



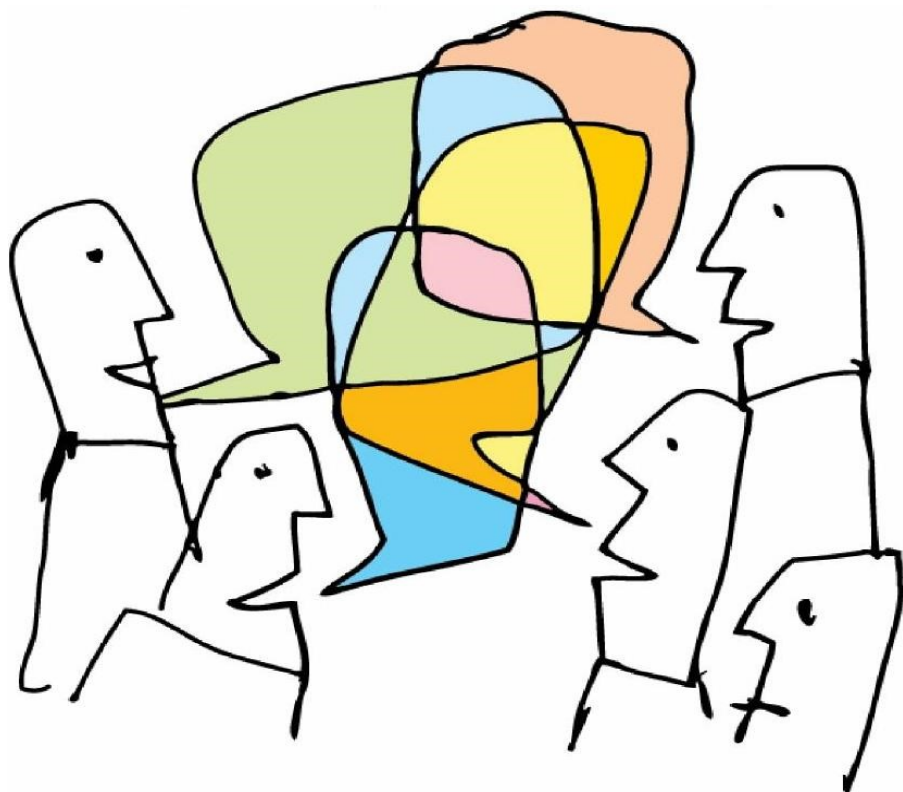
St. Andrew's URC  
Monkseaton, Whitley Bay

# NEWSTAND

Volume 85, Issue 9

September 2019

## HAVE YOUR SAY



## BUT LISTEN TOO



**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**

## **Features and Regulars in this issue of NEWSTAND**

Minister's Musings — <i>Habits of the Heart II</i> .....	3
Transitional Working Group Update — <i>meet the team</i> .....	5
Film Club — <i>Red Joan</i> .....	7
Enquirers Membership Class — <i>knowing the URC</i> .....	8
"It Happened to me!" — <i>Understated Love</i> .....	9
Monday Afternoon Services & Church Meeting dates .....	11
Activities Team update & Activities Club success .....	12
Prayer Group — <i>new day, time and place</i> .....	13
100 Club .....	14
58 Society — <i>new season speakers and invitation</i> .....	15
Prayer Diary & Church Register .....	16
Book of Remembrance .....	17
Monthly & Weekly Duties and Newstand Dates .....	18
Church Contacts .....	19
Church Calendar .....	Back Page

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





First I must say what a pleasure and privilege it is to be with you. The warmth of your welcome has been delightful and I am enjoying getting to know you. Thank you.

This month we'll look at the second of the three C's (Calming, Communication, Caring) that are the **habits of the heart** that strengthen a congregation: **Communication**. It's something we do naturally all the time, but perhaps not something we give much thought to.

As a congregation, communication is key to keeping people informed and connecting us to one another. Clear communication helps prevent speculation and rumour and plays a role in calming an anxious situation. Because there are so many of us who are connected to St Andrew's in diverse ways, information has to be communicated in several different ways and repetitively: Newstand, announcements, church meetings, the wonderful screen in the entrance. I've been impressed with the efforts made to keep people as informed as possible.

But communication is also **a two-way street**. It's not just the leadership telling us what is going on, it's also us engaging with each other and participating in the life of the church. It's about being present to one another, listening as well as sharing, and being honest in a kind way.

Perhaps it starts with **how we speak to ourselves**. Are we kind and compassionate in our self-talk? Sarah Peyton in her book *Your Resonant Self* writes about the healing capacity of our self-talk. When we meet ourselves with warmth and



compassion, our brains actually begin to heal from the effects of childhood or other trauma.

How and what we communicate with others has an impact on them and on the whole congregation. The writer of the Letter of James really goes to town on the potential for destruction our speech can have: *...the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire* (James 3:5-6). Equally **our speaking can have a healing effect**. Addressing others with warmth and compassion enables them to heal and to thrive.

Finally **listening** is probably even more important than speaking. Next month I'll say more about the power of listening in caring. But for now, consider the last time someone really listened to you and sought to understand. How did you feel afterwards? Listening that seeks to understand is the foundation of good relationships, in the family, among friends and in the church. To really listen is a great gift that anyone can offer. We have to let go of ourselves to do it, to make the space for the other. But it is always worth it.

Being present to one another and speaking the truth in love, the whole body is built up for the love and service of God (Ephesians 4:15-16). Simple (but not always easy) communication practices are indeed a life-giving habit of the heart. May it be so among us.

In Christian love and friendship,

*Carla*





The Transition Working Group had its first meeting on Thursday 15 August. After a small group Bible study of Paul's wisdom about the Body of Christ as one body with many members in 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, the group considered its tasks, which include:

- Developing goals for the transitional ministry. These goals will go to the Elders meeting on 12 Sept and to the church meeting on 26 September, for the church to decide what it will work on in Carla's time.
- Thinking of ways to work on those goals and implementing the strategies through the autumn and winter.
- Being a link between the congregation and the Working Group.
- Involving the congregation in clarifying the identity and mission of the church so that at the end of the transitional ministry, the church will have a good sense of who it is and what we are looking for in a minister.
- Modelling responsible participation, healthy and supportive relationships, and faithful witness.

After exploring active listening, the Group set about thinking about goal setting. The question that drives our work is this:

**What does St Andrew's need  
at this point in time in our life together?**



We identified five areas: cohesion and pulling together for a common aim; pastoral care; participation and engagement; spiritual nurture; and reconciliation and healing. We also discussed the need for honesty and guidance to avoid repetition of past events; communication and celebration of achievements of 2020 Hopes; and the challenge of resistance to change.

We will meet again on Thursday evening, 5 September, to refine our goals and think about how to implement them.

If you have a question or comment, please talk to a Working Group member. We are: Sue Ames, Robin Christopher, Catriona Fenwick, Chris Hales, Hazel Hall, Ray Hammond, Jenny Hooper, Una Ketteridge, Rhoda Lee, Alison Mood, Celia Purves, Eddie Thompson, John Thorpe and Joan Yarrow.

*To all the kind and caring people at St. Andrew's, a  
Very Big Thank You for all the prayers, love and  
support shown to me and the family during the  
difficult months of Eric's illness.*

*Also for the cards and flowers, and to all who  
attended the funeral service. It was all very much  
appreciated.*

*God Bless you all,*

*Barbara Johnson*



SOPHIE  
COOKSON

STEPHEN  
CAMPBELL MOORE

TOM  
HUGHES

ACADEMY AWARD WINNER  
JUDI  
AND DENCH

Film Club

**Starring Dame Judi Dench, the film is based on one of the most surprising spy stories in British history.**

DIRECTED BY TREVOR NUNN  
FROM THE PRODUCER OF SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE

# RED JOAN

INSPIRED BY TRUE EVENTS

**Friday 6th September  
2.00pm**



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



# Enquirer's Membership Class



The  
United  
Reformed  
Church

For the first three Sundays in September, there will be an Enquirer's Membership Class after worship from 12:45-1:45pm in the Minor Hall. Sandwiches will be provided. The topics will be:

- 1 Sept The History of the URC:  
What makes us who we are
- 8 Sept URC-flavoured Christianity:  
What's important to us; Worship & the Bible
- 15 Sept Belonging to a URC:  
How decisions are made;  
What membership means

Anyone interested in considering membership at St Andrew's is welcome. If you decide that you want to join St Andrew's, your name will be given to the church meeting on 26 Sept and new members will be taken in on a Communion Sunday thereafter.

Please indicate your intention to attend to Ray Hammond and to Carla (cagroschmiller@yahoo.co.uk), for catering and preparation purposes.



St. Andrew's Carpet Bowling Club starts its winter season on Thursday September 5th at 2pm.

***Mary Christopher, Secretary***

Bingo Sessions — Tom Bowler



**This month’s “It happened to me!” is from Geoff Mills and his recounting of a significant incident whilst on duty with Newcastle City Police.**

I joined Newcastle City Police Force in 1962 and was stationed in the East end of the City. On amalgamation with Northumberland Constabulary in 1969 I was transferred to Wallsend where I was allocated a beat covering an area south of the High street including the ship yards which I patrolled in a Panda car (Hillman Imp. Do you remember those?).

It was 5.30 am and having done one last tour of my area was looking forward to finishing a quiet night at 6am. It was a cold wet dismal night in winter where even nocturnal creatures stay in their lairs and I was not expecting anything untoward to happen. Suddenly, as I emerged from the tunnel under Wallsend railway station I was confronted by a female figure dressed in white diaphanous night clothing standing by the roadside looking totally bewildered.

My first thought was that she was an escapee from an old folk’s home, a regular occurrence, so stopped to speak to and comfort her and return her from whence she came. However she ran over to me and said “My husband has just died can you help me?”.

Not something I was expecting, but that’s what I was there for.

I walked with her back to her home, reporting to the station what was happening on the way. In the house I found her husband sitting in a wooden chair in the middle of the room

*A cold winter’s morning — Jack Frost*



facing the fireplace. The fire had been made up ready to light. It was his habit to get up early, get ready for work at the ship yard, and then light the fire ready for his wife when she came downstairs. However on this occasion his time had come, he had sat down and passed away in the sitting position. There were no suspicious circumstances but as his death was sudden and unexpected procedures had to be gone through and a doctor to be called to certify death. There was nothing more for me to do until that had been done other than to comfort his wife. It was then whilst she was sitting there looking at her now covered husband that she said something from her heart that lived with me for the rest of my life. This was before the full impact of what had occurred hit her and the tears had started to flow.

“He has been a good husband to me!”

Simple words that, for me, had more meaning and an expression of love than any eulogy I have heard since.

During my Police service I was involved in so many incidents, many of similar nature, many good, many bad, the memories of some of which have been hard to suppress. However this incident has stayed with me throughout and caused me to try to live my life in a manner that I hoped would cause a loved one to say that of me. Sadly my wife died before me so no one will ever know. I hope she might have thought that of me. I certainly did of her!

***Please keep the articles coming!***

Yuletide greetings — *Mary Christmas*



The dates of the Monday afternoon services for the remainder of 2019 are as follows:

- 9th September (hosted and led by the Worship Group)
- 14th October (hosted by the Activities Team and led by the Worship Group)
- 16th December (hosted by the Activities Team and led by the Worship Group)

Although these services are organised with particular regard to those people who find it difficult to attend worship on a Sunday morning, **EVERYONE** is welcome. The services normally last for around 30 minutes, and are followed by refreshments and fellowship.

***Carole Mallett***  
***for Worship Group***



## **DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

The next **Church Meeting** is to be held on **Thursday 26th September** at **7.30 pm**. Refreshments will be served from **7.00 pm**. Please attend if you can. The Agenda will be displayed in the Church Vestibule before the Meeting.

***Ray Hammond, Church Secretary***





**Poetry and Plonk Evening on Saturday 7th September at 7.00 pm.** Tickets are still available from Ray Hammond. This promises to be an interesting and entertaining evening when people will be sharing their favourite poems with others while enjoying a glass of wine (or soft drink).

Looking ahead to October, St Andrew's Art Club will be holding their annual **Art Exhibition on Saturday 5th October, 10.00 am – 2.00 pm.** As usual, there will be an opportunity to browse and/or buy plus enjoy coffee and light lunches.

## Dates for the diary:

**Monday 14th October - Harvest Afternoon Service, 2 pm**

**Saturday 26th October – Games Evening, 4.30 pm**

**Saturday 16th November - Annual Church Fair, 10am – 2pm**

*Ann Hammond*



It has been the fourth successful year of the Holiday Activities Club and we would like to thank all our volunteers for their wonderful help. The many children and their carers truly enjoyed each and every time they were with us.

There were four churches involved and many of the families were able to come to most of the sessions which meant that the children made lots of new friends. That was so obvious by the noise they made!



The undertaker's parlour – *Myra Mains*



One of the best experiences for our volunteers was the number of children who asked to look inside our church! They were really interested and asked lots of questions. Let's hope we see them again.

Once again, thank you for your support.

Here's to another good time next year.

*Joan Blanchfield.*



Further to Valerie Taylor's article in the August edition of Newstand, we are pleased to advise that Mandy Watson has agreed to take over the leadership of the Prayer Group. Mandy already leads the monthly Praise Service, and we are extremely grateful to her for taking on this additional role. The Prayer Group will therefore continue to meet every month, but will revert to the **FIRST Sunday** (instead of the second Sunday) and **at 10.15 am** (instead of 10.30) in the Meeting Room (instead of the Lounge). Anyone who would like to pray, or be prayed for, will be welcome, and it's ok to bring a coffee into the room with you.

Our sincere thanks go to Valerie for all the time and effort she has put into leading this group during the last four years, and it's good to know that 'the baton is being passed on' into Mandy's capable hands.

*Carole Mallett, for Worship Group*

## Prayer Group Update

Partytime! — Phil McGlass



# ST. ANDREW'S 100 CLUB

## July Draw

93 numbers went into the draw on 27th July.

The Winners were:

1st	No. 109	Barbara Burgess	£139.50
2nd	No. 99	Geoff Hopper	£69.72
3rd	No. 88	Susan Clark	£23.25

£232.50 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 (split 30% / 15% / 5%)

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)***

The cloakroom attendant – *Angus McCoatup*



# St Andrew's 58 Society

*Established 1958*

## 2019/20 Season

We would like to extend a warm invitation, to come, visit and hopefully join one of the longest established clubs in the area.

We have a new and exciting programme of Speakers for the forthcoming season, with the following booked as the first three meetings:

- Macmillan Nurses — Olwyn Sheldon — October 7th
- Green Christians — Rev'd Trevor Jamison — October 21st
- Nostalgic Views of the North — John and Sheila Moreels — November 4th

You are most welcome to attend on a guest basis for £2 for your first two visits, or to join for the whole season for only £12.

Meetings are held in the Main Hall on Monday evenings starting at 7.30pm, followed by a cuppa and a biscuit (or two), along with a chance to have a good natter.

We are looking forward to seeing you!

*Celia Purves*

Insurance — *Justin Case*



We remember in our prayers week by week the churches of the Synod, Synod officers, groups and committees. We also remember significant dates in the church and world calendars.



1	The work of the URC (Northern Province Trust Ltd) and Convenor, Revd David Grosch-Miller and Secretary, Dr Andrew Hamnett.
8	St James's URC, Newcastle; St Andrew's URC, Kenton; West Denton URC.
15	Longframlington URC; Rothbury URC; St Andrew's URC, Glanton; Revd Ed Butlin.
22	Peacemaking Sunday.
29	PCM, Lay training and evening classes at Khovo in Maputo; Northern Baptist Regional Minister, Revd Dr John Claydon; Synod Meeting (5 October); Moderator's Secretary, Mrs Wendy Watson; Trust Officer, Mr Andrew Atkinson; Finance Officer, Mrs Helen Hogg.

## Marriage

SMITH – MACKINTOSH

In church on 3rd Aug 2019 at 12 noon,  
David Kenneth Smith and Sarah Julie Mackintosh.  
Service conducted by Revd Trevor Jamison.

Still a spinster? — *Maria Mann*





*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*

If you would like a name adding to the Book of Remembrance, to be entered in the copy in the church and this version in Newstand, as well as being included in prayers on Communion Sunday, please contact Tim Cooke (details inside back cover), or complete a form in the church.

The successful advertising executive — *Bill Boards*



## Monthly Duties

<b>Elders</b>	<b>Vestry:</b> B. Watson <b>Reception:</b> I. Ord <b>Communion:</b> H. Hall
<b>Stewards</b>	C. Lynch, S. Anderson.
<b>Flowers</b>	1/15-Una & Ingrid, 8-Ann S, 22-Jenny, 29-Hazel & Celia

## Weekly Duties

<b>Sun 01-Sep-19</b>	Readers: G. Mills, C. Mallett Prayers of Concern: Andrew Cooke	<b>Organ:</b> Paul
<b>Tues 03-Sep-19</b>	Prayers: Una Ketteridge	
<b>Sun 08-Sep-19</b>	Readers: A. Cockburn, J. Hooper Prayers of Concern: Una Ketteridge	<b>Organ:</b> Pete
<b>Tues 10-Sep-19</b>	Prayers: Ray Hammond	
<b>Sun 15-Sep-19</b>	Readers: A. Mood, C. Hales Prayers of Concern: Barbara Burgess	<b>Organ:</b> Helen
<b>Tues 17-Sep-19</b>	Prayers: Carole Mallet	
<b>Sun 22-Sep-19</b>	Readers: J. Jackson, V. Taylor Prayers of Concern: Hazel Hall	<b>Organ:</b> Pete
<b>Tues 24-Sep-19</b>	Prayers: Sandra Pine	
<b>Sun 29-Sep-19</b>	Readers: S. Anderson, J. Blanchfield Prayers of Concern: Val Taylor	<b>Organ:</b> Alex
<b>Tues 01-Oct-19</b>	Prayers: Ann Sinclair	

## Newstand Dates

<b>Next edition, published last Sunday of month:</b>	Sunday 29 Sept 2019
<b>Hardcopy contributions in Editor's box by</b>	Sunday 22 Sept 2019
<b>Email copy to <a href="mailto:standrewsnewstand@gmail.com">standrewsnewstand@gmail.com</a></b>	Monday 23 Sept 2019

**Earlier contributions are appreciated!**



# Church Contacts

Transitional Minister	Revd Dr. Carla Grosch-Miller c/o St. Andrew's URC (address in front cover)	07427 838 370
Secretary	Mr Raymond Hammond, annray@talktalk.net 3 Cauldwell Close, Whitley Bay, NE25 8LP	252 3319
Assistant Secretaries	Mrs Ann Hammond 3 Cauldwell Close, Whitley Bay, NE25 8LP	252 3319
	Miss Carole Mallett 54 Brantwood Avenue, Whitley Bay, NE25 8NJ	252 1723
Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary	Mr Kevin Ames 17 Kelso Drive, North Shields, NE29 9NS	251 3016
Assistant Treasurer	Mrs Jenny Hooper 15 Brislee Ave, Tynemouth, NE30 2SQ	—
Hall Lettings	Ray & Ann Hammond, annray@talktalk.net 3 Cauldwell Close, Whitley Bay, NE25 8LP	252 3319
Newstand Business Manager	Miss Carole Mallett 54 Brantwood Avenue, Whitley Bay, NE25 8NJ	252 1723
Newstand, Website and Social Media	Tim Cooke, standrewsnewstand@gmail.com 4, Kingfisher Way, Blyth, NE24 3QR	01670 354834
Safeguarding Officer	Lucy Cooke, cookelucy@live.co.uk 4, Kingfisher Way, Blyth, NE24 3QR	01670 354834

**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.

Photographs and other clipart used under Creative Commons licensing, or taken/created by Church members, unless otherwise indicated.



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

## CHURCH CALENDAR

**September / October 2019**

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Praise Service; Praise Team</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>
		<b>Prayer Group</b>	<b>10.15 am</b>
		<b>Communion Service; Revd Dr Carla Grosch-Miller</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>
		<b>Enquirer's Membership Class – The History of the URC</b>	<b>12.45 pm</b>
Monday	2	Activities Team Meeting	2.00 pm
Tuesday	3	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am
Thursday	5	Transitional Working Group Meeting	7.00 pm
Friday	6	Film Club – 'Red Joan'	2.00 pm
Saturday	7	Poetry and Plonk Evening	7.00 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>Morning Worship; Revd Dr Carla Grosch-Miller</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>
		<b>Enquirer's Membership Class – URC-flavoured Christianity</b>	<b>12.45 pm</b>
		<b>Messy Church</b>	<b>3.30 pm</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Afternoon Service hosted and led by the Worship Group</b>	<b>2.00 pm</b>
Thursday	12	Pastoral Team Meeting and Elders' Meeting	7.00 pm
Friday	13	Friendship Club re-starts	2.00 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Communion Service; Dr Ann Sinclair</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>
		<b>Morning Worship; Revd Dr Carla Grosch-Miller</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>
		<b>Enquirer's Membership Class – Belonging to a URC</b>	<b>12.45 pm</b>
Tuesday	17	Worship Group Meeting	6.30 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Morning Worship; Revd Philip Gray</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>
		<b>Joint Service with St Columba's at St Andrew's</b>	<b>6.30 pm</b>
Friday	27	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Morning Worship; Worship Group</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>
<b>OCTOBER 2019</b>			
Tuesday	1	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am
Friday	4	Film Club (Film tba)	2.00 pm
Saturday	5	Art Exhibition	10.00 am
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>Praise Service; Praise Team</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>
		<b>Prayer Group</b>	<b>10.15 am</b>
		<b>Communion Service; Mrs Valerie Taylor</b>	<b>11.00 am</b>
Friday	11	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Saturday	12	Harvest Coffee Morning	10.00 am