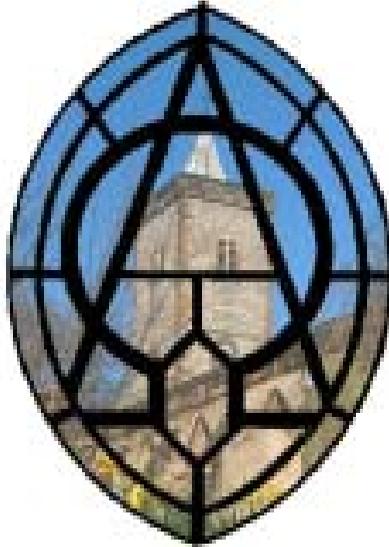


february  
2016  
50p

the  
whitburn  
window 



time to look through the window and time to reach out,  
to the heart of the parish, that's what we're all about

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## parish priest

### Revd Ian Davies

Who can be contacted on

Tel: 0191 514 3055 / 07972866341

If the answer machine is on, please leave a message, and he will ring you back.

Email - [reviand@manx.net](mailto:reviand@manx.net)

## churchwardens

Mrs Lorraine Hood, 68, Wellands Lane, Tel. 529 2628

e-mail — [Lorraine.Hood@talktalk.net](mailto:Lorraine.Hood@talktalk.net)

Mr. John Shield, Whitehouse Farm, Front Street, Tel. 529 3935

e-mail — [ajshield1947@gmail.com](mailto:ajshield1947@gmail.com)

## church services

### sunday

the parish eucharist 10.00. a.m.

except first Sunday in month. Family Service 10.00 a.m.

first Sunday Holy Communion (said) 8.30 a.m.

evensong 6.30. p.m.

### weekdays

Monday, Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30. a.m.

## services other than at the Parish Church

Last Friday of the month — Lindsay Court 10.00am

Croftside House 11.00am

**[www.whitburnparishchurch.co.uk](http://www.whitburnparishchurch.co.uk)**

**email: [whitburnparishchurch@btconnect.com](mailto:whitburnparishchurch@btconnect.com)**

## weddings

Please contact Rev'd Ian Davies

## baptisms

Contact Rev'd Ian Davies to find out the time of the next Baptism Preparation Group Meeting. Baptisms normally take place on the fourth Sunday of the month.



## readers and intercessors for february

Date	Intercessor	Reader	Reading
7th am	P Hibbard	T Gough	Exod. 34. 29 - 35
Quinquagesima			
		C Allison	2 Cor. 3. 12 - 4.2
pm	CLERGY	J Moore	Exod. 3 1 - 6
		C Moore	John 12. 27 - 36
14th am	CLERGY	L Shaw	Deut. 26. 1 - 11
Lent			
		B Etherington	Rom. 10. 8 - 13
pm	R Humphrey	CLERGY	Jonah ch.3
			Luke 18. 9 - 14
21st am	P Robinson	E Lillington	Gen. 15. 1 - 12, 17 - 18
		A Lillington	Phil. 3. 17 - 4.1
pm	CLERGY	S Thompson	Jer. 22. 1 - 9, 13 - 17
		P Turner	Luke 14. 27 - 33
28th am	CLERGY	P Hibbard	Isa. 55. 1 - 9
		M Vallance	1 Cor. 10. 1 - 13
pm	J Atkinson	CLERGY	Gen. 28. 10 - 19
			John 1. 35 - 51

## sidespersons for february

7th	Mr R Humphrey Mrs S Thompson	14th	Mr P Longville Dr P Small Mrs D O'Brien
21st	Mrs L Humphrey Mr R Ambrose Mrs J Ambrose	28th	Mrs N Bolingbroke Mrs J Baxter

Many thanks to all who read and lead the prayers and those who welcome the worshippers to services week by week. Thank you for your time and expertise.  
Lorraine and John



---

## in the window this month.....

In this month's window we begin with the regular article from Rev'd Ian Davies

Mary Stephenson gives us her thoughts in her latest article —  
Enjoy the read inside

Please find details of the midweek Lent services in church — we  
hope to see you for some or all.

The Women's Day of Prayer takes place in the parish church next  
month — Full details inside

A lovely poem sent in by June Ward (*should have been in last  
magazine editors fault - sorry*) — Please enjoy.

An ongoing collection and activity you may wish to support in the aid  
of others — "Stamps" and "Twiddlemuffs." — Find out more inside

A teasing puzzle from Carol Shield — "Books of the Bible" see if  
you can find them!

A couple of musical events happening soon for you to go along and  
support involving the RSCM — Find out more inside.

A few ideas of what you could do during Lent.

Are we really caring of our environment? — Lord Williams previous  
Archbishop of Canterbury recently asked the question read more  
inside.

Details of Cober Hill Weekend this year inside.

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this month's magazine  
as always it is very much appreciated. Articles for next edition by  
27th February. Thank you Editor

---

## a view of registers for january

### Baptisms

24th            Isaac son of Natalie and Philip Temple

### Funerals

5th             Norman Spour

### Celebration of Life

29th            Elwyn Hargreaves

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Thursday inclusive.

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appointment.

## not getting old!!

I'm not growing old, I'm just the same as I've always been. My friends from school are hardly recognisable. Recently I met a woman at a conference. I recognised her immediately..

"Hello, Do you come originally from Hyde?" "Yes, how did you know?" "I would recognise you anywhere. You are Judith L's mother aren't you?" "No, I'm Judith!"

There's no way back from there is there. I think she was pleased that I'd spotted the family likeness, but maybe she was just being gracious. She hadn't a clue who I was, and I was wearing a name badge.

So I had to admit that maybe I'm getting close to middle age.

Then I spotted this prayer, which is entitled "A Prayer on Growing Old." Every line hit me between the eyes as I recognised myself again and again. Is this the way that I am behaving? Surely Not! Well, I continue to cling to the illusion that I'm still young, but it's not too soon to practice for old age.

Lord keep me from the habit of thinking that I must say something on every subject and on every occasion.

Release me from wanting to straighten out everyone else's

affairs.

Make me thoughtful, but not moody and helpful, but not bossy.

With my vast store of wisdom, it seems a pity not to use it all – but you know that I want a few friends left at the end.

Keep my mind from the recital of endless details – give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips on my aches and pains. As they increase, so the love of rehearsing them becomes sweeter.

I dare not ask for grace enough to enjoy the tales of others, but help me to listen to them with patience.

I dare not ask for an improved memory, but give me an increased humility when my recollection clashes with that of others.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be mistaken.

Keep me reasonably sweet. I do not want to be a saint, as some of them are hard to live with, but a person who has grown sour is one of the crowning works of the devil.

Give me the ability to see good things in unexpected places, and talents in unexpected people – and give me the grace to tell them so.

Amen

Ian Davies





## 100 Club

Just to let you know that we have the pleasure of a double draw at the end of this month so no winners in January. There is still time to join the 100 Club please speak to John Shield if interested in joining.

For those already members a reminder please that if you haven't paid your subscription yet then John Shield would appreciate payment as soon as possible. You can either make 2 payments of £13 (1 every 6 months) or 1 payment of £26.

Please speak to John if you have any questions or queries. Funds raised go to support the church. Please read John's report which will be produced at the end of the month with other reports concerning the church in preparation for the AGM on 13th March at 11.00am, after the morning service in the parish church hall. Thank you

---

## evensong

We are one of only a few churches who hold Evensong on a Sunday evening — Please join us at 6.30pm each week to listen and enjoy our wonderful choir as they lead us in the hymns.

---

## burns night

Many thanks to all who attended and helped with the evening it was a great success and everyone who came had a lovely time with lots of dancing, the traditional addressing of the haggis along with the address to the lasses and the response by the lasses.

A big thank you to those that set up and cleared the hall your help and support in this is appreciated by all. Well done.

---

## coffee rota

Every Sunday at 11am after the morning service in the parish church we invite you to join us for a chat and make new friends while enjoying some refreshments — Coffee and Biscuits — served with a welcoming smile from our volunteers. Please see below who will be serving you during February. Thank you

7th February L Cowen / M Taggart

14th February J Osborne / S Jackson

21st February P Turner / J Lowdon

28th February M Mason / S Thompson





---

# midweek services in lent

## Ash Wednesday 24th February at 7.00pm

A Service of Holy Communion with ashing

Then for the following Wednesdays-

24th February / 2nd March / 9th March / 16th March

there with be. . .

A Short Holy Communion at 7.00pm  
followed by Bible Study.  
Looking at  
"The Beatitudes, Life Attitudes

Please note the meetings will commence at 7.00pm and end promptly at 8.00pm

---

## **misheard**

A letter sent to the Telegraph Saturday 16/1/2015

Sir. - I am afraid I cheated completing Friday's quick crossword .  
Speaking into Cortana, the personal assistant for my Windows 10 smartphone, I said " Handel's anthem" (to find the missing word in the clue): but this was misconstrued as "Hello handsome"  
The indignant spoken reply from my phone was "Hello to you too"

Sent in by  
John Shield

---

## **lunch club**

If you can spare a couple of hours then a volunteer helper is being sort at the Methodist luncheon Club. It involves one duty on a Thursday every three weeks. If you are interested and would like to support then please ring Michael Vallance on 0191 9031408



## monthly magazine

Can I ask all you lovely people who deliver the monthly magazine that payment of £6 per delivery address is now due.

For those who have not done so so far, can I ask you to give me the money so I can collate the payments.

Thank you very much.

John Shield

---

## annual general meeting

Sunday 13th March

11.00am

Parish Church Hall

Yes it is that time again

In the run up to the meeting there is the opportunity to nominate folk into the positions of Churchwarden and a member of the PCC (Parochial Church Committee).

If you would like to nominate someone, or be nominated, can you please enter the details on the forms provided. These are on the notice board in church. Please remember you must have the authority of anyone you wish to propose for election.

There will be a document produced with all the reports from the various people and groups associated with the church that ensure it's smooth running — such as the report from the Churchwardens and the Sidepersons to the Social Committee and the Flower Ladies, to name but a few. Folk who couldn't do what they do without your continued support.

We hope you will take the time to read these reports which are reporting on the last year. They will be available at the end of February, a couple of weeks before the meeting, so that you can read them in plenty of time and if you have any questions or queries then they can be raised at the meeting

After the morning service please make your way to the church hall where refreshments will be served before the meeting begins.



10 We hope to see you there

---



## please support if you can

Please find details of a collection and activity currently taking place that you may wish to support in aid of others.

### Stamps

Lorraine Hood is collecting your used stamps for the RNLI.



Please DON'T just throw those stamps out with the envelopes pass them on instead and they will be put to good use and help support a worthy cause. Thank you

### Twiddlemuffs

Would you like to knit or crochet a Twiddlemuff? We are making them for those people suffering with Dementia. The idea is you make a muff and add twiddlybits!!! Simple!!!

You can find the patterns at the back of church along with those muffs already completed. Please speak to Lorraine.

Thank you



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## books of the bible

There are 16 books of the Bible hidden in the following paragraphs and was kindly sent by John Shield's sister — Go on have a go and see if you can find them . .

I once made a remark about finding, merely by fluke, hidden books of the Bible, which kept some people looking hard for the facts while for others, it was a revelation.

Some were in a jam, especially as the names of the books were not capitalized. The truth finally struck home to numbers of readers but others found it a really hard job.

We want it to be a most interesting exercise. Yes, there will be difficult ones to spot and some may require judges to help them.

I admit it usually takes a Minister to find one of them and there will be lamentations and gnashing of teeth when at last it is found.

One lady said she brews a cup of tea so that she can concentrate better.

See how well you can compete. Relax now because there really are sixteen books of the Bible hidden in these paragraphs.

Sent in by  
Carol Shield

*Good luck with finding the books and we'll have the answers for you in next months magazine — Editor*

---

## christmas fairy

This poem was sent in by June Ward . . .

I am a little fairy  
On tap o' the Christmas Tree  
It's no' a job I fancy  
Well how would you like tae be me?

Aw tarted up wi' tinsel  
It's enough to mak ye boak  
An a couple o' jaggy branches  
Rammed up the back o' yer frock.





# christmas fairy *continued. . .*



An' these wee lights a'roon me  
I canna get ma sleep  
An' there's the yearly visit  
Fae Santa .....Big fat creep!

On Christmas Day A'm stuck up here  
While you're a' wirin' in  
An' naebody says, "Hey you up there  
Could ye go a slug o' gin?"

It's nae joke bein' a fairy  
The job's beyond belief  
You've got to go roon' the wean's beds  
And lift their rotten teeth.

But o' a' the joabs a fairy gets  
An' I've mentioned only some  
The very worst is sitting up a tree  
Wi' pine needles up yer bum.



When a' the fairies meet again  
By the light of' the silvery moon  
Ye can tell the Christmas fairies  
They're the wans that canna sit doon.

The Christmas tree's a bonny sight  
As the firelight softly flickers  
But think o' me A'm stuck up here  
Wi' needles in ma knickers.



So soon as Christmas time's right by  
An' A stop bein' sae full o' cheer  
A'll get awa back tae Fairyland  
An' A'll see yous a' next year.

by Frances Dunlop



## women's day of prayer

Women's World Day of Prayer is an annual event and in Whitburn is hosted in turn by the Catholic Church, The Chapel and ourselves. How time flies! I can't believe that it is our turn again.

The country featured this year is Cuba and the theme is "Receive children. Receive me." We had great support in 2013 and hope you will all turn out again. It should be an interesting subject and there will, of course, be refreshments

Friday 4th March  
Whitburn Parish Church  
at 2pm

"Receive Children, Receive Me"

Pat Robinson

Please remember it is open to all

You don't have to be a woman to come along and support. Please speak to Pat Robinson or Jean Atkinson if you have any questions about the day.

Some facts about the Country involved in the prays . . .

Cuba is an island nation consisting of the main island, Cuba and numerous smaller islands, cays and islets, many of which are entirely covered by mangrove.

It is the largest island in the Caribbean and spans a surface area of 110,860 square kilometres (42,803 square miles), about the same size as England.

The United States lies 150 kilometres (93 miles) to the North with the Bahamas to the northeast, Mexico to the west, Jamaica to the south and Haiti to the southeast.

The capital is Havana





---

## what a grey day!

This certainly is not the sort of day for going out, wind and rain, snowflakes and hail, just the sort of day for clearing the cupboards and drawers that you keep putting to one side until you feel like it.

I admit it now, I am a hoarder, half way through this cupboard I look around and wish I hadn't started to sort things out. Old books and recipes keep holding me back because I can't help reading them and soon find I have wasted another half hour. Anyway I have managed to find spaces in my photograph albums for some very old photographs tucked away for safety.

Oh dear, another snow shower, might as well keep going now, there isn't even one patch of blue sky today. Another few photographs of Whitburn, may as well find space for them now that the album is almost full. What a lovely place we live in, come the summer I must try and find that little water runway down Cleadon Road again.

Arthur told me it was ten or twelve foot wide when he was a boy, he was sent there to find watercress, which always grows by running water. I know that water rises at the Bents and mixes with the sea at that point. Villages are always built close to fresh drinking water. Ponds and wells are life giving.

There now, that is done. I sit back and survey the clear shelves with pleasure and hope the bin man will take the two full bags of waste.

Bye for now.

Mary Stephenson

---

## cober hill

Friday 2nd September to Sunday 4th September

We have booked up for a weekend away again this year to Cober Hill. The date is 2nd - 4th September and if you would like to join us then add your name to the list on the notice board.

The cost is £159 and a deposit of £35 needs to be paid by March 27th please. Cober Hill is a lovely place to spend a few days away with friends. Please come.

A relaxing weekend of friendship, peace and fun, good food and company in beautiful surroundings.

If you haven't been before please speak to Lorraine Hood or Jean Atkinson. Thank you



## 100 club

Last year £1820 was raised from 95 participants. I would dearly love to have 5 new members this year to make it a real 100

Club.

The cost is 50p/week, payable either six monthly, or annually (£13x2 or £26 once)

The monthly draw pays out £25, £15 and £10 for first, second and third placed winners.

This money goes into Church funds and is used by the Church here at Whitburn. Your support is much appreciated. Thank you.

John Shield



Mary had never sat in the pews at  
Whitburn Church before.



# word puzzle

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

Can you find the following words in this puzzle to do with Lent . .  
*Wilderness, Devil, Forty, Days, Sacrifice, Giving Up, Jesus, Lent, Help, Temptation*

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rscm

## “Come and Sing with John Rutter”

Elvet Methodist Church  
Old Elvet, Durham



Saturday 5th March  
10.00am to 4.45pm

Ticket: £18 for members, £22 for non-members, £10 for young people and students

The RSCM (Royal School of Church Music) are delighted that composer and director John Rutter will direct this Come and Sing event. This will be a major event for RSCM Durham with space for 300 singers. Booking is essential as tickets will be unavailable on the day.

If you are interested then please speak to Christine Alder in church who will happily help you secure tickets for the day.

---

## caring for our environment ?

*Recently Lord William, the former Archbishop of Canterbury spoke at the launch of a new scheme to encourage churches to priorities green concerns and talks about the environment . . .*

Instead of being a side issue, looking after God's creation was inextricably part of all Christians' responsibility to their "brothers and sisters worldwide", especially those who were living in poverty. CARING for the environment is not an "optional extra for the tree-hugging eccentric."

Lord Williams was speaking in the crypt of St Paul's Cathedral at the launch of Eco Church, an initiative from the Christian environmental charity A Rocha, and backed by the Church of England, the Methodist Church, the United Reformed Church, Christian Aid, Tearfund, and others.

The question he was asking was whether they wanted to pass on a liveable world to their children and grandchildren, Lord Williams told

*(continued on page 19)*



## caring for our environment ?

the audience. "Some in the Church would argue that they could not afford the time or money to focus on ecological concerns." The response to that, by Lord Williams, was that they could not afford not to.

"It's not an alternative to working with the poor. All that we say about our call to be ecologically friendly is part of that calling to justice, and to be there for the poorest of the earth."

Any church in the UK can now log on to the Eco Church website and complete a survey to see how environmentally aware it is in five areas:

- \* *Worship and Teaching*
- \* *Buildings*
- \* *Land*
- \* *Community*
- \* *Life- style.*

As churches adopt some of the hundreds of different ideas and suggestions to improve their score in each area, they can track their progress towards an award. Progress was already being made, according to Lord Williams.

Gradually, the Christian world was waking up to the idea that protecting God's world was a gospel imperative. But more could and must be done, he continued.

People in "the green movement look at us and say: 'Sleeping giants'".

Churches had huge potential to inspire wider society to take firmer action to preserve the environment. "We still have some role to maintain a moral consensus in our society," Lord Williams said.

"There are people around who trust us to do the right thing and use the leverage we have for change that is for everybody's good."

But churches could not mobilise the non-Christian world unless they were seen to be putting their own houses in order, too, he went on to say in argument.

By showing what could be done, churches could attack the despair that paralyses so many people when it comes to green issues.

"By doing something about it, we show that something can be done."





## why do we sing in church?

Ever wondered why we sing in church then here is your chance to maybe find out. . .



Saturday 27th February,  
10.00am to 12.30pm  
Prior's Hall, Durham Cathedral



Singing has always been central to the church's worship. You are invited to join representatives from the Cathedral and the University Department of Music to explore the theological reasons for singing in church.

All are very welcome, whether you are a church musician or struggle to sing a tune! Or just interested to hear it being discussed.

This is a free event with donations welcome on the day.

If interested then please contact [events@durhamcathedral.co.uk](mailto:events@durhamcathedral.co.uk) or ring 0191 3864266 to reserve a place or visit the website [www.durhamcathedral.co.uk](http://www.durhamcathedral.co.uk)

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## festival service book launch

Wednesday 24th February  
7.30pm to 9.00pm  
St. Giles, Gilesgate, Durham

A chance for choir members, individual singers and choir directors alike to come together and enjoy an evening of exploring the music for this year's festival service with Canon Dr James Lancelot.

Refreshments will follow the get together and the event is Free of charge.

If interested please visit the RSCM website or speak to Christine Alder. Thank you

---

## snowdrop

February is now the time for the snowdrop to appear — you can see some in the churchyard, a symbol of hope.



## during lent I could . . .



*As we approach the time of Lent it is usually recognised that we try (and many a time fail!) to give up something for 40 days — Below are a few ideas of both things to give up but also things to do that may help others . . .*

- \* Turn off my iPod or my car radio on while I commute. The silence may be jarring at first, but you may find that you are able to concentrate better and will be more observant of your surroundings.
- \* Make a commitment to “fast” from cruel comments about others. So, no gossiping or reading celebrity tabloids.
- \* Pray for somebody. As I've walking the streets, driving the highways, sitting in my cubicle at work, or going to a movie, pick out a person who appears to be in need, and pray for that person. Be mindful of the words of Philo of Alexandria, who said, “Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a great battle.

*(By the way in case you're interested Philo of Alexandria, sometimes known as Philo Judaeus, was a first-century philosopher born sometime between 15–30BC. Tradition has it that Philo's nephew Marcus married Bernice, daughter of Herod Agrippa I)*

- \* Make a list of all the excesses in my life. Think about which ones I could do without.
- \* Make a commitment to trying something new spiritually.
- \* Turn my coins into clean water — Help support Wateraid to bring water to communities around the world.
- \* Think about what I usually spend my money on. Do I buy a few too many clothes? Spend a few too songs on iTunes? Eating out? Pick one type of expenditure that I'd “fast” from during Lent, and give the money I would have usually spent to a great local charity.
- \* Perform an act or charity every day — do the dishes when it's not your turn, talk to your family in multiple-word sentences, pick up litter

*Good luck in whatever Lenten activities you decide to do.*



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**did you know about this month . . .**

That February, along with January was introduced into the Roman calendar by Numa Pompilius when the calendar was extended from ten to twelve.

The word February comes from the word "februa" which means cleansing or purification and reflects the rituals undertaken before Spring.

Anglo-saxons called February "Sol-monath (cake-month) because cakes were offered to the gods during that month. It was also known as "sprout-kale" from the sprouting of cabbage or kale.

In Shakespeare's time, the second month of the year was called "Feverell."

*(continued on page 26)*

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**did you know about this month . . .**

When the cat lies in the sun in February  
She will creep behind the stove in March.

Of all the months of the year  
Curse a fair February.

If it thunders in February, it will frost in April.

If February give much snow, A fine summer it doth foreshow.

# people to contact



**P.C.C. Sec.** Linda Cowan 529 3927  
**Treasurer:** Chris Allison 529 2511  
**Weekly Envelope Scheme** Ian Ward.

**Musical Director:** Christine Alder, 16 Huntcliffe Ave. 529 3215  
**Organist** Steven W. Hood 659 6597

**Electoral Roll :** Peter Small, 3 Eastfields 529 2275  
**Verger** Lorraine Hood. 68 Wellands Lane 529 2628  
**Hall Sec.** Jean Atkinson, 34, Cornthwaite Dr. 529 3574  
**Church Flowers:** Pat Turner,  
The Bungalow, Wellands Lane 529 3706

## **Mums and Tots group:**

Elaine Welsh, 59 Lilly Cres. 529 2459

## **Durham Family Welfare Contact**

Jean Atkinson 34, Cornthwaite Drive. 529 3574

**'100' Club:** John Shield Whitehouse Farm. 529 3935

**Brownies** Debbie Rice 454 4423

whitburnbrownies@hotmail.co.uk

## **choir practices** (in church)

juniors Monday 6.00pm. - 7.15pm Thursday 6.30pm.- 8.00pm.

adults Thursday 7.15pm. to 8.30pm.

**whitburn bridge club** Tuesday 6.30pm. to 9.30pm.

David Galloway 5292014

**brownies** Wednesday - 6.00pm. till 8.00pm.

## **mums and tots group**

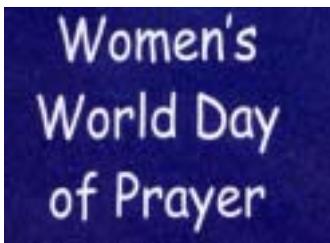
Monday Tuesday 9.30am — 11.30am

**lunch club** Thursday 12.00 - 1.30.p.m.- Methodist Church



# a glance through the whitburn window.....

Come and join us for  
Day of Prayer — More  
details inside



Are we Green  
enough?



AGM — Details  
inside

What are you  
doing for Lent?



Support a collection  
and activity to help  
others — Details inside



Read a lovely  
Fairy poem inside