



**INSPIRE**

**St John's Church  
Ranmoor, Sheffield**

**Dec 2024/  
Jan 2025  
£1.00**



ST JOHN'S CHURCH, RANMOOR



CHRISTMAS

EXTRAVAGANZA

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music with audience carols

St John's  
Church choir

SATURDAY  
7<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER  
7.30PM

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[WWW.STJOHNSRANMOOR.ORG.UK](http://WWW.STJOHNSRANMOOR.ORG.UK)

# **St John's Church, Ranmoor**

Parish Office, Ranmoor Parish Centre,  
5 Ranmoor Park Road, Sheffield, S10 3GX  
Tel: 0114 230 1199

Website: [www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk)

St John's Church is a community whose vocation is to extend to all people the same welcome that we ourselves have received from God in Christ. Our worship, enriched by our strong musical and choral traditions, is at the heart of our community's shared life. The gospel calls us to lives of discipleship, informed by reflection and marked by care for one another, by a passion for justice, and by a commitment to the service of our local and wider community.

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Cover photo by Philip Walshaw

**Large print versions of Inspire are available**

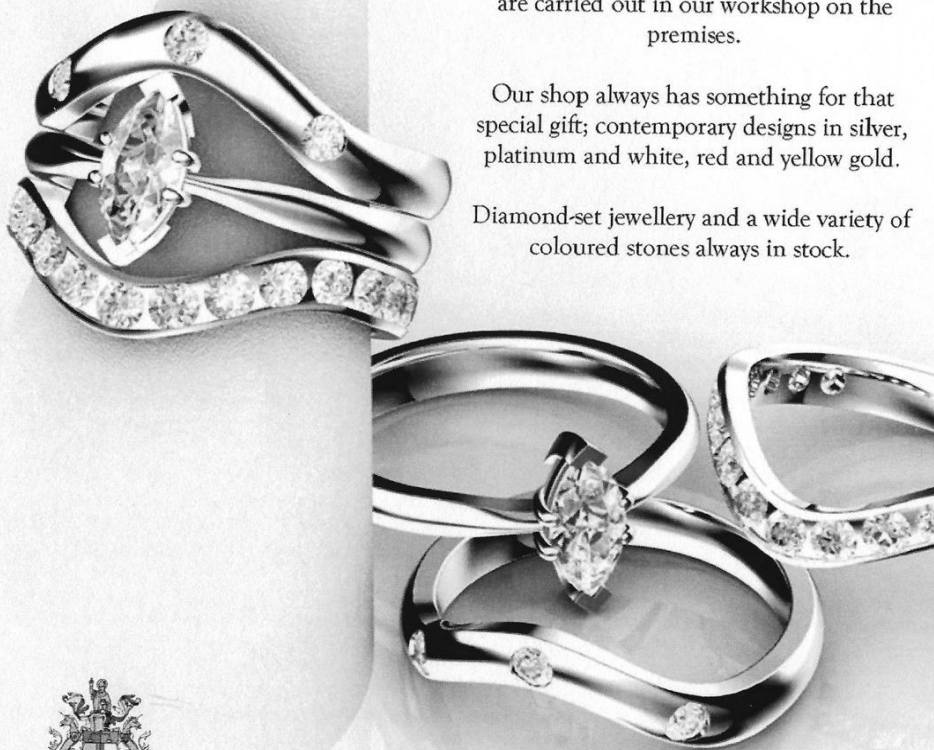
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## Foreword



One of the threads that runs through this edition of Inspire is food. You can read about it in John Green's article and of course in Roy Stanley's restaurant review. Food plays an important (if sometimes complicated) role in the lives of many of us and perhaps especially at this time of the year. Food is also an important theme that runs through the Bible. As we will hear at our service of Nine Lessons and Carols on 22nd

December, food has been our undoing right from the beginning. Adam and Eve ate of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and were cast out of paradise.

Throughout the Bible, food has played an important role in the relationship between God and his people. From manna in the wilderness to the feeding of the five thousand, food has been an expression of God's overwhelming love and generosity. Jesus frequently used meals, and stories about meals, to teach people about the kingdom of God.

In the coming weeks, we may catch glimpses of heaven in the meals we share with others. We are also called to remember those who are excluded from life's banquet in different ways. Thank you to all those who have contributed to Burngreave Foodbank and to those who will reach out to others who may be alone this Christmas.

Each Christmas, I am always struck by the fact that Bethlehem means 'house of bread'. Somehow, the birth of a tiny child two thousand years ago is able to feed our deepest hungers. Our need for connection, meaning and love. That tiny child went on to offer himself as food for the world. In bread and wine we can draw closer to God and one another. Throughout the year but perhaps especially at Christmas, Jesus invites each and every one of us and says, 'Come and eat.'

**Matthew**

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## From the Editor's Chair



“Are you ready?” is a question people ask around this time of year. This phrase came into my head a couple of weeks ago when I observed a couple of magpies flying to and from a tree near our house with twigs in their beaks.

On closer inspection, I could see they were actually building a nest. Is it something to do with climate change?, I mused. Don't they know it's (nearly) Christmas?! But then I looked at the

RSPB website which confirmed that magpies often start the nest building process very early, sometimes as early as November and December, because they have quite a task on their hands as they build large nests! The actual breeding usually kicks off in March and April.

So are you ready for Christmas? And what are you ready for? Christmas is one of the most hectic times of the year; there is just so much to get ready! Is the food ordered? Are all the presents bought and wrapped? Have the Christmas cards been posted? Is there enough food to see us over until the shops open next? Have I forgotten something? Not least of all those who will not be able to enjoy Christmas this year.

All the preparations help to make Christmas such a special time of year, but before the very first Christmas it was God who was getting the world ready to meet His son. God's Christmas plan is for us to be ready for Him today. We should remember that the baby whom God sent that first Christmas is still His message of hope, joy, and peace to us today.

***Philip Walshaw***

## **Advent Study Group and Quiet Morning**

### **Advent Study Group**

This Advent we shall be looking at the Nativity from the perspective of different women who were part of the story. We will be exploring the personal stories of these women - some of whom are clearly named in the bible, whilst others are fictional but someone like them might have existed.

We shall be using for our studies Paula Gooder's book 'Women of the Nativity' (ISBN 978-1-78140-460-7). This consists of nine imagined stories all from the perspective of women.

In our three weekly study groups we shall be looking at stories based on the matriarchs and the patriarchs, the prophets and John the Baptist. They take us on a journey through Advent in this time of watching and waiting patiently for the birth of our Saviour this Christmastide.

Our weekly study group will take place on Thursday 5th, 12th and 19th December at 2.30pm. We will meet in Room 2 in the Parish Centre. Please bring a bible with you. (It is not essential to have the book). Revd. Alison Wragg will lead each session.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of Church if you would like to join this group.

### **Advent Quiet Morning**

We are again holding an Advent Quiet Morning on Saturday 14th December from 9.30 - 12.30 in church. Tea and coffee will be served at 9.30am and our reflections will commence at 10.00am. There will be four short reflections based on the stories of Mary and Shiphrah from 'Women of the Nativity' by Paula Gooder. Each reflection will be



followed by a time of silence when a number of silent activities will be available at different stations in church. The morning will conclude with a silent eucharist. The morning will be led by Alison.

We do hope you will make space in the busy build-up to Christmas to join us on the Advent journey and discover afresh the story of Christmas.

There is a sign-up sheet at the back of Church if you would like to participate in our Advent quiet time.

***Alison Wragg and Sandra Green***



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## Church floral decorations for Christmas



We will be decorating the church on **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December** between 9.45am – 12.00am and need lots of arrangers to help us please. We will be continuing to produce eco - friendly arrangements and shall be using potted plants on the window sills this year. We have a simple design in mind and we will guide you through the design on the day.

Sandra and Jackie will purchase the plants for the window sills and the flowers for the pedestals from the market. If you are new to flower arranging and are interested in learning we are a very friendly group of people and we will gladly give you help and encouragement on the day.

Or perhaps you might like to just come along and watch the arrangements take shape! If you would like to help or be involved, please could you get in touch with us.

Thank you.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Jackie Lowe 0114 2303999 [jackielowe22@btconnect.com](mailto:jackielowe22@btconnect.com)

Sandra Green 0114 2309180 [sandra.green70@gmail.com](mailto:sandra.green70@gmail.com)

### **Donations towards the cost of Christmas Flowers**

We rely on the generous donations of the congregation to be able to purchase flowers to decorate the church and we would be very grateful for any donations towards the Christmas flowers please. Thank you.



St John's Church, Ranmoor

# Organ Recitals 2024-25

All recitals begin at 8pm

FREE entry with a retiring collection towards the maintenance of the organ.

3rd October

**Andrew Kirk**

(Bristol)

7th November

**Philip Collin**

(St John's, Ranmoor)

5th December

**Peter Heginbotham**

(St John's, Ranmoor)

9th January

**Peter Siepmann**

(St Peter's, Nottingham)

6th February

**Derek Grover**

(St John's, Ranmoor)

6th March

**James Mitchell**

(Sheffield Cathedral)

1st May

**Oliver King**

(St Mary's, Saffron Walden)

5th June

**Julian Gunn**

(St John's, Ranmoor)



## Eco Church Group: “Jigsaw” Food

by John Green

*“Why eat what is not bread..... Isaiah 55 v 2*

I’m looking forward to Christmas and New Year, having spent last year in A&E and in bed with chest infections! When wondering what to write about, in an edition, which spans Christmas treats and New Year diet resolutions to “lose weight and get fit”, I’ve opted for the latter.

We wrote last month about re-visiting our Eco-church targets and “striving for gold”, where we can, in lifestyle and food choices. I’m currently reading the best-selling book by one of the TV medical twins, Chris van Tulleken, called “Ultra Processed People”. If there was ever an explanation of ‘you are what you eat’ then this is it. The author is also a medical researcher with a great interest in what he calls Ultra Processed Food (UPF). Most of our food is processed in some way, whether it’s flour milling, pasteurised milk, fermented yoghurt, canned beans or frozen peas.

He explains that we are now eating more processed food that is made from basic Carbohydrate, Protein and Fat molecules (CPF) re-assembled into a “food-like” substance - think savoury snacks, highly flavoured salty crisps and chocolate breakfast cereals. Big food companies source cheap raw materials that provide the basic molecules that are re-assembled, with a long list of chemical ingredients such as flavourings and emulsifiers, to make them look, smell and taste like food: rather like the pieces of a jigsaw, these UPF food molecule structures are representative of food, rather than the real thing (and may even taste like cardboard! ).

The main driver of this innovation is to provide cheap, affordable food and the idea has been around a long time, certainly since the time of Queen Victoria and the days of Empire. Migration from the countryside to growing industrial cities separated workers from fresh seasonal food, so making food transportable and storable became essential. Older readers will remember the grocers' shops of old with lots of branded products such as Bird's Custard powder, Bisto gravy browning and Camp Coffee. Developing markets in the Empire enabled these 'dry goods' to travel huge distances without deterioration. Storing food in dry form prevents things going-off as bacteria need water to thrive. Even drinks like IPA beer were developed to withstand the long sea journey to India. Grocers of old also sold ingredients such as flour, sugar and salt whilst their butter and cheese were ways of storing milk.

The increased affordability of fridges and freezers in the 70s and 80s helped the growth of frozen food - fresh meat and vegetables at first then the birth of 'TV dinners', now known as 'ready meals'; made from fresh ingredients but containing increasing amounts of salt and 'hidden sugar'. In the early 90s, I was a Dental Public Health board member of SUSTAIN, the food and farming lobby organisation and these high levels of salt and sugar were our main focus.

How things have changed - the ingredient lists of many foods are long and puzzling - inverted corn syrup, maize starch, mechanically recovered meat and others that sound like chemicals and probably are. You certainly can't buy them in normal food shops. Back in the 90s these products acquired the name of 'Frankenstein' foods but they became the norm with supermarket ready-meals and local 'take-aways'. There was an old joke about these Chinese take-aways that went "It was so nice, I wanted another one straight-away". Mono-Sodium Glutamate was probably the culprit but it's now the norm, as these UPFs are designed to leave you full but still hungry. If you want to try this out compare the ease of consuming a whole packet of branded crisps with a handful of basic Tortilla chips and see which one leaves you satisfied. The Tortilla chips contain only 3 ingredients - Cornflour, vegetable oil and salt.

There is a great deal more in this well researched book but I'll leave you



with the most striking conclusion - can these UPFs be the cause of the obesity crisis? There is good evidence that their mysterious ingredients actually re-wire our metabolism and suppress the 'satiating response' ie when we feel full. We have been re-programmed by UPFs, to keep eating. This may be because these foods are almost pre-digested and so could be absorbed in the gut before they reach the receptors that trigger the response that tells us we feel full. The association between obesity, poverty and UPF consumption is becoming clearer. People living in low income areas have reduced access to fresh food, affordable energy for cooking and probably less time to cook, with long hours and the gig economy. Take-away shops are certainly more prevalent in these areas. Let's hope contributions to food banks help to off-set some of these disadvantages.

What is more worrying is that the industrial manufacture of food from jigsaw pieces (CPF molecules) means that micro-nutrients are stripped out of the fresh crops which are thought to be vital for growth and development. Nutrition in early years is critical to the development of the long bones and there is evidence that youngsters in the UK are shorter than their counterparts in the Netherlands and Denmark. The worrying question is - are we becoming malnourished as well as obese?

What's all this got to do with the Festive Season? The Christmas meal is when we try to cook with fresh ingredients - turkey and all the trimmings, which certainly triggers the satiating response. In spite of that, we over-indulge and the New Year diet resolutions can be our corrective. However, diet foods can be a UPF minefield - low-fat (and high sugar) diet shakes and even some vegan 'meats' are often highly processed with long, impenetrable list of ingredients. So maybe our New Year resolutions (and Eco-Church targets) ought to be:-

- Read the book to learn more about UPFs (*Ultra Processed People* by Chris van Tulleken (Penguin books 2024)
- Scrutinise long ingredient lists
- Eat less "Jigsaw" food and more whole food

**and Enjoy Your Christmas Dinner!**

## Church on Holiday: Holy Trinity, Kendal by Jane Dalrymple

Andrew and I recently spent a week in the Lake District, staying at Andrew's birthplace – Kendal. Having left there at 19 years old, it was



an interesting journey back to his former haunts, noting changes (of which there are many) and enjoying those reassuringly familiar places too. Kendal has, like many other towns, lost much of its individuality on the high street, and is recovering from the effects of the pandemic. Nevertheless, because of its topography – steep slopes towards the west, and its

proximity to the Lakeland mountains and the Howgill hills, as well as its history, it remains an appealing, historic and interesting town. The history in of Kendal is steeped in the wool industry; the name of one of the steep lanes- Tenter Fell – is where they used to tether the wool on the tenterhooks to stretch and dry it.

At the time of the building of the parish church, the main industry was the manufacture of woollen goods; its importance is reflected in the town's coat of arms and in its Latin motto *Pannus mihi panis* (Cloth is my bread.) "Kendal Green" was a hard-wearing, wool-based fabric specific to the local manufacturing process. It was supposedly sported by the Kendalian archers, instrumental in the English victory over the French at the Battle of Agincourt. Kendal Green was noted by Shakespeare as the colour of clothing worn by foresters (*Henry IV, Part 1*). The wool industry was later replaced by K Shoes as a major employer, sadly also gone from the town.

One of Kendal's treasures is its Parish Church of the Holy Trinity, the

oldest building in Kendal and the Kent Valley, and which sits on the banks of the River Kent. Like many other English churches of its age, it has the shaft of a 9<sup>th</sup> century vine decorated Anglo-Saxon cross on display, and the church is mentioned in the Domesday Book.



Holy Trinity really is an impressive parish church with its five aisles, making it one of the widest Parish Churches in the country and consequently possibly one of the lightest. The most famous of these aisles, and most beautiful in my opinion, is the north aisle, with its ceiling decorated with over 90 angels made of wood, stone or glass. Prior to the old Grammar School being built in 1588, the boys were taught on forms here in the north aisle. The south aisle was built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century to accommodate all the Flemish weavers who came to work in Kendal's thriving wool industry.

The church is of such a size as to have chapels dedicated to local noble families, the most renowned being the Parr family, as in Katherine Parr, built in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, and which now houses the aforementioned Saxon cross shaft. The Strickland family lives still at Sizergh Castle (which we also visited), and the 13<sup>th</sup> century Strickland Chapel is decorated with their coat of arms of three cockle shells, similar to that of Santiago de Compostela. A small chapel is dedicated to St Thomas—A- Becket containing 15<sup>th</sup> century pews. The 16<sup>th</sup> century Bellingham Chapel was built by Sir Roger Bellingham of nearby Levens Hall, the latter now owned by the Bagot family, and a house well worth visiting if you are in the area.

I was fortunate to be able to attend the morning Parish Communion Service at the church, which was welcoming, somewhat traditional in its Common Worship format, and accompanied by the church choir seated close to the relatively newly positioned altar towards the front of the nave. I was intrigued by the presence of two organs, both of which were

used in the service. I was told that in wealthier times – at the beginning of the century, an organ in South Wales came up for sale and it was the Vicar at the time who was keen to acquire it. This was placed to the north side of the altar, and the original one remained under the tower at the west end of the nave. However, the purchase of the second organ has become a blessing, as the main organ now needs to be dismantled due to a major leak in the tower, so will be out of commission for quite some time.



Sitting in the service allowed me to absorb the atmosphere of this ancient church, to appreciate its stained-glass windows, and to notice the alterations made over the centuries. There were 3 ministers at the service, and the sermon was preached from the pulpit, something I haven't seen since Father Lionel came during our Interregnum! It is always reassuring when you go to a service in another church and everything, in effect, is familiar to you, and this was the case here. When we say the Lord's Prayer together, it takes me back to church services in Spain that I have attended where, although said in Spanish, it is the prayer that binds us together in our faith, no matter where we are.

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# ST JOHN'S CHURCH, RANMOOR

## OUR SERVICES & EVENTS DURING ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>, 12 & 19<sup>th</sup> December

2.30-4pm Advent Study Group  
Ranmoor Parish Centre

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December

10.30am All Age Communion with baptism  
6.30pm Advent Procession

### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December

5.30pm Choral Evensong

### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December

8pm Christmas Organ Recital  
Peter Heginbotham

### Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December

7.30pm Christmas Extravaganza 

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December

10.30am Parish Communion  
6.30pm Choral Evensong

### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection

### Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December

9.30am for 10am start  
Advent Quiet Morning followed by  
Silent Eucharist at midday


### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December

10.30am Parish Communion  
2.30pm Messy Church  
4pm Christingle  
6.30pm Choral Evensong

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December

10.30am Parish Communion  
6.30pm Nine Lessons and Carols

### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December

4pm Nativity   
11.30pm Midnight Mass

### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Day

10.30am Parish Communion

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December

10.30am Parish Communion (Said)  
No evening services at St Johns



Where you see **Ticketsource**, please go online and reserve a ticket. Christmas Extravaganza tickets are sold via **Ticketsource** or the Parish Office. If you cannot join us in person don't worry, as all our services listed here will be on Youtube too. (excluding the Christmas extravaganza)

To book through **Ticketsource** visit our **Christmas Services** page on the **St John's Ranmoor Website**

### Throughout December:

**Monday to Saturday:**  
9am Morning Prayer in Church & on ZOOM  
**Wednesdays:**  
11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre  
5.30pm Said Evensong

St John's Church, Ranmoor, Sheffield, S10 3GX  
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## CALENDAR - JANUARY 2025

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January

10.30am All Age Communion

6.30pm Epiphany Procession

### Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January

10-12.30pm Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

11.30am Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

12.30pm Lunch Club resumes after Christmas break

5.30pm Evening prayer

### Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January

10am Toddler and Baby Group

8pm Organ Recital with Peter Siepmann (St Peter's, Nottingham)



**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January**

**10.30am** Parish Communion

1-3pm Board Game Cafe

**6.30pm** Choral Evensong

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

**11.30am** Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

**12.30pm** Lunch Club

**5.30pm** Choral Evensong

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January**

**10am** Toddler and Baby Group

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

**10.30am** Parish Communion

**6.30pm** Choral Evensong

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January**

**7.30pm** PCC meets in the annexe

**Wednesday 22<sup>rd</sup> January**

**10-12.30pm** Foodbank Collection from the Church Drive

**11.30am** Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

12.30pm Wednesday Lunch Club

**5.30pm Evening Prayer**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> January**

**10am** Toddler and Baby Group

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January**

**10.30am** Parish Communion

**12.30pm** Sunday Social

**6.30pm** Choral Evensong

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January**

**7.30pm** Sanctuary in the side-chapel

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January**

**11.30am** Holy Communion in the Parish Centre

**12.30pm** Wednesday Lunch Club

**5.30pm Choral Evensong**

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January**

**10am** Toddler and Baby Group

### **Other services during the week:**

**Holy Communion:** Every Wednesday at 11.30am in the Parish Centre

**Choral Evensong:** Evensong Wednesdays at 5.30 pm (Choral Evensong every other week in term time, see Music List for details)

**Morning Prayer:** Monday to Saturday 9am in Church and on ZOOM

**Footsteps:** A Sunday school children's group that meets during the Sunday morning service.

Children are welcome at all of our services.

**Lunch Club:** meets every Wednesday in the Parish Centre. All Welcome – please book with the Parish Office

**Sunday Social:** Meets straight after the morning service on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

Please book with the Parish Office.

**Our Sunday Services** are always in Church and on YouTube

[www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk) 0114 230 1199

[administrator@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk](mailto:administrator@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk)

**The Parish Office is open Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays 9.30am-2.30pm**

## **Parish Registers**

**Please remember those who have died recently:**

Trevor Hartley

*Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.*

Our thoughts and prayers are with all the friends and families of those names listed.



*A reflective liturgy for  
Christmas week*



# ADVENT QUIET MORNING

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
09.30am-12.30pm

*9.30am Coffee / tea for 10am start.  
4 half hour sessions with  
reflections and prayer stations.  
Silent Eucharist at midday.*

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# NATIVITY

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December  
4pm

Book your place  
at our Nativity  
using the QR  
Code here:



In Church and on YouTube  
[www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsranmoor.org.uk)  
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# Christmas Word Search

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N I E N A Q Q T F T P N J T N  
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Decorations  
Celebrate  
Lights  
Giving

Candy Canes  
Ornament  
Presents  
Dinner

Christmas  
Reindeer  
Family  
Wreath

Mistletoe  
Cookies  
Elves  
Santa



## Restaurant Review: Pocha Korean Restaurant, Devonshire Street, Sheffield 3



I must admit, venturing into the extreme hinterland of Sheffield city centre on a cold wet winter night is not for the faint hearted. Indeed, why would anyone have any interest in leaving the cosy, Radio 4 listening environment of a highly civilized Ranmoor, to plunge into the potentially traumatic depths of a quaintly named 'Devonshire Quarter', far away from the reassuring, albeit claustrophobic, environment of Sheffield 10? Well in this instance, Korean food.

Sadly, the culinary delights of Korean cuisine have (until last Thursday) been, for me, an unfulfilled mystery. Actually, I've never really had any interest in Korean food until a friend, fresh from an exotic visit to South Korea, waxed lyrical about the local restaurant scene which is apparently thriving in that somewhat different part of our world. Whilst the concept of travelling to South Korea for an evening of exotic entertainment registers rather less in appeal than a cold, wet evening in Sheffield's 'Devonshire Quarter', this enthusiastic "hard sell" from a well-travelled friend created a spark of interest towards an unknown foreign cuisine.

A little research into our city's Korean restaurant potential seemed to indicate that the place to consummate this interest was "Pocha Korean Restaurant" - handily ensconced on Devonshire Street in the above-mentioned 'Devonshire Quarter'.



## **The Meal (part one)**

Pocha does not have a pre-booking system so any prospective punter has to hope that any journey to this, as yet unknown establishment, results in the availability of a table. Certainly not a given! Inevitably, when G and I actually arrive at Pocha - G having been prepared to accept the “no-entry” risk element - we are politely advised all tables are taken. I feel sure that you will agree however that fate is actually a two-way system. This concept being aptly demonstrated by a couple of diners departing during the “you can’t come in” conversation with the management, resulting in a complete reversal of “table availability” - and a fulsome welcome from the above-mentioned “management”. Great! Everything comes to he (or she) who waits.

## **The Meal (part two)**

Yes, I know - it’s been a long, drawn-out diatribe - but try to keep going as the meal description, review or whatever, is just about to start (hopefully!) Actually, it’s amazing how easy it is to become “side tracked” when writing these things. If you are now completely bored, irritated, wondering why on earth you have wasted so much time reading this rubbish, rip the offending pages out of this erudite periodical and write a letter of complaint to the editor! No doubt any such communications will (understandably) be ignored, but at least you will probably have removed a fair amount of undesirable angst. Actually, a strong G&T works even better!

When it arrived, the Korean menu proved to be totally incomprehensible! Fortunately, we were close to a table of young Korean men who proved incredibly helpful in interpreting and advising how to choose, and participate in the mechanics of actually eating the various dishes on offer from this tricky exposition of eclectic culinary delights. Whilst engaging in this interesting social exercise with our fellow diners, a mature, authoritative gentleman (British – possibly the owner) appeared with a small plate of potato fritters (hot) and a further small plate of red cabbage in a vinegar-like jus (cold) as a pre main-meal “amuse bouche” to share. Sorry about the lapse into a quasi “French”

style of description but couldn't think of anything more suitably descriptive. Both of these dishes were very tasty and an excellent prelude to the main event.



I decided to try one of the beef dishes, and with a little help from my new Korean friend, chose Bibimbap Beef (£16.50). This unusual dish presented as a bowl of mixed sautéed vegetables comprising Napa cabbage, spinach, mung bean sprouts, marinated pieces of beef and a quantity of noodles. The whole dish was enveloped in a bright red Bibimbap sauce and surmounted by a fried egg. Fantastic! It also came with a printed list of instructions as to how one should consume this amazing offering.

Basically, the whole concoction needed to be mixed together thoroughly - and eaten with a spoon! G opted for Ramen chicken (£12.00) - essentially a chicken noodle broth with peppers, green onions, soy sauce, and ginger. Again, the eating technique involved use of a spoon - with a little help from either chopsticks or a fork. Delicious! A "side order" of seafood pancakes (£14.00) was perhaps a step too far, resulting in a request for some suitable container so unconsumed food could be taken home.

Just remembered drinks. I had half a pint of Asahi lager (£3.50) which is a very dry Japanese lager. This actually worked well with all the dishes - whilst G consumed tap water (voluntary driver!)

### **Verdict**

Great evening! Food really good (different!). Atmosphere and ambiance excellent. Amazing cliental - good natured, friendly and very helpful. The Devonshire Quarter is good news - try it! A guaranteed "fun evening".

**Roy Stanley**

## Rambling On

with Philip Walshaw

Where would you expect to find four stately halls situated within a small area of 4 square miles and located approximately 15 miles from Sheffield? The answer and their names will be revealed as we ramble past them.

To reach the starting point of this walk, you will need to drive towards Hassop Book Shop via Calver Crossroads, turn right at the roundabout and follow the road, passing the old Toll Bar House (Rowdale Bar, built circa 1817) and take the right hand turn signposted Great Longstone, go under the Monsal Trail bridge and park the car just up the road (grid ref 206711). Prior to getting to this point, you will have driven past our first hall - Hassop Hall - and the (featured) Roman Catholic chapel, Church of All Saints, Hassop, adjacent to the entrance lodge of the Hall; the interesting design was based on that of Inigo Jones' St Paul's Church in Covent Garden. Hassop Hall was converted into a hotel and restaurant in 1975. It always reminds me of this time of year because Susan used to have her annual ladies Christmas get together there. That



was until 2019 when the hall was sold to a care home owner and his wife, returning to private residential use. The ladies are still searching for a venue of equivalent standard!

Back to the walk, from the Monsal Trail bridge, cross the main road (A6020) and follow the public footpath up the private driveway, passing Churchdale Farm and then our next hall on the right. Churchdale Hall was built on a small estate purchased by the Duke of Devonshire circa 1550. The 10th Duke of Devonshire lived in this Grade II listed building

with 17 acres of grounds from the 1920s until his death in 1950. In 1955 the small Estate and House were sold and still remains a private residence. After the hall, climb over a stile on the right and walk down the field alongside the fence posts towards the wooded area. Looking across to your right, you will see another Hall



(Thornbridge) but more of this later. Keep going down the path, crossing a small stream, and take care as the path emerges onto a road. Cross over to the pavement and follow the road down to Ashford-in-the-



Water. Our third hall is situated on the left, enclosed by a fairly recently restored extensive drystone perimeter wall, following its purchase as a private residence in 2018. Ashford Hall, is an elegant Grade II\* Palladian mansion, standing in its own Victorian landscaped park, with a large walled kitchen garden, greenhouse and potting shed, a large terrace and original stable block. It dates from

1785, though alterations were made in about 1840.



A footpath to the left takes you into the village of Ashford-in-the-Water and you can walk down to the famous bridge over the River Wye but our walk takes us left up to the roundabout and up the hill past the old school to Highfield Farm. Follow the road in the direction of Monsal Head and turn right on a short path

through a field. Cross another road (B6465) and follow the footpath directly in front of you. This footpath continues across Longstone Lane and eventually joins the Monsal Trail. Turn right and walk down the trail until you reach the entrance to Thornbridge Hall and the Quackers Café.



Thornbridge Hall is Grade II listed stately home and was the ancestral home of the Longsdon family from the 12th to the late 18th century and later housed a line of wealthy businessmen. Charles Boot lived here in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century and added items from Clumber Park and panelling from Derwent Hall. His

company, Henry Boot Construction, was contracted to demolish Clumber House after a fire in 1938. It was Boot who was responsible for bringing many items including a vast array of statues, facades and fountains originally belonging to Clumber.

On the death of Charles Boot in 1945, Sheffield City Council took over the house and it became Thornbridge Hall College of Education, a teacher training college. At this time the house was of sufficient note that a Great Western Railway steam locomotive, No. 6964, built in May 1944, was named *Thornbridge Hall* in June 1947. It was withdrawn from service in September 1965 and later scrapped at T. W. Ward in Beighton. In later years, the Hall was used as an educational and conference centre by the council, providing residential facilities for teachers and pupils in the house itself and in various outbuildings.

The Hall and Estate was bought in May 2002 by the current owners, who built the original Thornbridge Brewery not long after moving in. Much restoration has been undertaken by them and the house, gardens and extensive parklands are now open to the public, along with the Quackers Café. Free to park, you can sit and enjoy a breakfast sandwich, coffee, and cake or a spot of light lunch in Quackers Cafe, which is open every day between 10am and 4pm. To conclude our walk, continue along the Trail until you reach the bridge under which your car was parked.

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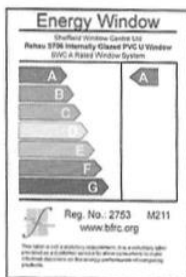
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## Quiz: Cheese

compiled by Philip Walshaw



The answers to the clues below are cheese varieties. A prize awaits the person who submits the most correct answers. In the event of a tie, a winner will be chosen by a lucky draw. Send your entry by email to [jpwalshaw@gmail.com](mailto:jpwalshaw@gmail.com) or by post to 19 Cairns Road, S10 5NA to reach me by Thursday, 16th January, 2025.

1. Delicately made cheese, we hear (10)
2. Charlie's an alternative cheesemaker (10)
3. Not back on revised list (7)
4. Made up (4)
5. Half of Lancashire city with self-esteem (8)
6. Found in safe tapas bar (4)
7. Decree tilers revised (3,9)
8. Spare man gets changed (8)
9. Orchard that had been on fire? (6,9)
10. Placed in British Telecom technician's lunchbox (5)
11. Eastern illegal hunter (12,7)
12. Cheese with weaselly end cured (11)
13. Riches he redistributed (8)
14. Cheese made from headless capons mixed with cream (10)
15. Dark wartime plane (5,6)

**Answers to November Quiz:** 1. Staple gun 2. Hack saw 3. Circular saw 4. Spirit level 5. Hammer 6. Bradawl 7. Crow bar 8. Wrench 9. Allen keys 10. Angle grinder 11. Chisel 12. Hatchet 13. Screwdriver 14. Lathe 15. Float (featured)

**Entries were received from:** Janet and Malcolm Anker, Ruth Cheshire, Pam and Ian Dall, Michael and Rosemary Hannon, Lynn and Steve Lawless, John and Brenda Staniforth, Marion Taylor, Janet Twigg and Barbara and Peter Wozencroft.

**The winner** was Janet Twigg, who receives a box of chocolates.

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# Church Groups and Activities

## **Children and Young People:**

*Footsteps* (for children up to Y6)

Janet Noble 0114 2301199

[footsteps@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk](mailto:footsteps@stjohnsranmoor.org.uk)

*REACH* (for young people Y7 and up)

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## **Flower arranging:**

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## **Music:**

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## **Wednesday Lunch Club**

contact Claire Webber - Parish

Administrator

## **Uniformed organisations**

Ranmoor Guides:

[ranmoorguides@gmail.com](mailto:ranmoorguides@gmail.com)

Ranmoor Brownies:

Jenny Woodhouse -

[ranmoorbrownies@gmail.com](mailto:ranmoorbrownies@gmail.com)

36<sup>th</sup> Ranmoor Group Scout Leader and general enquires including Hall Hire at Bentley Lane:

Michael Holmes 07802 860556

[Michaelholmes1@gmail.com](mailto:Michaelholmes1@gmail.com)

Beavers (6 to 8 yrs) meet Mon night:

Heidi Adcock [heidi.adcock@me.com](mailto:heidi.adcock@me.com)

Cubs (8 to 10.5 yrs) meet Wed night:

Nea Maycock [nea@ranmoorscouts.com](mailto:nea@ranmoorscouts.com)

Scouts (10.5 to 14 yrs) meet Tues night:

Simon Maltby

[simon@ranmoor-scouts.com](mailto:simon@ranmoor-scouts.com)

District Explorers (14 to 18 yrs)

meet Friday night:

Liam Foster

[liam.foster@cheshirescouts.org.uk](mailto:liam.foster@cheshirescouts.org.uk)



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## Contributing to Inspire:

As always you should feel free to contribute to the magazine: articles, news, photographs, and anything else that you feel might be suitable. Any contributions received after the date shown below will be considered for publication in the following issue. We cannot guarantee that everything we receive will be published.

**The deadline for contributions to the February edition is Thursday, 16th January, 2025.**

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