

Wishing you a Happy Happy

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

Mother's Union

Wednesday 2pm Lady Chapel in Church

Church Hall

Church Hall Bookings by Email: stmatthewshallbookings@gmail.com

Councillor Ward Surgery dates for next 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

St Matthew's Church Clergy

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Rev. Edward Wilkinson.

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From our Registers

Christening: 15th September George James Brough.

22nd September Evan Alan David Medd

Wedding: 14th September Mark Douglas & Kathleen l'Anson.

30th October Allen Young & Christie-Leigh Chisholm.

Funeral: 10th September Peter John Mason.

23rd September Joe Osman.

1st October Malcolm McCallum.
3rd October Elizabeth Smith.
24th October Irene McQuillan.
25th October Kim Harriman.

Burial of Ashes: 2nd September Doris Mary Barker.

3rd November Elizabeth Smith.



One or two folk have asked me how I'm getting on with the brown shoes I mentioned in my last magazine letter. Well, things are going a lot better, they're much easier to slip on and off now that I've worn them for a couple of months or so. Also, I would strongly recommend a long handled shoe horn, mine is stainless steel, because it's much easier to put a pair of shoes on when you don't have to bend down to use a normal sized one. Here's an intriguing question: "How would a long handled stainless steel shoe horn be received as a Christmas present?" I suppose in certain circumstances it might be thought a bit risky, but you'll never know until you try.

I'm not suggesting that anyone should be reckless. If you have a good idea that a very practical and useful shoe horn will not be well received as a Christmas present, then don't give it. There's absolutely nothing to be gained by almost deliberately upsetting the one you love. Far better to play it safe when doing the Christmas shopping – remember what's worked in the past and don't stray far from the proven path.

Having said that, always playing it safe and going for risk aversion can be a real drag on making progress. Opportunities to try something new and bold are always presenting themselves, and we need to be prepared to seize those opportunities and see where they lead and what happens.

It's now 31st October and the church Christmas tree is already ordered as we plan our celebrations for the birth of Jesus 2,000 years ago at Bethlehem. It was there and then that God the Father decided the time was right for Him to gift His son to us

for our salvation, and He asked Mary to play a crucial part in His plan. He needed Mary's willingness to work with Him in His plan for the salvation of mankind and the whole of creation. Without her willingness nothing could or would be achieved. She brought into our world the greatest gift mankind has ever been given - Jesus.

Jesus is the ultimate Christmas present to us all from God. Some reject the present; others receive it in a lukewarm way; still others enthusiastically see its value but don't have time just now, definitely later. I'm guessing the majority of us who accept the gift of Jesus in our lives make time for him to the best of our ability. We wish we could do more, but there's a balance to be struck between our faith and the demands of the world, which God understands.

It's vitally important that we keep on grappling with that balance, and that we keep on actively taking our faith and our God with us into our daily lives. It's never going to be easy but it gets more doable if we stick with it

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to one and all.



Christenings at St. Matthew's Church



George James Brough 15th September



Evan Alan David Medd 22nd September



Christmas Services



Sun 8th December	Parish Eucharist Evening Prayer	9.45am 6.00pm
Sun 15th December	Parish Eucharist Carols by Candlelight	9.45am 6.00pm
Tues 17th December	Carols around the Tree	7.00pm
Sun 22nd December	Parish Eucharist	9.45am
Tues 24th December	Christmas Eve with Christingle	6.00pm
Wed 25th December	Parish Eucharist	9.45am
Sun 29th 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.

Come and join us at

The Ukulele Band Concert

at St. Matthew's Church, Newbottle Tuesday December 10th 7.00pm

Refreshments - Free Entry - Donations welcome

Carols Around the Tree

Come & join us on the 17th December at 7pm Always a great uplifting fun night, filled with lovely carols, laughter, friendship, sherry, mince pies & other refreshments

christmas Jumpers are encouraged!





Joe Osman 1920 -2019



It was with the greatest of sadness that we heard of the passing of Joe. He passed away peacefully on Sunday morning 8th September. He was a long time integral, indispensible and inspiring figure within our St Matthew's family. From the late 60s he was a Licensed Lay Reader at Newbottle and preached at both St Matthew's and other churches and chapels in the area, as well as leading Bible study groups and a new Pathfinders group for teens. Many of all ages heard the gospel through Joe and were influenced in their lives by his work.

Joe was born in Fence Houses and loved

his football, playing for Bankhead Utd, Fence Houses YMCA and had trials for Derby County. enjoyed He also swimming and at a gala at Lambton baths he won a prize for his diving. After school he went to work for the NCB as a coal sampler and then when the war came he joined the DLI and after being stationed in Melrose he was away fighting Madagascar in the

campaign and later the Burma campaign. War memories flooded into his life in later years and he would reminisce about Madagascar, about how he was knocked out on his 22nd birthday and how many of his comrades were killed. Joe made a return trip to Madagascar in 1997.

After the war, Joe married Bel in 1948 at Colliery Row Methodist church. They had a very happy marriage and three sons, David, Stephen and Joe who meant the world to them. Bel died a number of years ago and Joe missed her greatly and looked forward to the time when they would be together again. Joe changed his profession when he was in his 50s and became a Social

Worker, eventually a senior social worker. He loved this job and was well respected.

As a committed Christian Joe was first a superintendent at Bankhead Methodist church, where many would testify to his influence in their lives. He loved attending the Keswick Convention each year. Later Joe moved to the Church of England. He trained and was licensed as a Lay Reader, though he never forgot his roots and continued to preach in local churches such as the Independent Methodists and at Sunniside. Many of our present church members heard his sermons and

his 3 points. He nearly always preached on Remembrance Sunday. As well as preaching, Joe lead Bible study groups, was a church warden and PCC member as well as Deanery Synod Lay Chair for a while.

As David (Joe's son) Osman said at Joe's funeral – his dad always used an expression ..."we should press on" (Phil 3) and said this a

lot in his last few years. He said it to his children and grandchildren. We must press on through the ups and downs of life; forget what lies behind and press on. "But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

At this time, with shrinking congregations and reorganisation of local deaneries, we would do well at St Matthew's to live out the expression Joe used and "press on towards the goal" of bringing others into our family, Gods family here in Newbottle, so that others may also experience what

we have received through Jesus. Joe wanted Newbottle to grow and flourish.

We have much to thank Joe for and he was always a pleasure to talk to, on Christianity, society, the war, current affairs, the Middle East troubles and of course his beloved family. Many of us viewed him as a Church Elder, who had a wisdom and common sense on so many fronts. His beliefs and the Holy Spirit really did shine out from him

God bless you Joe; we will always remember you and what we learned of God from you.



Diocese of Durham

Waymark Conference

On October 12th & 13th 500 lay and clergy representatives including Malcolm and Tom from St Matthew's gathered for the Waymark Conference. One of the key sessions was to reflect on the 3 priorities identified for the Diocese – Growth, Children & Young People, and Poverty – and how they impact on mission and ministry in parish life. As part of this there was an exciting session exploring with children and young people their views and ideas on church and mission.



After the two days delegates left appreciating and understanding better the changes and challenges we all have. As we move forward we know there will be challenges ahead as we work to grow God's kingdom, but this will be done by actively seeking God's preferred and promised guidance for the future of St Matthew's and Durham Diocese.

Community Hymn Sing 1

Thanks to all from our church who joined the Community Hymn Sing on the evening of Sunday 6th October at St.Michael's and All Angels Church - also to those from neighbouring churches and the wider community who contributed to this traditional Houghton Feast service. With 184 votes cast, people voted for 49 different hymns - not all made it into the top 10, but the following list were the favourites of the folks of the Feast in 2019:

Did your favourite hymn make it to the top 10?

And can it be

Be thou my vision

8 Great is thy faithfulness

6 Love divine, all love excelling

Dear Lord and Father of mankind

5 Shine Jesus shine

Guide me, O thou great Redeemer

3 Make me a channel of your peace

1 How great thou art

Be still, for the presence of the Lord

church Family share Food and Friendship



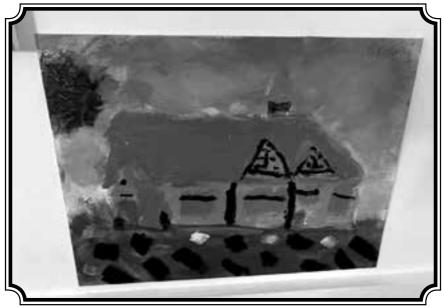




What a fantastic turnout we had at Amalfi's on Friday 1st November as 25 of our congregation joined together for no other reason than great company and conversation! All ages from those in their teens to 90's enjoyed a lovely meal where we could all relax...no preparation, organisation or tidying up for a change, although there was participation by some in consuming bread and wine! A well deserved Team St.Matthew's night off.







A painting of our church by Angeline Elliott, age 9. Angeline's parents used to attend St Matthew's until they moved to Tudhoe in Durham about 10 years ago. Angeline goes to St Charles Primary in Spennymoor.

A Prayer for World Mental Health Day 2019

Lord Jesus Christ

You who are risen but still bear the marks of your suffering

May we support them and challenge with them

The burdens of stigma and misunderstanding.

And when it is us who are afraid, anxious or hurt; stay close to us.

When we lose our grip on reality, hold onto us.

When we forget who we are, remind us whose we are.

When we remain in darkness, hear our lament.

When others hurt, make our brokenness, their blessing.

When we cannot hear the still small voice of your compassion,

Or live fully in the spaces created by your love,

Honour our struggle and promise us a future

Where we might find hope and be enfolded in your peace.

Amen.







life Saving Traini our Con

On Friday 8th November lots of people came up to Newbottle Church and Community Hall for CPR training and the use of a defibrillator. These defibrillators are popping up all around the country and since last year Newbottle St Matthew's team have been working to have one placed outside the hall. As reported in the last magazine, a cabinet mounted defibrillator was fitted to the outside of the church hall in the summer. This potentially life saving equipment is available for use by Newbottle community in the event of an emergency. It was paid for by both grants from the British Heart Foundation and the Local Community Chest. Thanks go to all those at church, who applied for grants and to Jack Cunningham, local councillor who helped to arrange local funding.

There were about 35 in attendance at the session run by Michael, a paramedic. As well as local people, Scouts from 1st Herrington and 1st Houghton groups and councillor Jack Cunningham were there. Michael went through the Chain of Survival:



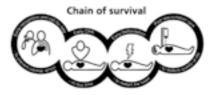
1st link - What do do in an emergency ie ring 999, 111, 112, 911 depending on the severity.

2nd link - Perform emergency CPR to keep oxygen going.

3rd link - Use of a defibrillator

4th link - Advanced Life Support given (in hospital).

How to Save a Life



The resuscitation success rate in the UK is only 24.5%. In other countries it is much higher, as it's taught in schools.



ng at the Heart of nmunity

To do CPR it should help to remember the mnemonic DR ABC

- D Danger survey the situation (don't touch if they've been electrocuted/carbon monoxide)
- R Response shake and shout, pinch ears etc.
- A Airway check if anything in mouth then head tilt/chin lift
- B Breathing look, listen, feel. Put in Recovery position to get help. (thanks go to Emma Martin of 1st Herrington Scouts for volunteering to demonstrate the Recovery Position to us all)
- C Compressions 30-2 Never start CPR until the emergency services have been called.





DRABC - D

Some people consider the defibrillation stage as its own step in the DRABC procedure, therefore calling it DRABCD. Using a defibrillator is key to keeping someone alive and you need to take it seriously as a step.

A Parishioner related a story about a neighbour who had heart surgery a year or back and during one of her recent check- ups her consultant asked her whether she would like to fund raise for a defibrillator in her area. The upshot was, that in our next magazine was the story of the defibrillator in Newbottle. The lady happily took along a copy of our church magazine to her more recent appointment to show him the story.

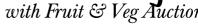


The training session was finished off with tea and coffee, Jammy Dodger heart biscuits, as well as juice and Love Heart sweets

Broth and Stottie Night with Fruit & Veg Auction

732

200





After our Harvest Festival on Sunday 22nd September all hands were on deck at the church hall to prepare all the vegetables for our annual Broth and Stottie supper. As usual, the broth was delicious, hearty and warming. Lots of people gathered in the Jubilee room at the back of the hall to enjoy the evening - the broth, the banter and the auction of fruit and vegetables. This year Malcolm was aided and abetted by a new assistant, the lovely Claudia. She managed to keep Malcolm on the straight and narrow,

Everyone enjoyed the evening and £231 was raised for Water Aid. This year Water Aid's Harvest Appeal has come together to help to give other communities around the world clean water and a harvest worth celebrating.

Our thanks go to all those who helped to prepare the vegetables and broth, those who served it, those who ran the auction and to everyone who kindly gave produce and bought some at the auction



WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

Thank you everyone for the best coffee morning so far! On Friday 27th September, £615 was raised for this much needed cause, all through the support of local people. I hope we can do it all again next year! Anne Martin



Philadelphia Cricket 8 Community Club

Clubhouse Tel: 0191 5841348 Manager Paul Thompson Tel: 0779 0094 116



Christmas At The Cricket Club

Friday 6th December

F.A.B.

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Live band, disco, pie and peas.

Tickets cost £10, 12-16 year olds £5 and must be booked in advance.

Either call into the club or ring manager Paul.

Opening times

Christmas Eve 7 pm - 11 pm

Christmas Day 11 am - 3 pm

Boxing Day 6 pm - late

New Year's Eve 7 pm - late

New Year's Day 5 pm - late, finish off the

festivities with a live band





Whatever the occasion, our superbly appointed function room is available.

Just contact manager Paul who will be happy to make all your arrangements.

Confirmation Service at St. Matthew's Church



On Saturday 9th November, St Matthew's church was delighted to host this year's Deanery Confirmation service lead by the new Bishop of Jarrow, the Right Reverend Sarah Clark, the first female bishop in Durham. It was lovely to see the church packed with all ages of people from both our deanery and beyond.

Confirmation is a special church service in which a person confirms the promises that were made for them when they were baptized. At a confirmation service, you make these promises for yourself. The candidates' friends and families, as well as some of their local congregations, were there to support and pray for them. The bishop asked God's Holy Spirit to give them the strength and commitment to live God's way for the rest of their lives.

Our own candidates for confirmation were Tiffany Nell, Steve Medd and Terry Allen.

It was a joyful service and the Bishop, in her sermon, told the story of a little boy, who while out shopping looked at the windows of Durham cathedral, from the outside and remarked how drab they looked. So, his mother took him inside to see a window telling the story of the Saints. He saw the light shining through the stained glass and reflecting a dancing image on the stones on the floor. Later in an RE lesson the teacher asked the class, "What do you think makes a Saint?" The little boy said, "A Saint is someone whom the light shines through and brings the stones to life." The Bishop said that as Christians we may, at times, feel drab, but with the Holy Spirit, we can shine that light, to the Glory of God. She also reminded us that we are all deeply loved by God.

St. Matthew's Shoebox Success!



Since 1990, more than 168 million children in over 160 countries have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child.

We collect shoeboxes at St Matthew's and they are taken to a larger collection point. This year we collected over 42 boxes, so a huge thank you to everyone who filled one. It makes such a difference to children to receive one. It helps to make a child's Christmas special.



For anyone who can't or doesn't want to shop and fill a shoebox, this year for the first time you could go online to fill a shoe box at - https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/. It's very easy and costs £20, (including the cost of shipping) to fill a box with a choice of toys as well as lots of essentials that go into every box. These are things like soap, toothbrush hairbrush & pencils, colouring books etc. Thank you also goes to those who did not fill a shoe box but contributed to transportation costs instead this year.

Notices & Information

FABRIC FUND

In memory of Peter Mason, from wife Margaret and Family

Happy Christmas memories of Zillah Marshall, Pam & Joseph Greenhow and Gilbert Petrie

In memory of Kim from Val, Eric and family

In memory of a very dear friend Kim, from Ada & Alan

In memory of Joe Osman, from Rita Maxwell

FLOWER ARRANGING ROTA

Mrs Lydiatt Mrs Towers Mrs French Mrs Martin

Flower preparation at 10.00am on the following

November 1st 8th 15th 22nd 29th

No flowers in Church during the period of Advent

Christmas Flowers to be arranged on 24th December

SANCTUARY GUILD DONATIONS

Anonymous donation for flowers

In loving memory of Rita Clough from daughters Valerie, Linda and Families

Anonymous donation for flowers

Flowers in celebration of the wedding of Mark Douglas and Kathleen l'Anson

In memory of Doris Mary Barker

Happy memories of Auntie Ann and Uncle George loved and remembered always from Carole Brian and Family

The congregation would like to send special birthday wishes to the following ladies who celebrate milestone birthdays: Nancy Lawson - age 99 Olive Gibson - age 80 Anne Martin - age 70

Sunniside Methodist Church

Donation to Flower fund.

Remembering with love, Una, on our wedding anniversary 17th September. Also her birthday on 23rd September. From Brian.

In memory of a dear Mam & Dad, Bill & Peggy Reed at Christmas time. From Kathleen and family.

In memory of Hazel Turnbull, a dear friend, from Kathleen.

Memories of all loved ones, from Bill & Hilda.

Donation to Church Fund.

From Ron & Jean to celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary.

Diamond Weddings.

Congratulations to Bill & Hilda Sweeting on the occasion of their 60th Wedding anniversary on September 12th.

Also to Ron & Jean on October 24th; with very best wishes from David Graves.



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.



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Find me on Facebook - Dancing for Fitness with Janet Webster

Price per class £3.50



Christmas Fayre

Saturday 30th November

Church Hall 2.00pm

St. Matthew's Church & Community Hall

...part of the local community spirit

Weekly Timetable

DAY	TIME	CLUB
Monday	1.00pm-2.30pm	Computer Skills (John)
Monday	6.30pm-8.30pm	Judo (Brian)
Tuesday	9.30am-12.00noon	Arts & Crafts Club (Kathleen)
Tuesday	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	6.00pm-7.30pm	Karate (Ed)
Friday	10.10am to 11am	Zumba Gold (Janet)
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



