

St. Matthew's Church Newbottle

July - August 2020



Come Holy Spirit

*You are the light of the world.
A city on a hill cannot be hidden
Matthew 5 v14*

**This magazine is distributed free by the congregation
of St. Matthew's Church in your parish of Newbottle**

Parish of St. Matthew's Newbottle Diocese of Durham

Church Services

Sunday Services

9.45 am Family Worship

Holy Communion & Crafty Church

6.00 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday

9.30 am Holy Communion

Church Open

Tuesday 10-11am

Wednesday 10.15-11.15am

St Matthew's Church Clergy

Vicar

Rev. Edward Wilkinson.

Tel: 0191 584 3244

Email: wilkinson.edward.rev@gmail.com

Churchwardens

Joy Warren.

Email: warren.joy32@outlook.com

Tom Dick

32 Atherton Drive, Chilton Moor.

Tel. 0191 385 4624

Councillor Ward Surgery dates for this year, which are held in the Jubilee Room of our Church Hall, 10-11am, attended by Houghton and Copt Hill Councillors:

Saturday 18th January 2020

Saturday 18th April 2020

Saturday 18th July 2020

Saturday 24th October 2020

Diocesan Readers:

Tom Dick

32 Atherton Drive, Chilton Moor.

Tel. 0191 385 4624

Malcolm Adamson

Rosewillow, 11 Coaley Lane, Newbottle.

Tel. 0191 584 4995

Stephen Holmes

Email: stephen.holmes1125@gmail.com

PCC Secretary

Joy Warren.

Email: warren.joy32@outlook.com

Editorial Team

Susan Dick, Vera Marshall, Julie Gibson

Charles Martin

From our Registers

Christenings:

Cancelled until further notice.

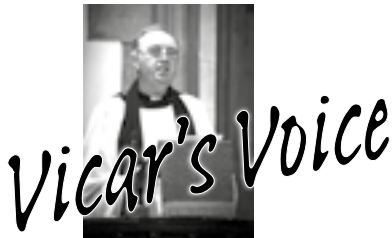
Funeral: 26th May

Margaret Braithwaite
at Sunderland Crematorium.

4th June

William Oxenham
at Sunderland Crematorium

***If you have some local news or an article about the Newbottle area, then email it to:
veramarshall1@hotmail.com***



Just now I'm working my way through the documents issued by the Church of England in response to the Government permitting us to open our church buildings from Saturday 4th July 2020, following the announcement made on Monday 23rd March that all church buildings should close until further notice, to reduce the risk of spreading the Covid 19 virus. As I'm sure that everyone is well aware, the government and health authorities are stressing that Covid 19 has not suddenly disappeared, and the risk of virus spread is still a very real danger for everyone, but especially for the elderly.

The government and the Church of England documents stress that before a church is opened for public worship, a "Risk Assessment" should be undertaken. Then when drawing together a subsequent scheme to open a church building for public worship, very careful attention must be paid to ensure that the scheme guarantees the "2m Distancing Rule", and that hand washing/sanitising facilities are available to everyone before and after leaving the church building.

Please note that the Church of England churches, including our own, have been given permission to hold services from 4th July, if Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) believe it is possible to do so safely within the Government guidelines. If PCCs believe it is not possible to do it safely, then church services should remain suspended – PCCs should not feel compelled to open their church buildings from 4th July. Safety must come first.

At the moment we have a scheme in place, which allows us to open St. Matthew's church for private prayer and meditation on Wednesday and Saturday mornings between 10.00 and 11.00 a.m. There is also a scheme whereby funeral services may be held in St. Matthew's. Schemes agreed by the PCC to open St. Matthew's for Sunday worship, Christenings and weddings are being drawn up and will be circulated as soon as possible – we must get things right.

In the mean time, we will continue with the very well received video services we've been offering on St. Matthew's Facebook page. I'm sure we all appreciate the time and thought given by those who have contributed sermons and prayers to those services, especially Tom who administers our church's Facebook page. In due time the PCC will ask for your opinion as to which services you would like to see continue in the future, after we get back to a more normal situation – whatever that normal turns out to be.

We believe in God and we believe in His son Jesus, who died and was resurrected for our salvation. By the blessing of God the Holy Spirit in our lives, we get the strength to support each other and continue our witness in these very difficult times.

Eddy Wilkinson

PS – (it's the first time I've done a PS to my letter) Thursday Lunch Club diners tell me they're eager to get back asap around the table in the church hall for a good meal, a good natter and a cup of powerful, freshly brewed coffee – it's a big miss. E.

Pentecost during Pandemic



Did you notice this on the front cover? - Thank you to our Crafty Church leaders Heather and Charlotte Boddy for the beautiful artwork that they produced and installed for us on the church yard railings for Pentecost, at the end of May. It let everyone know that the church is still open despite the building being closed at the time. They also produced the rainbow artwork back in April. Fantastic work.

Enjoying morning worship from France.

Who'd have thought that in 2020 we'd be enjoying a church service from St Catherine's church in Limeuil, Aquitaine, France at home? Who indeed?

It was in summer 2016, on one of our exploring days, while on holiday at the Dordogne region, we came across Limeuil, one of France's Plus Beau Villages (most beautiful villages). It's located at the confluence of the Dordogne & Vezere rivers, on the side of a hill. The village is still partly surrounded by its original fortified walls, and cobbled streets wind up between the little honey coloured houses. It's a stunning little place. At the top of the village we came across St Catherine's church, named after the patron saint of boat people. It has been used by the Chaplaincy of Aquitaine for the last 17 years. All of the services are Church of England forms of worship and are in English. Since finding this little gem we have been worshipping there, when in France.

They have congregations of around 50 most weeks and give a warm welcome to visitors. Because there is so little parking at the top of the village they run a taxi service every Sunday. You park at the bottom of the hill and a couple of the regular congregation operate the taxi system. Once a month they have a "bring and share" lunch after the service and everyone is welcome.

This year our holiday was cancelled, so we started to watch St Catherine's on line services, as well as our own church services. On the 7th June we would have been at St Catherine's, so we joined in their service. It was informative, inspiring



and filled with hope and love, such a joy to watch.

This coronavirus lockdown really has opened up services and God's word to more people and much further afield than we have been used to normally. This has proved to be a very good thing. No doubt in France, just as here, the services will be being watched by many more people than would ever be found in church on a normal Sunday.

As a footnote I read somewhere on line – The Devil said to God at the beginning of the lockdown, "I have closed all your churches" and God replied, "That's fine because I'm in every home now!"

Memories of the war and VE Day celebrations 1945 & 2020



As we reported in our previous magazine, this year on the 8th May was the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

Our own Joyce Dixon joined up in 1942, into the Women's Auxiliary Air Force and trained as a barrage balloon operator for three months in Cardington, Bedford. She was then sent to Yeovil in Somerset to protect Westland Aircraft Factory. Joyce retrained as a motor mechanic and was stationed at Stanmore, Middlesex. She made many friends. Sadly, while there, in 1944, she received a telegram to say that her dad had been killed at Herrington Colliery.



A chap there kept pestering Joyce to be a pen pal to his wife's brother, who was stationed in Italy. Joyce kept refusing as she had so many pen pals. But he pestered her so much to write to Tommy, she finally relented. After VE day and having worked so hard to push the Germans out of Italy, Tommy was allowed to return home, on leave. Joyce was then stationed in Sealand, Chester, so she travelled down to meet Tommy at a London Railway station. She found him standing next to a platform manager. They travelled to Dartford where she met his family. He asked her to marry him, she accepted and the next day they bought the engagement ring.

They travelled to see Joyce's mam (who had just lost Joyce's dad in the colliery accident), then Tommy had to return to Italy, where he was until he left the forces in August 1946. Joyce left the forces in November 1946.

Joyce has wonderful memories of the friends she made, and remembers the parades around the station on VE day, with floats all dressed up and celebrations continuing well into the night. She remembers one float with one of her friends in a tin bath and when it went around the



corners the water spilled over. They all partied in their uniforms as they had no civilian clothes, but Joyce remembers she had one dress. She remembers all her friends and that they all looked after each other.

It was while at Stanmore that Joyce came into contact with the Ralph Read Gang Show and as such she now has a claim to fame! She remembers the Cox twins joining them at a table and asking if she minded washing their collars as they had no access to laundry. This Joyce did. As a thanks they gave her a photo, which later on, when he became famous, she recognised as the familiar face of Dick Emery! The Cox twins went on to become Tweedle Dumb and Tweedle Dee in the film *Alice in Wonderland*.

This year on the 75th anniversary of VE Day, like many streets around the UK, Joyce's street had a VE Day party, practising social distancing. Her neighbours joined forces (if you pardon the pun), to give 95-year-old Joyce a special surprise and gifts. Joyce was delighted and thanked everyone for their kindness – it meant a lot to her.

Her neighbours are obviously very proud of Joyce, as are we, at church. We salute you Joyce!



Peace

*Peace is such a lovely word
It helps us to be calm*

*Peace is such a gentle word
Spoken in many a psalm*

*Peace rests amid the hurt and pain
Just waiting to emerge*

*Peace gets us on the path again
When we are on the verge*

*Peace is such a precious gift
It's there for all to find*

*Peace is Christ telling us
To leave our fears behind*

Psalm 29:11

*May the Lord give strength to his people!
May the Lord bless his people with peace!*

Jackie Graham



Orange, Almond & Olive oil Cake

INGREDIENTS

1 large orange
4 large eggs
zest of large lemon
160g caster sugar
175g ground almonds
100ml olive oil
2tsp baking powder

To drizzle

juice of large lemon
15g caster sugar

To serve - icing sugar

METHOD

1. Place the whole orange in a pan of water and bring to the boil. Simmer for about 40 - 45mins, until the orange is tender.
2. Remove from the pan and cool a little. Cut the fruit into quarters and remove any pips.
3. Put it all, (skin & pulp) into a food processor & blend to a paste.
4. Preheat the oven 180 degs or 160 for a fan oven.
5. Grease a 20cm spring form or loose bottomed cake tin & line the bottom with greaseproof paper.

6. Whisk the eggs, lemon zest and sugar. Add the olive oil & beat until light.
 7. Add the orange paste & stir, then fold in the ground almonds & baking powder.
 8. Pour the mix into the tin & bake for about 50 mins, until well risen & golden. The cake should be springy to touch.
 9. Leave the cake to cool in the tin & make the drizzle.
 10. Warm the sugar and lemon juice in a small pan, until the sugar has dissolved.
 11. Use a piece of uncooked spaghetti to make lots of holes all over the cooling cake & drizzle over the lemon syrup. (Use it all!)
 12. When cooled remove from the tin.
- ★ When ready to serve dust with icing sugar, and serve on its own or with whipped cream and/or orange segments.
 - ★ This cake is lovely & moist & tasty, with a real feel of sunshine & summer.
 - ★ It freezes really well. I usually cut it into pieces before freezing.

William Wilberforce

1759 - 1833

William Wilberforce was a British politician, philanthropist and a leader of the movement to abolish the slave trade.

He is remembered in the Church of England on 30th July.

You will have all seen the television coverage of both the terrible killing of George Floyd and the subsequent demonstrations across the world, hoping to get all people to recognise that "Black Lives Matter". Statues of people who were involved in the slave trade have been taken down and campaigns are afoot to have more removed. The abolition of the slave trade many, many years ago did not, by any means, bring equal rights for black people.

The British initially became involved in the slave trade during the 16th century. By 1783, the triangular route that took British-made goods to Africa to buy slaves, transported them to the West Indies, and then brought slave-grown products such as sugar, tobacco, and cotton to Britain, made up about 80 percent of Great Britain's foreign income. British ships dominated the slave trade, supplying French, Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese and British colonies, and in peak years carried forty thousand enslaved men, women and children across the Atlantic in horrific conditions. Of the estimated 11 million Africans transported into slavery, about 1.4 million died during the voyage.



Wilberforce worked hard to have this trade abolished. He was born at Kingston upon Hull in 1759 and after attending both Hull and Pocklington Grammar schools, he continued his education at St John's College Cambridge. He began his political career in 1780 when he became Independent MP for Hull and then in 1784 for Yorkshire. In 1785 he became an evangelical Christian, decided to remain in politics, where he could promote

Christianity and Christian ethics.

By 1787 Wilberforce had come into contact with a group of anti-slave trade activists and soon became one of the leading English abolitionists. He headed the parliamentary campaign against the British slave trade for 20 years, until the passing of the Slave Trade Act of 1807. After this act he supported the campaign for the complete abolition of slavery and continued to work for this, until he resigned from parliament, due to failing health. That campaign led to the Slavery Abolition Act 1833, which abolished slavery in most of the British Empire. He died 3 days after the act had successfully passed in parliament.

You may have watched the film "Amazing Grace" about Wilberforce. Some people think that he wrote that well known, beautiful hymn, but in fact it was written by the Rev John Newton. Newton himself had been involved with the slave trade, but after a religious conversion he took up the abolitionist cause.



"The bare necessities of life"

*Look for the bare necessities
The simple bare necessities
Forget about your worries and your strife*

*I mean the bare necessities
Old Mother Nature's recipes
That bring the bare necessities of life*

*And don't spend your time lookin' around
For something you want that can't be found
When you find out you can live without it
And go along not thinkin' about it
I'll tell you something true*

*The bare necessities of life will come to you
They'll come to you!*

Some extracts from a favourite song from a Disney film, but how true those words are for life, especially life during the coronavirus pandemic crisis. We have done without the shops and extra shopping days. We've done without buying clothes (that we often don't need), haircuts and styling, holidays, less driving around, less petrol, less frivolous purchases. And do you know we don't need them all or as many of them. They don't really matter. In fact people doing without some of the so called essentials, things we think we cannot live without.....but obviously can, has improved the planet. Look how nature has thrived these past months. Mountains that have not been seen from a distance for

decades because of air pollution can now be seen. Many, many things that hopefully we'll think carefully about in the future.

The things that really matter are family and friends. We've been deprived of time with both and have had to telephone or facetime, or speak in the garden at distance. Grandparents have missed hugs from grandchildren. The temporary loss of these things have made us realise much more how precious these simple things are – they really are the bare necessities of life! And of course our belief in God is a bare necessity to many of us and has helped us through these difficult times.

Wild Flower Garden

We've had some interesting and very pretty flowers making an appearance in our wild flower garden. They were cut back inadvertently when the grass was trimmed, but more seeds have been scattered, and they are making a comeback already. A pretty sign has been erected, and a word has been had with the gardeners who keep our churchyard neat and tidy, so we should see little visitors checking it out soon. It looks as though we may have bees making their home within the churchyard wall – they have been coming and going between the bricks. Have we created a 'desirable residence' for them with our wild flowers?

Our next project to help our insect friends is in hand, more about that later.

Jacqui Harriman



RON'S VE DAY



Ron Brewis, a member of our church family and quiz master has shared his VE Day memories with us.

At that time and during all of WW2 I was living in the colliery village of Pelton Fell, which was a very close knit community. The house where I lived was in White Hill Crescent, which was one of the many houses surrounding a large green. Everyone knew each other and after the announcement on the wireless by Winston Churchill, we all got together to build a huge bonfire on the green, with an effigy of Hitler sitting on its peak!

That evening the fire was ignited and was attended by everyone who lived in the Crescent, including the old and infirm, who were helped out and seated. I have never experienced such joy and happiness by all. Faces beaming with huge smiles, many tears of happiness and everyone hugging each other. No more nightly air raids or air-raid shelters! Then someone with an accordion started to play, "There'll always be an England" This started more

singing and dancing, which seemed to go on forever. The fire continued to burn, being fed by numerous hated "black-out" blinds from many households. I lost time of how long these celebrations went on for, but I do remember that when it ended there was silence, as we remembered the young men and women from the village who would not be returning but had made this night possible. God bless them all.



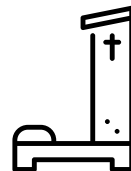
Newbottle Heroes Project.

The YouTube version of our Newbottle Heroes project. Commemorating this year the 80th anniversary of the Battle of Britain, the 75th anniversary of VE Day and VJ Day and the brave souls who did their duty during World War 1 and World War 2 from the area of Newbottle. This project was created by the learners of the Digital Inclusion project funded by the Coalfield Area Committee and delivered by Springboard.

Click the icon to view this on YouTube



News From The Pews



On 23rd of March when Lockdown was announced and the church building had to be closed, we wondered how we were going to keep our regular congregation together while we were unable to meet. As a result we decided to have a regular news email circulated around folks with information, hymns and history, prayer, thought, meditation and other things of interest including quizzes. In addition it was to be a good tool for keeping people up to date with our online Facebook services. After a bit of thought and people's ideas we came up with News from the Pews and we started with about sixteen people. This rose to twenty nine as people opted in.

Our Facebook services and Thought and Prayer times have been viewed by an average of 130 people, with the exception of our children's Easter service which was viewed by just over 700, but it was Easter!!

As we prepare for our church reopening for services, Eddy has to make some minor amendments to two documents detailing how St. Matthew's will open for Sunday worship. Once the amendments have been made he will circulate to PCC members for their approval. So basically we should be open for worship this coming Sunday (19th July) morning if the PCC give their approval for the scheme Eddy has drawn up.

We don't know what will be required of News from the Pews in the coming weeks or months but hopefully our Facebook services and other items may continue in some form or other, as they loosely in the words of that old lager advertisement "refresh the people that normal services cannot reach".

Please visit our website and Facebook page for any updates.

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BOOKING ESSENTIAL

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Notices & Information

FABRIC FUND

In loving memory of Mum,
Elizabeth(Betty) Strafford, sister Janice
Nordstrum, Aunt Alice Chrisp and
grandparents, Lena & Frank Chrisp.
Kathleen Allen

In remembrance of Ron Maxwell on his
birthday, 9th April. From loving wife Rita

FLOWER ARRANGING ROTA

No flower arranging in church due
to closure during pandemic. We will
commence flower arranging as soon as it
is safe to do so.

SANCTUARY GUILD DONATIONS

Anonymous donation for flowers

Donation towards Easter Flowers

Donation from Dorothy Beaumont in
memory of Mam and Dad

Donation for Easter Flowers

In memory of Kim Harriman on his
Birthday from John,Amy,Coben and Jools

In memory of loved ones from the
Knowlson Family

In memory of a dear Dad and Grandad on
his Birthday

Fond memories of Brian Brett Smith
passed away peacefully in Spain
remembered with love from Carole Brian
and Family

Precious memories of Jack and Peg
Smith and Ann and George Davies loved
always from Carole Brian and Family



Church Records

Many people from all
over the world contact St.
Matthew's wishing to access
records held by the church relating to their family
and friends history.

At St. Matthew's we hold a burials register listing
burials in the churchyard dating from November
1945 to the present time. All previous registers
are held in a controlled environment in the
"County Records Office" at Durham County Hall.

There are over 5,000 people buried in St.
Matthew's churchyard. Where there are
headstones it is possible to identify where people
are buried. However, many graves do not have
headstones or any other form of grave marker.

SUNNISIDE METHODIST CHURCH

Donations to Flower Fund:

In loving memory of Una Shearer, who died
on the 13th February last year, and greatly
missed by husband Brian and nephew and
nieces Alan and Joan, Carolyn and Ray.

Loving memories of our Dads and our
friend Una on their anniversaries. From
Bill and Hilda

Birthday memories of Margaret, a dear
Sister and Aunt, from Jean, Ron and
Family

LADIES FELLOWSHIP TURNS 60

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the
Ladies Fellowship meeting at Sunnyside
Methodist Church. The meeting was
formed in the Spring of 1960 by a group
of younger women and was known as the
"Young Wives Meeting". Later, the name
was changed to "Ladies Fellowship".
The group meets fortnightly on Tuesday
afternoons at 2.00 p.m. with a short break
in the summer.

This special anniversary was celebrated
with a service in the church on Sunday 8th
March, led by Rev. Sue Wigham. After the
service, the congregation enjoyed tea and
cake.

We wish the Ladies Fellowship a "Happy
60th Birthday".




Philadelphia Cricket & Community Club

Chairman Malcolm Pratt Tel: 0191 3890484

Clubhouse Tel: 0191 5841348

Manager Paul Thompson Tel: 0779 0094 116



We have cancelled the festival due to take place in June but will be looking into the possibility of rearranging it for sometime later in the year, depending on circumstances.

FIREWORKS DISPLAY

We are hopeful that the Fireworks Display will go ahead on Saturday 7th November but again this depends on developments in the coming months.

Looking to Party

We continue to take bookings for our function room which will re-open when the government advise it is safe to do so.



WEBSITE

We have a new website which is regularly updated and you may like to keep checking for news.

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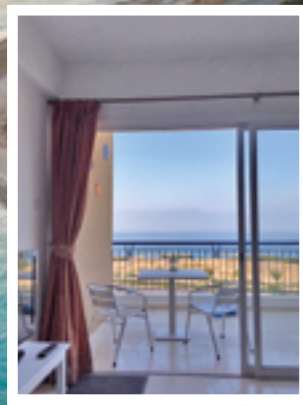
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reflections and prayers

St. Matthew's Church & Community Hall

...part of the local community spirit

Weekly Timetable

DAY	TIME	CLUB
Monday	10.30am-11.30am	Tiny Talk (Sarah)
Monday	1.00pm-2.30pm	Computer Skills (John)
Monday	6.30pm-8.30pm	Judo (Brian)
Tuesday	9.30am-12.00noon	
Tuesday	8.00pm-9.00pm	St. Andrew's Choir
Wednesday	10.30am-1.30pm	Lunch Club
Thursday	6.00pm-7.30pm	Karate (Ed)
Friday	10.10am to 11am	Zumba Gold (Janet)
Sunday	5.30pm-6.30pm	Karate (Ed)

CLOSED DUE TO COVID-19

For all information on St. Matthew's Church and the Church Hall

www.stmatthewsnewbottle.org

We're on Facebook
St. Matthew's Church, Newbottle

