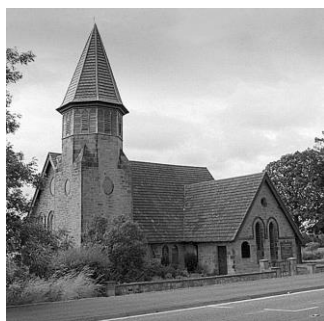


# St George's, Widdrington & Great Bavington United Reformed Churches Newsletter



March  
2023

Website: [stgeorgesurcmorpeth.org](http://stgeorgesurcmorpeth.org)

## Worship & Events in March at St George's United Reformed Church

Wed 1st	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service
Thurs 2nd	2.00pm	Lent Course – First Meeting
Fri 3rd	2.00pm	Word Day of Prayer Service at SGURC
Sat 4th	10.00am	Justice & Peace Fairtrade Coffee Morning
Sun 5th	10.30am	Morning Worship
Mon 6th		Elders Mtg. tbc
Wed 8th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service
Thurs 9th	2.00pm	Lent Course
Sat 11th	7.30pm	Country Dance Club
Sun 12th	10.30am	Morning Worship & Communion Stage up – No Badminton etc
Tues 14th	2.00pm	The Coffee Club in the Hall
Wed 15th	12.30pm	Midweek Service
Thurs 16th	2.00pm	Lent Course
Sun 19th	10.30am	Morning Worship for Mothering Sunday
Wed 22nd	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service
Thurs 23rd	2.00pm	Lent Course
Thurs 23rd	7.00pm	Community Players Production Also on Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> & Sat 25 <sup>th</sup>
Sun 26th	10.30am	Morning Worship with Orchestra Evening Service at 6.30pm
Tues 30th		Badminton etc re-commences
Wed 29th	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service
Thurs 30th	2.00pm	Lent Course
Fri 31st	7.30pm	Henry Dancer Days Concert
Sun 2nd April	10.30am	Morning Worship for Palm Sunday

### Steward's Duties

5	Madeline and Sarah Cleverley
12	Christine Oakes and Katherine Smailes
19	Christine Hawkins and Karen Howe
26	Helen Muckle and Gillian Irvine



## Flower Rota

5 Vivien Bennett  
 12 Margaret Miller  
 19 Dorothy Luke  
 26 Jean Tait  
 Rep: Christine Richardson 513913



## What's On at St George's

### SUNDAY FAMILY WORSHIP & JUNIOR CHURCH

10.30 am

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

The next joint newsletter with Widdrington & Bavington URC's  
 covers events in April 2023

**The deadline is Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March** 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](mailto:robson-robson@hotmail.co.uk)

### Notes by the Way Lent 2023

We used to have a fridge magnet. It had a picture, which I don't remember and words on it which read:

'If they don't have chocolate in heaven, I'm not going.'

This fridge magnet was given to me by a friend who knew that I love chocolate. I have to confess I am more or less addicted to it. I tried to give it up once but I really missed it. The smooth taste of the creamy chocolate is delightful, whilst the sugar content gives one an energy boost and the confection as a whole can improve mood.

Remembering this 'chocolate occasion', I was reminded that Lent is a time when many people, for religious and other reasons decide to give something up..... Some use it as a prompt to lose weight or give up smoking. Others see it as a chance to reduce their consumption of a luxury in order to save money. There is nothing wrong, it seems to me, in attempting a more healthy lifestyle nor in improving your financial position by giving up on unnecessary, if delightful, pleasures, especially in these troublesome economic times. We should, though, not trivialise the very serious intent of Lent. Firstly, adopting the practice of giving something up, chocolate or otherwise, reminds us that the heart of the Good News is the message that Jesus gave up his own life for the sake of the world. This fundamental act of self denial puts our limited and often half-hearted attempts into a stunning perspective. The season of Lent is a preparation for the revisiting of the story of that suffering which Jesus endured on the cross and which led on to the victory of Easter.

Secondly, it's a time when we also have an opportunity to give up things that prevent us from giving ourselves 100% to the task of following the Way of Christ and living out the Good News of God's love for all people. As we meditate on the cost to that love of our salvation we will want to sideline anything that detracts from focussing on that love. Lent is the start of our personal journey towards Holy Week, the cross and Easter and a time for wondering at and worshipping the God who in Jesus pours himself out for lost humanity in an act of amazing love!

**Stuart Brock**

### Are you praying for our church to grow?

In November, Morag Stead, Sue Rutherford and myself attended a three day conference called "Leading your church into growth". This was organised by the Synod to encourage churches to think about ways in which we might grow as a church. It is important for us to grow 'deeper' in our faith but it is also important, if we want St George's URC to continue into the next generation, that we also grow and attract new people to the church.

I have been praying for this since I arrived in Morpeth, and I have encouraged the elders to purposefully prayer for growth here at St George's. I would encourage each of you to pray for this too. I believe that it is only when we are all praying together for growth, and focussed on making this happen, that we might start to see new people coming and our congregation starting to grow.

Here is a prayer that is used by Leading Your Church into Growth, and I encourage you to keep praying this prayer regularly, with the myself and the elders, so that we might start to see growth within our church.

**Julian**

---

*God of Mission,  
Who alone brings growth to your Church,  
Send your Holy Spirit to give,  
Vision to our planning,  
Wisdom to our actions,  
Joy to our worship  
And power to our witness.  
Help our church to grow in numbers,  
In spiritual commitment to you,  
And in service to our local community,  
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.*

---



## Refugees March 2023

### West End Refugee Service

WERS has said that they have temporarily suspended their weekly drop ins and any new support casework *"to allow our team at WERS to upskill further and undergo essential training to deliver the very best service to our clients."* They hope to fully reopen in the Spring.

Meanwhile they are continuing to support those who receive the hardship fund and those involved in the buddying scheme. The Skillsmatch volunteering, gardening & other activities are also continuing.

"PLEASE HELP

Following on from our session and conversations with asylum seekers at one of the temporary accommodation sites in Newcastle, we would like to ask you to help us by providing some essentials for the people in need.

... We kindly ask for all items to be washed and in good condition prior to donating so that we can distribute them as soon as possible. Thank you!"

### Justice and Peace Project

The latest update from J&PP says *"462 clients have received support once or multiple times over the last three months. New clients continue to register with us from many places in the world, such as Iran, Afghanistan, El Salvador, Sudan, Syria and Eritrea. Many clients have been referred to us through other charities. Our support of all our clients is only possible because of your generosity, which we really appreciate."*

In January they had 302 client visits; 50 of which were from people who have no government support. J&PP gave out vouchers to the value of £2030 and food bags to the value of £7134. Approximately 40 children were supported by the clothing store.

### Comment

This week I went with several members of the Morpeth Justice and Peace group to listen to a talk in Newcastle given by an asylum seeker who has been waiting for 5 years for his claim to be settled. He had been trafficked and suffered the degradation of modern slavery. He is currently training to be a lawyer and is hoping to be granted asylum and to be in a position to support others in the same situation.

Our thoughts are obviously also focused on the appalling earthquake in Syria and Turkey and the thousands who have been killed and the many thousands who have been left traumatised and homeless.

I know things are difficult for many here at the present time and many don't have much to spare. Even if you are unable to make financial contributions, please remember refugees when you have items which you are discarding/replacing. Please also continue to pray for refugees and the people who work with them.

**Margaret Brock**

**CAN YOU HELP?**

**PLEASE DROP OFF  
AT WERS  
BETWEEN  
10<sup>AM</sup> - 3<sup>PM</sup>  
MON 13<sup>TH</sup> FEB - WED 15<sup>TH</sup> FEB**

**WE KINDLY ASK FOR ALL ITEMS  
TO BE WASHED  
PRIOR TO DONATING  
AND IN GOOD CONDITION**

**MEN SHOES / TRAINERS  
SIZE 6 - 11**

**MEN SOCKS**

**MEN JOGGING PANTS  
SIZE XS - M**

**MEN COATS / JACKETS  
SIZE XS - M**

**BOARD GAMES**

**BEGINNER'S ENGLISH BOOKS**

**WERS**

West End Refugee Service (WERS)  
St Philip's Close, Arthur's Hill  
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5JE

**CHARITY NUMBER: 1077601**

## The World Day of Prayer 2023

It is on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 1.30pm  
and is being hosted by St George's Church this year.

It is written by the women of Taiwan.

Rehearsals are on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> February at 11 am for singers and musicians led by Harriet Gilfillan. Full rehearsal 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 10am.

All are welcome! This is a Morpeth Churches Together service with members from all denominations and a usually a lively, friendly affair.

Refreshments and a chance to chat follow the service

It would be lovely to have lots of singers from St George's in the choir male and female anyone with a desire to sing. Please come along to at least one rehearsal and especially on Friday morning 3<sup>rd</sup> of March at 10am.

Please contact Christine Oakes or Morag Stead if you would like to join the choir so that we have some idea of numbers. Looking forward to hearing from you!

## Wordsearch

**St Patrick's Day Mothering Sunday Annunciation Lent**

Leeks for St David's day, daffodils for the rest of the month: March brings us Spring. St Patrick, who brought Christianity to Ireland, is remembered with parades. Mothering Sunday and Mother's Day are celebrated with more daffodils and Sunday lunch 'out'. March brings us the Annunciation, when the angel first appeared to Mary to tell her of her coming pregnancy. March is the month of Lent, of prayer and preparation for Easter.

M	P	R	A	Y	E	R	P	A	G	S	O
A	D	S	F	C	Y	T	S	R	Y	A	I
G	U	L	G	N	I	T	S	A	F	S	A
N	O	I	T	A	R	A	P	E	R	P	P
I	A	D	R	N	P	I	A	M	A	R	Y
F	T	O	Y	G	R	U	T	Y	N	I	A
I	L	F	S	E	D	A	R	A	P	N	M
C	E	F	L	R	N	E	I	D	D	G	T
A	G	A	A	P	H	H	C	N	U	L	P
T	N	D	M	T	E	E	K	U	L	E	R
D	A	U	O	L	E	E	K	S	D	N	M
Y	M	M	W	A	L	E	S	N	I	T	P

Leeks Daffodils Spring Patrick Day Mum Mother Angel Ireland Wales Sunday Lunch Pregnancy preparation prayer parades Mary Magnificat Fasting Lent Solution on page 20

## Tea Time Talks

This months Tea Time Talk will be on  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 2.00pm



The speaker will be  
Andrew Hamnett with his talk entitled

*'Ralph Vaughan Williams and the English Hymnal'*

There will be fruit scones with jam and cream  
for a suggested donation of £3.00

## A date for your diaries....

## Annual Plant Sale

& Coffee Morning

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May

10am to 12 noon

A large selection of perennials & bedding plants.

Garden related stall, Tombola & Raffle

Also books, hand crafted greetings card, & more.

Tea, Coffee, Biscuits and Home Made Scones.

It will be much appreciated if gardeners among you could take cuttings from your perennials. They are always good sellers.

**Carry on...**The vicar was making an appeal for more help with the Sunday School:  
"At the moment I'm just carrying on with a couple of single ladies!"



### Girl Guiding at St George's

This half term has been very busy. We took part in the Big Garden Birdwatch during the weekend where we monitored our well-loved birds in our garden and counted them. We submitted the results to the RSPB as this helps us build a picture of how our UK birds are coping with the challenges of nature and the climate.

The Rainbows coloured in a heart as part of the Co-op's valentine project. These are now on display at the Co-op Funeral Care in Morpeth. Please go down and have a look.

We celebrated Chinese New Year. We made rabbit crafts and wrote our names using the Chinese alphabet. The Guides and Rangers made our very own spring rolls and baked them in the oven. They tasted and smelt amazing.

As February rolls on we have a special day in guiding called World Thinking Day. It is a celebration of ten million girls worldwide. It remains a day for all Guides and Girl Scouts to think of each other and celebrate their sisters all around the world. We are holding a service on the 26th of February at 4pm in St Georges Church, we would like it if you could come and join us. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

We are working towards badges, carrying out litter picks and celebrating inspirational woman.

**Liz Kelly**

### St George's Coffee Club

Tuesday 14th March at 2pm

The speaker is Geoff Hughes who will be talking about



### ***"Beautiful Northumbria"***

Guests are always welcome at our meetings. For more information contact Sarah Cleverley 515257 or just come to the meeting.

The church library has been extremely popular in recent months and provides a steady income for the church. We are always in need of current paperbacks for restocking which can be left in the cupboard in the vestibule.

**Gillian**

The One off Lunchtime Concert with KEVI on 15<sup>th</sup> February was a resounding success and has enabled us to give the school and their solo performers a total of £230 and we also raised £228 for the church. Thank you to all who took part.

**Ken & Gillian**

**ST. GEORGE'S UNITED REFORMED CHURCH,  
MORPETH**

## **CHARITY CONCERT**

### **31<sup>st</sup> March at 7.30 pm**



### **IONA BROWN**

**(Principal First Violin with Royal Northern Sinfonia)**

**Accompanied by**

**DAVID MURRAY**

**(Piano)**



Iona has already raised thousands of Pounds for this local Children's Cancer Charity and is again giving her services free of charge. All profits from this event will go to the Charity to fund their hugely successful Distraction Book Reading Therapy in Children's Cancer Wards in 8 Major Hospitals in UK. The Charity also provides monetary support for families facing the severe challenges of a life-threatening illness.

**Tickets: £8.00 including Tea or Coffee & Biscuits at Interval**

**Available from Chantry TIC, or**

**Pre-Booking by Telephoning Gillian or Ken 01670515870**

**Or at the Door.**

**Donation buckets available.**

**Please Support this event.**

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

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**Carry on...** The vicar was making an appeal for more help with the Sunday School: "At the moment I'm just carrying on with a couple of single ladies!"

**Breakdown:** Yesterday I broke down on the M1. One of those emergency trucks charged me £200 to pull me off. I think it was the abominable tow man!

**Labouring...** Curate: I can always tell when I am going to give birth to an idea for a sermon. My writer's cramps start coming two minutes apart

### The Bible according to children...

- ~ Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree.
- ~ Noah built an ark, which the animals came on to in pairs.
- ~ Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.
- ~ The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up on Mount Cyanide to get the ten amendments.
- ~ Samson slayed the Philistines with the axe of the Apostles.



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BUTTER THOSE PEAS

St George's

Strip that willow

## Country Dance Club

Saturdays 7.30-9.30

January 14<sup>th</sup>, February 11<sup>th</sup>, March 11<sup>th</sup>



You don't need a partner. You don't need to know how to dance, Dances are explained and there is plenty time for a rest and a chat.

**£2.00** for St George's Church. Bring your own refreshments

More information from Shirley Forster 07749525269 [shirlsgurc@gmail.com](mailto:shirlsgurc@gmail.com)

Party that Boston

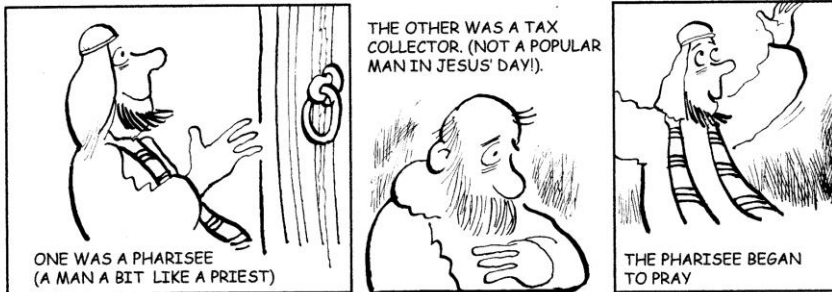
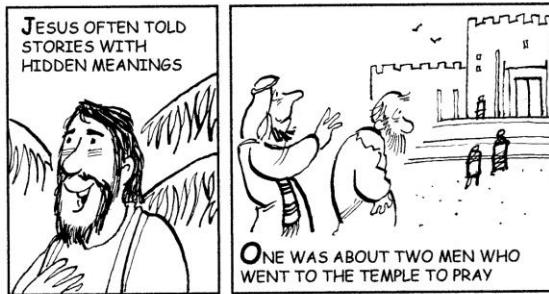
Waltz That Circle

With our very own

live band SGURC



The  
Tale of the  
**TWO MEN  
SAYING  
THEIR  
PRAYERS**



## GOD'S LOVE



Acrostic by June Friesen  
Godspacelight

- A – God's love is an **affectionate love** which cherishes
- B – God's love is a **beautiful love** which creates beauty from ashes
- C – God's love is a **cherishing love** which holds each one close to His heart
- D – God's love is a **destined love** that secures eternity for His children
- E – God's love is an **eternal/everlasting love** that outlives one's earthly life
- F – God's love is a **freeing love** as it allows one to let go of fears
- G – God's love is a **grieving love** as He embraces our earthly grief as well as He grieves over the issue of Sin
- H – God's love is a **holistic love** as it allows us to embrace the 'presence of holy healing' in our lives
- I – God's love is an **infinite love** as it is for all at all times, forever available
- J – God's love is a **just love** – offered unconditionally to anyone who seeks it
- K – God's love is a **kindred love** as Jesus experienced humanity here on earth
- L – God's love is a **loyal love** - a love that will never let one down or let one go
- M – God's love is a **magnificent love** – beyond understanding
- N – God's love is a **nestling love** – inviting one to snuggle in His arms
- O – God's love is an **open love** – He openly receives anyone who comes to Him
- P – God's love is a **precious love** – His Son came to live on earth to show His precious love
- Q – God's love is a **quality love** – it has infinite dimensions
- R – God's love is a **radical love** – it cost the Father and His Son separation for a time
- S – God's love is a **shared love** – God shared His Son with the world
- T – God's love is a **touching love** – it reaches and touches the most broken
- U – God's love is an **undying love** – it goes on forever and ever – it is eternal
- V – God's love is a **victorious love** – it takes all power away from sin
- W – God's love is a **wise love** – it offers healing, wholeness and forgiveness to all
- X – God's love is an **(e)xttraordinary love** – totally forgives all/any sin
- Y – God's love is a **yearning love** – it is able to draw anyone into God's love
- Z – God's love is a **zealous love** – it seeks anyone, everyone, anywhere.



Transform  
Trade

JOIN US for

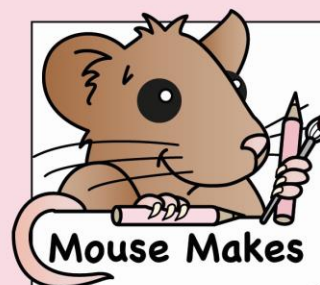
# Big Brew 2023

- ✓ Enjoy a lovely cuppa (or two!)
- ✓ Eat some delicious cake
- ✓ Make a difference in the fight for justice in trade

You are invited to a Big Brew Coffee Morning  
with Fair trade stall in the Church Hall  
on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March  
from 10.00am – 12 noon.

**So everybody benefits.**

[www.transform-trade.org/big-brew](http://www.transform-trade.org/big-brew)  
Registered charity No. 1048752



## WHO IS MY MOTHER?

CAIN	ELIZABETH
ISAAC	HANNAH
JESUS	RACHEL
JACOB	REBEKAH
TIMOTHY	EVE
JOSEPH	MARY
SAMUEL	SARAH
JOHN	EUNICE

**BIBLE MOTHERS**  
Who had two sons called Cain and Abel?

Genesis 4:1-2

Who was 90 years old when she had her son Isaac?

Genesis 17:19

Whose prayers for a child were answered by God?

1 Samuel 1:20

Who was Ruth's Mother-in-Law?

Ruth 1:1-5

Eunice was Timothy's mother, but who was her mother?

2 Timothy 1:5

Who saved her baby by putting him in a basket in the river?

Exodus 6:20

Look up the Bible verses then find the answers and the names below in the word search

REBEKAH  
ELIZABETH  
EUNICE  
RUTH  
MARY  
RACHEL  
LEAH  
ZIPLAH  
MOTHER  
MUM



Look up the Bible verses and find out who the Bible mothers are.

M \_\_\_\_\_ Matt 1:16

O \_\_\_\_\_ 2 Tim 1:5

T \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Kings 1:11

H \_\_\_\_\_ 1 Sam 1:20

E \_\_\_\_\_ Gen 34:1

R \_\_\_\_\_ Gen 30:22



How many other words can you make from:  
**MOTHERING SUNDAY**



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



**GO!** ...A teenager was always asking his father if he could borrow the family car. Pushed to the limit, the father asked his son why he thought that God had given him two feet. Without hesitation, the son replied, "That's easy, one for the clutch and one for the accelerator."



"The new vicar is really cool, Dad. Did you know that God emailed the Ten Commandments to Moses' Tablet PC?"

**Present...**For their elderly vicar's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, the congregation at St Mary's decided to give him a present of a new suit. The vicar was so moved by the gift that the following Sunday he stood before everyone and began his homily with a tear in his eye, "Today I am preaching to you in my birthday suit."

**Musingson daily life...**



As the servers's strike entered its third week, the Army was called in.

'Ecclesiastic' is material used to fasten a clergyman's robes.  
A day without sunshine is like, well, night.  
I am in shape. Round is a shape.  
I plan on living forever. So far, so good.  
I am having an out of money experience.  
What's the leading cause of dry skin?  
Towels.  
A cashew is a peanut with back trouble.  
A gesticulation is any movement made by a foreigner.

# Pre-loved Toy Sale & Coffee Morning



**Free entry**



We believe in life  
before death

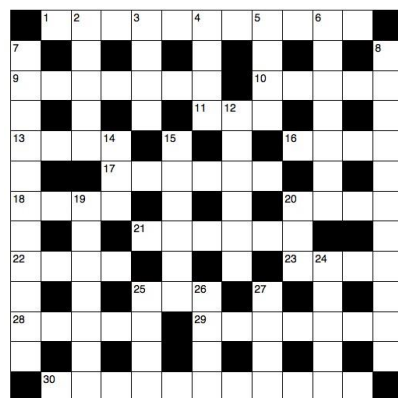
**St George's URC Church,  
Morpeth, NE61 1PD  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023  
10.00am - 12.00pm**

**Your donations save lives and help  
change the world**

Registered charity number 1105851



## Crossword for March



**Across: 1** These letters come between Romans and Galatians (11)

9 'You will not — me to the grave' (Psalm 16:10) (7) **10** King of Moab to whom the Israelites were subject for 18 years (Judges 3:14) (5) **11** Town possessing mineral spring (3) **13** Mede (anag.) (4) **16** High-fidelity (abbrev.) (4) **17** He succeeded his father Rehoboam as king of Judah (1 Kings 14:31) (6)

**18** A son of Simeon (Genesis 46:10) (4) **20** Controversial religious book of the 1970s, The — of God Incarnate (4) **21** 'He has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you — — and hear' (Acts 2:33) (3,3) **22** 'You — me together in my mother's womb' (Psalm 139:13) (4) **23** Edit (anag.) (4) **25** 'Who has believed our message and to whom has the — of the Lord been revealed?' (Isaiah 53:1) (3) **28** Abraham's brother (Genesis 22:23) (5) **29** 'When Mordecai learned of — that had been — , he tore his clothes' (Esther 4:1) (3,4) **30** Sympathetic (Proverbs 11:16) (4-7).

**Down: 2** 'That was why his parents said, "He is — —; ask him"' (John 9:23) (2,3) **3** Integrated Services Digital Network (1,1,1,1) **4** 'Saul has slain his thousands, and David his — of thousands' (1 Samuel 18:7) (4) **5** Concept (John 8:14) (4) **6** 'Do we, then, — the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the law' (Romans 3:31) (7) **7** Industrious (2 Timothy 2:6) (11) **8** 'I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be — in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you' (Ephesians 1:18) (11) **12** 'Out of the same mouth come — and cursing' (James 3:10) (6) **14** This was how many of the Jewish leaders described Jesus (John 10:20) (3) **15** Vitality (Job 20:11) (6) **19** He urged David to kill Saul at Hakilah (1 Samuel 26:8) (7) **20** 'So for a whole year Barnabas and Saul — with the church and taught great numbers of people' (Acts 11:26) (3) **24** 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord — — ' (Deuteronomy 6:4) (2,3) **25** Parched (Matthew 12:43) (4) **26** 'In the image of God he created him; — and female he created them' (Genesis 1:27) (4) **27** Disparagement (Psalm 15:3) (4). *Solution on page 20*

**Put it this way...**Some people have a keen sense of rumour.  
Some people's vocabulary is small, but their turnover is terrific.

## Humber Bridge

For my granddaughter Rebekah who lives near the bridge,  
and her husband Carl Senior who proposed to her on the bridge

Lolling in mud, instead  
Of tumbling from fells and crags,  
Welcoming terns and oyster-catchers,  
Where there's no ferry at Ferriby  
And Hull is short of industry,  
But Far Ings welcomes bird-watchers,  
Water that once bubbled in becks  
Sprawls on its wide bed.  
Joining two level lands,  
Towering above the mud,  
Opened at last in the time of Thatcher,  
First conceived in that of Wilson,  
A new achievement of suspension,  
Vilified as a vote-catcher  
By those whose roads all lead to London,  
The Humber Bridge stands.  
Delicate, seen from the train,  
Revealed on closer view as massive,  
Two uprights of imposing stature—  
Radial to the earth, and so  
Further apart above than below—  
Support a pendant, pliant structure,  
Supple, responsive to wind and traffic,  
Firmly yielding to strain.  
And there two lovers stood  
Who'd walked on fells and craggy lands,  
Rooted in earth, of upright stature,  
Each a responsive volunteer,  
Joined, as well, by love of beer,  
Pliant and pendant to each other,  
Joining familiar trusted hands  
As true lovers should.

**Dermot Killingley**  
**6 January 2022**



## Solutions:

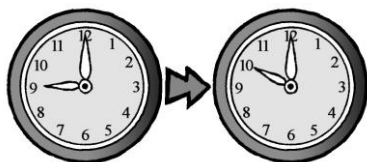
**ACROSS:** 1, Corinthians. 9, Abandon. 10, Eglon. 11, Spa. 13, Deem. 16, Hi-fi. 17, Abijah. 18, Ohad. 20, Myth. 21, Now see. 22, Knit. 23, Tide. 25, Arm. 28, Nahor. 29, All done. 30, Kind-hearted.

**DOWN:** 2, Of age. 3, ISDN. 4, Tens. 5, Idea. 6, Nullify. 7, Hardworking. 8, Enlightened. 12, Praise. 14, Mad. 15, Vigour. 19, Abishai. 20, Met. 24, Is one. 25, Arid. 26, Male. 27, Slur.



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

**School Holidays 30<sup>th</sup> March to 17<sup>th</sup> April.**  
**Morpeth Gathering 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> April**



An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen. The two gentlemen were talking, and one said, 'Last night we went out to a new restaurant and it was really great I would recommend it very highly.' The other man said, 'What is the name of the restaurant?' The first man thought and thought and finally said, 'What's the name of that flower you give to someone you love? You know, the one that's red and has thorns.'

'Do you mean a rose?'

'Yes, that's the one,' replied the man. He then turned towards the kitchen and yelled, 'Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?'

## Great Bavington United Reformed Church

Here is the news from Great Bavington:

### Services in March:

Sunday 5 March, **2.30pm**

Sunday 19 March, **2.30pm**

### Film Night

Monday 13 March, 7.00pm. This is the last one of this season.

The film will be Where the Crawdads Sing (15).

Refreshments provided. Suggested donation is £5.

### History Night

History Night is now happening on alternate months - March, May and so on, on the fourth Tuesday of each month. The next one will be on Tuesday 28th March at 7.00pm.

### Other info

The church is usually open during the daytime for visitors.

The meeting room is available to hire for meetings and other events for £25 per evening or half day.

Please check for updates on services and events on the church's Facebook page, email [bavingtonchurch@gmail.com](mailto:bavingtonchurch@gmail.com) or ring 01830 540350. Rev Julian Sanders can be reached at [sanders.julian@talk21.com](mailto:sanders.julian@talk21.com) or 01670 225539.

**Nicola Bell**



## WIDDRINGTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

### PRAYING TOGETHER

If you would like to add any topics to next month's prayers, please let me know.

During March please pray for:

Ukraine and other war zones;

Refugees

The people of Afghanistan, especially women.

Those suffering religious or ethnic persecution

Victims of natural disasters especially in Turkey and Syria after the earthquake

Victims of crime

The work of relief agencies

Those suffering still from Covid19 throughout the world.

Health workers and workers in essential industries and services

Medical researchers, especially those working on COVID 19 vaccines

Vaccine delivery in third world countries.

The sick, both with physical and mental problems and the recently bereaved

Those in financial difficulties, and fuel poverty

The homeless

Farmers during the lambing

"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 second last Sunday 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 March by Fiona and for April by Kathleen. Donations of cash and later in the year of garden flowers would be welcome. Easter is the second Sunday in April: details about decorating in next Magazine.

**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](http://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 £400 so far with just nine members. We get a payout each quarter provided at least £15.00 has been raised. Unfortunately not quite enough has been raised this quarter. Every little helps!

**Fund raising:** Coffee Club in the Hall raised over £100.00

### Worship:

We feel we are 'back to normal'! Please feel free to wear a mask - or not - as you wish. Hand sanitisers continue to be available

You are invited to join us for coffee/tea after the service.

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

### Social

On Saturday March 4th we will have a Film Afternoon: Julian will provide and show the film. I believe it was suggested that refreshments should include popcorn!

### Regular events:

**1st Tuesday:** Coffee Club meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 10.30am at various coffee shops. In March this will be at the Amble Inn.

**1st Wednesday: Prayer Group:** We gather at Cook's Hemmel, Causey Park at 7.00pm. You are welcome to join us, or tell us any of your concerns for prayer.

**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](http://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.

### **Churches Together in Widdrington and Ulgham.**

World Day of Prayer: St John's, Ulgham at 2.00pm Friday 3rd March.

Lent Course continues from Friday 10th March at 2.00pm in the Hall.

### **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 time being.

#### Widdrington Rotas March

Date	Preacher	Vestry	Door/Offering
5th	Revd Una McLean	Diana Hogg	R Gordon F Middlemist
12th	Maureen Baker	Liv Walden	K Bailey E Barber
19th	Rev Julian Sanders	Kathleen Bailey	A Grieves L Walden
26th	Worship team	Fiona Middlemist	D Hogg M Scott