10 –12.10	Mindful Yoga
	12.30-4.00pm	Tuesday Bridge Group
	6.15-7.15pm	Beaver Scouts (in term time) see back page for Wednesday evening session
Wednesday	7.30—9.00 pm	Line Dancing
	9.30am-12noon	Probus (fortnightly)
	10.00-11.00 am	Aerobics
	12.15-3.30pm	Art Group
	6.15-8.15pm	Perfecting Pilates (2 x 1 hour classes)
1st Thursday	11.30-am12.30pm	Yorkshire Club
	2.00-3.00pm	Contact
3rd Thursday	7.30-9.30pm	Local History Group
Thursday	11.00-12.00	Exercise for Fitness & Health
	12.15-3.45pm	Thursday Bridge Group
	6.45-7.45pm	My Yoga Journey
	7.15-8.15pm	Occasion Choir
	7.50-9.50pm	Camera Club
Friday	9.30-12.00	Living Well Health Community (2nd & 4th in month)
	12.00-2.00	Lunches in the Community Hall (see poster for dates)
	6.15-7.15pm	Beavers Scouts (in term-time)

Sunday 3rd May— 5th Sunday of Easter

8.30am BCP Holy Communion

Acts 7:55-end: John 14: 1-14

10.00am All-Age Service & Baptism

Readings as above

6.30pm Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing

Readings as above

Monday 4th May Bank Holiday Monday Premises Closed

Tuesday 5th May

10.00-11.00am

Exercise for Fitness & Health

2.00pm

Women's Fellowship Committee Meeting

Wednesday 6th May

12.00 noon

Praying in Company

7.00-8.30pm

Youth Group

Thursday 7th May

10.00am Holy Communion

Acts 15: 7-21: John 15: 9-11

11.00-12.00 noon

Exercise for Fitness & Health

Friday 8th May

12.00-2.00pm

Friday lunches

Saturday 9th May

10.00-12.00 noon

Railway Group

Sunday 10th May—6th Sunday of Easter and APCM

10.00am All Age Communion followed by APCM

Acts 17; 22-31: John 14: 15-21

Monday 11th May

10.00-12.00 noon

Needlecraft

10.30-12.00 noon

Little Ted's

Tuesday 12th May

10.00-11.00am

Exercise for Fitness & Health

Wednesday 13th May

12.00 noon

Praying in Company

7.00-8.30pm

Youth Group

Thursday 14th May—Ascension Day

10.00am Holy Communion

Acts 1:1-11; Luke 24: 44-end

11.00-12.00

Exercise for Fitness & Health

7.00pm Holy Communion

Readings as above

Friday 15th—Sunday 17th May

Parish Away Weekend to Wydale

Sunday 17th May— 7th Sunday of Easter

8.30am Holy Communion No Service

Wydale Church weekend Away

9.15am Tea & Toast

10.00am All Age Communion

Acts 1: 6-14; John 17: 1-11

Monday 18th May

10.00-12.00 noon

Needlecraft

10.30-12.00 noon

Little Ted's

7.00pm Holy Communion

Prior to PCC Meeting

7.30pm

PCC Meeting

Tuesday 19th May

10.00-11.00

Exercise for Fitness & Health

6.00pm

House of Bishop's Eucharist

Wednesday 20th May

8.30am

House of Bishop's Eucharist

12.00 noon

Praying in Company

12.45

House of Bishop's Eucharist

7.00-8.30pm

Youth Group

Thursday 21st May

8.30am

House of Bishop's Eucharist

10.00am Holy Communion

Acts 22: 30,23; 6-11; John 17:20-end

11.00-12.00

Exercise for Fitness & Health

7.30-9.00pm

Local History Group

Sunday 24th May—Pentecost

8.30am Holy Communion

Acts 2: 1-21: John 7: 37-39

10.00am Holy Communion

Readings as above

Monday 25th May Bank Holiday Monday Premises Closed

Tuesday 26th May

10.00-11.00am

Exercise for Fitness & Health

Thursday 28th May

10.00am Holy Communion

1 Peter 2: 2-5, 9-12: Mark 19: 46-end

11.00-12.00

Exercise for Fitness & Health

2.00pm

Women's Fellowship

Friday 29th May

12.00-2.00pm

Lunches

Saturday 30th May

7.30pm

Jake Leg Jug Band Concert

Sunday 31st May—Trinity Sunday

8.30am BCP Holy Communion

Isaiah 40: 12-17, 27-end: Matthew 28: 16-end

10.00am Holy Communion

Readings as above

11.30am BCP Holy Communion

Readings as above

Enjoying Excellent Education!

Dringhouses Primary School is a community primary school with 314 children currently on roll, ranging in age from 4 to 11. We are extremely proud of our place within such a warm, supportive, and welcoming local community. As a school, our goal is to provide an engaging, positive, and inclusive environment where pupils are encouraged to develop academically, socially, and personally.

The origins of Dringhouses Primary School date back to the 19th century. A small village school opened in 1863 on Tadcaster Road, initially serving around 50 children. As the local population grew, the school expanded and eventually moved to its present site. The current building was constructed in 1904 and designed by architect Walter Brierley, reflecting the educational needs of a growing community. The original school building later became a community facility and eventually the local library, demonstrating the long-standing connection between education and community life in Dringhouses.

We pride ourselves on being a forward-thinking, outward-looking school, and this is reflected in the unusual arrangement of having co-headteachers — the only leadership structure of its kind in York. Mary-Kate Swiers and I have both worked at Dringhouses Primary School for ten years in a range of teaching and leadership roles. During that time, we have played a significant part in shaping the school's culture, curriculum, and ethos into what it is today.

When the substantive post of headteacher was advertised last January, we decided to apply for the role as a job share. At the time, I was on maternity leave after the birth of my son, Charlie, and Mary-Kate was pregnant with her first child, Archie. We knew that together we had the knowledge, experience, and commitment needed to continue leading the school forward.

With the support of a very open-minded and forward-thinking governing body, and following a robust two-day interview process, we were appointed as co-headteachers — proving that sometimes two really can be better than one!



Our school motto is "Enjoying Excellent Education", and we place a strong emphasis on creating a positive and inclusive learning environment for all our children. We have high aspirations for every pupil and strive to ensure that each child reaches their full potential. Our staff work hard to inspire curiosity, creativity, and confidence in pupils while promoting collaboration and community spirit. Kindness and equality of opportunity are central values within our school, and we aim to nurture not only strong academic skills but also a lifelong love of learning.

Pupils are encouraged to take part in extracurricular activities, school trips, and community events, helping them develop confidence and important social skills beyond the classroom.

We value our role within the local community and are grateful for the warm and ongoing support of Reverend Carew and St Edward's Church. We are always keen to strengthen links with people, groups, and organisations in our local area. If there is something you feel you could offer Dringhouses Primary School, or if there is a way we could support you in return, we would always welcome the opportunity to work together.

Claire Scott-South

Dringhouses Memories

'Some Shambles Stories'



Discover some Dringhouses links with a lost literary establishment at our informal meeting!

Friday 5 June, 2026
10.30 am, Community Hall

Little Ted's

Our free drop-in term time group for
0-5's and their carers. Childminders
are welcome.
Mondays 10.30-12pm

Children and
Youth @St Ed's

Follow us on Facebook,
Instagram & our
Website



More details?
Contact Sally on
children@stedsdrawinghouses.org

SEEDS Service

Join us after school to share crafts,
music, and games. Snack included!
Ages 0-11. Free. Mondays 3.15-4.15pm

Promise

Join us for our 10am Sunday service when we run
groups for children throughout the year.

Make Sunday a Funday!

Holiday Clubs

Each half-term we offer a mini-holiday club
which is a warm up for the main event in the
first week in summer. Watch out for dates on
Facebook and Instagram Please join us.

St Ed's Youth Group

Our weekly term-time group for 11-18 year olds.
Join us Wednesdays from 7.00pm to 8.30pm
It's Free!



Tempus Fugit

As many of you know, the St Edward's church clock is very special. It is the first public clock of one of York's finest makers, Mr George Newey. However, for the past few years, the clock has only been right twice a day. More tempus stet, than tempus fugit. However, the observant will have noticed that the clock is now not only ticking, but is keeping time! We owe a huge debt of gratitude to John Coussens and Andy Robertson of the York Clock Group, who have given many of their hours voluntarily, cleaning, fixing and adjusting the clock. It is the tightest of spaces in which to work - and yet they have persisted and in so doing, have given new life to our Newey clock. Thank you.

Churchwardens



FRIDAY LUNCHES 2026

17TH APRIL

24TH APRIL

8TH MAY

29TH MAY

12TH JUNE

26TH JUNE

10TH JULY

17TH JULY



*Vegetarian
Options*



12.00-2.00pm



St Edward's Community Hall

Tadcaster Road YO24 1QG

Hot & cold food,
desserts
tea & coffee

£7.00

No booking required!

→ For more information: www.stedsdringhouses.org ←



Hello from Dringhouses Library!

Our Mostly Monday talks return on Monday 11 May, 4-5pm with Julia Williams, who will be talking about her new book 'Peeping through the curtains: the life and insights of a hyper-creative'. Julia has spent over 50 years exploring her passions in classical music, the arts, languages and the business of communication. She has managed an orchestra, sold her paintings and taught French and English. In her book she shares the fruits of her insights about the vast number of individuals she has met or worked with. She writes, "I've always been curious about why people choose their jobs and what shapes their opinions and decisions." Tickets available from tickettailor or via Lucy.

Cooks needed! Bake us a cake or pot us a pickle: **Dringhouses Friends are holding a Garden party on Saturday 18 July**, inspired by the Dringhouses Garden Fete 1933. A book of 'Recommended Recipes' was produced for this event in 1933, and **we'd love local cooks to recreate some of these recipes to share at our party**. Pop into the library to have a look and choose a recipe: cakes, breads, pickles, meat rolls, something for every baker and ability. Then join us for an afternoon of fun and local history on Saturday 18 July! Many thanks to Dringhouses local history group for the copy of the recipe book!

Our latest call for members for a new **bookgroup** was so successful we need to set up another! Joining a reading group is a fantastic way to meet people, make friends, share your favourite books and read something new! Reading groups read anything from accounts of world-changing scientific discoveries to autobiographical comics, from gritty thrillers to sparkling romances, and meet anywhere from libraries to coffee shops, private homes to pubs. Explore York lends sets of books exclusively to reading groups who register with us, with no reservation fees. **Pop in and ask Lucy about putting your name on the list for the new group.**

Our **Parents Place get-together for new and expectant parents** runs every **Tuesday from 11am-12.00pm**. Meet other parents and parents to be, chat, have a cuppa, let the babies have a wriggle, and share the amazing, demanding experience of parenthood! All welcome, free.

Our **Children's Lego Club** meets every **Tuesday 3.30pm to 4.30pm** for building challenges and creative fun with Lego every week. Free and no booking required.

Under 5s Storytime is on every **Thursday and Saturday, 11am to 11.30am**, with songs, rhymes, and stories for children under 5 and their carers. **Free and no booking required**.

Our friendly **Knit and Natter** group meets every **Tuesday, 10am to 12pm**, for coffee, chat, knitting, crocheting, and fun. **Free and no booking required**.

Lucy



Bakers needed!

April – Saturday 18 July

Bake us a cake or pot us a pickle: Dringhouses Friends are holding a Garden party on Saturday 18 July, inspired by the Dringhouses Garden Fete 1933. A book of 'Recommended Recipes' was produced in 1933, and we'd love local cooks to recreate some of these recipes to share at our party. Pop into the library to have a look and choose a recipe: cakes, breads, pickles, meat rolls, something for every baker and ability.

Then join us for an afternoon of fun and local history on Saturday 18 July!

(Thanks to Dringhouses local history group for the copy of the recipe book!)

Book launch:

Peeping through the curtains: the life and insights of a 'hyper-creative'



Monday 11 May

4-5pm | Dringhouses Library

Join Julia Williams for the launch of her book. Julia has spent over 50 years exploring her passions in classical music, the arts, languages and communication. She has managed an orchestra, sold her paintings and taught French and English. Hear about her life and insights gleaned over a fascinating life.

Free | Booking required 

www.exploreyork.org.uk

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Libraries and Archives

Food Waste Store

It's Thursday morning and I'm standing here in the queue at Planet Food. This has been a lifeline for me for the last year or so, a place I've come most weeks to purchase my groceries (and often stayed for a snack!)



Part of the nationwide Real Junk Food Project, Planet Food is a food waste cafe and store hosted at Southland's Methodist Church on Bishy Road every Thursday of the year. It is run by a large group of local volunteers and saves 500kg of food (1580kg CO₂) per week. Not-so-fun fact: worldwide, 25-30% of all food ends up lost or wasted.

The food store opens at 10:30am, although the queue starts forming from about 9am. They operate a ticket system, and there is place to sit while you wait. Customers are escorted around the shop by a volunteer who gives guidance as to how many items one can take - eg: a bag of baby potatoes, 5 oranges, 2 loaves of bread, 1 tray of mushrooms.

The store operates on a pay what you feel basis, with a suggested donation of £3 for a bag of groceries (bring your own bag - or in my case, trolley!)



Crucially, this is not a food bank. No referrals, no vouchers. Everyone is welcome.

It's also a super place to connect with local council services offering guidance and advice around health and well-being, smoking cessation, family support, money matters, etc..

I mentioned snacks. The cafe opens at 10.30am and serves hot drinks and pastries (£2).

The chef turns food 'waste' into a delicious 3 course meal, available from 11.30am. £3 for 1 course, £5 for 2 courses, £7 for 3 courses, cash or card.

It's a warm and friendly space to be in. The volunteers are truly amazing, committed to the cause and committed to people. Regular attendees include grandparents and their young charges, local sanctuary seekers, ladies who lunch... Some come because the food is cheaper, some because they're passionate about avoiding food waste. Everyone, I think, comes for the community.

Follow on social media

@planetfoodyork



Election of Churchwardens and Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

The complete notice appears in the April edition, but this is just a reminder that we are seeking members of the congregation to stand as Representatives of St Edward's.

We have eight vacancies on the Parochial Church Council and three vacancies on the Deanery Synod.

Please consider being nominated for one of the above positions.

The Election of Churchwardens and the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held on **Sunday 10 May 2026**. The meetings will follow after the 10.00 Service of Holy Communion, which will be the only service that day.

Nomination forms for each of the above are available from the Parish Office or by email from: pcc@stedsdringhouses.org Paper forms for PCC nominations can be returned to me via the Office or sent electronically.

Isobel Goforth, PCC Secretary



QUIZ NIGHT

SATURDAY 6TH JUNE 2026

7PM-9PM

TEAMS OF 4

Ticket includes
snacks.
Bar available.

Join us for an evening of quizzing!
£5 per person with a maximum of 4 in a team.
Prizes for the Top Three Teams.
All proceeds to church funds.

Register your team name with the Parish Office when you book.

01904 709111

or email: parishoffice@stedsdringhouses.org.

More info? Visit www.stedsdringhouses.org/whatson

Today You Were Served by Grace

For me, now
Shopping is like history
Crowds are only a memory
Being elbow to elbow and unconcerned
Only happened long ago
In another world

But look at this!
Here is a till receipt
Darlington store, number 114
Till number 7
Time 16:11

That must have been no ordinary moment
And a covert, sacred place
For this slip of paper confirms to me
"Today you were served by Grace"

Grace is what lights up my inside world
Grace, the bringer of wonder, glory
Mystic fire

Grace that tells me all is not lost
Even when the outside world closes down to me
Grace makes the space
Where I can still go
And be all that I am

Well, I never knew that
When I stood in that queue
With ordinary, bump about things to do
The world wore its usual, everyday face
But there was a message coming through
If only I knew
"Today you were served by Grace"

THE JAKE LEG JUG BAND



Saturday 30th May 2026

7.30pm

Price: £10.00 for Adults

Price: £5.00 Student/Under 18

Tickets available from the Parish Office

Tel: 01904 709111

Email: parishoffice@stedsdringhouses.org

THE

GOSPEL TOUR

St Edward the Confessor Church, Tadcaster Road, Dringhouses, York

SMART HOME SOLUTIONS



TV
SOLUTIONS



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SECURITY



WI-FI



MOBILE
CONTROL



Call Steve now! – 0800 587 0755
07972 181025