

# PARISH VIEW

## **Immanuel**

## **Feniscowles**



**Advent 2025**  
**£1**



# Immanuel Feniscowles

**Welcome** - *Immanuel is a church at the heart of our local community here in Feniscowles and Pleasington. We believe that God has called us to reflect the grace, beauty, love and peace of Jesus Christ to one another and to our neighbours here in Feniscowles, Pleasington, Livesey and Cherry Tree. God has blessed us with a beautiful and historic church building and with a heritage of prayer and Christian worship. We want to share all that God has given us, with those who want to experience more of God's grace and blessing in their lives -* **Come and Worship**

**M:** 07493 088 703 **E:** [immanuel252@btinternet.com](mailto:immanuel252@btinternet.com)

51 Lomond Gardens, Blackburn BB2 5BW

Our new web address is: **[Immanuelchurchfeniscowles.org](http://Immanuelchurchfeniscowles.org)**

Sunday Services: 9:15am – Parish Eucharist

2nd Sunday of the month: Café Church in the Church Hall 9.00am for a 9.15am start, Coffee Croissants and a family friendly church service.

4th Sunday of the month: Eucharist following the BCP prayer book.

Thursdays: 7:30pm Family Communion

Everyone is welcome to have a family Baptism (Christening) at Immanuel or to arrange to be married here - please contact Rev Bryn to book weddings and baptisms on:

07493 088 703

email on - [immanuel252@btinternet.com](mailto:immanuel252@btinternet.com)

or come along to a Service and speak to Phil.

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## Safeguarding

Our parish of Immanuel Feniscowles is committed to safeguarding children, young people and adults from harm. We follow the House of Bishops guidance and policies and have our own Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO). If you are concerned that a child or adult has been harmed or may be at risk of harm in our parish please contact our PSO, Joanna Duckworth-Crowell (contact details below) or the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor, Cath Smith (contact details below). If you have immediate concerns about the safety of someone, please contact the police and your local authority's children or adult social care services. The Diocese of Blackburn's safeguarding pages contain further links and information and can be found here: <https://www.blackburn.anglican.org/overview>

**Parish Safeguarding Officer**

***Joanna Duckworth-Crowell***

*Mob - 07837 340932*

*Email - [scruffyduck007@hotmail.com](mailto:scruffyduck007@hotmail.com)*

**Diocesan Safeguarding Adviser**

***Cath Smith***

*Mob - 07711 485170*

*Email - [catherine.smith@blackburn.anglican.org](mailto:catherine.smith@blackburn.anglican.org)*



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## Welcome to Our Services

Everyone is very welcome at Immanuel. We have a range of Services on different days and of different styles, come along to experience more.

**Sundays** - 9.15am - Holy Communion

Our main weekly Holy Communion service with hymns, prayers, and a talk on one of the Bible readings.

2nd Sunday of the month - Café Church in the Church Hall 9.00am for a 9.15am start, Coffee Croissants and a family friendly church service.

4th Sunday of the month - Holy Communion in traditional language, using the Book of Common Prayer.

**Thursdays** - 7:30pm - Family Communion

A shorter, more informal Holy Communion service suitable for the whole family.

LOTS OF OTHER SEASONAL AND OCCASIONAL SERVICES ARE HELD THROUGH THE YEAR - KEEP AN EYE OPEN FOR THEM BY LOOKING AT THE WEBSITE, THE PARISH MAGAZINE OR, BETTER STILL, COME ALONG TO ONE OF OUR REGULAR SERVICES TO FIND OUT MORE!

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## IMMANUEL YOUTUBE CHANNEL

Please don't forget to visit YOUTUBE at FENNYCHURCHES if you have been unable to attend worship. If you know someone who is ill and would like to keep up with our church services, please let them know. They can watch a fortnightly video on Youtube.



## THE VICAR

Christmas is often described as a time for coming home. Families gather, friends reconnect, and many of us return to familiar places and traditions. There's something special about that sense of belonging, of finding ourselves among people and places that feel like home.

In September we explored that theme as a church in a really practical way as we held our Mission Weekend – a Community Fun Day which drew our local community together, and then family church services where we celebrated that God's invitation to come back home to him is for everyone. It doesn't matter who we are, where we've been, or how long we've been away, God is always ready to welcome us home.

At Christmas, we see that truth in an extraordinary way. Because this is the moment when God himself comes to make his home with us. In Jesus, God steps into our world, into our human story, into the mess and the joy of everyday life. He doesn't wait for us to find our way back to him – he comes to us. The baby in the manger is the greatest reminder that God meets us where we are and invites us to share our lives with him.

Advent is a time of watching and waiting as we get ready to celebrate that – preparing our hearts to welcome Jesus once again. And perhaps it's also a time to think about what it might mean for us to come home this Christmas: to reconnect with church, to draw closer to Jesus, to rediscover that peace, hope and joy that he offers.

It's also a time to think about others who might need that same welcome home this Christmas. Can I keep encouraging you to think whether there might be someone you know who hasn't been to church for a while, or who might just be waiting for an invitation to come along. Why not reach out? A simple conversation, a kind word, or an invitation to one of our special services over the next month could be the thing that brings them home to the God who made and loves them.

Feniscowles Primary School's year 3 class came into church recently and one of the children asked, 'Why is there a welcome home sign hanging at the front of church?' I opened the question up to the other children and one of them answered: 'Because coming to Jesus is like coming back home'. I couldn't have said it better myself. I pray that this Christmas each one of us would know the joy of coming home to Jesus and that we would share that joy with all those around us.

Best wishes - **Bryn**

## WARDENS REPORT

What a busy but enjoyable time we have had with the extremely successful Mission Weekend on the weekend of the 19th - 21st of September, followed by Songs of Praise on the 28th of September, Harvest on the 12th of October and our joint fundraiser Stars in their Eyes on 18th October.

The period up to Christmas continues in a similar vein; our All Souls Service on the 2nd of November, Remembrance Day on the 9th of November (service in church 10am start) and fundraiser Sunday Lunch on the 16th of November. We then move into December when we have our Toy Service Cafe Church on the 14th, Carol Service on the 21st and our Crib & Christingle on the 24th.

Following on from the last magazine I want to give an update on the toilet repair. Faculty (or formal agreement to allow the work) is due any day, after which time we will look to start making some progress. After my appeal at services, we have at the date of writing received 2 very sizable donations and some other smaller ones, which now means we have sufficient funds with the grant we have secured to make the facility watertight. We currently do not have anywhere near sufficient funds to complete the internal fit out! We continue to seek further grants to assist with this along with requesting support from both the local community and parishioners.

I would therefore ask that as a minimum people support the fundraising events being carried out, at massive effort by those organising.

I repeat that although not used at every service a fully working serviceable toilet is essential for us to look to use the Narthex for many more purposes, plus when there are weddings and funerals long journeys and nerves generally mean that several people require the facility, not to mention children when they are in church.

I hope that everyone has a fantastic Advent and Christmas period.

Best wishes - ***Phil Entwistle***

**£50**  
**MONTHLY**  
**DRAW**

**As we approach Christmas and the New Year, the monthly draw payment of £12 per number is due. Obviously the more numbers you have, the greater the chance of winning, and the larger the contribution to church funds.**

**Thank You!**

# Bishop Philip's Presidential Address to the October 2025 meeting of Diocesan Synod

*Once when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing before him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went to him and said to him, 'Are you one of us, or one of our adversaries?' He replied, 'Neither; but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.'* (Joshua 5, 13-14)

Whose side are you on? That question seems to be one that confronts all of us right now.

We meet against a backdrop of serious threats to national unity and to social cohesion. One of our priests described to me a few days ago how his community has become a 'town of two flags' with one half festooned with the flag of St George, the other with the flag of Palestine.

We have seen huge marches for Palestine or against immigration. We are seeing growing anger with politicians and the political establishment and the accelerated rise of populism. So many people seemed to be locked into a mood of anger. Then, just ten days ago, two people were killed in a terrorist-inspired attack on a synagogue in Manchester.

**Against such a backdrop, a world that understands only binaries demands that we take sides. But of course, for us as Anglicans, such binary choices are incredibly difficult to take. We are on the ground in every community so we hear and try to understand every voice.**

We understand the desperate fear of asylum seekers driven from home, often for professing Jesus as Lord, and we want to offer a safe place.

But we also understand the frustration of white working-class communities who have seen change imposed on neighbourhoods they no longer recognise and who have endured years of an 'austerity economy' which means work no longer pays.

The binaries don't work for those who have the cure of souls for every single person in their community. And that failure to take sides can make us sound and feel weak.

'Where is the voice of the Church of England?' people are asking. And it's a good question. The refusal to take one side can lead to us being misunderstood or vilified on the assumption we stand for the other. Such a countercultural stance can be an uncomfortable place, a confusing and complex place, sometimes an isolating place.

Joshua was a binary thinker. In the passage with which I began this address, he met a strange warrior near to the city of Jericho and he asked, 'Are you one of us or one of our adversaries?' Or in other words, whose side are you on? But this man was not playing that game. 'Neither; but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.' I'm not on your side. I'm not on your adversaries' side. I'm on the Lord's side.

It is intriguingly unclear who this warrior is. Jewish tradition has seen in him the Archangel Michael. Christian authors have identified him as the pre-incarnate Christ. Whatever the answer, today his words should be our words. Are you one of us or one of our adversaries? Neither. We are on the Lord's side. That's not weak. That's distinctive Christian living.

We are on the Lord's side. So we pray. It's always tempting to leap straight into words or actions, but we must never forget that by far the most important contribution we make to the communities we serve is to pray for them. Pray for everyone, including those who are putting up flags or going on marches.

**Pray for everyone, especially those with whom you don't personally agree. And in your prayers, don't forget to ask for the Lord to intervene to bring healing and reconciliation and peace. Ask for the Lord to turn hatred into love and anger into joy.**

We are on the Lord's side. So we reconcile. In a binary world, Jesus mixed with everyone: with Jew and Samaritan, with Pharisee and Sadducee, with Israelite and Roman. One of the great gifts we can offer is to listen to all sides and so help one side to understand another. Bishop Arun Arora is doing just that in Leeds by meeting with the local leader of the far right. And I have heard of some of you chatting to those protesting outside asylum seeker hotels or meeting up with the leaders of different faith groups. In these encounters, the fruit of the conversation is the fact of conversation. Don't expect big results. What matters is the talking.

**We are on the Lord's side. So we condemn hatred and violence. Jesus showed a different way of being alive, not the way of vengeance and hatred but the path of self-giving love. In his name we must stand firm in condemning racism, hatred and violence. For we know that every single person made by the Lord is beautiful and beloved. If we cannot make a stand for the dignity of the human person: Christian, Muslim, Jew, Asylum Seeker, flag painter and so on, then we really do have nothing to say.**

We are on the Lord's side. So we declare Jesus. The evidence is increasingly clear that in a time of fracture in the world, people are looking to the Church for answers to their questions. And what they want is clear, definite and distinctive answers. The cross being carried in procession at far right rallies is a clear warning that if we do not step in to fill the vacuum, others with other agendas will.



And that makes today significant as we continue with the process of framing a new diocesan vision. That vision statement must be a challenging one, even uncomfortable. It must motivate us to ever greater courage and entrepreneurship in our proclamation of the Gospel. The tension and unsettledness of the current times are symptoms of people struggling for security, for safety, for lives which have purpose.

It is only in relationship with the Lord and through encounter with his cross that those deepest human needs can be met. The signs of the times are clear. Our local churches must be ready for the renewal for which we pray. Ready to welcome, ready to teach, ready to call to repentance and conversion, ready to change lives with the Gospel.

And that is also why our Centenary year must be a year not of nostalgia or backward-looking reminiscence, but of confident proclamation. Our title, 'All for Jesus,' will make it a year when we can each discover anew the joy of personal relationship with the Lord Jesus. And as we discover that afresh in our own lives, we can invite others to know him too.

It was bold of Bishop Sarah Mullally to address exactly these complex issues of social cohesion and the response of the Church when it was announced that she is to be the next Archbishop of Canterbury. She brings with her a strong track record as a reconciler and a pastor and our prayer for her must be that she can inspire the Church into a new age of confident evangelism.

For we don't need to make binary choices. We have another way. The Lord's way. We are on his side. We are his joyful followers.

**+Philip Blackburn**

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## Flowers for November and December

### Altar

9th November

*Remembrance*

Mrs L Moulden

21st December

*Christmas*

Mr K Coulthurst

### Memorial Desk

16th November

Miss K Marsden

14th December

Mr G Aspin



## IN REMEMBRANCE FOR NOVEMBER

1st.	1983	Muriel Crook	1993	Arnold Mickle
	2003	Freda Jones		
3rd.	1989	Margaret D.Henningham	2000	Agnes Doughty
	2005	Joan Butler		
4th.				
5th.	1991	John Michael Wedgeworth	2002	Keith William Snape
	2002	Joan Eleanor Taylor	2021	Valerie Hardcastle
6th.	1994	Herbert Lucas	1999	Jack Ashworth
7th.	2003	Jean Entwistle		
8th.	1969	Joseph Francis Barry	1973	Amy Dickinson
	1981	Ann Downie	2021	James Abbott
9th.	1977	George Stamper	1992	Marion Taylor
	1992	Arthur Ronald Finney	2003	Rose Caton
10th.	1986	Revd. W.B. Porteous	1986	Samuel Althall
	1993	John William Savage		
11th.	1981	John Henry Heathcote	1979	Janet Boardman
	1996	Lillian Brunt	2006	Florence Brailsford
	2011	Melvyn John Sunderland	2014	Wilhelmena Treanor
12th.	1996	Kevin Duxbury		
13th.	1987	Alice Morley	1999	Brian Leslie Hickmott
	2002	Sam Clipson Slack		
14th.	1993	Margaret Ingham	2003	Alice Paton
15th.	1988	Neville Curry	2001	Frederick Ashton
	2006	Mary Cottam	2010	Rosalynd Moore
16th.	1966	Grace Mason	1995	Rose Holme
	1996	Robert Nixon	1997	William Davidson
	2003	Matthew George Cross	2017	Irene Mary Haworth
17th.	1977	John Baron		
18th.	1988	Fred Parry Travis	2018	Sandra Blayden
19th.	1994	Mr. Harrison	1995	Laura Howarth
20th.	1994	Eleanor Kendal	1994	Elsie Marsden
	1997	Anna Melville		
21st.	1986	Margaret King	1988	Annie Victoria Norris
22nd.	1990	John Barnes	2000	John Walmsley
	1987	Thomas Wilson	2012	Nellie Parker
23rd.	1992	Terry O'Hare	1993	Kenneth Cowburn
	1994	George Bretherton	1999	Walter Reid
24th.	1981	Walsh Brennand Jones		
25th.	1984	Winifred Eileen Whittle		
26th.	1987	Tom Wilson	1992	Martha Thompson
	1994	Eva Beatrice Hacking	1997	Fred Richmond
	1999	John Catterall	2015	Margaret Rushworth
27th.	1995	Elsie Steel		
28th.	1977	Jennie Heywood		
29th.	1985	Frederick Montague Kemp	1989	Alice Clarkson
	1995	Lauren Louise Pritchard	1989	William Earnshaw
	1999	Robert Walmsley	2021	Denise Fletcher
30th.	1988	Dora Madeleine Cross	1992	Albert Holmes
	1992	Gill Greenwood	2001	Peter Capstick

## IN REMEMBRANCE FOR DECEMBER

1st.				
2nd.	1983	Elsie Halliwell		
3rd.	1966	William Goodwin	1967	Lily Marsden
	1977	Richard Henry Shorrock	1992	John Caton
	2011	Sarah Jane Milligan		
4th.	1979	Henry Kendall	1993	Eric Smith
	1999	Elna Heede		
5th.	1977	Elsie Crowther	1993	Charlie Wild
	2004	Kathleen Norris		
6th.	1982	Ethel Stamper		
7th.	2009	Frank Derek King		
8th.	1999	Jason Darroll Wike		
9th.	1991	David Barrett		
10th.	1983	Sidney Osborne Stockton	1989	Alfred Bond Redmaine
	1994	Irvin Wilkinson	2013	Winifred Linley
11th.	1992	Alan Lewis Fletcher		
12th.	1988	Malcolm Woodruff		
13th.	1993	Sidney Glover	1996	Kenneth Richards
	2000	Jack McManus	2006	Mary Warters
	2010	Muriel Dobson		
14th.	1987	Marion L. Sidgreaves	2011	Arthur Bakewell
	2011	Roy Ingham		
15th.	2004	Ben Francis	2012	Alan John Riley
16th.	1929	C.T.Clark(Priest)	1980	Eric Whalley
	1989	Mary Barrett		
17th.	1989	Ben Shorrock(ex Warden)	1986	Frank B. Leaf
	1991	Hilda Eaves	1999	Margery Earnshaw
	1967	Briscoe Haworth	2009	Alice Kellett
18th.				
19th.	1994	Richard McKenzie	2005	Nora Scott
20th.	1990	Alice Hoyle	1991	Leslie David Harper
21st.	1968	John Wareing	1991	Charles Alpe
	2001	John Jeffrey Baxter		
22nd.	1994	Thomas Waters	1997	George Fleming Irvine
23rd.	1994	Seymore Parker Frost	1991	Leonard Barnes
	2004	Gladys Richards	2005	Harry Harwood
24th.	1986	Richard Kellett	1993	Thomas Burke
	1998	James Thompson		
25th.	1988	Mrs. Marrow	1999	Harry Neville
26th.	1975	Alfred Watkins Hindle	1996	Margaret Irene Ford
27th.	2005	Janet Duckworth		
28th.	1969	Alice Barker	2000	Pauline Jones
	2008	Marjorie Coulthurst	2010	Rose Mary Taylor-Brooks
	2011	Audrey Chew		
29th.	2009	Brian Thomas Richmond		
30th.	1991	Florence Frankland		Mr. Tomlinson
31st.	1987	Margaret Makinson	1987	Joan Brunskill
	1988	Mavis Sleddon		

# Harvest and Remembrance

***by Christine***

As we age and experience more and more events and life experiences the pattern of our lives seems to get faster and the weeks go so quickly. In this piece today I want to talk about the harvest within our lives, not in terms of farming or growing things, but of thinking about what harvest we have been given from Jesus and what harvest have we helped to plant in our Christian journey for others.

Using the metaphor of Harvest there are stages that need to be met in order to reap the best results, some are within our power, and others are in God's hands. Where we are born and educated can and do affect our views of life and our abilities to lead the best life within those circumstances, we are not all equal. Recent world events have shown us terrible suffering and the effects of corruption of power across the world.

Think now about your own life, we are all at different stages but personally what harvest have you reaped within your years? Do you know Jesus, is your experience of Him real or is it formed from the experience of learning about Him through coming to church as you may have done over many years, knowing the words, by heart and the process of the services by heart, that gives you your sense of belonging to your church and thus feel an understanding of what having Jesus with you within your daily life is.

We all have very different minds and emotions so your experiences differ from others which makes the Church a rich source of humanity and experience and of course society is constantly changing and growing so within our experiences we can and do have to change some of our thinking, methods and processes to enable us as Christian people to support the church to grow and adapt to those changes as society develops and at times that may make us angry or disturbed as we are asked to change what we do and maybe what we have been taught by other more powerful people who may not have told us the truth.

Take a little time as you read this, have a brew, get some paper and a pen and try to consider what God has done for you this year, what prayers has he answered, some of which might not have been in the way you expected, but may have turned out to be better than you expected. Do you feel that your prayers are heard? Are you not actually reading your bible or notes but coming to church and that is enough, because your life is too busy. If your life was a field would

your actions reap any harvest if you sat in your home and decided that what will be will be, but fail to do anything to change? Jesus loves you, he died on a cross so that you can have eternal life if you ask his forgiveness because he had to make a way for that sin that we have in us as human beings to be taken away by his death and resurrection because he was perfect. When you realise that all you have to do is ask his forgiveness for the wrongs you have done in your life, or your lack of belief, then you might begin to know Jesus in a very real way as you grow in trust and knowledge of him.

Have you thought about the past year, have you seen or heard anything new when you come to church now? Is there something niggling you as you reflect on your harvest in terms of your belief or your faith?

Have you honestly taken a few minutes to look at the harvest in your life this past year?

Harvest Festival is past now, Remembrance of the Wars will be celebrated soon, before our eyes daily we see how life can be evaporated in seconds due to war and power, what would you lean on amidst the carnage, the starvation, the terrible grief and loss? What do you lean on now when faced with loss, grief or personal suffering, it takes great courage to stand alone against the evils of our world and lives.

***I offer 2 prayers to you today:***

Lord, we acknowledge our past indifference  
And exploitation of your world  
Including people and animals,  
Plants and habitats.....

We ask your assistance that we may recognise  
That we are not above your creation  
But members of a diverse community  
With special responsibility to love and let be.

***Edward P. Echlin.***

Grant, O Lord, for the sake of those whose lives were lost in  
War and for the sake of the generations to come, that the nations  
Of the world may learn your way of peace; and that all may have  
A chance to enjoy the life you have given them, free from war,  
Tyranny and oppression. Amen.

***Roger Tomes.***

# FAMILY FUN DAY



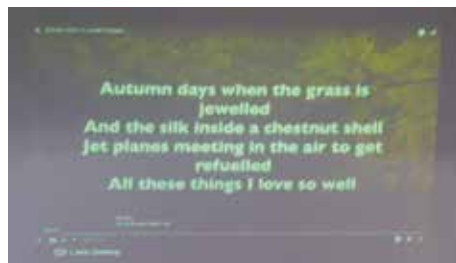






The Foodbank were very appreciative of all the tins/packets/jars/toiletries donated on Harvest Sunday when I took them in the following day, my thanks too for the excellent support. If you wish to donate anything at other times please leave in the white basket at the back of church, I'll ensure it gets there!

**Peter S.**



**MONTHLY DRAW - WINNING NUMBERS**  
**SEPTEMBER - 178      OCTOBER - 156**







**WRAP UP**

## **Winter Coats Appeal**

A big thank you to all those who donated coats to the annual appeal, they are being sorted and distributed to Homeless Shelters, Refugee Centres, Organisations Supporting the Elderly, Women's Refuges, Children's Centres and Other Charities Helping People in Crisis.

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God of Mission who alone brings growth to your Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give Vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions, Joy to our worship, and Power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers, in spiritual commitment to you,  
and in service to our local community, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen

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## **A Note for Your Diary**

**ALL YOUR CHRISTMAS SERVICE DATES & TIMES ARE INSIDE THE  
BACK OF YOUR ADVENT MAGAZINE**

# Questions and Answers

## *(More Questions Than Answers)*

When I look back on my life, asking questions and trying to find answers started at a very early age. When I first went to school (infant class as it was called then -1950's), the class teacher said to my mother does he never stop asking questions? My mother replied "from the moment he could speak question, question, question nonstop.

If somebody tells me what to do, I will question the request or command why? From time to time, it has been necessary to take action without question perhaps to maintain my employment or at that moment I could see no other reason not to. However, challenging an instruction has prevented serious accidents, but mainly to question has been to extend my knowledge and understanding. So, whether it is a command (do this or believe me) or how can that be, I need to know why, I'm looking for what makes sense.

Let me offer you some questions and ask have you sought answers.

The first question in my memory (early 1950's) it was about margarine and on the packaging was a statement 'contains 10% butter'. I don't think I was at primary school, my mother was ironing when I decide to asked what does the 10% mean and why. The explanation did not satisfy me and why add butter. All was quiet, until the next day we passed a shop on our way into town, when I spied a sign '10% off baby clothes'. Question why do baby clothes have butter? I was quite slow at reading, but the use of mixing numbers with words was a magical moment.



Do you ever watch water going down the 'plug-hole' and asked yourself why does it spiral? [The fake idea that the spiral is opposite in the southern hemisphere is not true]. The people living along the equator would not be able to reason this out if it was true. If you tip water out of a bottle it does not spiral, it does not, form a true cylindrical shape. Eventually I found the reason

- friction. I realised this when teaching our children to cheat when playing 'pooh sticks' - drop your stick in the river nearest the centre of maximum flow. The flow gets less and less until zero at the bank edge, but the water has to obey gravity and all material that moves on earth experiences friction and the pathway of least resistance causes the water to spiral.

Why is custard powder a non-Newtonian fluid? If you use custard powder (I like it on apple crumble) have you noticed that when you mix a little with milk or water it is very resistive to rapid spoon movements but responds to slow movement. As Isaac Newton explained 'for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction'. Therefore, if you jump in a pool of water, you displace the water - splash. However, if you try the same in a bucket of liquid custard you don't splash or sink so you can walk on custard. Tartaric Acid, corn flower starch and many more substances display this property of having a high internal shear. These substances do not disobey Newton's laws as they have an equal and opposite reaction - resist. Discovering non-Newtonian fluids gave our son and I lots of kitchen fun just from asking the question.



What is this plant? Having had a summer which has brought about heavy fruiting harvests for us living in the North West especially, I have been surprised at what I've seen locally, damsons, plumbs, cherries, apples (various), acorns by the bucket full, horse chestnuts, blackberries, hips and haws. However, I have walked beneath this tree many, many, times and not seen fruit on it. The tree is not very common in the north of the country and is the focus of some debate within the botanical world. It is thought to be a fertile cross of two trees one from the Orient and a variety from North America. In the South of England one or two fruits per string is the norm - are we lucky to see this three string fruit on our door step? Answer to the question at the end.

Many of you who read these ramblings and rants will know I like walking and exploring and I'm prepared to take risks. Some years ago, our son had just finished his 'O' levels and we were taking a boy's break walking in Wales. We set off to tackle Y-Garn summit when in less than one hour, 200mm of snow fell. We could have turned back when the snow was less deep. No, plod on, there are plenty of other walkers out on the path and we should be OK.

As we approached the summit we were met by scenes of chaos, clouds obscured vision and any idea of a safe decent gone with almost sheer drops down to the lake Llyn Ogwen. A lone voice spoke up, "I know the way off". So, we followed him. Bad news, he had no idea. We are now lost. It is now time to question where are we and seek a



solution that we can manage and understand. We should have done this from the beginning - compass, map and an understanding of the contours gave us confidence. As we had now located our position (not where we expected). We did, however, identify a safe route off Y-Garn down to Nant Paris albeit 27 miles by road from the car park. We now found ourselves acting as guides leading other people to safety. A collective ride in an expensive Taxi returned drivers and others back to Idwal Cottage Car Park, only to witness the multitude of Mountain Rescue units dealing with the less fortunate. Moral don't rely on other people who can't inform, only tell you. Another valuable lesson learnt, don't think others know better.

A number of events have happened since my last article. First the walk around the Settle area to visit the caves of the Attermire and Langcliffe Scar.



As always, those keen to test my map reading skills know we set off prompt from Immanuel car park at 08:30, maps are handed out and guidance given to driver's re-car parking. For a Bank Holiday week end traffic was light and by 09:20 we were on our way. Then came those reminiscent moments and words "I need the toilet". With help from a passer-by, we located the said

buildings and then set off in comfort - better now than trying to locate a modesty bush for which to hide behind. Having walked steadily uphill for 2-1/2 hours we reached Jubilee Cave and rested for lunch.

The question came can we explore the cave? I replied do what you like, but remember this "Think, do I feel comfortable, have I enough light to see danger, watch the floor and the roof", off you go. Twenty minutes later heads and happy smiling faces emerged from holes further up the moor side.

Would those that found a way out have learnt anything about their ability had I told them what to do, would they have the sense of satisfaction, had they been told. I don't think so. After lunch we headed off to the next cave, 'Victoria cave'. You will notice that there is a reference to a Queen. The cave was found in 1837 by a local man searching for his dog. Having an interest in archaeology he was amazed to find animal remains from about 12500BC and later artifacts from the Romano-British period. The question was why are they here? He could just have ignored them and given his dog a good talking to. He had to investigate. Below this limestone scar lies a geological depression and at the time (120,000 years back) a lake existed known as Lake Attermire to geologists. Once you understand this, it is easy to see and visualise the enormous area this semi tropical lake covered and you can imagine the animals that roamed the area. Some learned articles make ref to hyenas dragging the animals into the cave. Who knows? We are now in the realm of speculation.



We finished the walk on a question prompted by the size of the Bank Holiday crowds "Where shall we have our coffee and cake?" Our quest was satisfied, at the Attermire coffee shop - excellent cafe.

Do you listen to the Sunday Sermon or does it pass over your head. I do not wish to offend members of the clergy who put considerable effort into the Sunday Sermon and I'm sure they try to live by what has been preached; however, I challenge what is said and try to seek out more details that underpin the words. Perhaps I do not agree, but the direction I follow is I believe a similar pathway. In this case to challenge what has been preached often strengthens my beliefs and enable a stronger argument when discussing issues of faith with good people who do not have the same values.

Thanks for putting up with my ramblings and before people ask, I do not have any desire to preach. No!

[Answer - London Plane Tree]

Regards **Peter Hodkinson**

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# Easy Ways to Help and Support your Church

## **1) Join the Parish Giving Scheme;**

We know that things are tough, but the church cannot survive without regular giving, the church needs funds daily even if you only attend once a month. Please consider what you give to church, remember we do not receive any other income than that which we generate from renting the hall and the money people directly give.

## **2) Gift Aid your giving;**

If you Gift Aid your donations, then for every £10 you give the HMRC gives us £2.50 for nothing – it is money you paid in tax returned to the church.

## **3) Join the 100 Club; Annual Payment Now Due**

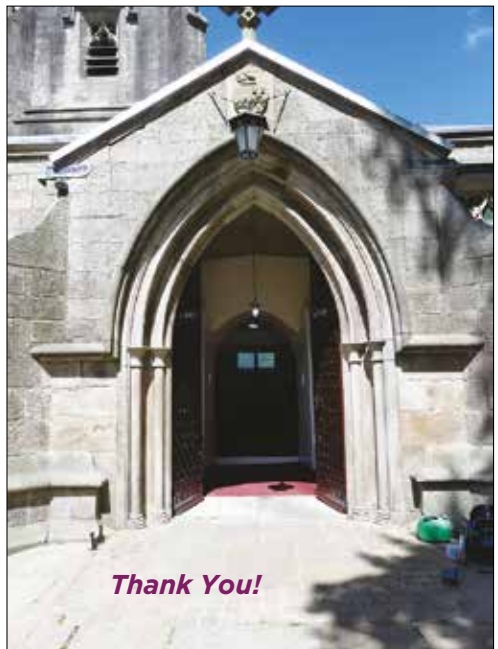
This monthly draw allows you the opportunity to win £50 each month. It costs £12 to join for the year and if we can get up to 200 numbers sold from the current 121, then we will be able to increase the prizes with a monthly second prize.

## **4) Church Magazine;**

As well as encouraging you to buy a magazine, why not buy an extra one and give it to a friend, neighbour, someone who is lonely etc. If you really cannot afford the extra £1 then let Phil know and we will organise something to allow you to pass on to others about our church.

## **5) Volunteer;**

There are always things which need to be done, how can you help? Please approach us and offer a little time, it doesn't need to be weekly but a couple of hours here or there can always be put to good use.



# Immanuel Church

Immanuel Vicarage, 51 Lomond Gardens, Blackburn BB2 5BW

**07493 088 703**

immanuel252@btinternet.com immanuelchurchfeniscowles.org

Vicar	Rev Bryn	07493 088 703
Church Warden	Phil Entwistle	209096
Deputy Warden	Peter Hodgkinson	202283
PCC Vice Chair	Phil Entwistle	209096
PCC Secretary	Margaret Duckworth	202670
PCC Treasurer	Linda Moulden	200566
Safeguarding Officer	Joanna Duckworth-Crowell	07837 340 932
Diocesan Safeguarding Officer	Cath Smith	07711 485 170
Vision 2026 Champion	Sandy Woods	07947 904 987

## Uniformed Organisations

Brownies Leader	Nicola Mellor	07930 375 176
	Janet Dent	07843 728 051
Guide Leader	Emma Tranter	07837 065 435
Beaver Leader	Emma O'Callaghan	07850 459 434
Cub Leader	Susie Veevers	07984 448 338
Scout Leader	Simon Blake	07717 707 583
Group Scout Leader	Suzie Veevers	07984 448 338

## Mission & Administration

Deanery Synod Rep	Margaret Banks	201906
Deanery Synod Rep	Margaret Duckworth	202670
Deanery Synod Rep	Phil Entwistle	209096
Gift Aid Secretary	Diane Greaves	207912
£50.00 Club Secretary	Peter Dobson	209089
Electoral Roll Officer	Peter Smith	psmith82@tiscali.co.uk
Flower Secretary	Kathryn Marsden	201386
	Mary Griffiths	
Children's Society Rep'	Kathleen Hargreaves	201759
Christian Aid Rep	Vacant	

## Magazine

Editor	Peter Smith	psmith82@tiscali.co.uk
Advertising	Phil Entwistle	209096
Distribution	Peter Dobson	209089

# Join us this **Christmas** at Immanuel and St. Francis

## **Sunday 14th December**

- 9.15am – Café Church with Toy Collection @ Immanuel Church Hall (please consider bringing a new unwrapped gift for a local child)
- 4pm – Christingle Service @ St. Francis Church



## **Sunday 21st December**

- 4pm – Joint Carol Service @ Immanuel Church

## **Wednesday 24th December**

- 3.30pm – Christingle and Crib Service @ Immanuel Church
- 4.30pm – Crib Service @ St. Francis Church

## **Thursday 25th December**

- 10am – Joint Christmas Day Service @ St. Francis Church (no service at Immanuel on this day)

## **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> December**

- 10am – Joint Holy Communion Service @ Immanuel Church (no service at St. Francis on this day)







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