



The ^{New} Link

News from Low Row and Keld
United Reformed Churches in Swaledale,
Part of the Tees Swale Pastorate.

June 2022 - July 2022

At long last life seems to be getting back to some kind of normality. Over the past couple of months contacts have been renewed and visitors returned to the area. We know copies of The Link are posted out to people who have had, or still have an interest in Low Row and Keld churches but we don't know how many more keep up to date with the news by reading the copy on line. If you are in this group of people then how about updating us with your news - are you well, have you moved, how did you cope with lock-down and did you contact Covid? (*Contact details are on the back page*)

Covid restrictions regarding services in church have gradually been lifted. As both Low Row and Keld have small congregations spacing between pews was not difficult but in Low Row we did find it hard not to be able to have our usual coffee after the service! This has now changed although we still offer individually wrapped biscuits with the drinks. May also saw the reintroduction of taking the collection during the service.

We still have no Minister but individual members have taken on various jobs. Keld does not have regular services but has four Ministers in Residence between Spring and Autumn and also organised services for Easter, Harvest, Remembrance Sunday and Christmas. Low Row has returned to its weekly service pattern and we have to thank Daphne Clarke for her supply of preachers. They

vary from a retired Church of England Bishop; one of our former Ministers; an annual visitor to Swaledale; members from Northgate, Darlington; friends; locals; not forgetting Moderators and Peter and Daphne Clarke themselves. We are grateful to all who come to lead our worship.

WORSHIP JUNE - JULY 2022

		Low Row (10.30 am)	Keld (2.00 pm)
June	5th	Bishop John Pritchard	
	12th	at Holy Trinity 11.00 am	
	19th	P. & D. Clarke	Rev F. Bennett (2.30 pm)
	26th	Rev Alan Argent	
July	3rd	Rev John Proctor	Rev John Proctor M in R
	10th	Rev John Durell	
	17th	TBA	
	24th	TBA	
	31st	Hilary & Dave Disney	

SMARBER: We held our Smarber celebration during the weekend of end April/beginning of May. Some of us climbed the hill on the Friday evening to the site of the original Smarber Chapel where Dr. James Mawdesley, accompanied by his wife Rachel, led a short service. The weather was beautiful, the views glorious and the occasion very special to our church. We then joined others waiting in the present church building for a continuation of the service followed by supper. Dr. Mawdesley took the service again for us on

the Sunday. He had put a great deal of effort into researching the Smarber event, choosing prayers that were contemporary with the time of the Chapel and reflecting the long history and continuity of worship in Low Row. It was lovely to be able to hold this event once again after Covid had interrupted this annual celebration. *Sue M*

KELD NEWS: There have already been two Ministers in Residence this year but before the next one in July there is to be an extra service on 19th June when the Moderator of General Assembly, Rev Fiona Bennett will lead worship. This service will be at 2.30 pm as she is preaching at Durham in the morning and will give her plenty of time to get to Keld.

Last August and September there were four baptisms in Keld and these families have supported two craft days organised by Rev Kathleen Wood and Sue Pellatt. All items made were used in services at Christmas and Easter and also to decorate the chapel - grateful thanks are extended to these ladies for introducing the children to the bible and church services.

KELD RESOURCE CENTRE: In May 2022 the refurbished Keld School buildings were re-opened after extensive work. The Grade II listed property is an integral part of the buildings - along with The Manse and the Literary Institute - which make up Keld Resource Centre and it has been the long term aim to return it to productive use.

Keld School opened in 1842, and educated generations of local children until it finally closed in 1973. After that it was used as a bunkhouse until the 2001 foot-and-mouth epidemic forced it to close its doors. For the past 20 years this remarkable building has been closed to the public, and used as a store.

After extensive refurbishment by local craftsmen, the Old School

is now a display and exhibition space run by Keld Resource Centre. Many local people have donated artefacts related to local history, farming and the Upper Dales way of life which are now on display for visitors to appreciate, and we are very grateful to Helen Guy who has collated the artifacts. The project was sponsored by Richmond District Council, Richmondshire Listed Buildings Trust and the Northern & Yorkshire URC Trust.

We would like to thank everyone who has helped to bring Keld School back to life and encourage you to go and see the latest development.

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