



# ILLINGWORTH MESSENGER

Where Church and Community meet together:  
Illingworth Moor, the former St Mary's & St Malachy's



Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



**DECEMBER 2024 / JANUARY 2025**

Printed & Distributed free by the Illingworth Messenger Trust  
for the Churches and People in Illingworth

**JOIN US ON OUR JOURNEY OF FAITH AT  
ANY OF THE SERVICES  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME  
ST. MALACHY'S CHURCH**

**Times of Mass at St. Malachy's:**  
Saturday (Vigil Mass) at 5 pm and  
Sunday Mass at 9 am

**HOLY NATIVITY CHURCH**  
**the Church of England Parish of Mixenden and Illingworth**  
**Sundays at 10.00 am**  
All Age Eucharist, everyone welcome

**PREACHERS AT ILLINGWORTH MOOR METHODIST  
CHURCH IN DECEMBER & JANUARY**  
***All services commence at 10.30 am unless otherwise stated***

|               |                      |   |
|---------------|----------------------|---|
| 1st December  | Local Arrangement    | <b>TOY SERVICE</b>                            |
| 8th December  | Mr Jonathan Whitaker |   |
| 15th December | Ms Val Heward        |   |
| 22nd December | Rev Tony Morling     | <b>CAROL/ CHRISTINGLE<br/>SERVICE AT 4 PM</b> |

**2025**

|               |                    |  |
|---------------|--------------------|--|
| 29th December | Miss Alison Dobson |  |
| 5th January   | Cluster Service at | <b>Highgate Methodist<br/>Church AT 10.45 AM</b> |
| 12th January  | Rev Tony Morling   | Communion  |
| 19th January  | Mrs Susan Watson   |  |
| 26th January  | Mrs Linda Guy      |  |

## MESSAGE FOR DECEMBER / JANUARY

I need to alert you to a danger. It regards those tinsel-clad angels, tea-towel covered shepherds and snowy stable. The danger is to restrict Christmas to nativity plays and nothing beyond. Now don't get me wrong, I like nativity plays, and I've attended a fair few. They are wonderful, but by their very nature they tend to soften the rough edges of that first Christmas. In contrast, the Gospel accounts of Christ's birth describe all of life. There is an unexpected teenage pregnancy, homelessness and a vulnerable family fleeing violence. The dark side of our human nature is also revealed: hatred and deceit, which will lead ultimately to Herod's pathological rage and murder.

It seems to me that we are all in the danger of softening Christmas and removing its earthiness. Take the shepherds who St Luke says, were 'living out in the fields nearby' - tough men whose faces would have been hardened by years of weather; who could light a fire in a gale; and were used to blood and amniotic fluid. At the edge of society, and very different from the itinerant, wealthy Magi, the shepherds were among the poor. Yet, they were the first to be invited to see the Christ, while the religious establishment figures, like me, were not.

And this is where the story of Jesus' birth gets more challenging. If we who celebrate Christmas in 2024 fail to show compassion and inclusion for those at the edge of our society, then we fail to remember a central message of Christmas. But if we linger within the Bible passages, then they begin to yield profound insight into our quest for peace and justice. These 2,000-year-old words live, because they start to change how we think and how we behave.

The choice is ours: to confine Christmas to nativity plays, or we can wrestle with what the Gospel writers were saying. Within their words there is wisdom and truth about the human condition. Most importantly, they point to the author of Life, Light & Love. It is what Charles Wesley succinctly encapsulated in verse:

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
born that man no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth:  
Hark! The herald-angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born king!"

I wish you a Christmas full of Joy & Peace.

*Tony Morling*  
Methodist Minister

From 3  
hours per  
week



## Keep active and engaged in life with a Companion from Home Instead

A Companion is someone who visits every week to provide friendship and support.

- Helps reduce loneliness and isolation
- Company on social outings
- A listening ear and conversation.

*All our Companions are carefully matched to you, DBS-checked and have their own transport.*



For an informal chat about companionship, home help or any other care needs:

Call 01422 292424

Email: [calderdale@homeinstead.co.uk](mailto:calderdale@homeinstead.co.uk)

[www.homeinstead.co.uk/calderdale](http://www.homeinstead.co.uk/calderdale)



## SUDOKU EASY

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## SUDOKU MODERATE

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## WORDSEARCH CLUES

### CHRISTMAS

**Father Christmas** is based on St **Nicholas**, who was **born** in the **3rd century** in the **Greek village** of Patara, on what is today the southern coast of Turkey. His family were both **devout** and **wealthy**, and when his parents died in an epidemic, Nicholas decided to help people. He gave to the **needy**, the **sick**, the **suffering**, and was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. As a bishop, he suffered in **prison** with other bishops under the **Emperor** Diocletian's persecution of Christians.

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One story of his generosity explains why we hang Christmas stockings over our mantelpieces today. There was a **poor family** with **three daughters** who needed dowries if they were to marry, and not be sold into slavery. Nicholas heard of their plight, and tossed three bags of gold into their home through an open window – thus saving the girls from a life of misery. The bags of gold landed in **stockings** or shoes left before the fire to dry. Hence the custom of children hanging out **stockings** – in the hope of attracting presents of their own from St Nicholas - on Christmas Eve. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols of St Nicholas.

**HOLY NATIVITY CHURCH, THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
PARISH OF MIXENDEN AND ILLINGWORTH**

**Sunny Bank Road, Mixenden, HX2 8RX.**

**[www.holynativity.co.uk](http://www.holynativity.co.uk)**

**Family Communion** every Sunday at **10 am.**

**Communion Meal** every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month at **6 pm.**

The communion meal is an opportunity to worship whilst gathered around the dinner table. Food is provided.

**Rock Mass** every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at **6 pm.**

The Rock Mass is a service for people who like to worship **LOUD!**

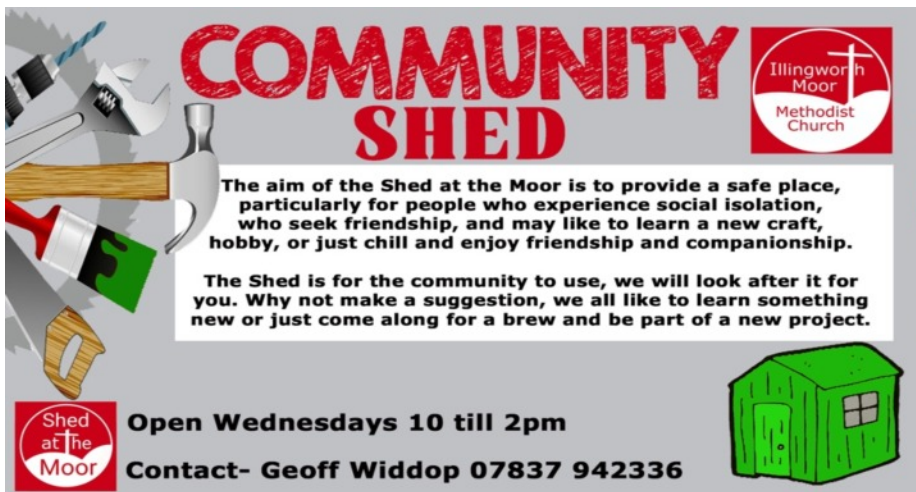
**Vicar:** Revd Robb Sutherland, 01422 353929 email  
**[vicar@holynativity.co.uk](mailto:vicar@holynativity.co.uk)**

**Church Wardens:** David Capon 07500860715 and  
Michelle Strange 07810560289

**Church Pantry:** Mondays 2 - 3.30 pm. Providing food and essentials to people from the Parish in need.

**Church Youth Group:** Tuesdays 7 pm -8.30 pm

**For baptisms, weddings & funerals** contact the Vicar or Church Warden



**COMMUNITY SHED**


The aim of the Shed at the Moor is to provide a safe place, particularly for people who experience social isolation, who seek friendship, and may like to learn a new craft, hobby, or just chill and enjoy friendship and companionship.

The Shed is for the community to use, we will look after it for you. Why not make a suggestion, we all like to learn something new or just come along for a brew and be part of a new project.

**Open Wednesdays 10 till 2pm**  
**Contact- Geoff Widdop 07837 942336**

Shed at The Moor

Illingworth Moor Methodist Church





## WHAT'S ON AT ILLINGWORTH MOOR

### 'GOOD AS NEW SHOP'



Open on FRIDAYS ONLY 10 am till 3.30 pm during Abbey Park School term time.

During school holidays Thursday 6 pm to 8 pm and Fridays 10 am to 2 pm

Why not drop into our **"Cosy Corner"**?

No need to buy! Just sit and watch the world go by in warm and pleasant surroundings. Enjoy a cuppa, from the Cafe, or read a magazine, or just relax.

### **CAFE AT THE MOOR (Tel: 07748271570)**

Our Chef, Sarah, makes a range of meals on four days a week, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday from 9 am to 1 pm.

Why not pop in for a coffee, a piece of home made cake, a bowl of home made soup, a sandwich (*either to eat in or take away*).

Or have a full meal from Sarah's tempting menu?



### **BOYS' BRIGADE - MONDAYS**

**Anchor Boys:** 5 - 7 years (arrive 6.15 pm to start at 6.30 pm until 7.30 pm)

**Junior Section:** 8 - 10 years (arrive 6.15 pm to start at 6.30 pm until 8.15 pm)

**Company Section:** 11 - 18 years (arrive no earlier than 7 pm for a 7.15 pm start - ending at 8.45 pm)

***If anyone can help out, even if only occasionally, please get in touch with Captain Andy on 07833910698.***



### **GIRLS' BRIGADE - WEDNESDAYS**

Explorers: 5-7 years (5.30 pm to 7.15 pm);

Juniors: 7-11 years (6.45 pm to 8.30 pm);

Seniors & Brigaders: 8-18 years (6.45 pm - 8.30 pm)

***For more information contact Janice Crowther on 07745529385***

### **SUNDAYS**

Sunday Worship & Sunday School at 10.30 am

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN US AT ANY OR ALL OF THE ADVERTISED EVENTS**

## **REMEMBERING THE BOXING DAY TSUNAMI OF 2004**

Twenty years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2004, the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami (also called the Boxing Day Tsunami) took place. A massive undersea earthquake near Sumatra caused a devastating tsunami that swamped coastal areas in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand and East Africa. It was one of the deadliest natural disasters in recorded history, killing more than 230,000 people in 14 countries.

Waves generated by the earthquake and travelling at up to 500mph were believed to have been up to 50ft high in places, and the cost in lives and damage was so extensive because detection and warning systems were relatively primitive, as this was not a prime area for such events. Scientific monitoring and warning plans, led by Australia, have since been considerably improved, but the unpredictability of tsunamis remains a major problem.

The massive surges of water in 2004 swept away buildings and people, and some effects were felt as far away as Somalia on the east coast of Africa, nearly 2,800 miles (and seven hours for the waves) west of the epicentre. Nearer coastlines were hit in as little as 15 minutes.

Aftershocks continued to shake the region daily for up to four months after the original earthquake. The raising of the seafloor reduced the capacity of the Indian Ocean, resulting in a permanent rise in sea level globally by an estimated 0.1 mm.

Since 1900, only two earthquakes have been recorded with a greater magnitude than the Sumatra Boxing Day event. One was in 1960 at Valdivia, Chile (magnitude 9.5) and the other in 1964 in Prince William Sound, Alaska (9.2). Both spawned tsunamis in the Pacific, but the death toll (1655 and 131) was sharply less, because of much lower population density where they came ashore.

## **CHRISTINGLE, A GENEROUS PRESENT FROM THE MORAVIANS**

It is the Moravians whom we have to thank for bringing us the Christingle. Especially one Moravian clergyman: John de Watteville.

No one knows for certain when the word ‘Christingle’ was first used with regard to the custom. No one even knows where the word ‘Christingle’ comes from. Some people say it is from the old Saxon word ‘ingle’ (fire), meaning ‘Christ-fire or light’. Another theory is that it derives from the German ‘engel’ (angel), meaning ‘Christ-angel’.

In any event, the symbolism of Christingle gradually developed, until today the Moravians in the British Province use an orange, representing the world, with a lighted candle to represent Christ, the Light of the World. Nuts, raisins, and sweets on cocktail sticks around the candle represent God’s bounty and goodness in providing the fruits of the earth. Red paper, forming a frill around the base of the candle, reminds us of the blood of Christ shed for all people on the cross at Calvary.

In Moravian churches, the Christingle Service is usually held on the Sunday before Christmas or on Christmas Eve. The website for the Moravian Church says: “We are glad that the Moravian Church has been able to make this contribution to the wider Christian world.”



## **MOUNT ZION METHODIST HERITAGE CHAPEL**

**Per Lane, Ogden, HX2 8XG**

### **Christmas Carol Service**



We would love you to join us for a family friendly service of traditional carols and readings on **Sunday, 15th December** at **3.00 pm**.

This will be led by the Reverend Colin Sherwood.  
Tea, coffee and mince pies will be on offer in the cottage after the service.

### **The story of mince pies**

Did you know that mince pies have been traditional English Christmas fare since the Middle Ages, when meat was a key ingredient? The addition of spices, suet and alcohol to meat came about because it was an alternative to salting and smoking in order to preserve the food. Mince pies used to be a different shape - cradle-shaped with a pastry baby Jesus on top.

### **World's oldest fake tree**

Did you know that it is a family in Wiltshire, the Parkers, who claim to own the world's oldest artificial Christmas tree? It was bought in 1886, and it is still put up every year.

### **Mistletoe's smelly history**

Did you know that the word 'mistletoe' means dung on a tree? The Anglo-Saxons thought that mistletoe grew in trees where birds had left their droppings. Mistel means dung, and tan means twig.



## HAIRY POPPINS

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### OVENDEN WEST RIDING AFC

are holding a reunion for all their  
former players, wives/partners on

**SATURDAY, 7TH DECEMBER**

**from 7-30 pm**

**at OSCARS BAR, FOREST COTTAGE, COUSIN LANE**

**Entertainment will be provided by Lea Roberts**

Ovenden were the most successful of all the Calderdale open age teams from the 1970's through to 2018. Three times winners of the West Riding County Cup, various trophy wins in the County amateur league. A record of Halifax FA Cup wins were amongst the clubs achievements.

Further info contact Steve Smith on 07727860731

## ST. MALACHY'S NEWS

Our Parish Priest is Mgr Michael McQuinn

### **ST. MALACHY'S NURSERY** St. Malachy's School, Cousin Lane

There is a place for your child so why not give your child the best start? Apply for a place now and come and see what we have to offer. Contact St. Malachy's School on 01422 244628.

### **ST. MALACHY'S WALKS**

If you would like to join us you will be made most welcome. Walking boots and suitable clothing are essential. For more information please contact Philip or Pat at 01422 751542 or e-mail us at p29.moran@gmail.com



### **ILLINGWORTH MOOR METHODIST CHURCH**



Where can you get (for instance) Cottage Pie, Yorkshire pudding & vegetables, a pudding and a cup of tea, together with good company for £5.50?  
**Cafe number 07748271570**

The **Access Bus** picks up some of our regulars so if you need transport just ring **0113 3481902** to register with Metro.

### **PAY IT FORWARD SCHEME**

We are operating a Pay It Forward Scheme in the Cafe. Pay for a hot drink, sandwich or meal for someone in need. Call into the cafe if you are able to support this new scheme.

### **WALKING FOOTBALL**



at Forest Cottage, Cousin Lane, HX2 8AD

**Tuesdays at 12 noon**

**All welcome**

For further information contact  
**[laynopete@hotmail.com](mailto:laynopete@hotmail.com) / 07808059929**

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Qualified decorator with over 25yrs experience

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Wallpapering

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## **THANK DICKENS FOR CHRISTMAS AS YOU KNOW IT!**

Ever wonder where many of our Christmas traditions come from? A surprising amount of our modern Christmas celebrations can be traced back to the well-loved story of ‘A Christmas Carol’, by Charles Dickens.

When you read ‘A Christmas Carol’, you discover almost a template of the ‘ideal Christmas’ which we still hold dear today. Dickens seems to have selected the best of the Christmas celebrations of his day (he ignored some of the odd excesses) and packaged them in such a way as to give us traditions that we could accommodate and treasure – more than a century later.

So, for instance, in *A Christmas Carol*, Christmas is a family day, with a family-centred feast. In a home decorated with holly and candles the characters enjoy a roast turkey, followed by Christmas pudding. They give their loved ones presents. Scrooge even gives donations to charity (!).

And all the while outside, there is snow and frost, while church bells ring, and carol singers sing, and hope for mulled wine. In ‘A Christmas Carol’ there is even a Father Christmas – in the shape of Christmas Present. Only the Christmas tree itself came later, when Prince Albert imported ‘a pretty German toy’ that won the heart of the English court, and hence the rest of Victorian society.

# Pizza Menu

## STARTERS

### Garlic Bread £5.00

A freshly baked pizza dough covered with garlic butter, olive oil and herbs.

### Cheesy Garlic Bread £6.50

A freshly baked pizza dough covered with garlic butter, olive oil, mixed cheese & herbs.

### Cheesy Tortilla Chips £5.00

A box of warm crispy tortilla chips covered in mixed cheese with a choice of 3 dips.

### Fully Loaded Tortillas £7.50

3 layers of tortilla chips with sweet chilli, BBQ, garlic mayo, spicy beef, sweetcorn and jalapeños.

### Extra Toppings £0.50

Black Olives, Jalapeños, Mushroom, Pepper, Pepperoni, Pineapple, Prosciutto Ham, Red Onion, Spicy Beef, Sweetcorn (£1 per meat).

## PIZZAS

### Margherita £7.50

Italian sauce, mixed cheese and herbs.

### Hawaiian £8.50

Italian sauce, mixed cheese, prosciutto ham, pineapple and herbs.

### Prosciutto Funghi £8.50

Italian sauce, mixed cheese, prosciutto ham, mushroom and herbs.

### Pepperoni £8.50

Italian sauce, mixed cheese, pepperoni, pepper and herbs.

### Vegeoni £8.50

Italian sauce, mixed cheese, mushroom, red onion, pepper, sweetcorn and herbs.

### Meatynoni £8.50

Italian sauce, mixed cheese, prosciutto ham, pepperoni, spicy beef and herbs.

*All doughs and breads are approximately 11" hand stretched, baked in an outdoor pizza oven. In order to help with the cooking of Neapolitan style pizza, our dough is kneaded and then rested to prove - twice over. Our Italian sauce is a homemade recipe made from plum tomatoes, fresh basil, crushed garlic and a couple of secret ingredients. The mixed cheese is a perfect blend of mozzarella and cheddar - stringy but with added taste.*

## TELEPHONE:

**07824 501994**

### OPENING TIMES

Saturday 4:00pm - 11:00pm.

### PRE ORDERS

TEXT through the week for preferred time slot.

### DELIVERY

All deliveries will incur a £3 charge within a 3 mile radius of North Halifax.

## DESSERTS

### Choco Di Dough £4.50

Baked dough covered in chocolate sauce.

### S'more Dough £5.50

Baked dough covered in chocolate sauce topped with melted marshmallows.

## DRINKS

### Can of Pop £1.50

Pepsi Pepsi Max San Pellegrino

## DIPS

### BBQ £1.00

### Garlic Mayo £1.00

### Sweet Chilli £1.00



# B G PIZZAS



@b.g.pizzas

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT FOOD PREPARED HERE MAY CONTAIN OR COME INTO CONTACT WITH THESE INGREDIENTS: WHEAT-MILK-TOMATO-HAZELNUT  
IF YOU HAVE ANY FOOD ALLERGIES OR INTOLERANCES PLEASE SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF STAFF

*Canon David Winter reflects on the coming of Jesus...*

## **THE MOST BEAUTIFUL STORY**

A well-known atheist was being interviewed on Radio 4. When asked how he spent Christmas, he said that he went to Midnight Mass at church. “But you’re an atheist”, his interviewer protested. “Yes”, he replied, “but what they celebrate at Christmas is the most beautiful story ever told.”

That ‘beautiful story’ tells of a Creator who sent His Son to share the life of His creation, to be born as a helpless baby, to grow up as a man of extraordinary wisdom,

gentleness and love, who was executed by the authorities for contradicting the traditions of the time. His followers – who today number about two billion people all over the world – believe that He rose from the dead, and that by His death and resurrection He has made possible forgiveness and eternal life for men and women everywhere.



That is certainly quite a story, perhaps the greatest story ever told, and yes, beautiful. And that is the story that will be rehearsed again this Christmas, in children’s Nativities, in hymns and carols, in Bible readings and sermons all over the country. People who stay away from church all year turn up to hear it, and who can blame them? This is a story of hope, of love and of heaven touching earth.

Probably the best-known statue in the world is ‘Christ the Redeemer’, towering over the South American city of Rio de Janeiro, His arms outstretched in blessing. Christmas celebrates the birth of that great Redeemer – a tiny baby laid in a feeding trough.

His birth changed history, His life transformed our understanding of what it means to be human, His death was at one and the same time a tragedy and a triumph. Yes, it is ‘the most beautiful story ever told’. Enjoy it again this Christmas.

*The best way to succeed in this world is to act on the advice you give to others. - Mother Teresa.*

*What is also quite terrifying is the amount of work that has to go through so many kitchens in preparation for Christmas! Spare a thought (and lend a hand) to those who work so hard to prepare our festive fare!*

### **The Christmas Kitchen**

The kitchen is, at Christmas  
A very busy room!  
Lots of work in such a rush  
Or Christmas Day will loom.

First there is the cake to bake  
And many pastries too,  
Mince pies and biscuits, festive fare  
There is so much to do!

Then comes the day, the kitchen fills  
With wondrous cooking smells,  
As turkey roasts and parsnip toasts  
The cooks must work their spells.

The dinner's on the table  
We gather round and eat,  
But someone has to wash the pots  
And make the kitchen neat.

So have a happy Christmas,  
Enjoy the festive fare,  
But grab a towel and help the cook,  
And show them that you care!

***By Nigel Beeton***







**THE DAISY CHAIN CAFE  
ON WEDNESDAY,**

**11TH DECEMBER AND  
8TH JANUARY**

**AT BLACKBURN HOUSE,  
NURSERY LANE FROM 1 PM  
TO 3 PM**

**Working towards a Dementia  
Friendly North Halifax**

**For more information ring  
03005550266 or 01422 252209**

## **FREE SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

**CALL IN DURING CAFE  
AND SHOP OPENING  
TIMES.  
LOOK ON THE RAIL IN  
THE ENTRANCE AND  
TAKE WHAT YOU  
NEED AT NO COST**

**Bradshaw  
Whitehill  
Abbey Park**

Contact Tracy for more info.  
Email: [immctracy@gmail.com](mailto:immctracy@gmail.com)  
Phone/Text/WhatsApp: 07842411236

**ILLINGWORTH MOOR  
METHODIST CHURCH**

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**Caravan & Motorhome**



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**S. THORPE ELECTRICAL AND MAINTENANCE  
HALIFAX  
07847935491**

# ANSWERS

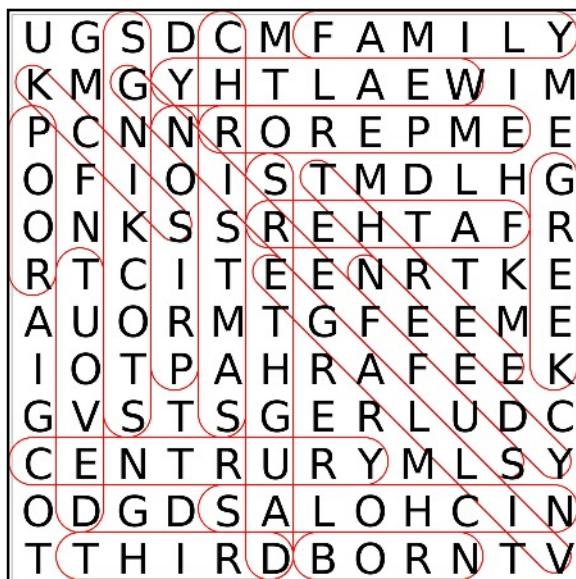
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## WORDSEARCH





## ILLINGWORTH ARLFC

Be part of the best sport in the world and join the rugby league family.

Why not contact us using our social media platforms and find out if you or your family members can join our ever growing club.  
Boys and Girls welcome!

**HAVE FUN - GET FIT - CHALLENGE YOURSELF**

Facebook Page: Illingworth ARLFC

Instagram: illygirlsrugby OR Illingworth ARLFC

Illingworth Sports and Social, Mason Green, Halifax, HX2 8HG

# IMMC TINY TOTS

At Illingworth Moor Methodist Church

Starting Wednesday  
11th September



**Every Wednesday**  
**8.45am – 10.30am**  
In school term time only.

**Cafe open for drinks & snacks.**

**A safe, caring and welcoming environment for parents, grandparents and carers and their infants and toddlers.**

Contact Tracy for more details  
Email: [immctracy@gmail.com](mailto:immctracy@gmail.com)  
Phone/WhatsApp/Text: 07842411236



**Toys, story and singing every week as well as a chance to chat with others.**

## ALL IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

### *It was:*

750 years ago, on 25 Dec 274 that the Roman Emperor Aurelian founded the cult of Sol Invictus as an official religion. He erected a temple and declared 25<sup>th</sup> December a national holiday, to be known as the Feast of the Unconquered Sun. In 336, after the conversion of the Emperor Constantine, 25<sup>th</sup> December began to be celebrated by the church in Rome as the birthday of God's Son.

500 years ago, on 24<sup>th</sup> Dec 1524 that Vasco da Gama, Portuguese explorer, died of malaria. He was the first European to reach India by sea.

200 years ago, on 21<sup>st</sup> Dec 1824 that James Parkinson, British surgeon and politician, died. He was the first person to describe Parkinson's disease, in 1817.

125 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 1899 that Henry Tate, British sugar merchant and philanthropist, died. He established the Tate Gallery in London.

Also 125 years ago, on 16<sup>th</sup> Dec 1899 that Noel Coward, British playwright, composer, director, actor and singer, was born. His plays include *Hay Fever*, *Private Lives*, and *Blithe Spirit*.

80 years ago, from 16<sup>th</sup> Dec 1944 to 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 1945 that the Battle of the Bulge (Belgium) took place. German forces launched a surprise assault on the Allies in the Ardennes Forest – their last major counter-offensive operation of the war.

75 years ago, on 13<sup>th</sup> Dec 1949 that Jerusalem became the capital of Israel, replacing Tel Aviv.

60 years ago, on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 1964 that Donald Campbell broke the world water speed record, and became the only person to break both the land speed record and the water speed record in the same year.

50 years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 1974 that the last episode of the TV comedy series *Monty Python's Flying Circus* was broadcast in the UK. It had begun in October 1969.

40 years ago, on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 1984 that the Bank of England stopped producing one pound notes. They remained legal tender until 1988.

30 years ago, on 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 1994 that Sinn Fein held its first formal talks with the British government. This eventually led to the IRA ceasefire, the Good Friday Agreement, and the establishment of the Northern Ireland Assembly in 1998.

25 years ago, on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 1999 that the London Eye – the world's tallest Ferris wheel at the time, was officially opened on the banks of the River Thames. It opened to passengers in March 2000.

20 years ago, on 26<sup>th</sup> Dec 2004 that the Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami (also called the Boxing Day Tsunami) took place. A massive undersea earthquake near Sumatra caused a devastating tsunami that swamped coastal areas in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Thailand and East Africa. It was one of the deadliest natural disasters in recorded history, killing more than 230,000 people in 14 countries.





## Mouse Makes

"Jesus said,  
I am the \_\_\_\_ Y  
and the \_\_\_\_ U \_\_\_\_  
and the \_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_.  
No one comes to the Father  
except through me."  
*John 14:6*

"The child to be born  
will be called  
H \_\_\_\_ , the  
\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_"  
*Luke 1:35*

"For unto you is born  
this day a  
S \_\_\_\_  
who is  
\_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_  
the \_\_\_\_ R \_\_\_\_"  
*Luke 2:11*

## THE GREATEST GIFT

"She will bear a son,  
and shall call his name

\_\_\_\_\_  
for he will save his  
people from their sins."  
*Matthew 1:21*

"Jesus said,  
I am the

\_\_\_\_\_  
and the life."  
*John 11:25*

B L I G H T L O  
R A Y W O J J R  
E M M A N U E L  
A B Y J E S O  
D S A V I O U R  
S A V R J S D

O H O L Y O R C R T U  
S O N O F M A N H A R T  
N L S H E P H E R D U  
O Y A E P E R G I F T G  
C H R I S T M A S T H S  
R E S U R R E C T I O N

**JESUS**  
—  
**THE**  
**GREATEST**  
**GIFT**  
**OF ALL!**

P R O P H E T I  
R E D E E M E R  
I E M I L I G  
E M E S S I A H  
S R M E G F T  
T E A C H E R E

E V E R L A S T I N G  
K I N G O F K I N G S  
I N K I G W F D O U  
S E S O N O F G O D D  
S E W O C O U W O R D  
C O U N S E L L O R U

EMMANUEL • MESSIAH • REDEEMER • KING OF KINGS • WORD  
SON OF MAN • EVERLASTING • SHEPHERD • PRIEST • PROPHET • TEACHER  
LIGHT • BREAD • VINE • DOOR • LAMB • COUNSELLOR • CHRISTMAS • GIFT

Find the words from the Bible verses too!

Dec24 © deborah noble @ parishpump.co.uk

## BEECHWOOD ROAD LIBRARY

The Staff at Beechwood Road Library are looking forward to welcoming old and new members to visit them during any of the following opening hours:

**Monday 10 am - 5 pm**

**Thursday 10 am - 5 pm**

**Friday 10 am - 5 pm**

**Saturday 10 am - 1 pm**



## Yorkshire Smokefree Service

### THINKING ABOUT STOPPING SMOKING?

Did you know we now offer **VAPES** as well as nicotine replacement therapy?

We're here to help you through your quit journey

If you're ready to stop smoking give us a call to make an appointment to suit you!

01422 262373 (local number)

[https://yorkshiresmokefree.nhs.uk/  
pages/callback-request](https://yorkshiresmokefree.nhs.uk/pages/callback-request)

## WHAT SORT OF A CHRISTMAS CARD PERSON ARE YOU?

The time to send and receive Christmas cards has come round again – time for our annual shock at the cost of a coloured card, and disbelief at what the Post Office intends to charge us to deliver them.

It seems there are three kinds of people when it comes to Christmas cards: the total abstainers, the total givers and the selective givers.



Abstainers write 'Happy Christmas everyone' on Facebook, and consider the job well done. Total givers spend a fortune on cards and stamps and send them to everyone they know. Selective givers try to cut corners, but then cannot remember who sent who what, and as the cards pour through their door, spend time worrying...

However you do it, it is good to stay in yearly touch with your widest circle of friends and family. Proverbs points out that: 'Like cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.' Prov 25:25. Your loved ones will enjoy hearing from you!



## SMILE LINES

### **What do you get Dad?**

December is the month when the family begins to discuss what to get Dad for Christmas. Some argue for a shirt; others hold out for a pair of socks.

But the argument usually ends in a tie.

### **Christmas gifts**

Grandfather was talking to his grand-daughter, "When I was a child all we got for Christmas was an apple and an orange." The little girl clapped her hands in joy.

"Brilliant! I'd love a new computer and a mobile!"

### **Christmas shopping**

It was Christmas and the judge was in a benign mood as he asked the prisoner what he was charged with. "Doing my Christmas shopping early," replied the man.

"Why, that's no offence," said the judge. "How early were you doing it?"

"Before the store opened," replied the defendant.

### **Father Christmas**

Of course, I had expected that by the age of seven it was inevitable that my son would begin to have serious thoughts about Father Christmas. Sure enough, one day near Christmas he suddenly said: "Mum, I know something about Father Christmas, the Easter Bunny and the Tooth Fairy." Taking a deep breath, I asked him what that might be. "Easy," he said, "They are all nocturnal."

### **Nativity scene**

"Here's a king!" announced the five-year-old as he unwrapped a figurine from the Christmas decorations box. "Here's a donkey!" he added a moment later.

Then he removed the tissue from another figure, finding the infant Jesus moulded permanently into the little manger. The child exclaimed, "And here's Baby Jesus in his car seat!"

### **Snow**

One snowman said sadly to the other, "All our friends are flakes."

### **Fragile Nativity**

A couple visited their son and his family for Christmas, and admired their beautiful nativity set in the hallway. The grandfather asked his young granddaughter if she knew what it was. "Oh yes," she said immediately. "Of course I do. It's breakable."

### **Holly**

Knock, knock! Who's there? Holly. Holly who? Holly-days are here again!

### **Sign for Christmas**

An old country preacher wanted a sign that told people driving on the nearby dual carriageway about the miracle of Christmas. So he sent a short message to the general store in the village.

This story picks up at the sign-making company and the astonished clerk who received the message. The message that she read was: "Unto us a child is born, 6 ft long and 3 ft wide."

### **You can tell**

You can tell a lot about a person by the way they handle three things: a rainy day, lost luggage, and tangled Christmas tree lights.





## *Sequence & Ballroom Dancing*

**Forest Cottage, Cousin Lane, Illingworth,  
HX2 8DA**

**Everyone Welcome - Singles and Couples**

**Tuesdays and Thursdays 1.45 pm to 4 pm**

*(The last dance before Christmas is on Tuesday, 10th December  
and the first one in the New Year is on Thursday, 2nd January)*

£2.50 per person includes tea and biscuits

For more information ring 01422 248080



**CAR BOOT SALE &  
TABLE TOP SALE AT  
OSCA FOUNDATION**



**Forest Cottage, Cousin Lane, HX2 8AD**

**On Sundays 8th December and**

**5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Sellers arrive from 8 am Buyers start 8.30 am**

**Book your £10 table with Neil 07530874386.**

**If you prefer to sell outside you must provide your own table.**

**Light refreshments will be on sale.**

## **ANDY'S MAN CLUB**

**Meets every Monday from 7 pm (exc. Bank holidays) at  
Halifax Rugby Union Football Club, Keighley Road,  
Ovenden, HX2 8AR**

## THE EVERLASTING TURKEY

On the first day of Christmas my true love said to me  
I've bought a big fresh turkey and a proper Christmas tree.  
On the second day of Christmas much laughter could be heard  
As we tucked into our turkey – a most delicious bird.  
On the third day of Christmas people came from just next door,  
The turkey tasted just as good as it had done before.  
On the fourth day of Christmas came relations young and old  
We finished up the Christmas pud and had the turkey cold.  
On the fifth day of Christmas, outside the snowflakes scurried,  
But we were nice and warm inside, and had the turkey curried.  
On the sixth day of Christmas, the Christmas spirit died.  
The children fought and bickered – we had the turkey rissoles fried.  
On the seventh day of Christmas my true love he did wince  
When he sat down at table - and was  
offered turkey mince.  
On the eighth day of Christmas, the  
dog had run for shelter,  
For he'd seen our turkey pancakes  
and the glass of alka-seltzer.  
On the ninth day of Christmas, by  
lunchtime dad was blotto,  
He knew that bird was back again,  
this time as a risotto.  
On the tenth day of Christmas we were drinking home-made brew,  
Anything to help us face that steaming turkey stew.  
On the eleventh day of Christmas our lovely tree was moulting,  
And with chilli, soy and oyster sauce, the turkey was revolting.  
On the twelfth day of Christmas we had smiles back on our lips.



The guests had gone, the turkey too – **WE DINED ON FISH AND CHIPS.**

## CHURCHES TOGETHER

**On Saturday, 21st December from  
12 noon until 1 pm  
representatives from local  
Churches will be Carol Singing at  
Morrisons Supermarket**





**OSCA FOUNDATION (based at Forest Cottage, Cousin Lane, Halifax, HX2 8DA)**

**Activities to be held in November**

Monday: 6.30 pm to 8 pm Taekwondo  
Tuesday: 12 noon Walking Football (outside)  
Tuesday: 2 pm to 4 pm Old Tyme / Modern Sequence Dancing  
Tuesday: 6.30 pm to 8 pm Taekwondo  
Wednesday: 6.30 pm to 8 pm Taekwondo  
Thursday: 9.45 am to 10.45 am Keep Fit  
Thursday: 2 pm to 4 pm Old Tyme / Modern Sequence Dancing  
Thursday: 6 pm to 9 pm Youth Club 13 years -19 years  
Thursday: 6.30 pm - 8.30 pm Enderby Hall Halifax Gateway Club

**Floodlit All Weather 5 a-side football 3G pitch** available for hire seven days a week at competitive prices.

**Ovenden West Riding Junior Football Club** at OSCA Foundation. Kick off times from 9.30 am through till 12 noon. Teams from u/5 through to u/14 for both boys and girls. New and old players welcome. Contact Steve on 07727860731

**Ovenden West Riding u/13 boys team** are wanting to add to their successful squad, new players for next season. Players must be u/13 before August 31st. For more information please phone either Paul on 07825678212 or Lewy on 07833164375.

**Ovenden West Riding AFC Junior Football Club** are inviting boys/girls at Reception & Year 1 age to commence training on Tuesdays at Forest Cottage at 5.15 pm. Training will be on their all weather pitch. All abilities welcome. For more information contact Amir Bashir 07711148026

**Ovenden West Riding Girls' Football** section are looking for new Lionesses to join their u/10 girls training squad. Girls need to be under 10 before August 31<sup>st</sup> 2024. More information about training contact Heath on 07961209093 or Nial on 07922089240.

**Ovenden West Riding** are holding trials for their newly formed u/14 team for next season, interested players should contact "Peanut" on 07904241645

**Function rooms along with various rooms are available for hire at very competitive prices.** *Receptions, Funerals, Parties, any form of event can be catered for.*

For further information on all activities give Steve a call on 07727860731.



**CREW is a local registered charity**

**“Aiming to keep Calderdale fit and healthy”**

We have an exercise class at Forest Cottage every  
Thursday at 9.45 am

**We have walk-it health walks of 60 - 150 minutes**

**Monday 1 pm Beechwood Medical Centre - 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> January**

**Keighley Road Medical Centre, Illingworth - 16<sup>th</sup> December & 13<sup>th</sup> January**

**Wainstalls (all walks start & finish at Wainstalls bus turning circle)**

**Wednesday, 1 pm - 11<sup>th</sup> December & 29<sup>th</sup> January**

**Every Friday 10 am Illingworth Moor Methodist Church Appro.x 4 miles**

**All of our information is on our website**

**[www.crewheartsupport.co.uk](http://www.crewheartsupport.co.uk) / [crewpartners.hsg@gmail.com](mailto:crewpartners.hsg@gmail.com)**

## **THE GROWING MENACE OF SHOP-LIFTING**

Christmas shopping this year will be done by two sorts of shopper: those who intend to pay - and those who don't.

And the 'those who don't' category is now so huge that stores across the country have been reporting on average two thefts each and every minute. According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS), that equates to more than 9,000 reported offences a week, or 1,290 a day.



Retailers warn that the crisis adds at least 6p to every store transaction, and the losses stand at £1.8 billion of stolen goods each year, according to the British Retail Consortium. A further £700 million is having to be spent on extra security.

But the police-recorded figures are only a fraction of the total amount stolen, as most shops only report the crime to the police when they catch the offender in the act, or have CCTV or other evidence.



The Local Activities (LA) Group in Illingworth and Bradshaw was formed specifically to improve the health and wellbeing of people over 50 in this area of Halifax. If you are interested in meeting new friends and doing new activities please get in touch via one of the following ways:

Facebook: **Illingworth & Bradshaw Local Activities Group** / Ring the Secretary on 01422 249070 / attend one of the activities

The Bowling Section of the LA Group meet every Monday at 10 am at Holmfield Bowling Club, Holmfield - 1st April to 30th September.

**We run day trips to the seaside or places of interest & have other social events throughout the year.**

## **ALL THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES ARE HELD AT ILLINGWORTH MOOR METHODIST CHURCH**

### **TUESDAYS**

**KEEP FIT** from 10 am to 11 am £4.00

*Not too hard, but not too easy!*

*This is a fun aerobic exercise class to get you fit and keep you healthy*

**NEW AGE KURLING** from 11.15 am - 12.15 pm £2.00

*Both the above activities are suitable for a range of abilities*

**SITTING DOWN PILATES** from 11.15 am to 12 noon £3.50

### **WEDNESDAYS**

**CRAFTY CLUB** from 10.00 am - 12 noon £2.00

*Join the friendly group for knitting, card making and other crafts*

*Refreshments available from the Church Cafe*

### **THURSDAYS**

**INTERMEDIATE PILATES** from 9.45 am - 10.45 am £4.00

**BEGINNERS PILATES** from 11 am - 12 noon £4.00

*To improve core stability and strength*

**\*\*\* NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME \*\*\***

## **CHURCH CONTACTS**

### **Holy Nativity Church, the Church of England Parish of Mixenden and Illingworth**

Minister: Rev Robb Sutherland  
Tel: 01422 353929  
Address: Holy Nativity Church, Sunnybank Road,  
Mixenden, HX2 8RX  
Web: [www.holynativity.co.uk](http://www.holynativity.co.uk)  
Facebook: [holynativitymix](https://www.facebook.com/holynativitymix)  
Twitter: [@holynativitymix](https://twitter.com/holynativitymix)

### **St Malachy's**

Parish Priest: Mgr Michael McQuinn  
Tel: 01422 361682  
Email: [office.stmalachy@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:office.stmalachy@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)  
Address: St Columba's Presbytery, Highroad Well Lane,  
Halifax, HX2 0QF

### **Illingworth Moor Methodist Church, Keighley Road, Illingworth, Halifax, HX2 9LL**

Minister: Rev Tony Morling  
Tel: 01422 768092  
Web: [www.illingworthmoor.org.uk](http://www.illingworthmoor.org.uk)  
Facebook: Illingworth Moor Methodist Church  
Facebook: Illingworth Moor Church Good As New Shop  
Centre Manager: [immccentremanager@gmail.com](mailto:immccentremanager@gmail.com)  
Children & Schools Worker: [immctracy@gmail.com](mailto:immctracy@gmail.com)  
Tracy Brennan: 07842411236

*The last day for contributions to be included in the  
FEBRUARY 2025 edition is FRIDAY, 24TH JANUARY 2025*

Items can be handed in to your Church representative or sent direct to  
the Editor: Irene Mulhall at [greenwoodtree7@gmail.com](mailto:greenwoodtree7@gmail.com)  
Tel: 01422 249070