


St. Matthew's Church Newbottle

November - December 2018

*Wishing you a
Happy Christmas*



*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

8.00 am Holy Communion

(1st Sunday in the month)

9.45 am Family Worship-Holy

Communion & Sunday School

6.00 pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday

9.30 am Holy Communion

Prayer Group

1st Thursday in month, 7-8pm

Church Open

Tuesday 10-11am

Wednesday 10.15-11.15am

Mother's Union

Wednesday 2pm Lady Chapel in Church

Church Hall

Church Hall Bookings by Email:

stmatthewshallbookings@gmail.com

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From Our Registers:

Baptisms:	16th September	Jennifer Banks
	7th October	McKenzie Robert Coulthard
		Leah Jane Coulthard
		Georgia Emily Parkin
	14th October	Daisy-May Marion Knight
	28th October	Jack Christopher Izon.
Weddings:	12th September	Liam Robert Tindale & Zoe Lucy Young
Wedding Blessing:	10th October	Anthony & Diane Bliss
Funerals:	25th September	Jean Johnson
	27th September	Lee Atwill
Burial of Ashes:	6th September	Jean Lynn

CHURCHWARDENS' Chat

Unfortunately, due to our Vicar Eddy being ill at the moment, we have to replace the usual Vicar's Voice with Churchwardens' Chat. I'm sure you would all, along with us, like to send Eddy our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Yes, it's only November but this is the Christmas issue. The Christmas period is upon us once again and we seem to start preparing earlier and earlier every year. The list of things to do appears to be endless. There is food shopping and shopping for gifts. By the time Christmas Eve comes around, we feel like we never want to see inside another shop or supermarket again. Well at least until Boxing Day or the day after. There's decorating the house, putting the Christmas tree up, decorating it and displaying our Christmas cards. Then there's all the preparation for our families and friends. We have the pleasant job of buying and wrapping gifts to give to people. Then there is the jostling in the crowds, in the shopping malls, while listening to choirs or piped Christmas music. We have the long waits when trying to get a car parking space. While all this is going on we find we can be bad-tempered because we've had a busy day at work or things haven't gone the way we'd hoped, or the shops were out of something we simply must have. At Christmas the shops are only closed for a couple of days, but we shop as if there was going to be nothing left for weeks.

Does this sound familiar? Is there any wonder why we might think, "I'll be glad when it's all over".

But beyond the exhaustion, beyond the glitter, beyond the advertising, beyond the treadmill, there is something wonderful, something exciting, something very real. It is something, that at this time of year, we tend to look at and watch just as an item of enjoyment. It is the story and the celebration

of the birth of Jesus. It is a story that changes lives. The miracle of Jesus was foretold in the Old Testament, culminating with the birth of a baby boy, a baby born to be saviour of the world.

Over the next weeks we will be busy, caught up in all the preparations and celebrations of the Christmas period. We will see and hear the nativity story, the Christmas story, probably a number of times.

Let us pray that during these coming weeks, right up to Christmas that we do not lose sight of the truly wonderful miracle that happened, and that wonderful gift which was given to us by God, the gift of Jesus Christ, saviour of the world. As the Rev Stuart Bain stated in the recent Vibe magazine, the message of Christmas is never over, it is there for us every day of our lives. The cry of the baby lying in the manger is the cry of God's love reaching out to us, saying, "You are loved and you are welcome". And yes in the words of that well known song, love does change everything!

A Christmas card will be delivered to you shortly. Inside, apart from our Christmas greetings to you, is a list of services: Christingle, Carols by Candlelight, Carols around the Christmas Tree, to name but three. Please do come along and spend time with us, you are assured a great time and a break from the hectic Christmas preparations. The winter days and nights may be cold, but you are guaranteed a really warm welcome. You may even meet old friends but you are sure to find some new friends.

Merry Christmas to you all from everyone at St Matthew's and may love, joy and peace abound in your lives this Christmas and throughout the year.

Joy and Tom

Christenings at St. Matthew's Church



Jennifer Banks - 16th September



Georgia Emily Parkin 7th October



Daisy-May Marion Knight - 14th October



Jack Christopher Izon - 28th October



CAROLS AROUND THE TREE

COME & JOIN US DECEMBER 18TH 7PM

Always a great, uplifting fun night, filled with lovely carols, laughter, friendship, sherry, mince pies & other refreshments.



Christmas Services at St. Matthew's Church



Sunday 9th December	Parish Eucharist	9.45am
	Evening Prayer	6.00pm
Sunday 16th December	Parish Eucharist	9.45am
	Carols by Candlelight	6.00pm
Tuesday 18th December	Carols around the Tree	7.00pm
Sunday 23rd December	Parish Eucharist	9.45am
Monday 24th December	Christmas Eve with Christingle	6.00pm
Tuesday 25th December	Parish Eucharist	9.45am
Sunday 30th December	Parish Eucharist	9.45am

All dates are correct at the time of print. Times and dates could be subject to change, so please check www.stmatthewsnewbottle.org & St Matthew's Facebook page for changes.





Apple, caramel & pecan pies

the alternative to Christmas mince pies – perfect if you don't like mince pies

For the pastry

200g plain flour
100g cold unsalted butter, cubed
3tbsp cold water
(or use ready made shortcrust pastry)

For the filling

2 cooking apples
30g cranberries
60g pecans
40g + 3tbsp golden caster sugar
1 tbsp lemon juice
½tsp ground cinnamon
Pinch of nutmeg
1 beaten egg & a little milk

1. Place the flour & butter in the processor, until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Then add the cold water & blend until the mixture forms a dough ball. Place in the fridge for at least half an hour.
2. Preheat the oven to 190°C/375°F/ Gas Mark 5.
3. Grease 2 bun trays.
4. In a frying pan, toast the pecans over a medium heat for a few minutes then place on a plate. In the same pan, spread the 3tbsp of golden caster sugar over the pan. The sugar will caramelise – do not stir, do not turn up the heat! Wait until nearly all the sugar crystals have gone then tip the pan gently to swirl the caramel around. Toss the pecans in the caramel to cover. Tip back onto the plate & allow to cool.
5. Peel the apples, quarter & remove the core. Place these and the caramelised pecans in the food processor. Pulse until it's blended – fine or chunky.
6. Stir in the remaining sugar, lemon juice, cinnamon and nutmeg.
7. Roll out the pastry and cut out 18 circles a bit larger than the holes of your bun tray & smaller ones for the tops.
8. Spoon about a teaspoonful of filling into each & top with the final pastry piece. Brush with the egg milk wash.
9. Bake for 20-25 minutes until the tops are golden.
10. Dust with icing sugar, serve & enjoy!



WE ARE
MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT



Thanks go to Anne Martin again this year for hosting the marvellous Macmillan Cancer Support event of "The World's Biggest Coffee Morning" at her home on Friday 28th September. An amazing variety of food was on offer to accompany a beverage, which everyone really enjoyed, and an amazing £500 was raised for this very worthy cause.



St. Matthew's Shoebox Success!

This year we have received a fantastic total of 52 shoeboxes for the Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child" appeal. An amazing show of generosity and support for those less fortunate than ourselves, by sharing God's love with children in need around the world. It's also great that the appeal has harnessed technology these days, so that if you pay online for the distribution of your shoebox, you can choose to be informed by email as to where your shoebox finally ends up. Last Christmas, some of our shoeboxes from St. Matthew's brought good news and great joy to children in Romania! Nationally, a total of 678,942 children, in Eastern Europe, Africa, Central Asia and the Middle East, received a gift to remember.

*'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them,
for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these'
Matthew 19:14 (New International Version)*



Our thanks go to Pat French
for organising this appeal year on year.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY IN NEWBOTTLE AND OUR LOCAL SERVICEMEN

Photo by Edward Nicholl



As the custodians of Remembrance, The Royal British Legion calls on the nation to unite in commemorating Remembrance Sunday at the 2018 Cenotaph Service and Parade in Whitehall on 11 November. At churches up and down the land there were special services where we remember those, with the well known words from Robert Laurence Binyon's poem,

*"They shall grow not old, as we
that are left grow old:*

*Age shall not weary them, nor
the years condemn.*

*At the going down of the sun
and in the morning*

We will remember them."

Poignant words to ponder on this year, 100 years since the end of the 1st World War.

Recently a Mr Edward Nicholl, visited Newbottle church, to take photos of our 1st World War memorial, as there are the names of four Yorkshire Regiment soldiers, recorded on it. It was good to find out more details about these 4 young men. It makes it even more poignant, real and personal. Perhaps we should research all the names on our memorial.

Private William Bennett 44928 8th Battalion of the Yorkshire Regiment. He was the son of William and Elizabeth Bennett of 8 Brompton Terrace, Philadelphia. He was killed on 7th June 1918, aged 20. He is buried in Montecchio Precalcino Communal Cemetery extension, Italy.

Private Jacob Dowell 13513 8th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment. He was the son of John George and Mary Dowell of 5 Chapel Row, Philadelphia. He was killed on 4th October 1916, aged 20. He was buried at Becourt Military Cemetery, Somme France.

Private David Elliott 17255 6th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment. He was the son of Mary Jane Elliott, of 1 High Pottery Yard, Newbottle. He was killed on 15th September 1916, aged 19. He is buried at Lonsdale Cemetery, Authuille Somme, France

Sergeant Arthur James Winyard Lamb 14248 8th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment. He was the son of Mr and Mrs A J Lamb of 6 Garden Street, Newbottle. He was killed 28th October, 1918, aged 26. He is buried at Giavera British Cemetery, Arcade Italy.

We will remember them.

New Councillor Surgery in Newbottle

I'd like to start by firstly saying 'thank you' to the people of the Copt Hill Ward for electing me in May. It is a great honour to represent Newbottle and it's people, and I look forward to the next four years.

Myself and our local Labour team are holding regular ward surgeries across our ward. We hold a surgery every first Saturday of the month, excluding August, upstairs in Houghton Library from 10am until 11am.

We will be in Newbottle at St. Matthew's Church Hall on the following dates:

26th January 2019

27th July 2019

19th October 2019

Houghton and Copt Hill Councillors will be at both Newbottle and Houghton surgeries. These surgeries are on from 10am until 11am. Please pop along for a chat over any issues that you may have.



Councillor Jack Cunningham

HAVE

YOUR

SAY

Wifi Alive and Kicking!

After months of waiting, we finally have Wifi up and running at the church hall. This is good news for any present church hall users and for future bookings. So if you're at a party, a meeting, or a function, you'll be able to access free Wifi while in the main hall or Jubilee Room. All the more reason to book this well serviced venue.

So, even if you don't regularly take part in one of the clubs or groups, feel free to drop in and try the Wifi out at our monthly coffee morning held on the first Saturday each month. Or you can pop in on a Thursday morning to browse through our many books. Happy surfing everyone.

HARVEST VEGETABLE – I MEAN HARVEST FESTIVAL

It was a lovely service for our Harvest on 23rd September. The church looked beautiful and you could smell the vegetables, especially the leeks and fennel. The flower displays were charming and colour coordinated with autumn, bright and vibrant. It was a normal communion service with a talk about harvest and Water Aid, our chosen charity for the proceeds of the harvest. The big screen was used to show harvest photos and a short film of the work of Water Aid. Tom started off by eating a chocolate digestive and showing, on screen, the various ingredients being grown, all of which are dependent on water. He pointed out how much we take biscuits for granted (a luxury food item) and how much choice there is in the supermarkets, but how little there is to eat in some parts of the world. In some places, because of a lack of water, there are failed harvests and a lack of even the most basic foods. Biscuits are not on the menu at all!

This year Water Aid is using Harvest Appeals to fund the building of wells in Burkina Faso. The film showed a project in Sablogo that has provided the villages with a close and clean supply of water. This has been invaluable to the people as they now don't have to walk

great distances to get their water and they can wash, cook and drink safe water, as well as being able to irrigate their fields, allowing them to grow many crops. This means they have more food and don't have to rely on other people giving them food. It provides independence.

We were reminded that water is one of the basic necessities of life, perhaps the most important and how we often take it for granted in this country. As Christians, God expects us to share what we have with others. We used our harvest fruit and veg to produce broth for our harvest supper, and to sell in our annual Harvest auction. We were also reminded that, in spiritual terms, Jesus is the water of life. We know we need water to live, but we also need Jesus to refresh and sustain our spiritual lives. Jesus adds another dimension to our lives and enriches and supports us along the way.



Broth and Stottie Night

In support of
WaterAid



On the Monday night following the Harvest Festival, we had our annual broth and stottie night at the church hall. Several church members spent all morning chopping a massive variety of vegetables for the broth and getting them, along with gammon, pulses and peas on to the hob to cook slowly. The result was a tasty, warming broth, just like our mothers used to make. It was served with proper stotties, not the large buns or rolls as they say in the south. While devouring this mouth-watering feast, we all enjoyed good banter.

After the meal Malcolm and Tom did their usual fruit and veg auction. There was much fun and joking as people made their bids. One or two people were so determined to get a particular item they kept the bidding going higher and higher, even though someone pointed out that you could get them cheaper at Lidl (there are also other good supermarkets available). All this was for a good cause, of course! Someone said they were taking telephone bids, just like the antique programmes "Cash in the attic" and "Bargain Hunt"! All good fun!

A great night was had by all and £220 was made for Water Aid, to fund the building of wells in Burkino Faso. This will enable people to have access to a close and clean supply of water for their farming, drinking, washing, cleaning and cooking.

A huge thanks to all who supported this worthy cause and special thanks to Anne, Mary, and Bel who prepared, cooked and served the delicious broth. Girls it was a triumph!





Philadelphia Cricket & Community Club



Looking to Party

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*Or if you fancy just enjoying a drink,
then visit our superb lounge bar.*

Festive Afternoon Tea

Saturday 5th January 2019

St. Matthew's Church Hall

2.00pm

£5.00
each

*Come along for a post Christmas get
together, to catchup with friends*



Women's Fellowship

On Wednesday, 31st October Jean Turnbull came to St. Matthew's and gave us a very interesting talk about the Fabergé eggs. Last year whilst taking a cruise, Jean had visited Russia and with others had been escorted to a museum to see the Fabergé eggs, and other works of art. Jean gave us a lot of information, showing us many photographs on her laptop. Carl Fabergé was the son of Gusto Fabergé. Carl worked in Florence and Paris, later moving to St. Petersburg where he had the biggest jewellery shop in town. This attracted the attention of the Tsar and he was appointed the Royal Jeweller. Carl's reputation grew outside Russia and his business extended into Europe. When the Russian revolution began he hurriedly left Russia, dying two years later. His house was burnt to the ground and all his important

documents were lost. The revolutionists, being short of money, sold the jewelled eggs and other works of art, many of them going to America. Later a Russian millionaire saw a notice advertising the sale of a collection of eggs and other items. He bought that entire collection as well as others from elsewhere. The millionaire then bought a palace which had been used as a hospital, renovated it magnificently and placed the collection there. The people of Russia and of the world are now able to enjoy seeing these beautiful eggs and other works of art, heavily encrusted with precious jewels. Jean was unable to resist the temptation and bought a copy of one of the eggs which she brought to the meeting. We all had a wonderful evening.



Gratitude for Groundwork

Julia Bentley of Groundwork invited some of us from St. Matthew's to a morning's outing at a garden centre at Easington Lane. Julia organised for us to be collected from our homes in the Coalfield area and taken to the garden centre. 44 people have participated in this project. Everyone had an enjoyable time, chatting and getting to know one another. One of the ladies said how much she had enjoyed listening and talking. She said she often feels lonely. The garden centre was very generous with us, each of us leaving with a gift of plants. Julia was extremely busy as she collected each person from their home and positioned them in the mini-coach. Julia's colleagues, the driver, a male helper with wheelchairs and lift were also kind and helpful. Our morning ended with tea/coffee and delicious cake at the Hut, Moorsley. We appreciated and enjoyed our Groundwork morning very much.

Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

We again carried our Mothers' Union banner when some of us from St. Matthew's attended the deanery festival service at Easington Lane church on 3rd September. It was an enjoyable service and it was good to meet and chat with members from the other deanery churches whilst having a cup of tea and biscuits. Some of us also enjoyed listening to a talented singer at the Overseas Night held on Tuesday 25th September. Entry, Raffle and Bring and Buy money was sent to an area overseas where it is much needed.

TIME TO LEVEL UP!

Coalfields Community Connected

Would you like to create your own family tree?

Would you like help with your universal credit application?

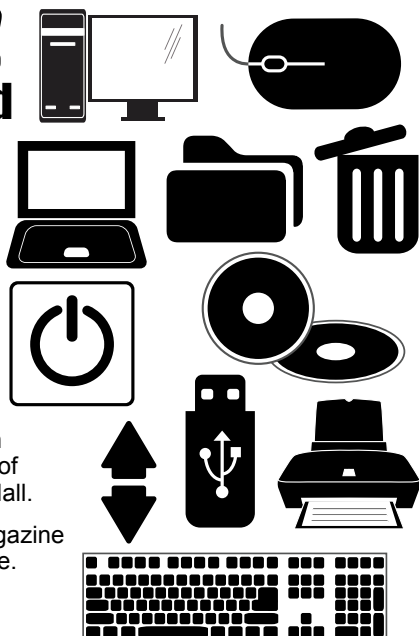
Would you like help to improve your ipad or tablet skills?

Would you like to know how to turn your black & white photos into colour ones?

John Walls from Springboard Hetton Hub is looking to run several completely free courses and support for a range of computer skills at St Matthew's Church and Community Hall.

Once days and times are sorted we'll advertise in the magazine and on our St Matthew's church website & Facebook page.

Come and use this amazing free resource.



Sunnyside Methodist Church

Donations to Flower Fund

In memory of a dear Mam and Dad, Bill and Peggy Reed at Christmas Time. From Kathleen and Family

Treasured memories of family and friends, with love from Ron and Jean.

In memory of all loved ones, from Keith and Family

Notices & Information

FLOWER ARRANGING ROTA

Mrs Lydiatt Mrs Towers Mrs French Mrs Wilson Mrs Martin

Flower preparation at 10.00am on the following

Friday November 2nd 9th 16th 23rd 30th

No flowers in church for the season of Advent

All Christmas flowers to be arranged as usual

SANCTUARY GUILD DONATIONS

Anonymous donation for flowers

Harvest Flowers donation

Donation in memory of Jenny Simpson

In memory of Mam and Dad from Dorothy

Anonymous donation for flowers

CHURCH HALL RESTORATION

FABRIC FUND

Anonymous Donation

Christmas memories of our dear parents and all loved ones. From Margaret & Brian Gould

Shiney Row Male Voice Choir
Christmas Concert.



Saturday December 15th
3.00pm
at St. Matthew's Church

SR
MVC

Tickets £7
on the door



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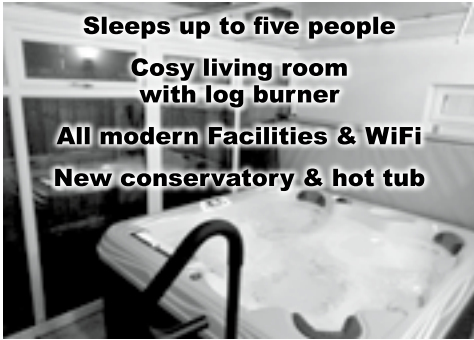
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Lunch

Club
New Members
Welcome

**Thursdays 12.30 - 1.30pm
at the Church Hall**

Contact: Malcolm 0191 5844995



St. Matthew's Church Newbottle



Christmas Fayre

Saturday 24th November

Church Hall 2.00pm

St. Matthew's Church & Community Hall

...part of the local community spirit

Weekly Timetable

Monday	6.30pm-8.30pm	Judo (Brian)
Tuesday	9.30am-12.00noon	Arts & Crafts Club (Kathleen)
Tuesday		Rainbows/Brownies/Guides (Tracy)
Wednesday	1.30pm-2.30pm	Time For Rhyme
Wednesday	6.00pm-7.30pm	Karate (Ed)
Thursday	9.30am-10.30am	Coffee Morning
Thursday	10.30am-11.15am	Sit and Be Fit
Thursday	12.30pm-1.30pm	Lunch Club
Friday	6.00pm-7.30pm	Karate (Ed)
Sunday	5.30pm-6.30pm	Karate (Ed)

Would you like to book the Church Hall for a party or club meeting?
Contact Steven or Julie by Email: stmatthewshallbookings@gmail.com

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

www.stmatthewsnewbottle.org

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

