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NUTSHELL

news, views, ideas from your local church 2025 Nov / Dec

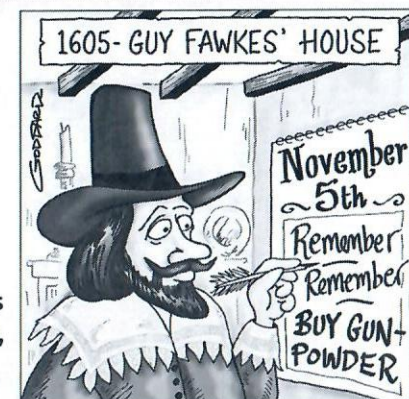
Remember, remember!

Older people may recall their mounting childhood excitement as Bonfire Night approached: gathering wood and other combustibles for the bonfire; making a stuffed effigy of Guy Fawkes; even perhaps parading him in a wheelbarrow, soliciting, 'Penny for the guy?' from neighbours or passers-by.

Firework displays are commonplace today, and Guy Fawkes has been ousted by the American-style 'Halloween', which in simpler times we called 'Mischief Night'.

But November is still a special month. Some of us will remember loved ones on all Souls' Day. Across the country on the Sunday nearest to Armistice Day, many will attend services in church, and remembrance ceremonies at town war memorials. The less mobile will doubtless watch the wreath-laying at the Cenotaph in Whitehall on their televisions.

Memories are precious, and most people also like to feel that others will remember and think kindly of them. However, not all memories are happy ones. The lives of some folk



are blighted by traumatic event or loss. It may have happened years ago, but the effects – the damage, the bitterness, even self-hatred – can sometimes last a lifetime.

But lesser setbacks – defeats as well as successes – are part and parcel of human existence. It is how we deal with these that is important. If people dwell on life's 'disappointments' rather than on their many good memories: if they allow 'the bad' to fester, and nurture resentment, then psychologists warn us that the outcome is likely to be anger. This may be directed at any perceived cause of hurt or 'injustice'. So, for example, we see anger, sometimes violence, directed at ethnic minorities or refugees, fuelled, amongst other things, by falling living standards, economic uncertainty or simply 'fear of the future'.

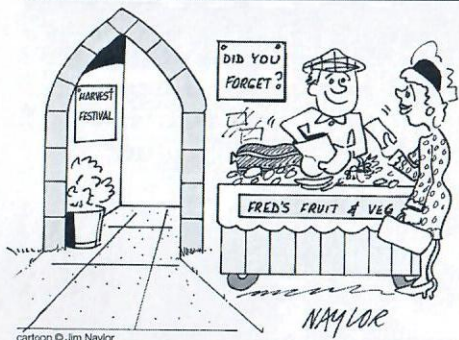
Do you let bad memories rule your life? What makes you feel 'angry'?

**'Love in a Cup'
Community Café**

Every Thursday, 2-5pm:
St Andrew's United Church Halls



Harvest Festival '25 at St Andrew's United Church



cartoon © Jim Naylor



Photo Alison Broadbent

Harvest gifts – and the flowers on the windowsills and in the porch – made the church a picture



Photo Bruce McKenzie



Photo L & top R Alison



Photo Bruce

Where our Harvest Gifts have gone

As usual, our money gifts go to world charities: this year's total so far is just over £250: half to the BMS 2025 Project, and half to the current DEC appeal. The tinned produce went to the Forge Project for roofless and homeless people.

From a worshipper . . .

We were blessed with an abundance of foodstuffs at the harvest festival, from tinned and dry goods to fresh spring onions and limes. There was even a beautiful plaited loaf.

Janet conducted the service, which included several of my favourite harvest hymns. We were also treated to a piano and flute accompaniment to a new hymn that I didn't know, but liked: *May the peoples praise you, Lord*.

Pat gave the sermon with a novel view of one of the readings (*Leviticus 19:9-10*) which instructs the Israelites to leave the edges of their fields and vineyards, along with fallen grapes, for the poor and the foreigners to collect. Pat mused that this instruction may be outdated, but likened it to us paying tax. That seems about right to me.

Following the service, everyone was invited to the church halls for a splendid harvest lunch About half the congregation stayed, so there were 'doggy bags' aplenty afterwards!

Bruce McKenzie



Not for the tip!

One of the jobs that I hate is the 'tip run' to the waste recycling centre! You know the one – items that are too large to go into the usual council bins but that need removing from your house in an orderly and appropriate manner. None of this 'fly tipping' nonsense that is a curse to us all. I'm sure you will agree that the sight of rubbish and other folks' garbage dumped by the roadside or in a field is not only a costly eyesore: it's a blight on our society.

But I have to say, I am amazed at the amount of rubbish that one ordinary-size family like mine can generate. I have no idea how we produce so much stuff for our household bins, and more that won't fit in them: hence my regular trips to the council tip.

What we do with refuse in our society is an increasing problem for us all – and for generations to come, and people who spend their time working out how we can cut down on our waste and how we can recycle more are to be applauded.

Rubbish lives?

Many of us, though, will have had that experience when we have felt as though there's not only rubbish in our lives, but that also we ourselves are of no worth and have no value – only really fit for the waste bin. Society's drive to ensure that we are all fulfilled and accomplish greatness, whilst not in itself wrong, can result in many feeling worthless, when they



© Mark Lynch

can't demonstrate external excellence with great jobs, lovely homes, wonderfully talented children and a smiling face at all times. It can be easy to think that our value lies in our possessions – what we've acquired in life, rather than what is inherent in our individual humanity.

How God sees us

Jesus spoke about this. He told a great crowd. 'Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one will fall to the ground without your heavenly father knowing. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. You are worth more than many sparrows.' (*Matthew 10:29-31*) And again, the Bible declares that 'You are precious in God's sight and he loves you.' (*Isaiah 43:4*) In other words, you have inherent value and you are honoured and loved!

I don't know how you feel today – but don't feel 'rubbish'! You are of great value and you are not going to the refuse tip! God has a plan for you – a plan to prosper you and to give you hope and a future. I encourage you to ask him what it is and rest in the knowledge that you are loved!

The Revd David Swannack is Rector of the South Manlake Group of Churches to which St Andrew's United Church, Kirtton in Lindsey, belongs. See p58.

From church notices in times past . . .

'For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.'

'At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be "What Is Hell?" Come early and listen to our choir practice.' from Sandra Dodsworth



Sebastian Spider's Puzzle Corner for all ages

Timothy's words

Sort out the letters to find words in Timothy's story on page S6:

- 1) EMOR
- 2) BBEIL
- 3) ILOS
- 4) ALRSTY
- 5) ADEGHMNORRT
- 6) ALPU
- 7) EJSSU
- 8) EIMOPRSS
- 9) CEEINU
- 10) HIMOTTY

Who has a pet fish?

There are 5 houses in a row, in 5 different colours.

In each house lives a person from a different country.

Each person drinks a certain drink, plays a certain sport, and keeps a certain pet.

No two people drink the same drink, play the same sport, or keep the same pet.

- The Brit lives in a red house
- The Swede keeps dogs
- The Dane drinks tea
- The green house is on the left of the white house
- The green house owner drinks coffee
- The polo player rears birds
- The owner of the yellow house plays hockey
- The man living in the house in the centre drinks milk
- The Norwegian lives in the first house
- The man who plays baseball lives next to the man who keeps cats
- The man who keeps horses lives next to the one who plays hockey
- The man who plays billiards drinks beer
- The German plays soccer
- The Norwegian lives next to the blue house
- The man who plays baseball has a neighbour who drinks water.

Solutions on pS8

Find this castle on the web



Caerlaverock Castle is a famous example of a Scottish castle with a moat, though there are others. Caerlaverock has a very interesting history. Can you find out more about it? Which town is it near? But it can't be the home of Sebastian's cousin, Donald. Why not? *See the next page.*

Castle Ladder

Climb from WALL to MOAT changing just one letter at a time, without disturbing the order of the remaining letters. We have provided clues for the steps, but not in the right order.

MOAT

CLUES

- Opposite of East
- Provides a water supply
- Travels on water
- Top at every thing
- Red mark on skin
- Win

WALL

DONALD'S CASTLES WORD SEARCH

T S F L A G O T V C A S T L E E D L
 U O H B A T T L E M E N T S V M U A
 R K H A L L S N H L O Q F T K B N R
 R K E E P F J O P J W A R O S L G R
 E O A W H O R S E E A P T W H E E O
 T T N P O R T C U L L I S E I Q O W
 X Q R Z C F R J P V L E C R E U N Z
 W K I T C H E N T X S B X Z L D N E
 S W O R D J K N I G H T S W D I K K
 J G B H F D R A W B R I D G E L P O
 W E L L I G Z R V I D A C N Z S M T
 X Z X T I V S D D Z Z S P I T O V E

Find these words in the puzzle box. Words are hidden → and ↓

ARROW	FLAG	KNIGHT	SWORD
BATTLEMENTS	HALL	MOAT	TOWER
CASTLE	HORSE	PORTCULLIS	TURRET
DRAWBRIDGE	KEEP	SHIELD	WALLS
DUNGEON	KITCHEN	SPIT	WELL

Solve this brain teaser . . .

You walk into a room and see a bed. On the bed, there are two dogs, five cats, a giraffe, six

cows, and a goose. There are also three doves flying above the bed. How many legs are on the floor?

Solutions on pS8



Sebastian's Scottish cousin

Hi everyone!

I am exhausted! You've never seen a spider as tired as I am. And what has made me so tired? . . . It's a visit from my cousin Donald!

I was so excited when I knew that he was coming to see me. You see, he lives a long way away, in Scotland. My mother says that's about as far away from here as you can get without getting your feet wet.

Well, he arrived late one afternoon. Almost the first thing he said was, 'Your home is very small and dark, Sebastian. My home is much, much bigger. I live in a huge castle. Your church is quite tiny. And as for your Kozy Korna behind the cupboard . . . Well my wardrobe is bigger than this!' I thought that was rather rude, but I remembered that I must be polite to visitors, so I just smiled and asked if he'd like supper.

Unfortunately, he didn't think much of the supper either. I'd been saving up my juiciest flies, but he just said that they were very small and a bit chewy. In his castle, he said, he had roast beef and chicken and all kinds of different puddings. 'I know the cook,' he said, 'and he lets me have ice cream every day.'

The next thing he boasted about was the size of his bed. 'In my castle,' he



told me, 'I have 49 bedrooms and I can choose which bed I sleep on each night. They are all soft, with lots of warm blankets. This bed of yours is rather rickety and the blanket is very scratchy.'

And he went on and on about how everything he had was much better than mine. I tried to be nice, but inside I was getting really cross with his boasting. Then I remembered the story that Jesus told about a Pharisee and a tax collector.* The Pharisee thought that he was better than the tax collector because he was very religious and kept all the rules, so he thought God must be very pleased with him. The tax collector, however, knew that he needed God's help and Jesus said that God would think more highly of him.

We know that God loves us whether we live in a castle or in a small hole in a church. God looks at what is going on in our hearts, not at our possessions.

Your friend,

Sebastian

*Luke, chapter 18, verses 9-14

Have fun with your friends

Q: What do you call a rich elf?

A: Welfy.

Q: What do you call a dinosaur that crashes his car?

A: Tyrannosaurus Wrecks.

Q: What time is it when you have to go to the dentist?

A: Tooth hurty!

Timothy, close friend of St Paul



Timothy loved to visit his grandmother, Lois. She was kind and good. (She made nice cakes too!)



Lois loved God and hoped Timothy would grow up to love God as well.



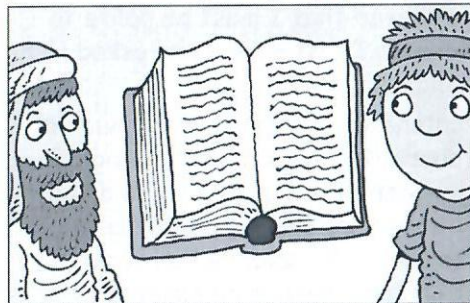
Timothy's mother, Eunice, also loved God, and told Timothy about him.



Eunice read to Timothy and told him about God's promises in the Bible, so they all prayed together.



When the apostle Paul came to their town and told them about Jesus they were all excited.



Paul said that Jesus was God's son. He taught Timothy, and wrote two fairly long letters to him.

Timothy was a young man when Paul visited Timothy's home town of Lystra, in Asia Minor. Timothy's father was Greek but his mother was a Jew. Timothy may have been converted by Paul, who called him his 'son in the faith'. He went with Paul on several journeys, before Paul commissioned him as an evangelist and sent him on journeys of his own. He also joined Paul when Paul was a prisoner in Rome

but he didn't die there like Paul: he was more of a 'prison visitor' (2 Tim 4.13). After Paul was executed Timothy may have settled in Ephesus, where he became bishop and was martyred around 97AD, when he was an old man.

(Find out more in the New Testament: in Acts chapters 16-19, and in the letters Paul sent to Timothy - or look up *St Timothy* in *Wikipedia*.)

Remember a loved one

Join us for the
All Souls Memorial Service
St Andrew's Church
at 6pm, 2 November 2025



Cupcakes, coffee and chat

10am-12noon 1st Saturday
every month, in the Town Hall



Remembrance 9 November

9.30am Service in St Andrew's United Church

followed by hot drinks
& a walk (or ride) to the town
war memorial for the wreath-laying,
parade and the two minute silence



Annual Act of Remembrance from 1045 at the War Memorial

Christingle With a Difference!

This year's Christingle at
St Andrew's United Church
will be different: it will take place



in the United Church Halls on
Saturday 6 December from 3pm

Starting with fun: we will make our Christingles (everything will be provided), play games (suitable for ALL ages!!!) and finish in the darkened church with our candles lit (carefully & safely) as we sing carols and remember the birth of Jesus. This is a great family occasion to start the Christmas season!

BOOK THE DATE & TIME NOW!

Getting his teeth into it . . .

A non-PC joke submitted by the Revd Jeff Wilson

A vicar went to the dentist and was fitted with false teeth. The next Sunday he preached for 8 minutes, the second Sunday for 10 minutes, but the third Sunday he preached nonstop for 3 hours, until the churchwardens helped him to sit down. Concerned for his health, they asked if he was all right. He explained, 'The first Sunday with my new teeth, my gums were so sore that I couldn't preach longer than 8 minutes. The second Sunday they were still sore so I only lasted 10 minutes. But today, I mistakenly put in my wife's teeth, only to discover I couldn't shut up!'

Book these dates for Christmas & New Year



* **St Andrew's Church Carol Service**
24 December 6pm

* **Midnight Communion**
24 December 11.30pm

* **Christmas Day Family Service** 10am

* **Covenant Service**
4 January 11am

Giving at Christmas

Each year the money given in the Christmas services at St Andrew's United Church is shared between the children's work of our partner denominations.



Your local churches

St Andrew's United Church, Kirton in Lindsey
www.standrewsunitedchurch.org.uk

St Radegund's Church, Grayingham
www.achurchnearyou.com/grayingham-st-radegund



Ministry Contacts: Nov 2025 - KIRTON

- ☎ 01724 647789 The Revd David Swannack (Anglican Vicar)
- ☎ 07395 453246 The Revd Robert Roberts (Methodist Minister)
- ☎ 01652 648846 The Revd Preb Dr Michael Sheard (Anglican, retired)
- ☎ 01652 649365 Dr Pat Frankish (Baptist Deacon; Anglican Lay Reader)

Ministry Contact: Nov 2025 - GRAYINGHAM

- ☎ 07738 356048 The Revd Charles Thody (Anglican Priest in Charge)

Other enquiries

Church Council Secretary, Kirton, 01652 648846

Church hall bookings, Kirton, 01652 648573

Church Warden, Kirton, Dr Pat Frankish, 01652 649365

Church Council Secretary, Grayingham, 01652 640157

Church Warden, Grayingham, Mr Clive Marshall, 01652 648125

SAFEGUARDING (Kirton) 01652 640740

SAFEGUARDING (Gray'm) 01652 640157

Baptism bookings (Kirton) – 07776 487791
 Wedding bookings (Kirton) – 01652 648846
 Funerals (Kirton) – 01652 648573

Worship in our buildings in Nov/Dec 2025

- St Andrew's United Church, Kirton,
11am Sunday; 9.30 every Wednesday
- St Radegund's, Grayingham,
9.30 1st Sun HC; other Sundays 9am

Please visit our websites/Facebook or
 phone one of the contact numbers
 above for other information about our
 churches and activities.

**Join us for Worship on Zoom:
 every Sunday at 9.30am**

* To join – on computer, tablet or phone –
 contact heather.bunker@btinternet.com

**St Andrew's United Church
 4th SUNDAY every month,
 FAMILY SERVICE 11am**

PUZZLE ANSWERS (p.56)

Timothy's Words: 1) Rome
 2) Bible 3) Lois 4) Lystra 5) Grandmother
 6) Paul 7) Jesus 8) Promises 9) Eunice
 10) Timothy

Castle Ladder: WALL, WELL,
 WELT, WEST, BEST, BEAT, BOAT, MOAT

Who has a pet fish?

1/ Make a table with five columns
 2/ Across the top list houses 1-5
 3/ Down the side, list the names of
 five rows: house colour,
 nationality, drink, sport, pet
 Solution: The German

How many legs?

Answer: Six (the bed's 4, plus your 2)

Don't miss this year's

Christingle

... With a Difference ...

Saturday 6 Dec from 3pm

More information inside, on page S7

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(1) as an insert in
 Kirton First (laN)
 and (2) bi-monthly
 in A4 format (StAn)

only £5.80 pa (six issues;
 single copies £1 each)

Opinions expressed here
 are not necessarily those
 of the editorial group

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 Copy: StAn 7 Nov, laN 8 Dec.

Single copies can be bought from
 Paynes Chemist in Kirton in Lindsey



CLEATHAM HALL NEWS

Celebrating Life at Cleatham Hall

Celebrating Family and Friends, Birthdays and Anniversaries.

Feel relaxed and enjoy the hospitality we are renowned for
 while enjoying a relaxing meal. So, if there are just 2 or 52 of
 you, contact us by email or phone to book your own personal
 celebration.

Restaurant Opening Times:

Wed - Sat: 12pm - 8:30pm

Sunday Lunch
 12pm - 4pm

Events planned for this year book early and make sure you don't miss out:

- We have now scheduled an "Adamms family themed" Halloween party on the 31st October.
- Our Christmas starts with a Wreath making and afternoon tea on the 28th November, followed by our annual Cleatham Christmas fair on the 29th with a visit from Santa, gift stalls and our fabulous Christmas café.
- Then on the 12th December our "Darwin Story" Murder Mystery dinner returns!!
- Festive menus will commence on the 30th November

The restaurant is open daily from Wednesday to Sunday. Watch out for our Autumn menus starting in September.

Try our Sunday Lunch, or weekday Lunch 2 course, Table d'hôte menu from £20, our celebrated Afternoon teas and of course Dinner menu. All using homemade seasonal jams and chutneys, available to buy.

Brunch served from 9 – 11am, Lunch served from 12 to 3pm, Afternoon Teas from 1 to 4pm Dinners from 6 to 8.30 pm

See our website at www.cleathamhall.com/events for our menus and pricing

To book call: 01652 649402 or email: enquiry@cleathamhall.com



Cleatham Hall, Cleatham, North Lincolnshire, DN21 4JS

www.cleathamhall.com

Tel: 01652 649402

Email: enquiry@cleathamhall.com