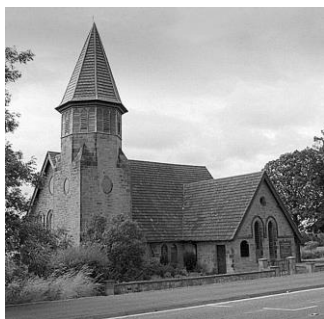


# St George's, Widdrington & Great Bavington United Reformed Churches Newsletter



November  
2022

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

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

<b>Wed 2nd</b>	12.30pm	Worship on Wednesdays (doors open at noon)
<b>Sun 6th</b>	10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion
<b>Wed 9th</b>	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service
<b>Thurs 10th</b>	2.00pm	Tea Time Talk with Roger Hawkins
<b>Sun 13th</b>	10.30am	Morning Worship for Remembrance Sunday Erection of stage for Players, commences Rehearsal for Church Social
<b>Tues 15th</b>	2.00pm	Ladies Coffee Club meeting
<b>Wed 16th</b>	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service
<b>Sat 19th</b>	7.30pm	Country Dance Club Christian Aid Ceilidh
<b>Sun 20th</b>	10.30am	Morning Worship Rehearsal for Church Social
<b>Wed 23rd</b>	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service
<b>Thurs 24th</b>	7.30pm	St Georges Players' Production
<b>– Sat 26th</b>		
<b>Sun 27th</b>	10.30am	Morning Worship with Praise led by our Orchestra. Toy Service & Church Parade First Sunday in Advent
	6.30pm	Evening Worship
<b>Wed 30th</b>	12.30pm	WOW Midweek Service

### Steward's Duty Rota

<b>6</b>	Madeline and Sarah Cleverley
<b>13</b>	Joan Cooper and Karen Howe
<b>20</b>	Helen Muckle and John Muckle
<b>27</b>	Christine Hawkins and Gordon Slack



### Flower Rota

<b>6</b>	Gillian Irvine	<b>20</b>	Teresa & Lawrence
<b>13</b>	Margaret Brock	<b>27</b>	Christine Richardson
<b>Rep</b>	Linda Glascott 515582		

The next joint newsletter with Widdrington & Bavington URC's  
covers events in **December 2022 & January 2023**

**The deadline is Sunday 20th November**

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)

## 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	07952381160
	<b>Age UK Exercise:</b> 3.00 – 4.00pm As above	
<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 783434 Mobile 07714481089 liz.kelly@jcpce.com	
	<b>Ladies Coffee Club:</b> 2.00pm (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues) <b>nb: new start time</b> 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	515257
	<b>Knitter, Natter Crafts &amp; Chatter</b> 2.00 – 4.00pm Joan Cooper	515682
	<b>Afternoon Bowls</b> 2.00pm Andrew Cleverley	515257
	<b>Zumba:</b> 6.00pm High Intensity with Lisa O on 07507 179 692 or <b>zumbawithlisao@hotmail.com</b>	
<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 <b>zumbawithlisao@hotmail.com</b>	
<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 518485 (not August) Christine Oakes 518608	



## Notes by the Way by Revd Stuart Brock

A friend of mine, himself a deeply committed Christian and a Lay Reader at one of the large Anglican Cathedrals asked me during a discussion about our respective views on the Church ‘:but what is the United Reformed Church actually for?’ I had to think how to explain to him what we in the URC believe we are about.

We are currently in celebration mode. It was 50 years ago that the United Reformed Church was formed by a union of Presbyterian and Congregational churches in England and Wales. It was an historic moment. It was the first time that a new church in England had come about through union of divided denominations rather than through schism. There was a great deal of optimism that this union might be the forerunner of others. There was an air of excitement about the possibilities for the future..

This dream has only partly been realised. In later years many of the reformed Churches of Christ, a small denomination, joined with the URC . Later still, a large number of Scottish Congregational churches joined to form what is now the URC Scotland Synod . But each of these denominations was relatively small so the influence they have had on other churches and the wider society has been limited. Whether or not we consider the lack of further unity a major disappointment , this 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary has provided an opportunity to reflect on the past and give thanks for what has been achieved. One of the great things that has been at the heart of the URC, has been a deep concern for justice and peace which is reflected in partnerships with Christian Aid through the Commitment for Life programme. There has also been a real sense of progress and participation in environmental issues through things like ‘eco church’ – trying to act as a church with responsibility in these times of climate emergency. And then there has been the graceful way in which the issue of human sexuality, an explosive minefield in all the main churches has been handled. Through careful discussion and by listening to each other and the Spirit of God, a way through the differences and deeply held convictions on this issue was found, without destroying the unity of the fellowship.

The URC may be the result of unions of small churches and we may not make a huge splash when we enter the debates on the issues of the day or have the clout of the established church but other denominations have made it clear that they believe, for its size, the URC ‘punches above its weight.’

Which leads on to a further positive. We may not have the public profile of the established churches in the UK but perhaps, our role is different. Historically, the Reformed Churches were dissidents, challenging the status quo in the established church and refusing to conform to a prescribed way of being church. Maybe then we need to get back to our roots and become once again a catalyst for change, displaying a kind of church life based not on power or hierarchy but on service, witness and mission, with a flexible enough organisation to adapt to the rapidly changing society in which we live and a simplicity of faith and life which contrasts with much of the complex and money driven world of today. After 50 years there is bound to have been a certain amount of organisational development – a bureaucracy by any other name. However, this celebratory year gives us the opportunity to renew the spirit of challenge to society and to other Christian churches. We can go on asking the questions, stirring the pot, reminding others and ourselves of what is essential to Christian witness today.

I said all this to my Anglican friend. I think he was impressed.

## An Update from Louise...

Some of you may have noticed that I have now been absent from the congregation for last 4 weeks – I promise I am not just skiving!

I am now in my fourth and final years of ministerial training and have just started my final placement with Ed Butlin in the Coquet Valley. I will be working with Rothbury, Longframlington and Glanton URC’s as I prepare for ordination and induction to a pastorate in Northern Synod, hopefully in July next year. I will be sending a little update on how things are going for the newsletter and if I may ask for your prayers during this time of pastorate discernment that would be much appreciated.

*Louise Sanders.*

## Refugees November 2022

### West End Refugees

WERS has had staffing shortages recently and unfortunately has had to temporarily suspend its drop-in service. They are currently trying to recruit more staff and hope to be able to reinstate these in the New Year. Posts being advertised are a Volunteer Project Coordinator for the Buddying Service (closing date for applications 1<sup>st</sup> November), an Administrative Assistant (closing date 7<sup>th</sup> November) a Support Work Manager (closing date 3<sup>rd</sup> November) and a Support Worker (closing date 10<sup>th</sup> November. More details for all these posts can be found on [www.wers.org.uk](http://www.wers.org.uk). They are also looking for new trustees to join them. Closing date for this is 31<sup>st</sup> October. They would also welcome assistance from admin volunteers (who could help with typing & shredding & perhaps calls to clients) and volunteers with horticultural skills.

WERS would welcome donations of biscuits, tea, coffee, dried goods, rice, tinned vegetables & tinned fruit.

They usually hold their AGM in November but as yet I have not been notified of the date. Details will be available via the website.

### Justice and Peace

The latest report from Justice and Peace states:- *"We continue to reflect on what is happening in the world around us, nationally and internationally. All of the current issues are starting to affect everyone here at home. We understand all of these issues as it affects us all. We are keen to ensure that those who are worst-off in our society and those we help through the project, those seeking asylum in the UK and new refugees, that they are not forgotten in this period. One big difference that can be made is to offer a gift aid in support of your donations. If you are a tax payer in the UK please ... [contact] our treasurer Marjory: [marjory.knowles@gmail.com](mailto:marjory.knowles@gmail.com) or by phone: 07929 343418."*

In the last month J&P have welcomed a further 35 new clients in need of food to supplement their meagre allowance. Specific needs for the project at the moment are toothbrushes, toothpaste, shower gels, deodorants, shampoo, conditioners and washing powders as well as cooking oil, coffee and rice.

They report the positive news that a family they have been supporting who fled Afghanistan has recently been given leave to remain.

The J&P project stresses that it is grateful for all the help; spiritual, physical and financial it receives

**Margaret Brock**

## The poppies of Remembrance Sunday

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed. But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil. We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'. And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK. A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.



### 'Support Ukrainian refugees' – Tearfund

Tearfund is calling on British Christians to help support the many displaced and desperate Ukrainian refugees that have fled their country since the start of the brutal war. Since February, more than five million people have been displaced, their families scattered, their homes and cities destroyed.

Tearfund's partners in Ukraine have been working around the clock to meet the immediate needs of these refugees – providing support such as food, bedding, and temporary accommodation. If you can help, visit: [www.tearfund.org/campaigns/ukraine-crisis](http://www.tearfund.org/campaigns/ukraine-crisis).





Since our last newsletter in April, an amazing amount seems to have happened at St Cuthbert's, and all of it positive. With some additional and very enthusiastic members the Management Group has been strengthened and the ideas have been flowing every time we meet. It will be hard work to squeeze everything we want to share onto two pages!



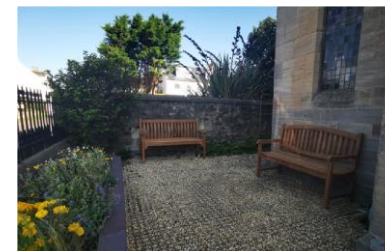
Starting with **the garden**, in May we were able to engage the services of a local gardener and, along with some labourers from one of our new management group members in particular, Carol has transformed the weed filled raised beds to a riot of summer colour. With help from our Bothy guests who have kept them watered through a rather drier summer than usual in these parts, they seem to have thrived. However, we have plans to further develop the garden inspired by ideas created by the late Revd. Ruth Crofton a few years ago reflecting St Cuthbert's journey. This will include the addition of more permanent planting over the next year or so as well as signage to guide visitors and offer supported opportunities for reflection.



On 3<sup>rd</sup> September we held a well-supported **Gift Day** which has already raised over £1,000 on the day and donations are still being received by our Treasurer. We were blessed with a lovely afternoon's weather after a damp morning and teas, coffees and lots of goodies were enjoyed by our visitors inside and out. Our new water boiler certainly was put to good use.



We have already been able to add three new teak benches from a local company and these will form a place to rest awhile and enjoy the peace on a gentle wander round the garden. We hope both the Centre and the garden will also be the perfect end to a pilgrimage journey by those who have followed the St Cuthbert's Way from Melrose.



Through the summer months we have enjoyed visits from four "**Artists in Residence**" and we know that many visitors dropped in to have a go at Ruth Sprague's weaving or Linda Courage's felting activities, or to simply enjoy the exhibitions of beautiful artwork by Judy Hurst or stunning local photographs by Carol Macleod.

After her week at St Cuthbert's, Ruth wrote:

*"As always it was a joy and privilege to set up my weaves, stitching and words in St. Cuthbert's as a space of peace and reflection. .... each day is different on Holy Island. Some days brought few visitors and others brought a steady stream. I often sit outside spinning if the weather permits .... Many stopped to chat, share their stories and to weave their own hopes or fears onto our community weave – all ages engaging in different yet meaningful ways."*

*One of the things that has never changed throughout my visits over the years is that St. Cuthbert's offers a quiet and peaceful space in what is often a busy and bustling village. It is something that people are grateful for as witnessed in their comments in the visitors book and in conversations that I had. It is a gift."*

We are really pleased that **the Centre is now open daily** thanks to the services of local volunteers while Rachel Poolman remains on sick leave, hopefully for not much longer. Although we cannot offer daily prayers, we have added a selection of prayer cards which people may take with them and these have proved popular. We also have other worship or reflection material and information available if visitors wish to sit and read, pray or simply take time out. It is clear from comments in the Visitors Book that the Centre is

appreciated by all who visit. The improved toilets are also appreciated!

In the next month or so we hope to be able to add signage for a “**Pilgrim Trail**” inside the building to help people who come into St Cuthbert’s whether there is a minister or team member in the building or not. In addition, we are planning a series of **events in 2023** to include workshops and musical performances – this is very much a work-in-progress so keep an eye on our website or Facebook page for more information as well as future newsletters.



Ruth Macleod

Holy Island is a very special place and it is a privilege to be able to provide the mission and ministry that the URC seeks to provide through the St Cuthbert’s Mission Project to all who live on or visit the island whether for a few hours or a longer. The support of our friends across the country and the world is really appreciated and we look forward to welcoming you if you are on the island.

***The Management Group***  
September 2022

Website: [holysisland-stcuthbert.org](http://holysisland-stcuthbert.org)

Photos: Willie Duncan, Carol Macleod, Alison Shiel



Carol Macleod



**The St George's  
Social 2022**

*50 Shades  
of Blue*

**A CELEBRATION  
OF 50 YEARS IN THE URC  
A MEDLEY OF MEMORIES AND MUSIC  
FROM 1972.**

**Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at  
7pm**

**TICKETS £8 FROM CHRISTINE OAKES**  
(01670 518608 or email [oakescm@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:oakescm@yahoo.co.uk))

**Includes MINCE PIES AND MULLED WINE**

**RAFFLE AND BAR also available.**

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## Tea Time Talk

Nov 10<sup>th</sup> at 2.00pm

### **Healthcare for the Poor in the 19th century**

Given by Roger Hawkins

With cream scones, tea and coffee.

Suggested donation £3

**There will not be a talk in Dec.**

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

#### **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

Start of Advent Course 2.00pm Drysdale Room

#### **Monday December 12th**

Annual Community Carol Service 6.30pm. You are invited to begin the Christmas Season singing many of your favourite carols. Everyone is welcome.

#### **Saturday 17th December 7.00pm.**

Christmas Concert with Mid Northumberland Chorus

Tickets £7 available from choir members or by contacting 01670 515870

**Border control...**Flying home after visiting her daughter in England, a woman arranged to have her husband meet her plane in Vancouver. This meant a stop at the border crossing between the United States and Canada, where her husband was asked, "What is your reason for entering the country?" and "How long are you planning to stay?"

He replied that he was picking his wife up at the airport after her trip to England and would come straight home again. Without missing a beat, the guard asked two more questions in the same business-like tone: "And is the house clean? And are there fresh flowers on the table?"

**Odd...**Only in maths problems can you buy 60 cantaloupe melons and 42 bananas, and no one asks: "What is wrong with you?"

### **Sudoku for November.** *Solution on page 20*

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

© 2008 KrazyDad.com

**Keeping away from nicotine...**An elderly minister read about experiments showing that tar and nicotine causes cancer in mice. Deeply moved, he went down to his study at once, and moved all of his pipe tobacco to the top shelf, where the mice could not reach it.

**Bible story...**The minister called all the children up to the front for the weekly Bible story. She said, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt." Very concerned, one youngster asked, "What happened to the flea?"

**Life and death...**The vicar was preaching a powerful sermon concerning death and judgment. In the course of the sermon, he said: "Just think – all of you living in this parish will one day die." At this, a man in the front pew began to laugh quietly. After the service the vicar demanded sternly what he had found so funny about his sermon. The man replied: "I was just so happy that I don't live in this parish!"

**Oil...**A curate took his rather old car to the garage for an oil change. After the mechanic had briefly inspected under the

bonnet, he turned to the young man and said: "If I were you, I'd keep the oil and change the car."

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## **St George's Ladies Coffee Club and Flower Committee Coffee Morning**

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 10 to 12 noon.**

At the coffee morning we plan to have a cake, jams and preserves stall and a stall selling new or nearly new Christmas decorations.

Donations of cakes, jams and preserves would be gratefully appreciated and also new or nearly new Christmas decorations but no bric-a-brac.

If you can help with donations please contact Sarah Cleverley (515257) or Linda Glascott (515582)

## **Charity Christmas Card Sale & Coffee Morning**

At the Charity Christmas Card Sale held on Saturday 15 October, the people of Morpeth had the opportunity of buying cards in one place without trailing round all the charity shops.

The various Charities sold £853 worth of cards this includes sales by Gillian Irvine of her hand-made cards on behalf of St George's, which raised £130 for church funds.

Sales of teas, coffees, scones and apple pies raised £186 for St George's.

I am very grateful to all who helped, sold refreshments, baked and came to buy cards. It was a very busy morning.

Our Ukrainian friends did a considerable amount of baking and sold £413 worth of cakes. The money goes to help the needy in the Ukraine.

***Andrew Cleverley***

## **More real-life notes left for milkmen...**

~ Please knock. My TV's broken down and I missed Coronation Street last night. Maybe we could talk about what happened over a cup of tea?

~ My daughter says she wants a milkshake. Do you do this before you deliver, or do I have to shake it at my end?

~ Please send me a form for cheap milk, as I have a baby two months old and did not know about it until a neighbour told me.

~ Milk is needed for the baby. Father unable to supply it.

~ Please leave no milk today. When I say today, I mean tomorrow, as I wrote this note yesterday.

## **News from Girlguiding**

**October Report:** We welcomed our girls back after the summer holidays.

We heard the sad news of **Queen** Elizabeth II, the UK's longest-serving monarch, had died at Balmoral aged 96, after reigning for 70 years. We held a 2-minute silence during our meeting this week to show a mark of respect to our Patron and her family. We remembered when we celebrated her Platinum Jubilee at Belford. We had a day full of activities involving all sections of Girlguiding. We lit a beacon to mark the event. The girls who came said the day was full of fun and learnt how she was a Guide and Ranger when she was their age. On our notice boards in the hall are some art work from our Rainbows and Guides to honour the Queen. One the Ranger notice board are some of the photos of the Queen in guiding. They choose their favourites to share with you all. In the next few weeks, we will be learning new skills and earning various badges.

For more information please get in touch –

**[morpethdivisiongg@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:morpethdivisiongg@hotmail.co.uk)** or 07714481089

**November report:** We are thrilled that we have 2 leaders who have achieved their Queen's Guide Award this year. This is the top award that you can work towards within Girlguiding. It gives you the chance to develop your skills, whilst contributing to guiding and your local community at an impressive level. Megan Kelly who volunteers with the Rainbows and Guides gave a presentation earlier this year on how she achieved her award. Charlotte who volunteers with the Rangers explained to the Guides and Rangers what she did to gain her award. She has inspired 3 girls to now do their award too.

Northumberland County Council have given us some trees to plant as part of our commitment to tackle climate change. We are planting the saplings in farmlands around the area. We have lots of girls and their families coming along to give us a hand.

This term we have spent a number of weeks introducing the girls to our be well theme. We've been working on their first aid skills builder. Acting out scenarios and have learnt that we all need good mental health as well as physical health. Putting together first aid kits from random items.

We are looking forward to our Division Christingle service on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00 pm in St George's Church. This is followed by a Christmas market and refreshments in the hall upstairs which is organised by the Guides and Rangers. Everyone is welcome to come along.

***Liz Kelly***



## 2023 URC Prayer Handbook – Cities of Sanctuary

A city of Sanctuary is the theme for the 2023 URC Prayer Handbook. In a troubled world, there are many people seeking sanctuary of one kind or another: a place of physical safety, for those fleeing conflict or abuse; a place of refuge for people who are wounded; a place of inner peace from the torments of mental illness or stress. The prayers gathered in this book speak of the many reasons for needing sanctuary, and of some of the ways in which sanctuary might be provided.

This Handbook is arranged into two sections. The first follows the Lectionary readings for each Sunday and other significant occasions in the year, while in the second section, the editors, the Revds Stephen Ansa-Addo and Susan McCoan, invited people to interpret the idea of cities of sanctuary in whatever way resonated with them. Included are prayers which can be used in public worship and those in personal devotions.

Whatever sanctuary you seek, be refreshed and nourished.  
Cost £6.50. If you would like a copy, please see Sarah Cleverley Tel 515257

### St George's Ladies Coffee Club Meeting

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm **in the Hall**

Our presenter this month is:

**John Whittle**

with his presentation entitled



### **William Smith & the Discovery of Antarctica**

*Although this is St George's Ladies Coffee Club we welcome anyone to our meetings, male or female, so do come along if the topic interests you.*  
It is only £2 for the talk, a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit, and the chance to win a small raffle prize!

**Sarah Cleverley, Coffee Club Coordinator. Tel:-515257**

## St. George's Knitter Natter Group



Every Wednesday from 2-4 pm in the Drysdale Room.  
One of our first projects has been Balaclavas for the men in Ukraine. Patterns are already available in the church vestibule with dark wool, please help yourself.

Coffee will be available for anyone who would like to call in for a chat.

**Joan Cooper 01670515682**

### Wordsearch for November

November is a wistful month, tinged with sadness and good-byes. The last the leaves are falling, as the trees go sleep for winter. It is a month of remembrance, of poppies, of remembering lost loved ones, and of letting go. It is a month of bonfires for the 'Guy', and Thanksgiving for Americans. It is a month of remembering Saints and looking forward to triumph - the church year ends with the joyful Sunday of Christ the King. And then Advent begins...looking forward to a very special Baby!

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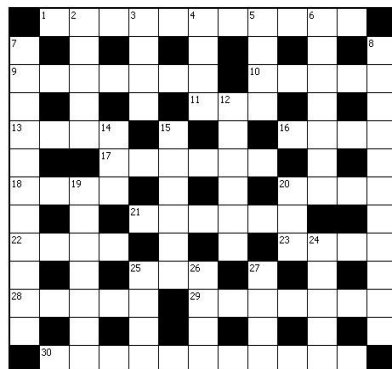
of  
to

*Poppies remembrance courage bravery flanders dead guns war  
Peace Afghanistan iraq thanksgiving turkey all saints advent  
Leaves sadness angel mary Elizabeth bonfire gunpowder guy*

*Solution on page 20*

**Chicken rules...**One day a new chicken was introduced to the farm. The duck, who was in charge, showed the new chicken around. "This is where you go to get fed, this is the water trough and that is the coop. Chickens hang out near the fence, us ducks near the pond and the geese near the gate. We're friendly, but we keep to our own. Oh, and whatever you do, DO NOT cross that road. You'll never hear the end of it."

## Crossword for November



**Across: 1 and 20** Down 'Lord of all \_\_, Lord of all \_\_, whose trust, ever child-like, no cares could destroy'(11,3)

**9** Moses' question to a fighting Hebrew labourer: 'Why are you \_\_ your fellow Hebrew?' (Exodus 2:13) (7)

**10** Acclaimed cellist who contracted multiple sclerosis at the height of her fame, Jacqueline \_\_ (2,3)

**11** 'At even \_\_ the sun was set, the sick, O Lord, around thee lay'(3)

**13** A descendant of Gad (xNumbers 26:16) (4)

**16** 'Do not leave Jerusalem, but \_\_ for the gift my Father promised' (Acts 1:4) (4)

**17** Clambers (Jeremiah 48:44) (6) **18** Peter's response to questioning by the Sanhedrin: 'We must \_\_ God rather than men!' (Acts 5:29) (4)

**20** Christian paraplegic author, artist and campaigner, \_\_ Eareckson Tada (4)

**21** Bird partial to the nests of other birds (6) **22** 'Such large crowds gathered round him that he got into a boat and sat \_\_ \_\_' (Matthew 13:2) (2,2)

**23** Infectious tropical disease (4) **25** Tree (3) **28** 'No fear of me should \_\_ you, nor should my hand be heavy upon you' (Job 33:7) (5) **29** For example, to Titus, Timothy or Philemon (7) **30** Week beginning with Pentecost Sunday, according to the Church's calendar (11). **Down: 2** 'O Jerusalem \_\_ how \_\_ I have longed to gather your children together' Matthew 23:37) (5) **3** Way out (4)

**4** Exhort (Romans 12:1) (4) **5** Done (anag.) (4) **6** Highest of the four voice-parts in a choir (7) **7** Concerning the study of God (11) **8** Uniquely, it has Abbey, Cathedral and Chapel (11) **12** Admonish (Matthew 16:22) (6)

**14** Frozen (3) **15** Established form of religious ceremony (6) **19** Inscription often found on gravestones (7) **20** See 1 Across **24** Behaved (Joshua 7:1) (5)

**25** Time (anag.) (4) **26** Lists choice of meals (4) **27** 'For the wages of sin is death, but the \_\_ of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord' (Romans 6:23) (4)

*Solution on page 20*

**Sin...**A very earnest member of the local church was praising the obvious spiritual gifts of the new vicar, adding, "We never knew anything about sin until he came."

# It's Ceilidh Time

## @ St Georges Church, Morpeth

### Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2022 , 7.30pm

## Go on, give it a whirl ...

## Kilts optional



**Live Band - SGURC**

All dances explained  
Come and have fun

You don't need a partner  
No stilettos please



We believe in life  
before death

**Tickets: Adults £ 5 Children - free**  
available from all Morpeth Churches  
Bar provided – cash only

**Your donations save lives**

Registered charity number 1105851

**Tickets are available from Christine Oakes.**

**Email: email: oakescm@yahoo.co.uk**

**Tel. 01670 518608**

### Great invention...

The boys had been up in the attic together helping with some cleaning. They uncovered an old manual typewriter and asked their mother what it was. She briefly explained, but they were still puzzled as to how it worked.

So the mother rolled some paper into the typewriter and began striking the keys, leaving black letters of print on the page.

"WOW!" they exclaimed, "That's really cool...but where do you plug it in?"

"There is no plug," she answered.

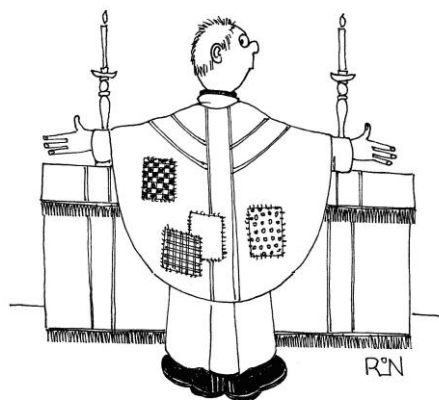
"Then where do you put the batteries?" they persisted.

"It doesn't need batteries either," she continued.

"Wow! This is so cool!" they exclaimed. "Someone should have invented this a long time ago!"



*...love the new notice board, Vicar...  
...just not quite so sure about the wording...*



*Trevor hated asking for money, but he  
sometimes made subtle hints*

### Prison quartet...

While I was a guest preacher in a rural church, they announced that their prison quartet would be singing at the evening service. I wasn't aware there was a prison in the vicinity, and so looked forward to hearing them. That evening I was puzzled when four members of the church sheepishly approached the stage. Then the choir master introduced them. "This is our prison quartet," he said with a grin, "always behind a few bars, and looking in vain for the key."

It is Angel time again, how time flies these days.

I will put patterns in the Church vestibule and a container to hold our Angel Host, at the beginning of November just in case you have lost yours.

Please let me know if you can think of anywhere special for the Angels to fly this year. In the past we have given them to care home residents, food bank customers as well as placing them in and around Morpeth. I do know some have flown to countries far away as well. They will fly, as usual, on the week beginning December 19th.

Thank you in advance for your help. These small Angels spread a lot of love wherever they go. Thank you.

**Patricia Gatherum.**



In St. George's is a set of Communion chairs which bear a plaque which reads: "In Memory of Robert Darling Douglas who died at sea 16th June 1942. Son of James Douglas, a devoted office bearer. The three chairs were given by his widow and family"

Does anybody know this man's story? He died during the Second World War. Was he serving as a sailor or was he being transported in a ship which was destroyed? I would very much like to put his story into the North East War Memorials Project website [www.newmp.org.uk](http://www.newmp.org.uk)

### On a different tack altogether...

We have a friend who was a Church of Scotland Minister. He went to Taiwan for a while to look after the church there. His headquarters were in a Street called Min Tei, and it seems that most other denominations also had their bases there. Our friend called it "Polo Street" because it was the Min Tei with the holies in it.

**George & Janet Brown.**

**Don't cross the line...** There is a line on the ocean where you lose a day after crossing it. There's also a line on all busy roads, where you can lose a lot more if you cross it.

**Puzzle Solutions:**



**Crossword:** ACROSS: 1, Hopefulness. 9, Hitting. 10, du Pre. 11, Ere. 13, Ozni. 16, Wait. 17, Climbs. 18, Obey. 20, Joni. 21, Cuckoo. 22, In it. 23, Yaws. 25, Elm. 28, Alarm. 29, Epistle. 30, Whitsuntide.  
DOWN: 2, Often. 3, Exit. 4, Urge. 5, Node. 6, Soprano. 7, Theological. 8, Westminster. 12, Rebuke. 14, Icy. 15, Ritual. 19, Epitaph. 20, Joy. 24, Acted. 25, Emit. 26, Menu. 27, Gift.

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

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

**Milky sermon...**Ministers from the Welsh valleys were distressing the older members of a chapel by the length of their sermons. On one occasion an elderly man greeted the minister: "And what is the subject of your sermon this morning?" "The milk of human kindness," replied the minister. "Ah," the old man mused a moment. "Condensed, I hope?"  
(From Peterborough in The Daily Telegraph)

**God bless...**A little girl saying her prayers: "God bless Mummy, God bless Daddy, God bless my brother Tommy, God bless Granny – and God look after Yourself, 'cos if anything happens to You, we've had it!"

**When it's OK to Pray...**Poster in a public school in South Pasadena, California: "In the event of nuclear attack, the rule prohibiting prayer in school will be temporarily suspended."

## Great Bavington United Reformed Church

*Here is the news from Great Bavington*

### Services

During the winter (November to March), services will be at **2.30pm** on the first and third Sundays of the month.

Sunday 6 November, 2.30pm

Sunday 20 November, 2.30pm, belated Remembrance service

### Film Night

The new Film Night season continues; following the new Downton Abbey and Death on the Nile films in September and October, November's film will be The Bucket List (12A):

two men with terminal illnesses decide to do all the things they have ever wanted to do before they die according to their bucket list. In the process, both of them heal each other, become unlikely friends, and ultimately find joy in life.

Monday 14 November, 7.00pm. Refreshments. Donations towards Film Night costs will be much appreciated.

### History Night

History Night will be having a rest in November and December.

### Building work at the church

The contractors are busy at the church and expect to finish by the end of November.

This may mean that sometimes we won't be able to use parts of the building. If there are any changes to the above plans for services and Film Night, we will post information on the church's Facebook

page: [www.facebook.com/GreatBavingtonURC](https://www.facebook.com/GreatBavingtonURC)

Or ring 01830 540350 for information.

The building work also means that the church is not open for visitors at the moment.

**Nicola**

## WIDDRINGTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

### PRAYING TOGETHER

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

During November please pray for:

Ukraine and other war zones; for peace in the Korean Peninsula (where the Korean War has never officially ended)

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 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

"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](mailto: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 November by Kathleen and December by Fiona. Christmas arrangements next month.

**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. Every little helps!

**Fund raising:** Last month's Coffee Club in the hall made £80.00.

### 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 November along with duty rotas are in the table below.

### Social:

Sadly we begin with news of cancellations. We decided to abandon the idea of a litter pick, because of the outlay on safety equipment. The Fireworks night has also been cancelled. However, we do have two November events left:

Saturday 19th: Tear Fund quiz in the Hall with pooled supper. 7.00pm. Donations for Tear Fund

Friday 25th: Harbour Lights Choir in the Church with complimentary wine and cheese (and soft drinks!). 7.00 pm. Charge £5.00 on the door.

For both these events please let Diana know you are coming.

Our Christmas Church meal is on Wednesday 7th December at Warkworth House, 6.30 for 7.00. If you have not had a menu, see Diana. Menu choices and numbers to Diana by 27th November.

December 3rd and 4th (Saturday and Sunday) Festival of Cribs: the children of Grange View School are producing a nativity scene for each year group, which will be displayed in church over this weekend. We invite anyone who has a Nativity crib to bring it along to swell the numbers. Also if you have a largish artificial Christmas tree which you would be willing to lend for the weekend. (We feel it is too early to get the church tree.)

The church will be open for viewing on Saturday and Sunday (after church) with refreshments available. Please come and see! If you could offer some time for stewarding, please speak to an elder.

### Regular events:

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday:** Coffee Club meets on the 1st Tuesday of the month at various coffee shops in the area. November's venue is Warkworth House.

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday: Prayer Group:** We gather at Cook's Hemmel, Causey Park at 7.00pm. You are welcome to join us.

**Open Church :** Open Church is suspended from November to February. We will reconsider what we do in March next year.

**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.**

The Advent Course led by Rev'd Julian Sanders will be on Friday afternoons from 2nd to 23rd December, starting at 2pm in the hall. Discussion will be based on the film 'It's a wonderful life '. All are welcome.

**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: November**

Date	Preacher	Vestry	Door/Offering
<b>6th</b>	Ester Hume	Diana Hogg	K. Bailey. E. Barber
<b>13th</b>	Worship Team	Kathleen Bailey	D. Hogg. M. Scott
<b>20th</b>	Revd Julian Sanders	Diana Hogg	R. Gordon. A. Grieves
<b>27th</b>	Andrea Mayland	Fiona Middlemist	K. Bailey. E. Barber

