

Even in our digital world pens still have a place. Most of us are delighted to receive a handwritten message - a card, letter or holiday post card - we know that someone has taken the time to pick up a pen. Handwritten messages brighten the day of those who are lonely, housebound, bereaved or simply unwell. Messages of thanks, congratulations or simply 'thinking of you' can mean so much.

Next time you pick up a pen, be grateful to their inventors, for....

The pen is (still) mightier than the sword

Rev. Sue Chew, Associate Minister

Church services in June are at 9.15 am every Sunday - all villagers and visitors are welcome

King Charles Coronation Celebration Weekend

Well what a fabulous weekend of celebrations we had in Sadberge for the Coronation of King Charles III. Saturday saw 127 people come to the Village Hall with family and friends to enjoy live music, good food and a Coronation quiz. Sunday was an afternoon of families and friends coming together to enjoy 'Cake and a Cuppa' which was a huge success. The children had a bouncy castle (always a favourite), crafting, games and disco in the main hall; plus the weather was, for the most part, on our side. HUGE thanks go to ALL those involved with both events from decorating the hall, baking cakes, setting/clearing up or making tea and coffee - we couldn't have done it without all your hard work..... it was an amazing weekend.

THANK YOU



St Andrew's, Sadberge



Roundabout Newsletter

June 2023

Rev'd Mark East

(Rector)

7 St Andrew's Close

Haughton-le-Skerne

DL1 2EB

01325 492993

The pen is mightier than the sword

So wrote the playwright Edward Bulwer-Lytton in 1839 in his historical play *Richelieu*.

Pens are something we take for granted around the home, at work, in the car or our pocket or handbag; yet why is it if we need to write down information instantly when on the phone we can never find one, or even worse find one that doesn't work!

Pens have been around for thousands of years and were first used by our ancient ancestors in 3200BC. The first quill pens were used to write the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Romanian Petrache Poenaru is credited as one of the many inventors of the fountain pen; his French patent of 1827 described a *self-fuelling endless portable quill with ink*. But there are many earlier examples - our own Samuel Pepys described a metal pen *to carry ink* as early as 1663.

László Bíró, a journalist who became irritated by the constant need to fill his fountain pen, invented the ball point which was unveiled at the Budapest International Fair of 1938. The iconic Bic Cristal made its debut in 1950 and became one of the best-selling and cheapest pens in the world.

Pens have continued to develop over the decades and now include felt tips and highlighters. Some are now made from recycled paper or cardboard to cut down on waste. Eco Scribe pens are compostable and don't leak resin into landfill when thrown away. The Fisher Space pen (which also can be used underwater and which doesn't need gravity to function) was used on the first manned Apollo mission into space.



History has taught us that the potential of a pen for good or evil is very great. The pen itself has no moral value yet is one of the most powerful artefacts we can possess. The death warrants of Mary Queen of Scots and King Charles I, the Treaty of Versailles, the armistices of 1918 and 1945 and the UK's withdrawal from the EU were all signed with a fountain pen along with many other significant documents in the life of any country. (Remember King Charles' irritation with a leaky pen at his accession ceremony?) And marriage documents are still signed with a fountain pen in black ink.

The British Library in London has on display some of the most significant documents in history, almost all of which are handwritten. You can also see the original manuscript of Handel's *Messiah* in the composer's own handwriting, usually open at The Hallelujah Chorus.

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From our Parish Registers in the last month:

29th April - the Marriage of **Libby Jane Soley** and **Andrew McKenna**

21st May - the Baptism of **Felicity Alice Mary Craig**

To SOAP members and friends

Following the very favourable comments from members and friends about our last and successful social afternoon in *The Buck Inn* - **we can do it all again!** Bring a friend and join us for darts, dominoes, cards, snooker....in fact, whatever you choose!

Tuesday 13th June from 2-4pm - The Buck Inn

There'll be a raffle; light refreshments, tea and coffee will be available and you'll receive a warm welcome from Lisa and the SOAP team.

*St Andrews Church
Sadberge*

Come along to a wonderful night of:

Music from the Movies!

(Performed By Thorpe Thewles Pop Choir)

On:
Friday 7th July, 2023

At: 7pm

Tickets available from Catherine Knaggs
07811 595938

Including:
Refreshments
£ a drink

Raffle

£8.00 per
ticket.