

# DRC News

SUMMER 2022

Offering Spiritual and Pastoral Support to the Agricultural Community



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## In this issue:

- "Hello" from Rev'd Alan Griggs
- The Paths We Walk by Alison Fletcher
- Derbyshire Farmers' Harvest Service, 16th October 2022
- From the Lambing Shed (aka "if in doubt ...wait!")
- 'First Breath' by Philip Holland & his New Book!
- BPS to ELMS: A Local Farmer's Perspective
- The Impact of the War in Ukraine by Andrew Critchlow
- Nick's Tractor Tales...
- Nothing to do with Markets! by Alastair Sneddon
- Helping the Rural Community by Kirsty Westran
- New! Peak Farmers' Group
- Tending your Land and Flocks but what about Yourself? by Abby Worsnip
- Local Artist's Cards in Support of the DRC
- Turning around a Farm in Trouble in the Tropics by Peter Lunn
- Farming in Tanzania: the Effects of Global Warming by John Mukolwe
- Building up & Breaking New Ground in Kenya & East Africa by Pastor Eric
- Our Weather: "Que Sera Sera?" & Jeremiah by Elisabeth Sweeney
- Rev'd Alan's Rural Family Connections
- A Change to the run-of-the-mill Curriculum! by Stacey Wall
- Don't Ignore this Article! by Emily Brailsford
- What's going on in the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy?

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## "Hello" from Alan Griggs, Lead Agricultural Chaplain

*"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was formless and void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said let there be light"*

(Genesis 1 verses 1 & 2)



Whatever your own beliefs, one thing that I am sure about, is that these first two verses in the Bible remind us of our responsibility to do our part in bringing life to the world. Farmers are of course experts in bringing new life into the world with a unique task to tend and care for the land and the livestock with the skill and experience that has been built up over many generations.

Sadly, we do not need to look very far to see how the misuse of power can so quickly turn what is good back to darkness and chaos. Yet, with every act of kindness and love, perhaps, we can all play our part and join with God in turning darkness, wherever it is found, to light. When Jesus was asked what the greatest commandment is, Jesus simply replied: *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'* This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: *'Love your neighbour as yourself'*.

In this DRC news, we have included a number of articles about farming from different parts of Africa; a reminder that farming remains essential to the well being and flourishing of local communities, and agricultural development that is in tune with the local ecology is one of the most powerful tools to end extreme poverty. I hope you enjoy the varied, articles, reflections, and views in this DRC news.

## The Paths We Walk by Alison Fletcher, Associate Agricultural Chaplain

As I write this article, I am struck by two very different images - the pictures on our news of the ongoing and appalling war in Ukraine and the beauty of our colourful spring gardens and our fields where new life is emerging all around us. Our ongoing prayers for the people and country of Ukraine must be that the fighting and atrocities will cease and diplomacy and peace will break through. As is often the case in situations of conflict, it is the stories of the resilience of people and individuals that strike a chord. We can find ourselves asking: 'How would I cope in such a situation?' Or 'What would I do?' The scenes of families leaving their homes, often walking great distances with very little possessions praying they will reach safety somewhere, are both harrowing and humbling.



Journeys and especially the old tracks and lanes have held a fascination for me over many years and I don't think I'm the only person who finds themselves wondering who might have walked along various paths in the past and for what purpose? Those of us who live in rural areas are both blessed and occasionally blighted by so many paths close by often with centuries of use behind them.



In stark contrast to those fleeing danger in Ukraine, some of us walk by choice or for pleasure, some as part of our work, some out of necessity and others dearly wish they could walk as they once did. Most of our paths, tracks or lanes have their origins over and above leisure, and more often than not were used as a way of communication between villages, hamlets or individual farms for work or trading purposes.



The Bible is full of stories about walking, travelling, journeying. Many are very well known but others less so. Jesus Himself said "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" and in many ways that sums up the essence of the Christian message.

As we journey on through 2022, we will have a range of emotions. Many of us had started to have renewed optimism after the 'dark' uncertain days of the pandemic, but the scenes from Ukraine have dented some of that positivity, reminding us yet again that life is fragile.

At the end of Luke's Gospel, two sad and frightened disciples go on a journey soon after they had witnessed Jesus being crucified. During the walk of about seven miles they were joined by a stranger who asked why they were so downcast and a conversation began between them. The stranger was the risen Lord Jesus and in time they recognised him. Similarly, Jesus wants to walk with us and accompany us on our journey through life, through the ups and downs, the twists and turns. As we read in the book of Proverbs 3:6 "In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight/guide your paths".



# Derbyshire Farmers' Harvest Service

**2.30 pm Sunday 16th October 2022**

**at Bakewell Livestock Market  
Agricultural Way, Bakewell, DE45 1AH  
(free parking)**

## **We welcome Rev'd Richard Teal**

Richard comes from a farming background having grown up in the Yorkshire Dales. He has spent the majority of his ministry in rural areas including 11 years as Chair of the Cumbria District of the Methodist Church.

He is now Superintendent of the Driffield Hornsea Circuit in East Yorkshire

## **Derbyshire Poet Philip Holland**

**Bel Canto**

**& St Anne's Church Choir from Baslow**



Supporting farming's  
oldest & largest charity &  
the DRC's welfare fund



Parts of the service will also be recorded and can be viewed after the event on the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy YouTube Channel or via the DRC's website:

[www.derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk](http://www.derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk)

In partnership with:



Contact Rev'd Alan Griggs on 07710 088972 for more details  
or email: [alan@derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk](mailto:alan@derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk)

## From the Lambing Shed (aka "if in doubt ...wait!")

The fields are full of lambs and many of our farmers are reflecting on another busy lambing time with all the inevitable ups and downs. We asked a number of our farmer friends from across the county a few simple questions about their lambing experiences and here is what they said .....



### From the Bakewell area

#### 1. What is your favourite aspect of lambing ?

Being alone in the lambing shed after dark just hearing sheep & newborn lambs quietly murmuring to each other

#### 2. What is the thing about lambing you least enjoy ?

Good sized healthy looking lamb being born dead after all efforts of ewe & shepherd

#### 3. What is the most memorable or funniest thing you can remember happening during your lambing times ?

'Lamb Olympics' - it always make me laugh and smile watching lambs just a few days old out in the fields or in the play pens come together in groups and have running and jumping races and then after a short while they curl up and fall fast asleep .

#### 4. If you had to describe in one word what you feel about lambing what would it be ?

Miraculous!



### From the High Peak

#### 1. What is your favourite aspect of lambing ?

The change in a ewe's character around birth time.

The effort taken to produce, and sometimes the knowledge that things aren't always right, and even sometimes the ewe will drop her lambs and leave them because they might not be normal. It's nature's way. Then once delivered, the mother's instinct will normally kick in. Licking the lamb, nuzzling, talking to her lambs, almost like muttering. Then lambs standing and eventually suckling shown by wagging tails, and of course if threatened - protection, made good use of when trying to catch a newly lambing ewe by getting between her and the sheepdog.

#### 2. What is the thing about lambing you least enjoy ?

Delivering dead lambs and having to skin lambs. Finding lambs with eyes pecked out by crows.

#### 3. What is the most memorable or funniest thing you can remember happening during your lambing times ?

I'm not sure we find things too funny when full on lambing, but maybe in retrospect. Could be adopting lambs on to a ewe because we couldn't find hers, and then she gave birth to twins. Sort that out!

#### 4. If you had to describe in one word what you feel about lambing what would it be ?

'New life' - I know it's two words!

## From the High Peak

### 1. What is your favourite aspect of lambing ?

Bringing new life in to the world

### 2. What is the thing about lambing you least enjoy ?

Lack of sleep

### 3. What is the most memorable or funniest thing you can remember happening during your lambing times ?

Teaching other people how to cope and lamb a ewe in difficulty/look after the sheep

### 4. If you had to describe in one word what you feel about lambing what would it be ?

Pride, hard work, tiring, excitement, achievement, running on adrenaline



## From the High Peak

### 1. What is your favourite aspect of lambing ?

Caring for new lives and giving lambs the best start possible,

### 2. What is the thing about lambing you least enjoy ?

Bad weather

### 3. What is the most memorable or funniest thing you can remember happening during your lambing times ?

Not sure it counts as funniest as most of us have done it, but non-farming friends seem to find putting young children in pens made of hurdles to keep them safe and entertained while we go about our work. Also, around lambing time, my daughter's school teacher called me in to ask what she was talking about in "news" as my daughter had told the class that the best thing about her weekend had been "putting sheep's bottoms back"!

### 4. If you had to describe in one word what you feel about lambing what would it be ?

Relentless



## From Ambergate

### 1. What is your favourite aspect of lambing ?

There is usually a point in the day, or the night,

when everything is fed, bedded up, family sets moved to where they need to be, there are enough empty pens for the next few hours, ringing is up to date etc, and there are a few moments to just pause, watch, give some extra attention to detail, and simply enjoy and BE in the environment, before, of course, it all kicks off again!

### 2. What is the thing about lambing you least enjoy ?

It's always the losses! And the feeling that the responsibility for it rests with you.

### 3. What is the most memorable or funniest thing you can remember happening during your lambing times ?

I've always prided myself on entering the house relatively clean, even at lambing time. However, there was one mealtime, when, during pudding, one of the kids exclaimed "Gross Dad! What IS that on your arm?!!" On my way in for dinner I had failed to notice the strand of afterbirth festooning my forearm like a Christmas decoration! I'm just grateful it wasn't noticed whilst we were eating our lasagne ..... !

### 4. If you had to describe in one word what you feel about lambing what would it be ?

Optimism



## From the Derbyshire Dales

### 1. What is your favourite aspect of lambing ?

Turning ewes and new lambs out to lovely fresh grass

### 2. What is the thing about lambing you least enjoy ?

The weather

### 3. What is the most memorable or funniest thing you can remember happening during your lambing times ?

I drove into a field to feed corn to a group of ewes & lambs as normal. I left the gate open as I could see the ewes and lambs near the corn troughs at the very far end of the meadow. They heard me coming as they always did and ran towards me waiting for me to get out and give them their daily breakfast. However on this day as I walked towards them, they all ran straight past me, heading out through the open gate and onto the road. I've never done a U-turn quite so quick and to this day I don't know what made them do it! Thankfully normality was swiftly restored. The moral of the story is always always close the gate!

### 4. If you had to describe in one word what you feel about lambing what would it be ?

Every lamb is a miracle



## From South Derbyshire

### 1. What is your favourite aspect of lambing ?

I love to see them when lambs are first born, soon jumping about in the fields and how the mothers bond so quickly.

### 2. What is the thing about lambing you least enjoy ?

Having to be up all night!

### 3. What is the most memorable or funniest thing you can remember happening during your lambing times ?

The first year my son started with some sheep nearly 30 years ago, we had a Suffolk Ram and one of the ewes had 6 lambs! We reared them all and it is something I will never forget. All of them successfully went out to the field.

### 4. If you had to describe in one word what you feel about lambing what would it be ?

Joy and hope



Nina and Phillipa with Cotton the lamb



Alison and Keith Wilton's grandchildren - Nina and Phillipa at Daisy Mere Farm love lambing time and they have named this lamb Cotton. The lamb runs after the children in the yard and comes in the house so there is lots of brushing up to do! They love feeding the lambs, and seeing Nina and Phillipa caring for them brings Alison and Keith a lot of pleasure and they hope this photo puts a smile on your face too!

## First Breath by Philip Holland

She knows  
her time is now,  
the pangs mete out her future.  
Ever more those pains becoming closer,  
rhythms stronger, the breathing gaps such short relief.

She knows  
that I watch her,  
her head thrown back, panting skyward.  
The pawed, rustling straw her chosen corner,  
folded in these limestone walls, these time-bleached beams and slate.

I know  
that special sound,  
that humming in her constricted throat.  
A floating, enclosed bleating, stress-imbued and only  
given at this time, pervading crisp, cold air of dark-before-the-dawn.

I know  
what I must do.  
Wait, till nearly at the end,  
catch, slowly turn her down and lay her fleece,  
give soothing sounds, probe, and gently check that all is well.

We know.  
We have been here before.  
Purpose of our mutual increase and respect,  
linked in season's time, supporting each to the welcome.  
I, the helper, she, the source, yet only if all can thrive in Nature's living plan.

We know  
the easing slime, then feet, and head,  
a slithering body, the trace of blood, a shake.  
That first, small gasp of air, vital, lest the life be stilled.  
Oh, the joy of that new breath, a sneeze, a snort, and breath again, again!

### *Author's Note:*

*'Hummering' – Derbyshire dialect for the enclosed bleating in the throat that ewes give only when birthing their lambs and usually at no other time.*

## BPS to ELMS: A Local Farmer's Perspective

There is currently much discussion and debate amongst the farming community about the impact of the phasing out of the current Basic Payment Scheme and the introduction of Environmental Land Management Scheme. The Government website says this: "we plan to phase out Direct Payments in England from 2021 to 2027. Our approach is designed to help everyone manage the transition away from Direct Payments as smoothly as possible." The website is factual, but few if any official websites ever touch on the sensitivities and concerns that such changes will inevitably bring. As with all change, opinions can be fiercely held and opinions divided and this change is no different.

In this article we simply set out some background and brief reflections from the perspective of a local member of the farming community, rather than seek support or resistance to the changes.

A century or so ago, villages in the uplands consisted of a series of small farms, each one surviving independently by perhaps selling a butchered pig, some salted bacon, spare eggs and seasonal vegetables throughout the year. Since then, farms have become bigger and more efficient as they compete on a never ending treadmill to produce food to compete with world trade.

Much of the land has become more fertile than it's ever been. We can now produce food more efficiently from the same land, which could possibly be attributed to the Basic Payment scheme - often known as Single Farm Payments (SFP) - which has in many cases provided funds to be invested in reseeded programmes, better soil nutrition and the correct fertiliser applications.

Tenant farmers who have been claiming Single Farm Payments, but at the same time paying high rents, could be hit the hardest with the introduction of the Environmental Land Management Scheme (ELMS). Controversially, some landlords have been claiming SFP and rent on the same piece of land. It is likely that agricultural rents will have to fall if the tenant farmer is to survive in the uplands.

Environmental schemes such as re-wilding and tree planting are perfectly acceptable in certain locations, however if good agricultural land is planted with trees or simply left to its own devices, there's only one direction and it is highly unlikely it can ever be returned to significant food production once more.

Good agricultural land needs to be producing food to feed our nation rather than importing foodstuffs from around the world. The recent pandemic taught us a lot about the desire to buy local, sustainable food produced to a high standard

So the big question remains ..... how as farmers can we continue to produce quality British food to feed our nation against the backdrop of these significant changes ?

## **The Impact of the War in Ukraine by Andrew Critchlow Derbyshire NFU County Adviser**



The conflict in Ukraine has triggered a humanitarian tragedy. Our thoughts are with all those coming to terms with the devastating effects of the conflict, which is being felt across the world.

The disruption to food output, supply chains, availability and affordability, could last for many years. We have to think particularly about countries who have relied heavily on basics from Ukraine and Russia, together accounting for 30% of world wheat exports and 50% of sunflower oil alongside other seeds and meal exports. Countries such as Egypt, Turkey, Bangladesh and Nigeria import the majority of their wheat from Russia and Ukraine.

It is not just the direct impact on the trade of food, it is also the impact of spiralling energy costs, particularly gas and oil. The most obvious is fertilizer costs; nitrogen fertilizer has been four times the price it was a year ago at nearly £1,000 per tonne. Natural gas is central to producing nitrogen fertilizer and it is costing around £1,000/tonne of fertilizer in gas alone; the profit is being made from the by-product of the process CO<sub>2</sub>, which is essential to slaughterhouses and food processing plants to process and package food. Only with government support is one of the UK two fertilizer plants kept operating. The support is to ensure there is enough CO<sub>2</sub> and fertilizer has for the time being become the by-product.

Then there is the near doubling in cost of red diesel. For a brief time, it was cheaper to fill a tractor with white diesel and claim the VAT back than have red diesel delivered. In energy intensive sectors such as the protected crops, some growers are being forced to leave glasshouses empty due to the sheer cost of heating them.

The dairy sector appears to be responding to the lower production this winter and through the spring. Processors are now scrambling to secure supplies and offering in excess of 40p/litre, and some, 43p/litre or more from 1st June. It's taken a long time to get the supermarkets to realise they can't keep selling milk at £1.15 for four pints and only the threat of reduced supplies has made them realise this. However with so many people using foodbanks we must not forget the impact of food price inflation.

It is clear the impact will last at least two years, the damage already done in Ukraine would mean even if the war finished soon, and sadly it doesn't look like doing so, it will take time to rebuild the country's infrastructure.

The NFU is constantly making clear to Government and in the media, that there are some clear short and long-term actions that government can take to maintain confidence and stability across the UK's food producing businesses. These include:

- Immediate pause to the phase out of BPS for two years to deliver some level of certainty and breathing space for farmers battling huge cost inflation.
- Implement a rapid review of existing legislation and bureaucracy that is hampering production and ensure all new legislation is assessed for its future impact on food production.
- A UK trade policy that does not undermine home production.

Thankfully, the uncertainty over the interpretation of Farming Rules for Water has recently been addressed and manures and slurries can be used in autumn and winter following nutrient planning.

The war has also focused attention on the importance and fragility of food security both at home and abroad. British farmers continue to stand ready to do all we can to ensure the public continues to have access to high-quality, affordable, climate-friendly food. Government must act now, with a clear signal that food security is a priority for the nation.

## Nick's Tractor Tales..... by Nick Battelle

The picture below is from the early 1980's and shows the Ford tractor European demonstration units with top of the range transcontinental trucks left hand drive with sun visor and air conditioning shown by the square box on the roof. The unit with tractor and plough is near Zaragoza, Spain. Europe ranges from the arctic circle at the top of Scandinavia and as far south as Morocco. Demonstrators usually came home every couple of months, although I did know one who came home twice a year. There were six units to cover Europe.



The European team was shipped out to the USA for a six month tour of the Eastern States. The trucks from Europe were shipped on a ship to begin the tour. They used American

built tractors and did 23 shows in 18 different locations. The tour was called 'Tractor Power Caravan Tour', decals were applied as you can see on the picture. It proved to be a successful tour with a very professional team putting it all together from Europe.



## Nothing to do with Markets! by Alastair Sneddon

As someone who was born in 1955, I consider that I am fortunate to be part of a `Golden generation` who has lived for over 60 years without many of the problems and hardships experienced by our parents and grandparents.



Apart from a few anxious moments during the Cuban missile crisis in 1962, we have lived our lives without being called up to fight or worry about being bombed out of our homes. Perhaps the most disruptive thing that has happened in our lifetimes is Covid 19, where the world effectively stopped for two years. However, with the benefit of vaccination, the majority of us, even if we caught the disease, only suffered mild symptoms.



My grandfather is on the back row, first on the left

Casting our minds back 100 years or so to WW1, my grandfather served as an Army Doctor on the Western Front from 1914 to 1918. He survived both the conflict and the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1919, but his experiences in France shortened his life and he died in 1930 at the age of 45.

My father was a doctor in the Royal Navy, who spent WW2 sailing the oceans in a warship in constant fear of a `U` boat or Japanese kamikaze attack.



HMS Cumberland: the ship upon which my father served

The casualty rates in WW1 were so great that every effort was made to avoid another World War, but to no avail and we saw another generation of young men, most notably airmen, wiped out in the conflict. Which brings us to the war in Ukraine.

Because we have lived such privileged lives, it is hard to imagine that, yet again, there is war in Europe and yet again, it is effectively the whim of one man. If we blame the Kaiser for WW1 and Adolf Hitler for WW2, this is definitely Putin's war. The images and news coming from Ukraine have brought home the true horror of modern warfare and the impact upon the civilian population in particular from indiscriminate Russian attacks.

For all the above reasons and most particularly because we have enjoyed a long life

free of such problems, I feel that we should do everything we can to support the people of Ukraine. There is no doubt that we will have some inconveniences with higher fuel and energy bills, but put those into context: we are not fleeing for our lives or sheltering from shelling or missile attacks with no electricity, water or food, not knowing where our other family members might be.

Think about it next time you pass a petrol station and grumble about the price.

## Helping the Rural Community by Kirsty Westran, Outreach Adviser

Derbyshire Districts Citizens Advice is a free, impartial and independent charity which offers support to citizens across Derbyshire. I will be based at the Agricultural Business Centre every Monday to offer support and advice to the local farming community.



I have lived in Derbyshire for most of my life and have an affection for the Derbyshire countryside and regularly help out on a working farm. For the last 18 years, I have had my own business and have a good understanding of the pressures, challenges and workload of running your own business. However as a result of the Covid pandemic, I had an enforced change of direction, and 12 months ago joined Derbyshire Districts Citizens Advice. I was drawn to the charity's values of supporting all citizens regardless of background or situation and I enjoy giving independent, impartial advice to try and make people's lives a little easier. I offer support on a range of topics from help with energy bills, benefits, debt, housing, work issues, family changes, health issues and the ongoing cost of living crisis, which is affecting everyone currently.

I am hugely excited to be able to support the local rural community at the market every Monday. I have many friends in the farming community and have an appreciation of the highs and lows of rural living. I am keen to support your community where needed, whether that is through income maximisation, help with extra money that may be available, debt advice, help with financial capability, employment support, housing challenges or assistance with digital skills and technology or assistance in making benefit claims.

I am a very friendly approachable person, so if you are looking for some support and impartial advice, give me a call on: 07730089651 or email [kirsty.westran@ddcab.org.uk](mailto:kirsty.westran@ddcab.org.uk) and we can arrange a convenient time to chat. Alternatively, I will be in the main foyer area of the Agricultural Business Centre every Monday so come and chat to me then.



## **New Peak Farmers' Group opens to members: Farmer driven facilitation group to bolster farm businesses**



A new facilitation group aimed at commercial farmers in and around the Peak District was rolled out during March.

The concept for the group has been brought to the fore by its all-farmer steering group, comprising of four active farmers from Derbyshire. Speaking on behalf of the steering group, Jane Bassett, who farms with her family in Hartington, explained: "It is so important that the Peak Farmers' Group is farmer driven because nobody is better placed to understand the challenges faced by the farming industry than farmers themselves. The aim is to help us all navigate the transition from BPS, looking at new ways to keep farms profitable while managing that change by working together more."

There will be opportunities for farmers to learn about new funding and grant schemes as well as innovative methods and techniques through farm walks, field trips, discussion groups and talks. The group will also provide some social events and create opportunities for local farmers to meet, share ideas and learn from one another. A regular newsletter will also be shared with members of the new group, providing details of the changes ahead while creating a chance to find out what's new in the farming industry that local businesses could benefit from.

Bakewell based charity, The Farming Life Centre will be working alongside the group to help in developing and hosting events over the coming months. All events will be based entirely on ideas put forward by the farmer led steering group. Speaking on behalf of The Farming Life Centre, Lorna Critchlow added: "Hopefully the Peak Farmers' Group will provide access to an array of knowledge and information and give clarity to the opportunities available to farmers, helping them make their farm businesses as commercially viable, sustainable and resilient to change as possible." All of the events will be free to attend and open to all farmers in the Peak District and surrounding area. Events will take place both in the daytime and evening in the hope that the group can be accessible to all.

On 7th June, Massey Feeds from Holmes Chapel Mill recently gave a tour providing a glimpse into the world of animal feed manufacture; Massey's sustainable ruminant feeds with no palm kernel or soya products is a UK 1st! Supper and transport was included.

**To join the Peak Farmers' Group, for more information or to book a place/s on any of our future events please don't hesitate to email: [info@peakfarmersgroup.co.uk](mailto:info@peakfarmersgroup.co.uk) or call: 07483 373435. You can also keep up to date with our latest news by following the group on social media (Facebook and Instagram), by searching for Peak Farmers Group.**

## **Tending your Land and Flocks but what about Yourself? By Abby Worsnip, Derwent Rural Counselling Service**



If your crops or animals were failing you'd be there for them, but what about looking after yourself? Mental health problems can affect anyone, regardless of age, gender, race or social background. If you are suffering with mental distress, you may not be receiving, or indeed asking for, the help you need.

Derwent Rural Counselling Service (DRCS) was formed 30 years ago to provide counselling for agricultural workers in Derbyshire suffering from mental health issues, brought on by the massive financial losses they faced during the foot and mouth disease crisis. The pressures on the industry have not relented and the prevalence of mental illness among farmers is high - one ends their life every week, on average, in the UK alone.

Janette Smeeton, chief executive at DRCS, the largest provider of counselling services in Derbyshire, looks at this often isolated career and mental health, and how DRCS can help.

"Farming is a high-pressure, 24/7 occupation with a lack of days off compared to almost all other professions. Issues like market pressures, livestock disease and flooding can all create stress. Most farmers are male, and men, who less commonly discuss personal problems, are statistically more likely to end their own lives than women. Not seeking support when stress first emerges can lead to the situation becoming much more serious, and can have fatal consequences. Spending long hours working alone with little human contact as farmers do, can allow mental health problems and suicidal thoughts to fester, and social isolation can lead to a lack of support or other people not noticing mental illness symptoms."

The most common mental health problem is depression, which one in five members of the public will experience at some point during their lives, and more than 20 per cent of farmers will suffer from. Janette added: "There are big differences between just feeling down and clinical depression. When the latter develops, the person can be affected most of the time, frequently for a number of weeks or months. Symptoms can include tiredness, restlessness, low mood, falling energy levels, poor concentration, a lack of interest in things that would normally give pleasure and suicidal thoughts. Physical symptoms such as aches or pains may also occur. Nonetheless, it is very treatable, and most people will make a full recovery by accessing the right support. Talking to a professional is a way to take back control, establish healthier ways of thinking and devise coping mechanisms. Taking that first step should never be considered a moment of weakness - instead, it shows true strength of character."

## What services does DRCS offer?

Wherever you live, DRCS offers a wide range of skills and expertise on mental health issues and wellbeing from:

- Cognitive Behavioural Therapy
- Psychological Wellbeing
- Interpersonal Therapy
- Mindfulness and Counselling for Depression – via confidential face to face and online services.

DRCS also provides therapy on behalf of Talking Mental Health Derbyshire (TMHD) and delivers counselling through the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) programme to anyone who either self-refers or are referred by their GP to the service.

**For further information contact DRCS on 0800 047 6861**

**email: [admin@dracs.org.uk](mailto:admin@dracs.org.uk)**

**or visit [www.dracs.org.uk](http://www.dracs.org.uk)**

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## "People, Places & Times" Philip Holland's New Book



Launched at 1, Moorcroft, Lismore Road, Buxton, on April 2nd, the latest book by F. Philip Holland is titled "People, Places & Times" (ISBN 978-0-9573619-7-3). This 10th book written by Philip is a 'Retrospective Collection' of 90 pieces of poems and prose, all new, unpublished works, and a couple of art studies of two Pre-Raphaelite paintings.

The poems span a very wide range of subjects; Farming Memories, Nature and the Natural World, Music, History, Travel, Art, Comedy and Tragedy. Subjects range from Eyam Plague to Covid, Hiring Fairs to Afghanistan, Jazz to Koi Carp, Opera Themes to Gamekeepers, and Cruise Liners to Bluebells. The book includes poems about: Native and Foreign Birds; British Cattle and Animals in Hot Countries; Climate Change and a light-hearted list of White and Dark Peak Place names! Sonnets, Rhyming and Free Verse, Haiku, Prose and Pastiches of famous poems are all represented, in a rich variety of mood and personal observation.

The 'Foreword' to the book has been written by Sir Christopher Ball, of Oxford, and the sketches and the artwork has been done by Pat Holland, the poet's wife.

Philip has already donated all the initial sales at the launch of his new book, which is dedicated to the memory of his daughter, Elizabeth, and a cheque for £500 has been forwarded to Derbyshire M.I.N.D. office in Mackworth, Derbyshire. Philip very gratefully thanks everyone at the launch for their generous support and interest.

For those wishing to purchase a copy of "People, Places & Times" please contact the poet at: **[philipholland@uwclub.net](mailto:philipholland@uwclub.net), or please ring 01298 27644**

Philip is usually at Bakewell's Agricultural Centre every Monday in the main concourse.

## Local Artist's Cards in Support of the DRC

Our local artist, Lesley Griggs (Alan's mum) has produced some beautiful paintings from Derbyshire landscapes which have been made into cards and are available to buy in support of the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy.



Lesley, who has been a member of the Derby Sketching Club since moving to Derby, began pursuing the art of painting after enrolling at Adult Education painting classes for beginners in 1985. Essentially, self-taught she says that "a lack of formal training can be an advantage as there are no preconceived ideas, and allows freedom to do "one's own thing". I paint in watercolour, acrylic and oils and try to create a loose fluid and decorative style, injecting deep jewel-like colours into my paintings."



Evening Walk



Bradbourne Brook



Poppy Meadow



Wildflower Meadow



Fields near Belper



Milldale

The cards are A6 in size (4" x 6"), produced on FSC card, blank inside, and come with envelopes made of 100% recycled paper. The back of each card has the DRC logo and contact details. The cards are available for a suggested donation of £1.50 for a single card or a set of each design at £6.50. The costs include postage and all the proceeds goes towards supporting the DRC. If you would like to order any of the cards, contact Louise on 07593 380311 or email: [louise@derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk](mailto:louise@derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk)

*The DRC would also like to acknowledge and thank local card maker, Debbie Broughton, who makes bespoke cards also in support of the DRC. Debbie can be contacted on 07803 936 847 or via email: [broughtd@me.com](mailto:broughtd@me.com)*

If you would like further information about Lesley Griggs, go to: [derbysketchingclub.co.uk](http://derbysketchingclub.co.uk)

## Turning around a Farm in Trouble in the Tropics by Peter Lunn



On the equator in Uganda is a farm which is part of the community programme associated with *Kagando* hospital, a rural Church of Uganda hospital close to the Uganda/Congo border. The hospital was set up over 50 years to serve a poor, rural community in the foothills of the *Rwenzori* Mountains, also known as the 'Mountains of the Moon'. The community largely live on a subsistence economy; they grow crops and keep animals to feed the family. Many do not have any other form of income so when they need to pay for school fees or healthcare (which we in the UK take for granted as part of the welfare state) they may well have to sell an animal or find some other way of raising or borrowing the money.

This farm was set up many years ago as part of the community programme to help the farmers use the land in the most efficient and effective way to give their families healthy, nutritious food and also, to possibly earn enough money for their needs from cash crops.



Demonstration Farm



Cattle sheds suitable for refurbishment



BUT..... sadly, in the last few years, for a number of reasons, partly financial, partly management issues, and more recently because of the pandemic, the farm has been neglected and is now almost completely abandoned. There are just 6 malnourished cows that have not been milked for over two years. The only remaining crops seem to be banana trees; these are the green plantain bananas that are steamed or boiled and form the bulky basis of most meals.

HOWEVER....thankfully, there is some hope for the future. On our recent visit to Uganda in February/March this year, my wife Liz and I met with Jonny, a UK graduate with a degree from Reading University who has set up a coffee-processing plant only 2 miles away from Kagando hospital. Jonny has kindly agreed to help the hospital revive this vital resource and aims to make it productive, self-financing and a model from which local farmers can learn and benefit.



Liz with Edwin and Jonny discussing plans for the Kagando farm

The initial plans (limited by our budget) are to:

1. Clear the currently overgrown grazing land
2. Buy goats which are hardy, will provide milk and meat and are very cost-effective
3. Re-canalise the old irrigation scheme which is no longer functioning
4. Prepare the arable lands for a variety of crops
5. Manage the forested area which has been used excessively to provide firewood



Overgrown pastureland with malnourished cows in the distance



Banana trees - the main crop remaining

We have been involved primarily with the work of the hospital since we first visited Kagando over 15 years ago, but we realise that the farm project is vital to the community in assisting to educate and enable farmers to provide healthy food for the community now and for future generations.

In our western societies, we value money but there are still many millions of people in the world with no electricity, limited access to clean water and no drains; for them, money has its purposes, but food, education and healthcare are vital for life. It is our prayer that the farm will again bring life and health to this community for the present and future generations.



The snow-capped Rwenzori mountains (covered in cloud) form the beautiful backdrop to this farm

#### Information about Peter:

I spent most of my childhood in Uganda so have always had an interest in Africa. I am a retired orthopaedic surgeon and started visiting Kagando hospital in 2006 whilst I was still working in Derby. Since retirement, my wife Liz and I have visited once or twice a year and I no longer do any operating but am still involved in teaching the medical and nursing staff. Our main involvement over the last 12 years has been as Trustees of a charity, Friends of Kagando, and for the last 5 years we have been responsible for fundraising (£1.1million!) for a Hydroelectric scheme for the hospital.

We have set up a private company (KHPL) in Uganda to manage the construction of the scheme and then the maintenance and development once it is completed. The company also is responsible for full recording and accountability of funds. We have raised more than half the funding so far and the first phase of the scheme has been completed on time and within budget. We see the Hydro scheme as being an important step towards self-sufficiency for the hospital, and the farm is another potential self-funding project which can help subsidise the vital work of the hospital in this poor rural community.

If anyone would like to know more about the farm project please do not hesitate to contact me by email: [peterlunn@doctors.org.uk](mailto:peterlunn@doctors.org.uk) or if you wish to know more about the work of Friends of Kagando please look at the website: [www.friendsofkagando.co.uk](http://www.friendsofkagando.co.uk)

## Farming in Tanzania: The Effects of Global Warming by John Mukolwe



Global warming has indeed affected Africa and more so our East African region in a big way. Twenty years ago, we could produce enough food and feed our staff and families who live on the YWAM (Youth With A Mission) base in Arusha for the whole year from a piece of land we own 30 minutes drive from the base.

However, over the years, things have since changed due to unreliable rain patterns and seasons. We have therefore had to stop using this piece of land for farming purposes and many farmers seem to be suffering the same fate.

Our rain patterns have become quite uncertain and unpredictable which is slowly changing planting seasons and having a greater impact on farm produce. Regular floods have also been another challenge faced by farmers on both large and small scale farms and the recently flood have not spared our farms or human lives. The disruption caused by the flooding is unprecedented.

Rivers that used to be used for irrigation are slowly drying up or have completely gone due to the changes in rain patterns and inadequate rainfall even during the rain seasons. The nomadic people groups like the Masais who depend on livestock have not been spared either. During the last few years many of the nomadic people groups have suffered huge losses due to long and extended droughts. As I write these words, drought has been declared a national disaster in the Northern part of Kenya. Lots of livestock, and to a larger extent, wildlife in general has died. Pasture and water has been a huge challenge to find due to unreliable rainfall.

Higher temperatures have also been a huge challenge. This interferes with the ability for plants to get and use moisture from the soil, hence reduced crop yields and less grain produce. Scarcity of agricultural produce leads to inflation in the cost of living and this is because food is widely traded and so climatic changes in one region tends to raise the prices.



The base in Arusha where families and staff live

### Information about John & YWAM:

John is the base leader with Youth With A Mission (YWAM) in Arusha, Tanzania where he lives with his family. YWAM is an interdenominational Christian mission organisation running activities, ministries and training programs. These programs are designed to equip Christian workers, pastors and lay leaders for the service of the church and community at large. YWAM is called to practice a life of dependence upon God for financial provision. For more information go to: [ywamarusha.org](http://ywamarusha.org)

## Building Up and Breaking New Ground: Pastor Eric Ngala is preparing Christians in Kenya for a Spiritual and Physical Harvest



When the COVID-19 pandemic caused a famine in Kenya, Pastor Eric Ngala – LMI's Coordinator for Kenya & East Africa - and his colleagues attempted to launch famine relief but found this difficult due to problems cultivating the land for largescale crop production. This prompted Pastor Eric to approach LMI with a plan to purchase a tractor and plough, with a view to improving the yield from the land.

In addition to training church leaders at Reformed Theological Seminary, Bumala – where there are currently 72 students – and his pastoral work at Africa Inland Church, another crucial element of Pastor Eric's ministry is the 'Applied Agriculture for God's Glory' project, which LMI has been supporting since 2019. Pastor Eric and LMI have been helping Christian leaders to become self-sufficient by providing them with chickens (this includes the brooding costs, disinfection, vaccination and transport), thereby fighting poverty and giving the leaders a long-term, sustainable source of income as they serve the Lord.

The tractor Pastor Eric is hoping to purchase – a Massey Ferguson 375 (pictured) – will be kept at the seminary, where an agricultural committee will also be formed. This committee will take applications from students at the college who wish to use the tractor to improve their land. The tractor will then be returned to the seminary every evening after ploughing is finished for the day.



Aside from the seminary students, the tractor will also be loaned to general users at market rates, thus producing an income for maintenance and the purchasing of other parts, such as a trailer that could be used to carry materials and goods to the seminary.



In order to buy the tractor and a plough, LMI are seeking to raise £18,500. Could you, or if you belong to a church contribute towards this goal? Your support could make a huge difference to Christians in Kenya, as they strive to provide for their families while serving the Lord in ministry.

You can support LMI's Kenya & East Africa Ministry Project by donating online at:  
[www.lmi-org.net/support-keamp](http://www.lmi-org.net/support-keamp)

Alternatively, you can send a cheque to LMI, 7-8 Bellsbridge Office Park, 100 Ladas Drive, BELFAST, BT6 9FH (please make cheques payable to LMI and indicate on the back or with an accompanying note that your donation is for "Kenya & East Africa Ministry Project") Thank you!

Derbyshire's LMI Representative is John Deaville  
and you can contact him on (01773) 550413



## Our Weather: "Que Sera Sera?" & Jeremiah by Elisabeth Sweeney, DRC's Placement Student



Summer - what a lovely thought! Brits have a reputation for being rather obsessed with the weather but then, on our lovely island, the weather is unpredictable so we have to take summer whenever it appears, be it the Indian summers of September or the odd warm

day in Spring. We cannot expect the weather to follow our holiday schedule or weekend calendar - and it rarely does. We can only rely on there being some type of weather and learn how to dress accordingly.

Recently though we have not been able to rely on the weather following what we consider to be its normal patterns. As we learn of the warming of Planet Earth and the tremendous impact this has on the lives of people, particularly in less industrialised countries than our own, how do we respond? Is it in fear because of what this may mean for the whole planet in the future or is it with concern for those whose lives are blighted now? Or do we simply shrug our shoulders in resignation and mumble "*que sera sera*" – what will be will be?

The global farming community has more of a keen interest than most in the weather patterns; planning as they must for next season's crop, planting or harvesting of winter animal feed. Farmers, rooted in nature, work hard to supply our food, the price of which directly impacts upon their income levels and on the ability of many people to pay for a weekly family shop. The droughts and floods, experienced by rural societies around the world, wreak havoc on most agricultural communities whose economy and physical well-being is completely reliant upon the weather. So, what does the Bible have to say about this? Let's hear from the Old Testament prophet Jeremiah:

*'Because of the ground which is dismayed,  
Since there is no rain on the land,  
The farmers are ashamed, they cover their heads.  
Even the hind in the field forsakes her newborn calf  
Because there is no grass.  
The wild asses stand on the bare heights,  
They pant for air like jackals;  
Their eyes fail  
Because there is no herbage.'* (Jeremiah 14:4-6)

### **A Prayer in Response**

O Christ whose voice the waters heard  
And hushed their raging at thy word,  
Who walked upon the foaming deep  
And calm amidst the storm didst sleep,  
Arise, replenish nature's dearth  
Awaken us to cries of Earth.

(Taken from the Hymn 'Eternal Father Strong to Save')

## Rev'd Alan's Rural Family Connections

The following poems are written by Ruth Burdett from Langham village, just north of Oakham in Rutland. Ruth is a second cousin and has lived in the village all her life, and with her late husband Mick, they kept Jersey and Guernsey cows. They also ran the local milk round together for many years until the supermarkets began to apply pressure to the business which led them to eventually sell the milk round.

Ruth writes poetry and I thought I would share some with you from the county of my birth, Rutland. I also understand that my Grandfather Bill Griggs worked as a shepherd in the village before training at the London School of Economics, and then joining the tank regiment, seeing active service in World War II. So, now being an Agricultural Chaplain in Derbyshire, it has been a wonderful way to re-connect with my own family's rural background. I hope you enjoy these lovely gentle and meaningful poems that are full of faith and hope and a love for the countryside.

### My Homeland

My love for my homeland, my birthplace.  
My love of long winding lanes and far away fields,  
and hearing the song of the dove.  
My love for the song birds they brighten my day  
with their chorus at dawn in the green month of May.  
My love for my sheep dog with her trusting brown eyes,  
Her love and her faithfulness to me never dies.  
My love for my garden and each lovely flower,  
from the tiny white daisy to the rose on the bower  
My love for my sheep so woolly and warm,  
Like a shepherd they follow me through wind, rain and storm.  
My love for all seasons: grey, blue, green and gold  
Each one has its beauty and wonders untold.  
My love for my homeland, my birthplace.  
My love for my family around me,  
so deeply enriched with God's love.



### I thank you Lord

How often do I stop to see  
What our Lord has given me?  
A countryside so rich and green  
warmed by the sunshine's golden gleam.  
Seas surround this lovely isle  
where golden sands reach on for miles.  
I walk along the zig-zag track  
with my pack upon my back.  
I feel as if I walk on air;  
the soft wind blowing in my hair.  
I listen to the birds that sing  
I thank you Lord for everything!

## A Change to the run-of-the-mill Curriculum! by Stacey Wall

Abbotsholme is an independent day and boarding school for boys and girls aged 2-18 years. Set within 140 acres of beautiful countryside on the Derbyshire/Staffordshire border, the school is host to a variety of facilities such as a 70-acre working farm and equestrian centre and ménage, synthetic pitch, theatre, rock climbing centre and outdoor swimming pool.



Abbotsholme is unique in so many ways, but not least in providing its pupils with hands on experience on its own farm. Our founder, Dr Cecil Reddie, who was an influential progressive educationalist, committed to linking academia with a healthy holistic education, introduced the farm to Abbotsholme in 1889, supporting the school ethos of providing a well-rounded education in and outside of the classroom. The ethos and values are still within the School today.

Children from Nursery through to Year 13 all have access to the farm. From Year 3 to Year 9, pupils have weekly “Carousel”. The Carousel provides half a day session per week on a half termly basis split between the following areas: Farm & Equestrian/Performing Arts/Outdoor Education.

Within the farming lessons, a key focus for pupils is to learn about farm to fork, as all of the produce from the farm goes into the Schools kitchen; the pupils see the full lifecycle. They also get involved in live lambing experiences where the older year groups stay overnight and monitor the ewes/lambs every 4 hours.

There is also opportunity for year groups to regularly hold and bottle-feed the animals.

The farm is also home to pigs, cows, sheep, goats, chickens and turkeys at Christmas.

Some Year 6 pupils are Farm Managers and have their own Chicken Coop in their playground that they look after. They feed the chickens regularly and collect eggs to sell to parents.



In year 13, a pupil Farm Manager is elected to oversee the running of the farm by working closely with the School Farm Manager.

At GCSE level pupils are able to study:

- General agriculture
- Soil
- Principles of plant growth
- Crop production
- Livestock anatomy and physiology
- Livestock production and health
- Pasture management
- Farm structures and tools



Time is split equally between the classroom and practical projects on the farm and estate. At BTEC level 3 National Extended Certificate in Agriculture, again, time is split between the classroom and farm. Pupils work with the school's breeding sheep flock and pedigree British White cattle herd, taking part in all the activities required as part of the year round farming calendar. This involves lambing, preparing livestock for market, ensuring that housing and welfare management is maintained at a high level. Scholarships (in particular in agriculture) and bursaries are available.

In addition to all of the above, Abbotsholme have a Young Farmers club and the pupils also attend/show at local agriculture shows such as Staffordshire, Ashbourne, Manifold and the Brailsford Ploughing Match. The farm has also been fortunate enough to make a special appearance on BBC Countryfile in recent years.

Abbotsholme is keen to support the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy by selling handmade cards and to ensure an opportunity is never missed, these were sold at the latest Early Years Spring Festival and are regularly on sale at many other events the school takes part in.

To ensure children stay active over the summer holidays, Abbotsholme will again open their facilities to the public to enjoy a fun filled few weeks at Pro-@ctive, making friends, building confidence and staying active.

For further information about the school and opportunities available please contact:

[enquiries@abbotsholme.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@abbotsholme.co.uk)

or call 01889 590217

Abbotsholme

Rocester

Uttoxeter

Staffordshire

ST14 5BS



ABBOTSHOLME

AN EDUCATION FOR LIFE

## Don't Ignore this Article! by Emily Brailsford



If I had started this piece with “Rural Domestic Abuse Awareness”, how many of you would have thought “This isn’t relevant to me, domestic abuse doesn’t happen in my village!”? Domestic abuse doesn’t just affect unemployed people who live in towns and cities, it can happen to anyone, anywhere. Statistics show that 1 in 3 women and 1 in 5 men will experience domestic abuse at some point in their life. That means that when you go to market, or the pub or to a WI meeting or other group, it is more than likely that someone there is affected by domestic abuse.

Domestic abuse isn’t always about a black eye or a split lip, coercion and control is also a crime. In 2015 a law came into effect which includes coercion and control. The Government’s definition of coercive behaviour is *“an act or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuse that is used to harm, punish, or frighten their victim”*. So, whilst you might not know of anyone who is hitting their partner, do you know of anyone who is isolating their partner from family and friends? Or anyone who controls where their partner can and can’t go and monitors every minute of their day?

At The Willow Project, we deliver free, online or face to face training, to help you spot the signs of abuse. The training, which is free to anyone living or working in Derbyshire (the cost is £35+VAT for those who live outside of Derbyshire), will help you become more aware of signs of abuse and how to support and signpost a victim.

If you would like to attend our training, please visit our website:  
[www.ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk/training-dates-domestic-abuse-awareness](http://www.ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk/training-dates-domestic-abuse-awareness)

Or for further information email:  
[e.brailsford@ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk](mailto:e.brailsford@ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk)  
or call 07594 088 858

Please remember if you are in danger call 999  
or if you need help and advice call 08000 198 668



**THE WILLOW  
PROJECT**

Rural Domestic Abuse  
Awareness Training & Talks

FREE training for people  
who live or work in Derbyshire  
01629 529270 | 07594 088 858

[f @TheWillowProject](#)  
[t @TheWillowProject](#)  
[i @TheWillowProject](#)

### FREE - The Farmart Magazine

As well as picking up a copy from the dispenser at Bakewell Market, did you know you can get a copy of The Farmart magazine posted direct to your farm?

It's a handy directory of agricultural suppliers & services, as well as being a source of information about what's occurring in the rural community.

Just contact The Farmart office on 01625 529900

or [email@thefarmart.co.uk](mailto:email@thefarmart.co.uk) with your name & address and you'll be added to the free postal mailing list.



# Designing new woodland: Woodland Creation Planning Grant



Planting the right trees in the right places for the right reasons can provide far-reaching benefits for your farm business. With financial incentives available and expert support on hand, woodland creation can help you diversify, generate reliable revenue streams and deliver environmental benefits that support your wider land management goals



## Get paid for creating woodland

Financial support is available through the Forestry Commission and via our partners. Our flagship England Woodland Creation Offer supports new woodland creation by covering standard capital costs up to £8,500/ha, providing annual maintenance costs of £300/ha for 10 years, with additional contributions available up to £8,000/ha when delivering wider benefits to society, nature recovery and the environment. Applicants can also retain Basic Payment Scheme payments and receive a contribution towards the costs of access infrastructure.

Other benefits include:

- Generate income
- Capture carbon and offset emissions
- Protect livestock
- Manage soil and nutrient losses
- Reduce erosion
- Cut farm pollution
- Create natural flood management and improve water quality
- Boost biodiversity
- Increase productivity
- Increase the capital value of your farm

**Grants are available to tenant farmers, with woodland creation offering mutual benefits to you and your landlord.**

**To find out more and to access an application form, please visit:  
[www.gov.uk/guidance/woodland-creation-planning-grant](http://www.gov.uk/guidance/woodland-creation-planning-grant)**

## What's going on in the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy?



For those of you who are perhaps less familiar with the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy team, we are a Christian ministry that celebrates the contribution of our agricultural and rural communities as they navigate change with skill and ingenuity. The team is also here to provide visible and proactive spiritual and pastoral care, and to make an authentic Christian presence in the lives of those working in the land-based sector in Derbyshire.

Did you know that nine out of ten people will not be in church on Sunday, but that nine out of ten people will be at work on Monday? Chaplains engage with people with any faith or no faith in their work-place beyond the walls of the church, and have a key part to play in helping people process complex situations and share about tough challenges. We are available to listen and support and where requested, to pray and share about God's love for the world. This is why chaplaincy is so important in our day and age.

We also help to lead special agricultural services around the county including the Farmers' Harvest and High Peak Livestock Carol Service in the main store ring at Bakewell market, and we regularly take funerals and weddings for our farming community too. You will also see us in the Agricultural Business Centre on Mondays and at many of the agricultural shows around the county. We also have a farmer's support team with volunteers who can provide help out of their own industry experience.

After much thought and reflection, the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy has decided to move its work from Rural Action Derbyshire (RAD) into a charity called Chaplaincy Derbyshire. Chaplaincy Derbyshire coordinates around 150 chaplains that support a broad range of sectors from police and fire chaplains to retail, education, and social care chaplains. The Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy feel that Chaplaincy Derbyshire will be a fitting home to help us remain focused on supporting the agricultural community now and into the future and we are looking forward to this new chapter.

David Legh, the Chair of the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy said:

*"This move is the right one for DRC. Re-locating our work into a new charity formed specifically to co-ordinate chaplaincy in many workplace sectors makes financial and managerial sense. We will keep our separate identity and will maintain close links with our friends at RAD."*

Bev Parker, the CEO of Rural Action Derbyshire said:

*"I have been extremely proud to be associated with the work of the chaplaincy and look forward to maintaining close links with Alan and the team in the future. As a farmer myself, I understand only too well the pressures that farming brings; the challenge of making a living in a very uncertain world, bovine TB, new environmental land management schemes and volatile markets. It is so important that support is there when people need it. I wish DRC all the very best for the future."*

**Please visit our new website at:  
[www.derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk](http://www.derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk) to 'meet the team'  
and find out more about our work.**

**Alternatively, you can call Rev'd Alan Griggs for more information on  
07710 088972  
or email him at [alan@derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk](mailto:alan@derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk)**



**NEW FOR 2022**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE DERBYSHIRE RURAL CHAPLAINCY TEAM  
FOR A SHORT SERVICE OF READINGS AND PRAYERS**

**STARTS AT 1000 HOURS ON THE FOLLOWING MONDAY MARKET DAYS:**

**4th July, 5th September, 3rd October, 7th November**

**Main conference room at the ABC, Bakewell  
Tea & Coffee**

Providing pastoral and spiritual support to the agricultural community

**07710 088972**

**[www.derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk](http://www.derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk)**

Contact DRC on 07710 088972



Thank you to the Duchy of Lancaster  
Benevolent Fund for providing the  
funding for this issue of the DRC News



## Order your own copy of the The DRC News

If you don't already receive a copy of the DRC News, or you know someone who would like a copy, we would be delighted to send it out by post free of charge or via email. Just let Louise, the DRC administrator know.

**Email:** [louise@derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk](mailto:louise@derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk)

**Tel:** 07593 380311

**By post:** Louise Latham, Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy,  
Kiosk 10, The Agricultural Business Centre,  
Agricultural Way, Bakewell, DE45 1AH

## The DRC also produce reflections for Harvest, Christmas, Plough Sunday, Easter and Rogation Sunday

If you would like to receive a copy of these by email, let Louise know.

Please note that all views expressed in the DRC News and Reflections are held solely by each contributor

## Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy Privacy Notice



We store your personal data to:

- Contact you with news and information about our rural chaplaincy work
- Contact you and provide help where you have requested assistance from the Rural Chaplaincy or where you have agreed to be referred to us from another agency or service.
- Process any application made by you, or on your behalf, to the Chaplaincy Welfare Fund.

The Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy is hosted by 'Chaplaincy Derbyshire' an independent organisation and registered charity. Charity Number 1172198.

'Chaplaincy Derbyshire' takes your privacy seriously.

If you would like to be removed from the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy mailing list or you would like to read our privacy policy, please contact us by:

**Telephone on: 07710 088972**

**Email: [alan@derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk](mailto:alan@derbyshireruralchaplaincy.org.uk)**

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

**Writing to: Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy, Kiosk 10, The Agricultural Business Centre,  
Agricultural Way, Bakewell, DE45 1AH.**

Contact DRC on 07710 088972

## Helpful Contact Numbers for Advice & Support



Struggling and not sure where to turn?



- We understand the pressures you face
- Don't face them alone
- **Freephone Helpline:**
- **0800 281 9490**



Through just one phone call, farmers in need can access free, impartial and confidential support from all four charities:

**RABI, Addington Fund, FCN, and Forage Aid.  
Call 03000 111 999**

Helpline (operated by FCN) open 7am-11pm every day of the year



**Whatever you're going through, a Samaritan will face it with you. We're here 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Call FREE from any phone on 116 123 or email [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org)**



**Suicide Bereavement Care offering support to those in suicide crisis.**

[tomorrow@harmless.org.uk](mailto:tomorrow@harmless.org.uk)

01246 541935

[www.tomorrowproject.org.uk](http://www.tomorrowproject.org.uk)



**Derwent Rural Counselling Service**

**0800 047 6861**

**email: [admin@dracs.org.uk](mailto:admin@dracs.org.uk)**

**or visit [www.dracs.org.uk](http://www.dracs.org.uk)**

## Rural Safety & Crime Prevention

Derbyshire Constabulary takes the approach that a rural crime is a crime that takes place in a rural location and includes:

- Farm and agricultural related crime: theft of, or damage to plant vehicles, equipment or livestock
- Wildlife and environmental related crime: animal cruelty, poaching, badger baiting, killing or taking of wild birds or damage of protected habitats
- Heritage related crime: theft, damage or removal of articles from historic sites.

**The direct contact for the Rural Crime Team is:**

**[DRCT@Derbyshire.Police.UK](mailto:DRCT@Derbyshire.Police.UK) or**

**via the [Derbyshire Rural Crime Team Facebook page](#) or [Messenger](#)**

**[www.derbyshire.police.uk/ContactUs](http://www.derbyshire.police.uk/ContactUs)**

*Please note the email address and Facebook page are not monitored 24/7  
and therefore should not be used for crime reporting*

**Emergency: 999 Non-emergency: 101**

# A cut-out-and-keep tractor prayer



## A Summer Season Prayer by Rev'd Stephen F Caddy



Our Father who is both in heaven and everywhere,  
We pray for your blessing on the life of the earth.  
We thank you for the harvest of salad vegetables,  
cherries, blueberries and strawberries.

We thank you for the water that is irrigating the potato fields.

We thank you for the harvest of winter feeds  
as hay is made and the second cut for silage taken.

We pray for the health of the herds where cows are mated  
so that there may be calves born in the Spring.

We pray for the health of the flocks at shearing time.

We pray for County Shows as they highlight  
and celebrate farm and country life.



We pray for those who know the demands  
of long hours of daylight and short hours of rest.

Amen.

