

The Minister writes:

Here at St Peter's, we have been very fortunate. For the last 24 years we have had a dedicated and committed priest in Bill Henderson and in his wife Viv. Together they have made a wonderful team dedicated to bringing the Gospels to life in the church and supporting the community here in Stanley. Things haven't always been easy or

run smoothly but they have stayed committed to the idea of "love thy neighbour", the challenge set by Jesus and brought to us through the Bible.

With much sadness, on March 4th, Bill presided over his last service here at St Peter's as he prepares for a well deserved retirement. That day marked the end of one era and the beginning of another. For Bill and Viv, a chance to explore new areas in life and an opportunity to spend more time with family. For the church, we have entered into what is usually called an Interregnum, which means a time between priests, the period



between one priest leaving and another being appointed. This period often referred to as the vacancy, can be a challenge to the church and its congregation. Continuing to meet the teaching of Jesus without the support of a priest can at first seem daunting. The truth is that Interregnum often lead to a church discovering what is really is, and the challenge helps us grow.

The church congregation is much like a large family and like many families, we have our ups and downs. The scriptures tell us that where two or more are gather in Christ's name, then he is there also. To us, this means that we are never alone in what we do as a congregation and as individuals. Jesus walks with us in our daily lives, not just on a Sunday when we meet together to give thanks and worship. Because of this we, as the family of Christ have an all knowing and all loving father, ready to guide us whenever we wonder from the right path. The Interregnum, the vacancy, whatever you might want to call it, is a chance for all of us to become stronger together as a family and to explore together the next era, as we grow, to meet challenges with a new and strengthened vision for the future.

Rev David Teece



C **St Peter's Church Services** All services are held at St Peter's Church. Lake Lock Road, Stanley, WF3 4HW Family Communion with 10am Sunday Sunday Gang for children and regular parade services. Children's Ark with songs, Thursday 9:15 am stories, crafts, playtime and refreshments. We do not currently have a mid-week communion service. Please contact the church office on 835746 if you would like to request a communion visit at home.

Other Christian Worship

METHODIST CHURCH: Lee Mount Chapel Sunday: 10:30am service

Minister: Revd Barry Owen email: barry.owen@methodist.org.uk, tel: 07753 127681

ZION CHRISTIAN CENTRE

466a Aberford Road, Stanley, www.zionchurch.co.uk, telephone: 01924 872262

Sunday:

Tuesdays:

Wednesdays:

10:30am Service11:00am Sunday School & crèche7:30pm Prayer meeting7:30pm Bible Study, discussions

Minister: David Dixon, telephone: 01924 872262



DATES FOR APRIL

Tues 3rd April 10am—2pm	Senior Citizens' Lunch club with activities and a hot meal every Tuesday. See p16 for details.
Weds 4th April 2pm-4pm	Coffee Afternoon at Mount Road Chapel. See p10 for details.
Fri 13th April 7.30pm	<u>Film Club—'Going in Style':</u> poignant and witty, with a stellar cast. See page 14 for info.
Sat 14th April 10.30am-12.30	<u>Coffee morning</u> at St Peter's church with lots of great stalls and refreshments, see page 10.
Mon 16th April 1pm-2pm	Stanley Community singers restart after the Easter break. See page 9 for more information.
Wed 18th April 7.30pm	PCC Meeting at St Peter's church.
Fri 20th April 7pm	Wine tasting evening: always a great social event with nibbles and guess the wine, p11.
Sun 22nd April 10am	St George's Day family parade service with the uniformed organisations.
Sun 22nd April 12pm	St Peter's church APCM: come and hear our review of the year and our plans for the future.
Mon 23rd April 7pm—9pm	West Riding Watercolour society and art group See page 14 for more information.
Weds 25th April 1.30pm	<u>Jumble Sale</u> at Mount Road Methodist church with various stalls. See page 10.
Thur 10th May 6pm	Moorhouse community action group meeting
Sun 13th May 4pm	<u>Memorial service</u> : to remember loved ones who have died recently.

STANLEY LIBRARY

Stanley Library offers a wide selection of books, talking books, selected language tapes, DVDs for hire, as well as a photocopier/A4 colour photocopier, fax machine, newspapers and selected magazines. There are also public access computers, offering free internet access, and basic computer programs (i.e. word processing). There are also free UK Online computer courses available offering internet training and Introduction to Computers —please ask in the library.

OPENING HOURS

Monday	9.30am—5pm
Tuesday	9.30am—5pm
Wednesday	Closed all day
Thursday	9.30am—7pm
Friday	9.30am—5pm
Saturday	10am—1pm

Activities for Children: There is a Tiny Tots Storytime for under 5's from 11.30am on most Mondays in term time. Other activities for children are organised in most school holidays—please ask for details.

Crafts and Chat morning: Every Tuesday from 10am-11.30am: bring your knitting, drawing, crochetting or any other activity and enjoy chat and refreshments.

Coffee Morning: There is a coffee morning every Thursday morning, 10am-12 noon. Come and relax with friends over a cuppa.

Code Club: Learn how to make your own computer games and animations at Code Club, every Thursday from 3.30pm—6pm.

Family History: Would you like help researching your family history? An advisor is available in the library every Saturday from 10.30am who can help navigate Ancestry and other useful sites.

Reading Groups: Check with the library for the meeting times and book details of the current reading groups.

Community Centre rooms: The community centre rooms are available to hire from Stanley Nursery.

Stanley Library contact details: Lake Lock Road, Stanley, Wakefield, WF3 4HU, Telephone number—01924 303130.

St Peter's Spring Fair – a review

The annual spring fair was held at the church on Saturday 24th March and was a very successful event, raising £1,147.36 which is even higher than last year's amount.



Many thanks to all those who put in so

many hours of work beforehand to prepare items for sale, and thanks also to the many people who donated raffle prizes and items for sale. Particular thanks to Outwood Tesco store which generously donated over 20 Easter eggs for the Easter egg tombola. As always, there were some excellent stalls, including: cake stall, bottle tombola, books, bric-a-brac, a raffle, children's tombola, craft items, and plant stall with beautiful planted tubs. Visitors were also able to enjoy refreshments including tea, coffee, cakes and very popular bacon butties.

Lastly, thank you to everyone who helped on the day, and to all the visitors who came along and supported the event; it was wonderful to see such a large number of people there and your support is very much appreciated.

support is very much appreciated. **Stanley Community Singers** The Stanley Community Singers meet every Monday (term-time only) at St Peter's Church, 1pm—2pm, with time afterwards for refreshments and chat. Cost per session = £2.50 **Come and join our friendly group of singers!** No previous experience required, just a love of singing! We sing a variety of different music including pop, musicals, spirituals and modern classics. **Come and make some new friends and enjoy a good sing!** *Why not arrive a bit earlier and have your lunch in the Community Café? Sandwiches, salads, hot meals and refreshments served.* **B**

Mount Road Methodist Chapel news

- The next <u>Coffee Afternoon</u> will be on Wednesday 4th April from 2pm—4pm with cakes, refreshments and other stalls. Everyone welcome.
- The chapel will be holding a <u>Jumble Sale</u> on Wednesday 25th April from 1.30pm with various stalls and refreshments.
- On Sunday 29th April, instead of a service at Mount Road, there will be a 10.45am joint service at Altofts Methodist church.

Knit and Natter, Sew and Chatter! At St Peter's Church Centre, every Thursday, 2pm-4pm Enjoy a cuppa, company and a 'crafty' afternoon! Please come and join this established group of ladies as they knit, sew, compare ideas and patterns, learn new crafty skills, and share conversation, refreshments and friendship. Just turn up: you will be very warmly welcomed

Church coffee morning—a thank you

Thank you to everyone who supported last month's coffee morning at St Peter's church; it raised £177. The next coffee morning will be on <u>Saturday 14th April</u> from 10.30am-12.30pm with all the usual great stalls including refreshments, bacon butties, cakes, raffle, jigsaws and more. Please come along and support our coffee morning! You can be assured of a warm welcome and a very pleasant morning.

Moorhouse Community Action Group

The Moorhouse Community Action Group meets every two months. The next meeting will be on <u>Thursday 10th May</u> at 6pm at St Peter's Church. Come along and share any issues specific to Moorhouse with local councillors and WDH representatives.

Wing tasting gygning At St Peter's Church, Friday 20th April, 7:30pm 'til late

The popular annual event returns with a 'Guess the Wine' competition, nibbles, and a raffle.

Tickets £12: includes a sample of 6 different wines; 3 white and 3 red. Soft drink tasting menu also available for £6. Tickets are available from the Church Office, telephone 835746. Formal dress optional.

All in the month of April.....

- 175 years ago, on 5th April 1843, Hong Kong was proclaimed a British crown colony.
- 100 years ago, on 1st April 1918, Britain's Royal Air Force (RAF) was founded.
- Also 100 years ago, on 16th April 1918, Spike Milligan was born. This Indian-born Irish comedian and writer was a member of The Goons, known for his anarchic sense of absurdity.
- Also 100 years ago, on 21st April 1918, Manfred von Richthofen ('The Red Baron'), German WW1 fighter ace, was shot down in France, aged 25.
- 80 years ago, on 9th April 1938, the first football match was broadcast on television: Scotland beat England 1 0.
- 70 years ago, on 7th April 1948, The World Health Organisation (WHO) was founded.
- 50 years ago, on 3rd April 1968, American Baptist minister and civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his famous 'I've Been to the Mountaintop' speech at a rally in Memphis, Tennessee. It was his last ever speech, as he was assassinated next day, aged 39.
- 25 years ago, on 26th April 1993, NASA launched its space shuttle Columbia on mission STS-55. It landed safely on the 6th May.
- Also 25 years ago, on 30th April 1993, Cern, the creators of the World Wide Web, announced that it could be used for free by anyone.
- 20 years ago, on 10th April 1998, the Good Friday Agreement was signed in Northern Ireland.

Saying goodbye to Bill and Viv—a review

On Sunday 4th March, Rev Bill Henderson conducted his final service at St Peter's before retiring, after 25 years of dedicated and committed service to our parish of Stanley.

Before that last service, the church family held an evening event on Friday 2nd March for church members past and present to share memories and to say thank you and goodbye to Bill, Viv and the girls. There was a wonderful buffet meal and lots of laughter and a few tears as we gave thanks for their kindness and wisdom over the years.

The last service was another amazing and emotional event, with around 130 people packed into the hall. Bill and Viv had chosen some uplifting hymns, and there was a special guest—Rev John Flack—who had been involved in Bill's appointment to Stanley 25 years ago.

Bill and Viv were presented with a generous donation from the church family to put towards something for their new home, and they were also given a cherry tree for their new garden, and a memory book that was available for people to write in over the weekend.

The service was followed by a delicious bring and share buffet lunch and the church remained open during the afternoon for a steady stream of people from the community to come and enjoy tea, coffee and cake, and to say farewell to Bill and Viv. It was a really lovely afternoon; thank you very much to everyone who contributed buffet food and cakes, and helped serve the food and drinks at the events.

We have since received a letter of thanks from Bill and Viv saying that they were overwhelmed by the amazing send-off, and thanking everyone for their words of encouragement. They also sent blessings to us all, and for the future of St Peter's church.

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Following Bill's retirement, all services and activities at St Peter's church will continue unchanged, and services are being led by our assistant minister Rev David Teece, and Readers Vicky Wilson and David Greenwood-Haigh.

The process to appoint a new vicar has already started, with the PCC preparing all the information needed to advertise the post. This process will be done in conjunction with the other churches in our

United Benefice: St Mary Magdalene in Outwood and St Anne's in Wrenthorpe. It is not clear how long the process to appoint a new vicar will take, but we will continue to give you updates where appropriate in the parish magazine and on our Facebook page.

We have a huge amount to offer a new vicar at St Peter's and in Stanley and we look forward greatly to welcoming them into our church and our community.

Victory over Dragons

Rev Paul Hardingham considers Easter—and St George's Day

Later this month on 23rd April, we remember the story of St George defeating the dragon. Although this is the stuff of legend, we face our own dragons today. We are engaged in a spiritual battle against the powers of sin, Satan and death. In this Easter season, we remember that the great battle has been won. By His cross and resurrection, Jesus secured the victory over sin, Satan and death. The resurrection is the proof that they are no longer too powerful to resist. "Death has been swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory?" (1 Cor 15:54-55). Where is your power, dragon?

The story is told of a village in India, terrorised by a great bear looking for food each night. Eventually, the villagers decided to take action, and tracked the bear to his cave. One man, braver than the rest, ventured into the dark cave. The villagers waiting outside eventually heard loud shrieking and then silence. They waited to see what had happened. Finally, the man emerged from the dark cave victorious! The bear was dead, and the villagers were safe.

The victory was won deep within the cave. They could only celebrate when the champion emerged. For us, this happened when Jesus rose from the grave. The finality of death is no more and so we



need fear death no longer. Also, the power of sin and Satan no longer controls us. The devil, the biggest dragon, is helpless to prevent Jesus taking us home. When Jesus beckons us through death, away from the dragon's power, will you follow him? The victory is complete: 'Remember Jesus Christ raised from the dead.'



'Going in Style' (2017)

Oscar winners Morgan Freeman, Michael Caine and Alan Arkin team up as lifelong buddies Willie, Joe and Al, who decide to buck retirement and step off the straight-and-narrow for the first time in their lives when their pension fund becomes a corporate casualty, in director Zach Braff's comedy "Going in Style." Desperate to pay the bills and come through for their loved ones, the three risk it all by embarking on a daring bid to knock off the very bank that absconded with their money. The film is entertaining and witty, although poignant at times, and the three main characters are superb as curmudgeonly friends, united by their loathing for the 'system' that has let them down. Look out for Christopher Lloyd's (Doc Brown) hilarious cameo role.

Doors open 7pm, film start 7.30pm Free admission, tea & coffee; bring your own popcorn!

West Rídíng Watercolour Socíety & Art Group

The group meets every month at St Peter's Church for demonstrations by artists, informal painting evenings and to share techniques and knowledge.



Open to everyone; the cost is £3.50 per session.

Next meeting: Monday 23rd April 7pm-9pm

For a general painting evening. All abilities welcome including beginners.



How passion flowers got their name

Why is the passion flower known as the passion flower? This beautiful climbing plant that grows in many of our gardens is not native to the UK, but comes from South America. It was first discovered by Spanish missionaries working there,



centuries ago. Drawings were sent back to Europe, and in 1609 an Italian priest interpreted the flower to represent the crucifixion, otherwise known as the Passion.

He decided that the five petals and five sepals could represent the ten disciples who remained steadfast (Judas and Peter both abandoned Jesus). The corona could be seen as Jesus' crown of thorns. The stigma could be seen as the cross or nails, and the five stamens could be seen as the number of wounds Jesus received.



When Buckingham Palace opened

Buckingham Palace opened to the public for the first time following an announcement by the Queen 25 years ago this month, on 29th April 1993. The aim was to raise money to pay for much of the restoration of Windsor

Castle after the catastrophic fire of 1992: there had been widespread public opposition to the use of taxpayers' money to fund the work.

A review was scheduled after five years, but the Palace is still open to the public - for two months each August and September, while the Queen is at Balmoral. The original adult entrance fee of $\pounds 8$ was criticised as rather high: the fee for adults today is $\pounds 24$.

The royal household hoped that about 400,000 visitors would come to see the Palace - much of it designed by John Nash for George IV - during the eight weeks it would be open. Visitor numbers have remained at more than 400,000 each year.

Much of the Palace, including the Queen's private apartments, has always remained closed, but the State Apartments and their collections of paintings, furniture and porcelain are on show, as is the famous balcony on which newly-wed royals traditionally kiss.

📥 👌 St Pel	ter's Senior Citizens'			
At St Peter's Church, Lake Lock Road Every Tuesday, 10am—2pm				
Tues 3rd April	Sand art			
Tues 10th April	Mothers' Union talk			
Tues 17th April	Knitting for hospital talk			
Tues 24th April	Live Well Wakefield talk			
Tues 1st May	Local history DVD			
Tues 8th May	To be arranged			
Tues 15th May	Chocolatier visit and activities			
	n-10.30 and enjoy tea or coffee and a the activity of the day.			
	n about 12:15pm: a freshly cooked ho dessert, for just £5 per person.			
	wanting a bit of companionship and			
something to do!				

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

More commonly known as an Annual General Meeting (AGM), St Peter's church will hold its APCM on <u>Sunday 22nd April at 12pm</u> after the morning service. This meeting will review what has happened over the past year, as well as setting out the church's plans for the year ahead. Members will be elected to the Parochial church council (PCC) and officers elected. If you want to learn more about the church's ministry, where the money comes from and how it's spent, and what the various church officers do, then come along and find out!

Billy Graham - a godly man with a simple message

Billy Graham, the renowned American evangelist, was remembered with great fondness by Christians the world over when news of his death was announced on Wednesday 21st February. He died peacefully in his sleep, aged 99.



Billy Graham leaves a unique legacy: he preached to more people in live audiences than anyone else in history - nearly 215 million of them, in 185 countries and territories. Hundreds of millions more were reached through television, video, film and webcasts.

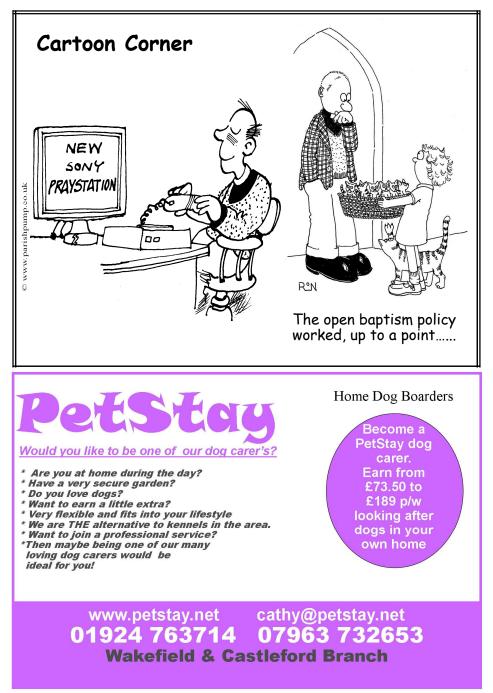
Born William Franklin Graham on 7th November 1918, four days before the Armistice ended World War I, Billy Graham was reared on a dairy farm in Charlotte, N.C. He grew up during the Depression, working hard on the family farm.

In late 1934, when he was 15, Billy Graham was converted to Christianity through the ministry of Mordecai Ham, a travelling evangelist, who visited Charlotte for a series of revival meetings. He was ordained in 1939 by Peniel Baptist Church in Palatka, Florida, and studied at Florida Bible Institute and Wheaton College Illinois, before going into the ministry. He also married a fellow student, Ruth McCue Bell, daughter of a missionary surgeon to China.

Billy Graham's gift of evangelistic preaching was evident early on, but it was the 1949 Los Angeles Crusade which vaulted him into the public eye. He astonished the people of Los Angeles by drawing 350,000 people over eight weeks, and leading 3,000 of them to make decisions for Christ. In the nearly 60 years of ministry that followed, Billy Graham preached the gospel in nearly every corner of the world. His last 'crusade' was at Flushing Meadow in New York in 2005.

Many Christians in the UK can trace their own faith in God back to Billy Graham's crusade to Harringay in 1954, or Earls Court in 1966 or 1967, or to Mission England, in 1984, as well as other, shorter visits. Hundreds of men went for ordination because of his preaching.

Billy Graham's son, Franklin, writes: 'My father's journey of faith on earth has ended. He has been reunited with my mother and has stepped into the eternal joy of Heaven in the presence of his Saviour, in whom he placed his hope.' *Visit www.billygraham.org.uk for more information about Billy Graham's life*.



Prayers for April

But who do you say I am?

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A teacher, a good man, a story teller All of these things people will say, A prophet who spoke of heavenly things But upsetting the religious men of His day?

He healed so many, raised the dead Easy to see how these tales would grow, Walking on water, stilling the storm? These are just stories of long ago!

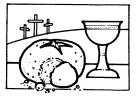
He loved little children, was friend of the sinner, So many kindnesses He would do, And then He said He was one with the Father, Delusions of grandeur, this could not be true.

He said He would die and rise again, He said He had come to seek the lost, He'd come from the Glory and was going home,

This sounds like a mad man – or else He is God! By Megan Carter

Daily Strength

God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." John 3: 16–17



Prayer for faith and freedom

Almighty God, Lord of life, we thank you for the life and death of Jesus. Most of all we thank you for His resurrection which changed the world and made it possible for us to know you as our loving, gracious Father.

Lord, when we feel locked in, imprisoned by fears and circumstances, help us to remember that locked doors mean nothing to you. You can set us free. You can help us. You give strength for today and tomorrow. You give us new life as your children, through faith in Jesus.

May we open our hearts to your help today; to receive from you the peace and power that we need, and to share it. In Jesus' name, Amen. *By Daphne Kitching*

Please contact the editor, Eleanor Plant, with items for the next magazine on 01924 835746, or by email: churchoffice@stpeters-stanley.org.uk











ST PETER'S CHURCH DIRECTORY

Vicar	Vacant	
Assistant Minister	Rev David Teece	01977 730375
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	Vicky Wilson	
Lay Pastoral Minister	Margaret Woffendin	
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	David Sunderland	
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PCC Secretary	Val McCarthy	
Treasurer	Chris Partridge	
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Electoral Roll	Eleanor Plant	835746
Prayer Chain	Glenda Oakes	820222
Magazine Editor	Eleanor Plant	835746
Safeguarding Co-ordinator	Katie Teal-West	

UNIFORMED ORGANISATIONS

Cubs/Scouts (boys & girls)	Mark Pringle	07450 953744
	firstyorkshire@gmail.com	
Rainbows & Brownies	Visit www.girlguiding.org	.uk

<u>Weddings and Baptisms</u> For information about weddings and baptisms please contact the Assistant Minister after any church service or by telephone on 01977 730375.

Contact us:

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www.stpeters-stanley.org.uk ∰

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