



St. Andrew's URC  
Monkseaton, Whitley Bay

# NEWSTAND

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# OUR 2020 HOPES

**NEWSTAND** is the church magazine of  
St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Eastfield Avenue,  
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**monkseatonurc**

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You can also download it from the website.



*Dear friends,*

For the past few years, I've written a short 'End of Year' summary of the year that's past; its highs and lows, and things to look forward to in the year to come. It gives me a chance to reflect on what has been, and to be hopeful for things that might be ahead. It's like picking a set of resolutions of things that I hope will come true – things that can be positive and give me aspirations for the year to come.

We can find that New Year resolutions can be fairly easily broken: when you tuck into all that Christmas chocolate on New Year's Day despite resolving not to eat chocolate in the new year; or when you find yourself missing a new club or class after only a month. Of course, there are people who can keep their resolutions and find that they can stop smoking, or learn new languages or hobbies. But a commonly quoted statistic suggests that only 8% of New Year Resolutions are successful (with 80% 'failing' in January alone). If our resolutions are too ambitious we can find we struggle and break them, whilst if they are too easy they don't stretch us or we just don't make any effort.

I've found that my aspirations for the year ahead have given me a bit more freedom to be positive about the things to look forward to in the year to come, and not burden me with the idea of 'failing' in my resolutions. They are hopeful, positive, and inspiring. They might go in other directions, but they at least give me something to look forward to.

As a Church we agreed a set of resolutions (we've called them Hopes) that we are working towards in the next three years. This has been about giving us something positive to look towards and something for us to be hopeful about. We've given ourselves until the end of 2020 to work on developing our life as a centre for people both of certain faith and

In response to the invitation for a rather unusual REUNION of all- time greats:

questioning faith. Our resolutions are about growing in faith, learning more about God's word and presence in our community, and about finding ways to resource our work. They might end up in slightly different directions, but they give us something to work towards. The Hopes are printed on page 10.

When we talked about these as Elders, we recognised that we need to have something that is aspirational and positive, and something that gives us something to work towards in the next three years. There's no point setting ourselves up to 'fail' – or finding them so easy we don't put the effort in.

So the 'Six 2020 Hopes' we agreed at Church Meeting in November will focus us in our work as a Church over the next three years. We'll have a Saturday 'Open Morning' for each of the Hopes – as a kind of Coffee Morning – between New Year and Easter, giving us all the opportunity to come along and to offer comments and thoughts to help us achieve our Hopes as a Church. This is where everyone connected with the Church can come and feed in positive suggestions about things we can do to help us grow as a Church. This is a chance to get enthused about St Andrew's and about what we can do as a Church. The timetable for our 'Open Mornings' is found opposite the Hopes, on page 11.

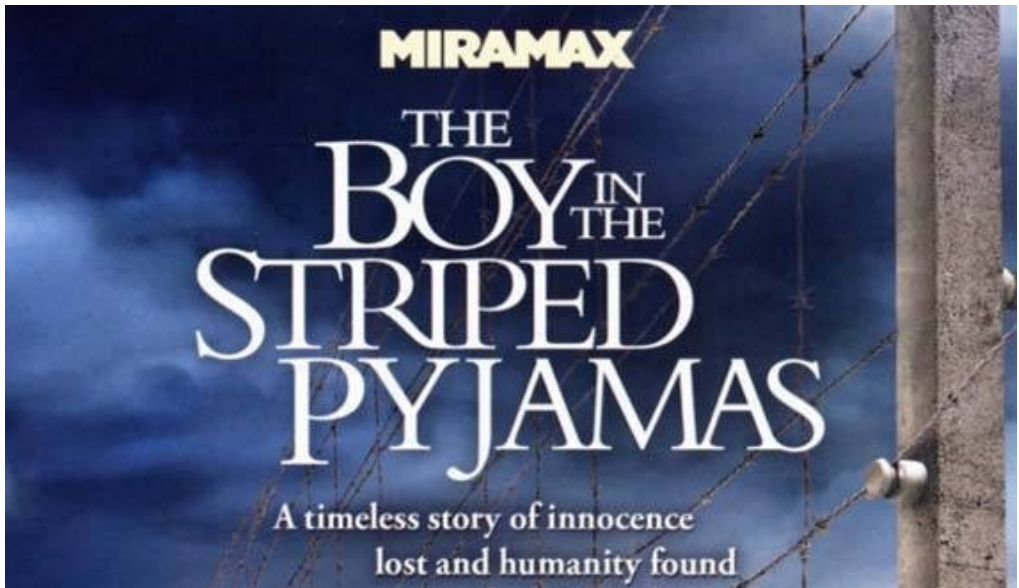
These 'Hopes' give me enthusiasm for what we can do at St Andrew's. They give us something that we can positively work towards – without setting ourselves up to fail – and can help give us a positive outlook. Who knows where they will take us, or what we can achieve, but in faith, and with hope, we can find a way forward that is true to us and to our community. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Open Mornings as we explore these together.

Blessings for the year ahead

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew". The script is cursive and fluid, with a large initial 'M'.

Newton said he'd drop in.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2.00pm**



Variously described as 'stunning' 'one of the most moving and remarkable films about childhood' and 'a film that should be seen'. It is a timeless story of innocence lost and humanity found and is based on the best-selling novel by John Boyne. It was felt this was an appropriate time to show the film as the following day, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January, is Holocaust Memorial Day.



**All profits from the Film Club are in aid of  
church funds and charitable works.**



# November Church Meeting



As the date of the November Church Meeting was after the December Newstand deadline much of the information is now out of date but of course it is still available in the copies of the Minutes and reports which are displayed on the Notice Board in the vestibule of the Church. However, In case you were not able to be present, here are a few of the main items from the meeting.

- Church Meetings in 2018 will be Thursday evening 22nd March, Sunday morning following the service on 17th June, Thursday evening 27th September and Sunday morning on 18th November.
- Two Coast Partnership Services planned for 2018 in July and September.
- Sue Ames and Catriona Fenwick re-elected as Elders.
- 2020 Hopes and Festival of Remembrance and Reconciliation 2018 (documents circulated with Agenda) agreed.
- £1,000 legacy received from the late George Hirst.
- Pastoral Team established.
- Session held by Matthew regarding compiling Prayers of Concern.
- Peter Herron and Susan Sabourn welcomed onto the Organists Rota.
- Some routine repairs carried out.
- New lights fitted in church and around rear of building.
- Extra fire safety work completed.
- Social and fund raising activities continue to be well attended.

Socrates said he'd think about it.

- Following the newly introduced Photographic Competition a calendar produced for sale.
- Very successful Church Fair held.
- Lucy Cooke thanked for her work as Hall Letting Secretary on relinquishing her duties. Any volunteers?
- Finances - Deficit for the year projected at £3,700 compared to budget figure of £15,000. This was due to an over-pessimistic budget and with expenses less and income from hall letting and fund-raising by Activities Team more than expected.

*Ray Hammond*  
*Church Secretary*

### **Northern Synod Prayer Diary**

**7th January:** Hospital Chaplains: Revd Liz Blair, Revd Nigel Goodfellow, Revd Max Shepherd Northern Synod as we explore ***The Way Forward*** regarding the future mission and work of our congregations and as we address our needs for future ministry within Northern Synod.

**14th January:** Redcar URC; Guisborough URC; St. Andrew`s URC, Nunthorpe and Marton.

**21st January:** Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18th – 25th) the theme being ‘God’s Glorious Deliverance from Oppression’; Synod Ecumenical Officer: Mr Andy Lie, retired ministers in our synod, especially those who are active within the synod and beyond. Cromer Avenue URC and Denewell Avenue URC, Gateshead.

**28th January:** Holocaust Memorial Day (27th); Homeless Sunday PCM, its Synod Officers, ministers and congregations. North East Churches Acting Together (NECAT); local Churches Together Groups.

Ohm resisted the idea.



# ST. ANDREW'S 100 CLUB

## November Draw

92 numbers went into the draw on 26<sup>th</sup> November.

The Winners were:

1st	No. 68	Douglas McFarlane	£138.00
2nd	No. 38	Susan Anderson	£69.00
3rd	No. 7	Carole Mallett	£23.00

£230 was given to Church funds.

The "100 Club" is a fund raising activity for Church funds. Each member pays £5 per month and the money is allocated as follows:

50% to Church funds  
50% towards prize money

A monthly draw is held at a Church event or on the last Sunday of the month during morning coffee.

If you are interested in joining the "100 Club",  
please contact:

***Kathleen Hopper (2522345)***

Boyle said he was under too much pressure.



On 4th December, Geraldine Straker gave us a very interesting account of the recent and future developments at Beamish Museum.

She described the £18 million project lasting 3-4 years called Remaking Beamish, depicting life in the North East in the 1820s and 1950s.

This will include the erection of a cinema, a coaching inn, a quilter's cottage, and several types of housing including prefabs.

We held our Christmas Party on 11th December with a meal for 29 members, 2 quizzes to keep our brains alive and finishing with carol singing.

### **Coming Events**

**January 8th** – Professor John Derry will give a talk entitled From Crisis to Victory, being the closing stages of the 1st world war.

**January 22nd** – David Burnie will describe his charity, Daft as a Brush, which is an organisation providing transport for cancer sufferers.

**February 5th** – Annual General Meeting.

*Gordon Yarrow*

### **Date for the diary - Ecumenical Coffee Morning**

The Ecumenical Social Committee will be holding a **Coffee Morning**, with a Bring and Buy Stall and Raffle, on **Saturday, 10th February** at **St. Andrew's Church**, from **10.30 a.m. to noon**.

*Ann Hammond*

Darwin said he'd wait to see what evolved.

*“Engaging with the local community to become a place of faith and fellowship, of worship and wonder in which Christ’s Gospel is proclaimed and God’s message of love and reconciliation can be shared with all”*

## **2020 Hopes**

In the next 3 years (by end of 2020) we hope that St Andrew’s will:

- ...have a visible worshipping presence within the local community.
- ...have more families and children engaged in the worshipping life of the church.
- ...connect with those currently disconnected from the church and include them in its life and worship.
- ...be known as a community hub of spiritual learning, worship and reflection and as a safe, sacred space.
- ...provide the worshipping, pastoral and fellowship needs of the longstanding membership
- ...operate a sustainable breakeven budget

Pierre and Marie Curie radiated enthusiasm.

## 2020 Hopes – ‘Open Mornings’

To help us explore what ideas and enthusiasms we have in our Church community for the Six 2020 Hopes, we are holding ‘Open Mornings’ where we members, adherents, and people in our community can come along and offer suggestions about things we should be looking to do.

Come to as many as you like – but we hope that everyone could come along to at least one. If you are passionate about one of the Hopes, certainly try to come along to that session. But maybe put yourself out of your comfort zone and come along to one that isn’t instinctively your passion. Maybe you’ll be surprised at what comes from the session.

These take place on Saturday mornings, 10am – 11am.  
Refreshments will be available.

**Note:** The Hopes aren’t in numerical order

**Sat 13<sup>th</sup> Jan** Hope 4: Hub for spiritual learning and worship

**Sat 20<sup>th</sup> Jan** Hope 5: Worship, pastoral and fellowship needs of membership

**Sat 27<sup>th</sup> Jan** Hope 1: Visible worship in the community

**Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Feb** Hope 6: Sustainable breakeven budget

**Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar** Hope 2: Families and Children in worshipping life of the church

**Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Mar** Hope 3: Connecting with those currently disconnected from the Church

Volta was electrified at the prospect.

## DEATH

LOWDON Dorothy Carswell, aged 85 years, On 21 November 2017. Committal at Whitley Bay on 4 December followed by service at St. Andrew's, conducted by Revd Dr Matthew Prevett.

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Kathleen Elizabeth (Betty) Bright, who died in Hampshire on 8 October 2017, was held at St Andrew's on 30 November and conducted by Revd Dr Matthew Prevett.

## NEWSTAND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

A reminder for Newstand subscribers that the annual payment is now due, and I shall be grateful if you will arrange for the money to be paid to your distributor, or to myself if you normally pay me direct, before the end of January, please.

The annual payment for 2018 remains at £6.60, i.e. 11 issues at 60 pence, plus 1 issue free (or a combined 'bumper' issue).

Should anyone else wish to change from monthly to annual payment and have their copy of Newstand delivered to their home, or a reserved copy put in the pigeonholes, please contact me.

Thank you.

***Carole Mallett***  
***Newstand Business Manager***

Pavlov positively drooled at the thought



## The names of those we remember this month are

John Saunders

Frances (Fran) Birt

Michael James Blackah

Elizabeth Tait

Isabella Paxton Barbour

Elizabeth Ettridge

Ruby McPhee

Denise Muriel Swinton Tancock

James Raymond Lisle

Amy Adam

Geoffrey Smith

St. Andrew's Book of Remembrance is open to all who wish to be remembered in the prayers of those in the church, be they former members or adherents, relatives, loved ones or friends, or just someone who had a connection with the life of the church.

To have a name entered, please complete a form available on the table at the rear of the church or email Tim Cooke.

Ampere was worried he wasn't current enough.

## Monthly Duties

Vestry Elder	V. Taylor
Vestibule Elders	T./L. Cooke, P. Hartley
Stewards	M. & R. Christopher
Flowers	Kathleen, Ann S & Catriona

## Weekly Duties

Tues 02-Jan-17	Prayers: D. Mc Farlane	
Sun 07-Jan-17	Readers: B. Burgess, S. Pine Prayers of Concern: V. Taylor	Organ: Pete
Tues 09-Jan-17	Prayers: C. Mallett	
Sun 14-Jan-17	Readers: C. Purves, M. Christopher Prayers of Concern: C. Hales	Organ: Helen
Tues 16-Jan-17	Prayers: S. Ames	
Sun 21-Jan-17	Readers: Junior Church, D. King Prayers of Concern: The Minister	Organ: Pete
Tues 23-Jan-17	Prayers: L. Cooke	
Sun 28-Jan-17	Readers: U. Ketteridge, A. Stembridge Prayers of Concern: A. Cooke	Organ: Alex
Tues 30-Jan-17	Prayers: P. Hartley	

## Newstand Dates

February edition published	Sunday 28 Jan 2017
Hardcopy contributions in Editor's box	Sunday 21 Jan 2017
Email copy to <a href="mailto:standrewsnewstand@gmail.com">standrewsnewstand@gmail.com</a>	Monday 22 Jan 2017
<b>Earlier contributions are appreciated!</b>	

# Church Contacts

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**Disclaimer:** Details of events, contacts and other material were correct at time of publication based on information received by the Newstand publishing team.

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Open Door Coffee Mornings  
every Tuesday and Thursday  
from 10am to Noon

## CHURCH CALENDAR

Jan / Feb 2018

A short Act of Worship is  
held in the Church Foyer  
every Tuesday at 9.30am

Friday	5	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Saturdays	2020 Hopes – ‘Open Mornings’ – see pg. 11		10.00 am
Sunday	7	Prayer Group	10.30 am
		Communion Service; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
		Messy Church	3.30 pm
Monday	8	Fifty Eight Society – ‘From Crisis to Victory’	7.30 pm
Tuesday	9	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am
Thursday	11	Elders’ Meeting	7.30 pm
Sunday	14	Morning Worship; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
Tuesday	16	Worship Group Meeting	7.30 pm
Friday	19	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Sunday	21	Communion Service	9.30 am
		Morning Worship; both by Revd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
Monday	22	Fifty Eight Society – ‘Daft as a Brush’	7.30 pm
Friday	26	Film Club – ‘The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas’	2.00 pm
Sunday	28	Morning Worship; Mrs Valerie Taylor	11.00 am
FEBRUARY 2018			
Friday	2	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Sunday	4	Prayer Group	10.30 am
		Communion Service; Revd Dr Matthew Prevett & Revd Douglas McFarlane	11.00 am
		Messy Church	3.30 pm
Monday	5	Fifty Eight Society Annual General Meeting	7.30 pm
Tuesday	6	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am