

# Momentum

The newsletter of the  
Scargill Movement

Issue 22, Spring 2021



**Scargill Movement**

Lives shared, lives transformed



## Trusting and treading lightly as we move forward with God

**T**his last year has been so challenging! Yet looking back, I realise we have much to be thankful for here at Scargill. Our foundation has always been our treasure chest of relationships and through the wonders of technology, precious connections with the wider Scargill community have been strengthened and extended. I am so grateful for the mutual support, love and encouragement we have shared. We value your prayers and messages, and I'm gobsmacked and a little embarrassed by how well you have supported us financially. Thank you! We join the psalmist's prayer, giving thanks to God who is good, whose love endures forever.

As we prepare to reopen, I've been asked, 'What will Scargill look like going forward? What is the big picture?' Well, perhaps the big picture really is the small picture: we are not aiming to do anything extraordinary or heroic but to do ordinary things with tenderness. When you begin to come through our doors again, we want to create a warm, loving space where every individual is welcomed and noticed. I hesitate to use the word 'home' as many people have felt stuck at home through the pandemic but we long for you to experience homecoming, to spend time sharing laughter and tears as we journey together into healing. I have been inspired by Therese of Lisieux who said: 'Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word, always doing the smallest right and doing it all with love.'



I am drawn to the story in 2 Chronicles ch. 20. King Jehosaphat's army is outnumbered, the situation is desperate but I love his prayer: 'We do not know what to do, but our eyes are upon you.' (v12) As we emerge from lockdown it seems a very apt prayer! Turning first to God, acknowledging that we don't know what to do is the best place to start. And I am reminded of the liturgy we often pray, 'God whose presence is known in the structures we build and also in their collapse, establish in us a community of hope.' This is where we begin as we move forward – trusting and treading lightly as we try to discern what God is doing and join in. Flexibility has always been one of our strengths as a Community and as we discern our next steps, we are invited to remain agile, listen carefully to what God is saying to us as the circumstances around us seem to constantly change. So as we embark on a new chapter of the Scargill adventure, here are some of the things which are beginning to take shape on the horizon:

### **Sharing the gift of community**

Scargill is a place where we try our very best to honour relationships, a place of belonging where diversity is cultivated. We long to be a generous offering to all and particularly to enfold weary frontline workers and those in church leadership.

### **Honouring Sabbath**

This year we have learned to value rest as God's gift for human flourishing. While we look forward to hosting guests again, we do not want to return to relentless busyness. With a smaller resident community, we will not be able to return to offering a full programme immediately but we hope to offer a depth and quality of experience to those who come.

### **Connectedness with creation**

The pandemic has taught us that God loves his planet as well as his people. It has taught us that God is at the heart of creation not us. Our hope is that Scargill will speak prophetically of our place in the created order, serving it not consuming it. Read more about our partnership with environmental charity A Rocha on page 7.

### **Blended programme**

Our online programme this year has been surprisingly fruitful, enabling us to connect with a broad range of people. We plan to offer virtual and residential events in future. We would particularly like to use our online presence to connect with younger people, many of whom have used the internet to explore worship for the first time during lockdown. This may be an exciting opportunity to engage with and support young people and their wellbeing. Read more from Shaun on mindfulness on page 5. The day when we can receive guests again will be a joyful occasion and of course that means we'll be sharing lots of Scargill cake to celebrate your return!

*Phil*

# Welcome!

## Introducing the Lambert family

Shaun, Clare and Coco (the dog) arrived in February and feel very privileged to have an opportunity to be part of Scargill Movement, listening, serving, loving and learning the wisdom of community. Shaun has been a friend of Scargill for a few years



**Shaun, Clare & Coco**

and a regular leader of mindfulness retreats here. For the last 23 years, he has been serving as a Baptist Minister in London, and is also a trained counsellor, psychotherapist and mindfulness researcher. Clare has been involved in youth work, pastoral care, prayer ministry, and a healing on the streets project, and has done counselling training. They have two children, Zac and Amy.

In May 2019, whilst sitting in the walled garden, Shaun felt God speak to him about the importance of young people, mindfulness, community, and the significance of Scargill's ministry in weaving these together. As a result of that, he and Clare helped set up a student house next to the Baptist church they were ministering in, to try and help foster a sense of community.

During lockdown in London they became very aware of the dramatic rise in mental ill-health amongst young people and were convicted of the urgency of responding to that great need as well as the spiritual questions many young people have asked during lockdown. Shaun also believes that just as after the Second World War there was a turn to community amongst Christians, that there will be a turn to community post lockdown as people look for more authentic ways of living that resonate with kingdom values. Clare resonates wholeheartedly with the Scargill values of offering young people a listening ear, hospitality, and generosity.

Coco wishes to express his thanks to his many friends here at Scargill. He particularly likes being taken out for extra walks and being allowed to sit on sofas. His understanding of the Scargill Pathways involves walks rather than spiritual transformation!



# Mindfulness and the renewal of wellbeing

From Shaun Lambert

**A**s we step forward on the road map out of lockdown, many will need to renew their wellbeing. A friend Ruth Rice has written a book 'Slow Down, Show Up, and Pray.' Mindfulness helps us slow down, show up as our real selves and pray! Mental health advocates recognise that we face a tsunami of mental ill health. Ruth asks, 'Can we replace that with a wave of wellbeing?' Wellbeing is linked to shalom and wholeness. Like the proverbial frog in boiling water, only as we slow down do we realise we are running on empty.



Mindfulness offers accessible stepping stones on the pathway to wellbeing. It is a God-given capacity which has several aspects. The first is self-awareness. We are often on autopilot (we have all gone upstairs to get something and forgotten why). Mindfulness brings us back to the present moment and remembering why we went upstairs.

The second mindful capacity God gives us is the ability to regulate our emotions. When Paul says, 'In your anger do not sin,' (Ephesians 4:26) he is asking us to regulate our anger. He says anger itself is not a sin, but that it can lead to sin, usually in something we say. We can practise patience and allow 'wholesome talk' to 'come out of our mouths' that promotes the wellbeing of others (Ephesians 4:29).

We have been living in a virtual world, in our heads, trying to connect with others online if we can. Mindfulness brings us back to our senses, back to our bodies, back to our breath, back to the present moment where God is. These are the stepping stones to wellbeing, however deep the river we are crossing. As we cross, we transcend our own self-focus, becoming aware of God, creation, and others. This is our third God-given mindful capacity – self-transcendence. Scargill is of course a (super)naturally mindful place and that is why I love it! For so many it is a place to be real, to recognise it is OK not to be OK.

# Family fun



We have really missed having families here during this last year, so we've tried to make sure we could still offer fun things to do during our half term holidays.

In February, we took our theme from C. S. Lewis' 'Voyage of the Dawn Treader'. We created videos for lots of activities that would appeal to all ages and put on three Zoom events—a tourna-quiz, a cook-along and show and tell session.

We were thrilled with the uptake with over 30 families getting involved and the outcomes were wonderful—the creativity was amazing!

**Wendy Bunting**  
Youth Co-ordinator





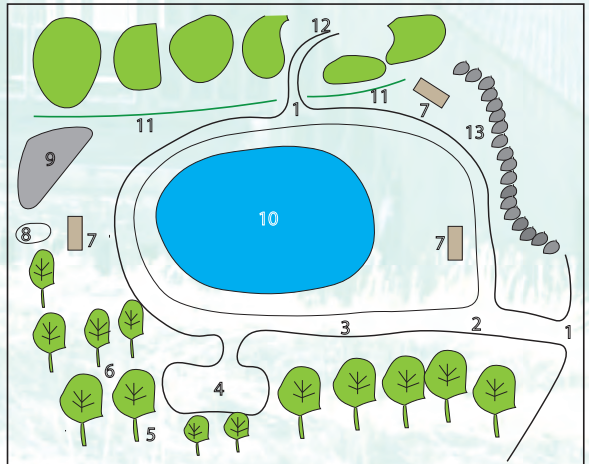
# Making sense of God's creation

From Chloe Leigh

Scargill has been in partnership with the Christian ecology charity A Rocha for three and a half years. A Rocha aim to protect and restore the natural world by equipping Christians and churches to care for the environment and to understand that we all have a responsibility to protect the natural world and its inhabitants. As part of our partnership with them, we are encouraged to live more sustainably, for example by reducing our food waste and using sustainable energy (such as our biomass boiler). This year A Rocha are introducing the Target 25 scheme which includes monitoring 25 endangered or 'at risk' species and as part of that, Scargill has started monitoring wildflowers and hedgehogs.

I joined A Rocha's virtual conference in December where they encouraged their partners to take action to improve our local ecosystems. Here at Scargill, we've decided to build a sensory garden, including a wildlife pond, pathways and benches from which to admire God's creation. It will be a brilliant and valuable addition to our estate! We're still in the early stages, drawing up potential plans with features such as a rockery, insect hotel and beautiful archways.

The idea of a sensory garden is to connect with nature and see God in creation using all five senses. The garden will be situated behind the chapel, on previously unused land, and ideally it will be fully accessible too! It will be an ongoing project, since many of the plants and trees will take time to grow. The aim is to start construction around May and we're hoping to be able to buy plants and resources locally, to reduce our carbon footprint. We really hope that, once we open our doors again, you will be able to come and sit in our sensory garden and appreciate God's wonderful creation. We are so blessed to be situated in such a beautiful place, and we're waiting with bated breath for when we can welcome guests back, to share in the joy of it with us.



Proposed plan for the sensory garden

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Gated entrance      | 8. Insect hotel      |
| 2. Willow tunnel       | 9. Rockery           |
| 3. Circular path       | 10. Pond             |
| 4. Raised seating area | 11. Natural fencing  |
| 5. Wind chimes         | 12. Path to fire pit |
| 6. Trees/Orchard       | 13. Extended wall    |
| 7. Bench               |                      |



Dancing



Spec-ulating

# The delights of Community life



Wrestling



Alluring



Entertaining



Despairing



Jesting



Prospecting



Chilling



Training



## Emerging

The virus wanes, the threat for now subdued but many grieve, there is much loss to mourn. We can't go back so we must be renewed, believing that in chaos, good is born. What is forever lost and what remains? From ending comes the grace for a new start. Hearts thankful for each blessing that sustains, still fragile, we emerge to play our part, sort through the remnants of our former ways, rediscover gifts we took for granted, now precious in disorientating days. Could they be seeds, waiting to be planted? Trust all to Love, the only one who knows, and sow in hope and watch to see what grows.

Helen Brocklehurst

# Lockdown reflections



From Jean Maxwell...

Lockdown! Lostness! Loneliness! Like most folk, I badly missed friends, family, chat - and Scargill. I was left wondering how to fill the time with some sense of meaning when along came the community with live broadcasts, a unique Scargill mix of spirituality, laughter, and even food! There has been laughter over tea and cake. The chapel prayers have on many occasions reduced me to tears, especially after a dear friend died, but it has been so good to be 'in' that safe place. And then the incredible programme of events on Zoom - with no travel! My life really has been enriched by such a wide variety of speakers and topics, from art to biblical reflection. Usually the speakers are well known to Scargill which adds to the feeling of being welcomed back. And always there is worship from the Marsh lounge and chat with fellow Scargillians. Such a blessing! Thank you!

**...and Jayne Shepherd who has been co-leading the Crafternoons via Zoom**

In the bewilderment of the first lockdown I wondered what now was God's call. In my church ministry, I found new fulfilment in helping with Tots Worship on Zoom. Participating in a Scargill Quiet Day inspired and enabled me to pick up the threads of my ministry among lacemakers by leading a Quiet Day, Get Togethers and Craft Mornings for church. It is wonderful how healing our crafting can be and, in our sharing together, we find consolation. When crafting alone we can become still in the loving presence of God and find peace in his gift of creativity. As well as finding new ways of fulfilling my calling, I have rejoiced in, and benefitted from, the many ways that Scargill are continuing to offer hospitality, teaching, fellowship and fun through courses, tea parties, forums, worship and Crafternoons!



**Right: Crochet mandala.**

**Below l to r: My pandemonium blanket, Lacemaking showing Mary & Joseph on their posada!**





# Lessons from a snowdrop

From Ailsa Cramer

**W**hen Scargill closed its doors to guests last March, it felt as though the music had suddenly stopped in the middle of a spirited ceilidh. I was left feeling poised in mid step, not knowing what to do. That state of suspended liminality has been both uncomfortable and stretching.



Over time, many goodbyes to dear friends were said and community changed shape. Life looked and felt so different. I often felt guilty about having the privilege of being able to call Scargill 'home'. I wrestled with questions such as: Does being here have ANY value right now? Should I be doing something somewhere else? Was being in this safe secure haven [bubble] wrong, when so many were struggling? It was also tough having to cancel holidays, especially a planned sibling/ cousin get together for my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. I last saw my South African sister in August 2017 and haven't seen my Devon sister since Christmas 2019.

But there have been positives. Slowly the dance restarted but the tempo had changed and new steps had been introduced. Honestly, after 18 busy months on the House Team I've relished the chance to catch my breath. Having fewer demands work wise meant more opportunities to connect with God, my Scargill family and our surroundings. Having both the time and energy to go deeper in relationships has been like unwrapping a gift: rewarding, fun and sometimes surprising. It's been a year of laughter and tears, work, walks, shared meals and coffee breaks, quiet, silliness, prayer and solemnity. I've tried new and scary steps such as doing a Sunday talk and being on Forum. But mostly I've rediscovered that God loves me for who I am, not for what I DO for Him.

Watching the changing seasons I've grown to love lichens, moss and flowers, especially snowdrops. Their delicate white blooms pointing to spring waiting in the wings! Recently I discovered that their bowed down faces hide a beauty only revealed when they're upended. Snowdrop lesson: being upended, turned upside down, can reveal a different beauty, hidden by the snowdrop's Creator. That fills me with hope.

# Looking forward and not losing heart!

'Therefore, since it is by God's mercy we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart.' (2 Corinthians 4:1)

There has been so much over this past year of living with the consequences of the pandemic to dis-hearten us: each of us will have our own stories and experiences to share, and the community at Scargill has had its own particular challenges. That said, I want to begin by saying a heartfelt thank you to the leadership team, and indeed all the members of the community, for the ways in which they have not just sustained, but developed how Scargill's ministry can be offered, in ways we couldn't have imagined a year ago. Of course there's no substitute for being physically present at Scargill, but through the online programme, Quiet days, Forums, Tuesday tea parties, Saturday Crafternoons and Thursday afternoon prayers, we've been able to stay connected, and been blessed. Through these past months, significant numbers of people have discovered for the first time what Scargill has to offer. All this has been en-heartening! I'd also like to add my thanks to those which Phil has expressed in his article, for your prayerful and incredibly generous financial support during this past year. We never take this for granted, but it means we are well-placed for whatever lies ahead. More en-heartening!

It's been rightly said that we learn important things about ourselves in testing times, and I would add learn, or re-learn, things about God. I've quoted at the start of this article from Paul's second letter to the Church at Corinth, and twice within a few verses he uses this phrase 'we do not lose heart'. Given the circumstances from which he wrote those words, the pressures he was under, there was plenty to dis-hearten and dis-courage Paul. What helped him not only to keep going, but remain hope-filled and future-orientated, even when that future wasn't clear, was this reminder that any ministry in which we are engaged, is not ours to possess or control, but is by God's mercy - and this also holds true for Scargill. Friends, life has changed and there's no going back. In the light of this, whatever is unclear as far as the future is concerned, we have a strong sense that, especially in these coming months, we need to create space at Scargill, as never before, for individuals and groups to experience renewal, refreshment and restoration. It also feels important not to over-plan or plan too far ahead. And maybe - and haven't we seen this before?! - this can be where the Holy Spirit can most powerfully be found, in the midst of our vulnerability, reminding us to rely on these mercies of God, again and again, and finding them to be fresh and new every day.

With my love, gratitude and prayers,  
**from Bishop Chris Edmondson, Chair of the Scargill Council**



# Simply amazing



## Finance and Project Update from John Fell, Council Member and Chair of the Finance and Business Group

**W**e have just completed our 11th year since our 'resurrection' and have enjoyed ten years of growing numbers of guests and activities as well as our financial position becoming ever stronger. Since March 2020 we have had no 'real-time' guests though we are glad the smaller community has been able to keep the cycle of prayer and daily routines necessary to support us all. Indeed we have all benefitted from a lot of online activity and inspiration from Phil and Di and community members.

Our guest income, as you will imagine, is some £600,000 below budget for 2020. But we have had some miraculous answers to our prayers in terms of generous gifts and legacies from our many friends. Gifts and Legacies combined with the government support grants came to nearly £600,000 in 2020 so we had over £200,000 more in the bank than we had at the end of 2019 and were able to pay off all our external borrowing. We start 2021 with no external loans other than some £15,000 of loans from friends on a repayment programme over the next two years. What an amazing position God has placed us in and to Him be the praise!

As you may remember, we were hoping to start the Phase 7 work in 2021 which included replacing the Marsh Lounge roof. Partly because we have had to use some of our free gift income this year on sustaining the daily rhythm of life at Scargill, but mainly because we don't want to disrupt our 'reopening' year for guests in 2021/22, we have taken the decision to postpone the start of those works until Spring 2023. This will give us all the opportunity to enjoy again the Scargill experience we cherish over this next 12 to 20 months and build up our project development funds to £1m - £1.5 million before we start the work in 2023 - we currently have nearly £500,000 set aside for this already! Surely we don't need any incentive to book ourselves in again at Scargill! We look forward to welcoming you again through our doors!

# Online programme in May



Here is our online programme of events for May and June. Further details will be available on the website. It has really blessed us to offer these events during this time, and we know that many have also been blessed by them. You would be very welcome to join us.

**Tue 4 to Thu 6 May** Walking with Jesus - Adventures on the Emmaus Road led by Felicity Lawson 18MA21 on Zoom £50

**Fri 7 to Sun 9 May** The Wisdom of Community meets Mindfulness - a conversation led by Shaun Lambert, Phil Stone and other guest contributors 18WA21 on Zoom £30/£21

**Tue 11 May** Finding your voice 1 led by Mike Leigh 19MA21 on Zoom £15

**Wed 12 May** Scargill Forum (8-9:30pm) 19MB21 on Zoom free/donation

**Fri 14 May** Quiet Day led by Scargill Community 19WA21 on Zoom free/donation

**Sat 15 May** Quiet Day (repeat of Fri 14 May) led by Scargill Community 19WB21 on Zoom free/donation

**Tue 25 to Thu 27 May** Enneagram 3 (limited spaces) led by Margi Walker and Diane Stone 21MA21 on Zoom £90

**Fri 28 to Sun 30 May** - Renew Refresh Restore led by Donna Worthington on Zoom. It is lovely to welcome Donna, an experienced retreat leader, to lead this weekend. The theme will be around Pentecost. 21WA21 on Zoom £30

**Mon 31 May to Thu 3 June** - Half Term event 22MA21 on Zoom free



# Photography competition

Scargill sits in picturesque Wharfedale and many guests and community members enjoy taking photographs of the beautiful surroundings. We'd like to invite you to take a trip down memory lane and look at your old Scargill photos then enter the best ones in our competition. Any picture taken on the estate or in Wharfedale is eligible and there are five categories:

1 Spring                      2 Summer                      3 Autumn                      4 Winter                      5 The Chapel

Thirteen winning entries will be selected to feature in our 2022 calendar with seasonal pictures for each month and an image of the Chapel on the front cover.

The winner of each category will receive three copies of the calendar as their prize. You may enter as many photographs as you like but they must be your own pictures and, by entering an image, you're agreeing that Scargill Movement may include it in the 2022 calendar. Digital entries can be emailed to 'helen@scargillmovement.org' by 31st July 2021. Please include your name and where the picture was taken in your email. Calendars will be available from the Scargill shop or via the website in the autumn.



**In good heart – the latest pic of community. Brexit and pandemic travel restrictions are currently preventing new community members from joining us from outside Britain. Please join us in praying for these barriers to be overcome.**

## **Giving thanks**

We are an ever-changing community, grateful for the stewardship of those who have gone before us. We give thanks for the life of Maggie Leach, a founder member of the community who died peacefully in April.

# Our Identity and Values

## Identity

- We are a Christian movement with its home in the Yorkshire Dales where an intentional community representing many nationalities and Christian traditions is committed to a common rule of life and service.
- We believe that lives are transformed by the love and joy of God that is found in Jesus Christ. We are willing to be caught up in the ingenious creativity and adventurous life of the Holy Spirit.

## Values

- Being a resident community with Jesus at the heart in which prayer, eating together and chewing over the Bible are integral to our daily rhythm. We offer time and space for individuals and groups to encounter God and each other in a homely, peaceful and cherishing setting where God may be heard.
- Holding a safe and open space through sharing lives based on generous hospitality and welcome to all. Following the example of Jesus, we seek to encourage individuals and groups, including those who feel marginalised within society and the church.
- Helping guests and Community to gain and be enriched by a vision for Community where creativity, vulnerability and laughter are embraced in an individualistic world.
- Being a place of resourcing, training and equipping for guests and Community members alike. We seek to send our guests back with new vision and purpose. For Community members we provide a rich and broad apprenticeship style training for Christian mission and service.
- Entrusted with a beautiful part of the environment, we aspire to be responsible stewards of God's creation. We provide thought provoking programmes and outdoor activities for all ages with scope for creativity and personal development.
- Quality, Simplicity and Beauty are gospel values. They reflect how we aspire to care for our buildings and capture the essence of our life together as a Community.

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**Scargill Movement**

Lives shared, lives transformed



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