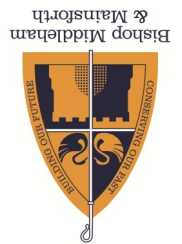




# From our Parish Christmas Address



## Village Store and Post Office Christmas Opening

### Store

- \* Christmas Eve - 6am-1pm
- \* Christmas Day - Closed
- \* Boxing Day - 8-9am
- \* Tues 27th - 8-11am then 5-8pm
- \* New Year's Eve - 6am-1pm then 4-7pm
- \* New Year's Day - 8-11am then 4-7pm
- \* Mon 2nd - 8-11am then 5-8pm
- \* All other week days as normal 6.15am - 1pm then 2-8pm (Post office 9am-1pm then 2pm-5.30pm)

### Post Office

- \* 9am-1pm
- \* Closed
- \* Closed
- \* Closed
- \* 9am-1pm
- \* Closed
- \* Closed



**A very Merry Christmas to all our customers**

**Last dates for posting 1st class is Wed 21st Dec and 2nd class is Tues 20th of Dec**

Remember we sell those lucky Christmas Lottery scratch cards to hide under the Christmas day dinner plates.

We also sell Christmas Yankee candles, wrapping paper, cards, sweets, beer, wine and soft drinks

### All the fun of the Christmas Fayre

Remember to support our local pubs this Christmas and if you fancy something a bit different this Yuletide why not try some Wild Boar, Venison or Bison from Farnless Farm in Bishop Middleham.

Drinking and driving don't mix, so give Travel 6, based in Bishop Middleham, a ring. Carole and Tony will be happy to offer taxi services to your Christmas events so that you can fully enjoy the Christmas cheer!



## Chairman's Christmas Chatter:



I've been looking back at what's been going on this year in our Parish: coffee mornings, bulb planting, murder mystery nights, pamper and shopping nights, scarecrows, fêtes, guided walks, historical talks, Charity runs and the horticultural show, the list could go on and on. Such a lot goes on in our Parish, it's been another great year. Keep an eye on the Community Facebook page and the Parish Council Notice Boards for news of upcoming events so that you can join in the fun. A big thanks goes to all those who make it happen; to our clerk Paul, our groundsman Scot, my fellow Councillors, and all our wonderful volunteers who continue to do so much to make our Parish such a great place to live.

I hope to see many of you at one of my favourite events, Christmas carols on the brewery field and the turning on of the Christmas tree lights, this year we are joined by the Ferryhill Town Brass Band and the event is followed by mince pies and mulled wine at the Fleece. The signal that Christmas is really here!

Finally, may I once again call on you all to be extra good neighbours through the Winter. Please check on the elderly and infirm, help clear the snow, offer company to the lonely. Small acts of kindness make a huge difference.

### Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Julie Hall: Chair of the Parish Council

### Other News:

After a successful recruitment campaign **Happy Days pre-school** group's future has been secured and has also started its own Facebook page for members past & present to join. Also, with a new member of staff joining and after 26yrs in the group, Pauline Fawcett is taking the opportunity to move to one day per week. The group are glad Pauline remains involved and thank her for her continued valuable contribution over the years. For more info please contact: Sue Newton 01740 656935.

**The B Network** is calling for more volunteers in our Parish to help tackle social isolation. Volunteers make weekly visits to isolated people, aged 50+, in their homes and communities. They befriend, support and offer encouragement, as well as being a friendly visitor to chat, reminisce and have a cuppa with. For more info: contact: Tony@cornforthpartnership.org , 01740 652000

### Xmas dates for your diary

11th Dec	Christmas Tree Carols. On the Brewery Field 4pm (followed by mince pies & mulled wine in the Fleece)
18th Dec	Parish Carol Service 6.30pm St Michael's Bishop Middleham
20th Dec	Christmas Quiz 9pm at the Cross Keys
24th Dec	Crib Service 4pm Midnight Mass 11.30pm both at St Michael's

### Village Hall



For over 50 years the Village Hall has been managed by volunteers from our community. We continue to build on the achievements of the past, to encourage community cohesion and support health & well-being in the present day through the provision of social, recreational and educational activities and we plan to maintain the Hall for future generations. Many thanks to the committee members, past and present for your continued support. Keep an eye on the Parish notice boards and like the [Bishop Middleham Village Hall Facebook page](#) to receive all the latest news and events. Hall details including a timetable of activities can also be found online at [southdurhamhalls.org.uk](http://southdurhamhalls.org.uk). IT drop in/support sessions are being planned for 2017. If you need help or advice, or you can offer some, please keep an eye out for details in the new year. Email: [bishopmiddlehamvillagehall@outlook.com](mailto:bishopmiddlehamvillagehall@outlook.com)