

march
2016
50p

the
whitburn
window



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parish priest

Revd Ian Davies

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Email - reviand@manx.net

churchwardens

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

e-mail — Lorraine.Hood@talktalk.net

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

e-mail — 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

email: 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 march

Date	Intercessor	Reader	Reading
6th am	C Alder	M O'Brien	Josh. 5 9 - 12
Mothering Sunday		D O'Brien	2 Cor. 5.16 - 21
pm	CLERGY	V Perrett	Isa 40. 27 - 41. 13
		Jon Moore	2 Tim. 4. 1 - 18
13th am	CLERGY	M Small	Isa. 43. 16 - 21
		P Small	Phil. 3 4b - 14
pm	P Turner	CLERGY	2 Chron. 35. 1 - 6, 10 - 16
			Luke 22. 1 - 13
20th am	L Humphrey	L Lumsden- Taylor	Isa. 50. 4 - 9a
Palm Sunday		P Robinson	Luke 22. 14 - 23. end
pm	CLERGY	C Allison	Isa. 5 1 - 7
		C Levy	Luke. 20 9 - 19
27th am	CLERGY	S Hood	Acts 10 34 - 43
Easter Sunday		J Shield	John 20. 1- 18
pm	L Hood	CLERGY	Isa. 43 1 - 21 1 Cor. 15 1 - 11

sidespersons for march

6th	Mrs G Lowden Mrs L Shaw Mrs P Turner	13th	Mr C Bell Mrs S Bell
20th	Mrs M Mason Mrs J Atkinson Mrs L Hood	27th	Mrs M Johnson Mrs P Robinson Mr A England

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 bopen with "Easter Thoughts" from Ian Davies.

By popular demand "Race Night" returns — Full details inside and how to get your ticket, don't miss out on an exciting evening.

Mary Stephenson entertains us with "Another Grey Day"

Wendy Bowman invites you to come and support her "Easter Fair" in aid of Marie Curie — Lots of stalls details inside.

Please find inside the services in the parish church during Easter week — We hope to see you for some or all of them.

Inside you will find a couple of reports for the AGM including the "Churchwardens' Report" — Please come along if you can.

The answers to the teasing puzzle from Carol Shield — "Books of the Bible" — See if you got them all!!

John Shield has pleasure in announcing the 100 Club double draw winners — Details inside.

The Whiturn Church of England Academy are holding a "Tea Dance" next month to celebrate the Queens 90th birthday — Find out inside how you can join them.

A musical event from the Bishopwearmouth Choral Society "Smooth Classics for Spring" in Sunderland Minster.

Dotted about are some interesting quotes — see what you think!!

As well as examples of signs found outside churches.

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this month's magazine as always it is very much appreciated. Articles for next edition by
29th March. Thank you Editor

a view of registers for february

Baptisms

28th Charlie son of Laura and Mark Atchison

Funerals

5th Alison Agnew

Service of Thanksgiving

26th Tal Bell

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easter thoughts

My favourite part of the Easter story is one which isn't directly told in the Gospels, but it is the one which has had the most impact on me.

In Mark's story of the crucifixion, Peter had told Jesus that whatever happened he would stand by him and look after him. Jesus replied that Peter was going to deny even knowing him, and so it turned out. When Jesus was on trial, Peter watched from a distance, and when challenged by other bystanders he cursed and swore to prove he was not a follower of Jesus. He then disappears from the story, and is nowhere to be found when Jesus is crucified. I can imagine how he felt; making promises he couldn't keep, and to the person he most admired. He had boasted of how strong he would be for Jesus, and he had failed. How could he count himself a disciple of Jesus any longer? So he vanishes from the story.

Then early on Easter Sunday morning, when three women went to tidy up Jesus' dead body, they found him gone, and a young man sitting in the cave-tomb, who gave them a strange message:

"Go and tell the disciples, AND

PETER that Jesus says he is going to meet them in Galilee." Imagine the shock that must have been for Peter to be included and mentioned by name. He had no longer considered himself a disciple, but Jesus already knew it, and wanted him to realise that he was still included in his friends. That is hugely encouraging to me, because I am so often aware of the ways in which I have failed, but I am reassured that it is no barrier to God's forgiving and embracing love, and I need to accept that he loves me whatever situation I get myself into.

Are you tempted to say that you have blown it (again!) and that God cannot possibly love you, forgive you and accept you for who you are. This story should assure all of us that Jesus' dying on the cross and rising again was not to judge us, but to embrace us.

Have a Happy Easter, and a happy rest of your life.

Ian Davies





100 Club

Please find below John's Report for the AGM — You will find other reports dotted about the magazine. The full set of reports can be found at the back of church for you to take away. . .

Another successful year for the 100 Club, but for the first time since I took over the club in 2008 numbers have not increased, mainly because of ill health and one death.

Member numbers remained at 92 producing an income of £2392.

Prize money of £650 was deducted, leaving a profit of £1768, the same as last year.

Thanks must be extended to all who support this wonderful money-raising effort and any new members would be welcomed to offset the inevitable loss of some participants throughout the year.

My aim is to enrol 100 members. can you help?

John Shield

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.

100 club double draw winners

John Shield has pleasure in announcing the winners for the 100 Club Double Draw as follows:-

January - 1st Lynne Humphrey 2nd Janet Doyle 3rd Chris Moore

February - 1st Mike Hutson 2nd Madge Morris 3rd Cheryl Reeves

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 (This month please come along on Easter Sunday to enjoy some Simnel Cake)— served with a welcoming smile from our volunteers.

Please see below who will be serving you during March. Thank you

6th March P Robinson / A England

13th March G Glenwright / S Davison-White

20th March C Vallance / C Levy

27th March M Johnston / J Atkinson



Pat Robinson



whitburn academy invite



The PTA are holding a
Tea Dance

Friday 22nd April

to coincide with the

Queens 90th birthday

from 2pm - 4pm,

The entrance is free (attendees can make a donation if they choose) but if interested parties could ring the Business Office on 0191 5293712 just to let us know they will be attending — as we are serving afternoon tea and need to know numbers expected. The School Band will be playing and we are hoping this will be a wonderful community event

signs seen outside churches

Fight truth decay —
Read the Bible

No God - No Peace
Know God
Know Peace

How will you spend eternity?
Smoking or non-smoking?

In the Dark?
Look to the Son

Running low on faith?
Stop here for a fill-up



race night

By popular request we are organising another race night this year on

Friday 18th March in the Church Hall at 7.30pm.

Race nights are great money-spinners with last year's raising £1250. The profit comes from local advertising in the race card, race sponsorship, horse ownership and of course, a good flutter on the night (so we need as many punters as possible).



It's a good night's entertainment with films of English and American horse races.

Eleven races will be run, with some on the flat, some over fences and some trotters.

Punters are invited to place bets on their chosen horses in multiples of 20p and then the race begins.

'Owners' of the winning horse in each race win a bottle of whisky.

Winning punters get their just reward and local businesses gain from their advertising. Most importantly, the Church gains financially, so why not come along, enjoy the fun, the pie and pea supper and have a good night at the races.

The more people who attend, the more the profit.

Race Tickets are £7 and include
Pie and Peas Supper

Bring your own liquid refreshments

John Shield

quotes to think about

Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in a garage makes you a car. — Anon

weekly envelope giving

Happy Spring to all. Just to mention that the new envelopes will be available from March at the back of the Church. These will take effect from Sunday 3rd April 2016.

Many many thanks to all who currently participate in this ideal scheme. Thank-you.



a gift!

We are giving YOU a gift this Lent! Please take a tube of smarties from the basket at the font and enjoy them!



After you have eaten them, could you perhaps fill the empty tubes with coins up until Easter?

Then YOUR gift can be passed on help the work of South Tyneside Churches Alzheimer's Awareness Project. Thank you very much



another quote

Some people don't let their left hand know what their right hand is doing because they don't want to embarrass their right hand. - Anon

When down in the mouth, remember
Jonah. He came out all right .



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another grey day!

Now I know that Spring is just around the corner because the bulbs are breaking through the sheltered parts of my garden, strange though, the snowdrops are nowhere to be seen. I look forward to the first sight of those hardy flowers every year, normally they would be up by now.

What a strange winter it has been, bright but cold for the most part of it, except for those handful of grey days and all the floods some people have had to cope with. Poor souls, it's hard enough putting one home together without it being destroyed and having to begin again. My deepest sympathy to all who have suffered so.

Strangely enough someone was telling me that they haven't seen many birds around lately. I must say that is one thing my garden is not short of and they give me no end of pleasure. Robins and Blue tits are to be seen quite often, another few weeks and they will be nest building. Happy days!

Mary Stephenson

BISHOPWEARMOUTH CHORAL SOCIETY

Conducted by David Murray

SMOOTH CLASSICS for Spring

a programme of favourites + something a little less well-known

.....
Bruckner: Locus Iste
Franck: Panis Angelicus
Faure: Cantique de Jean Racine
Rutter: All Things Bright and Beautiful
Goodall: The Lord is My Shepherd
Mozart: Ave Verum Corpus
Schubert: The Lord is My Shepherd

.....
Hummel: Mass in B flat
.....

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support easter fair

For several years Wendy Bowman has put on a Coffee morning in aid of Marie Curie — This year she is having a Easter Fair and would like to invite you all to go along. Please support her, spend some money and donate to this worthy cause. Thank you



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Churchwardens' Report

The Parish Church Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday 13th March, after the morning service, in church along with refreshments. Below is one of many reports from the groups associated with the church and its smooth running. The reports are available as a document at the back of church for you to take away and read before the meeting. We hope you enjoy reading this report from the Churchwardens. . .

After two years without a Vicar but with lots of help from visiting clergy, we welcomed Ian Davies as our Interim Minister. Ian was to be with us for a year, or until a permanent vicar was appointed. I think we can safely say we have been overwhelmed with the leadership and support Ian, and his wife Sheila, have brought with them.

He has done amazing work not only within the Parish Church but in and around the community and within the schools. Thanks to his time spent at school assemblies we now welcome children into church on a regular basis for their services.

He has increased our congregation thanks to his Pastoral work, visiting the sick and following up on Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

The coffee and chocolate drop in sessions at the Barnes Institute, where he is the 1st Trustee, are a joy to behold. It's all free for the children and it's our way of taking the church into the community and not expecting them to come to us, which perhaps they may do in time.

He has held a Lent course and Confirmation course in the newly rearranged upper room, his doing of course! And all of this in his part time role as Vicar! So thank you Ian for your guidance and leadership and long may we have you and Sheila with us.

Church Maintenance

Church Maintenance

Again this year, the main fight has been against water. Despite four attempts to rectify the situation, damp patches once again can clearly be seen on the East wall behind the altar. The problem is that when, after rain, you realise that the leak has not been mended, you can never get the roofer because everyone else wants him at the same time. Another attempt will be made before the A.G.M.

14 Luckily other water repellent measures around the Church have

Churchwardens' Report



been more successful.

Two new speakers extended the public address system into the chancel, and now, much to their annoyance, all members of the choir can clearly hear the sermon. Similarly, a new hearing loop and amplifier were installed so that now no-one in the congregation has an excuse to be ill-informed.

During this year the stone-flagged floor was scrubbed and cleaned engendering many comments ... most of them unhelpful!

There was only one significant act of vandalism since our last report when a plain glass window in the South aisle was broken. This was quickly replaced and now no damage is noticeable.

In the graveyard the story is a happy one. Visitors enjoy the lights around the perimeter path and in the lych gate, which illuminates the way to the church door.

Successful repairs have been completed to the boundary walls with headstones having been righted at a modest cost. Gutters, valley gutters and flat rooves have been cleared, while the battle against the ingress of ivy goes on, with every square yard won back being returned to grass, thanks to the gardening group.

Church Hall maintenance

The Church hall is a wonderful venue, used and valued by many. However, there have been maintenance problems, especially with the roof which is now becoming 'nail sick.' This means that the slate retaining nails after many years of service, are eventually corroding. It is only a matter of time before we must consider replacement.

The work on the drains last year appears to have paid off, and no rodding has been necessary along the frontage of the building where we have had most of our problems in previous years. The good news is that we have clarified with Northumberland Water that the other drain running from South to North from School House towards the pond is their responsibility and any further work will be done at their own cost.

On a completely different note, thanks must be extended to the son-in-law of Ron and June Ambrose who kindly donated a public

(continued on page 18)



holy week and easter services

Monday 21st March

Said Eucharist at 9.30am

Said Eucharist at 7.00pm (in Taizé style worship)

Tuesday 22nd March

Said Eucharist at 7.00pm

(With Reflections on the Journey to the Cross)

Wednesday 23rd March

Said Eucharist at 7.00pm

(With Reflections on the Beatitudes)

Maundy Thursday

Sung Eucharist at 7.00pm

followed by a time of quiet reflection

Compline at 9.00pm



Good Friday

Mattins at 10.00am

Last Hour at the Cross at 2.00pm

Easter Day

Said Eucharist at 8.00am

Eucharist at 10.00am followed by egg rolling in church

Evensong at 6.30pm



Easter Monday

Said Eucharist at 9.30am



*We hope you can join us for some or all of the services during
Easter Week. Thank you*



one of many agm reports

Please find below one of the reports for the parish church annual meeting — Copies of the document containing the other reports can be found at the back of church please take a copy to read before the meeting on Sunday 13th March and come along and join us. There are a copy more at the back of the magazine. Thank you

hospitality report

After-service coffee is still going strong – sometimes too strong – and our helpers continue their work cheerfully under not exactly ideal conditions. One of our ladies has had to resign due to increasing family commitments but we are grateful for the work she has done. We have, however, welcomed two new volunteers to the rota.

As ever, any contributions are a great help. From these we buy the usual coffee, milk, biscuits etc, cleaning materials for the church and Christmas gifts for our cleaners. This year we have also provided a new vacuum cleaner, new flask and new kettle so, at the moment, the coffee fund is just about breaking even.

Thanks everyone for the packets of biscuits or coffee and also for the special occasion goodies which we all enjoy. Pat Robinson

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Churchwardens' Report *continued*

address system to the Church hall. You will no doubt see the speakers which are now permanently fixed to the wall next to the stage. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Looking forward, at the time of writing, work on the long overdue new kitchen will start on 1st February and by the time of the A.G.M., I hope we will all be looking at it with a sense of satisfaction and joy. In my opinion our 'girls' deserve the best while the 'boys' will just have to look on in envy!

The Rookery

This is a piece of land (0.25 acres) on the East side of the top of Church Lane on the opposite side to our North gate. Eleven people from the Parish are in the process of buying this with the support of the Diocese. The land will be given to the Church but will be freely accessible for the benefit of the people of Whitburn and others. It is hoped to open it up once work has been done, for the enjoyment of all who wish to walk there.

Outreach

The Church continues its outreach work (e.g. delivery of Christmas cards outlining the times of our services to most of the houses within the Parish) and remains the hub of the community. It has promoted and hosted events like the Flower Festival, Last Night of the Proms, the Village picnic on the green, car parking at Glebe Farm, the Armistice Service, cream teas, the Hay's garden party, two visits by the Northumberland Theatre Company, the regular attendance of our local schools within Church, the New Year's Eve party and all the social events and other functions held at the Church hall.

Lorraine's comments are as follows:

As my term in office comes to an end can I say I have had the most amazing time!

When first approached to take on the role I couldn't see how I could possibly do the job. Then when Ken told me he was retiring I wanted to run miles away. But thanks to each member of the congregation, the job of Churchwarden was made so much easier. Not forgetting John! We have worked so well together, thanks not only to his expertise in the building and maintenance work, but in all aspects of Church life.



(continued from page 18)

I think John would agree with me that we have learned so much about the day to day running of the Church which we wouldn't normally have had an insight to. You know there are so many people who have wonderful gifts to offer in a variety of ways, so if you feel this is something you could do, then go You'll never feel out on a limb with friends around, you need only to have faith in what you do and trust that what you are doing is for the good of all.

A few years ago I heard the then Bishop of Durham, Justin Welby, preaching and his words have become my mantra – "Do what you can do and not what you can't!" A canny rule to live by.

Thank you for eight fantastic years – I've had a ball!

John's response

My comments about Lorraine cannot over-emphasise the truly remarkable job she has done. She has guided our ship through a

(continued on page 20)

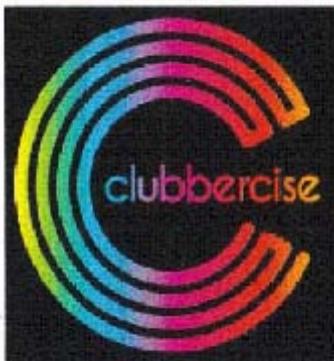


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churchwardens' report

difficult time and taken on two years of extra work as Churchwarden with great success. Her diligence, conscientiousness and meticulous attention to detail are essential qualities to complete such a difficult task. Considering all her years as Churchwarden from a personal point of view, may I say sincerely, "THANK YOU" and well done.

John Shield and Lorraine Hood

patience strong

A lovely poem that a member of the congregation has kept with her for many years and sent in as she wanted to share it with us. . .

When your problems overwhelm you
and your faith is all but gone
When the whole world seems against you
and you feel you can't go on
When you're caught inside a maze
and no way out you can discern
Do not think that all is lost
or say you don't know where to turn.

Turn to God and ask for wisdom.
Wait and trust. Hold on and pray
He will straighten out the tangle
in His time and in His way. . .
He will put the whole thing right
A miracle it will appear
When you feel the burden lifted
and behold the path made clear.

Nothing is impossible when
once you touch the secret spring
Of the mighty power of prayer
and unto Him your trouble bring. . .
Through the force of circumstance
in ways too strange to understand
You will feel at every turn
the hidden pressure of His band.

Sent in by Catherine Levy



books of the bible answers

Well how did you get on last month in trying to find 16 books of the Bible hidden in the paragraph — Here are the answers thanks to Carol Shield.

Mark, Luke, Kings, Acts, Revelation, James, Ruth, Numbers, Job, Amos, Esther, Judges, Titus, Lamentations, Hebrews, Peter.

And below are where they were hidden in the paragraph . . .

I once made a remark about finding, merely by fluke, hidden books of the Bible, which kept some people looking so 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.

Carol Shield

church hall report

The hall continues to be used with regular events Monday to Friday. It is also used most weekends for children's parties, occasionally for Baptism and Funeral receptions and of course for our social events. Cultural Spring, part of the Customs House Trust have just finished a workshop of seven sessions entitled Recycling Textiles.

By the time you read this we should have had our new kitchen fitted.

Jean Atkinson

intercessors and readers report

Despite a very small reduction in the number of Intercessors and Readers over the past year, a list (of over 40 people) still remains sufficient with even one or two recent additions.

However , any other volunteers (particularly for Intercessors) would be most welcome. Please contact Lorraine or I if you would like to be added to either list.

Stewart R Craggs 21



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flower fund report

In June of last year we hosted the annual Flower Festival, which was generously funded by South Tyneside Council. It provided an opportunity for the three churches in the village to work together. Hard work but satisfying and rewarding.

The weekly decorations in church are made possible by donations we receive from church members, and apart from the very occasional wedding or other celebration, are our only source of income. We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your generous support throughout the year

Pat Turner

Please note the flower fund figures can be found in the AGM reports document in church. Thank you

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did you know . . .

The most commonly used letter in the alphabet is E

The longest recorded flight of
a chicken was 13 seconds

An ostrich's eye is
bigger than its brain

A bear has 42 teeth

11% of people are left handed

You never know these facts may be useful to know one day!!

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

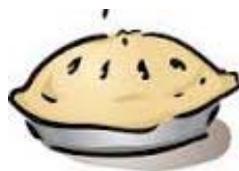
lunch club Thursday 12.00 - 1.30.p.m.- Methodist Church



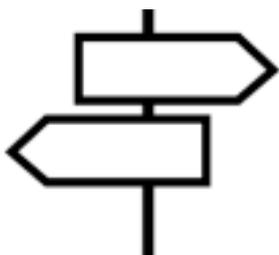
a glance through the whitburn window.....



Race Night
— Come and
back a horse
or two to win
details inside



Come along to an
“Easter Fair” and
support a worthy
cause



Answers to
“Books of the
Bible” —
Inside



Read some examples of
signs found outside
churches



Services in church during Easter Week — Find out more inside