



St. Andrew's URC
Monkseaton, Whitley Bay

NEWSTAND

Volume 84, Issue 9

September 2018

**Leave your gift there
before the altar
and go;**



**first be reconciled
to your brother or sister,**



**and then come
and offer your gift.**

Matthew 5.24

NEWSTAND is the church magazine of
St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Eastfield Avenue,
Monkseaton, Whitley Bay. NE25 8LU
Church Payphone: 0191 297 1184

<http://standrewsmonkseatonurc.org.uk>



monkseatonurc

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If you would like NEWSTAND in larger print
please contact Carole Mallett or Tim Cooke.
You can also download it from the website.



Dear friends,

As the heat of summer begins to fade into the memory, and the nights begin to creep in, we find ourselves turning our gaze from the Summer Sun to the Autumnal colours and light. The seasons of Harvest and Remembrance will soon be upon us, followed swiftly by Advent and Christmas.

Of course, this year, many of us have been involved in thinking about Remembrance for a number of months – making poppies with wool and felt, and thinking about what art and exhibition items we may want to display as part of our Festival.

A significant and important part of the Festival (which begins at the end of October) is to think not only of Remembrance – with poppies and the commemoration of those lost – but to think of the act of reconciliation – where factions who had been literally battling with one another were brought to a place of peace, an understanding of a new way of relating, and a new and refreshed future. Of course, these disputes were not always easily resolved, and pain boiled over into fresh disputes, but such reconciliation was – and continues to be – a significant part of our life as people living in community.

The understanding of reconciliation has always been central to the Christian gospel. Jesus spoke in the gospels of needing to be reconciled to your brother before you could come to worship (Matthew 5.24). Being in good standing with one another, having a community that is at peace within itself, is what life as a Christian community is about. It is the process of

admitting faults, of being able to see where there is difference and hurt, and in seeking the peaceable solution where all may live, legitimately and equally in community. Jesus forces the people to realise that rather than being better than one another, more holy, or more rightful, each has their faults and we are all welcomed in by grace.

As a Church, we have not always lived out this reconciliation. We find it easy to complain about those who are different and to see ourselves as separate from them. We might have had experiences in our lives that have caused us to be cautious, or to instil in us particular views or ways of relating. But we are called to reconcile to those with whom we find it most difficult to relate, those who we feel we have been battling against for months or years, those whose presence makes us uneasy or uncertain. Reconciliation is about stepping beyond these entrenched and walled positions, from our battle lines, and to offer a hand of peace, a hand of opportunity and a hand of new life.

As we think about Reconciliation as the central theme of our Autumn this year, we must place before ourselves the need to do as Jesus commanded, and to reconcile our life ahead of our worship. We must remind ourselves of the blocks that distress and upset others, the battle lines that remain largely unnoticed and those that flare up from time to time, and we must seek the unity of the body and the peace and care of all God's people. How might God be asking us to reconcile to the world this autumn?

Blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter 'M' being particularly large and stylized.

If you start counting from zero to either positive or negative numbers your lips won't touch till you reach 1 million

IMELDA
STAUNTON

TIMOTHY
SPALL

CELIA
IMRIE

DAVID
HAYMAN

JOHN
SESSIONS

JOANNA
AND LUMLEY

Friday 7th September 2.00pm



A heart-warming romantic-comedy with an excellent cast including Imelda Staunton, Timothy Spall, Joanna Lumley and Celia Imrie.

FINDING YOUR FEET

SOMETIMES YOU NEED A PUSH IN
THE RIGHT DIRECTION



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

About Ben Adhem

by Leigh Hunt

About Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!)
 Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,
 And saw, within the moonlight in his room,
 Making it rich, and like a lily in bloom,
 An angel writing in a book of gold:—
 Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,
 And to the presence in the room he said,
 "What writest thou?"—The vision raised its head,
 And with a look made of all sweet accord,
 Answered, "The names of those who love the Lord."
 "And is mine one?" said Abou. "Nay, not so,"
 Replied the angel. Abou spoke more low,
 But cheerly still; and said, "I pray thee, then,
 Write me as one that loves his fellow men."
 The angel wrote, and vanished. The next night
 It came again with a great wakening light,
 And showed the names whom love of God had blest,
 And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

People who lived a few hundred years ago near the equator may have been completely unaware that water can freeze.



Is all fair in love and marriage?

The ability to marry the person we love is something that many of us here at St Andrew's probably take for granted. I know that when Tim and I got engaged, nothing stood in our way. Even though we didn't get married in church, the only thing really stopping us from doing so was my own desire, as someone without faith, not to appear hypocritical. I have no doubt that it would have been easy to arrange a church wedding – maybe here at St Andrew's – if we had been so minded.

Tim and I are considering renewing our marriage vows next year and thinking about what type of service we might have has made me think a lot about the fact that all the options of how and where to get married that were open to us are simply not open to all committed, loving couples. In some cases, marriage isn't available at all. Most notably those in loving committed same-sex relationships. This troubles me a great deal and I'd like to share some of my thoughts with you.

Of course, in the UK, equal civil marriage has been available since 2014 and same-sex couples are free to get married in a ceremony much like the service Tim and I had almost 20 years ago. There are specific words to say, vows to make and plenty of venue options for a public ceremony involving music, readings and most importantly, friends and family.

But what if a same-sex couple want to get married in church? To proclaim their loving commitment to one another and make their vows before God? Things become less than equal in this

Going to bed 20 minutes early seems pointless,
but snoozing your alarm 5 minutes feels amazing.

case with some facing multiple restrictions on their choices. After all, although marriage is essentially a civil construct – a legal status – for those with a strong faith, marriage in church is crucial. Once I had developed a strong sense of faith it became extremely important to me to have our union blessed and I am sure many of you can relate to that need to commit your life to someone in the eyes of God.

The Same-Sex Marriage Act forbids the Church of England from conducting same-sex marriages, and Canon Law further restricts Anglican clergy in that it prevents ministry from those in same-sex marriages. The only choice available therefore to Anglican clergy in a same-sex relationship who wish to formally commit their lives to each other alongside living out their faith and calling from God, is a Civil Partnership, such as that entered into recently by Rev'd Peter Dobson and his partner Matt, and celebrated with such joyous enthusiasm by our friends at St Peter's. Other denominations are not quite so restricted though and churches can register to celebrate same-sex marriages if they have the approval of their national governing body. Since 2016 and the resolution passed by General Assembly, many URC churches have done just that, throwing wide the church doors to a diverse range of loving couples wishing to make a lifelong commitment to each other before the God in whose loving grace and blessing they have such faith. I am sure that within many of those congregations taking this leap forward, there are some who continue to struggle to accept same-sex marriage. Yet, the step they have taken is an important one in recognising that it is possible to be reconciled and walk alongside those we do not agree with and accept that their motivations are as grounded in faith,

If you break out of jail on Halloween everyone will just think you bought that cheap prisoner costume at the store.

prayerful study and reflection as our own. It demonstrates an enabling rather than a restricting approach. After all, is it for us to question one person's faith over another's? Is it our place to deny someone access to what has been a crucial part of our expression of faith on the grounds of their sexuality, when it is within our grasp to enable that access?

Being part of a denomination that has taken the step to enable that choice to be available is crucial to my sense of belonging. I sincerely hope that here at St Andrew's, we can join those URC churches that have already taken the leap. In the meantime, I'd encourage you to think about what marriage means to you, whether you are or have been married yourself or not. Consider what it might mean to those widely excluded from celebrating their love in this way to find a church willing to accept them and to celebrate with them. Surely enabling and encouraging such expressions of deep faith is part of what our mission should be all about?

Lucy Cooke



Hope 6 — Budget

Month	May	June	July	Year to date
Income	£ 10,205	£ 7,021	£ 9,137	£ 71,857
Expenditure	£ 8,778	£ 8,582	£ 7,182	£ 64,397
Surplus/ Deficit	£1,427	— £ 1,561	£ 1,955	£ 7,460

The guy from the game “Operation” was completely awake.

Dates for the diary!



Art Exhibition – Saturday 6th October

Harvest Afternoon Service – Monday 15th October

Festival of Remembrance and Reconciliation -

Saturday 27th October to Sunday 11th November

Church Fair – Saturday 24th November

More details elsewhere in *Newstand* or next month.

Ann Hammond

AFTERNOON SERVICE

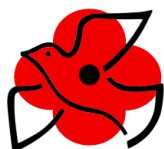


On **Monday 17th September** at **2 pm** an Afternoon Service led by the Worship Group is being held. This is particularly for those who find difficulty in attending the usual Sunday morning services but **all** are welcome.

As is the usual practice at these Afternoon Services, refreshments will be served afterwards, this time by the Worship Group.

Carole Mallett
Assistant Church Secretary

In a thousand years archaeologists will dig up tanning beds
and think we fried people as punishment



**Remembrance & Reconciliation
Festival 2018**

26th October - 11th November 2018

Newstand Special Edition Pull-out and Keep



God friendship
war
poppy love
faith harmony together
Reconciliation
Remembrance
struggle peace accord
conflict fellowship

***Welcome to your special edition pull out programme.
Inside you will find your diary for the 2 week festival
including details of talks and events.***

***A full festival booklet with more details on each of the
talks and events will be available in early September.***



St. Andrew's United Reformed Church
Eastfield Avenue, Monkseaton, Whitley Bay. NE25 8LU

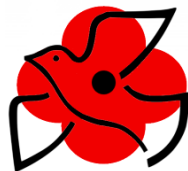


Remembrance & Reconciliation Festival

Saturday 27th October - Sunday 4th November 2018

Sat	27	Festival Opening Coffee Morning	10am
Sun	28	Café Style Morning Worship Evening Service	11am 6.30pm
Tues	30	Exhibition open to the public Talk: Cyril Lomax: Life at the Somme 1916 Friends of Washington Old Hall	10am - noon 7.30pm
Wed	31	Creative Writing Workshop	10am & 2pm
Thurs	1	Exhibition open to the public	10am - noon
Fri	2	Talk: Family History Exploration Alison Houston Talk: First World War Poetry Alan Campbell, MP for Tynemouth	2pm 7.30pm
Sat	3	Talk: World War Two. Same-sex desire in the British Armed Forces. Dr Emma Vickers, Senior Lecturer in History Liverpool John Moore's University.	7.30pm
Sun	4	Come & Praise Worship Communion Service	9.30am 11am

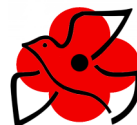
2018 Programme of Talks & Events



Monday 5th November - Sunday 11th November 2018

Mon	5	Talk: Christian Peace Activism Dr Daniel Laqua, Head of History Northumbria University	7.30pm
Wed	7	Historical Exploration with the Time Bandits (sessions for schools and community groups) “Voices of Remembrance & Reconciliation” Poetry & creative writing readings	Morning & Afternoon 7.30pm
Thurs	8	Historical Exploration with the Time Bandits (sessions for schools and community groups) Talk: Women’s Peace Movement Dr Sarah Hellawell, Lecturer in Modern British History, Sunderland University	Morning & Afternoon 7.30pm
Fri	9	Historical Exploration with the Time Bandits (sessions for schools and community groups) Friendship Club Festival Session	Morning 2pm
Sat	10	Ecumenical Act of Remembrance (Monkseaton) Concert of Remembrance & Reconciliation	11am 7.30pm
Sun	11	Remembrance Sunday Parade Service Messy Church	11am 3.30pm

Don't worry if you haven't had a chance to get involved in the festival yet...



You could.....

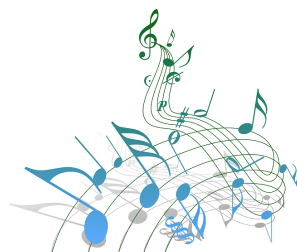


Knit or crochet a poppy (or a few!)

The deadline for adding poppies is **30th September 2018**. Patterns and kits are still available in church and online at <https://bit.ly/2LVdfON>

Join our Scratch Choir

Sign up and come and sing in the closing concert of the festival on Saturday 10th November. We'll be singing Mozart's Requiem and Parry's Blest Pair of Sirens. More information on how to register is available at



<https://bit.ly/2LUaLQS>

Submit your original art, sculpture, photos or creative writing for our exhibition

Your subject can be anything linked to the theme "Remembrance & Reconciliation" so why not get your paints, pencils, cameras and clay out and see what you can create? More information is at <https://bit.ly/2JM6RwZ> and the deadline is **30th September 2018**.

<http://standrewsm Monkseatonurc.org.uk>



Whilst on holiday recently in Scarborough, we visited two different churches, and for different reasons. On the Sunday morning we went to St. Andrews U.R.C in the South Cliff area. Originally, Congregational, it was built in 1865 to seat 1000, and was sometimes called the Cathedral of Yorkshire Congregationalism. On this occasion there would be about 50, but imagine our surprise on opening the service booklet, to find that the morning service would be led by Revd. Trevor Holborn, formerly of St. Andrews Monkseaton! We had a long chat with him and Eileen, before they left to drive back to Cottingham, near Hull, about an hour away. They wish to be remembered to all here at Monkseaton, and send their best wishes to all at this St. Andrews. Then on the Monday evening we enjoyed “An Evening with the Tenors”, by Tenor XI (a clever pun!), one of fifteen summer concerts hosted by South Cliff Methodist Church.

Paul and Sheila Hartley

CHURCH REGISTER

DEATH

POMEROY Nancy, on 22nd July 2018, aged 93 years.
Service and committal at Whitley Bay
on 2nd August.

If you are singing along to a song on the radio there is a good chance you are singing along with thousands of people.



Copies of the Minutes and Reports from Church Meeting on 17th June 2018 are displayed on the Notice Board in the vestibule of the Church.

In case you were not able to be present here is a précis of the meeting.

- Two meetings each held by Elders, Pastoral Team and the Executive Team.
- Most of Easter services well attended – Ash Wednesday a disappointment.
- Thanks to Matthew for all his work in connection with these services.
- Assemblies at Langley First School attended by St Andrew's representatives. A group of children from the school visited the church.
- Messy Church well supported at times – change of day to 2nd Sunday.
- Joint services at Lent with St. Peter's well received.
- Introduction of new Praise Service.
- St Andrew's and St Peter's again worked together for Christian Aid. St Andrew's Table Top Sale and Scones of Praise raised £1,073.
- Summer Activity Lunches on four days for six weeks with St Andrew's and St Peter's being joined by St. Mary's and the Immaculate Heart of Mary Churches.
- Joint service with St. Peter's at St. Peter's on 12th August at 10.30 am.

Cats and dogs probably think it's weird
that we walk around on our hind legs all the time.

- Coast Partnership services 8th July and 23rd September.
- Various repairs around the premises needed.
- Activities Team continues to organise events to benefit church, local community and charities. Northumbrian Evening much appreciated and Granny's Attic shop an outstanding success.
- Church finances currently very healthy.
- In four of the first five months of the year income exceeded expenditure. April and May income greatly increased by Granny's Attic.
- 2020 Hopes Conversations not as well attended as hoped. Groups are meeting and will bring forward reports and ideas to Elders' Meeting and September Church Meeting.
- Up to date report on progress for Festival of Remembrance and Reconciliation given. Request for items for exhibition by 30th September.
- Membership – Revd Gordon Connacher returning after his work at St Columba's during their vacancy and Mrs Margaret Dickinson to join.

Date of next Church Meeting

Thursday 27th September at 7.30 pm

Ray Hammond
Church Secretary

Spiders would be a lot more terrifying if they behaved more like Spiderman, using projectile webs to rapidly swing across rooms.

Greenbelt 2018 – Not your average festival

This August bank holiday weekend, Sophie and I took a deep breath and headed into the Northamptonshire countryside to attend the Greenbelt Festival. Greenbelt is a festival of faith, culture, art, literature and more. There's something for everyone including worship, music and challenging guest speakers. Our main aim though was to see and hear Vicky Beeching speak about her recently published memoir and the journey of faith she has undertaken since coming out as gay in 2014 and losing her Christian music career overnight. Not only did we get to hear her speak, but she took the time to meet and chat with us afterwards. Sophie and I were quite star struck! It was inspirational to hear her speak in person about what she has gone through in her life and how she is now working to challenge attitudes and practices in the Church concerning gay Christians and in particular the controversial practice of conversion therapy. Her book tells an important story of the real damage that can be inflicted on people in the name of Christianity and also the hope that comes when people resolve to reconcile their differences and accept the validity of views other than their own. The description of how she has reconciled her relationship with her grandfather in particular – a staunch conservative evangelical Christian – is especially moving. I would encourage everyone to read it and to make that easier, I will leave a copy in the church reception area. Please consider having a read and then return it so someone else can do the same. Oh and Sophie and I are planning to go to the whole weekend of the festival next year rather than just one day. Anyone fancy sharing a tent?!

Lucy Cooke

As Icarus flew closer to the sun the air would actually get colder, and the wax in his wings would be stronger.



St. Andrew's Gilbert and Sullivan Society

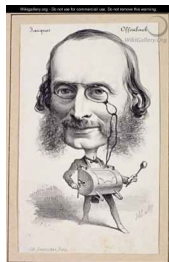
We hope you will join us for our Annual Coffee Morning

September 8th 10.00am - 12.00pm.

Coffee and cakes — Bric-a-brac — Raffle.

Our Annual Gilbert and Sullivan Service will be celebrated as part of a Sunday Service of Music on **Sunday September 30th** when we hope to see many of our friends there.

A TRIO OF TREATS FROM OFFENBACH



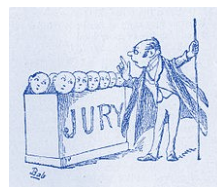
leading to the ever popular

TRIAL BY JURY

by Gilbert and Sullivan

Wednesday October 10th

— Saturday October 13th



St. Andrew's Church Hall. 7.30pm.

Tickets from Ann and Ray Hammond (tel. 2523319)

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU !!!!!!!

You don't realize how conditioned you are to use technology
until you try to teach your grandparents

ST. ANDREW'S 100 CLUB

July Draw

94 numbers went into the draw on 29th July.

The Winners were:

1st	No. 16	Linda Stephenson	£141.00
2nd	No. 28	Susan Anderson	£70.50
3rd	No. 45	Marilyn Walton	£23.50

£235 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)

If you were born in 1991 and died in 2002, you would have died at age 11. All of those numbers are palindromes.



*The names of those we remember
this month are*

John Coull

Amelia Ann Owen

John R.F. Lochrane

Margaret J. Lochrane

James Porterfield

Mabel Jane MacLennan

Rene Cummergen

Mary Milroy Williams

Dennis Forster

Thelma and John Dodd

Northern Synod Prayer Diary

2	The RC Bishop of Middlesbrough, the Rt Revd Terry Draine.
9	The work of the URC (Northern Province Trust Ltd) and convenor, Revd David Grosch-Miller and Secretary, Dr Andrew Hamnett.
16	St James's URC, Newcastle; St Andrew's URC, Kenton; Revd James Breslin.
23	Longframlington URC; Rothbury URC; St Andrew's URC, Glanton; Revd Ed Butlin.
30	PCM; Lay training and evening classes at Khovo in Maputo; Northern Baptist Regional Minister, Revd Dr John Claydon.

This won't be possible again until 2992-3003!

Monthly Duties

Elders	Vestry: B.Watson Reception: C.Hales Communion: J.Blanchfield
Stewards	C.Lynch, S.Anderson
Flowers	2/9—Una/Ingrid, 16/23—Jenny, 30—Hazel/Celia

Weekly Duties

Sun 02-Sep-18	Readers: C.Purves, M.Christopher Prayers of Concern: D.McFarlane	Organ: Paul
Tues 04-Sep-18	Prayers: Lucy	
Sun 09-Sep-18	Readers: M.Walton, U.Ketteridge Prayers of Concern: U.Ketteridge	Organ: Pete
Tues 11-Sep-18	Prayers: Ann S.	
Sun 16-Sep-18	Readers: Junior Church, A.Stembridge Prayers of Concern: Worship Leader	Organ: Helen
Tues 18-Sep-18	Prayers: Una	
Sun 23-Sep-18	Readers: G & J.Yarrow Prayers of Concern: A.Cooke	Organ: Hymnal
Tues 25-Sep-18	Prayers: Matthew	
Sun 30-Sep-18	Readers: H.Hall, V.Taylor Prayers of Concern: D.McFarlane	Organ: Pete

Newstand Dates

Next edition, published 4 th Sunday of month	Sunday 23 Sep 2018
Hardcopy contributions in Editor's box	Sunday 16 Sep 2018
Email copy to standrewsnewstand@gmail.com	Monday 17 Sep 2018
Earlier contributions are appreciated!	

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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.

The views expressed are those of the individual contributors and may not represent the view of the URC, St Andrew's Church Meeting or its Elders.

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sept / Oct 2018

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

Sunday	2	Praise Service; Rev'd Dr Matthew Prevett	9.30 am
		Prayer Group	10.30 am
		Communion Service; Synod Moderator Rev'd David Herbert	11.00 am
Friday	7	Film Club	2.00 pm
Saturday	8	Gilbert & Sullivan Society Coffee Morning	10.00 am
Sunday	9	Morning Worship; Mrs Barbara Allen (Lay Preaching Commissioner)	11.00 am
Monday	10	Activities Team Meeting	1.30 pm
Friday	14	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Sunday	16	Morning Worship; Rev'd Alasdair Pratt	11.00 am
Monday	17	Afternoon Service hosted and led by Worship Group	2.00 pm
Sunday	23	Morning Worship; Rev'd Douglas McFarlane	11.00 am
		Joint Service with St Columba's at St Columba's	6.30 pm
Thursday	27	Church Meeting	7.30 pm
Friday	28	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Sunday	30	Morning Worship (including G&S); Rev'd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am
OCTOBER 2018			
Tuesday	2	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am
		Worship Group	7.30 pm
Saturday	6	Art Exhibition	10.00 am
Sunday	7	Praise Service; Rev'd Dr Matthew Prevett	9.30 am
		Prayer Group	10.30 am
		Communion Service; Rev'd Dr Matthew Prevett	11.00 am