

Group News



** July * 2015 * August **

Part of the URC Northern Synod – www.urb-northernsynod.org.uk

www.eastclevelandurc.org.uk

Minister

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Dear Friends,

We have been asked recently to think a lot about the future of the church, to be imaginative and creative in thinking up new ways of being the church. And it is really important that we do so, for the reality is that the church does need to change if we are to be the church in coming years. After all, the church has continued to change throughout the two thousand years of its existence and in quite incredible ways. Remember we didn't always sing hymns, and we would have previously had to understand latin in order to understand the Bible being read in our churches. And so the time has come for the church in our country to look to the future and make changes *now* in order to follow Jesus into that future as a church.

In a booklet produced by the United Reformed Church entitled 'What the Spirit is saying to the churches?' we are urged to listen to what God might want of us in coming years, with a new realism undergirding our thoughts, and a new hope that these changes might lead to us as

Christians being freed up to worship God with joy, and without the current burdens that have come upon the church at this point in history. However, as a United Reformed Church it does also mean being faithful to our traditions were it is appropriate to do so, and turning to the rich resources of the scriptures, and our prayer traditions, in order to discern the changes which need to be made.

The church's Mission Council has met over the last few years to discuss the radical changes which are needed, and discuss various scenarios of paths the church might go down. These have included... being realistic about ongoing decline but continuing on this path; uniting with other national denominations with many buildings being sold off; forming local ecumenical unions; developing 'pastorate churches' each with 10 to 15 congregations that meet locally in homes, school buildings etc, with one main, central church where monthly united services can be held; a variety of fresh expression/de-branded churches;

and a cyber church, accessed online and resourcing people right there in their homes.

What????!!!! You may well want to say, choking on your tea and toast! But the reality is that staying the same is not really now a reality for the majority of our churches, unless we want to continue to see the church decline and even disappear into the depths of history.

So I want you all thinking. Each and every one. This is important and we need to focus now. I want us to be as brave as we can be in our thinking and plan for the future **NOW**. Be creative, be radical, for what have we to lose?! For the way we are going we will lose our churches, even if they will see most of us out. But the church 'seeing us out' is not the point. We need to focus on the Church Jesus gave his life for, his Church which he has blessed us with. How can we now do justice to God's plan to share his love for humanity through Jesus' life and ministry, his death and resurrection if the church carries on as it is? What can and should we do now to make a difference?

Each month for the next few months I shall be printing one of the scenarios suggested in the URC booklet in Group News in order for us to think seriously about the shape of the future church. You may not like the sound of them but they should make us all think!

As Thomas said, "Lord, we do not know where you are going; so how can we know the way to get there?" But Jesus answered him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." (John 14:5-6 Good News version)

God bless!

Revd Catey Morrison

Two weddings

Two weddings are happening in our Group on the same day! On the 18th July at 2.30pm, we will be celebrating with Joanne and Brian in Guisborough, before celebrating with Antony and Claire at Redcar at 4pm. Congratulations to both couples!



For Our Prayers

Northern Synod Prayer Diary

5th July - St Andrew's Dawson Street LEP, Crook; Revd Ray Anglesea; Revd Andrew Robinson

12th July - Synod Pilgrimage this week; Ministries & Development Committee; Convenor Revd Dr David Whiting

19th July - Oxclose LEP, Washington (40th anniversary); Revd Sheelagh Aston; St James's, Alnwick; Warkworth; Revd Joan Grindrod-Helmn

26th July - PCM (Church in Mozambique): The work of the central Administration & Finance department; Bartolomeu Langa and his colleagues; hopes for upgraded equipment and software; retiring Newcastle Methodist District Chair Revd Leo Osborn

2nd August - Pastoral Committee; Convenor Revd Gordon Brown

9th August - St Columba's, North Shields; Revd Liz Blair; St Andrew's, Monkseaton seeking ministry

16th August - Felton; Longframlington, Rothbury; St Andrew's, Glanton; Revd Edward Butlin

23rd August - St Aidan's, Hexham; Horsley; John Knox, West Denton; Revd John Paul

30th August - PCM (Church in Mozambique): The other central departments of the Church based at Khovo – Planning and Development; Evangelisation & Mission; Literature – and all who work from there; Bishop of Middlesbrough Rt Revd Terry Draine

Group Prayer Pointers

- 5th July* - Pray for the decisions which were made last weekend at the recalled General Assembly meeting to discuss the way forward for the church on the issue of Same Sex Marriage. Pray for the unity of the church.
- 12th July* - Pray for our church, St. Andrew's, Marton & Nunthorpe. Pray for clear focus for the future, particularly for outreach ideas, and for good health for the members.
- 19th July* - Pray for the young people and children now that the schools have broken up for the summer, that they may be kept safe during the long break, but also that their time away from school may be filled with enriching opportunities.
- 26th July* - Pray for our church in Redcar. Pray for opportunities to come along for community engagement and for the health of the more elderly members.
- 2nd August* - Continue to pray for Stockton, Billingham, Thornaby and Hartlepool following Colin's retirement. Pray for the churches to grow together and individually through this vacancy.
- 9th August* - Pray for the Upward Challenge youth camp which Catey will be leading this week in the West Midlands. Pray for the young people to genuinely engage with God and be encouraged within their own lives.
- 16th August* - Pray for young people awaiting their GCSE and A-level results in these coming weeks and working out their lives from that point on, as they seek to head to colleges and university.
- 23rd August* - Pray for our church in Guisborough. Pray for its ecumenical outreach throughout the town and for members to be able to find their own role within it.
- 30th August* - Pray for the village of Lingdale following the closure of the church. Pray for the members as they continue to find other ways of worshipping and meeting together.

Mission Council Scenarios

These scenarios were offered to Mission Council to aid discussion about the directions in which the Holy Spirit is leading the United Reformed Church. They were not offered as options in order to choose one rather than another as a way forward. They were offered as possibilities to focus the reflection on the future of the Church and to identify the areas which need addressing.

Introduction:

It is Easter Sunday, 2033. As you get into your solar-powered electric car to join your fellow Christians for morning worship – grateful for the medical advances that have given you and your contemporaries an average life expectancy of 103, and the anti-Alzheimer’s drugs and other medications which promise that those extra years will be healthy and active ones – the first item on the BBC morning news is about the latest five-yearly survey of religion in Britain conducted by Dawkins College, Oxford.

The survey shows that religious affiliation in Britain has fallen to an all-time low, though the number of those self-identifying as Christians has risen since the last Dawkins College survey in 2028. At 21%, Christianity has regained its place as the biggest single religious group, a little ahead of Islam at 16%. However, those claiming ‘No religion’ number 52%, and that total includes 19% who self-identify as atheist, humanist or secularist.

In the light of these figures, the secular celebrant of Dawkins College gives an interview calling for some of the faith seats in the Westminster Senate to be reserved for the British Humanist Fellowship, and the minister of state for minority cultures describes government initiatives to preserve important parts of Christian cultural heritage.

After the news report, the presenter reminds listeners that the new Archbishop of Canterbury will discuss the survey in her first Easter sermon, to be broadcast live later that morning.

You think back twenty years, to the meeting when Mission Council first started discussing the future of the United Reformed Church. You recall the further discussions, the sometimes heated and painful arguments, the decisions, actions and hard work in the years that followed. Your memories lead you through the following story...

‘Steady as she goes’

After that Mission Council meeting in May 2013, you very quickly sensed a change of mood in the United Reformed Church. Nobody doubted the advice from the denominational leadership and external consultants that the Church lacked the resources to maintain its present structures and activities. But an increasing number of voices at all levels argued that the United Reformed Church’s present structures reflected core convictions about the identity and ethos of a Reformed Nonconformist Church with a strong ecumenical commitment. Sweeping changes to structures or patterns of ministry would mean abandoning our distinctive calling as a Church and losing some of the distinctive gifts we gave to ecumenical partners and society. By the 2018 General Assembly that mood was overwhelming, and proposals for the radical restructuring of Synods were decisively rejected.

Over the coming years, the United Reformed Church avoided drastic changes to its structures or patterns of life, making only the adjustments needed to cope with declining numbers and resources. By 2030 the membership of the United Reformed Church had fallen to 23,000 from its 2013 total of 68,000. As numbers and income fell, the Church stood by its commitment to support local congregations as much as possible. Your church is now a lively Christian community with a membership of 62, making it the largest of the 370 congregations in the Synod of the Midlands and Northern England.

Since Easter is a busy time for the forty or so stipendiary ministers in the synod, your own minister will be leading worship in four of her other churches today, and you are looking forward to a rare

visit from the half-time synod moderator. Though most stipendiary ministers serve eight or ten churches, an agreement with the Congregational Federation for joint accreditation of ministers has eased the pressure somewhat.

However, although relations between the United Reformed Church and the Federation are now quite friendly, the most recent conversations about union ended inconclusively. You remember the report of these conversations at the last quinquennial General Assembly in 2031: there was some uneasy laughter when a speaker from the floor quipped, ‘Well, what does it matter? We’re all Congregationalists now, anyway!’ As you recall, none of the four synod moderators, nor the three full-time members of Church House staff, looked particularly amused.

What do you think of this month’s scenario? What ideas does it give you regarding the future of the church? (Ideas to Catey if you have them!)

A big thank you for prayers for Nathan

Can I please just thank everyone who has prayed for us as a family over the last year when things have been very difficult for Nathan and for us as a whole family. We have just had news (literally the phone has just rung while preparing everything for Group News!) that Nathan will be moving to his new residential school, Wilsic Hall School near Doncaster, on Wednesday 1st July. After all the waiting this seems to have happened very rapidly, and we are thrilled with the school which we visited only this last week. Nathan will be living in a little house at 3 Orchid Lane, with 2 other children, and attending school and receiving other therapy all on the same site. The school has 26 children and Nathan will be the youngest there. Anyone wishing to send a card to Nathan can do so. His address is 3, Orchid Lane, Wilsic Hall School, Hesley Group, Central Services Hesley Hall, Tickhill, Doncaster DN11 9HH. Thank you!!!

Blowing Your Cover

The next planning meeting for the Blowing Your Cover course is to be on Thursday 20th August at 2.30pm at the manse. Anyone interested in helping plan the next sessions of the course is welcome to come and join in.

Group Elders

The next Group Elders meeting is to be held on Wednesday 8th July at 7.30pm. Anyone who has an issue that they would like raised at the meeting please speak to the elders at your church.

Safe havens for Christians rapidly diminish in Iraq and Syria

Lift up in prayer Christians in Iraq and Syria who have been displaced because of recent attacks from IS (Islamic State) militants.

Christians in Baghdad are filled with fear since Islamic State (IS) militants captured the geographically strategic city of Ramadi on Sunday 17 May. With Ramadi located just 60 miles west of Baghdad, Christians in the capital city are wondering where to flee. Around 25,000 Iraqis fled the city heading east towards Baghdad.

In pursuit of those fleeing Ramadi, IS continues to advance towards Baghdad. Aid workers are concerned about government blocks in place to prevent the displaced Iraqis from entering the capital city. They have been set up because of a fear that there are militants among the refugees. Unable to reach Baghdad, they are trapped in IS's direct line of advance.

At the Manse

FAF Club

FAF Club will next meet on Friday 17th July from 6pm-9pm for a summer BBQ. Please ring Catey for more information or for a lift. Any young person wanting to go to the Upward Challenge Youth Camp this summer (August 10th-15th), needs to get their booking form and fee to Catey asap.

Lingdale 4C's

The next gathering at the manse in Lingdale for members and friends of the church for a cuppa, chat, cake and communion is on August 30th at 5pm. Please note their is no 4C's in July.

Guisborough

*Here is a jumble of coins and notes
Dirty and wrinkled
Noisy and shiny
Taken from pockets and purses
Placed in the bright red envelope
Or dropped in the collector's tin.*

*Each has arrived by a different route
Earned by hard work
Given as pocket money
Drawn as benefit
Widow's mite and rich person's surplus.*

This is part of a prayer taken from Prayer Handbook 2008 by Janet Wootten.

Here in Guisborough we have just completed the Christian Aid collection. Across all participating churches in the town, £6315.13 has been banked from door to door collections. Another £400 is to be added from regular special events held in various Churches in anticipation of Christian Aid Week.

In our Church we are congratulating ourselves on an increase this year of almost £60 in our total but before collection began those involved had the same discussion as in years past.

This revolved around whether the general public now give in the same way as 10 or 15 years ago. How can we expect elderly householders to open the door to a stranger when in other circumstances this might be dangerous? How do we handle rejection or aggression?

Many of us now give in different ways, perhaps through work or by direct debit from their salary. Others may support a specific charity with a personal significance, by fund raising across the year. There is competition between so many local, national and international agencies each promoting a different 'need', so

Guisborough Calendar

Wed 8 th July	7.30pm	Group Elders meet in the Hall
Tue 21 st July	2.30pm	Belmont Care Home service
Tue 18 th Aug	2.30pm	Belmont Care Home service

Weekly

Thursdays	9.30am – 11.30am	Market Day Coffee Morning
Thursdays	11.30am	Quiet Time in Church; prayers and reflections with Catey, Ken, Donna and others.

we each have to make decisions about where our financial support goes. National news has sadly brought to light this year the case of a generous woman who was so pressurised by ‘phone calls from so many charities she could no longer cope. Does this mean that the process of door to door collection giving has to change?

Putting aside the anxieties about knocking on doors and wondering how we would be received, the Christian Aid band wagon rolled into action on the second week in May.

Yet again we found that although there are some households who were less than wel-

coming, most were able to support us; as the total proves, more generously than last year. In fact I was asked on more than 1 occasion which church I was collecting for. This opened up the chance to share information about where the URC is in the town and when the services were. I met a friend of Revd Julie Martin who had recently moved to the area – so who knows where that may lead.

I would like to remember next year that Christian Aid Week is about more than collecting the red envelope. It is also a God given opportunity for Fresh Expressions.

Joyce Basham

Guisborough Rotas

	Vestry	Communion	Door	Flowers
5 th July	R Tunnicliffe	J Basham	D Beattie	L Reeves
12 th July	J Reynolds		M Burrows	M Houston
19 th July	D Moore		J Basham	D Kane
26 th July	J Basham		J Reynolds	C Robertson
2 nd August	P Etwell	D Cross	B Ward	D Moore
9 th August	D Houston		M Burrows	P Etwell
16 th August	R Tunnicliffe		M Ward	M Sollett
23 rd August	M Houston		D Houston	M Ward
30 th August	D Moore		J Basham	M Baird

St Andrew's

Diamond Wedding

Ian and Norris wish to thank everyone for their kind wishes on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be at 8 Towthorpe, Nunthorpe on Thurs. 23rd July at 10.00a.m. - noon. Raffle, Bring and Buy plus coffee and plenty of chat. Tickets (available later) £2.00 from Doreen, Sheila or Joan. Proceeds in aid of church funds.

Ladies' Fellowship

The Ladies' Fellowship will next meet on Tuesday 8th September at St. Andrew's from 1.30 to 3.00pm. We will discuss our agenda for the following session.

Everyone is welcome and we will share an afternoon tea.

Coffee for Charity

24th May	Naebus Fund	£20.00
31st May	Zoe's Place	£14.05
6th June	Elmridge	£13.11
14th June	Elmridge	£13.15

Sponsored Walk for Christian Aid 2015

On the 9th May 2015 Grace, Steven and myself set off at 8.00a.m. to the Wyre Valley.

The morning started off wet and windy but slowly started to clear up after we crossed the Pennines. We arrived at 10.30a.m.

The green fields grazed by black and white cows spread among the broad leaved woods that shelter the River Wyre's two arms. Marshow Wyre and Tarnbrook Wyre wriggle down their pastoral valleys to a meeting place at the hamlet of Abbeystead. The wilderness of Bowland's Fell looms on either side of the valleys and across their heads but the valleys themselves are altogether gentler country. Where they converge the woods crowd right across the junction-a domain of green shade in summer and a crisp golden world in autumn.

No sooner have the two Wyres met than their combined waters swell broadly across the valley impeded by the dam of Abbeystead Reservoir half a mile below the village. The still water reflects the woods that crowd upon its eastern shores. A path runs along the north bank of the reservoir, first among the trees and then through the open country beside the river as it emerges from the dam. This is fine strolling country criss-crossed by a network of easy paths. The district seems prosperous today. The Abbey at Abbeystead-founded by a group of monks in the community of Furness in the 12th century. However the area we were walking was at the coastal end of the Wyre Estuary at Stanah.

We all met At the Visitors Centre at Stanah where we had a short introductory talk. Then at 11.00a.m. the group of fourteen who were doing the Christian Aid Walk were transported by mini buses to Fleetwood. Half an hour later we got the ferry to Knott End on Sea whereon we started our ten mile walk.

Firstly we started by walking through the golf course passing Hackensall Hall and Hackensall Brows. Next through Heys and

Cote Walls farms and along Burrows Lane into Staynall. We went down Wardleys Lane passed the Wardleys Hotel and on to Hambleton where we stopped about 2.00p.m. to have our packed lunches. Then we were off to Point Shard where we saw a deer swimming across the River Wyre. Next we walked across the Shard Bridge and along the other side of the Wyre to Skippool Marshes and on to Skippool. We passed Blackpool and Fleetwood Yacht Club finishing at the Wyre Estuary Country Park where we had all met that morning. We finished about 4.00p.m. with tea and cakes being served.

We set off home stopping at Kirby Stephens at 7.00p.m. for fish and chip suppers and arrived back home at 9.00p.m.

£218.00 was raised for Christian Aid.

Grant Sutherland.

Well done Grant, Steven and of course Grace!!!

Shoe Box Appeal

Shona, with Eleanor and Joan’s help, is once again organising this year’s Shoe Box Appeal in the autumn. Many of you have kindly given us your empty shoe boxes but we would still like some more if you have any.

St Andrew’s Calendar

Wed 22 Jul	1.00 - 3.00pm	Knit ‘n’ Natter
Wed 23 Sep	1.00 - 3.00pm	Knit ‘n’ Natter

Weekly/Monthly

First Thursday	2.00pm	Home Prayer group at 31 Roseberry Mews
Boys Brigade		Details available from ministers and church elders

Redcar

From Deprivation to Celebration

Afternoon Tea
Saturday 25th July
2pm until 4pm

Please come and enjoy an afternoon tea while listening to music from the 1940's plus photographs and memorabilia from the time.

Tombola

£3.50 (Ration price!)

We would be very grateful for any donations of cakes and prizes for the tombola.

Poor old lilac tree, only God knows how old it is, the bark is splitting and the branches are gnarled and twisted. Then the miracle happens, every May a white profusion of blossom appears, so dense that I wonder how the birds find room to sit, and the branches stretching out so far that they almost force themselves through the window, and what scent. Forgive me Lord for doubting you as creator.

Ezekiel Ch 17 v23b

Birds of every kind will live and find shelter in its shade.

Catherine Milburn

Redcar Calendar

Tue 7th Jul 2.00pm Craft and Chatter, everyone welcome
Tue 4th Aug 2.00pm Craft and Chatter, everyone welcome

Weekly

Wednesday 10.45am Singing Group
Thursday 9.30am Prayers
10.00-11.30am Pop-in Centre
2.00pm Prayer afternoon – at the home of Catherine Milburn.

7th Redcar Scout Group

Help Us Transform a Garden - Wish List

As some of you may know, the 7th Redcar Scout Group have started transforming the churchyard into a usable garden space. This is to be able to grow flowers and plants to attract local wildlife and vegetables to promote healthy eating. This will educate the children within our group where food comes from. As we are a charity we do not have the equipment or funds to carry this task out and we are looking for as much help as possible. This could be from donating equipment that we can use or lending your time when needed.

If you wish to donate any of the named items, brand new or used, please get in touch with a leader so we are not overwhelmed with equipment.

Below is a wish list from our group stating the things we are looking for. All items marked * are needed urgently to help us start the task ahead:

If you have something that's not on the list that you feel may become useful to us then don't hesitate to contact a leader.

- * Compost
- * Wood – untreated and unpainted including sleepers, floorboards and logs
- * Compost bin
- * Gardening gloves
- * Gardening equipment such as large spades, forks, rakes etc
- * Screws, nails etc
- Water butt
- Trellis
- Garden wire
- Car tyres for planting
- Larger plant pots
- Outdoor paint
- Watering cans
- Wooden stakes/ bamboo
- Bird food (to entice wild-life once we have established the garden)
- Small polythene greenhouse
- Strong garden gate

*Akela - 7th Redcar Scout Group
07795389964 seventhrrsg@hotmail.co.uk*

Speaking and writing about our belief

We admire the love which some people are able to show towards animals and wish that we had more of this gift which St Francis showed to his people long ago.

But unlike him we would not want to preach about our faith in a public and busy place.

We would probably not even be willing to give a spoken testimony in a church building.

Yet now and again we may feel that we should speak out against some evil or a widespread view which we cannot accept.

I once wrote an article which disagreed with an earlier one written by an atheist acquaintance of mine, which featured in the monthly magazine Transit. This is the magazine of the Cleveland and Darlington Astronomical Society.

So in reproducing this I've made it easier for myself this month and perhaps its more impressive because of the longer length.

Neil by the way lives in Derby and is most unlikely to be known by any of our readers.

A reply to an atheist friend

I have a good friend who is a fundamentalist Christian and a creationist – the kind who actually believes that everything in the Bible is literally true, and that the Creation really happened 6000 years ago. And even more unbelievably, we have actually managed to discuss such matters in a civilised manner. He claims that creationism is a valid scientific theory, as an alternative to evolution and the Big Bang. It is not from what I said above, its obvious that creationism is not a theory at all in scientific sense, as it is, again by definition, not falsifiable. I know come to my final point. One thing that I can never understand is how some people can profess both to be scientists and to believe in God. Some try to tell us that science and religion are somehow compatible but they are not. From what I have said in this article, my reasons for saying so should now

be obvious. Science and religion can never be compatible, as they are founded on completely opposing principles.

Firstly Religion is based on the concept of sacred truths when a Christian says that he believes such and such, he is actually saying I stubbornly insist that this is the truth and no amount of evidence will ever convince me otherwise. Science by contrast, is based on the principle that there is no such thing as a sacred truth, a theory is regarded as correct, only until such time as it is proved wrong by evidence.

Secondly, science is based on the principle that everything in nature can be described by natural laws, in any given situation, given a knowledge of the laws and the initial conditions, the outcome can be predicted. Conversely, religion relies on the concept of the supernatural and miracles – the notion that God somehow exists above or outside the natural world, and is not subject to the natural laws of the Universe, but can violate them at will. This means that events in the natural world cant be predicted in accordance with the laws of science- and therefore, that all scientific investigation is pointless.

Eh Steady On

The Churchill dog nods to us from

the back shelves giving that insurance company free advertising. On television Churchill says Yes to the questions asked. Then a lady says I love you. His answer is my title for this article.

We cant love inanimate objects be they plastic bulldogs, our latest two or four wheeler or even our telescope. Only a few human beings and pets can be loved, everything else we like.

The Greeks have three different words for love, love of nation or community, love of friends or relations and physical love. As well as loving those special to us, we should treat others with kindness and tolerance and so Neil and his fundamentalist friend, with strongly opposing views, enjoy each others company. The ideal is to love your neighbour as yourself. This is the nature of most religions, unfortunately on the downside religion has brought the Crusades, the Northern Ireland troubles and conflicts. However, on the upside, religions have encouraged art, music, literature, architecture and many more recently Science. And even faith has its fundamentalists.

Fundamentalists believers form a very small percentage of regular worshippers and they limit their Gods activities to a few thousand years. The words faith and trust

have similar meanings. So we can trust the Theory of Evolution and religious people trust in their god.

Believing in the existence of UFO's and false beliefs denying that men have been to the moon or saying without proof, that Princess Diana was murdered are conspiracy theories. I trust the Theory of Evolution is true as do most Christians and scientists. I see the Creation story in Genesis as a brilliant attempt by a writer thousand of years ago to explain why we are on this planet.

We stand on the shoulders of such people. A newer Creation myth is the children's story The Crab who played with the sea. It is one of Rudyard Kipling's Just so Stories about the moon and tides.

Its interesting that Rick Fienberg in his alternative theory has a similar idea to that of the Ancient Egyptians where a newly created sun rises each morning.

The three main religions give thanks for each new day with morning prayers and they give abstract immeasurable quantities great importance.. So we read about love, joy, peace, compassions, thankfulness, truth and about their opposites.

Neil has difficulty with words outside and above. These are not to be taken literally. They point towards

perfection of god. So the intricate coloured decoration of ancient gospel books such as the one made on Lindisfarne have tiny deliberate errors in them for only god is perfect.

The first Russian cosmonauts said that god existed there would have been winged angels flying in the vacuum of space. Were they being serious or were they too literally minded.

Neil recommends Richard Dawkins book The God Delusion. There has been a reply written- The Dawkins Delusion by the theologian Alistair McGrath. I have not yet read it as I am currently reading Allan Chapman's Gods in the Sky- 328 pages. Its far superior to the Channel 4 series version, The dust cover says that Dr Chapman is an active member of the church of England and that his book describes the extraordinary rise of science first in medieval Islam and then in Christian Europe, which exploded with new intellectual energy after AD 1100. He demolishes the popular myth that religious awareness, science would never have come into being in the first place. So we can now have Dr Chapman as a counterweight to Prof Dawkins.

John Crowther

Preachers

	Marton 10.00am	Guisborough 9.30am	Redcar 11.00am
5-Jul	N Johnson	C Morrison Communion	C Morrison Communion
12-Jul	C Morrison	M Harris	J Harper
19-Jul	J Harper Communion	C Morrison	C Morrison United
26-Jul	D Moore	Guis Folk	J Martin
2-Aug	M Harris	K Harris Communion	K Harris
9-Aug	C Morrison	D Moore	N Johnson
16-Aug	J Harper Communion	C Morrison	C Morrison Communion
23-Aug	C Eddowes	M Locke	C Milburn
30-Aug	C Morrison	K Harris	J Harper

Material for the September Magazine to church editors by
Sunday 16th August please

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