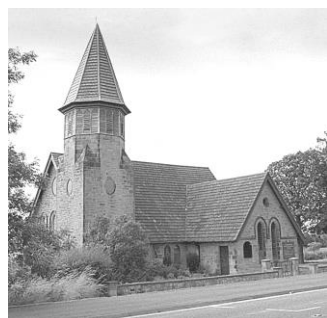


St George's, Widdrington & Great Bavington United Reformed Churches Newsletter



June
2022

Website: stgeorgesurcmorpeth.org

Worship at St George's United Reformed Church for June

Wed 1st	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service (Doors open at noon)
Thurs 2 nd – Sat 4th		Church Event to Celebrate Queen's Jubilee. Precise Date & Details to follow
Sun 5th	10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion
Wed 8th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service
Fri 10th	7.00pm	Jubilee Concert by Bradley Cheswick – former leader of the Royal Northern Sinfonia. Details to follow
Sat 11th	7.30pm	Country Dance Club
Sun 12th	10.30am	Morning Worship
Wed 15th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service
Sun 19th	10.30am	Morning Worship
Wed 22nd	10.30am	Morning Worship. Tea/Coffee in Hall
Wed 29th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service

Steward's Duty Rota

5	Madeline and Sarah Cleverley
12	Madeline and Sarah Cleverley (Morpeth Fair Day)
19	Christine Oakes and Joan Cooper
26	Christine Hawkins and Gordon Slack

Flower Rota

5	Elsie Lang
12	Fair Day
19	See Notice Board
26	Margaret Finnie
Rep	Vivien Bennett 515263



The next joint newsletter with Widdrington & Bavington URC's
covers events in **July and August 2022**.

The deadline is Sunday 19th June

Please do not wait for the deadline if you already have
articles ready to be included.

Please contact Stephanie. E-mail: robson-robson@hotmail.co.uk

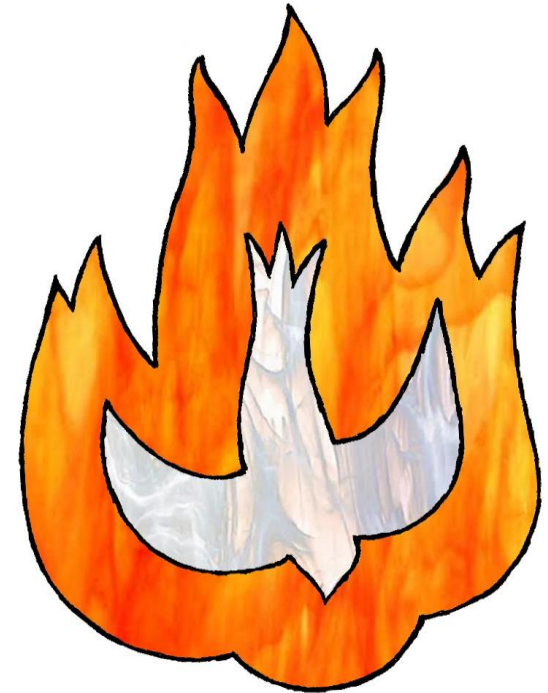
What's On at St George's

SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP & JUNIOR CHURCH

10.30 am

MON	Age UK Exercise 9.00-12.00 noon Ronka Gbadebo	07952381160
	Age UK Exercise: 3.00 – 4.00pm As above	
TUES	Morning Badminton 10.00am – 12 noon Allen Oakes allen@oakesa.co.uk	
	Rainbows, 5.00pm Liz Kelly 783434 Mobile 07714481089 liz.kelly@jcpce.com	
	Brownies: 6.00pm Susan Fairgrieve . s.fairgrieve21@gmail	
	Guides and Rangers: from 7.00pm Liz Kelly 783434 Mobile 07714481089 liz.kelly@jcpce.com	
	Ladies Coffee Club: 2.00pm (3 rd Tues) nb: new start time Contact: Sarah Cleverley	515257
	Cobweb Orchestra 7.30 – 9.30pm In the Sanctuary Contact: Christine Oakes 518608 or Penny Oxley 514612	
WED	Morning Badminton: 9.30am Sarah Cleverley	515257
	Knitter, Natter Crafts & Chatter 2.00 – 4.00pm Joan Cooper	515682
	Afternoon Bowls 2.00pm Andrew Cleverley	515257
	Zumba: 6.00pm High Intensity with Lisa O on 07507 179 692 or zumbawithlisao@hotmail.com	
THURS	Morning Badminton: 10.00-12.00 Allen Oakes allen@oakesa.co.uk	
	Zumba: 5.45pm. Low Intensity with Lisa O on 07507 179 692 or email zumbawithlisao@hotmail.com	
SAT	Table Tennis: 10.30 – 12.30 Christine Richardson Country Dance Club: (Varies from month to month) Contact: Shirley Forster	513913
SUN	Orchestra: Norm. 4 th Sunday Andrew Hamnett 518485 (not August) Christine Oakes 518608	

Pentecost....



A Message from our Minister Revd Julian Sanders

Dear Friends

You might not be aware, but the ministers of the churches in Morpeth meet together once a month for a coffee and to discuss things that we can do together as churches, and to generally support each other. This month was well attended and the question was asked as to what you call a group of ministers? None of us knew the answer.

However I do know what you call a group of Zebras. It is a "zeal" of Zebras. Now I've looked into the origins of how that came about and there really isn't any good reason. It's thought that it just came about with someone playing around with the sound of words. But I think it would be great if a group of ministers was called a 'zeal of ministers'.

This word zeal is quite an important word. Zeal means:

"an enthusiastic devotion to a cause, ideal, or goal and tireless diligence in its furtherance. Fervent or enthusiastic devotion, often extreme or fanatical in nature, as to a religious movement, political cause, ideal, or aspiration."

Paul in his letter to the Romans writes this:

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honour one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in **zeal**, but keep your spiritual **fervour**, serving the Lord." Romans 12:9-11

It would be great if those words of Paul could be applied to us! Because we need that zeal and fervour in all our lives as Christians.

At Pentecost the disciples are pictured with tongues of fire. They have been set alight to burn uncontrollably. That baptism of fire was a dangerous thing, because fire spreads and constantly looks for new things to devour and be fed by. Fire is tirelessly diligent about burning things – and will continue to spread despite our best efforts to subdue it.

In this land in which we live, a land which is spiritually dry and parched, we pray that at this Pentecost time we let our fire burn uncontrollably. That we may be so filled with the Holy Spirit, that we overflow with spiritual fervour and be never lacking in zeal.

With every blessing, **Julian**

Christian Aid

A big thank you to everyone who has delivered envelopes acted as post boxes and donated to the work of Christian Aid. Thanks also to the counters, when they do their part. I hope to have a total for everyone for next month's magazine.

Margaret Brock

Refugees June 2022

For some time the churches and many other individuals and groups have been campaigning against the provisions of the Nationality and Borders Bill, which among other measures is designed to cut down on irregular entry to this country and to send some people who arrive this way to Rwanda.

The Moderator of the URC, Rev Clare Downing, who made representations with many other church leaders seeking to change the Bill, has said:-

"As we said in our letter to MPs ahead of the vote in Parliament, we will not stop advocating for love to be shown to our neighbour through the policies and practices in our asylum system. Our churches will continue to come alongside those who remain in desperate need of our friendship and welcome."

Following agreement by both Houses of Parliament on the text of the Bill it received Royal Assent on 28th April 2022. The Bill is now an Act of Parliament (law). Challenges to this are anticipated.

WERS

More work has been on-going in the WERS Community Garden and they now have new benches. These were made by volunteers with input from the Scotswood Community Garden. WERS is specifically asking at the moment for mobile phones which can be used by their clients. The phones need to be in good working order and wiped of all data. Their clients need phones so that they can stay in touch with their families, friends, solicitors and the Home Office. Any queries about this please contact WERS through info@wers.org.uk.

As well as their routine work with asylum seekers and refugees they also have a Community Campaign Group which is made up of people from the WERS community who have lived experience of the Asylum system. Over the past couple of months the group have been working together with Asylum Matters exploring how they can bring about change in the asylum system and how they can ensure their voices are heard. This group is currently meeting to develop plans.

From time to time WERS advertises for paid staff to work with them. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in working for them to look at their website www.wers.org.uk. Usually by the time I have chance to pass on the information the closing date has passed. They have recently advertised for an activities coordinator.

Justice and Peace

Sara Harris writes *"The project continues to see an increasing number of people using our services each month and your donations of food, toiletries and finance are welcomed even more than ever. Toiletries are very much in demand."*

She asks whether as the summer holidays are approaching there are any people who would like to get involved with them in volunteering. This could just be to cover for holiday absences. It need not be a long term commitment. It would clearly be a great way to see the project in action and to make a real difference to the lives of those who come to there for support.

Sara quotes from a client from Sri Lanka who recently commented that he couldn't believe how welcome the project makes him feel each time he comes. He told them that it is very difficult to be away from his family but when he comes to the project it is like having his parents there.

That must have been so heartening to the staff and volunteers.

I would appreciate a number of volunteers so we can have a rota for taking the donations from church to our storage garage in Morpeth. (Sundays are not usually convenient for doing this). Thank you

Margaret Brock

Memory Café

Just a reminder that the Morpeth Methodist Memory Café is still open for business. Numbers are well down at the moment so they do not need our assistance to run it. However they are very keen to welcome new members. The cafe is for people with memory problems or dementia and their family and friends. It is a drop in café and *usually* runs on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 10.30 – 12 noon. So the next few dates are **16th June, 7th July and 21st July**. Please note there is no café on 30th June. New members are always welcome.



Friday 10th June at 7.00 pm



Special Platinum Jubilee Evening Concert

Given by Former Leader of Royal Northern Sinfonia –

Bradley Creswick (Violin)
&
David Murray (Piano)

In a programme of Violin Showstoppers



**Tickets for this event are almost sold out, so be
Sure to get your orders in as soon as possible.**

Tickets £10 (Adult) £5 (Schoolchildren) to include interval tea,
coffee & biscuits are now available from Gillian Irvine Tel. 01670 515870



or
Email kdirvine@sky.com



Buy or Borrow Library.

We are always in need of paperbacks and jigsaws with which to refresh the Buy or Borrow Library. Please keep donating any you may wish to recycle by leaving them in either the cupboard in the vestibule or the Anderson Room and labelled 'For Gillian'.

Many thanks. **Gillian**

To mark a big birthday

My 70th birthday is fast approaching, while pondering how to celebrate it the news came on TV. Ukraine was the top story, the film of the devastation, the carnage and the awful brutality of it all overwhelmed me. What about folk celebrating 70th birthdays there, celebrating any birthday, celebrating anything. I, initially, thought there is nothing to celebrate in that situation. However, thinking about it I am sure people will celebrate whatever they can. There'll be celebrations knowing that loved ones have escaped from the country, celebrations over lives saved, lives found in the rubble of what once were buildings, hospitals, care homes, offices and houses. Yes they will try to find something to be glad about, that's what people do.

Back to my birthday, I chewed over what I can do to help the people of Ukraine. Heading over to Russia to give Vladimir Putin a piece of my mind was probably not the best idea, friends and family were against this so I thought again and this is what I came up with.....

From 9am Saturday 25th June to 9am Sunday 26th June I will be in Church on a Sponsored 24 hour fasting vigil with prayers for Ukraine.

There will be a prayer station for anyone who wants to come in to add their prayers for Ukraine.

There will be two sessions where tea and coffee will be served to anyone who calls in, the charge will be by donation. Guides and Brownies are going to make little cakes and cookies decorated with the Ukrainian flag, Junior Church are going to work on a craft activity for younger children.

Anything on the day will be by donation.

The coffee times are 10am to 12midday and 3pm to 4.30pm. I will be looking for volunteers to make and serve tea and coffee at the allotted times. These are the times open to the public. Any of our Church members who wish to come at other times to sit in prayer will be very welcome.

I am to be joined for the entire 24hours by Keith Stead, he too will be fasting and will have his own sponsorship forms

I am hoping that we will be able to raise a considerable sum which will be split between UNICEF in Ukraine and the Morpeth hub for refugees.

Our minister, Rev Julian Sanders, will be at Church at 9am on both days to pray us in and pray us out.

I do intend going off for a shower and change of clothes before returning to Church for the Sunday service after which, at coffee time, there will be birthday cake and fizz, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic. I do hope my Church family will join me.

Thank you in advance for your support,

Sue Rutherford

Church services of the future?

How will services at our churches run in the years to come? Like this...?

PASTOR/PRIEST & OTHER CELEBRANTS. "Praise the Lord!"

CONGREGATION: "Hallelujah!"

PASTOR/ETC. "Will everyone please turn on their tablet, PC, iPad, smart phone, and Kindle Bibles to our reading for this morning. And please switch on your Bluetooth to download the sermon."

P-a-u-s-e.....

"Now, let us pray committing this week into God's hands.

Open your Apps, BBM, Twitter and Facebook, and chat with God"

S-i-l-e-n-c-e

"As we take our Sunday tithes and offerings, please have your credit and debit cards ready."

"You can log on to the church Wi-Fi using the password 'Lord909887. ' "

The ushers will circulate mobile card swipe machines among the worshipers:

~ Those who prefer to make electronic fund transfers are directed to computers and laptops at the rear of the church.

~Those who prefer to use iPads can open them.

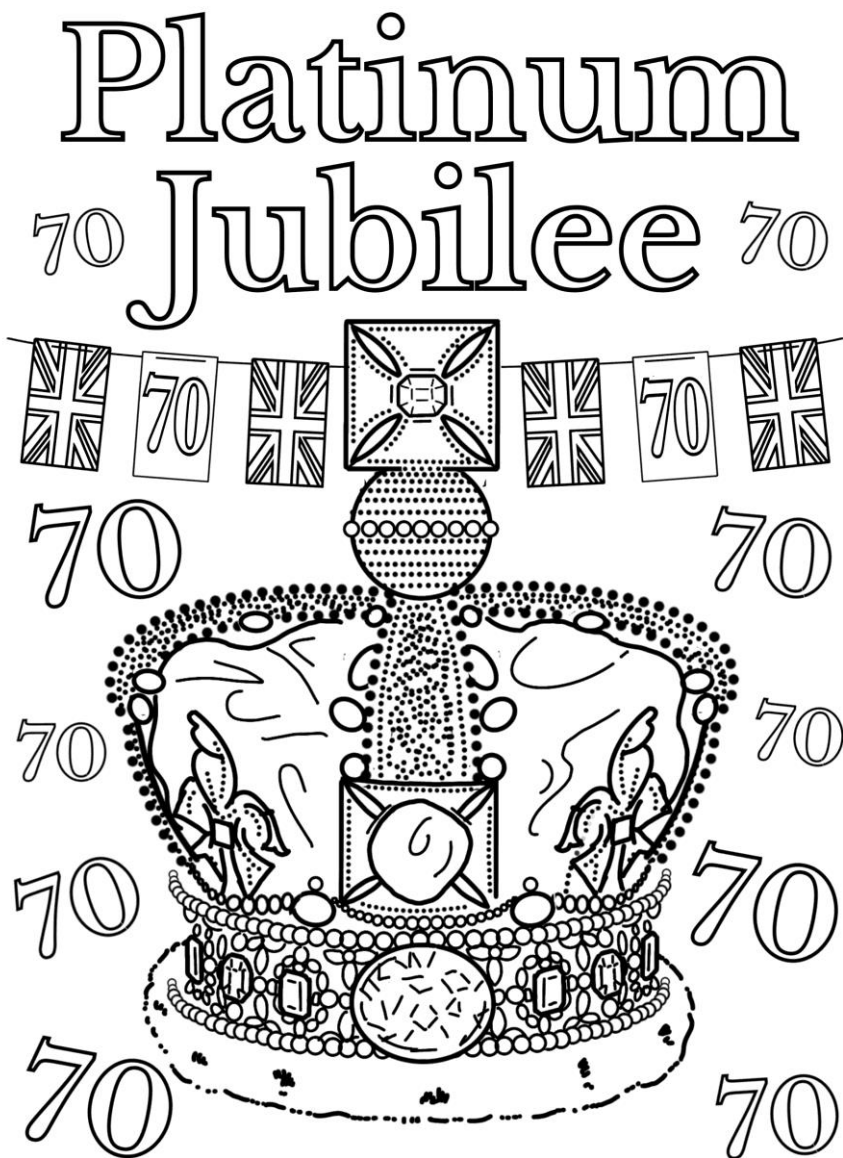
~Those who prefer telephone banking, take out your smart phones to transfer your contributions to the church account.

The holy atmosphere of the Church becomes truly electrified as ALL the smart phones, iPads, PCs and laptops beep and flicker!

Final Blessing and Closing Announcements...

This week's ministry meetings will be held on the various Facebook group pages where the usual group chatting takes place. Please log in and don't miss out. Thursday's Bible study will be held live on Zoom at 1900hrs GMT. Please don't miss out.

You can follow your Pastor on Twitter this weekend for counselling and prayers.



St George's Country Dance Club

7.30-9.30

Saturday March 12th

Saturday April 16th

(Easter Saturday)

Saturday May 14th

Saturday June 11th

With our very own live band SGURC

'Distanced Dancing'

variations on familiar dances to create covid safe
dances for those who wish.

Bring a small contribution to St George's Funds

eg £2 and your own refreshments. You don't need a partner.

You don't need to know how to dance, or be super fit. The dances are
explained and there is plenty time for a rest and a chat.

More information from Shirley Forster

07749525269 shirlsgurc@gmail.com

Fly that Scotsman

Party that Boston



Waltz that circle

Reel that Virginian

Phew!

Have

that

chat!

Crossword for June

Across: 1 Evil (Genesis 6:5) (10)

7 Musician called for by Elisha when he met the kings of Israel, Judah and Edom Kings 3:15) (7) **8** The request that led to the institution of the Lord's Prayer:

'Lord, — us to pray' (Luke 11:1) (5) **10**

'We are hard pressed on every—

'(2Corinthians4:8)(4)

11 Fraud (2Corinthians6:8)(8)

13 'His troops advance in force;they build a siege ramp against me and —

around my tent' (Job 19:12) (6) **15** Where Rachel hid Laban's household gods when he searched his daughter's tent (Genesis 31:34) (6)

17 'Now about spiritual gifts,brothers,I do not want you to be—' (1 Corinthians 12:1) (8) **18** Nomadic dwelling(Genesis26:25)(4)

21 'As for man,his days are like—he flourishes like a flower of the field' (Psalm 103:15) (5) **22** Or I live (anag.)(7) **23** Those guilty of

1 Across(Romans13:4)(10).

Down: 1 'God so loved the — that he gave his one and only Son' (John 3:16) (5)

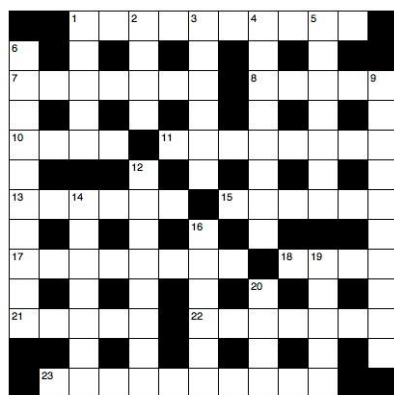
2 'Away in a manger, no — for a bed' (4) **3** Mob ten (anag.) (6)

4 'Each — group made its own gods in several towns where they settled' (2 Kings 17:29) (8) **5** Began (Luke 9:46) (7) **6** Speaking very softly (John 7:32) (10) **9**

Workers Ruth joined when she arrived in Bethlehem with her mother-in-law Naomi (Ruth 2:3) (10) **12** Put in jail(Acts22:19)(8) **14**

Aceturn(anag.)(7) **16** Discharge(Acts21:3)(6) **19** 'All these—come from inside and make a man "unclean"' (Mark 7:23) (5) **20** 'Let us rejoice and be glad and — him glory!'(Revelation19:7)(4).

Solution on page 20



(2)

Grand Raffle

1st Prize: Two 1st Class Return Tickets on any LNER Route

2nd Prize: Afternoon Tea for 2 at Pleased to Meet You

3rd Prize: Facial from Lady H Apothecary

4th Prize: £30 voucher from Lollo Rosso

5th Prize: Gardening gift set from Rutherford's

Vouchers from: Great British Interiors, Made of Crumbs,

Cafe Vault, Cafe des Amis and Carlos.

Wine from The Office Pub, and other prizes.

Tickets only £1.00 each

The money raised is to be used towards the installation of audio visual equipment in the church, which will involve the purchase and installation of video screens, which can be made available to groups who hire the sanctuary for events and concerts, as well as for use during worship.

The raffle will be drawn on June 18th at 12.00 noon in the church hall at the end of a special coffee morning which commences at 10.00am.

The proceeds of the coffee morning will go to
The Morpeth Ukranian Group.

Please try to sell the raffle tickets to your friends and family

Contact: Lorna Anderson 519084

Techie trouble...The vicar had technical problems with the sound system one Sunday. Instead of starting the service as usual with 'The Lord be with you', he muttered: "There's something wrong with the microphone." Not hearing this, the congregation responded: "And also with you."

Weight...Signing the register at a wedding, the groom had difficulty in making his ball-point pen work. "Put you weight on it," said the vicar. So the groom complied: 'John Smith (12 stone, four pounds)'

Also, every Friday in June and up to 22nd July, members are invited to join with Ukrainian visitors for coffee in the church from 10 till 12 noon. This is with the exception of 17th June as there is the above coffee morning on the 18th.

Lorna

St George's Annual Plant Sale

Another amazing plant sale

Our recent Plant Sale resulted in a record amount being raised for the church in what has become a Community Annual Event. A huge turnout ensured that everyone enjoyed a friendly, buzzing atmosphere with 'spend, spend, spend' being the main aim of those who were there. In excess of £1700 was raised. Thank you to everyone who donated helped or supported the event.

Gillian & Ken

Junior Church Notes

We have been busy during the last few months. We hung our special banner beside the organ, we planted sunflowers thinking of Ukraine and a competition for tallest, smallest, and ugliest is underway. St. George killed the dragon on stage in the hall and our children played their parts and were truly amazing. It was a great early evening get together with our Methodist friends with singing, dancing, competitions and hot dogs and cakes - we have Julian to thank for writing our action packed script. We have only recently made and sent a card to our Queen for her Jubilee - we had to hold the table very still while each child signed their name in best hand writing.... quite exciting.

We have enlisted some new Junior Church helpers so an enormous thank you to Mary and Linda, and we have Issy working on her Duke of Edinburgh award and more good news is that Janet hopes to be back with us very soon and as always she has the greatest ideas we hope to use.

Please note the Junior Church Leaders have decided that during the school holidays - lessons upstairs will cease but we are planning activity packs in the fun zone at the back of the church and I am sure one of us will always be available to help out there should any visitors with children needing assistance.

Dates of 1/2 term and Holiday time (these dates will probably be over before this goes to press).

05/6/22 No junior church

24/7/22 No junior church for holiday

05/9/22 New term begins.

Barbara Pringle.

Knitter Natter Coffee group

We will continue to meet every Wednesday in the Drysdale Room from 2.00pm – 4.00pm until and including 13th July with one exception, the 1st June, the day before the Queens Jubilee weekend. All newcomers are welcome. Please enter by the front door. We start our autumn meetings on 7th September.

Joan Cooper



Miscellaneous observations on life...

One who boasts of being a self-made person relieves the Lord of a lot of responsibility.

Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.

You know that indestructible black box that is used on airplanes? Why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?

The most effective way to remember your wife's birthday is to forget it once.

Love is grand; divorce is a hundred grand.

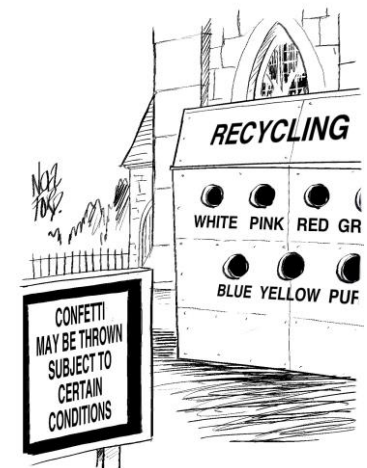
I had a ploughman's lunch the other day. He wasn't very happy about it.

As long as there are exams, there will be prayer in schools.

Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it.



Heather looked radiant in white, the details picked out subtly in gold...



St James the Least of All....Beware all donations!

The Rectory, St James the Least

My dear Nephew Darren,

This has been an unusual month: we have moved from hysterical excitement to deep disappointment within the space of days.

For many years, our vestry has displayed an oil painting generously donated by the Dowager Duchess of Stansby – given to us, I suspect, because her son, the tenth Duke, would not allow it in his house. It was supposed to depict Daniel in the lions’ den, although I always thought it looked more like a prospective adopter visiting a dog rescue centre. The Dowager was less than pleased when it wasn’t made the centrepiece in the sanctuary, but we managed to persuade her that her exceptional work of art would be safer from theft if locked away.

Then - our cleaner happened to knock it off the wall. If it had landed in her bucket of disinfectant and been totally destroyed, it would have been a sadness I suspect I could have learned to bear. But something more interesting happened. Some of the Dowager’s oil was chipped off – to reveal a painting underneath of what looked like a cherub.

The cleaner told the churchwarden, who instructed her not to tell anyone about the find. This inevitably meant that, within the hour, the entire parish knew of the discovery of what had already been transformed into a priceless pre-Raphaelite treasure. Our churchwarden has yet to learn the fact that if you tell someone something in complete confidence, they assume it means they can only tell one other person at a time.

By evening, mutually opposed camps had already formed. Miss Timmins wanted the treasure to be placed in a side chapel, as a shrine, preferably with candles permanently burning beside it. She envisaged St James the Least of All becoming a place of pilgrimage, and that this yet-to-be revealed cherub may work miracles of healing. She was already asking for opinions about where the car park should be built to cater for the thousands of tourists who would soon be flocking here. Another group wanted to sell it as soon as possible and use the money to repair our church tower. A third group insisted the fortune it would raise be given to African missionaries. Meanwhile, the tenth Duke was consulting his solicitors to see how he might get the canvas back to his castle.

We compromised by getting the thing X-rayed, to see what work of art lay underneath. It turned out to be by a local artist who had painted an advert for the village pharmacist to sell his own brand of gripe water.



Shrines, towers and good deeds were quietly forgotten and the last we heard of the tenth Duke was that he was consulting a second set of solicitors to see if he can get out of paying the first set for the work that they had done to retrieve the painting.

Your loving uncle, Eustace

Wordsearch for June

This year Her Majesty The Queen became the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom, the Realms and the Commonwealth.

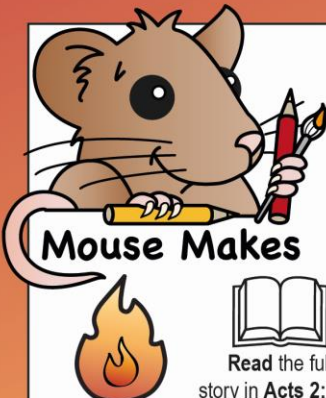
Celebrations will include **The Queen’s Birthday Parade (Trooping the Colour)** on 2nd June when more than 1,400 parading soldiers, 200 horses and 400 musicians will come together. Beginning at Buckingham Palace, the Parade will move down The Mall to Horse Guard’s Parade, joined by Members of the Royal Family on horseback and in carriages. The Parade will close with the traditional RAF fly-past, watched by The Queen and Members of the Royal Family from the Buckingham Palace balcony.

Platinum Jubilee Beacons: The United Kingdom’s long tradition of celebrating Royal Jubilees, Weddings and Coronations with the lighting of beacons will also continue. Over 1,500 beacons will be lit throughout the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories.

Majesty Queen First British
Monarch Platinum Jubilee
Seventy Years Service
United Kingdom Realms
Commonwealth Celebrations

Birthday Parade Trooping Colour Soldiers Horses Buckingham Palace Balcony
beacons. *Solution on page 20*

Y	A	O	I	O	M	S	G	B	N	R	F	S	B	O
E	B	U	C	K	I	N	G	H	A	M	O	N	E	N
A	E	A	I	B	I	O	R	U	O	L	O	C	A	R
R	C	E	M	P	B	I	G	E	D	N	C	O	C	N
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Q	V	O	D	E	S	A	E	A	D	E	T	I	N	U
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J	S	S	E	I	P	S	O	K	T	Y	I	C	S	E



Mouse Makes

It was the **festival** of **Pentecost**, **fifty days** since **Passover** and **Jews** from many countries had come to **Jerusalem** to **celebrate**. The **Apostles** and other believers were all **together** in one place when they heard a **sound** like a strong **wind** and **saw** what looked like **tongues** of **fire** which spread out and **touched** each person. All of them were **filled** with the **Holy Spirit** and began to **talk** in other **languages** as the Spirit enabled them. A **crowd** gathered outside, they were all excited because each of them heard the believers speaking in their **own** language about the great things **God** had done. About 3,000 people **heard**, **believed** and were **baptised** that day!

Read the full story in Acts 2:1-11

DLFILLEDS
NEBECELEBRATEH
LHOLYSPIRITAA
TAAPENTECOSTLCT
ONBAPTISEDOOKH
UGNSAWVGKBUN
CUFSHEARDENG
HAPOSTLESLDU
EGFVFIFTYIWEIOGS
DEJERUSALEM SFNOK
ESORDAYSIVIWINDN
WTOGETHERCROWD
ALOWEEDDEJEW S

language about the great things **God** had done. About 3,000 people **heard**, **believed** and were **baptised** that day!

All the words in bold type in the story are in the word search, can you find them?

Gillian and Ken would like to thank everyone at St George's for the beautiful bouquet, wine and cards with which we were presented at the final Lunchtime Concert. Stepping down from organising these events was a very difficult decision to make but we feel it was the right one. We always knew that the concerts were very much appreciated but we were overwhelmed by the heartfelt thanks we received on this occasion.

The Irvines.

St George's Ladies Coffee Club



St George's Ladies Coffee Club held their last meeting before the summer break on Tuesday 17th May in the church hall. This was a social afternoon with a shared tea and quizzes and the opportunity to have a chat. When the club reconvened last September, it was with some trepidation as we had no idea what would happen with COVID and the possibility of further lockdowns. Apart from cancelling the January meeting due to the high number of Coronavirus cases we have had monthly meetings with speakers and a highly successful joint coffee morning with the flower committee in December. Guests are always welcome at our meetings male or female so if a topic interests you, please come!

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 20th September 2022 at 2pm in the church hall.

Sarah Cleverley, Coordinator

For more information contact **Sarah Cleverley Tel: 515257**
or **Linda Glascott Tel: 515582**

5 th June	Day of Pentecost / Whit Sunday
12 th June	Trinity Sunday
19 th June	First Sunday after Trinity
20 th June	Fathers Day
21 st June	Summer Solstice
26 th June	Second Sunday after Trinity



JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



ON ONE OCCASION JESUS TOLD THE STORY ABOUT SOME PARTY INVITATIONS



HE EXPLAINED THAT WHEN YOU ARE INVITED TO A MEAL



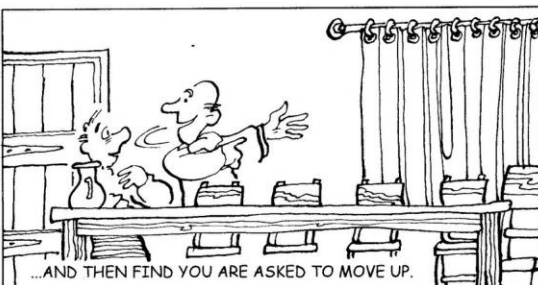
DON'T RUSH TO SIT IN THE BEST SEAT....



...IN CASE YOU ARE ASKED TO MOVE DOWN THE TABLE.



IT'S MUCH BETTER TO TAKE THE LOWER SEAT



...AND THEN FIND YOU ARE ASKED TO MOVE UP.



JESUS EXPLAINED THAT WE SHOULDN'T KEEP PUSHING OURSELVES TO THE FRONT.



AS CHRISTIANS WE SHOULD ALWAYS TRY TO PUT OTHER PEOPLE FIRST. Read Luke 11.7-11

June Sudoku. Solution on page 20

2				5			3
	9		6		7		
	5					4	
			8		3		
	3	7			2	6	
		1	9				
	2					3	
		6		4		9	
8			5				7

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Raise needed...

I told my boss that three companies were after me and therefore I wanted a raise from him. My boss asked what companies wanted me.
"Gas, water and electricity."

Judgement...

The poster read:
Where will you be on judgement day?

The graffiti below read: Still waiting for the Stafford bus.

Don't fool me...

A three-year-old put his shoes on by himself. His mother noticed the left was on the right foot. She said, "Sam, your shoes are on the wrong feet." He looked up at her and said, "Don't kid me, Mum, I KNOW they're my feet."

Maths lesson...The only place where you can buy 64 watermelons without anyone wondering why.

Request...A clergyman phoned his rural dean. "I regret to have to inform you that my wife has just died. Could you please send me a substitute for the weekend?"

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Solutions:

ACROSS: 1, Wickedness. 7, Harpist. 8, Teach. 10, Side. 11, Impostor. 13, Encamp. 15, Saddle. 17, Ignorant. 18, Tent. 21, Grass. 22, Olivier. 23, Wrongdoers.

DOWN: 1, World. 2, Crib. 3, Entomb. 4, National. 5, Started. 6, Whispering. 9, Harvesters. 12, Imprison. 14, Centaur. 16, Unload. 19, Evils. 20, Give.

2	6	4	1	7	5	9	8	3
1	9	3	6	4	8	7	5	2
7	5	8	2	3	9	6	4	1
5	4	2	7	8	6	3	1	9
9	3	7	4	5	1	2	6	8
6	8	1	3	9	2	5	7	4
4	2	5	9	1	7	8	3	6
3	7	6	8	2	4	1	9	5
8	1	9	5	6	3	4	2	7



Be sticky...Consider the postage stamp. Its usefulness consists in its ability to stick to one thing until it gets there.

Park...A journey of a thousand miles begins with trying to find a place to park your car near the church.

A child's definition...'Ecclesiastic': material used to fasten a minister's robes.

Notice outside a church: Worn out? Come in for a Service! This church is not just four weddings and a funeral.

Stairs...As you get older, you've got to stay positive. For example, the other day I fell down the stairs. Instead of getting upset, I just thought, "Wow, that's the fastest I've moved in years."

Happens...Stress makes you believe everything has to happen immediately. Faith reassures you that everything happens in God's timing.

Great Bavington United Reformed Church

Here is the news from Great Bavington

Services

Sunday 5 June, 6.30pm, celebration service to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Sunday 19 June, 6.30pm

Platinum Jubilee Tea on the Lawn

To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, **Sunday 5 June**, 5.00pm, there will be tea on the church lawn with live music from St George's Band. This will be followed by a service at 6.30pm. Everyone from St George's and Widdrington churches are invited and local residents will be made most welcome. Please see the church's Facebook page.

History Night

Tuesday 28 June, 7.00pm

2022 marks 50 years since the URC was created when the Presbyterian and Congregationalist churches joined together so we are having a review of 1972. Please bring along any photos, memories, etc which you have of 1972 - local or national.

Everyone is very welcome to join in History Night - it is very informal. If you would like to be added to the History Night email list, please email bavingtonchurch@gmail.com. Please check the church's Facebook page www.facebook.com/GreatBavingtonURC in case there is a change of date for History Night.

The church is open for visitors

The church is open during the daytimes for visitors. If you call in, please sign the visitors' book as it's really helpful to know how many people are visiting and where they are from.

Nicola Bell



Widdrington United Reformed Church

PRAYING TOGETHER

Dear Friends: this month's Prayer List is almost identical with last: because the same problems require our concern. If there is anything you feel should be in future lists, please contact me.

During June please pray for:

Ukraine

Other people in war zones and refugees. The people of Afghanistan, especially women.

Those suffering religious or ethnic persecution

Victims of natural disasters

Victims of crime

The work of relief agencies

Those suffering from Covid19 throughout the world, especially in countries where health services are less advanced. That vaccines may be fairly distributed.

Health workers

Workers in essential industries and services

Researchers working on covid19 vaccine and treatments and teams working to deliver the vaccines

Vaccine delivery in third world countries.

Those whose mental health has suffered during the pandemic

The homeless

Students doing important exams

Your neighbours

"Prayer, the Churches banquet, Angels age,

God's breath in man, returning to his birth,

The soul in paradise, heart in pilgrimage,

The Christian plummet, sounding heav'n and earth" (George Herbert)

Seven days without prayer makes one weak

WIDDRINGTON CHURCH NEWS

I'd like to invite everybody to contribute information that they think might be of interest. Just give me the details **in writing** either on a piece of paper or by email to **elliemist@gmail.com** and I'll do the rest. (I'd still welcome articles though).

The **Copy Date** for each magazine is the Sunday prior to the 20th of the month before the next issue. If you miss the deadline your contribution may have to be held over to the next issue.

Flowers: Flowers for June by Fiona, and for July by Kathleen. Donations to appropriate arranger please. If you have suitable flowers in your garden which you would like to donate we would also be grateful.

Easy Fund Raising (Easy?) Do you shop online? Have you joined Easy Fund Raising yet? The chances are that your vendor will be part of Easy Fund Raising. Amazon and John Lewis are, for instance. This means that if you register for Easy Fund Raising at easyfundraising.org.uk and select Widdrington United Reformed Church as your Good Cause 1 or 2 % of the purchase price of your item will come to us at no extra cost to yourself. This can range from a penny for a Kindle 99p short to several pounds for a major purchase. Please talk to Fiona about it soon (though you can easily register with no help from me, as all our members have discovered). We have raised over £380 so far with just nine members. We get payouts in arrears every time we reach £15.00 in any quarter. Every little helps!

Fund raising: The May Day Coffee Morning raised £180, which is well up to normal for this event. The Christian Aid Quiz night raised £135, £100 on the night, with additional donations.

Worship:

Please join us when you feel able. Mask wearing is voluntary. You will still be asked to sanitize your hands.

We will be serving coffee/tea after the service for those who feel able to partake. Don't worry if you don't feel able to stay yet.

Preachers for June, along with duty rotas are in the table below.

Our service on June 12th will be a Cradle Roll service, which hopefully means young children in the congregation. There will be lunch afterwards.

Social: Jubilee Coffee Morning: Thursday June 2nd from 10.00am. Items for stalls: baking and produce; Tombola; Books and jigsaws (**complete** puzzles only, please); Nearly new (**not** bric-a-brac). Do you have any mementos of the Coronation, or previous Jubilees that you would be willing to lend? We would like to put on a little display. Let's make this a good one, folks.

When the vestry alterations are completed we will organise an 'Inaugural Open Day'. This will be at short notice, so be prepared.

Regular events:

1st Tuesday: Coffee Club meets on the 1st Tuesday in the month. 10.30am. June's venue is the Amble Inn.

1st Wednesday: Prayer Group: Prayer Group will continue to meet on first Wednesdays at Cook's Hemmel. We gather at 7.00pm.

Open Church : because we have become aware that some members who appreciate open church are unable to come on Wednesdays we are reverting to Thursdays from 9th June

Facebook: If you are on Facebook, have you checked out our Facebook page yet? Search for Widdrington United Reformed Church. Please like us and let me know if you think I've missed anything that should be on. The page now has 186 likes, with another 8 people 'following'! Any information we have about service arrangements and social events will be published there.

Please note: Sean, our sheep, has his own Facebook page! Search for 'Sean'. Sean now has 24 (+2 following!) page 'likes' but he wants some more, so please tell your friends about him!

The **website** is at: www.widdringtonurc.org.uk. I'd appreciate some help to improve it, as it's very wordy at the moment, partly because I'm happiest with words. I'm still looking for volunteers to be additional site editors. Someone with hardware that can post pictures would be good.

We are now considering a relaunch - watch this space.

Churches Together in Widdrington and Ulgham.

Christian Aid Quiz: a good night raising over £100 (see above under fundraising)

The next meeting is in September.

FEM

We are still collecting things!

*Medicine blister packs for Cancer Research

*Green plastic milk bottle tops to make wheelchairs

*Basic toiletries for the Ukraine appeal

*And don't forget the hamper for the food bank!

*Crisp packets no longer required for the moment.

Widdrington Rotas: June

Date	Preacher	Vestry	Door/Offering
5 th	Worship Group	Liv Walden	K. Bailey. J. Hart
12 th	Revd Julian Sanders	Kathleen Bailey	D. Hogg. M Scott
19 th	Revd Julian Sanders	Fiona Middlemist	L Walden. A. Grieves
26 th	Worship Group	Diana Hogg	F. Middlemist. R. Gordon