

5.12.2025

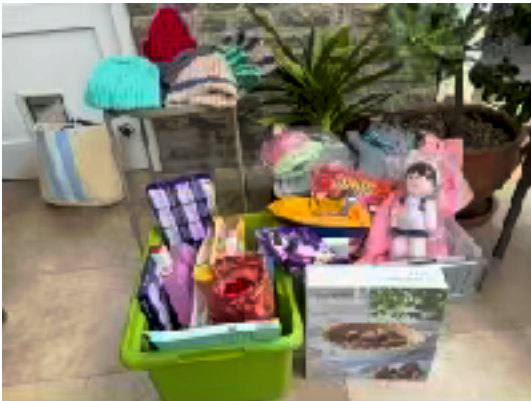
Hello Everyone

First, the very sad news that Joyce Durdy died this week. Joyce was an "indoor member" for the past few years as she found getting to meetings difficult. She was a remarkable lady and certainly didn't seem like her age of 100 years. We will miss her.



I am pleased to be able to show the beautiful hats which have been knitted by Joan Green's friend Janet and sewn up by Joan, who then delivered them to the Premature Baby Unit. They were delighted. Thank you to Janet and Joan for these.

A parcel arrived this week from my friend (also Janet but known as Jan) it contained equally beautiful adult hats which are for the Women's Refuge.



Yesterday all of the things which have been donated for Christmas were packed up and went to Doncaster Minster to be given to the Refuge staff during the Advent service. The hats Jan knitted are on the top left of the photo. This is just some of the things which were taken. There were bags of lovely clothes, books, wooden toys, chocolates, toiletries and a huge bag of soft toys and children's clothing which came from Elaine as well as the dressing gowns and socks we bought for the ladies.

We are so grateful for all of the donations which just kept coming!

We are having a break from collecting until the beginning of January when 2 more Fresh Start baskets will be packed. We already have a lot of things for them including 2 hairdryers.

The Advent Service yesterday was lovely. Long service certificates were awarded and everyone enjoyed tea and incepts afterwards...served by Jo-Anne wearing her new MU apron (a gift that day).

Here are some photographs. Many of you will see a familiar face just behind Canon Richard!





On Tuesday we have our Festive Meeting at 2pm in St Lukes Chapel. There will be Carol Singing, followed by mince pies and sherry (or tea). Liz will have the menus from the Royal Oak for our January lunch. Members and friends are most welcome at these events.



A Christmas message from our Chaplain- Canon Richard Parker.

"How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given."

Those words from the carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" seem to capture for me something of the nature of this special season. The hymn was written by a clergyman from the United States in 1868 for his Sunday School, after he had spent the Christmas of 1866 in Bethlehem.

Christmas in Bethlehem even at that time would have been very different from the very first Christmas. Even so, when we know the presence of Jesus through our faith, we are in touch with the deepest meaning of the season we are about to celebrate.

Maybe Bethlehem wasn't silent at the time when Jesus was born, any more than our towns and cities are likely to be silent at this festive time. St Luke's gospel tells us that there was no room at the inn, which suggests that the city was teeming with people. Somewhere in the midst of all that hubbub, the Saviour of the world was born. There was no fanfare or fuss, but just a quiet birth that would have gone unnoticed by all but a few. Still, we are left in no doubt that this child brought lasting change into our world and into human lives.

Whether your Christmas will be quiet or busy, spent with company or alone, the mystery at the heart of Christmas does not change. In a noisy and troubled world, the wondrous gift comes to us in the silence of our hearts, just as the carol reminds us.

We live in a troubled world and many people long for peace. For us as Christians, Christ is the Prince of Peace. When we receive that peace into our hearts something of its power begins to radiate for the people around us.

I wish you a joyful and peaceful Christmas. May Jesus, through his birth in Bethlehem, bring hope to you, to your families, and to the people around you.

Best Wishes Richard



We have 3 members who have birthdays this month, 1st Liz Rennison today 5th, then Pam Grocock on the 7th, followed by Margaret on the 8th. We wish you all Happy Birthday and have a lovely day.

Today we pray for our own response to God's invitation to hope, for our membership across the world, and for all our families and communities. Guide me Lord to someone I can invite into the Mothers' Union membership. Amen.

Love to everyone from Helen on behalf of the committee

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Eluned 01302 742963

Joan 01302 744695

Jenny 01302 752452

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also there for a chat Elaine 01302 743842 and Liz Rennison 01302 742830