

Stranton and Burbank Community

SIGNPOST



**Rooted in God's love
Growing together with Jesus
Branching out in the
Power of the Holy Spirit**

July 2023

Musings from the Beach...

One of the things I have most enjoyed since moving into the area, is the ability to just go to the beach whenever the mood takes me - we couldn't do that when we lived in Bedford - the nearest beaches were about 2 hours away.

There's something about walking along the beach, wading through the water, and clambering over the rocks, gazing at the horizon, that seems to be good for the soul. And it doesn't really matter what the weather is like - the view still seems to find a way to speak to me. Sometimes, the sea is calm, the skies are blue, and the sun is shining - you can see for miles around. On other occasions, it's been dull, overcast and misty, and I haven't been able to see very far at all. Life is often like that too. Sometimes the path before us is clear and we know exactly where we are heading, and how we're going to get there. That's not always the case, sometimes we can't see very far ahead at all and simply have to take things one step at a time - not always knowing what the end result is going to look like.

But we don't always have to. We don't always need to know where a particular path or course will take us, because God does. He knows the destination and He knows every step - big or small - that we need to take to get there. We just need to place our trust in Him, making space for Him and daring to dream big, allowing Him to reveal the plans He has for us, all at once, or one step at a time.

Sometimes the path can be rocky, and we need to really think about our footing - taking our time and praying each step of the way. Sometimes the path is smooth and firm, like the damp sand just above the outgoing tide line, and we can move swiftly onwards. Sometimes we can meet resistance on the way, like wading through knee deep water, and our progress is slowed. But we move forwards, we keep our eye on the future, on what comes next. The past has happened, it is behind us, we can learn from it and be transformed by it, but nothing we do can change the past. We can however, allow the past to have a positive influence on the future learning from what has been, to improve on what comes after.

As I wander along the beach, from one end to the other, moving forward one step at a time, I make space for God. And I wonder what God has in store for us, as a church (whether that's St Luke's, St Aidan's, St Columba's or Stranton), or as one group working together for the glory of God's kingdom. I'm intrigued to know exactly where God is taking us, I know he's taking us on a wonderful journey together, and I dare to dream big. Big dreams for our churches, big dreams for our group, and big dreams for each and every one of us as we seek his vision. As we wait to see what's next. Moving forward. One step at a time.

Every blessing,

John

Mothers Union

We open with the sad news of the sudden death of Betty Hotham. We send condolences to Fred Hotham and all the family. As a group we remember Betty was always cheerful and always so helpful over the years.

We had quite a small meeting in June, but we will hopefully be able to have a small meeting in July, a tea party before the summer break.

Mothers Union this year is asking that we are able to have a 'Summer of Hope'. Mothers Union helps parents and children facing adversity to have a much needed 'Break away together'. Many of the families are so thankful to be able to rest and relax in a time free from the usual unhappy daily routines. We could instead of using summer time away, we could aim for an autumn break away and collect for that.

I hope you have a peaceful and blessed time during the Summer Break and we look forward to meeting up with everyone again in the Autumn.

God Bless you all

Ann Courtenay

**Those we love remain with us
For love itself lives on
Cherished memories never fade
Because one loved is gone
Those we love can never be
More than a thought apart
For as long as there's a memory
They live on in our heart.**

"Coffee with the Bells"

Rebecca and myself would like to invite members of Stranton Church to join us at the Vicarage on Saturday 19th August from 10:00 to 12:00 for Coffee with the Bells (tea, cake and other options will also be on offer). It will be a long overdue opportunity for us to get to know you all a little better (and for some of you to get to know us a bit better too). It would be useful to have a rough idea of numbers and any dietary needs/allergies that we need to be aware of. It would also be helpful if people coming by car could park on the driveway or on The Vicarage side of the road.

John and Rebecca

From the Home Front



When I was in New Zealand I went to visit a sheep station. This was an unusual place as it was a long difficult drive by road, but could be accessed by a steamship across part of a huge blue lake. We sailed on the Edwardian steamer for over 45 minutes through dramatic mountain scenery. The mountainsides were rugged and with sparse and rough vegetation. No

proper roads could be seen, just the occasional jetty at the end of a track.

The TSS Earnshaw steamer eventually pulled along side the sheep station at Walters Peak near Te Anau. The sheep station at Walters Peak was founded in 1860. It is over 25,000 hectares in size a working high country sheep station on the southern shore of Lake Wakatipu, high in the central alps of South Island. At its peak, the station was one of New Zealand's most famous with 170,000 acres, 40,000 sheep and up to 50 fulltime employees. It now runs approximately 18,000 Merino and Perendale sheep and about 800 beef cows.



The Colonel's House and farm buildings were built by transporting everything in by boat across the lake or by wagon over the mountains – glass, nails, tiles, machinery, furniture, plants and livestock.

This must have taken strength, determination and perseverance as this was a very remote area and New Zealand was just being settled by migrants at the time. The land around

the buildings was cultivated and made into magnificent gardens as well as a subsistence working homestead.



It is hard to imagine the scale of the undertaking, even after seeing it with my own eyes and travelling the routes.



The landscape is breathtakingly awesome and it made me appreciate anew the faith that the early settlers in a country must have had. Their resourcefulness and courage venturing into the unknown was astounding. That must have been how Abraham was feeling when he left Ur and followed God's command to find Canaan or some of what Moses experienced when he left Egypt and led the Israelites into the desert.

It did make me wonder if I could have stepped out to forge a new life, the other side of the world, in unknown terrain far from areas of population, to trust that I would be able to survive and build a new life through God's help. Without a faithful God I know I wouldn't even take the first step. Even then, learning to trust my God enough to leave everything I hold dear – it is a challenging thought! How about you? Do you have the faith and trust to follow God's command into the unknown?

J.A.R.

Wimbledon Quiz

- W** Which W was initially used in the first miracle Jesus did and which W did it Become?
- I** Which I has 66 chapters?
- M** Which M was the oldest man who ever lived yet died before his father?
- B** Which B saints day is remembered in France because of a massacre?
- L** Which L had Abraham as an uncle?
- E** Who was the father of the oldest man who ever lived?
- D** Which D was healed by Peter?
- O** Which O was grandfather of David?
- N** Which N was a disciple also known as B?

Notes from Group Vision Day around Communities of Hope 10th June 2023

Present: Diocesan Team:2: Revd John Bell, St Aidan's: 9, St Luke's: 2, Stranton: 11, Project Team: 1 Apologies:4

It was really good to see so many people attending the Group Vision Day as we looked towards the future of the Communities of Hope Project. The day began looking at the challenges we've faced over the preceding months, and where this has left us as a group, and as a project, as we seek to serve the community around us.

It was hugely encouraging for me to see that there is a real appetite to see the project, and the group, grow and succeed, building on what we have already been doing, and, for this to happen, we need to reconstitute the Steering Group, recruit additional team members, and empower our congregations. But we also need to acknowledge what has happened so that reconciliation can occur, and trust can be rebuilt, as we look towards a renewed vision for our project, for our churches, for our group, and for our town.

It was clear from our discussions in the second half of the morning that there are so many opportunities for us to work together and reach out into the community, and that everyone present wants to see us do that, and to do it well, to make a real difference in our community, energising growth through both new and existing initiatives. We want to see better integration and crossover between our activities, maximise the use of our buildings, and work with other groups and organisations that we have contact with.

So how do we get there?

1. We need to reconvene our Steering Group and rebuild trust so we can move forward together.
2. We need to improve our communication and publicity.
3. We need to pray specifically about the vision that God has for our involvement in our community.

I would encourage you all to feedback to members of your congregation just how important Communities of Hope is for our group.

And I would ask each of you to really consider whether you can commit to being a part of establishing the new Steering Group, for an initial commitment of 6 months.

You may have served on it in the past, or you might not have – all we want to do is to harness that energy and desire to see the project thrive. As Ali suggested on Saturday, this would be committing at the outset to setting up a group and working with support from the diocese to put in place the structures to make sure the Steering Group can work and communicate well together. You might then want to continue your involvement or step back and let others come in to help drive our project forward.

You might also feel you aren't able to commit to a Steering Group but are able to serve in other ways – if this is you then please also get in touch and speak with me about how you are able to support the project.

If you could let me know what part you could play (either on Steering Group or in other ways) by Sunday 25th June this would be great – I can then feed this all back to the Group Council on the 26th.

Let's take all the positives that we achieved on Saturday and work together to bring the Kingdom of God to the people of Hartlepool.
Every Blessing, **John**



Janice Young

19th May 1944 - 14th May 2023



Janice's parents were Mary and William Glanville Lloyd. She was born on 19th May 1944 in Coventry where her mother, Mary, and other family members were temporarily relocated during the war. Her mother worked in a munitions factory as part of the war effort. One of 4, Janice had an elder sister and two younger brothers.

At the end of the war, the family moved back to Sunderland to the Hill View Estate but only stayed there for a brief time before moving to Netherburn Road in Sunderland. This was only one street away from her beloved Nana and Grandad Jackson to whom she was completely devoted. She visited them every day and her Nana's home was the focal point of regular family gatherings.

She attended Grange Park Infants and Juniors school and then Monkwearmouth Grammar school in Sunderland. When she left school she initially took a job at the Youth Employment Bureau before she went on to obtain her teaching qualifications at Langham Tower Teacher Training College in Sunderland.

Janice had a strong Christian faith from a young age and was a regular church and Sunday school attender. At teacher training college she became Head of the Christian Union. She went on to teach Sunday school classes.

She was a member of the congregation at Enon Baptist Church in Sunderland which is where she first met Brian, who became the love of her life. Janice was 17 and Brian was 24. At the time, Brian was in the Merchant Navy and Janice was enthralled with his sense of humour and tales of far flung locations. They both always said that they had never met anyone like each other before and that was the beginning of their love story. They got engaged when she was 19 and married on 7th August 1965, at Enon Baptist church, when she was 21 years old. Shortly before her marriage, her parents and brothers relocated to Consett. Janice lived with her Nana prior to getting married.

By the time of their marriage, Brian had returned to shore and resumed working at the Sunderland Forge, where he had served his apprenticeship. Janice relished having him closer to home after their lengthy separations during his time at sea.

Their first home was in Stannington Gardens in Sunderland which is where they lived when their daughter, Joanne, and son, Stephen were born. After qualifying, Janice worked as a teacher, initially in Hendon, but gave up work to concentrate on being a fulltime mum once the children were born.

In 1968, a fellow parishioner at Enon Baptist church recommended Brian for a position at the Prudential Assurance Company. In 1971, Brian's job at the

Prudential required them to relocate to Morpeth. This was the first time Janice had ever lived away from her home town. She often described the move to Morpeth as “the making of her”. They spent three very happy years there before a further promotion for Brian saw them relocate to Sedgefield in 1974. Brian would have loved to have emigrated to Australia but Janice’s love for her family kept them in the North East.

Once the children were both in full time school, Janice returned to supply teaching. Even though she was passionate about teaching, Janice refused to be tempted back into full time employment as she wanted to make her own children her primary focus. She was always a completely devoted, caring and loving mother.

After spending a very happy nine years in Sedgefield, Brian’s job once again required them to relocate, this time to Hartlepool. Janice continued to work as a supply teacher. She also became an active member of the congregation at All Saints Church, Stranton and her faith remained a great source of comfort to her throughout her life.

When Joanne and Stephen left home within a few weeks of each other aged 16 and 18, Janice was initially bereft at the loss of her children. This is what prompted her to take the decision to return to full time teaching. In 1988 she secured a position at Throston Primary School in Hartlepool which is where she worked until she had to take early retirement due to ill health. Janice was a well-respected and popular teacher who always remained in the class room, often teaching year 6 and also with a responsibility for English and mentoring younger teachers. She was passionate about her work and felt very privileged to play a part in the lives of so many children.

By the time Janice retired, Brian had already taken early retirement. This gave them both the opportunity to travel extensively with some of the highlights being trips to Australia, New Zealand and China, as well as numerous cruises. They also loved to visit their timeshare apartment in Ambleside and the Lake District was a very special place not only for Brian and Janice but for the whole family.

Janice enjoyed nothing more than spending time with her family. Brian was the centre of her world. As well as being a devoted mother to Joanne and Stephen, and mother-in-law to Julian and Amanda she was also a doting grandmother to Leona, Matthew, Fergus, Ben and Francesca. She also enjoyed a very special bond with her brother and sister-in-law, Martin and Carol. The whole family enjoyed celebrating family milestones and taking weekends away together.

Brian and Janice were married for 56 years and the day Brian passed away was exactly 60 years from their first date. By this stage, Janice was already suffering from dementia. Sadly, she never got over his loss and mourned him every day. It is a source of great comfort to the family that they are now reunited.

Rev Norman Shave

Betty (Elizabeth) Hotham **16th October 1932-27th May 2023**



Elizabeth Stainsby was born in West Hartlepool on 16th October 1932, to Alfred and Bessy Stainsby. Brought up in their home in Keswick Street, Betty was an only child, but very close to her cousin June Gill, who was like a sister to her. She was baptized and, later, confirmed here in Stranton Church. She attended Elwick Road School, where she was recognized as a bright pupil – “good at the 3 Rs”. She was

not evacuated during the War, and when she left school she went to work as a bookkeeper and general administrator at the Co-op where her parents both worked and her grandfather was one of the directors. Later she became a shop assistant with Blacketts at the corner of Church Street and Whitby Street, taking a career break for a few years when her daughter Jane was born - and then she worked in Boots where she stayed until she retired at 60. After that, for several years, she was quite fully employed as the family chauffeur, transporting her grandchildren round wherever they needed to be taken.

She first met a handsome young man, Charles, or as he is more generally known, Fred Hotham, at the Queen’s Rink, where she had gone with June. After courting for a few years, they were married, here at Stranton church, on 30th March 1960, moving into a small house in Baden Street. Fred and Betty enjoyed 63 years of good marriage. After their daughter Jane was born, they moved to their home for the next 55 years, in Swalebrooke Avenue. In time Jane married Paul and they gave her 3 grandchildren.

Betty enjoyed shopping and catching up with her friends. She was interested in family genealogy – she discovered her great grandfather was Austrian. She loved travelling and family holidays; especially in Cornwall (although later in life they made incursions further afield, into Europe). She enjoyed puzzles and mind games – Sudoku, crosswords and quizzes. But her main passions in life could be summed up in the mnemonic of “the 3 Fs” – family, friends and faith. Throughout her life she was a devout believer, part of this community here at Stranton Church, joining a home group and becoming a key member of the MU, taking part enthusiastically in their celebrations and tea parties. For many years I know she was here faithfully every Sunday.

But also her family was everything to her. She gave herself wholeheartedly to Fred, being with him and supporting him in his hobbies of boating and fishing; she was always very close to her daughter Jane, and was delighted when she married Paul and then doted on her grandchildren Laura, Lucy and Oliver. She was proud of them all. Sometime before she died she wrote a letter to each of her grandchildren, telling them how much she loved them and asking them to remember her and tell their own children about her later in their lives.

It feels fitting to finish with a poem, one of many that Betty wrote and kept with her Bible. Here it is:

Love the Lord with all your heart and listen to his voice.

He asks us all to love him; We even have a choice.

Turn your heart towards him as you journey down life's path.

Don't wander from the pathway; Don't lose the gift of life

Andrew Craig



10th Stranton Guides

The Guides have been working on Make Change Skill Builder, deciding to organize a Coffee Evening to raise money for Alice House. This Charity is close to the hearts of a number of the guides and their families.

Monday 12th June arrived, a beautiful warm evening, so they were able to hold the event outside. The support from the parents, families, church, bellringers and the Burn Valley neighbourhood, was amazing.

The Guides ran all the stalls, making cakes, creating lots of different crafts. The Brownies supported the Guides on the evening, by serving at the tables, making all who visited the event feel welcome.

Thank you to all those who supported the Guides on the journey to the event, the visitors from Alice House to talk about their work, the poster created to help the Guides to advertise the event and parental support in providing for the evening.

The total raised to date is an amazing £585.

Cheryl Mills

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Summer Term at Ward Jackson CE Primary School



Great day hunting the Gruffalo with Ward Jackson Primary School children

Norlina enjoyed their visit to Tynemouth aquarium 🐟🐠



A brilliant morning for our year 6 children at their leavers service in Durham Cathedral. A great opportunity to reflect on their time at Ward Jackson and to look ahead at their next chapter.



A brilliant morning at Crucial Crew for our year 6 children. They have learned all about keeping themselves and others safe. A huge thank you to everyone who gives their time to lead this - we had so much fun! 😊



What a fantastic morning at the beach for Blanchland Class. Putting our swimming lessons into practice with Swim Safe. 🏊 😊 ☀️



Our lovely children and their parents enjoying 'Books for breakfast' in the beautiful sunshine this morning! ☀️ 📖



What an amazing day at Summerhill's new cycling track. The children enjoyed team and individual races. There was even time for a quick play in the beautiful weather.





Summer Programme



The Anchors will soon be visiting Stranton Church they will be learning about Stranton's statue and deciding whether it is St Margaret of Antioch or St George - both are associated with dragons. Anchors final night is a Superheroes Night at St Matthew's.

The Juniors will also be visiting Stranton Church, doing some grave robbing, learning about the Good Samaritan and the plan of church. Then we have a quick change of scene to McDonalds for a meal to celebrate the end of the Boys Brigade Sessions. The Juniors will also visit Seaton beach for a sand castle competition (and ice cream!!).

Company Lads are having mystery trips on Friday nights until July when it will be 'all go' for our Camp at Fanwood Scout Centre in West Yorkshire.

To see what we have been up to why not visit our facebook page - 4th Hartlepool BB to see all our Boys in action.

George Bainbridge

Boys Brigade

It must finally be Summer ☀️☀️ Some classic old school games at Crimdon Dene tonight with our Juniors Section.



Great fun at the beach tonight!



Summer Fayre on Saturday June 17th



We held our Summer Fayre at St. Matthew's Community Centre, needless to say there were bargains galore!!

The amount raised was a fantastic £950.00 which will be used to fund our summer programme and to subsidise the costs of uniform.

A huge THANK YOU goes to all those who provided Bric a Brac, cakes or eateries, those who sold or tidied up, who made teas and to everyone who supported the Fayre.

Birds of a Feather

I have been trying to tidy up the small side garden and the patio at the back of the house. The side garden has been taken over by the stinging or common nettle. I have never had such tall nettles – the rain earlier in the season has nourished these very high nettles and I'm trying to clear round the roses and other bushes.

The patio at the back of the house now has lots of bees guarding an entrance into a roof space of a store house. The bumble bees somehow manage to dodge the buff-tailed bumble bees and manage to squeeze through the small hole and then leave their pollen packs inside.

I tried to water the roses and other foliage but the buff-tailed bees nearly got me!

Watching I saw a lot of smaller bees piggy-back on the larger ones, who eventually did expire – quite a lot of dead bees!

I managed to water the garden but still have a lot to do. My roses in the front garden are quite beautiful without any help from me. Thanks to our wonderful God who gives us amazing sensory treats as we do our everyday tasks.

Amen

Ann Courtenay

Bottle Stall

The Bottle Stall at the Boys Brigade Fayre on Saturday 17th June raised £127.

Thank you to all those who donated bottles and for those who had a lucky dip. This will go towards paying for the Ceilidh Band sometime in October. The date of the Ceilidh will be 21st October.

What's in a name?

When we were born our parents' first job was to give us a name.

My parents struggled as I was their fourth daughter, so they had run out of ideas!

My sister Joy, at the age of 3 years old, after a few days with no name, said to my parents "Call her Angela". What a relief as apparently my dad kept calling me half pint!!

Names are really important. It helps to identify who we are.

I've learnt that since moving town and starting in a new church, new community and new swimming group that remembering people's names is important. I've made it my mission to do just that.

I have a gorgeous friend Steph who is amazing at remembering people's names. When you are a part of a swimming group of about 100 members that is no easy fete!! I have now remembered the ladies name in the bakery and the local newspaper shop, and remembering every person's name I swim with.

Why is it important to remember people's names? I think it makes people feel special and valued and important. I have had some awkward moments when I have called someone by a different name and they have definitely not felt special!!

It says in Isaiah 43 v 8

I have called you by name you are mine I redeemed you do not be afraid. You are mine.

We have started to watch the series 'Chosen' this is a series on the life of Jesus portrayed by amazing actors. Although there is a lot of poetic licence in it, Jesus and all that he did on earth has come to life for me.

In one of the episodes Jesus calls the disciples and he just looks them in the eye and calls them by name, "Simon, Andrew follow me." The intimacy of the moment is almost electric when Simon realises that this man knows his name. Obviously Simon and the others who Jesus calls by name follow Jesus. The story unfolds in each episode. Simon and his brother Andrew were having a conversation (again poetic licence but I can imagine that this could have happened) Simon says to Andrew "I don't know why he asked me to follow him I have no idea what I am doing!"

Andrew replies "Neither do I, but do you remember when our father started taking us out fishing? He didn't teach us to fish, we just watched what he was doing then did it" "That is what we need to do with Jesus, let's watch what he does, then do it"

Each one of us are called by our own name, by God, to follow him, not to be an Esther, not to be a Mary, not to be anybody else, but to be ourselves, He has called us by our own individual name to be followers of Him.

Ang Hall

**St Matthew's
Community Centre
Elwick Road**

**Sunday
2nd July 2023
4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

Games

Bible
Story

Singing

Food

**Messy
CHURCH**

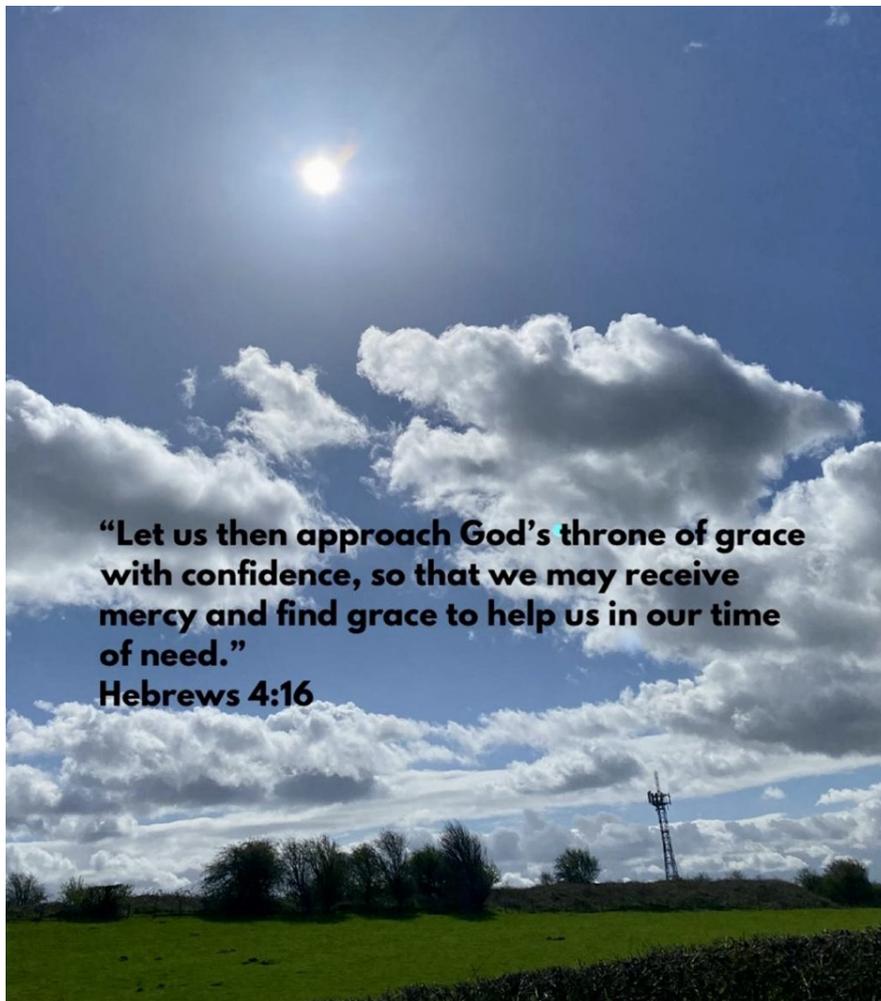
Crafts

Lots of Fun for
all the Family

**St Matthew's
Community Centre
Elwick Road**

**Coffee
Cake
Company**

Please come and join us
Saturday 1st July 2023
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Coffee or Tea, Cake and Company
A time to spend together,
meet new people, make new friends

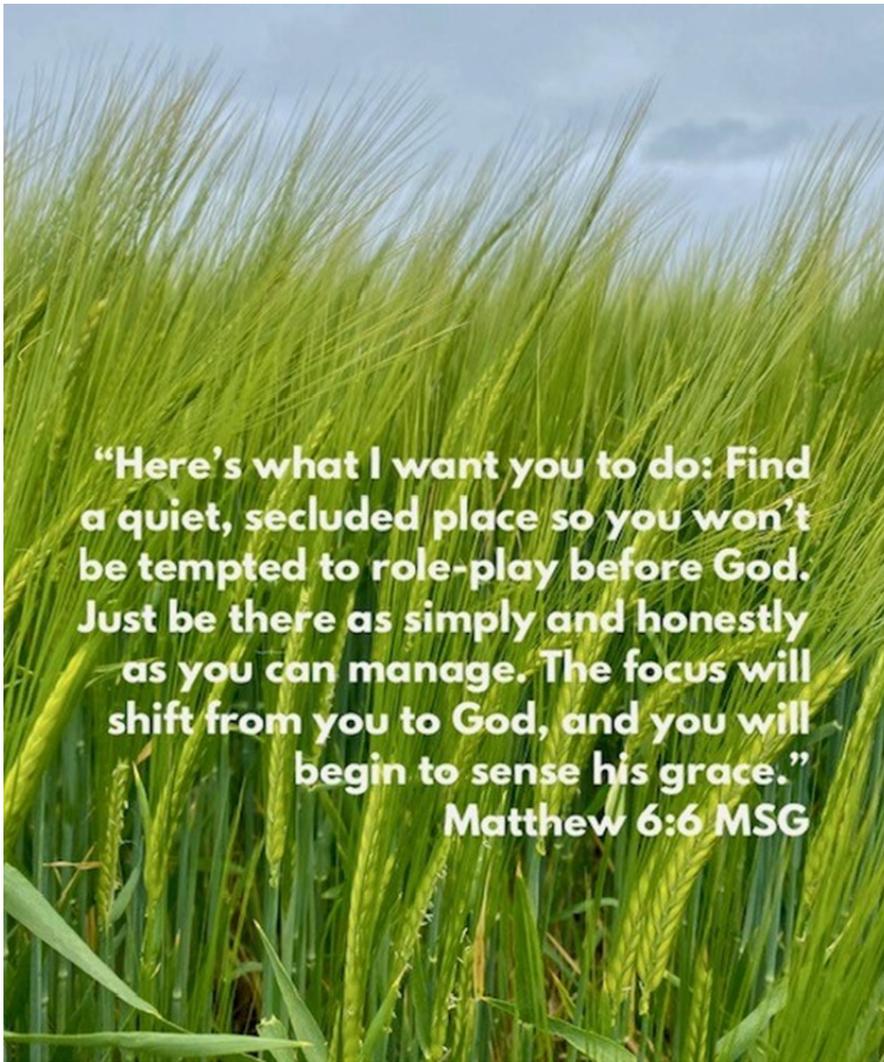


**“Let us then approach God’s throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.”
Hebrews 4:16**

Hartlepool Holiday Activities and Food programme

Our CoH Team will again be leading a Church Based Holiday Club at St Luke’s Church, from Tuesday to Friday in the first two weeks of August: we are looking to recruit one additional paid Sessional worker with qualification and/or experience in Children & Families work for the whole two week period, and will also welcome whatever volunteer support members of the church may be able to give for one or more days.

Please contact Revd John Bell if interested in either of these roles.
revdjohnbell@stranton-church.org.uk



**“Here’s what I want you to do: Find a quiet, secluded place so you won’t be tempted to role-play before God. Just be there as simply and honestly as you can manage. The focus will shift from you to God, and you will begin to sense his grace.”
Matthew 6:6 MSG**

Wimbledon Quiz Answers

- | | | |
|---|--|--------------|
| W | Which W was initially used in the first miracle Jesus did and which W did it become? | Water & wine |
| I | Which I has 66 chapters? | Isaiah |
| M | Which M was the oldest man who ever lived yet died before his father? | Methuselah |
| B | Which B saints day is remembered in France because of a massacre? | Bartholomew |
| L | Which L had Abraham as an uncle? | Lot |
| E | Who was the father of the oldest man who ever lived? | Enoch |
| D | Which D was healed by Peter? | Dorcas |
| O | Which O was grandfather of David? | Obed |
| N | Which N was a disciple also known as B? | Nathaniel |

Some favourite hymns

During the first period of lockdown some of us at Lower Weston Methodist Church (Bath) put together some thoughts on the above topic. Here is one of mine.

Love Divine

I have not chosen “Love Divine, all loves excelling” for the words, but rather the music.

It was voted one of Britain’s top ten favourite hymns in 2005 to the tune Blaenwern, and is a particular favourite for weddings, in fact we had it at ours back in 1970. But Love Divine, one of Charles Wesley’s best known hymns has not always been associated with this tune. It could be said that Charles was the precursor to William Booth for a little borrowing of popular songs. It seems that he based the words on John Dryden’s song “Fairest Isle, all isles excelling” from his opera King Arthur (1691).

There are a number of settings for this hymn including Bythnia, Faben, three different settings of Love Divine (Stainer, Stanford and Zundel), as well as Hyfrydol and Bethany.

For my part, none of them come anywhere near BLAENWERN for its musical and melodic qualities. It was written in 1905 by William Penfro Rowlands around the time of the last Welsh Revival, late 19th/early 20th centuries and is dedicated to a place where his son spent time convalescing after an illness. It was not however published until 1915.

It came into prominence post 1945 when it was included in a number of Evangelical Campaigns; Billy Graham notably used it as a setting for “What a Friend we have in Jesus”.

It seems to have become more formally established around 1953 with its appearance in the Salvation Army Tune Book Supplement and has remained thus in their repertoire. For Methodists it appeared in the 1983 “Hymns and Psalms” which replaced the 1933 Methodist Hymn Book, and has now a settled place in Singing the Faith (2011).

It has featured in at least 60 other hymn collections across the globe. Tunes of the Welsh Revival period in the late 19th century show a solidity of purposefulness of melody and harmony, a powerful melodic drive which invariably brings them to a rousing climax, a veritable HWYL. Others of a similar ilk such as ABERYSTWYTH and CWM RHONDDA, and one of more recent vintage PANTYFEDWEN, spring readily to mind in this genre.

J Cornelius Starbuck

CELEBRATE!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

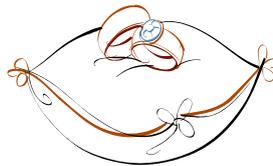
July Celebrations

Maureen Anderson
Faith Barton
Ronnie Barton
Josh Bruce
Barbara Butcher
Jean Connell
Daniel Grosvenor
Natalie Proffitt
Mary Robinson
Max Spoons
Jenny Tones
Geoffrey Webster
Diana Wanduragala



Wedding Anniversary July

Malinee & Aga
Faith & Adam Barton
Andrew & Elspeth Craig
Ken & Sylvia Shepherd
Bill & Diane Greenwood



If you have something to celebrate we would love to share it - email
admin@stranton-church.org.uk
or phone 894006.

All entries to be in by the 16th of the month.

Dates for the Diary

Dates for July

Sat 1st July 10.00-12.00 BB & volunteers tidying up St Mathew's carpark

Sat 1st July Coffee ,Cake and Chat 2.00pm St Matthew's CC

Sun 2nd July Messy Church 4.00-5.30pm St Matthew's CC

6th – 9th July The Tall Ships craft stall and drop in - Contact Viv Neville:

Sat 22nd July The "Way of the Spirit", <http://www.thewayofthespirit.com/>

Training day for Hartlepool Churches at St Matthew's Community Centre

Tuesday 1st-Friday 6th August 10.00-2.00pm

Tuesday 8th-Friday 11th August 10.00-2.00pm Children's Summer

Holiday at St Luke's-including lunch, arts/crafts/games and fun on offer.

Sat 19th August 10.00-12.00 – Coffee with the Bells – The Vicarage

Communities of Hope

- "A Bit of God Time" in St Aidan's Church Tuesday 1:00pm to 2:30 pm.
- "Play and Praise" toddler sessions (FREE) Monday 10.00am-11.15 am at St Matthew's CC
- Women's support group, Monday 1.00pm - 3.00pm at St Matthew's CC
- Mothers and Toddlers: Tuesday 9.00am at St Matthew's CC

Breaking News +++++ Breaking News+++++++ Breaking News+++++

The Company Lads plus other volunteers are tidying St Matthew's

Community Centre Car Park area

on Saturday July 1st from 10.00am till 12noon

Any extra help welcomed

Wednesday Prayer

St Lukes' Church are offering a 40 minute (max) online Zoom prayer meeting on Wednesdays at 3:00pm.

The details are Zoom meeting number: 85245606253 Passcode: 854211 if you wish to join

Who's Who

Church Office	St Matthew's Community Centre Arncliffe Gardens TS26 9JF
Administrator	Trish Playfor "Tues- Fri, 9.00 to 11.00am" 01429 894006 or 07305 550009 E-Mail: admin@stranton-church.org.uk Web Site: www.stranton-church.org.uk
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St Mary's RC

Church Wardens Angela Craig 57 Claremont Drive 234279
Rohan Wanduragala 62 Clifton Avenue 223751

PCC Secretary Maureen Anderson 22 Thetford Road 871266
Treasurer David Craig 57 Claremont Drive 234279
Asst. Treasurer Maureen Anderson 22 Thetford Road 871266
Loyalty Treasurer Ken Shepherd 251 Park Road 268007

Notice Sheet The Office (Notices by the preceding Wednesday)
Signpost Editorial Jacqui Rogers 19 Trentbrooke Avenue 265527
Signpost Advertising Maureen Anderson 22 Thetford Road 871266

St Matthew's Booking Trish Playfor Church Office 894006

Magazine articles to the parish office by 16th of every month.

