



St. Andrew's URC
Monkseaton, Whitley Bay

NEWSTAND

Volume 85, Issue 10

October 2019

I will NOTICE

I will LISTEN

I will CARE

**Sometimes it is
all about YOU!**

NEWSTAND is the church magazine of
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please contact Carole Mallett or Tim Cooke.
You can also download it from the website.



This is the last of a three-part series discussing the habits of the heart that strengthen congregations day by day and that help heal people in a time of trauma. August and September *Musings* covered **Calm** and **Communication**. This month's topic is **Care**, something that comes naturally to many at St Andrew's.

Different situations call for different kinds of care. Sometimes what is needed is a listening ear, a kind word or a thank you. Sometimes what is needed is an offer of help: a lift, a cake baked or the loan of a power tool. All care, however, is based on something fundamental: **Noticing**. Noticing that someone is sad or scared or troubled; noticing that their behaviour has changed; noticing an absence or a need.

First we notice. Then we listen. Caring requires listening... care-filled and careful hearing that helps people discover what is in their hearts and minds. The mantra among trauma first responders is *the survivor knows best*. Everyone is different and the same thing will not work with everyone. People know what they need and will begin to identify it if they are listened to well. Listening attentively makes the space for someone who is hurting to make connections between their inner and outer worlds (what has happened to them) and to discover what they need.

This kind of listening is at the core of the most effective kind of caring: **resonant caring**. Resonant caring is different from reassurance. Telling someone that *Everything will be all right* when they are deeply disturbed does not meet their needs. When my daughter Katja was 18 months old, she had a complex febrile seizure in hospital. I was holding her in

my arms, rocking and saying to the paediatrician who was examining her *This is not right; something's wrong*. My wise paediatrician did not say *Everything will be all right*. Instead she said *You're right; something's wrong. We're going to try to find out what it is*. And I began to calm down because my inner knowing and the world around me were in agreement: something bad was happening and the doctor was on the case.

Resonant caring is about **warmth + precision**. We offer a compassionate presence and we try to understand what the other person is going through. As we calmly reflect that back to them, their nervous systems will begin to make connections and to heal.

Paul wrote to the church in Galatia, telling them to *bear one another's burdens* (Gal. 6:2). The truth is that we will bear one another's burdens no matter what: if we don't attend to one another, those burdens will not go away and will impact the quality of our life together. Attending to one another, we get the chance to know each other better and to offer the love of Christ in a time of difficulty.

This month we will have the opportunity to practice all three habits of the heart as we gather on **Sunday 20 October** for lunch after worship to ***Look back in order to step forward together***. You can read more about it on the following pages in the Transition Working Group report. Your honest and sensitive participation will be a caring act for the whole of St Andrew's. I hope you will be there if you are able. If you are not able, please support us by prayer and fill out one of the A4 sheets that will be available beforehand.

In Christian love and friendship,

Carla

The compulsive gambler – Betty Won



By the time of this publication, the Working Group will have met four times and will have presented a starting strategy to the elders. We are a very hard working group!

Six goals drive and shape our work:

- ◇ We are aiming to build **cohesion and a common aim** so that we can walk forward together
- ◇ We aim to be pastorally sensitive, and to foster **care and connection** amongst the whole congregation
- ◇ We aim to **maximise participation** – everyone matters!
- ◇ We aim to include an element of **spiritual nurture** in whatever we do
- ◇ We aim for **healing** where there has been hurt and **reconciliation** if relationships have been fractured
- ◇ We aim to foster **honesty** and to **learn from the past**.

The strategy we recommend includes:

- A **20 October Church Lunch and Discussion** to take place after worship, titled *Looking back to step forward together*. We realise that this will be the first and maybe the only opportunity we will have had **as a congregation** to talk about Matthew's surprise announcement last December. Whilst people will have had individual conversations, we haven't had a chance to hear how everyone was impacted. To make that possible, each person will be given a sheet of A4 from 29 September with three columns: *I am grateful for these parts of Matthew's ministry...*; *I am sad that...*; and *my hopes for the future of St Andrews*. **You will be invited to write down three items in each column, and the papers may be placed in a ballot box.** The information will be

gathered and discussed on 20 October. The Working Group will then use the information gathered to consider a further way forward.

- On **Sunday 1 December**, the first Sunday of Advent, nearly a year will have passed since Matthew announced his resignation in worship. If it seems right based on the information gleaned on 20 October, we will mark the event by giving thanks for his ministry, expressing sadness or disappointment, confidentially naming difficult feelings (hurt, guilt, betrayal) and releasing them into God's hands, and entrusting both Matthew and the whole of our life together into God's care and keeping. The service will also include communion and receiving new members. Advent is about reaching out to God in need and God's response with the gift of new life. It is a particularly appropriate time to commend all of this to our gracious God.
- We recommend that the elders take time for an **Elders Away Day** for further healing and reflection.

On 12 September, the elders discussed and adopted our strategy. They will recommend its adoption by the Church Meeting on 26 September. As I write this, we do not know what the Church Meeting will decide.

As a reminder: We will not be able to start the process of looking for a new permanent minister until Easter when our work with Carla is finished. What we learn now, though, will contribute to our self-understanding and strength.

Please share your thoughts about our work with any of us. 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.

BILL **NIGHTY**

IMELDA **STAUNTON**

DOMINIC **WEST**

PADDY **CONSIDINE**

“DON'T TRY TO RESIST.
PRIDE WILL MAKE YOU CHEER!”

VANITY FAIR
JORDAN HOFFMAN

Film Club

PRIDE



A comedy drama, it is based on a true story and depicts a group of gay activists who raise money to help families affected by the miners' strike in 1984. Starring Bill Nighty and Imelda Staunton it's described as a 'great feel-good movie celebrating solidarity and tolerance'.

BASED ON THE INSPIRATIONAL TRUE STORY

ANDREW **SCOTT** GEORGE **MACKAY** JOSEPH **GILGUN** BEN **SCHNETZER**

CBS FILMS, PATHE, BBC FILMS, PRIDE FILM
"PRIDE" STORY BY JONAS MEIER, DIRECTED BY

**Friday 4th October
2.00pm**

THE AMERICAN JOSEPH GILGUN BEN SCHNETZER
FILES WRITTEN BY ANDREW SCOTT DIRECTED BY JAT RABBITTE



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



The Activities Team will be having a busy time in October with three events lined up. I must pay tribute to the Team who work hard at all the fundraising events to ensure that each year we achieve the target set by the Finance Team. Also the support we receive for all the events is so rewarding and makes our efforts worthwhile, thank you one and all.

The recent Poetry Evening was one such event which proved popular with requests for a repeat in the not too distant future. We had a variety of poems ranging from Spike Milligan to Shakespeare and it was a very entertaining evening.

Now to our October events - St Andrew's Art Club's annual **Art Exhibition** takes place on **Saturday 5th October, 10am – 2.00pm**. Do come along if you can to browse and/or buy plus enjoy coffee and light lunches.

Then on **Monday 14th October at 2.00pm** the Activities Team will be hosting a **Harvest Service** led by the Worship Team. This is particularly for those who find difficulty in attending the usual Sunday morning services but all are welcome. The Team will be serving refreshments afterwards.

Towards the end of the month on **Saturday 26th October at 4.30pm** fun and games for all ages take place when a Games Evening (Dominoes and Beetle) is being held with refreshments of either Fish & Chips or Pie and Peas, tickets are now available from Ray Hammond.

Looking ahead, on **Saturday 16th November** we have the **Annual Church Fair** (details of which appear elsewhere in Newstand).
Ann Hammond

The long distance trucker – *Laurie Driver*

A 'Thank You' card with the following message has been received by Ann & Ray Hammond:

We would like to say a huge thank you for helping to be part of our big day, everything was absolutely perfect. I do hope we weren't too much trouble and that everybody had a good day, our guests certainly did.

Please pass on our thanks to Catriona too who did a wonderful job with the flowers and thank you to everyone at St Andrew's for reminding me what a wonderful place it truly is.

All the best for the future,

Mr and Mrs Mackintosh-Smith

I would like to say Thank You to my Elder, Iain, and the people who have been enquiring after me. Also for the lovely flowers brought to me by Catriona. They were a lovely surprise and very much appreciated.

Joan Polkinghorn

There are some new and exciting cards available to purchase, including rocker cards and fluttering butterfly cards, suitable for different occasions. Please come and have a look at the table in the hall on Sunday mornings. All profits go to Church funds.

Barbara Watson

The bad pot-shot — Rick O'Shea



Following the Lectionary ensures that over a period of three years, years denoted as A, B and C, congregations are able to follow three of the Gospels in turn: Matthew, Mark and Luke with the Gospel of John included at different periods during these three years. There are specifically named periods of time throughout the years: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, and Easter and Ordinary Time. We are now in Ordinary Time. There are two periods of Ordinary Time, the period between Epiphany and Lent and the period from Pentecost to the day before Advent. But what is Ordinary Time? It certainly isn't a time that should be regarded as 'ordinary' as in the sense of there isn't much happening, a bit of a lull time, a plodding along time, a let's sit back and do-nothing time, so what is Ordinary Time?

Timothy Radcliffe offers a definition. Timothy Radcliffe is a Dominican Friar and former Master of the Order of Preachers of the Dominicans, the only member of the English Province to have held that office since the Order's foundation in 1216. His words of wisdom are worth considering. He suggests that Ordinary Time is to be 'ordered beyond ourselves'. Ordinary

Time he argues, is a time that is necessary for anything to grow. And in 'Ordinary Time' as we move from summer into autumn it is a fitting concept. The warmth of the summer sunshine and the (warm) summertime rain provided the conditions for the soft fruits, vegetables and flowers to grow, ripen and blossom and now to be harvested. The fruitful and colourful image of growing, ripening and of harvesting could be seen to run parallel to nurturing, growing and harvesting in faith as followers of Christ.

Ordinary Time? Ordinary Time is a good and fitting time to grow to become ordered but is there ever an Ordinary Time in Christian life? This Time can and should be used wisely to allow us to grow in faith so that God 's harvest, the kingdom of God, can come to fruition!

In Prayer:

From the ear to the seed,
from the seed to the shoot,
from the shoot to the stem,
from the stem to the leaves,
from the leaves the flower,
from the flower the seed.

Lord, of every season,
from seed-time to harvest,
from us to you, we bring our
praise and thanksgiving.
Amen

Submitted by The Hope 4 Team.

To all the lovely people of St Andrew's, I want to say a heartfelt 'thank you' for the beautiful welcome you gave me when I came to visit my home town and joined you in worship on Sunday 15th September.

I felt as though I had not had enough time to speak to everyone who had gone to such trouble to prepare for my visit, but please accept how grateful I am.

I thoroughly enjoyed worshipping with you; your service was uplifting and relevant. I especially enjoyed Rev Dr Carla's words as she linked the dancing wine of the moon landing communion to the Spirit moving across time, as it explained the Holy story. Wonderful.

When I was young we had little opportunity to travel beyond our local area, most excursions were either Church or Sunday School outings or Girl Guide camp. I am planning another trip next year with ideas to use the buses to visit places last seen with, on these outings, Rothbury, Morpeth and Ponteland coming to mind for a start.

I thought you may like to read what I posted that day on my own Church's prayer network:

"I want to share with you the joy I felt today when I went to morning service at St Andrew's United Reformed Church, Monkseaton (Whitley Bay). This is the Church, Presbyterian at

Thank You from a visitor

the time, where I was brought up until my family moved to Blackpool just before I was 13.

I had been in touch with them before I came up here for a nostalgic visit to my home town but, nevertheless, I was surprised at the welcome awaiting me. The word had gone out to find anyone who remembered my family from over 60 years ago, and the archives searched to find records of my, and my brothers', baptisms.

It was good to see the Church thriving and the building looking updated and beautiful. Lovely too, to be able to recognise the Church that was such a huge part of my childhood.

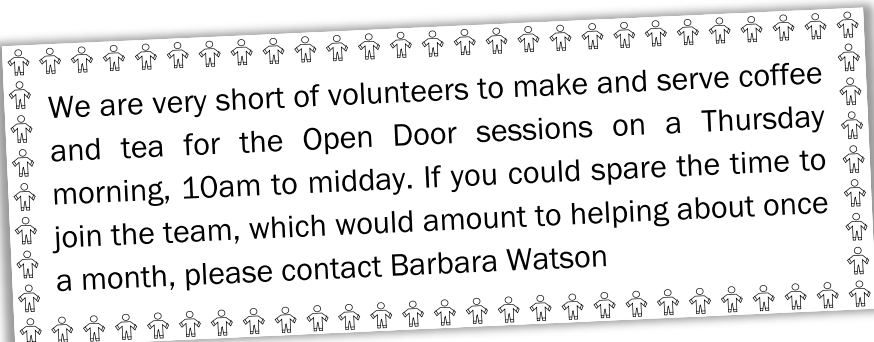
God bless St Andrew's URC Monkseaton."

So, once again, may I thank you all for your welcome and I look forward to worshipping with you again next year.

Blessings to you all, and a special blessing for Edith Corby.

Gwen Cross

Gwen was known as Cynthia Stride when a child (she now uses her middle name) and her parents were Ken and Minnie who were caretakers at the Church.



We are very short of volunteers to make and serve coffee and tea for the Open Door sessions on a Thursday morning, 10am to midday. If you could spare the time to join the team, which would amount to helping about once a month, please contact Barbara Watson

The rice harvest — *Paddy Fields*



Whitley Bay & Monkseaton Trefoil Guild

Invites you to a talk by

John Grundy

on

The Buildings of the Northumberland Coast

On Thursday, 17th October 2019, 2.00pm

At St. Andrew's URC, Eastfield Avenue, Monkseaton

In aid of Admiral Nurses

Cake Stall

Raffle

Tickets £3

(includes tea/coffee)

SAY — St. Andrew's Youth

Just to remind our young folk that the monthly get-togethers have begun again on the 4th Sunday of each month during the usual service (no need to listen to the sermon!).

Any ideas for future activities are very welcome including sports and art, as well as the popular cooking!

Don't forget that you can always invite a friend to visit!!

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Joan Blanchfield



The German barber — *Herr Kutt*

I recently visited your church on a Thursday coffee morning and was given one of your Newstand pamphlets that I enjoyed reading and in particular the article by Geoff Mills regarding an event he experienced whilst on duty as a policeman. It was a sad but beautiful story and written with feeling. His story made me think of my relationship with my darling wife — 63 years of married life — and was so motivated to write this poem.



The Work Of God

Together for ever, my darling wife and I
Our bond between each other will never die
Our love for each other has grown more intense —
Our souls have intertwined
To each other's needs we are not blind
Loving care and understanding has been our life long course
Our hearts not pained by reactive remorse
We believe in Jesus who we devoutly love
And know our union is the work of God above

William Banks
Seghill

And a few pauses for thought...



You may recall that I joined the Association for Church Editors earlier in the year and I've been making use of some of the material and advice from that in Newstand (some perhaps more subtle changes as well as actual content!).

In June I attended the Association's AGM at Methodist Westminster Central Hall in London, where we had a very interesting talk on the "10 commandments of editing" from Justin Brierly, who was until recently the editor of "Christianity" magazine. I've hopefully not been breaking any of the commandments in Newstand, though they, like the Bible, can be open to interpretation depending on the circumstances! It was certainly a long Saturday, leaving Blyth at 5.30am and getting back at 9pm, but still very worthwhile.

Whilst there I met, amongst others, the outgoing Chairman of ACE, John Farrow. John original comes from Durham and his wife is from Whitley Bay where his Sister-in-law still lives, so on a recent trip to see her, John and I got to meet for coffee. In our conversation it came out that John, who used to work in the construction industry, had been a Director of Bede Academy in Blyth that Andrew and Sophie attend whilst the school was being built – a small world indeed.

John however had an ulterior motive in meeting up and coerced me (although with not much effort needed) into joining the Committee of ACE, where I've taken responsibility for the association's website following the unfortunate death of the previous incumbent.

That's my own little "It happened to me"! *Tim, the Editor*

Generosity gives assistance and not just advice

Harvest Coffee Morning

**Saturday October 12th
10.00 to 12 noon**

**Please join the Flower Team for coffee
and cake as they arrange the flowers for
the Harvest Festival Service.**

**There will be a cake and preserves stall
Money and gifts will be collected for
The People's Kitchen**



**The People's Kitchen have indicated they currently
have high volumes of some items, particularly
pasta and baked beans, and these items are
therefore not needed. Required items are shown
on the following page. Financial gifts, supermarket
points cards and sweets are also welcome.**



HARVEST FESTIVAL WISH LIST 2018

Main Meals **Tinned meat** - stewing steak, mince & onions, corned beef, hot dogs, tinned beef burgers, Irish stew, spam, chicken curry, minced beef chilli, Bolognese

Cooking ingredients - Sugar, flour, dried rice, ground white pepper, spray cooking oil, dumpling mix, sage & onion stuffing, brown sauce, Chinese, Thai, Mexican, Indian and cream cooking sauces, mixed spice, cocoa, desiccated coconut, cooking chocolate, beef, chicken and onion gravy granules

Drinks - Dilute orange, coffee, instant drinking chocolate, tea

Breakfast - individual packs of cereals, individual packs of chocolate biscuits

Puddings - Tinned or instant custard, tinned rice, peaches, fruit cocktail, apricots, jams & golden syrup, honey, large tins of evaporated milk, long life milk

Tinned Veg - Mixed veg, garden peas, processed peas, chick peas, butter beans, potatoes

Soup - Lentil, lentil and bacon, vegetable, mushroom (condensed), leek & potato, Scotch broth

Toiletries - Deodorants, shower gel, shampoo, shaving cream/gel, men's & ladies razors

Clothing - New tracksuit bottoms, t/shirts, boxer shorts, socks/hats/gloves, jumpers, waterproof jackets, jeans small, medium, large, sleeping bags

Household - Blue / red / green J cloths, large pan scrubs, large freezer bags, washing powder/tablets (preferably non scented), kitchen rolls

ST. ANDREW'S 100 CLUB

August Draw

93 numbers went into the draw on 25th August.

The Winners were:

1st	No. 18	Brian Hymers	£139.50
2nd	No. 48	Florence Hudson	£69.72
3rd	No. 100	Joan Blanchfield	£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)

God can do no more without us than we can do without Him



Joyce Coulson recounts how an opportune choice when job hunting after the war led to many years of happiness.

I worked for the latter part of the Second World War for the Admiralty in Newcastle. When the war ended I found myself jobless. I went to the labour exchange in Whitley Bay to be told that the only jobs they could give me were in the Land Army or as a Bus Conductress. At the age of 17 years old we lived next to a farmer's field where we were allowed to take a shortcut to the nearest shop. I was coming through one day when I found myself being chased by a hen! I eventually outran it, but that experience helped me decide that the Land Army was not for me. Bus Conductress... No — I have little head for heights so no upper deck for me.

I next went to the Newcastle exchange where they only had two jobs available, but which one did I want to try for? I picked one and I got the job. After a while a girl from Whitley Bay joined the office and we became good friends. She was a very social girl and I was introduced to her many friends, including one young man who, for 50 years, became my husband.

Now if I had chosen to go to the other job, I would never have met my husband and my life would have taken a different direction!

Fate...?

Life is what happens to you
when you're busy making other plans (John Lennon)

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.



6	Homeless Sunday. United Church of Christ New York Conference, and Conference Minister Revd David Gaewski.
13	Freedom Sunday. The work of Mission Committee and Convenor, Revd Dr Grant Wilson.
20	Berwick URC; Crookham URC; Revd Mary Taylor; Wooler URC.
27	West End URC; Jesmond URC; Robert Stewart Memorial URC, Newcastle.

Baptism

ANDERSON In church, by Revd Dr Carla Grosch-Miller,
on 25th August 2019,
Elsie-Nieve, Infant daughter of
Chloe Cockburn and John Joseph Anderson.

Death

GRANDISON On 2nd September 2019,
Dorothy, aged 95 years.
Service and committal at Whitley Bay
on 20th September, conducted by
Revd Gordon Connacher.

Loving people live in a loving world;
hostile people live in a hostile world – yet it's the same world!



*The names of those we remember
this month are*

Charles Gordon Mallett

Edward Rye

Eleanor Jackson

Isabella Fisher

Henry Brandon

Mary Brandon

Anne Robson

Jack Pearson

Peggy Pearson

Hughina Simpson

Winifred Charlton

Winifred Emily Rye

Edith Robson

Joan Mary Forster

Joy Adamson

William Malcolm Dickinson

Alec William Skee

The best time to make friends is before you need them.

Monthly Duties

Elders	Vestry: Valerie Taylor Reception: Ann Hammond Communion: Catriona Fenwick
Stewards	Celia Purves/Pat Wardle
Flowers	6/20 Una & Ingrid, 13 Alison, 27 Beryl & Mary

Weekly Duties

Sun 06-Oct-19	Readers: J McLennan T Cooke Prayers of Concern: C. Hales	Organ: Paul
Tues 08-Oct-19	Prayers: Una Ketteridge	
Sun 13-Oct-19	Readers: K Hopper, C Lynch Prayers of Concern: Una Ketteridge	Organ: Pete
Tues 15-Oct-19	Prayers: Carole Mallett	
Sun 20-Oct-19	Readers: S Clark, P Hartley Prayers of Concern: Barbara Burgess	Organ: Alex
Tues 22-Oct-19	Prayers: Ray Hammond	
Sun 27-Oct-19	Readers: K Ames, I Ord Prayers of Concern: Hazel Hall	Organ: Pete
Tues 29-Oct-19	Prayers: Kathleen Hopper	

Newstand Dates

Next edition, published last Sunday of month:	Sunday 27 Oct 2019
Hardcopy contributions in Editor's box by	Sunday 20 Oct 2019
Email copy to standrewsnewstand@gmail.com	Monday 21 Oct 2019
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.

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

CHURCH CALENDAR

October / November 2019

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

Tuesday	1	Executive Team Meeting	10.00 am
Friday	4	Film Club – ‘Pride’	2.00 pm
Saturday	5	Art Exhibition	10.00 am
Sunday	6	Praise Service; Praise Team	9.30 am
		Prayer Group	10.15 am
		Communion Service; Mrs Valerie Taylor	11.00 am
Monday	7	Fifty Eight Society re-starts – ‘Macmillan Nurses’	7.30 pm
Friday	11	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Saturday	12	Harvest Coffee Morning	10.00 am
Sunday	13	Harvest/Parade Service; Mrs Hannah Middleton	11.00 am
		Messy Church	3.30 pm
Monday	14	Afternoon Harvest Service; Activities Team and Worship Group	2.00 pm
Tuesday	15	Finance & Development Fund Management Meetings	10.00 am
Thursday	17	Elders’ Meeting	7.30 pm
Friday	18	Transitional Working Group Meeting	2.30 pm
Sunday	20	Communion Service; Revd Douglas McFarlane	9.30 am
		Morning Worship; Revd Dr Carla Grosch-Miller	11.00 am
Monday	21	Fifty Eight Society – ‘Green Christians’	7.30 pm
Friday	25	Friendship Club	2.00 pm
Saturday	26	Games Evening	4.30 pm
Sunday	27	Morning Worship; Revd Dr Carla Grosch-Miller	11.00 am
Monday	28	Activities Team Meeting	2.00 pm
NOVEMBER 2019			
Friday	1	Film Club	2.00 pm
Sunday	3	Praise Service; Praise Team	9.30 am
		Prayer Group	10.15 am
		Communion Service; Dr Ann Sinclair	11.00 am
Monday	4	Fifty Eight Society – ‘Nostalgic Views of the North’	7.30 pm