

# **St. Matthew's Church Newbottle**

*May - June 2018*



***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

### St Matthew's Church Clergy

#### Vicar

Rev. Edward Wilkinson.  
Tel: 0191 584 3244  
Email:  
wilkinson.edward.rev@gmail.com

#### Churchwardens and Diocesan Readers:

##### Tommy Dick

32 Atherton Drive, Chilton Moor.  
Tel. 0191 385 4624

##### Malcolm Adamson

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##### Joe Osman

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The church hall management committee, with the support of the church council, are continuing to improve the church hall building and its facilities. We feel it is important that the local community has somewhere to meet which is central, clean and safe, and our church hall fits the bill very nicely. Over the past few months or so, a number of new and different groups have asked if they can start to meet in the hall and three have, which is absolutely great. We now have a Karate group, a children's Relaxation group and a baby "Time for Rhyme" group. We're always happy to have people come along and ask about hiring the hall and if we can help we will. Obviously time slots are a limitation and there is more information on the parish website at [www.stmatthewsnewbottle.org](http://www.stmatthewsnewbottle.org).

Our latest hall improvement is under-stage storage, which involves four large drawers on heavy duty wheels being drawn out from under the stage, which is a large area. After the availability of time slots, storage is the second most important consideration when we come to decide whether or not we can help a group to establish itself in our church hall. There's no point in saying yes to a group if there's nowhere for them to put their "Stuff", it just causes chaos and frustration.

Things work out for the best if groups carefully establish what "Stuff" is essential to their activities and what is non-essential. In other words, sometimes we might have to let go of things which we feel "Could come in handy one day" or are "Too good to throw out". This is often a very difficult process. Letting go of things is not easy but we have a responsibility to leave room or make room for those who want to join us and invite them to be responsible in the same way.

One of the foundations of church life we at St. Matthew's keep reminding ourselves of is that "The Church is the only organisation or institution in the local community or in wider society, which exists for the benefit of non-members". Jesus sent his disciples out to invite all people to join the Church and to make room in the fellowship for those folk who responded positively. We might know its right to make space for newcomers and to adapt ourselves accordingly but we can easily be tempted to protect what we've got. That goes for life in the Church and in the church hall and in wider society for that matter.

I've had a number of very complimentary remarks made to me about both the Church and the church hall over the last few months or so. Quite a lot of visitors and those who've recently joined us say something along the lines of "I didn't realise it was like this in here, it's so nice. It's warm and friendly and the coffee's great". My reply is usually along the lines of "Thank you for saying so, what you see is an expression of the Christian Faith of those who meet at St. Matthew's church".

Eddy Wilkinson.

## From Our Registers

Baptisms:	7th March	Camille Gail Bailey.
	1st April "Easter Day"	Robbie Alexander Johnson-Skelton.
	15th April	Lauren Marsden.
		Archie James Divers.
	29th April	Odin Ralph Hess.
		Katie Elizabeth Hunter.
Funeral:	19th April	Derek Clive Brewis.
Burial of Ashes:	25th April	Joan Murray.



# Christenings at St. Matthew's



Camille Gail Bailey - 7th March



Odin Ralph Hess - 29th April



Katie Elizabeth Hunter - 29th April

# BIG DRAWERS



The latest improvement at the church hall, to make it better for groups using it, is the provision of huge drawers underneath the stage for storage. These have been built by Dean Wilkinson and run on wheels to make them easy to access. The hall looks really good inside and with the new toilet facilities and super kitchen it is a great place for groups and for private hire for such things as children's parties.



# Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

The Mothers' Union Deanery Lady Day service was held at St Matthew's on Tuesday 10 April, and was conducted by our vicar. Our banner was carried along with those from other churches in the deanery, and we enjoyed meeting other members and catching up with news over cups of tea and biscuits.







An excellent Sit and B Fit class is held at St Matthew's Church Hall on Thursday mornings at 10.30. Attendance averages 12, and it is open to those of any age. Everyone enjoys the one-hour chair-based exercises with a short break at half time. Carol Wallace-Brown runs the class. Using interesting apparatus and to music she instructs and demonstrates the use of all muscles very well. Everyone then copies her. Carol is very pleasant and understanding of a person's problems. Knowing whether someone has arthritis, backache or recovering from a stroke Sit and B Fit exercises are adapted to meet the needs of those people. Feedback has indicated that these exercises have been quite therapeutic, helping people to

feel better. They have also helped with co-ordination, and people with mobility problems have said they can see much improvement. The companionship and friendship is much enjoyed, and if members wish and have time cups of tea/coffee with cake and biscuits follow the exercises. Some members even stay for lunch with the luncheon club. Anyone interested and wishing to join the class can contact Carol on 0191 5100131 or email warrenjoy32@outlook.com.



The wooden crosses blessed during our Easter Day service were given to our church by Mr Jim Roberts, who lives in Fatfield. We got Jim's number after his daughter joined us for our Carols around the Christmas tree and kindly brought one of the crosses as a gift. The crosses are all individually handmade and were produced from three different types of scrap wood. Each cross represents us, the people of the world. Some of the crosses are different colours some are larger, some smaller, some are fat and some are thin. Each cross is made as an act of faith and tell us that God loves each and every one of us. The 12 burn marks around each cross represent the 12 Apostles of Jesus – the cross itself reminds us of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Jim's crosses can be found around the country and the world and as far afield as Greece, Australia and New Zealand. We would like to thank Jim for the beautiful crosses. Everyone who took one was delighted, as it was a reminder of God's love for each and every one of us.

Thank you once again Jim for your skill and kindness.

## Our Apprentices learn the ropes and roast the beans

We've all watched "The Apprentice" and had our say over who should have won each task. It's always interesting to see how the apprentices approach each task and whether they are successful or not. Well here at St. Matthew's we've got our own, mini apprentices. They are members of our Crafty Church who enjoy doing a different craft experience every week as well as learning about Jesus. However, as well as this they also have the chance to help out and learn other skills. They sometimes do the collection, Claudia and Emelia help with the main church welcome and on Mothers' Day they gave out the daffodils. At the moment one member, Tiffany is wanting to, "learn the ropes", to act as apprentice to our bell ringer and another two, Joe and Claudia are apprentice baristas, learning the art of the coffee machine and service. In fact these two recently received their Barista certificates.



# NEWBOTTLE'S OLDBOTTLES'

A big thank you to the volunteers who gathered in their droves on a sunny Sunday 25th March to pick litter that had accumulated along the edges of Staddon Way and the Newbottle Wood Community Forest.

In just two hours more than sixty bags of old glass bottles, plastic, metal and other discarded willy-nilly items were removed from the environment, bagged and stockpiled for removal by the Council.

Young children's involvement was actively encouraged so that the Adults of the Future could see first-hand that items casually

thrown away do not disappear, but build up to be a scar on our lovely landscape causing potential for harm to our wildlife that has no voice.

It is planned to hold another, bigger, litter pick during the summer holidays. Participants aged from 8 to 80 found the litter pick rewardingly therapeutic. This new initiative will benefit the woodland wildlife so watch out for further details on the Newbottle Action Group Facebook page. Everyone is welcome and Gloves, Litter Pincers and Refuse Bags will be provided.



## Women's Fellowship

Anthony Gonzalez came to our meeting from Age UK on Wednesday 18 April. He brought with him and gave to members many pamphlets containing advice on how older people may be helped financially and socially. It is always ready to help and advise when people approach with difficulties. We knew little of some of the things Anthony talked about and he needed to answer many questions. We are fortunate to have Age UK Sunderland to provide us with a very wide range of support and services. An amazing number of classes is available from Line Dancing to Scrabble. Anthony had a lot to say about the Essence Service which helps people in the early stages of dementia as well as to provide help to their carers. There is always someone to talk to at Essence. We very much appreciated Anthony's visit.

# COFFEE Morning

## 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

10.00AM - 12NOON

## JUBILEE ROOM AT THE BACK OF THE HALL

Take  
a BREAK



# Foot Washing

at Newbottle Primary Academy

We all know how smelly our feet can be, especially in summer when wearing sandals. This is not to say there's a problem with dirty or smelly feet at Newbottle school. The foot washing, which did actually take place, was to re-enact Jesus' washing of the disciples' feet at the last supper and to explain the significance of it.

On the Tuesday of the school's service the forecast was for heavy rain, so it was decided to have the annual Easter service at Newbottle school, rather than at St Matthew's.

After a rousing few songs, beautifully sung by the children, Eddy explained to the children why the disciples came together at the Feast of the Passover. Then he explained how people tended to lie down to eat and so their feet would be near to the person next to them. Because their feet would be dirty and probably smelly, a servant would usually wash them. Jesus did this himself to show that he came to serve and was willing to serve his followers in a lowly human task. He wanted the disciples to be willing to perform such tasks for others, in the future.

Before the service the children had been given 4 different shaped crosses to decorate with their fingerprints. They all looked gorgeous and were taken up to Newbottle St Matthew's after the children's service and displayed in the church for the Easter services.

Tom explained to the children that every finger print and every child is different, but that everyone is important to God and God loves us all.

After singing, "When I think about the cross", some of the children read out their prayers, expressing their hopes for themselves and their thankfulness for their families, homes and friends.

Next came the "Chocolate song", followed by the KS2 choir singing "Risen" and all the children in the school raising their palm crosses in the air to Hosanna. This was quite a sight to behold! The final song, loved by all, was "Easter Jubilation" and this went off with a bang. Then it was brektime and instead of 400 children making their way back to school, they simply had to go out on to the yard, while we made our way back up to church, in the rain!



# Finger paint crosses by Newbottle Primary



Key Stage 1



Key Stage 1



Years 3 & 4



Years 5 & 6



# Philadelphia Cricket & Community Club

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**13-19 MAY**



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MOVE — PLAY — STRETCH — FEEL — BREATHE — BELIEVE — RELAX

## Sunnyside Methodist Church

Donation to flower fund:

Birthday memories of a dear sister Margaret, with love from Jean, Ron and family.

Donations to Church Fund:

In memory of our parents, John Robert & Mavis Walker, from the children of the family.

In memory of Tim & Elsie Graves for their 70th wedding anniversary on March 29th, 2018.

Also in memory of Dad's 96th birthday on April 23rd. From a loving son, David.

Thanks from David Graves

I would like to say thankyou to everyone for the 65 lovely cards which I received on the occasion of my Dad's death and also for your prayers for me at this very sad time.

I would also like to say a special thankyou to members and friends at Sunnyside Church for serving refreshments after the service.

Finally I would like to quote several lines from a famous hymn by Charles Wesley (1707 – 1788).

"Till in heaven we take our place,

Till we cast our crowns before Thee,

Lost in wonder, love and praise".

David.

## Notices & Information

### FLOWER ARRANGING ROTA

Mrs Lydiatt Mrs Towers Mrs French Mrs Wilson Mrs Martin

Flower preparation at 10.00am on the following

Friday May 4th 11th 18th 25th

" June 1st 8th 15th 22nd 29th

### SANCTUARY GUILD DONATIONS

Anonymous donation for flowers

Donation in lieu of flowers in memory of Christine Kirkup from Pat Lawson and Steven

In memory of Family and Friends

Memories of a dear Mam and Dad from Dorothy Beaumont

Donation for Easter Flowers Special thoughts of Alan loving and much loved Husband and Dad also Mam and Dad from Margaret, Craig, Scott Deborah and Carly

In memory of Granny Christine Kirkup on Mothering Sunday sadly missed by Karen Berry, Alexander and James Kirkup.

Many thanks to all who donated and prepared Easter Flowers the Church looked magnificent and truly reflected our Risen Lord.

### FABRIC FUND

Birthday memories of a dear husband, dad and grandad. From Maud and Family

Birthday memories of a dear brother-in-law and uncle. From Kate, Harry and Family

Mothers' Day memories from Kate, Maud and Families

In memory of Joan Murray

In memory of Clive Brewis



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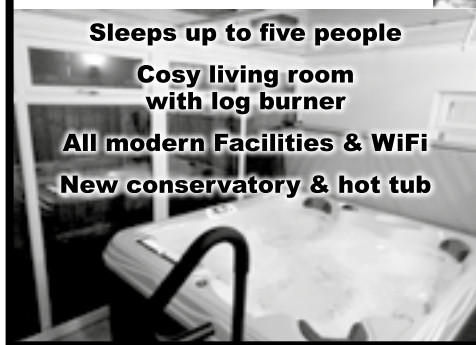
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*Andrew Grey*

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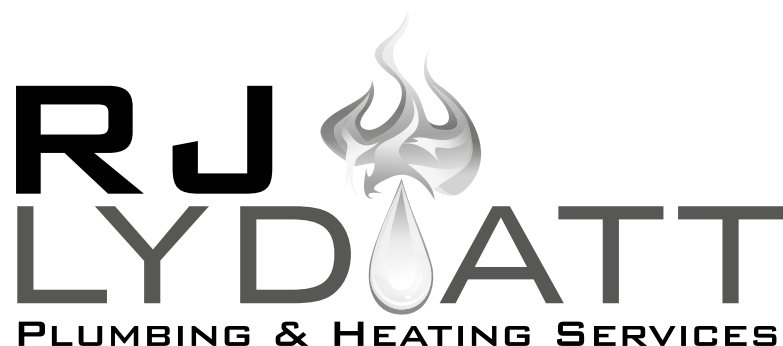
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# Time for Rhyme

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to Wednesday 18th July,

1.30pm - 2.30pm

St. Matthew's  
Community Church Hall

together for  
**children**  
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St. Matthew's Church & Community Hall  
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## 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
Thursday	5.30pm-6.30pm	Relax Kids Group (Zoe)
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](mailto:stmatthewshallbookings@gmail.com)

For all information on St. Matthew's Church and the Church Hall  
[www.stmatthewsnewbottle.org](http://www.stmatthewsnewbottle.org)

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St. Matthew's Church, Newbottle

