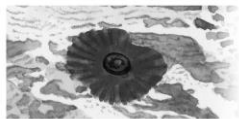
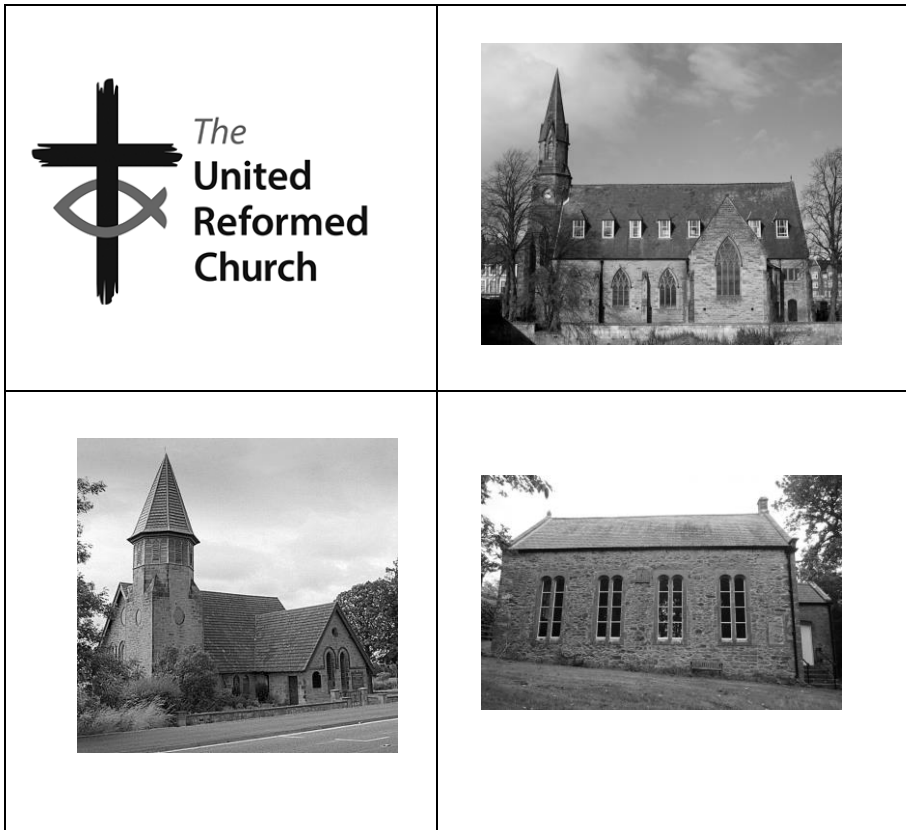


St George's, Widdrington & Great Bavington United Reformed Churches Newsletter



November
2024

Website: stgeorgesurcmorpeth.org

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

Sat 2nd	10.00am	Coffee Morning in Church with our Ukrainian friends
Sun 3rd	10.30am	Morning Worship with Communion
Wed 6th	12.30pm 6.30pm	WOW Midweek Service CT Prayer Meeting
Sat 9th	7.30pm	Country Dance Club
Sun 10th	10.30am	Morning Worship – Remembrance Day
Mon 11th	5.30pm	Vigil – Market Square
Wed 13th	12.30pm 7.00pm	WOW Midweek Service Conversations About
Sun 17th	10.30am	Morning Worship
Tues 19th	2.00pm	Coffee Club
Wed 20th	12.30pm 6.30pm	WOW Midweek Service CT Prayer Meeting
Sun 24th	10.30am 6.30pm	Morning Worship with Orchestra Evening Service
Wed 27th	12.30pm 7.00pm	WOW Midweek Service Conversations About
Thurs 28th	2.00pm	Advent Course commences
WOW Midweek Service – doors open at Noon for refreshments		

Stewards Rota

3	Madeline & Sarah Cleverley
10	Christine Oakes & Karen Howe
17	Christine Hawkins & Gordon Slack
24	Gillian Irvine & Katherine Smailes

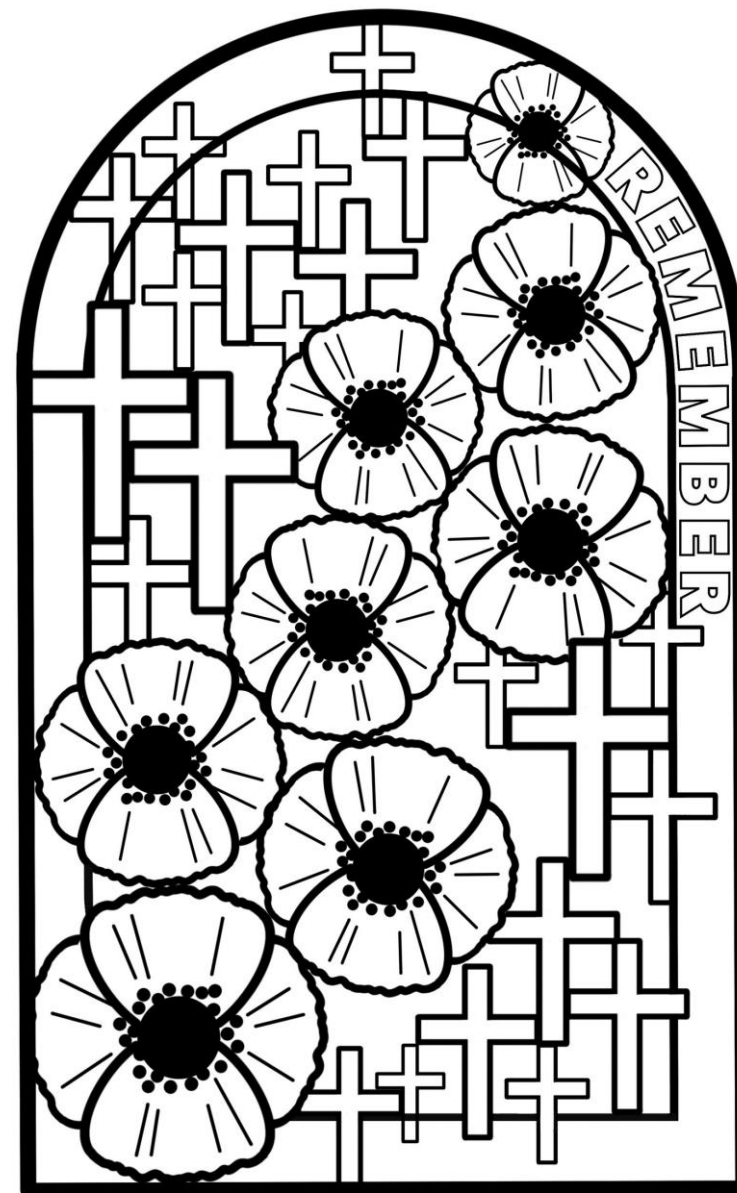
Flower Rota

3	Teresa B-H
10	Gillian Irvine
17	Margaret Brock
24	
Rep	Linda Glascott 515582



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 Mobile 07714481089 783434 liz.kelly@jcpce.com	
	St.George's Coffee Club: 2.00pm (3 rd Tues) Contact: Sarah Cleverley	515257
	Cobweb Orchestra 7.30 – 9.30pm At St Georges 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: 10.00 – 12.00 Christine Richardson Country Dance Club: (Varies from month to month) Contact: Shirley Forster	513913
SUN	Orchestra: Norm. 4 th Sunday Andrew Hamnett (not August) Christine Oakes	518485 518608



The next joint newsletter with Widdrington & Bavington URC's
 covers events in December 2024/January 2025

The deadline is Sunday 24th November

Please do not wait for the deadline if you already have articles ready to be
 included. Please contact Stephanie.
 email: robson-robson@hotmail.co.uk

I have had, since earliest times in my life, a fascination with language and accents. In my youth our family moved about in the country on account of the fact that we were a manse family.

Each time we moved we encountered new dialects and, in the way that kids easily pick up any new words, my brother and I assimilated these and became like the locals.

Some of these were small variations in pronunciation as in speaking ordinary English with a slight 'burr' which derived from the closeness of south Hampshire and Dorset. Several of my relatives hailed from this area, so the local accent, half Hants, half London was around us from the start. When we spent a couple of years living with grandparents in the city of Portsmouth I picked up this slight Hampshire 'rolling R' sound. I can still even now hear it in my voice.

I have lived in several parts of the UK including a South Yorkshire pit village, a North Yorkshire holiday town, an East Yorkshire University city, the cities of Cambridge and Manchester and the town of Gateshead. Each one has its own distinctive accent. Each one has its own selection of words unique to that area.

Among these, differences in names and descriptions of foodstuffs are particularly notable. Bread is one example. there are 'oven bottom' breads. Then there are the Geordie staples -Singin' Hinnies and Stotty Cake. Or contrast the fluffy texture of the stotty with a South Coast speciality – Lardy Cake which, from memory is exactly what its name suggests!

Mentioning *Geordie* foodstuffs leads me on to the observation that, of all of these tones, accents and vocabulary, Geordie and Northumbrian are the most impenetrable; so different from any other that, even now, after living 45 years in the North East, there are times when I cannot understand a word local folk are saying to each other or to me.

I recall the day we moved into the manse in Gateshead and a tradesman turned up at the door offering his services. I still haven't after all these years, worked out what he said to me except that it was something to do with the windows!

None of this is to belittle regional accents or dialects. They make for a fascinating and richly diverse community and a very rewarding exercise in learning a new language.

So, it seems to me that the distinct vocabulary, accent and intonation of speech in this part of the country qualify it for language status! How good it is that we have a Northumbrian Language Society to keep this heritage alive.

There are so many languages in the world that it is no surprise that there can often be confusion about what people are actually trying to communicate. So much can be lost in translation! We are fortunate in that the one most used as the common language of the world is our native English.

You can't go into a station or an airport virtually anywhere in the world without seeing information and instructions in the local language and English. No wonder that the English don't seem to learn other languages very easily compared with other people!

But there is another universal language which is available to everyone, and which can be used and practised every day by everyone. It is the language of love. Love is not just a vague, comforting feeling but practical actions that change our way of looking at our lives, our world, our families our neighbours and ourselves.

'These things endure: faith, hope and love. The greatest of these is love.'

1 Corinthians 13 v 13

Food for Wansbeck Valley Food Bank can be left at any time at Morpeth Town Hall or at Morrisons

WERS & Justice for Peace Project.

Please leave any items donated in the appropriate box in the Vestibule.

Coffee Mornings with our Ukrainian friends take place on the first Saturday of each month so they can meet with us and also catch up with each other and iron out any small items.

The next meeting is **Saturday 2nd November at 10.00am**

All are welcome

Remembrance – and gratitude

This year Remembrance includes several significant dates from past wars.

2024 marks the 110th anniversary of the start of World War I.

2024 marks 80 years since D-Day. The Normandy Landings of 6th June were the largest seaborne invasion in history, and began the Allied invasion of Normandy, which led to the liberation of France and laid the foundations of the Allied victory on the Western Front.

2024 marks the 80th anniversary of the

Battle of Monte Cassino in Italy, the bloodiest battle of the Italian Campaign, when Allied forces finally broke through the Germans' notorious 'Gustav Line' and freed Route Six and the way to Rome.

2024 marks the 80th anniversary of the battles for Kohima and Imphal, where in northeast India the Imperial Japanese Army was held off by much smaller numbers of British and Indian troops. In Kohima alone, the defenders held off a staggering 25 Japanese attacks over 14 days in appalling conditions. When Indian troops arrived to relieve the defenders, the Japanese encirclement was broken. Amongst the liberators was Havildar Major Rajindar Singh Dhatt of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps, from the Punjab.

2024 also marks the 80th anniversary of Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands, when the Allies managed to free Eindhoven and Nijmegen, but famously failed to capture the bridge at Arnhem. (The story is told in the film *A Bridge too Far*)

As the British Legion says, "While D-Day was fundamental to the allied victory, the Second World War was not won on any single day – or battle – and we will recognise and pay tribute to all who served from the British Armed Forces, Commonwealth and allied nations, such as those who served in the Battles of Monte Cassino, Imphal and Kohima, Operation Market Garden and the Scheldt. This year the British Legion is also looking beyond the Second World War, to Kosovo and Afghanistan.

It wants to pay tribute to those who served and currently serve in Kosovo 25 years after the deployment of the NATO peacekeeping force, KFOR, and to those who served in Afghanistan, as this year marks 10 years since the end of Operation Herrick.



St Georges Coffee Club

At our next meeting on Tuesday 19th November we will be welcoming

Diana Finlay with 'The Loneliness of Survival'

Start time 2.00pm in the Church Hall
There is a small charge of £3 which includes
tea or coffee and a biscuit.

For further information contact **Sarah Cleverley – 515257**
or come along to the meeting.

All are Welcome



St George's Knitter Natter Group

We meet each Wednesday from 2.00 – 4.00pm
In the Drysdale Room

New members will be made very welcome.

Joan Cooper (Coordinator) 515682

BE-RO Recipes Create healthy appetites

Often, jaded little appetites need tempting, and this is where dainty BE-RO dishes never fail. They look so tempting, their flavour is so fresh and delicious, that no child can resist their appeal.



ST GEORGES URC MORPETH

“CONVERSATIONS ABOUT...”

**Come and join us for informal and friendly
discussions about life, faith and the Bible.**

**Wednesdays at 7:00pm at
St George's United Reformed Church**

Dates for 2024

November 13th, 27th

December 11th



All are welcome
Images by Gerd Altmann & Pixabay

Charity Christmas Card Sale & Coffee Morning

At the Charity Christmas Card Sale held on Saturday 19 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 £1070 worth of cards, including Gillian Irvine's hand-made cards, sold on behalf of St George's, which raised £120 for church funds. Sales of teas, coffees and scones raised a marvellous £195 for St George's. I am very grateful to all who helped, sold refreshments, baked and came to buy cards.

Andy Cleverley

When I was young, the world was at war. We knew Christmas was coming, but we didn't put up decorations until a day or two before. These were mostly paper chains made out of strips of newspaper.

Whether one believes in the birth of Christ or not, do we really need the shops to be decorated so early? Do we need all the advertising on the telly so far in advance?

It has got to the stage where Easter eggs are on sale before Christmas is over.

When my children were young, they were given all kinds of things. They would latch on to one or two and I would put the rest away and bring them out when the weather was awful or one of them was poorly.

Am I alone in thinking that Christmas is an overblown feast of greed these days?

Janet Brown



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

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What bishops do...

We were celebrating the 100th anniversary of our church, and several former pastors and the bishop were in attendance. At one point, our minister had the children gather at the altar for a talk about the importance of the day. He began by asking, "Does anyone know what the bishop does?" There was silence. Finally, one little boy ventured: "He's the one you can move diagonally."

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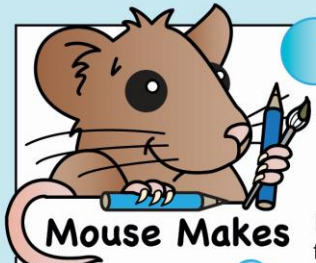


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Died in the services... Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and seemed to fascinate the seven-year-old. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?" "Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services .Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he finally asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"




"DO AS I HAVE DONE FOR YOU."

The disciples had met with Jesus in an upper room to share a meal together, but there were no servants to wash their dusty feet. Jesus got up from the table, took off his outer clothing, wrapped a towel around his waist and began to wash the disciples' feet just like a servant would do.

Then Jesus said:

"Do you understand what I have done for you? Now that I, your Lord and Teacher have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example, that you should do as I have done for you."



READ
the story in
John 13:1-17

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

By washing his disciples' feet, Jesus showed that as God's people we are never too important to serve and care for others.

JESUS
DISCIPLES
PASSOVER
FEAST • SUPPER • MEAL
GARMENTS • CLOTHING • TOWEL • WAIST • WATER • BASIN • WASH • FEET • WIPE
CLEAN • UNDERSTAND • OTHERS • EXAMPLE • DO • LOVED • CHOSEN • BLESSED

PETER
SCRIPTURES
LORD • TEACHER
SERVANT • MASTER



**St George's Church
Morpeth
Country Dance Club**
£2.50 bring own refreshments
New Dancers welcome

Saturday
SEPT 14 Oct 12 Nov 9
Dancing - 7.30 to 9.30
'SGURC' Band practice - 6.30
New Players welcome

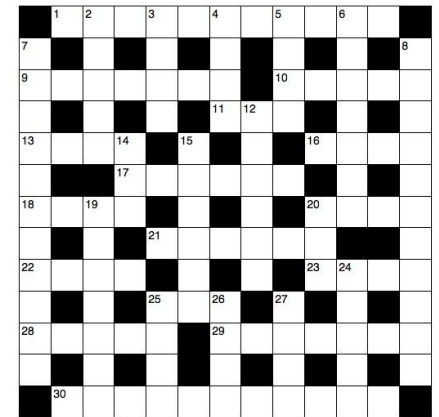


Most of our dancers are in the 'active retired' age group with younger and older folk also welcome. We dance, chat and listen to music and dance again! You can be as energetic as you wish .. there is room for both the enthusiastic ranter and the gentle waltzer ! You don't need to bring a partner .. many dancers are 'singles' .. and we dance with each other ,swopping partners and sets with each dance. You don't need to know the dances .. they are explained each time
More information text 07749525269

Dances include old favourites like Gay Gordons, Circle Waltz, Dashing White Sergeant and Strip the Willow and our own quirky dances with maypoles and batons
See us in action on Facebook
'Morpeth Country Dance club'
shirlsgurc@gmail.com

Crossword for November

Across: **1** In David's battle with the Arameans, 700 of these were killed Samuel 10:18) (11) **9** 'No — , impure or greedy person has any inheritance in the kingdom of God' (Ephesians 5:5) (7) **10** City on the banks of the River Nile (5) Stamped addressed envelope (1,1,1) Taverns (4) **16** 'Be on your guard; stand — in faith' (1 Corinthians 16:13) (4) **17** 'He will not always — , nor will he harbour his anger for ever' (Psalm 103:9) (6) **18 and 27 Down** Where the magi came from and what guided them (Matthew 2:1-2) (4,4) **20** Ancient Celtic alphabet of 20 characters (4) **21** She married Esau when he was 40 years old (Genesis 26:34) (6) **22** A great-grandson of Noah (Genesis 10:7) (4) **23** Title accorded to certain Roman Catholic clerics (abbrev.) (4) **25** 'My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it a — of robbers' (Luke 19:46) (3) **28** Annie (anag.) (5) **29** Plead with (Zechariah 7:2) (7) **30** Tenth foundation of the new Jerusalem (Revelation 21:20) (11).



(2)
11
13
the

Down: **2** 'We have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by — hands' (2 Corinthians 5:1) (5) **3** Uncommon excellence (Proverbs 20:15) (4) **4** 'You have exalted my horn like that of a wild ox; fine — have been poured upon me' (Psalm 92:10) (4) **5** — Homo ('Behold the Man') (4) **6** 'He has given proof of this to all men by — him from the dead' (Acts 17:31) (7) **7** 'Our — is in heaven' (Philippians 3:20) (11) **8** 'This is a day you are to — ' (Exodus 12:14) (11) **12** Assault (Psalm 17:9) (6) **14** 'Jesus found a young donkey and — upon it' (John 12:14) (3) **15** Liverpool dialect (6) **19** 'Remember the — day by keeping it holy' (Exodus 20:8) (7) **20** Nineteenth-century German physicist after whom the unit of electrical resistance is named (3) **24** Nazirites were not allowed to eat this part of a grape (Numbers 6:4) (5) **25** 'If anyone would come after me, he must — himself and take up his cross and follow me' (Mark 8:34) (4) **26** Evil Roman emperor from AD54 to 68, responsible for condemning hundreds of Christians to cruel deaths (4)
27 See 18 Across.

Solution on page 24

*St George's United Reformed Church
Bridge Street, Morpeth*

*Coffee Morning
& Sale of Christmas
Floral Arrangements*

*Christmas cake Raffle ~ Hamper Raffle
& Home made cakes and Preserves*

*Saturday 14th December
10am – Noon in the Hall*

*Coffee or tea and a
Mince pie £3.00*

*Proceeds in aid of Church funds –
LIFT ACCESS*

*St George's Coffee Club and Flower Committee Christmas
Coffee Morning
Saturday 14th December*

*Any donations of homemade jams, marmalade and pickles for this
event would be most welcome.*

Also, homemade cakes which can be brought on the day.

*If you are able to contribute any of these items, please let Sarah
Cleverley know. (515257)*

Christmas Floral Decorations.

*There will be some available on the day but to avoid
disappointment they can be preordered.*

Please contact Dorothy Luke (514918)

**ST CUTHBERT'S, HOLY ISLAND
WELCOMES A NEW MINISTER**

St Cuthbert's, Holy Island has a new
minister! Revd Kay Blackwell, arrived in
early August 2024 and has begun her
work on the island. Have a look at



our **News** pages to read more about Kay's Induction service and her article introducing herself and, of course, she is looking forward to meeting you when you are on the island.

<https://www.holyisland-stcuthbert.org/induction-revd-kay-blackwell/>

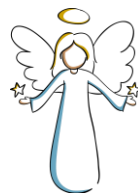
Our ministry of hospitality continues particularly to visitors to the island and our programme of Events continues. We have already had some lovely exhibitions and workshops but there are more to come so check on the Events section here on the website or our Facebook page for up to date news.

Hello everyone, it is Angel time again. As last year Rickards in Newgate Street have kindly agreed to receive your angels and give out patterns as required. There will also be a box in Church vestibule.

The deadline is December 13th. This gives us time to get them bagged and tagged in time for distribution in Christmas week.

Thanks in advance to all knitters.

Patricia



"...and don't forget we're coming into Nativity Play season – make sure we have extra tea-towels in stock!"

Children's Kitchen Terms:

BOIL: The point a parent reaches upon hearing the automatic "Yuck" before a food is even tasted.

CASSEROLE: Combination of favourite foods that go uneaten because they are mixed together.

DESSERT: The reason for eating a meal.

EVAPORATE: Magic trick performed by children when it comes time to clear the table or wash dishes.

FRUIT: A natural sweet that is good for you; not to be confused with dessert.

REFRIGERATOR: A very expensive and inefficient room air conditioner when not being used as an art gallery.

Say that again?...

A woman telephoned her Bank and spoke to the official who looked after her holdings. "I want to make some changes," she said.

The official needed more details. "Are you interested in Conversion or Redemption?" he asked. "Good heavens", came the reply. "I must have got the wrong number. I wanted the Bank of England, not the Church of England."



The Telford Tea Room Christmas Special

Saturday
7th December
2pm-4.30pm

Come and join our St George's members and friends Xmas fundraiser

Or buy tickets and enjoy **AFTERNOON TEA** while we entertain you

Join the performers team... readers, singers, players are all needed

More info and tickets
Christine Oakes
01670518608
Shirley Forster
shirlsgurc@gmail.com



Morpeth Justice and Peace

There will be a silent vigil in the Market Square on
Monday 11th November from 5.30 – 6 pm.
All welcome

Word Search

Remembrance Day this year has a special significance – it was 80 years ago this June that the D-Day Landings of the Second World War took place.

Those D-Day Landings and the Battle of Normandy led to the liberation of France and Europe. And this year the Normandy region has been celebrating – with events including synchronized fireworks at the major D-Day sites, giant picnic on Omaha Beach, Liberation balls, bagpipe parades, and international parachuting of hundreds of soldiers above Sainte-Mère-Église. It has been estimated that between 15 and 20 million people died in Europe alone during the Second World War. Worldwide, an estimated 75 million people died.

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

Fireworks Remembrance Landings Second World War Normandy
Liberation France Europe Picnic Beach Omaha Bagpipe Parades
Parachute Millions Soldiers died *Solution on page 24*

GREAT BAVINGTON UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Services

From November to March, services are held at 2.30pm:

Sunday 3 November, 2.30pm, Rev Julian Sanders

Sunday 17 November, 2.30pm, Rev Julian Sanders

Film Night

Monday 11 November

Dear Evan Hansen (12A). Film adaptation of the Tony and Grammy Award-winning musical about Evan Hansen, a high-school senior with social anxiety disorder, and his journey of self-discovery and acceptance. "A story for the outsider in us all".

7.00pm for 7.15pm start. Refreshments provided. Donations welcome towards expenses. You may wish to bring a torch to light your way to and from the church.

Bavington Parish Council

The Parish Council will meet in the church meeting room at 7.00pm on

Thursday 7 November. Contact Claire Miller, the Parish

Clerk: clairemillerparishclerk@hotmail.co.uk

History Night

Tuesday 26 November, 7.00pm (4th Tuesday of alternate months)

Always something new, and often surprising, to discover. History Night is a very informal evening (and often involves cake), so do come along, and if you have any interesting historical information about the area, do bring it too.

Be Nice to Nettles

Following the piece in last month's News about nettles, Carol Dixon has sent a wonderful poem about them:

Be Nice to Nettles week

The Docken leaf of your love

God of the sharp, stinging nettle,
and the soft, furry, white dead nettle,
we praise you for our senses
which help us to enjoy the world around us.

Thank you for the tangy taste of nettle soup,
for the tender touch of dead nettle leaves
and for Northumbrian nettle cheese;

brushing against our bare skin.

Help us to be sensitive to others:
when we are nettled by their actions
or stung by a harsh retort,
may we respond with gentle words,

healing hurts with the docken leaf of your love,
known and experienced through Jesus,
who noticed the flowers of the field
and the seed that fell in the nettlebed'

and who taught us to recognise
that we are all God's children,
created to delight in the diversity of the earth –
from the towering grandeur of tall trees
to the humble unpretentiousness of nettles.

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Reproduced by permission.

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 November please continue to pray for:

All war zones

Refugees

Those suffering religious or ethnic persecution

Victims of natural disasters

The work of relief agencies

Those suffering still from Covid19 throughout the world

Health workers and workers in essential industries and services

Medical researchers

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 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 in November by Kathleen, and in December by Fiona (except for Christmas flowers and the Tree, which are team efforts: details of

dates in the 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 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 £500. We get a payout each quarter provided at least £15.00 has been raised. The next one will probably come this month.

Fund raising: The Coffee Club with Church Meeting in the hall in October raised £100, which was very generous. We do not have a figure for cash raised for the Food Bank as several envelopes were passed to the treasurer unopened. It was **at least** £25, along with some goods.

Worship:

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.

The service on 24th November will include gifts for the Salvation Army Christmas appeal.

Social:

The Tear Fund Quiz, is on Saturday, November 16th at 7pm: pooled supper to be provided by church members.

Our Christmas Lunch will be on December 7th at Warkworth House at 1.00pm.

Menus will be available shortly.

Remember, if you have a good idea for a social event which you think people will enjoy, please suggest it to the Elders (or organise it yourself!)

Regular events:

1st Tuesday: Coffee Club meets on the 1st Tuesday in the month at various coffee shops in the area, or in the church hall. Details of November's event to be finalised: listen out for church notices.

Do you know a good local coffee shop which could cope with a sudden Influx of 12+ people and has easy access for our less mobile members? Please tell the Elders about it.

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.

Open Church: Open Church will continue, on Wednesday mornings from 10.30am. Please join us for fellowship and refreshments, and the opportunity for quiet reflection in the church.

Facebook: If you are on Facebook, have you checked out our Facebook page yet? Search for Widdrington United Reformed Church. Please like us and tell me 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
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:

On Thursday September 5th, we agreed arrangements for a Christmas event in the Community Centre on December 14th. Details of the event: Big Sing from 10.00 to 12.00 in the Community Centre; A table top sale with refreshments (bacon butties!) from 11.00 to 2.00 at Widdy Welcomes, raising money for the Food Bank; a FREE afternoon of Christmas activities hosted by the churches in

the Community Centre from 2.00. We will be displaying a mini version of our Nativity Festival. Offers of help would be appreciated.

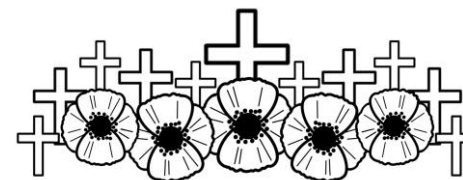
The Carol Competition has been given the go-ahead: we are asking you to write a new Carol (words only). It must be about the Christmas Story (no Santas or snowmen!) and you should write it to fit an existing Carol tune (or folksong, if you prefer). Closing date is December 1st: bring your entry along to church. The winning entry will be sung at the Big Sing on December 14th, and used in local churches over the Christmas period.

We have suspended collection of medicine blister packs, because Margaret is having difficulty disposing of them. We'll let you know if we can start again. (If anyone knows of an alternative to Superdrug who will accept them, please let us know).

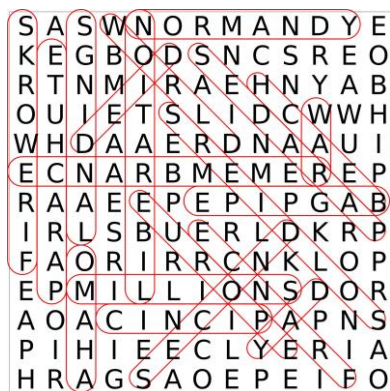
Food Bank: we have discontinued the hamper. We will continue, as this year, to collect goods and cash at our Harvest service, and have agreed to devote donations at one of our summer 'pop-up' Coffee Mornings to this cause. We would strongly encourage members to make individual donations as they can afford.

November Rotas

Sunday	Preacher	Vestry	Door/Offering
3rd	Worship Team	Kathleen Bailey	Fiona Middlemist Ruth Gordon
10th	Lucy Cooke	Diana Hogg	Kathleen Bailey Audrey Grieves
17th	Rev'd Julian Sanders	Fiona Middlemist	Diana Hogg Elizabeth Barber
24th	Carol Dixon	Kathleen Bailey	Fiona Middlemist Ruth Gordon



SOLUTIONS



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

ACROSS: 1, Charioteers. 9, Immoral. 10, Cairo. 11, SAE. 13, Inns. 16, Firm. 17, Accuse. 18, East. 20, Ogam. 21, Judith. 22, Seba. 23, Msgr. 25, Den. 28, Inane. 29, Entreat. 30, Chrysoprase.

DOWN: 2, Human. 3, Rare. 4, Oils. 5, Ecce. 6, Raising. 7, Citizenship. 8, Commemorate. 12, Assail. 14, Sat. 15, Scouse. 19, Sabbath. 20, Ohm. 24, Seeds. 25, Deny. 26, Nero. 27, Star.

As for those signs found outside churches:

- * Church car park sign...This is for MEMBERS ONLY. Trespassers will be baptised!!
- * Free Trip to heaven. Details Inside!
- * Searching for a new look? Have your faith lifted here!
- * Outside one church is a picture of two hands holding stone tablets on which the Ten Commandments are inscribed. A headline reads: 'For fast relief, take two tablets.'
- * A singing group called 'The Resurrection' was scheduled to sing at a church. When a big snowstorm postponed the performance, the minister fixed the outside sign to read, 'Resurrection is postponed – due to snow.'
- * Come in and pray today. Beat the Christmas rush!
- * Weight Watchers will meet at 7pm next Wednesday in the church lounge. Please use large double door at the side entrance.
- * Thursday at 10am there will be a meeting of the Little Mothers Club. All those wishing to become little Mothers are welcome to meet our new minister in the vicarage...