

Group News



*** 2024 * *March* * 2024 ***

The monthly magazine for:

Guisborough URC

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Redcar URC

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St Andrew's URC, Nunthorpe and Marton

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Our churches are members of the Cleveland Pastorate

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

www.eastclevelandurc.org.uk

Pastoral Letter

'Assess yourselves to check that you are living in the faith. Test yourselves to make sure'

2 Corinthians 13

The older we get, the more it pays to keep a check on our health. That's not to say we should become morbid hypochondriacs, simply that we should keep an eye out for problems so that we can seek help to put them right before they take hold. If that is true medically speaking, it's true also when it comes to our spiritual health, for that can easily suffer as the years go by. Complacency, disillusionment or sheer weariness are all conditions that can steal upon us, sapping our faith of its vitality. Just as with our physical well-being, we need to be alert to the signs, regularly making time to examine ourselves.

Traditionally, Lent is such a time, calling us to reflect on our discipleship and to ask ourselves if everything is as it should be. None of us is perfect, of course, and the last thing God wants is to encourage a spirit of negative self-criticism. Rather, he was us to conduct an honest self-appraisal and then to seek His gracious help in bringing inner healing and renewal. The cure doesn't lie in us, any more that self-help remedies are the answer to every physical ailment. It lies in recognising something is wrong and seeking help from the one who alone is able to give us wholeness. If we are willing to admit our need, he will do the rest.

May you find Lent this year a time of new hope and refreshment., and may the Lord bless you with His presence.

Shalom

Jan

Synod Prayers

3rd March

Preparation for Synod, Synod Moderator: Revd Kim Plumpton, Synod Clerk: Revd Dr Trevor Jamison. Staff Team: Andrew Atkinson, Lisa McAvoy, Wendy Watson, Helen Hogg.

10th March

Churches: Wooler; St James's, Alnwick; Revd Joan Grindrod Helm; St Mark's, Amble; Revd Alison Mills; St Andrews, Glanton; Longframlington and Rothbury, Revd Ed Butlin.

17th March

Northerly Synods: Moderators: Jamie Kissack, Lindsey Sanderson, Geoff Felton and Clare Downing.

24th March

Ecumenical Colleagues: Anglican Bishops of Durham: Rt Revd Paul Butler; Newcastle: Rt Revd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley; Berwick: Rt Revd Mark Wroe; Jarrow: Rt Revd Sarah Clerk; Whitby: Rt Revd Paul Ferguson.

31st March

Easter Sunday



Hello, I am a retired Church Related Community Worker (CRCW) and have recently made an audio book of my autobiography called.

DARK HOLY GROUND

A Journey into Activism to give voice to the voiceless and hope to the hopeless

Part of it includes my work as a CRCW. At the moment the audio book of DARK HOLY GROUND can only be accessed on my website.

linda-granville.com

If you go to it and **scroll down** you can listen to some chapters for free including the introduction with an option to buy the whole audio book. I'm only asking for people to pay what they can so the poorest of us can access it.

Last year National Church Action on Poverty put it on their blog as recommended reading for International World Book Day. However at that time it was called 'A Journey into Activism' and was published as an e-book on Lulu and Amazon. However I have since changed it's name to DARK HOLY GROUND. It is the same book but with just a few minor alterations and a new introduction explaining why I changed the name.

I'm sincerely hoping that people will see the faces of the marginalised, those who experience the brunt end of this top down social and economic unjust system we are all simply trying to survive today. I hope people find just a few clues to change this chaotic world for the better. I'd love to start discussion groups around any chapter.

I would appreciate if you can pass my website onto your friends to get the issues I write about out there.

Linda Granville

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Guisborough

In February at Guisborough Methodist Church a Food and Fun session was organised by the Guisborough Bridge Association. The activities were aimed at children aged 4 to 12 With with crafts and other activities plus a delicious menu. Food being probably the most popular activity of the session consisted of pasta Bolognese or cheesy pasta Bake, carrot and cucumber sticks, pancakes, yoghurt and fresh fruit. Such a spread was just thing to get youngsters ready for a really fun time.

This event is just one of many activities organised by the Bridge during the 23 years of its existence - being staffed by willing volunteers under the leadership of Project Manager and Administrator, Lorraine Nash.

The idea to form an organisation to to address local needs within the community came from the Churches Together Group at the beginning of the new millennium. The first project was a youth activities group held in a vacant shop in Bose Street. This was a trial activity which lasted for a short period until the premises was taken back into business activity. Following this the youth work was moved to the premises above a shop in Westgate where it function for a number of years - and then moved on to a place in Laurence Jackson School where it was possible to expand the number of activities.

During the early years the Bridge expanded into other areas such as Soup and Roll fundraising activity at the Methodist Church, Lunch club, work with the elderly and other activities. At this time work was managed by Jenny Tiery

Guisborough Calendar

Weekly

Thursday from 9.30am Coffee in Church Hall
 from 10.30am Church open for private prayer
 11.30am Thursday Prayers led by Maureen and Ray.
 Details on church notice board

and Shona Joselin - with a significant input from the late Cathy Crabbe. Guisborough United Reformed Church made an important contribution by providing office space in the church house in Westgate.

So over a period of more than 20 years the work progressed fulfilling its aims to provide: “Life and Support in the heart of the community.” In 2023 all of this effort received its reward when the Association was presented with The Queens award, by the Lord Lieutenant, for voluntary service, which is the highest accolade given for such work in the UK.

The work continues fulfilling various needs in the community and is recognised with pride for the valuable contribution it is made in the local area.

Rare Tunncliffe.

	Vestry Elder	Welcome/Door	Communion
3 March	Jenny	Ray	Joyce
10 March			
17 March	Martin	Jenny	
24 March	Peter	Darren	
31 March	Joyce	Martin	



St Andrew's

World Day of Prayer

at St.. Cuthbert's Church, Marton
on Friday, 1st March at 2.00pm.

All welcome.

Coffee for Charity

21st Jan.	Middlesbrough Food Bank	£27.30
28th. Jan.	Middlesbrough Food Bank	£20.00
4th. Feb.	Middlesbrough Food Bank	£17.50
11th. Feb.	Boys' Brigade	£33.04

St Andrew's Calendar

Weekly/Monthly

Boy's Brigade

Details available from church elders.



Preachers

Marthon	Guisborough	Redcar
10.00am	10.00am	11.00am
3-Mar Jan Harper Meeting	Donna Moore Communion	Redcar Baptist
10-Mar Dave Elliott Parade	Guis Folk Meeting	Redcar Baptist
17-MarDot Thomson Communion	Donna Moore	Redcar Baptist
24-MarRay Angelsea	Brian Stephenson	Redcar Baptist
	Easer Sunday	
31-Mar Jan Harper Communion	Donna Moore	Redcar Baptist

Material for the April Magazine to church editors by Sunday 17th
March please

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