



Group News

Minister

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** June * 2012 * June **

www.eastclevelandurc.org.uk

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

Dear Friends,

The big thing this month just has to be the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of our Queen, Elizabeth II, as Meg mentioned last month. Certainly it will be a pretty amazing occasion, with garden parties and street parties, church teas and not to forget beacons being lit across the area, including one on the hill near us in Lingdale, just at the top of Birk Brow. The shops are also doing their part in encouraging us to get celebrating, with mugs and ties, teaspoons, hats, bunting a plenty, and just so much more. I can't help but wonder just how much of this was around 60 years ago?! I also can't help but think that there is going to be a theme to charity shop goods for a good while after the event, as we dispose of the hair bands and purses and other miscellaneous goods that seemed such a good idea at the time! But it is right that we should enjoy the Jubilee as this is an incredible achievement for the Queen, 60 years in the non-stop service of our country. However, it is also a great opportunity for us to use to get closer to those in our neighbourhoods that we maybe don't always have dealings with, as we find ways to celebrate this great event together! So what can we do in the coming days to use this opportunity to reach out to others?

The Jubilee is so much the focus of all our thoughts as we enter the month of June that it is hard to realise that there is life after the Jubilee. But there are other exciting events happening in June. As I write this the Olympic flame is arriving today in the UK from Athens, Greece. It will then commence its seventy day tour around our country, starting in the South-West, and passing through our area in mid-June, arriving finally at the Olympic Stadium in London in time to open the Games. Again my thoughts go to what we can do in our churches to turn this special occasion,

and the Olympics later on, into events which we can celebrate together? How can we, as churches, share in these events which are important events in the life of our country and our communities? How can we bring a spiritual focus to these special events, that fosters but goes beyond community spirit, as we stand alongside all in our communities?

All of these celebratory events are ones that can build community, as well as a sense of working as a team, and can foster a new sense of life in our area, our towns, our villages, in our streets. And this month thoughts will also be turning to the Formation Flying Summer School at Windermere which this year has been thrown open to all who are interested in learning about the part they can play in the future lives of our churches, as we seek to gain the most out of new forms of team-working models to provide leadership *and* ministry to our churches. And remember that these two are not always the same thing! Maybe if we are ready to think afresh how our churches operate in terms of leadership and ministry and day to day management, then we will find that there are jobs and roles for us all?! So, thinking collaboratively, what might your part be? Team working means that if we all play our own small part the jobs get done more effectively and sometimes with fresh inspiration!

So just like today's Olympic games are no longer really like the original ancient games, or even like the first modern Olympics; and just like the monarchy has moved on over the 60 years of Elizabeth II's reign; so we need to be ready to move on in our churches, creating teams to share the workload just like the best of relay teams! Ready? Steady? Go!

God bless!

Rev Catey Morrison

Synod Prayers

June 2012: Newcastle North & Central

Week beginning:

June 3rd: St. James's, Newcastle; St. Andrew's, Kenton; Revd James Breslin; Newcastle Evangelist

June 10th: Jesmond; West End, Newcastle; Robert Stewart Memorial, Newcastle; Ann Honey (CRCW)

June 17th: Trinity, Gosforth LEP (Methodist/U.R.C.); Mary Bellshaw (CRCW); St. Andrew's, Benton LEP (Methodist/URC); Revd Peter Rand

June 24th: St. John's, Kingston Park LEP (Anglican/Baptist/Methodist/URC); Revd Roger Mills (Anglican), City Centre Chaplaincy; Revd Glyn Evans (Anglican), West End Refugee Service; Presbyterian Church in Mozambique

News from the Persecuted Church

Pray for the two sons and wider family of Christian couple Adnan Elia Jakmakji (34) and Raghad al Tawil (25), who were shot dead in Mosul, northern Iraq, on 13 December. The couple's sons were with them in the car when the family was ambushed by an armed group. The boys were wounded as the gunmen sprayed the vehicle with bullets, but survived the attack. Pray that they will recover physically, emotionally and psychologically from this traumatic experience and will grow up knowing that the Lord is "a father to the fatherless" (Psalm 68:5) who provides for all their needs.

From the Barnabus Fund Prayer diary

Manse Prayers

Manse Prayers are on Tuesday mornings at 8.45am. All Welcome.

5th June: Guisborough

12th June: Lingdale

19th June: Marton

26th June: Guisborough

3rd July: Marton

*Guisborough: 31 Oakley Cl ~ Lingdale: 2 Stanghow Rd
Marton: 10 Farington Dr*

Pray for China

Pray for the government in China, that they would acknowledge and allow Christians to be a positive part of the harmonious society it aims to build

Christian Solidarity Worldwide Prayer diary

Spring Harvest Christian Family Conference

2nd - 7th April 2013

Spring Harvest Christian Family Conference next year will be on the theme 'The Source: Encountering Jesus Today'.

The conference will be focussing on what Jesus being the Good News means in today's world, to be explored through worship, bible study, and workshops a plenty. There are various youth and children's clubs depending on age, as well as after-hours shows, and different types of worship to suit different tastes.

If anyone would like to go please speak to Catey re. prices and practicalities before Wednesday 13th June when bookings lines open for early bird offers.

A little Boy's Explanation of God – Fabulous!

'One of God's main jobs is making people. He makes them to replace the ones that die, so there will be enough people to take care of things on earth. He doesn't make grownups, just babies; I think because they are smaller and easier to make. That way he doesn't have to take up his valuable time teaching them to talk and walk. He can just leave that to mothers and fathers.'

'God's second most important job is listening to prayers. An awful lot of this goes on, since some people, like preachers and things, pray at times beside bedtime. God doesn't have time to listen to the radio or TV because of this. Because he hears everything, there must be a terrible lot of noise in his ears, unless he has thought of a way to turn it off.'

'God sees everything and hears everything and is everywhere which keeps Him pretty busy. So you shouldn't go wasting his time by going over your mom and dad's head asking for something they said you couldn't have.'

'Atheists are people who don't believe in God. I don't think there are any in Chula Vista. At least there aren't any who come to our church.'

'Jesus is God's Son. He used to do all the hard work, like walking on water and performing miracles and trying to teach people who didn't want to learn about God. They finally got tired of him preaching to them and the crucified him. But he was good and kind, like his father, and he told his father that they didn't know what they were doing and to forgive them and God said O.K.'

'His dad (God) appreciated everything that he had done and all his hard work on earth so he told him he didn't have to go out on the rod anymore. He could stay in heaven. So he did. And now he helps his dad out by listening to prayers and seeing things which are important for God to take care of and which ones he can take care of himself without having to bother God. Like secretary, only more important.'

'You can pray anytime you want and they are sure to help you because they got it worked out so one of them is on duty all the time.'

You should always go to church on Sunday because it makes God happy, and if there's anybody you want to make happy, it's God.

Don't skip church to do something you think will be more fun like going to the beach. This is wrong. And besides, the sun doesn't come out at the beach until noon anyway.'

'If you don't believe in God, besides being an atheist, you will be very lonely, because your parents can't go everywhere with you, like to camp, but God can. It is good to know He's around you when you're scared, in the dark or when you can't swim and you get thrown in real deep water by big kids.'

'But ... you shouldn't just always think of what God can do for you. I figure God put me here and he can take me back anytime he pleases. And ... that's why I believe in God.'

Danny Dutton (aged 8), Chula Vista, California

Modern

The church is rather like a compost heap... The whole point of a compost heap is that after due process of maturing, it should be spread around.

Charles Handy British economist (second half 20th Century)

Redcar

Craft and Chatter

Please note there will be no Craft and Chatter on Tuesday, 5th June due to the Jubilee Bank Holiday.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd July from 1pm until 3pm.

All are welcome!

Jubilee Afternoon Tea

A huge thank you to all who helped and supported the Jubilee Afternoon Tea on Saturday, 12th May – £300 was raised for Ann Charlton Lodge.

The afternoon had a lovely atmosphere which was shared by many people who also enjoyed beautiful singing and food.

Haloes, Glories, Coronas and Auras

Until last November I recognised these only as being connected with religion; words used to describe the brightness which artists paint round the head of Our Lord and of His saints. But in November O attended a lecture on atmospheric phenomena with the intriguing title 'The Arms of Buddha.'

The chief phenomena described and pictured on slides was that which is sometimes seen by mountain climbers at sunrise or sunset projected against a bank of misty cloud which lies at a slightly lower level.

This phenomena is given different names according to the different places where it occurs.

Its European name is a German word originating from the Hartz Mountains which is 'Brokenspectre'; broken shadow? The climbers' shadow is greatly magnified and around its head is a brightness. If more than one person is present this effect is only seen round the head of the viewers' shadow. Not around those of his or her companions.

If a camera is held out sideways at arms length the developed photo' shows that the camera itself has a halo around it. So the effect is formed by the sun being blocked by ones head and its brightness being projected around the head of the shadow.

A similar shadow effect can apparently be seen by

early risers whose long shadows fall on dew laden grass. For those of us who fly abroad for our holidays the shadow of the airliner falling on to the ground below or on to a lower cloud layer, is also surrounded by a halo.

Many hundreds of years ago a devout Buddhist saw his 'Brokenspectre' in Northern India and thought that he was seeing a vision of Buddha. In his religious fervour he jumped off the crag into the arms of Buddha and to his death – hence the title of the lecture.

Until about 200 years ago the eye was thought to be the lamp of the soul and so saintly people were thought to radiate more light than most did. Now we know that the eye is a camera and that the haloes, glories and coronas we see on Christmas cards exist only in the imagination of the artists.

But is this true? For certain people claim to be able to see coloured auras around the heads which reflect the personality, state of mind and health of the person observed.

(The 'Brokenspectre' was shown recently on television. I didn't see the programme, but it would be most likely on a scientific or countryside programme)

John Crowther

Redcar Calendar

Weekly

Thursday 9.30am Prayers
10.00-11.30am Pop-in Centre

Guisborough

Setting off for Keld, the day after Good Friday, a mixture of thoughts were in my head. Were we doing the right thing? I had undertaken to conduct two services on Easter Sunday and to lead prayers twice each day, morning and evening. We had lived for three years in a rural area in the Calder Valley, this was a similar place. This was a learning experience, a way of moving on as the Church tried to serve God's people; a time of reflection for Dorothy and myself as we enjoyed the comforts of the Manse. How would it work out? We enjoyed meeting and sharing with the local people. I had a great afternoon with a ninety old retired farmer sharing things from the past but prepared to cope with change in the future of Swaledale. He was living alone but in touch with his family. This helped me to understand our two Churches in Keld and Low Row as they look for ministry in the future, as they work together in Mission Partnership, rural and urban. We were a little sad as we left but we had enjoyed fellowship, friendship and love, things we need to discover in our broken world.

Pentecost, the day we remember God's gift of the Holy Spirit, the fulfilment of Jesus' life on earth. On that day the Whole Church of God must with hearts and minds seek by our words and actions to fulfil the Purpose of God.

Our children have planted sunflower seeds, small seeds growing into strong plants and lovely flowers as we hope they will in time.

On 9th May the elders entertained members of the Ladies Fellowship to tea. It was a lovely spread culminating in sharing a Birthday cake with Dorothy Collins. Everyone enjoyed themselves. It was a kind thought much appreciated.

A service in April led by Meg was much appreciated by the residents of Belmont View Care Home, which is one of our projects as we try to take Christ's love into our community. We hope as a congregation to become more involved with our friends in Belmont in the near future.

Our church is supporting the Bridge Rood Stop programme which seems to serve a great need at the moment.

May God help and guide us as we try to serve him.

Dorothy and Ken Harris

Guisborough Rotas

Date	Vestry	Communion	Door	Flowers
3 rd June	J Reynolds	B Ward	D Beattie	D Harris
10 th June	D Cross		D Moore	J Reynolds
17 th June	M Burrows		M Houston	J Basham
24 th June	M Houston		D Houston	M Robson
1 st July	R Tunnicliffe	J Basham	D Beattie	L Reeves

Guisborough Calendar

Sat 2 nd June	8.00am	Prayer Breakfast for the work of Bridge (venue to be announced)
Wed 6 th June	2.00pm	Prayer meeting at 1 Nidderdale, Skelton (lifts can be arranged)
Tue 19 th June	2.00pm	Worship at Belmont

Weekly

Thursdays 10.00am – 11.30am	Market Day Coffee Morning
Thursdays 11.30am	Quiet Time – prayers and reflections with Catey, Meg, Ken and others.

St Andrew's

Jubilee Celebrations

Sunday 3rd June

Morning Worship - 11.00am

followed by

Faith Lunch

Afternoon of Family Games

All Welcome

There are lists on the notice board requesting donations of food for the faith lunch.

We would be grateful if you could add your name to the list soon so that we have an idea of what is being provided and also an indication of numbers intending to attend.

Strawberry Tea

We are having a Strawberry Tea on Saturday 23rd June at 2.00pm. There will be a raffle, bring and buy and cake stalls.

Tickets £3.00 available from Una, Doreen, Sheila and Joan S.

Proceeds in aid of church funds.

Coffee for Charity

22nd April Kirkley Lodge £23.00

29th April Rosa's Mozambique Fund
(Xai Xai Internet Fund) £25.00

6th May Rosemary Fund £21.30

13th May Boy's Brigade £15.60

Many thanks for the above donations.

St Andrew's Calendar

Sun 3 rd June	11.00am	Morning Worship followed by Jubilee Lunch and Activity Afternoon.
Thu 7 th June	2.00pm	Prayer meeting at 31 Roseberry Mews, All welcome
Mon 18 th June	2.30pm	Worship at Elmridge
Wed 20 th June	2.30pm	Worship at Kirkley Lodge
Sat 23 rd June	2.00pm	Strawberry Tea
Wed 27 th June	1pm – 3pm	Knit `n` natter

Weekly

Wednesday	9.30am	Morning Prayers and Informal Worship followed by refreshments
Sunday	After Worship	Traid Craft Stall (Last Sunday in month)
Boys Brigade		Details available from ministers and church elders

Ancient

He would never come and knock at our door unless he wanted to come in, and if he does not always come in, then that is our fault.

Ambrose, Bishop of Milan (4th Century)

Christian Aid Walk 2012

On the 12th May I set off at 5.30am to go to the Wyre Valley. It was a nice sunny morning and remained like that all day with a cool breeze.

I arrived at 8am just in time for tea being served. We listened then to an introduction talk about the walk. We got garrulous as we got to know each other.

At 9.15am the bus picked us up from The Wyre Estuary Country Park to take us to Knott End on Sea. Normally we would have taken the ferry at this point of the journey but the ferries weren't running because of the strong currents in the water - like a river tide.

At about 10.00am we started the walk. We walked the first stage of the Wyre Way through the golf course and down a little track in to the grounds of Hackensall Hall. Next down the Brine Wells on to Barnabys Sands. Everybody was very sanguine at this point. There were twenty of us on this walk. We walked over the heads where we saw a load of growing potato plants. As we neared the Wyre Estuary we saw a lot of birds - Tadorna Osprey, Linnet, Skylark, Marsh Harriers etc. and lots of Shelducks. We walked over to Staynall where we got views of

News from Uganda

A long letter from Rosemary, our partner in Uganda, was received last month. She tells us how she celebrated a joyous Easter, her current work situation, dividing her time between teaching students in Jinja, and supervising others doing hospital practice in the capital (50miles away)! News of family includes the death of a nephew with AIDS, aged 36; the possibility of her moving house to avoid a 100mile round trip by public transport each day; and updates on the three teenage nieces she has adopted. She explains that gum boots are necessary to cope with the current rainy season! She concludes with the love she has for 'her family' at St Andrew's and her love and blessings to us all. Ask if you would like to read the full letter.

Shirley Moore

Oakenclough, Hawthorthwaite, Bleasdale, Calder and Beacon Fell. We also got views of some of the Lakeland Fells. Next we came to Peg Pool outside Hambleton where we were welcomed by music on our arrival. We all listened to this as we ate our sandwiches. While here we saw some Kestrels and Lapland Buntings.

After lunch we went passed Wardleys and Prospect Hill and saw some Moorhens. We walked over some marshy ground to Shard Bridge which replaced the old one in 1993. Here we saw some Oystercatchers. Next to Skippool where there were a lot of boats and yachts. Next we passed Thornton and Raikes and into Stanah. We got back to the Wyre Valley Country Park at 3.30p.m. where tea was being served. We watched a slide show of where we had just been then I went to Thornton Lodge for my meal and set off home getting back at 9.00pm.

Grant Sutherland.

Well done Grant!!!

Churches Together Prayer Diary

Week beginning:

June 3rd Nunthorpe Methodist Church

June 10th St Bernadette's RC Church

June 17th St Andrew's, URC

June 24th Marton Methodist Church

July 1st St Cuthbert's Church of England

Please pray also for our working together and the relationships we are developing and for the work within the communities which we serve.

Car Wash

The Boys' Brigade held a free car wash on Saturday 28th April. Many cars were washed by a very enthusiastic band of eager car washers. We think that the weather that morning was dry. It was hard to tell!! Car drivers gave generous donations and the boys collected £91.00 which is to be given to Christian Aid. Thanks to all the boys and those who helped.

Lingdale

Songs of Praise Jubilee Service

A special service to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee is being held on Sunday June 3rd at 5.30pm.

If you have a favourite hymn or song that you would like us all to sing that night, please put your suggestions in the box in the Post Office or through the door of the Manse (2, Stanghow Road).

Book Club

Do you like reading? Want to try something new but not sure where to find it? Come along to the first meeting of the Lingdale Book Club on Wednesday 30th May at 7.00pm.

Regular meeting day and time to be discussed at the first meeting. If you cannot attend the first meeting but would like more details please contact Susan on 01287 654093.

Jubilee Garden Party

Everyone is welcome to a Garden Party in the Manse Garden behind the church on Tuesday 5th June from 2.00pm onwards with food, drinks, games and fun, organised by Joyce, Michelle, Susan, Pat and Catey.

Contributions of food or drinks of your choice will be most appreciated.

If the weather is really bad the event will be re-located to the church and hall, as nothing will stop the celebrations!

Bring your space hopper!!

Flower Rota

3 rd June	Mrs M Saunders
10 th June	Mr T Waller
	in memory of Miss J Scarth and Mrs B Waller
17 th June	Mr T Waller
24 th June	Mrs J Scott
1 st July	Mrs P Green

News from the AGM

Things we have achieved in the last year:

- Rev Catey Morrison and her family moved into the church manse. So we now have a minister in the village once again!
- Ecumenical services with our friends in St. Chad's Lingdale, St. Aidan's Boosbeck, All Saints Skelton and Skelton Methodist for Remembrance Day, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and the Women's World Day of Prayer.
- A Christingle Service held with all the children from the school coming down to the church on mass for the service and in addition the blessing of the village Christmas tree across the road on the opposite corner. A wonderful and slightly hectic time for everyone, with lovely food afterwards and then a big clean up!
- A Christmas Nativity with a modern setting was written and performed by the young people in the run up to Christmas.
- A successful Christmas coffee morning was held, complete with cakes a plenty and a Meat Raffle.
- Also an Easter Coffee morning - complete with Easter Treasure Hunt and Easter Crafts - was held on Good Friday. The number of people attending was a bit disappointing, but it was still a

lovely morning followed by Café Style Good Friday Worship reflecting on the bad things in our world that Jesus desires to make good.

- A new Community Café began at the beginning of March, open every Tuesday morning from 10–11.30am, followed by a time of prayer for those who wish to pray with the minister for either matters of personal prayer or pray for our community.
- A new informal youth group called the F.A.F. (Fun and Faith) Group began this year meeting on the third Sunday night of the month, to enable the young people to grow in faith alongside their peers and have a lot of fun with it. Anyone aged 11 plus is welcome along to the Church Manse at 6.30–8.30pm. This is now being run in place of the Fun-time Craft Club which the young people had outgrown.

Things that we hope to achieve this year:

- New windows in the entire church! You may have seen notices requesting donations toward the replacement of windows in the church. All donations big or small will be gratefully received as we try to make our church watertight. It will be a big relief to us all when the work is done as some of the windows are really not that safe now and in dire need of urgent replacement.
- Speakers to be installed to make it easier for people to hear during services when the partition is down, for example large funerals.
- To keep the garden tidier. Any volunteers please?! Particularly in the run up to the judging of Northumbria in Bloom.
- The establishing of a new Lingdale Book Club, which is to be run by Susan Griffiths who is experienced in running Book Clubs, who will get us reading and knowing where to start with reading books if we are not sure. First meeting Wednesday 30th May, 7-8pm at the Church.
- Jubilee Celebrations!!! Including a Garden Party on Tuesday 5th June in the Manse garden for anyone who wants to drop by, a special “Songs of Praise” Jubilee Service at 5.30pm on Sunday 3rd June, and hopefully even a coronation service where the king or queen of Lingdale school will be crowned in a special coronation service at the church, plans permitting.
- To make better use of the church notice board and purchasing a new set of banners to help keep everyone in the village better informed of what is going on at the church.
- To get more groups to use the hall and make better use of the church buildings in order to bring in essential income for the church from the bookings.
- To turn the community café into an internet café if funding can be sought.
- The 40th Birthday of the United Reformed Church on October 5th this year! And we are certainly praying that the old adage is true that life begins at forty!

Matters for our prayers:

- That we might raise the money that we need to pay for the replacement of the windows...
- That more people in the village become involved in the church’s activities...
- That we might know the right ways of reaching and supporting the community through the activities we engage with...
- That a happy and prayerful Christian community might develop further...
- That God’s blessings might be seen in the community...

Lingdale Calendar

Wed 30th May 7.00pm Inaugural meeting Lingdale Book Club

Weekly

Tuesday 10.00am – 11.30am Community Café followed by
 11.30am – 12noon Prayers for our Community

3rd Sunday of the month 5.30pm Family Service followed by a Youth Meeting at the Manse

Synod Retreat Days

You are invited to one or both of two 'retreat' days. Bring paper and pencil, computer, camera, paints, sketch pads, needle and thread, knitting or anything that enables your creative juices to flow and have some space to be creative around the theme of:

Dying to Life—Vision 2020 in Northern Synod

Friday 8th June 2012, Shepherds Dene, Riding Mill, near Hexham 9.30am to 4.00pm.

Saturday 8th September, St Cuthbert's Centre, Holy Island 10.30am to 4.00pm.

Drinks and lunch provided. Pop in for an hour or so or for the whole day.

Please book with Synod Office for catering. 0191 2321168 wendy.watson@urc-northernsynod.org.

Synod Day

Saturday 20th October 2012

Trinity Church, Gosforth

Celebrating the **40th Birthday** of the United Reformed Church

A day out in Newcastle for all ages, with new and old friends, celebrating God's love and care for all, discovering more about the United Reformed Church, its origins, identity and future hope.

Come for the whole day or come for a part.

Children's activities, workshops, displays, bookstall and Traidcraft stall.

Book the date in your diary

Preachers

	3-Jun	10-Jun	17-Jun	24-Jun	1-Jul
Marton	10.00am M Robb 11am Jubilee	N Johnson	C Morrison Communion	L Bustard	K Harris
Guisbo	9.30am N Johnson Communion	C Morrison	D Harris	M Robb	M Robb Communion
Redcar	11.00am C Morrison	C Morrison	C Milburn	C Morrison	M Robb Communion
Lingdale	5.30pm C Morrison	N Johnson Communion	C Morrison Family Serv	K Harris	C Morrison

Material for the July/August Magazine to church editors by Sunday 10th June please

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